

## A WORD TO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES

Many improvements have been made in *The Canadian Horticulturist* during the past eight months. An earnest effort has been made to make the magazine of greater interest and value to members of horticultural societies. The space devoted to floral matters has been increased and a special department has been created for reports of the work being done by horticultural societies. During 1905 still further improvements will be made. About half the horticultural societies in Ontario subscribe for *The Horticulturist*. These societies report that they find *The Horticulturist* is of great value to them in their work.

There are a number of societies which do not subscribe for *The Horticulturist* but which take United States publications instead. *The Horticulturist* is the only horticultural paper published in Canada. Although the competition of the United States papers is keen an effort is being made to publish a horticultural paper that will be a credit to Canada. An earnest attempt is also being made to advance the interests of our horticultural societies. Will not the horticultural societies of Ontario, when planning their work for 1905, kindly bear *The Horticulturist* in mind and arrange to subscribe for the magazine for all their members. If there are any improvements you would like to see made write and let us know what they are. Do you not think *The Horticulturist* is a sufficiently good publication to be deserving of your support quite aside from the fact that it is purely Canadian.

**A LOW SUBSCRIPTION RATE WILL BE GIVEN SOCIETIES.**

point a committee of representative men to outline the duties and objects and to state in what way it would be superior to our present organization."

Mr. McClew: "I have pleasure in seconding Mr. Snelgrove's motion that we form a horticultural association. While we have no ill-feeling towards agricultural societies or towards the Fruit Growers' Association, yet our objects are entirely different from either of them. We have no commercial interests. Our object is purely the advancement of the knowledge of plants for beautifying the homes. By forming a provincial association we should be in a much better position to help both the agriculturists and the fruit growers. There always seems to be a feeling of jealousy between them, that the one society is taking from the other, which should not be. I do not think that a provincial association would cost the province a great deal. I am pleased to see that *The Canadian Horticulturist* is improving as regards horticultural matters, and no doubt still more space will be devoted to them in the future."

W. L. Stevens, Orillia: "As to the formation of a provincial association, there is a good deal to be said on both sides. There is a great deal of opposition among horticulturists in different parts of the country to the Fruit Growers' Association."

J. G. Jackson, Port Hope: "I called a meeting of our directors recently and obtained their views on this matter. In the first place there seems to be some dissatisfaction existing in our membership in regard to the affiliation of the Horticultural Societies with the Fruit Growers' Association. They have thought for some time past that the fruit growers were getting the best end of the horn in *The Horticulturist*. I

assume it was established for their special benefit. However, I frankly admit that it has improved very much recently in this respect."

### A COMMITTEE APPOINTED.

After considerable discussion Major Snelgrove withdrew his motion and moved, instead, that a committee composed of Messrs. H. R. Frankland, R. B. Whyte, H. B. Cowan, J. G. Jackson, Alex. McNeill, D. McClew and the mover be appointed to consider the advisability of forming a provincial horticultural association and also the proposal to amend the Agricultural and Arts Act as it relates to horticultural societies, the committee to report as soon as possible.

An amendment was moved by Mr. McNeill that the Agricultural and Arts Act be so amended as to make horticultural societies independent of agricultural societies, that grants to societies be distributed in proportion to the work done and that a distinct horticultural committee be appointed to direct the executive of the Fruit Growers' Association in connection with horticultural matters. The amendment was put to the meeting and was lost after which the main motion was carried.

### AN IMPORTANT RESOLUTION.

At the afternoon session of the convention Major Snelgrove, as chairman of the special committee, presented the following report which was carried unanimously:

"That your committee is of the opinion that the Agricultural and Arts act should be amended because it permits of an unjust distribution of the government grant and that it in many districts works to the disadvantage of horticultural societies. We would, therefore, recommend that this committee be deputed to wait on the Hon. John Dryden, Minister of Agriculture, to urge that the Agricultural and Arts Act be com-