

the year at the regular annual meeting of the Association. That the Chairman of the Council Board be a permanent member of the Executive of the Association.

At this stage of the meeting S. C. PARKER asked leave to introduce the following resolution, which was seconded by Dr. REID, and passed unanimously :

*Whereas* : At the Chicago World's Fair, Mr. L. Woolverton, Canadian Commissioner of Horticulture, did excellent service in aiding the F. G. Association Horticultural Exhibit, and assisting our representatives by every means in his power ;

*Resolved*, that the thanks of the Association be tendered to Prof. Woolverton,

And that he be made an honorary member of the Association.

The meeting was then favoured with the following address by Mr. G. B. MCGILL :—

#### FERTILIZERS.

The farmer is brought into direct contact with the soil, with the plant, and with fertilizers. While the proper mechanical condition of the soil brought about by thorough cultivation and drainage is of importance, perhaps there is no problem of greater interest to the farmer than the fertilizer question. There is no one thing for which farmers pay, year by year, more cash. Then if any true economy can be practised in this direction it is of vast importance. By true economy we mean use without waste or loss. This can be practised only under a knowledge of that in which we propose to economize.

A knowledge of the general valuation of fertilizers is necessary at the outset. The three essential elements of plant food for which the agriculturist has to pay are phosphoric acid, potash and nitrogen. Every commercial fertilizer should contain one or more of these elements. A *complete* fertilizer will contain them all. These elements have a commercial value given them like other articles of commerce. At the present time phosphoric acid ( $P_2 O_5$ ) is quoted at 8c per lb. potash ( $K_2 O$ ) at 5c per lb., and nitrogen at 15c per lb. Then if we find the guaranteed analysis marked as follows,—

$P_2 O_5$ (phosphoric acid).....	8%
$K_2 O$ (potash) .....	7%
N or $NH_3$ (nitrogen or ammonia)...	4%