

skilled help from boys. This policy should be adopted by the florists. Boys or quite young men when taken into a business can, by sensible and tactful supervision and teaching by the florist or foreman, soon become as useful in many ways as men, and in a few years will develop into very capable florists. I do not know of any business to-day that furnishes as good a field for employment for good all round men." President Mepsted closed by urging those present to take an active part in the discussions.

THE SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The report of the secretary, Mr. A. H. Ewing, of Woodstock, drew attention to the fact that when the association met in Ottawa in 1899 it only had 22 members, while last year 69 attended the annual meeting.

That the association is in a good financial condition was shown by the report of the treasurer, Mr. H. Simmers, of Toronto. The receipts of the association last year amounted to \$248.30, including \$138 for membership fees. The previous balance on hand was \$90.70, and as the expenses through the year were only \$63.50, the association has a balance on hand of \$184.80.

SOME SPLENDID EXHIBITS.

One of the best features of the convention was the excellent display of floral exhibits and florists' supplies. These included a great display of hardy perennials made by Mr. W. T. Macoum, of the Experimental Farm at Ottawa, and of Groff's seedling gladiolus by Campbell Brothers, of Simcoe. The Experimental Farm exhibit included 150 distinct varieties of perennials, of which there were 55 varieties of perennial phlox, showing the great improvement that has been made in this flower in recent years. The object of the collection was to show as many as possible of the best perennials which bloom in late summer.

One large table was taken up with the excellent exhibit of J. Gammage & Sons, of London, showing palms, araucarias, rub-

bers, asparagus plumosus, begonia D'Lorraine, and a number of small plants used in the trade. The palms and asparagus were particularly fine. This firm grows 20,000 palms and 40,000 asparagus plants, and the exhibit showed these plants in all sizes from 1½-inch to 6-inch pots.

Other exhibits included a large display of floral supplies by D. J. Sinclair, of Toronto; flower pots, jars, etc., by the Foster Pottery Co., of Hamilton, Ont.; wire designs by George J. Fisher, of Ottawa, Ont.; florists' holiday boxes by J. C. Wilson & Co., of Montreal; saleable sized palms, assorted ferns, small cyclamen, etc., by Messrs. Grobba and Wandry, of Mimico, Ont.; an excellent assortment of palms, ferns, asparagus plumosus, etc., by J. Gammage & Son, London, Ont.; an especially well grown lot of ferns, from seedlings to plants in six inch pots, by C. Scrim, of Ottawa; small saleable ferns, seedling palms, etc., by Messrs. Hall & Robinson, of Montreal; commercial ferns by Joseph Benouth, of Montreal; ferns in two to ten inch pots, by Graham Brothers, of Ottawa, Ont.; nephrolepis Scottie, by John Scott, of Brooklyn, N. Y.; sweet peas, by Frank Brown, of Barrie, Ont., and musk melons by I. J. Gorman, of Montreal.

On Wednesday afternoon the members drove to the Experimental Farm, where a most pleasant afternoon was spent. On Thursday the members devoted the day to visiting the sights and places of interest in and around the city and were entertained at dinner by Mr. C. Scrim, the well known florist of Ottawa. The greenhouses of Messrs. Graham Brothers, Wright and Scrim were among those visited. The three days' convention had a most pleasant closing on Thursday evening, when a banquet was held at the Windsor hotel. When the Toronto contingent was boarding the train for home their Montreal and Ottawa brethren, who were at the station to see