Grading.

In the absence of Edward Kruger to whom had been assigned the special treatment of the subject, the question of sizing berries took a general range. To arrive at a conservative and judicial conclusion, the cumulative system was introduced, but was not put into effect, as the majority of those present seemed to think any change in existing standards would be untoward, but it was very evident that the minority, while defeated, were not conquered, and are not disposed to abandon the field or surrender unconditionally.

Concerning State Aid.

The matter of state aid for the cranberry was brought up, and took form in the following memorial which is to be presented to the legislature for action during current session:

To the Members of the Wisconsin Legislature.

Your memorialist, the Wisconsin Cranberry association, would respectfully call the attention of your Honorable Body, to the fact that there are, in the northern half of Wisconsin, several hundred thousand acres of marsh lands, upon which wild cranberries, of a superior quality, prior to the great forests fires of 1893 and 1894, that more than 95 percent of these wild vines have been destroyed by those fires.

In the year 1890, there was gathered and marketed from these wild marshes, nearly 100,000 barrels of cranberries that sold for $5.00 a barrel and upwards. The land upon which they grew is now covered with sphagnum moss and wild coarse grasses, sedges and are practically worthless for any of the general purposes of agriculture. That it has been demonstrated in this state that these lands can be utilized for the purpose of growing cultivated cranberries, and that an acre of these lands planted to vines, where a proper supply of water for irrigation can be controlled will yield from $200 to $500 worth of cranberries a year, that it has been practically demonstrated that cultivated cranberries can be grown successfully where the wild cranberries were found naturally.

The cultivation of cranberries in Wisconsin is an industry that is still in its infancy, and very little has been done to demonstrate, by experiment, the best methods of cultivation, or the best varieties of this fruit for general cultivation. The industry is very much in need of this class of scientific, experimental work, and under scientific guidance, can be made one of the greatest industries of Northern Wisconsin, and a large quantity of comparative worthless lands can be made the source of large incomes.

We would therefore respectfully ask that you appropriate the sum of $5,000 annually to the Agricultural department of our state university to be used by it to promote the development of this industry in Wisconsin, and your memorialist will ever pray.

Dated at the city of Grand Rapids this 13th day of Jan., 1903.

Chas Brierie, president.
W. H. Fitche, secretary.

Review of the Fruit Growing Organization of California.

De Funiax Springs, Florida, Dec. 19, 1802.—The fruit growing organization of Calafornia has been the outgrowth of absolute necessity.

In the first place no fruit of any kind was found growing in that state. Around the old Spanish and Mexican Mission buildings, now in ruins, we find the earliest planted orange and other fruit trees.

When the gold fever subsided many enamoured with the delightful climate took up fruit growing for a living with disastrous results, on account of the limited home market, and the center of population being two thousand miles to the east of them, and no railroad facilities for reaching them.

When railroads came they ran over the mountains, above the clouds into the regions of severe cold, and across the desert for days where the thermometer in the passenger car I rode in registered one hundred and three degrees in March, all day long. To ship perishable fruit over such railroads without experience was sure to bring the producer to poverty and bankruptcy. Icing of cars was resorted to with additional expense added to the exorbitant railroad freights, and the fruit so shipped when put on the market had to be sold at once or it went to decay, as such chilled fruit always does, entailing still greater loss to the producer. The fruit being consigned almost entirely to commission men, resulted in