

California Avocado Association 1924-25 Annual Report 10:18-22

MINUTES OF SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CALIFORNIA AVOCADO ASSOCIATION

Nov. 8, 1924

Special business meeting—held at the Kinneloa Ranch, Lamanda Park. Meeting called to order at eleven A. M., President Coit in the chair. Moved by Sutherland, seconded by Elliot, that reading of the minutes of the previous meeting be dispensed with. Carried.

Director Dutton read the proposed revision of the by-laws of the California Avocado Association:

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this Association shall be California Avocado Association.

ARTICLE II

Purpose

The purpose of this Association shall be to improve the culture and production, and to promote the advancement and general welfare of the avocado as a horticultural industry.

ARTICLE III

Membership and Dues

Section 1. Any person interested in the purpose of this Association may upon application be elected to membership by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the directors present at a meeting of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. The secretary shall notify a member of his election and send him a copy of the by-laws of this Association.

Section 3. The membership fee shall be \$5.00, payable at the time the application for membership is made, and thereafter shall become due and payable on January 1st of each year. Upon election the new member shall be entitled to all publications of the Association for the calendar year in which he is elected.

Section 4. No person shall be enrolled as a new member of this Association until his

dues have been paid as herein provided.

Section 5. Only members in good and regular standing, whose dues are paid, shall be entitled to vote at meetings of the Association, and only such shall be eligible to office.

Section 6. The membership of any member may be terminated for cause by a two-third vote of the entire Board of Directors, the accused being given opportunity for a hearing before action is taken.

Section 7. Persons who have contributed distinguished services in aiding the purposes of this Association may be elected to honorary membership, by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors, or by a two-third vote of the members present and voting at the annual meeting of the Association. Such honorary members shall be exempt from the payment of dues.

ARTICLE IV

Directors and Officers

Section 1. The Government of this Association, the direction of its work and the control of its property and funds shall be vested in a Board of Directors consisting of nine members, three of whom shall be elected by ballot at each annual meeting of the Association and serve for a term of three years.

Section 2. Shortly after the annual meeting of the Association the Board of Directors shall convene and elect by ballot from its members a president and a vice-president, who shall hold office for one year, or until their successors are elected. At the same time they shall elect a secretary and treasurer, who may or may not be directors, and who shall hold office during the pleasure of the Board. The Board of Directors shall fix the compensation of the secretary. The office of secretary and treasurer may be filled by one person when deemed advisable by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. The officers (Art. IV, Sec. 2) shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors; said committee to exercise such powers and deal with such matters as may be referred to it by the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Meetings of the Board of Directors may be called at any time by order of the President, or by the Vice-President acting in his absence, and shall also be called at the request in writing of three members of the Board; the time place and purpose of such meeting to be designated in said call. A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

Section 5. The Board of Directors shall have the power to fill any vacancy in their number or any vacancy in any office in the Association, provided, however, that all persons so appointed or elected to fill vacancies on the Board of Directors shall serve only until the next regular meeting of the Association, at which time their successors shall be elected by the membership to fill the unexpired terms.

ARTICLE V

Duties of Officers

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the members and of the Board of Directors. In event of the absence of both the President and Vice-President, the members of the Board of Directors may elect a presiding officer for such meeting. The President shall submit to the annual meeting a report of the doings of the Board of Directors and of the affairs and operation of the Association during the preceding year.

Section 2. The Vice-President shall in the absence or disability of the President, perform the duties of the President.

Section 3. The Secretary shall be the clerical officer of the Association and of the Board of Directors, and shall have charge of the general correspondence. He shall collect the dues of the members and receive all moneys that may be paid to him by virtue of his office, carefully account for the same and promptly cover them into the treasury. He shall work under the orders of the Board of Directors and at all times in close cooperation with the President.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall be the financial officer of the Association and of the Board of Directors. He shall have charge of the funds of the Association, paying them out only by voucher countersigned by the President or Vice-President. He shall make a report of receipts and disbursements at meetings of the Board of Directors and a complete report to the members at the annual meeting of the Association.

ARTICLE VI

Meetings

Section 1. The annual meetings of the members of the Association shall be held, at some convenient period during May of each year; the time and place of such meeting to be designated by the Board of Directors, and ample notice of the meeting shall be given to the membership of the Association.

Section 2. Special meetings of the Association may be called by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors as occasion may require.

Section 3. Twenty-five members entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the members of the Association for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE VII

The fiscal year of the Association shall close on December 31st

ARTICLE VIII

Amendments

These by-laws may be changed or amended at any regular meeting of the Association by a two-third vote of all members present at such meeting.

Moved by Braunton, seconded by Elliot, that the by-laws be adopted as read. Carried unanimously.

President Coit stated that the following Directors had been elected by the Board of Directors to fill vacancies and that in order to conform with the new by-laws just adopted the election would have to be confirmed by the members.

L. C. Alies, F. N. Kelley, T. G. Sutherland, J. D. Sievers.

Moved by Braunton, seconded by Elliot, that the Association ratify the appointment of Alies, Kelley and Sutherland. Carried.

Director Dutton nominated Wm. McPherson as Director. Seconded by Williams. Moved by Alies, seconded by Mather, that the nomination be closed. Carried. Whereupon the Secretary was instructed to cast one ballot for Mr. McPherson, after which the Secretary announced that Mr. McPherson was elected.

Director Dutton reported that the Committee on Quarantine had been active, endeavoring to obtain a quarantine on Florida fruit on account of the Dictyospermum scale. He read a letter from Director of Agriculture Hecke, calling a meeting in Sacramento to discuss the situation.

President Coit reported that the Committee on Standardization had been active trying to get the word "Avocado" in the Standardisation list. He explained that the difficulty lay in the fact that we have no standards for avocados at this time. An amendment to the list would be submitted to the Director of Agriculture and Agricultural Legislative Committee.

The Secretary announced that the Annual Horticultural Roundtable would be held at Hilgard Hall, Berkeley, November 17 to 22, and that the university was very anxious to receive exhibits of avocados and other semi-tropical fruits.

Mr. Elliot reported on the Popenoe introductions as they have behaved in his orchard at North Whittier Heights as follows:

Mayapan—Very fine fruit; easy to bud; grows well; bears well; turns purple in April and May; hangs until June; flavor good; seed medium; probably good shipper.

Panchoy—Good fruit; easy to bud; grows well; bears fairly well; green fruit; hangs until October; flavor good.

Tumin—Bears heavily intermittently; colors in January, not ripe until July; flavor fair; weight 1 pound; seed small; skin thick; easy to bud; grows well.

Nabal—Good fruit; grows well; easy to bud; weight 14 oz.; not bearing well.

Cantel—Grows well; easy to bud; flavor good; ripens in June.

Cabnal—Hard to bud; good bearer.

Mr. Shedden corroborated Mr. Elliot and added that the Mayapan and Panchoy were both precocious and held their fruit well in the wind.

Benik—Weight 3/4 pound; very nice fruit; ripens May and June.

Nimlloh—Very large; doubtful.

Ishlim—Good fruit; ripens in January.

Kanola—Round; weight over one pound; ripens in March; not very heavy bearer; thick skin; medium seed.

Manik—Irregular in shape.

Mr. Sheddon stated we should be slow to approve or condemn any new varieties. Mr. Braunton stated that he had tasted all the new varieties and placed the Benik first and Cabnal second. He had submitted these varieties to Dr. Chase, who had placed the Cabnal first and the Benik second. Mr. Elliot stated that he had a limited number of buds of each of the new varieties which he would give away to anyone interested. He stated further that the Colorado was a fairly good bearer and fairly good flavor; that the Murietta Green can be raised by grafting onto a good sized seedling.

Mr. Whendon stated that the Kashlan was a good bearer. Mr. Elliott stated that his Kashlans had not borne. Mr. Knight stated that frost got all his new varieties but five. Mr. Barrett stated that all of the new varieties showed poor frost resistance: that they were equally as tender as, or more so, than the varieties we already have. Mr. Hertrich stated that none of the new varieties were very hardy. Mr. Elliot stated that Mr. Adams had reported that the Mayapan withstood the cold very well. Mr. Hertrich stated that this particular Mayapan tree had been protected. He also stated that the Prince was a good fruit so far as quality is concerned, matured in October and November of the second year, being an 18 months fruit; weight, 16 to 18 oz.

Mr. Ryerson, Chairman of the Variety Committee, stated that the Princess was a promising seedling of the Prince. He stated that the Committee could not recommend new varieties until budded trees had been thoroughly tried out in different localities. Growers should send in any new varieties to the Committee.

Mr. Knight stated that he believed that the root stock was largely responsible for the failure or success of most of the varieties, and that he believed the Mexican root stock was not adapted to some of the varieties being produced.

Director Dutton suggested that the Secretary draw up an appropriate resolution of appreciation for the use of the Kinneloa Estate for the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned for lunch.

Afternoon Session

Secretary Hodgkin of the Association stated that the acreage signed up in the California Avocado Growers Exchange was as follows: Bearing 300 acres, non-bearing 700 acres, a total of 1,000 acres. Exchange percentage of bearing acreage nearly 75 per cent.

The Avocado Store at 430½ South Hill Street had handled during thirty days 3,000 pounds of avocados. The store is on a self-supporting basis. In addition to avocados, the store sells other types of tropical and semi-tropical fruits.

The advertising of the Exchange consists principally of the distribution of recipe leaflets, bags and booklets and dealer service work with the retail dealers.

Charts were presented showing the volume of fruit handled by the Exchange and the prices received. It was pointed out that the prices advanced considerably as soon as the Exchange undertook the actual selling of the fruit in June. The secretary warned the growers against following the price chart too closely in their plantings of varieties, because, although prices advanced during the fall months, this is the period of heaviest production in Florida, and as soon as the California fruit production reaches the point where the fruit must be shipped east to be sold, it will come into competition with the heavy Florida production and prices will be extremely low.

The Secretary stated that the prospects for the coming year were very bright and that he believed both production and price curves could be straightened out so as to avoid the high and low peaks.

Dr. Coit gave an address, outlining the functions of the California Avocado Association which will be found in his annual report.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

After adjournment a number of members visited the bearing Avocado orchard of Mrs. Geo. F. Roberts in Sierra Madre and also the original Ward Avocado tree at the Ward Nursery, Sierra Madre.