

bility of forming an Ontario Vegetable Growers' Association. Action resulted. Last month the eighth annual convention of this Association was held. It was largely attended by delegates from all parts of the province. This Association has active branches throughout Ontario, a large membership, and has accomplished much valuable work on behalf of the vegetable growers of the province. The reports presented by branch associations at the recent convention showed that their members have saved many thousands of dollars through cooperative efforts. Thus have the benefits of cooperative effort been demonstrated once more.

The Ontario Fruit Growers' Association is to be congratulated upon the excellent results that have followed from the appointment of Mr. McIntosh as its transportation agent. The members of the association were delighted, as they had every reason to be, with the report presented by Mr. McIntosh at their recent convention. Other provincial fruit growers' associations might well follow the example that has thus been set. A general and uniform agitation of the question of freight and express rates in all the provinces would strengthen the hands of the producers in their dealings with the railway companies.

PUBLISHER'S DESK

Our front cover illustration shows a view of a portion of the exhibits at the recent Ontario Horticultural Exhibition. As will be seen the exhibition reflected credit on the horticultural interests of the province.

This issue of The Canadian Horticulturist is a little later in reaching our subscribers than usual. This is due to the fact that the Ontario Horticultural Exhibition was this year held a week later than in former years. As a very large percentage of the readers of The Canadian Horticulturist take a deep interest in this exhibition, as well as in the conventions held in connection therewith, we felt justified in delaying publication sufficiently to enable us to publish the full reports of the proceedings which appear in this issue.

The horticultural societies of Ontario hold their annual meetings during the first week in November. The meetings held this year were encouraging in character. A number of interesting reports concerning them have reached us for publication in The Canadian Horticulturist. Owing to the fact that our columns this month are crowded with reports of the conventions of the Ontario Horticultural Association and similar organizations, we have been unable to publish these reports concerning the local societies. Otherwise they would have been published with pleasure.

December brings the ever-welcome and joyous Christmas and holiday season. May it be burdened with rich blessings and crowded with happy experiences for all the readers of The Canadian Horticulturist, is the wish of the publishers.

R. S. Duncan, who was in charge of the fruit exhibit in the made-in-Canada train, which recently toured the west, says that he found people everywhere expressing a preference for the Ontario apple. How different when we consider the package.

Ontario's Horticulturalists Meet and Confer

THE eighth annual convention of the Ontario Horticultural Association, which was held in the Parliament Buildings, Toronto, November 20th and 21st, evidently proved that this Association continues to grow in strength and public approval. Some fifty societies were represented by delegates. The convention sessions proved interesting and helpful throughout, and should benefit the over sixty local societies in Ontario.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

In his presidential address, the retiring president, Rev. A. H. Scott, M.A., of Perth, spoke on the "Livability" and "Visibility" of life. "Livability," he said, "was not a word to be found in the dictionary, but next to 'lovability' it was the greatest thing in the world. No one has as yet estimated, nor can they, the power of life in the soils. What life is we know not. Life began in a garden, the first man was a gardener and life began to go wrong when the man left the garden. Gardening is the best of all toils, it is the acme of art. The charm of horticulture was in its visibility—a visibility as possible of existence in the back yard as in the bigger areas of parks and gardens."

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The treasurer's statement showed receipts for the year of \$237 37, and expenditures of \$106 95, with a balance on hand of \$130 78. Some sixty societies in the province were affiliated with the Ontario Association, being the largest number in its existence.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent J. Lockie Wilson reported that six societies had passed out of existence—Cayuga, Elora, Milton, St. Mary's, Simcoe and Sudbury. There is a possibility that the Milton and Sudbury societies will be revived. The Simcoe society when it disbanded had a balance on hand of nearly \$100. New societies have been organized in Dundalk, High Park (Toronto), and Paris. Complaints have been registered by the High Park and Toronto societies over the fact that the Act limits the maximum grant they can each receive to five hundred dollars. All other societies in the province can receive grants as high as eight hundred dollars. During the year the Act was amended, enabling new societies to be organized in Police Villages having a population of not less than five hundred. Mr. Wilson urged growing towns to profit by the error of town planners in the past and at once procure ample breathing places for their citizens, and playgrounds for the children.

SOCIETY SUGGESTIONS

Mr. H. W. Brown, of the Berlin Society, believed that the Department of Agriculture would help the societies if it would distribute a circular furnishing the names of capable speakers on horticultural subjects, with a list of their subjects and dates when the services of such speakers could be obtained. He pointed out that the Horticultural Societies Act does not facilitate work that will reach boys and girls, and suggested that a new section might be placed in the Act setting forth a basis of organization, an outline of procedure and a method of financing a "Children's Guild" or children's section of a horticultural society. The advisability of charging a smaller fee than one dollar in the case of children was dealt with. Mr. Brown advocated a copious list of options offered as premiums for both spring and fall planting, and the holding of at least one exhibition each year.

A new feature was the holding of mid-day luncheons, on the conclusion of which each day those present were invited to offer suggestions bearing on the work of the association. These discussions proved interesting and helpful.

Hon. W. H. Hearst, Minister of Lands, Forests, and Mines, spoke enthusiastically of the horticultural possibilities of Northern Ontario. Flowers and vegetables grown there equal those produced in any other part of the province. Gardens in Haileybury and Temiskaming have produced beds of sweet peas with stalks fourteen feet long.

Parks Commissioner C. E. Chambers, of Toronto, read an excellent paper entitled "A Park System for Small Towns," and Mr. H. J. Moore, of Queen Victoria Park, Niagara Falls, one on the "Ornamentation of Town Boulevards." Both of these papers will be published in later issues of The Canadian Horticulturist.

GREETINGS FROM THE STATES

Mr. R. B. Watrous, Secretary of the American Civic Association, showed a series of slides illustrating the three types of garden cities now being laid out and advocated in England and Germany. The speaker brought greetings from the association he represented.

Two excellent papers, one entitled "Recent Experimental Work," by F. E. Buck, of the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, and the other, "Vegetable Production on a Thirty-foot Lot," by Geo. Baldwin, Toronto, were well received, and will be mentioned more fully in later issues.

SCHOOL CHILDREN AND HORTICULTURE

A paper, which was so well received that arrangements were made to have copies of it printed for general distribution, was read by Mrs. R. B. Potts, of Hamilton, on the subject, "School Children and Horticulture." An extended reference to this report will be published in a later issue. Mrs. Potts told of children, backward in their school work, who had practically been remade by becoming interested in gardening. When taught in the schools, horticulture trains the head, the heart, and the hands, and brings the child in touch with life in a manner impossible under prevailing methods.

SHRUBS FOR LAWNS

Mr. Roderick Cameron, of Toronto, read a paper entitled "The Best Varieties of Shrubs for Lawns Surrounding Public Buildings," a portion of which appears elsewhere in this issue, and the balance of which will be published later.

Mr. Hugh Johnson, of Toronto, gave suggestions on the conduct of lawn and garden competitions. He advocated the inspection of lawns and gardens entered for competition at least three times in a season, spring, summer, and autumn, and that special attention be given to the owners of new houses, who, he claimed, should be put in a class by themselves.

The fixing of maximum and minimum points for the judging and a deduction of twenty-five per cent. of points for untidy or ill-kept fences were suggested, as well as the doing away with tight board fences. The beautification of fences should be an important consideration.

(Concluded on page 306)

A few years ago we used a box 9x12x18. We now use the standard size and think it alright for export purposes.—A. W. Peart, Burlington, Ont.