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London Horticultural Society in 1907

C. B. Butler, Secretary

THE commencement of our season of 1907 was the annual meeting held in January. It was attended by a large number of enthusiastic members. In March, Mr. J. S. Pearce, park superintendent, lectured on trees, shrubs, and so forth, and gave some very practical hints on the growing of annuals. A great many members were present. Later on, in May, the Society made arrangements with Mr. Wm. Hunt, of the Ontario Agricultural College, to give a lecture. This lecture also was attended by a large number of members and their friends, and was thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

In March, a very fine display of carnations was made in the City Hall by the Canadian Horticultural Association. A large number of the citizens attended, and it was the means of bringing a number of new members to the London Horticultural Society. Late in June, the Society had its first flower show. It was a very successful one. Though there were not very many roses in bloom, owing to the lateness of the season, the tables were well filled. Many flowers which at previous shows had not been shown, such as peonies, iris, and so forth, were exhibited. There was quite a good attendance on both days. Thirty-five members of the society made exhibits. Owing to the dryness of the season and the fact that the garden watering had been cut off by the Commissioners, the directors of the society looked forward with some apprehension to the annual August show, which was to be held in conjunction with the Canadian Horticultural Association, who were this year meeting in London. This show proved to be one of the finest ever held in London. The attendance on both days was very large, and all those who attended were loud in their

praise of the beautiful flowers exhibited. Forty-nine members of the society sent exhibits, and the Canadian Horticultural Association made a grand display of ferns and gladioli. Everyone went away from the city hall with a fixed determination to do better. Many strangers were present, who expressed very great surprise at the wonderful display. Some gentlemen from New York stated that they had not seen any amateur show in that city comparable to it. One gentleman from New Brunswick was very enthusiastic, and took the names of the growers of gladioli, determined to have some of the fine blooms in his garden in 1908. The London Horticultural Society never make any charge for admission. A box is placed at the door for voluntary contributions, but, needless to say, the expenses are never covered by the donations.

The society, again this year, as in the preceding one, obtained the sanction of the school trustees, to make a distribution of seeds to the scholars of the public and separate schools. Over 16,643 packages of flower and vegetable seeds were distributed to the scholars, the cost of each packet being almost nominal, just enough to cover the expense of obtaining them at wholesale price and making the distribution. All the public schools are interesting the children in the growing of flowers, and fine beds of tulips, geraniums, and so forth, were seen around the public school buildings. The society have in view the matter of having an exhibition by the children, but this would necessarily have to be in September, when the school has recommenced after the summer holidays. This plan has not yet been worked out by the society, but will be in the near future, as each year more children seem to be interested in flower growing, and an exhibition by them of flowers of their own grow-

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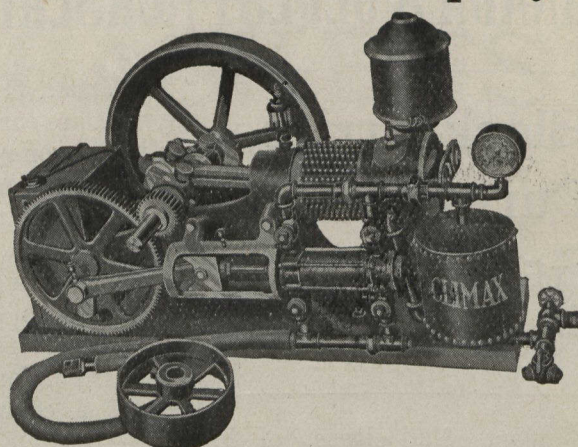
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