

## MINUTES OF THE 47TH ANNUAL MEETING

Meeting called to order at 2 P. M., Dec. 14, 1933, Realty Hall, Wisconsin Rapids.

President Herman Gebhardt gave the opening address. A resumé of the crop and market conditions of the year were given by Mr. A. U. Chaney. A paper on why insect control problems are on the increase was presented by Mr. E. L. Chambers. Mr. Vernon Goldsworthy spoke on insect pest and disease condition and control methods. An interesting account of the Wood county exhibit held at the state fair featuring cranberries was given by Co-Agent H. R. Lathrope, who had charge of it and won first place.

The minutes were read and approved. The financial report was read and audited by F. R. Barber and Vere Johnson, who reported the same correct. Motion was made and seconded to accept the committee's report.

Committees appointed to draft resolutions of regret on the passing of Mr. Henry Gebhardt were: S. N. Whittlesey, A. E. Bennett and O. O. Potter; to the Joe Wirtz family on the loss of their young son, Bernard; Roy Potter and Guy Nash.

Motion was made and seconded to allow the Brazeau bill of \$62.75.

Motion was made and seconded to appoint a committee, with the secretary as chairman to work out some solution of our financial difficulties. A. E. Bennett and Guy Nash were appointed.

Motion was made and seconded to renew subscriptions to Horticulture for all paid-up members.

Motion made and seconded that rules be suspended and a unanimous ballot be cast for re-election of all officers for the ensuing year. Carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Eighty-seven growers and friends attended the annual 6:30 banquet held at the Hotel Witter, following the meeting. Mr. Guy Babcock acted as toastmaster. Through the generosity of L. P. Daniels a fine program of instrumental and vocal selections and reading was enjoyed followed by dancing to the strains of the Getsinger-Favell orchestra. Mr. Daniels also presented Mr. A. U. Chaney with a large, beautifully decorated cake, a token of the esteem in which he is held.

CLARE S. SMITH,

*Secretary.*

## ADDRESS

*President, HERMAN J. GEBHARDT*

The 1933 cranberry season is now rapidly drawing to a close. We have had to contend with another year of unusual drought—the fourth in succession. About this time last year there was a severe cold spell of short duration. Many who had water for winter protection had not used it; others had none. The winter was comparatively bare of snow and in consequence of these conditions most of the bogs of the state suffered more or less winter-killing. However, the month of May was quite free from frosts, and June the hottest on record, and growers entered the harvest season with an unusually low water supply for protective purposes. Nevertheless, Wisconsin has produced a fair crop, the quality of which can best be expressed by the word

"excellent". The extremely low purchasing power of the masses rendered more difficult the disposition of this and the large crops of Massachusetts and New Jersey. This economic condition is being alleviated in part, but the day will come when a more equitable distribution of wealth must prevail.

Sometimes I feel that the growers of the near future will look back upon these obstacles with which you have contended as blessings, for they have called forth in you the pluck and determination that was so prevalent among the early pioneer cranberry growers. Men of mettle turn disappointments into helps as the oyster turns into pearl the sand that annoys it. Whenever and wherever possible you have strengthened your water supplies. You of the Wisconsin River Valley area have turned the Wisconsin river waters into your reservoirs, an improvement for all time to come, and this action on your part hastens the day when Wisconsin will rank second as a cranberry producing state, and first as a producer of quality. And thus the adjustment continues and problem after problem meets its solution.

I well remember when the sphagnum moss problem was of great concern throughout the state. It is seldom referred to now. In like manner the fruit worm and fire worm problems have been reduced greatly after a study of their manner of life and habits and the application of treatments with which to reduce their number. For a quarter of a century, the false blossom seemed about to decimate the cranberry beds. It is now generally believed, with the scientific investigations giving us the nature of the disease and its manner of spread, we are in a better position to combat its ravages and perhaps retain badly infested areas.

We sometimes hear the fear expressed that the insect pests will so predominate on this earth that eventual starvation for man will result; that scientists tell us that no insect group has been completely annihilated from this planet. However, with our entomologists, who study insects, their population, their habits, and the problems their habits give us, together with the observing eye of our field men and Federal research department, we have ample grounds to believe the correctness of the Biblical verse, "The earth shall yield her fruit, and ye shall eat your fill".

It is now nearly fifty years ago that a group of cranberry growers of the state assembled in the manner that we meet here this afternoon that they might, through one another's observations and experiences, produce a better berry and a better crop.

## RESUMÉ OF 1933 CROP AND MARKET CONDITIONS

MR. A. U. CHANEY

I appreciate being with you. I always enjoy meeting with you. I want to say that we did have a big crop in the East, bigger than we thought. We think 450,000 barrels will be shipped out of Massachusetts, and around 140,000 to 145,000 barrels from New Jersey, with 45,000 out of this state. That is 125,000 barrels more than last year, and 75,000 barrels more than we expected. They were mostly Early Blacks. Sixty per cent of the Cape Cods were Early Blacks, and thirty-seven per cent of the production of the United States this year were Early Blacks. That is a very good berry, but this year they were over-size and over-ripe. The Blacks weren't under water, but they had rains that kept the berries growing and prevented harvesting.