

54,000 PEOPLE SAW FAIR ON FARMERS' DAY
BIGGEST CROWDS IN EXHIBITION'S HISTORY

Ideal Weather Favored
the Big Show on
Wednesday.

SOME ACCIDENTS
NOT SERIOUS

A Small Blaze in a Tent Last
Evening—Stands Were
Packed.

Yesterday was Farmers' Day at the Western Fair, and it proved to be the greatest day, not only of this year, but of many years.

Superintendent Brown stated that the official figures showed the attendance to be 54,000—the greatest in the history of the Fair.

One thing is certain. It would be practically impossible to crowd many more people in the grounds.

In the afternoon the grandstands and every building were literally jammed full.

In addition, the grounds looked as if not a single soul had gone to the grandstand, there was such a crowd there.

A Stream of Humanity.

"The Pike," was a regular stream of humanity, and it was well nigh impossible to work one's way through it.

But the stands looked the best. It was a real sea of faces. There was not a seat to be had in the whole place. Over 12,000 people were crowded into them, presenting a most interesting and inspiring sight.

"I never saw such a crowd in the stands in my life," said President W. J. Reid. "It was certainly a great sight."

And in the evening there was just as large a crowd in the stands, and almost as large in the grounds.

Of course, a great number of the visitors came down town in the evening and patronized the theatres, and other places, but the number of residents of the city who visited the Fair in the evening brought the crowd up to the proportions of the afternoon.

"We estimate that there were 54,000 people in the grounds yesterday," said Secretary A. M. Hunt. "It was one of the largest crowds in the history of the Fair. The grandstands were filled to capacity, and we had to quit selling tickets at both the afternoon and evening performances. We could have sold hundreds of tickets more if we had the room. There was almost as large a crowd on the grounds in the evening."

No Serious Accidents.

As would be expected the crowd was very orderly, and there were no accidents of any moment, and very few minor accidents.

It somewhat resembled a gigantic picnic. Quite a large proportion of the crowd brought their lunches with them, and made it a great day.

Small picnic parties were scattered all through the grounds, and although there was rather scant accommodation, owing to the enormous crowd, the most of them made the best of it and were happy.

The crowd started for the Fair early. At noon there were fully 10,000 people on the grounds. At 2 o'clock the crowd had doubled, and from that time until 3 o'clock the turnstiles moved faster than they have for many a long day.

A Grand Success.

The hearts of the directors waxed glad when they viewed the crowd. It assured them that the Fair of 1908 would be a splendid success, the greatest of all from every point of view.

The Fair itself moved with clock-like precision. Mr. A. M. Hunt, the indefatigable secretary of the Fair, had everything arranged in a system and there was not a hitch.

He supervised and looked after everything, and kept exhibitors and visitors who came in contact with him in good humor.

The judging was hurried along and the live stock judging was completed last evening.

The rest of the judging will be finished today and by tomorrow afternoon the exhibitors will be able to draw their checks, and get home.

Everybody Satisfied.

Mr. Hunt was the busiest man on the grounds. He was in and out of the grounds all day, and was constantly in contact with the exhibitors and visitors.

Continued on Page Two.

OCTOBER 26 ELECTION DAY.

Ottawa, Sept. 16.—The Cabinet in session here this afternoon settled upon Monday, Oct. 26 as polling day for the general elections. Nominations will be made on Oct. 19.

The proclamation dissolving the present Parliament was signed by His Excellency the Governor-General tonight on the eve of his departure for the West.

CITIZENS' DAY AT THE FAIR
LOOKS AS BIG AS WEDNESDAY

Big Crowds Continue to Pour in by All the Railways and Exhibition Grounds Are Jammed With Thousands of Pleased Little Folk and Big.

The annual meeting of the Western Ontario Pigeon Fanciers' Association was held at the fair grounds on Wednesday evening. There was a large attendance of members. The increasing interest in pigeons, and the large number of exhibitors at the fair were commented on favorably by the members.

The election of officers resulted as follows:
Honorary Presidents—Wm. McNeil and R. Short.
President—W. T. Hodgins.
First Vice-President—D. J. Vrooman.
Second Vice-President—Thomas Hutton.
Third Vice-President—L. Thompson.
Secretary—Wm. J. Beech.
Treasurer—A. J. Morgan.
Auditors—W. A. Cox and J. H. Westbrook.

Citizens' Day.
This is citizens' day at the fair and it promises to be as great a day as farmers' day.

Every train brought in thousands of excursionists, and judging from the streets there are just as many people here today as yesterday—perhaps more.

This morning there was a fine crowd on the grounds. It was estimated that at noon there was close to 10,000 people at the fair. At 12 o'clock there was a great jam at the gates, and at 2 o'clock there were fully 30,000 people on the inside.

In addition there is a great swarm of youngsters. Contrary to former customs the school kiddies are attending the fair on the last two days. As a result there is a great mob of the youngsters out, and they are having the time of their lives. Things are always new to the boys and girls.

The pike, the big horses, and the races are pleasing the youngsters immensely.

"There is a good crowd here now, and I look for as good a day as any," said Secretary Hunt.

The board of directors met this morning, but there was little business to be transacted. The three protests were referred to the chairman of the board, under which they were made and will be reported on at the next meeting.

A vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Wm. Moore, who has charge of the main building. In making the motion Mr. Wm. McNeil said it was a source of great satisfaction to the board to see the excellent showing of the main building. Mr. Moore had worked very hard to make this building worth while and he deserved great credit for it.

Al Saunders seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Ald. Moorhead also brought up the matter of employing men for the fair, and recommended that a new system be adopted. In some buildings the work had not been satisfactory.

The members present were: President W. J. Reid, R. Oke, W. McNeil, R. A. Carrothers, Ald. Armstrong, Col. McEwen, T. Hardy, Shore, E. W. Scatchard, C. E. Treblecock, Geo. G. McCormick, Dr. Geo. A. Routledge, John Pringle, W. M. Spencer, Col. Gartsch, Ald. Moorhead, James Murray, Ald. Saunders, W. Moore and Secretary A. M. Hunt.

A Record Attendance.
There was great satisfaction expressed by the directors at the splendid attendance yesterday. It established a record. The best previous attendance was ten years ago, in 1898, when the rate war on the railroads gave a very cheap rate here. The attendance that year was 48,000.

The best previous to that was in 1896, when Lord Aberdeen, then governor-general, visited the fair, and 45,000 people turned out to see him.

"LEADING"

Every city has newspapers and every city has a LEADING NEWSPAPER. That the prominent officials and citizens of London recognize THE ADVERTISER as "London's leader" was again shown twice this week, when letters addressed to "Leading newspaper," London, Ont., also "London Times," London, Ont., were promptly delivered with The Advertiser mail.

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Continued on Page Two.

RAILWAYS BREAK ALL RECORDS
FAIR TRAFFIC IS TREMENDOUS

Grand Trunk Brought in Visitors in Thousands—One Pere Marquette Train Carried 1,100 People—C. P. R. and Traction Company Report Business as Extraordinary.

The Grand Trunk broke all previous records today in the crowds that they brought to the Western Fair.

Approximately 10,000 had arrived on the trains up to 1 o'clock this afternoon, and two specials were yet to come.

Thirteen hundred people came in on the specials from Stratford shortly before noon.

Nearly 800 arrived on the Huron and Bruce special, and a few minutes after the regular train from Wingham rolled in with 400 more.

Nine hundred came in on a special run from Brantford, and about 700 on the regular train from Sarnia.

The Pere Marquette.
The Pere Marquette at 11 o'clock landed 1,100 people on a special run from Blenheim, and many more came on the regular trains.

The Grand Trunk station for an hour and a half before noon presented a scene of bustle and stir such as is only witnessed in a large metropolitan station.

A steady stream of visitors poured forth from the Richmond street entrance. The street cars were filled to overflowing, and on many of them it was practically impossible for the conductors to collect all the fares.

Broke All Records.
The C. P. R. reports that their fair traffic records were broken also by today's rush. The early morning train from the west carried half a dozen extra coaches, but they were all filled long before London was reached, and many people were standing. The specials from the east and the regular express from Toronto were crowded to their utmost capacity. The officials estimate that they carried fully 4,500 people today.

The Traction Line.
The Southwestern Traction Company had the heaviest day since it started, and the cars were filled to the aisles. Many people waited during the latter part of the morning for cars which would not be so crowded.

Crowds on Streets.
All morning thousands of people thronged the streets down town. So far not a single case of pocket-picking has been reported to the police. The signs that are placed conspicuously in all the downtown places seem to be having a good effect not only in making people more cautious, but also in frightening pickpockets.

The Judgment.
The judgment of Master-in-Chambers Cartwright was as follows:
"The statement of claim is longer than usual, but is not necessarily objectionable on that account. On the contrary it gives a full, clear statement of the facts out of which the action proceeded, and of those other facts on which the plaintiff relies to prove his case. It is quite clear that pleadings are not to be reformed in chambers unless hopelessly bad. After consideration of the statement of claim it does not appear to me to be open to attack. It does not seem the validity of the bylaw in any way attacked; this could scarcely be seriously attempted when the fact of its having been validated is fully set out in paragraph eleven.

Nor is it any objection that the commissioners or their agents, as stated to have misled the council, are stated in paragraph nineteen. These are statements in conformity of the rules of some of the material facts on which the plaintiff will rely and on proof of which he hopes to succeed. The fact that the commission is not a party is no objection, as no relief is asked against that body or any one connected with it."

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The report of Chief Inspector Howe of the Canadian Underwriters' Association has arrived at the city hall, and does not contain much comfort for the city fathers, nor to any other citizen who might read it.

Mr. Howe says some very uncomplimentary things about the London waterworks system—in fact, he declares that it is of little value in fighting fires, and he comes out flatfooted and recommends a high-pressure system.

He gives the advocates of the Konomoka scheme little comfort also, and says that it is almost useless to look for a large increase in the water supply from the Springbank section.

Mr. Howe also has something to say of the fire department, and recommends more men.

The Water Supply.
The report is a very voluminous one, covering many pages. He gives a short history of the present system, and deals with the equipment. The total water supply, he states, is 4,338,000 gallons. The standard requires 100 gallons per capita for the usual uses, and thus the local supply should be 4,776,000 gallons. The standard for fire-fighting purposes require 18 1/2-inch streams, or a supply of 5,410,000 gallons. The total supply that the city of London should have would be 10,176,000 to meet the requirements of the Underwriters' Association. Thus it will be discovered that the city is 5,838,000 gallons short of the requisite supply for all uses.

Pumping Facilities.
Mr. Howe also describes the pumping facilities. Theoretically, the capacity is 11,000,000 gallons. However, the waterpower cannot be relied upon, and its maximum would be at best only 1,211,800 gallons. Added to the 6,000,000 gallons, the capacity of the steam pumps, the total pumping capacity would be 7,211,800 gallons.

(Continued on Page Nine.)

**THREE NEW COMMISSIONERS
NAMED FOR RAILWAY BOARD**

Prof. McLean To Be Colleague of D'Arcy Scott, Who Is Made the Chairman of the Second Division of Railway Commission—Secretary Scott to Work On.

Ottawa, Sept. 16.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier returned to the capital today and presided at a cabinet council this afternoon.

Formal announcement will be made by the Premier in his speech at Strathroy on Saturday of the dissolution of Parliament, and of the retirement of Hon. W. R. Scott, secretary of state, whose place will be taken by Mr. Charles Murphy, barrister, of Ottawa.

Scott Will Not Quit Yet.
In view, however, of Mr. Scott's acquaintance with the office work of the department, and the need of the government having some one at Ottawa during the campaign to deal with the innumerable questions to which the conduct of an election gives rise, the swearing in of the new secretary of state will not take place at present.

New Commissioners.
The three new members of the railway commissioners were named at a meeting of the cabinet this afternoon. They are: Mayor D'Arcy Scott, of Ottawa, who becomes assistant chief; Hon. Thomas Greenway, ex-premier of Manitoba, and Professor S. J. McLean, of Toronto University. The post of assistant chief carries a salary of \$9,000, while the other two will receive \$7,000 each.

The appointment of Professor McLean to a place on the board will probably occasion the greatest interest (Continued on Page Nine.)

THE PREMIER AT STRATHROY

Great interest is being shown in the Laurier demonstration to be held in Strathroy on Saturday afternoon next.

The great ovation given the Premier at Niagara Falls on Tuesday last has acted as an inspiration to the other centres where Sir Wilfrid will speak, and as a result the people of Middlesex and Lambton are going to prove that this picnic will not be second even to the Niagara Falls demonstration.

A very large number of Londoners will attend. There will be a special train from London. It will leave London at 1 o'clock sharp, arriving in Strathroy at 1:30. The train will leave Strathroy at 5:40 o'clock, arriving in London at 6:35.

A single fare has been secured. The Pipers' Band will accompany the local contingent. In addition there will be many bands from other places: Strathroy, Parkhill, Sarnia, Petrolia, Wyoming and other towns will each send a band.

Lambton County will send a monster crowd. Arrangements have been made by the Grand Trunk to handle the Liberals, and extra coaches will be run on all the regular trains in addition to the special train.

Visitors from Appleton, Glencoe, Longwood, Newbury, Bothwell and Thamesville can leave on the regular train in the morning and reach Strathroy in plenty of time for the demonstration.

Connections can be made at 6:30 o'clock for the return trip. Sir Wilfrid Laurier will arrive in London at 11:20 a.m., and he will be met by a representative delegation of the London Liberals. He will proceed immediately to Strathroy. He will be accompanied by Hon. George P. Graham, minister of railways and canals, and Hon. Rudolph Lemieux, postmaster-general.

Among those who will deliver addresses will be Mr. W. S. Calvert, M. P., West Middlesex; P. F. Pardes, M. P., West Lambton; Alex. Smith, Liberal candidate for North Middlesex; Valentine Ratz, M. P., North Middlesex; Dr. C. O. Fairbank, Liberal candidate for East Lambton, and Dr. G. A. Routledge, the Liberal candidate for East Middlesex.

What Free Rural Mails Will Mean

Postmaster Cameron, in discussing the rural free mail delivery scheme, with The Advertiser, this morning, stated that it is one of the most important moves ever made by the post-office department.

To the farmers it will mean a quick and easy means of securing mail and parcels that they now have to wait several days for.

To the merchants of London it will mean an enormous increase in the mail order business, and will add many thousands of dollars yearly to the city's commerce.

From a postoffice standpoint the establishment of the free rural delivery will mean an immense amount more mail to handle.

London at present stands sixth among the postoffices of Canada in the amount of mail handled, and will not unlikely take fifth place as it will be the distributing point for the whole of Southwestern Ontario.

200 Students at the Normal School

The Normal School reopened for the season on Tuesday with an attendance of 200 students.

More than 200 students were enrolled, of whom 23 are men.

Seventy students were turned away, as the school could not accommodate them. These will have to attend Normal Schools in other cities.

The personnel of the teaching staff shows some changes this year. Mr. S. J. Radcliffe, formerly of the College Institute, is the new principal, while Mr. A. Stevenson, formerly of the Kingston Collegiate Institute, and Mr. J. P. Hogg, until recently inspector of public schools in Brantford, are other new members.

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STORM SIGNALS OUT.
Observatory, Toronto, Ont., Sept. 17.—The tropical storm, which devastated Turks Island in the Bahamas last Friday, has moved slowly northward, and is now approaching Nova Scotia. The storm centre being far at sea, it is im-

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