

interview the Council regarding this matter. The matter will be dealt with by the new board.

Secretary J. S. Scarff gave the members some of his observations at the recent meeting of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association at Walkerton. The meeting had been one of the most important ever held and Mr. Scarff was again appointed a member of the board.

The following was the President's annual address:

At the close of another year in the history of our Society it is satisfactory to report that some progress has been made. The work of this and kindred societies is usually done by comparatively few of the members who have a special love for it. Under these circumstances progress is generally slow, but in our own Society in recent years there is apparent an increasing and more general interest.

The Annual Flower Show of the year was on a larger scale, the exhibits were more numerous, the market sheds were better suited therefore and they lent themselves more easily to tasteful decoration with arrangement of the several exhibits. These features, together with excellent music provided, made the Flower Show the most successful, both in point of merit and attendance, and also to the afforded pleasure to visitors, that the Society has yet held.

The plan of holding cottage or garden meetings, begun the previous year, was continued during the summer. Two very pleasant, interesting and helpful meetings of the Society were thus held at the homes of T. H. Parker and William Grey, Esquires, two of the earliest and most prominent of Woodstock's horticulturists. At the latter, Mr. Grey contributed some interesting reminiscences of pioneer horticulture and horticulturists here. The Society are also indebted for a very pleasant afternoon spent at the greenhouses and surroundings of Doyle & Son's, where they saw a large, varied and fine bloom of chrysanthemums, geraniums and other annuals.

BEAUTIFYING OF SCHOOL GROUNDS.

ADDRESS BEFORE THE WOODSTOCK HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY BY MR. G. K. PATTULLO, PRESIDENT.

The Society has enjoyed the privilege also of hearing several valuable papers contributed by members during the year, notably those of our lady friends, Mrs. Finkle, Mrs. Hoare and Mrs. Davidson. The Secretary as District Representative in the Provincial Society is still a useful link between the latter and the local Society, and our influence was further extended by a paper recently read by the president before the County Teacher's Convention upon the subject of Beautifying School Grounds:

"But perhaps the most important work done by the Society during the year was the plant and flower distribution among the children of the public schools—from seventy-five to a hundred children of all ages received free from the Society some common varieties, such as asters, zinnias, phlox, petunias and geraniums, to be planted and cared for by themselves. The result was most satisfac-

tory. The children interested themselves in the care of the plants, and there was thereby an increase of about a hundred well-kept and tastefully arranged little flower pots in the city during the summer. Quite a number of bouquets therefrom, neatly arranged, were presented at the Autumn Flower Show, and in the reports made thereon by the children, clamor vigorously for more plants next year.

"It will be seen from the above that the Society have some reason for congratulation upon the work being done by and through its instrumentality. It has done something, but much more remains to be done. The awarding of prizes for cottage and flower gardens and well-kept grounds, and of prizes to the school children for flower and vegetable plots, the plant and flower distribution among the children of the public schools, the promotion of tree, shrub and flower planting upon our school and other public grounds, the holding of cottage and garden meetings of the Society, which are pleasant and practical object lessons to those who attend, the reading of timely and useful papers upon subjects of practical interest, the hearing of lectures by experts from the Provincial Society—all of these things, which the Society has done during the past two years, are useful and educative; they have awakened a wider interest in the subject of fruit growing, floriculture and kindred topics in our community, but a large field still remains for our attention, occupation and active operation.

"The citizens of Woodstock frequently boast—and not without cause—that they have a beautiful city. Nature has done much for it, and the hand of man something. But, though a beautiful little city, it is not yet the city beautiful. To make it so should be the aim of our Society and all its members. Much remains to be done. The streets are not yet all tree lined, nor have they all well-kept boulevards. There are not yet enough parks for the convenience and pleasure of our people and their children, and those that we have are inadequately, indeed badly cared for. Our church and hospital grounds are not yet fully equipped with trees, shrubs, climbers and flowers. Only two of our school grounds have been improved in the same direction, and our cemeteries are still capable of improvement and beautifying. Then I should like to see a suburban avenue, which when graded, drained and tree-lined would afford a delightful drive or wheel all about our beautifully and picturesquely located little city. This should be begun at once. It need not necessarily be an expensive undertaking. Existing streets could be utilized, and I am satisfied that the active interests of citizens who reside in the outlying districts of the city, could be enlisted in a project, the completion of which would improve their properties and provide for them and for their children much pleasure. I venture to commend these matters to the favorable attention of my successor and his colleagues in office, and for whom I solicit an even more kindly and general support than has been extended to me as president.

"It is gratifying to learn from the Treasurer's report that although our expenditures have been rather more generous than usual, the balance on hand is still the same as last year."