

Springs, the finest of the kind in the world.

Arrangements will be made for unusually low rates on roads entering Florida, and for excursions within the State. Full particulars in regard to these will be announced later. Where no other arrangements exist, delegations should secure special rates to Ocala from their nearest member of the General Passenger Agents' Association.

It is hoped that all Pomological, Horticultural and Agricultural Societies in the United States and British Provinces will send delegates, in such numbers as they may deem expedient, and all persons interested in the cultivation of fruits are invited to be present and become members of the Society. Persons so desirous can remit the fee, four dollars for biennial membership, or twenty dollars for life membership, to the Treasurer of the Society, Mr. Benjamin G. Smith, Cambridge, Mass., who will give a receipt for the same, entitling the holder to all the courtesies in the way of reduced railroad and hotel rates, etc., which are accorded to members. It is desirable that the Secretary be notified as soon as practicable of the number of members expecting to attend, in order that proper arrangements may be made for their reception.

A special invitation is extended to ladies to attend the meeting, become members, and take part in the proceedings. An attractive programme is in preparation, a full account of which will appear later. It includes papers and discussions by the best Pomologists of the country upon new fruits and methods of cultivation, and problems of judging fruits, of transportation and marketing, diseases and their remedies, and the origination and introduction of new varieties.

The Society offers no premiums for exhibits of fruits. Several special prizes, however, are offered by the Florida Horticultural Society for exhibits to be made at the meeting, the awards to be made by a committee appointed from the American Society. The usual awards of Wilder medals

will be made for objects of special merit.

A. A. CROZIER, *Secretary*,
AMES, IOWA.

PROSPER J. BERCKMANS, *President*,
AUGUSTA, GA.

NOTE—Until the Florida meeting, the address of the Secretary will be at the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Horticultural Exhibitions.

MR. M. H. BATTLES, of Philadelphia, writes in the *Garden and Forest* upon the above subject, and makes some very sensible suggestions, for their improved conduct and increased usefulness. In brief, his ideas are to have the hall beautifully decorated with greenery, the tables covered with moss, and draped in front with cloth, with eyelet holes for hanging, which could be used for a number of years. Grapes are to be hung up, and the "bloom" to be made a strong point in judging; and as for vegetables, that only remarkable specimens be admitted. The local papers are to be well treated, and frequent notices secured. Two orchestras are to be engaged to give promenade concerts at fixed hours and music at frequent intervals. All parts are to be named with both botanical and common names. All exhibits to be judged by "points," and judges from a distance preferred. Premiums are to be liberal, but awarded with the greatest care.

Mr. S. T. Wright also has an article in the *Horticultural Times*, (Eng.), on this same subject, in which he advocates that fruit shows should be made a means of education to the public. He says:—

A gardener visiting a Fruit Show may learn a great deal of useful information by entering into conversation