

enlivened more than usual by a determined effort on the part of two or three delegates to criticise the management of the exhibition. Aside from this the meeting was harmonious throughout and the old board of directors were re-elected with the exception of ex-alderman John Hallam, who retired, his place being taken by Alderman McMurrich.

The directors' report for 1899 showed that the exhibition has had a most successful year. While the attendance was not as large as that of 1898, yet with this exception the Industrial Fair of 1899 drew more visitors than any previous year. 1898 was the year of cut rates on the railways, many people taking advantage of these to visit the show. The finances of the association were shown to be in a most satisfactory condition. After providing for a reserve fund of \$10,000, the association had been able to hand over to the city of Toronto, which under the new arrangement assumes all the liabilities of the exhibition, a balance of \$2,315.43. This is satisfactory and will be gratifying to friends of the exhibition throughout the country at large. Special reference was made in the report to the butter-making competition which proved very successful.

An important discussion took place as to the advisability of holding a Dominion Exhibition at Toronto in 1901. It was the unanimous opinion of those present that an effort should be made to hold such an exhibition while the Pan-American Exposition is in progress in order to attract visitors from that quarter. A resolution was passed, moved by John I. Hobson, president of the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association, and seconded by Mr. E. Kidd, director of the Butter and Cheese Association of eastern Ontario, approving of the holding of a Dominion Exhibition, and of putting forth an effort to secure the co-operation of the Dominion and Provincial Governments in the matter.

At a meeting of the new board held later Mr. J. J. Withrow tendered his resignation as President of the Fair, a position he has ably filled for twenty-one years. The Directors reluctantly accepted his resignation and elected Dr. Andrew Smith, Principal of the Ontario Veterinary College, to succeed him. Mr. Withrow was elected to the position of honorary-president.

#### THE DAIRY BUILDING.

Previous to the annual meeting a strong deputation composed of the representatives from the Eastern and Western Dairy Associations, the Shorthorn, Jersey and Holstein Breeders' Associations and several members of the Industrial Fair Board waited upon the Ontario Cabinet to ask for assistance in erecting a new dairy building. The proposed building is to cost \$20,000, and the deputation asked the Government to make a grant of at least \$5,000 for this purpose. The ministers present promised to give the proposal every consideration.

As is well known to visitors at the Industrial, the dairy exhibit, one of the most important on the grounds, has for several years been shown under the grand stand in quarters totally inadequate to display the exhibits properly. With the new butter-making feature and the large increase in dairy machinery exhibits, it becomes absolutely necessary for more up-to-date and better buildings, and we hope the Government will consider the request favorably. Nothing that the Government could do would give better satisfaction to the dairymen of the province than this. With better accommodation and better buildings the dairy exhibit at the Industrial Fair can be made the great educational feature of the show that it should be. The Industrial Association will do all in its power to aid in this matter and the city of Toronto has promised to co-operate in a handsome way.

At Bury, in Lancashire, they tell of a horse trader who once offered for sale three awful old nags. The three stood close together, as though leaning against one another. An intending buyer looked at them and, turning to the attendant, said, "Trot out the middle one." "What," ejaculated the trader, "and let the other two fall down. Not me!"

## Tree Planting and Road-Improvement

Under this heading appears a very interesting letter in this week's correspondence column from T. H. Race, Mitchell, Ont. His reference to the good roads movement, rather discouraging than otherwise the beautifying of our public highways by planting trees, etc., is deserving of special attention. Though we have always strongly advocated good roads, and will do so still, as we firmly believe they are closely identified with the material progress of this or any other civilized country, yet we would not like to see the beautifying of our highways by judicious tree planting discontinued. If the two won't work in harmony with each other more is the pity. Surely there is some way of regulating the planting of trees along the highway so that they will not interfere or become an obstacle to making and maintaining good roads. While it is always a pleasure to drive over a good road, yet the pleasure of such a trip is greatly intensified if beautiful and symmetrical rows of trees gird the highway.

Mr. Race suggests a plan for planting trees along the roadways that is well worth considering. It seems to be one that would meet the requirements necessary for shading or ornamental purposes, and at the same time would not prove injurious to the roadbed. This question is worthy of fuller discussion, and we would be pleased to hear from any of our readers who can give any information as to the effect shade trees have upon the road beds. It certainly adds to the value and appearance of a community if the roadways are beautified by systematic and careful tree planting, and if there is any possibility of combining this feature with the improvement of the roadbed we would very much like to see it brought about.

## The Beet Sugar Industry

An important movement was inaugurated last week in reference to the development of the beet sugar industry in Canada. A large and representative convention of gentlemen interested in promoting this industry met last week in Toronto and organized what is to be known as The Ontario Beet Sugar Association. It is hoped by coming together in this way to further the establishing of the industry in this province. A strong board of directors was elected, with Mr. John Parry, Dunnville, as president, and D. H. Price, Aylmer, as secretary treasurer.

A large deputation from those present waited upon the local government and asked for a bounty upon a sliding scale for a few years, to ensure the establishment of the industry in Canada. The Government promised to carefully consider the request.

This new organization will certainly do very much towards accomplishing something definite along the line of beet sugar factories in this province and we wish it every success. There is nothing in our climatic or soil conditions to interfere with the growing of beets for sugar purposes, and the establishment of the industry would no doubt be of immense benefit to the country generally.

## Sheep Racks

By J. S. Woodward, New York.

The best kind will depend upon what is to be done with the sheep. If for fattening sheep, or those being wintered as stores, I have never found a better rack than the one shown at A for a side rack or to stand so that the back side of it will form alley fence, or if to stand out in the pen, so sheep can go all around it. It can be made double as at B. In either case the posts should be 30 inches high. The flat part of each side or bottom should be 10 inches wide. The slanting pieces of double rack should each be 10 inches and put together as shown. In