

The strippers for organization P were very slow. So were the packers. The strippers for organization D were about average, but the packers were very slow, taking 14.3 hours to field pack 10,000 stalks. Organization N had efficient strippers and very efficient packers. This organization did little field stripping and the packers spent little time arranging the stalks in the field boxes. The packers put three, four or five stalks in the box at a time, working with both hands. This practice was not fol-



Fig. 17.—Packing with One Hand.

Packing with one hand and holding with the other makes a neat field pack, but the method is slow.

lowed by the other organizations. There is a tendency on the part of most organizations to overemphasize the importance of neat, solid field packs. Some insist that packers use one hand to hold the celery in order in the crate and pack with the other hand, handling only one

stalk at a time (Fig. 17). The need for being so careful is highly questionable, except in cases of extremely long hauls when carelessly packed celery might become damaged. Field packing one stalk at a time certainly results in the use of a great deal more labor.

There was little difference in the general methods used in packing celery in field boxes. Workers in all three areas use somewhat the same motions except in the Sarasota area where packers fill the boxes as they pull them along the rows of stripped celery. In the other two areas the packers pack from stacks of celery prepared by the strippers (Fig. 18). The method used at Sarasota necessitates a slightly higher proportion of packers in relation to strippers than at Sanford, where the push-knife method of cutting also is used (Table 19). The reason for this is that the packers in the Sarasota area must move the box more often as it is being filled. This is also true for organization N, but the practice of packing three to five stalks at a