

Series Revised Statutes, "In holding general Provincial Exhibitions due regard shall be had to the just claims of the several Counties."

Nova Scotia Journals, 1877, Appendix 8, page 3: "The Central Board report, they are moreover encouraged by the marked success of the Annual Provincial Exhibition held in Truro, Oct. 1876, to look forward to the Annual Provincial Exhibitions in the Counties as likely to exert a direct and powerfully beneficial influence in the development of the industry of the Province, to lead to rapid improvement in every department of agriculture, and to promote the comfort and prosperity and intelligence of the agricultural population." Report dated March 1st, 1877.

Chap. 12, Acts of 1875, authorizes the Central Board to pay an Agricultural Society or responsible body \$4,000, as a prize fund to an Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition, to be held in any County selected by the Central Board.

I am further directed to refer to the Conference had with the Board by a delegation from the Exhibition Committee, prior to the Exhibition of 1876, all of which tended in this direction, viz., that the purchase of grounds and the erection of public buildings satisfactory to the Board being absolutely required, would, other things being equal, constitute a just claim to the location of the Exhibition at a future time.

Based upon these acts of the Legislature, the report of the Central Board, and the statements of the delegation, was made the canvass for funds to enable the Committee to erect buildings and carry on successfully the Exhibition.

I am also instructed to ask that if, in the minds of the Board, here should be any hesitation or doubt as to the advisability of holding the Exhibition in Kentville, the delegation which has already been appointed and to which I referred in my letter of the 15th inst., should be heard by the Board, and that you would kindly notify me when such conference may be had.

In addition to the formal application above made, it is but fair to add that the present facilities for railway traffic will do away with many of the difficulties existing at the time of the last Exhibition, and the experience then gained will enable the Committee to supply sufficient hotel accommodation at reasonable rates.

Individually I should deeply regret the result which, so far as I can understand the feelings generally entertained in this County at least, would be likely to follow should the Board in their wisdom deem it inadvisable to grant the application above made.

I have the honor to be,

Yours respectfully,

WILLIAM EATON,  
Sec'y of Exhibition Committee.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, Halifax, N. S.,  
December 30th, 1879. }

Sir,—In accordance with an advertisement, signed by you as Secretary of the Central Board of Agriculture, inviting offers for the carrying out of the Provincial Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition of 1880, I hereby, on behalf of the City Council of Halifax, tender for the privilege of holding said Exhibition in the City of Halifax. For this purpose I offer the building and grounds used upon the occasion of the late Exhibition, which it is proposed to improve in many

respects, including the erection of permanent and more suitable sheds for horses, cattle, &c., and a prize fund of ten thousand five hundred dollars (\$10,500), inclusive of the four thousand dollars granted by the Government, but irrespective of special prizes, which, there is every reason to believe, will be large.

A detailed prize list will be submitted in due course for the approval of your Board and the Governor in Council.

The City Council is prepared to make every effort to promote the success of the Exhibition, and trusts that the advantages of locality and accommodation, together with the amount offered for prizes, will justify your Board in accepting this application and granting to the said Council the appropriation of \$4,000 for the Exhibition of 1880, as provided in the Act.

For and on behalf of the City Council of Halifax,

STEPHEN TOBIN,  
Mayor of Halifax.

George Lawson, Esq., Ph. D., LL. D., Secretary Central Board of Agriculture.

To the Honourable the Central Board of Agriculture:

GENTLEMEN,—On behalf of the County of Colchester I am instructed to ask of your honourable body the privilege of having the Provincial Exhibition of the year 1880 located in the shire town of this great agricultural County. The people of Colchester are unanimous in this request, and will work with a will to carry out such Exhibition, if granted to us, to the entire satisfaction of your Board and the Provincial Government.

We modestly, but urgently, press our claims for the Exhibition upon the following grounds:—

1st. We offer as a prize list the sum of \$6,500, inclusive of the usual Government grant, to be awarded strictly in accordance with your approval, and to the greatest extent possible to encourage our agricultural industries throughout the Province.

2nd. We would strongly bring before your Board the central location of the town of Truro, and its easy access by speedy means of transit from all parts of the Province. We are so situated that to the many exhibitors of eastern Nova Scotia, the island of Cape Breton, the large farming Counties of Antigonish, Pictou, Cumberland, Hants and Colchester, we present the most convenient locality in the Province of approach, thereby naturally drawing to a Provincial Exhibition a larger and better class of agricultural exhibits than a less favored geographical locality could possibly do.

3rd. We have suitable grounds and buildings already approved by your Board and the Provincial Government for carrying out any Provincial Exhibition. These will be enlarged and improved, if we are successful in this application.

4th. In the matter of entertaining the public who flock to our annual shows, we cannot be crowded, we have eight large hotels, capable of accommodating 600, while private boarding-houses and private residences will readily find room for the additional thousands that visit us.

5th. We would refer to our previous management of Provincial Exhibitions, and the little dissatisfaction that exhibitors have ever expressed with our arrangements in gen-

eral and in detail in 1876 and 1878. Similar satisfaction, we think, we can guarantee the public, if favored with the Exhibition of 1880.

Hoping that this, the application of the County of Colchester, for the next Provincial Exhibition, may meet with a favorable response from your honorable Board,

I am, gentlemen,

Yours truly,

GEORGE A. LAYTON,  
Sec'y of Public Meeting.

Truro, Colchester Co., Dec. 30th, 1879.

STATEMENT BY DELEGATES FROM KING'S COUNTY.

The delegation from King's county respectfully submit for the consideration of the Central Board of Agriculture the following statements and reasons in support of their claim, that the next annual Provincial Exhibition should be held in the Exhibition Building at Kentville:

1. It was clearly the intention of the Legislature, no less than the policy of the Government, that the Provincial Exhibitions should not be centralized in any one locality. In support of this view it is sufficient to quote cap. 37, sec. 10, sub-sec. 5, R. S., 4th series, which enacts that "In holding *General Provincial Exhibitions* due regard shall be had to the just claims of the several counties;" and cap. 13 of the Acts of 1875, which authorizes the Central Board to pay "any Agricultural Society, or other responsible body \$4,000 as a prize fund for an Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition to be held in any county selected by the Central Board." It cannot be contended that the selection of the same county, year after year, by the Central Board, will give effect to the spirit or intention of the Acts, or legitimately satisfy "the just claims of the several counties."

2. The Central Board itself is emphatically committed to the principle that such Exhibitions will best serve the public, and most fully accomplish the purposes for which they are intended, by being held periodically in different agricultural and industrial centres. In that report, dated 1st March, 1877, which may be referred to in N. S. Journals for that year, appendix 8, page 3, it is stated:—

"They (the Central Board) are moreover encouraged by the marked success of the Annual Provincial Exhibition held in Truro, Oct. 1877, to look forward to the Annual Provincial Exhibitions in the counties as likely to exert a direct and powerfully beneficial influence in the development of the industry of the Province; to lead to rapid improvement in every department of agriculture, and to promote the comfort and prosperity and intelligence of the agricultural population."

3. Apart, however, from the legislation on the subject, or the report referred to, it is obvious that it is only by alternating the localities in which the Exhibitions are held, that the objects and benefits of the institution can be reasonably expected to be realized. Such Exhibitions are in their very nature of a Provincial and not a mere local character. Their initial aim and object are to act and react beneficially over the whole country, instead of being confined to a limited area. They are intended to give a useful impetus to the various agricultural centres; to create a healthy rivalry in the different districts of the country, and to educate the people by