

## WALKERTON.

The Directors of the Walkerton Horticultural Society, in presenting their first annual report to the members of the Society since the affiliation of the Society with the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association, congratulated the Society on its prosperity during the year 1902 and that the Society had affiliated with the Fruit Growers' Association.

Bearing in mind the objects of the Society, your Directors made arrangements early in the year for and held a meeting in the Town Hall, Walkerton, on Thursday evening, March 13th last. This meeting, the first of its kind in town, was a perfect success. The Walkerton Orchestra provided good music. The speakers of the evening were Mr. T. H. Race, of Mitchell, and Mr. L. Woolverton, of Grimsby. The former gave a delightful and inspiring address on the influence of flowers upon the life and character of children, and the latter upon the subject of landscape art as applied to home and school grounds.

On the first of August last the Society held a Flower and Plant Show or exhibition in the Town Hall. No prizes were offered. There was a large and fine exhibit of flowers and plants, and those who attended were highly pleased with the entertainment and expressed the hope that the Society would make the exhibition an annual event. School children were admitted free. Each member of the Society received free three admission tickets. There was taken at the door \$4.70. After the close of the exhibition all the cut flowers with the consent of the exhibitors, were expressed to the Sick Children's Hospital in Toronto, where they were thankfully received. We hope that the directors of 1903 will hold another exhibition during the coming summer, if the season at all proves favorable, and that it be held later in the season than last year's. Every member of the Society, as well as every lover of flowers, should make arrangements early in the season so as to be prepared to be an exhibitor, and we hope every one will assist in making the exhibition of 1903 a most enjoyable success.

During the year 1902 this Society had eighty-nine members who each paid \$1.00, and as required by sub-section (a) of section 11 of the "Agricultural and Arts Act" of Ontario, we hereto annex the names of the members. We feel confident that if the objects and benefits of the Society become better known in the community the membership of the Society will greatly increase. Each of the members for the year 1902 received monthly a magazine, "The Canadian Horticulturist," and as a premium with that magazine each member received one of the following plants under its plant distribution for 1902, viz:

- (a) Plant called Iceberg, a new white blackberry.
- (b) Flowering shrub, *Pentzia Lemoinei*.
- (c) Grape vine, Campbell.
- (d) Hardy flowering shrub, Siberian Pea Tree.

The magazine was read with pleasure and profit by the members.

Your directors also purchased from Mr. Sherrington, of the Experimental Fruit Farm at Walkerton, and from Mr. W. E. Norrish, at Walkerton, a quantity of fruit trees, shrubs, vines, plants and

bulbs, and last spring distributed them among the members, viz: 13 palms, 144 tuberous rooted begonias, 6 caladiums, 12 spotted leaf callas, 12 cyclamen, 36 tigridias, 9 cannas, 84 gladioli, 56 roses, 30 Japanese lilies, 8 clematis, 8 Madeira vines, 8 cinnamon vines, 15 cherry, 42 plum and 6 apple trees, 6 currant bushes, 5 dew berries and 60 black and red raspberries. During the fall of 1902 your directors distributed among the members a quantity of flowering bulbs, viz: 150 hyacinths for pot culture, 300 bedding hyacinths, 1500 tulips, 600 crocus, 300 narcissus, 25 Chinese sacred lilies.

The Ontario Fruit Growers Association favored our town and society by holding its annual meeting here on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd December last, and the executive committee of that Association recognizing the fact that the Horticultural Societies of Ontario had been a great assistance to the Fruit Growers' Association held two special sessions for those interested in flowers, etc. Those who attended these meetings received a large amount of pleasure and benefit from them. The papers read and addresses given were all by gentlemen of culture and experience, and as a stenographer was present to report the proceedings and addresses the members of our Society will receive the benefit of them in the coming publication of the Annual Report of the Fruit Growers' Association. Every member for 1903 will receive a copy of that report.

Your Directors through Mr. Norrish purchased a number of plants and bunting to decorate the hall. The plants were sold at a small loss after the meeting, and the bunting remains on hand for future use for exhibition purposes. The thanks of this Society are due to Messrs. Dale, of Brampton, who gratuitously supplied all the beautiful and welcome roses, which made such an elegant display on the table in the room where the Horticultural meetings were held.

During the one of your directors, Mr. D. MacGillivray, Manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce here, was moved to a similar position in Windsor, Ont. Your Directors and the Society have suffered material loss by the removal of Mr. MacGillivray who took an active part in the organization of this Society, and spent time and money in making the flower show of 1902 a success, and also in planting trees on our streets. As he is a budding botanist and found of flowers and plants, he encouraged others in the cultivation of their gardens, and was a good example to them as well as to those fond of civic improvement. He was of great service to us.

We would recommend that the Directors of 1903 take early steps to induce the Town Council, Board of Trade and Trustees of the High, Public and Separate Schools to act jointly with the Directors in the matter of planting and taking care of our street shade trees, and induce the Department of Militia and Defence to remove the old and dilapidated board fence at the old drill shed ground, and level and seed the ground. The grounds are near all the schools in town as well as to the county public buildings and churches, and in their present state are an eyesore to every citizen as well destroying the beauty of the adjacent public buildings and private residences.

Your Directors would also recommend that the