

*WE forward the attached as
a matter of mutual interest.*
N. W. AYER & SON

from *New York City*
Carl D. ...
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Wild Blueberries Now a Cultivated Product of the Hothouse

THE little old swamp blueberry at one time found growing wild only in marshy, naturally acid soil. For a long time considered impossible to transplant or cultivate under domestic conditions, has been lifted under the nursing of specialists of the Bureau of Plant Industry, United States Department of Agriculture, from its wild environment and come to occupy an aristocratic place among other domestic fruits. A blueberry an inch in diameter is not a dream, but a possibility.

Distinct progress has been made in the breeding of superior varieties of blueberries. At the testing plantation at Whitesbog, four miles east of Brown Mills, N. J., about 25,000 hybrids have now been fruited. Many of them have produced berries three-fourths of an inch in diameter, several four-fifths of an inch and one of them this year reached almost seven-eighths of an inch. Among these large berried hybrids several have been selected for propagation. The progress of blueberry culture is evidenced by the fact that during the season of 1922 nearly a thousand bushels of blueberries were picked at Whitesbog and that these sold in the open market in New York at prices about 75 per cent. higher than those of wild blueberries. In the fall of 1921 more than 250,000 cuttings of selected blueberries were made by nurserymen.

