

Whatever instructions our superintendent got from the secretary they were carried out literally and strictly, and no one could come and say a word about it. These, I think, are the three principal factors upon which the efficiency of this show has depended. I would like to point out one or two things in connection with the statute law which will affect the workings of this meeting. As you probably all know, considerable changes were made in the old Agricultural and Arts Association at the last session of the Ontario Legislature. Under that act one change has been made in regard to the holding of the show. A clause in that statute provided that so long as this association receives a grant from the government, so long will it be imperative that the show shall not be held in one place, or within forty miles of one place, two years in succession. This is a matter to be considered just now in deciding where the show shall go in future.

The electoral divisions, too, have been altered, and in place now, as I understand it, of the old system of electing directors, directors will be held to represent certain localities. This is a matter of consideration, and I must point out that it will be almost impossible to allocate the representatives of the Board of Directors at a meeting. I would suggest the appointment of a nominating committee who will place before this meeting the names of a number of persons as directors, and so save trouble. That report will be open to amendment; but I trust that those members who have amendments to offer will seriously consider them, and decide as to their importance before submitting them to the meeting.

There is another suggestion which I wish to throw out, and that is in regard to the storage of the coops. Something will have to be done in the way of finding a permanent lodgment for these coops, and I would like to impress upon the meeting that these coops are the sole and only property of the Ontario Poultry Association. Although they were purchased by the government with their money, that money was voted to the association for this specific purpose. That purpose has been accomplished; the coops have been procured, and are now the property of the association. Such being the case, we must find some permanent resting-place for them, so that their safety will be ensured from year to year, and solely and only for the purposes of this exhibition, and for no other purpose whatever.

The secretary, Thomas A. Browne, spoke as follows: I have been so busy of late that I have not been able to write a report, but I propose referring to a few matters which I consider of vital importance. In the first place, allow me to return my sincere thanks for the hearty manner in which you appreciated the remarks of our worthy president. I assure you that anything I do for

the association is a matter of pure love for the work. I think that everything I have done has been done for the benefit of the association.

The president has referred to the matter of the coops. I have nothing further to add, only to express my hearty appreciation of the manner in which we were treated at Toronto when we went there on your behalf. The government gave them to us after we had explained to them something that most of them knew already. The Minister of Agriculture and also the Patron leader, our old and worthy friend and exhibitor, Mr. Haycock, were present, and they thoroughly understood the interests of this association; and when the matter was placed before them, they had little reluctance in saying that when the question came up before the House that we would get our request. I may say in relation to the amount of money we asked for—\$500—that the committee which you appointed to look after this work has so managed the affair that we have been enabled to furnish you to-day six hundred and twelve coops, with sufficient sides over to make a few more, for the sum of \$440. We have also supplied you with the little numbers—something I happened to think of myself—at a cost of some \$18.

The matter of the prize ribbons has been referred to in the minutes of the directors' meeting. Your directors passed a motion that such things should be provided without giving the secretary any limit to go by. I inquired of the two best firms on the continent of America for that kind of goods—the Tansey firm in Montreal, and another in Newark, N.J. I found that the ribbons, such as are given by the American associations, cost in the neighborhood of twenty-seven cents each, and we require over twelve hundred of them. Now, where are we to get our money from? Then, I found that the very cheapest ribbons which I could get would cost four cents each, which would amount to \$48. The whole of the printing of this association is done for \$18, tickets and all. We are here to-day, without any competition, in a sense, for the place of holding the meeting, not like last year, or the year before, when numbers of members came from the adjoining places for the purpose of controlling the vote. This has resulted in the reduction of our receipts by a good many dollars, and I found that it would be quite impossible for us to reserve this amount of money for your ribbons. As far as I am concerned, it would be a great deal better to have the ribbons, as you have noticed the time it takes to write the cards, and then they are half written before they come here. That would have been done away with. It is, you will see, not a matter with me, but a saving of your money.

I intended to speak first of Mr. Langdon. It was with the greatest of pleasure that I received