

OUR AFFILIATED SOCIETIES.

LINDSAY.—At the monthly meeting of this Society on the 13th of February a very interesting paper was read by Mr. W. M. Robson on the work of Horticultural Societies and especially that at Lindsay. He showed the double advantages of affiliation with the Ontario Society and figured out that in return for each member's subscription of \$1.00 he received in return at least \$3.00 in the value of (1) The Monthly Journal, (2) The Report, (3) The Evening Post gives two columns to the report of the lecturer sent by the Ontario Society. Mr. Martin Burrell, of St. Catharines, in the Council Chamber, Lindsay, March 8th. The hall was crowded with ladies and gentlemen to hear his address on *Birds and Horticulture*. The evening was opened by some gramophone selections, after which Mr. Robson introduced the lecturer, who united the instructor and the entertainer in a most remarkable manner.

HAMILTON.—The schedule of premiums (not money) offered and list of exhibits asked for the flower show, is out for the month of June. There are three classes of exhibits: I.—Amateur class. II.—Amateurs with Greenhouses. III.—Commercial Gardeners and Florists. At the bottom the following note is added: "The plants in the Amateur classes will be sent for and returned at the close of the exhibition." The following is the sub-division Class I:

I. Amateur Class—Roses: The best six Roses, distinct. Three Roses, distinct. One vase of twelve blooms, any varieties. One vase of six blooms, any varieties.

Pæonies—Six varieties, distinct. Three varieties, distinct. Largest and best collection.

Herbaceous Plants—Perennials (*Cut bloom*)—Best collection of Perennials, not less than six varieties, named—two spikes of each. Best three varieties. Best vase of cut bloom—Perennials.

Plants in Pots (Grown in Dwelling House.—1 Palm, 2 Begonias, 3 Geraniums, 1 Amaryllis, 1 Dracena, 2 Fuchsias, 1 Geranium, 2 Coleus, 1 Fern, 1 Fuchsia, 1 Cactus. The best House-plant of any variety.

TORONTO JUNCTION.—On the evening of Jan. 23 the members of the Toronto Junction Horticultural Society met and listened to a very interesting address upon the "Care of House Plants," by Mr. A. Gilchrist. The very difficult problem of watering was fully gone into. The effect of atmosphere in the house and outside was dealt with in a masterly manner, and indicated that with an east wind, when the atmosphere was damp, water should be used sparingly while with a west wind and dry atmosphere more water might be used. All, however, requires judgment. In summer plants dry from the top. In the house they are likely to dry from the bottom. By empty flower pots soaked and dry, Mr. Gilchrist illus-

trated, ringing a sound from each, the condition of the roots within. Re-potting plants, potting palms, the soils to be used, feeding plants and dealing with insect pests, were matters Mr. Gilchrist dealt with, and his exposure of large growth by means of nitrate of soda solution was a deterrent to nursermen to produce immense plants with small flowers. To produce flowers, the bone dust had been found to be very beneficial, and summer heat, to purify soils, he thought even better than the winter frost.

LONDON.—The first public meeting of the London Horticultural Society was held in the Auditorium last night. About one hundred and fifty horticultural enthusiasts were present. The platform was artistically decorated, being hung with flags and bunting, and set with graceful palms and other plants. The chair was taken at 8:30 by Mr. John Balkwill, the president, and with him on the platform were Rev. Dr. Bethune, Very Rev. Dean Innes, and Mr. T. H. Race, of the Mitchell Recorder. The proceedings opened with the singing of "Soldiers of the Queen," by Miss Winnie Hooper and Mr. A. G. Stevens, with accompaniment by Miss Smallman.

In his opening remarks, President Balkwill referred to the recent organization of the society and the encouraging outlook for its future success, and enumerated the advantages which membership in the society gives. He regretted that there were not more ladies on the membership roll.

On rising to deliver his address on "The Moral Influence of Floriculture in the Home," Mr. Race humorously impressed upon the audience the fact that his own somewhat attenuated build was not to be attributed to the fact that he was a horticultural enthusiast, but rather to the fact that he was an editor of a country weekly, a position which entailed considerable worry. He referred to London as being a favored city in its own natural advantages, and the fact that its surrounding agricultural district was one unsurpassed on the continent, and perhaps in the world. The horticultural exhibit at the Western Fair is one unequalled by any other exhibition. Mr. Race's address was received with close attention, and tended to inspire the Society with a high conception of the possibilities which were within the reach of the members.

Miss Hooper sang "A May Morning," followed by Mr. A. G. Stevens in a stirring patriotic ballad. Mrs. A. A. Campbell gave three enjoyable recitations.

Rev. Dr. Bethune's address concluded the evening's interesting programme. He spoke instructively on the many insects which are such a source of annoyance and loss to the horticulturists, and showed how horticultural societies had done good work in providing remedies for their extermination, either by the use of chemicals or by the propagation and introduction of other insects, which were not injurious to plant life, but preyed upon the insects which were.

The meeting closed with the "National Anthem."—The Advertiser.