

Mr. J. C. Judd, chairman of the sub-committee of the executive formerly appointed to revise the constitution, presented his report and the following constitution was adopted:

#### CONSTITUTION.

##### ARTICLE 1.—NAME.

The name of this organization shall be The Ontario Good Roads Association.

##### ARTICLE 2.—OBJECTS.

The object of the organization shall be to awaken general interest in the improvement of public roads; determine the best methods of building and maintaining them; secure the legislation that may be necessary for their establishment and support, and to conduct and foster such publications as may serve these purposes.

##### ARTICLE 3.—MEMBERSHIP.

The association shall be open to all citizens. There shall be no initiation fee nor membership dues.

##### ARTICLE 4.—OFFICERS.

The officers of the association shall be a president, first and second vice-presidents, secretary-treasurer.

##### ARTICLE 5.—EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The executive committee shall consist of the general executive officers and ten other members. Five members of the committee, including a majority of the general executive officers, shall constitute a quorum.

##### ARTICLE 6.—HEADQUARTERS.

The headquarters of the association shall be in Toronto for general meetings only; the office of the secretary to be where he resides.

##### OFFICERS FOR 1895.

Mr. Sheppard chairman of the nominating committee presented his report and the following officers and executive were appointed for the ensuing year:

A. Pattullo, president; J. F. Beam, 1st vice-president; A. W. Campbell, 2nd vice-president; K. W. McKay, secretary-treasurer; Executive committee; P. Mahon, Aberfoyle; J. Sheppard, Queens-ton; J. Beattie, Cambellton; A. MacDougall, C. E. Toronto; J. C. Judd, Morton; M. Kennedy, mayor, of Owen Sound; W. S. Campbell, Brantford; J. H. Wolley, Simcoe; Robert Jelly, Jellyby; E. Kidd, N. Gower, president Eastern Dairy-men's Association.

##### RESOLUTIONS.

The report of the committee on resolutions elicited a great deal of discussion; the following resolutions contained in the report were carried:

1. Resolved, that this association hereby request the directors for the coming year to send out circulars to the various municipal councils of the province, to the agricultural associations of various kinds, the boards of trade and other representative bodies, to local Good Roads Associations and to be submitted to meetings of ratepayers, to ascertain what public

opinion is on the subject of road improvement and the laws relating thereto. That such circulars request replies to such questions as the following:

A. In what direction can the statute labor system of this province be improved: 1. by the revision of the laws in reference to it, or 2. in the practical working out of the system?

B. Would you favor the passage of legislation which would permit municipalities, through a vote of the people, to abolish statute labor and build and maintain their roads through taxation, as they provide for other corporate expenditures?

C. What other suggestions have you to make, if any, as to the best means of securing improvement in the making and maintenance of the streets of our towns and the rural highways of the province?

##### THE DIRECTION TO MOVE.

2. Resolved, that there be a legislative committee of this association to whom shall be referred all questions as to the improvement of our laws relating to road making and maintenance; that this committee shall consider during the coming year, after a thorough study of the question, the direction in which the statute labor system can be improved, where there is a desire to retain it, with the following suggestions from this meeting.

A. That the number of pathmasters be decreased by the increase of the beats over which they have jurisdiction.

B. That provision be made for the selection of pathmasters through merit and for special knowledge of road making and repairing; that they be given power to call out statute labor at any season of the year when needed; and that they be paid some remuneration for the time, in excess of the labor for which they themselves are liable, during which they are actually engaged by direction of the municipal council, at work on the roads or in superintending work that is going on.

C. That a member of each municipal council, or some other competent person be appointed by the council or the people as road overseer, who shall have the supervision of all work done by the pathmasters, and who shall report each year on the work done by them; that the remuneration of such overseers, if any, be fixed by the municipality.

And that this committee investigate the subject of legislation through which the use of broad tires can be encouraged and narrow ones discouraged.

That they also consider the whole question of optional legislation for such municipalities as may desire by vote of the people, to abolish the statute labor system. That among other things, they report on a plan by which the roads of each county can be divided into county and township roads, the former to be under control of the county council and the latter of the various township councils.

That such legislative committee shall

report on this and other matters as it may deem fit at the next convention of this association.

##### INFORMATION WANTED.

3. Resolved that we petition the hon. minister of agriculture to secure through the agency of the bureau of industries complete and accurate information as to the amount of statute labor on the rolls of every municipality of the Province during the past ten years; the amount of such labor actually done and the amount which those who ought to have done it have failed to do; also the value of such labor, based on the estimates of municipal officers and representatives who are best able to judge; and the amount expended in money in municipalities in addition to statute labor in the building and maintenance of the public highways, such amount to be exclusive of the building of bridges over running streams. We would also suggest that as complete information as possible collected by the same agency as to the extent and character of public roads in each municipality and the distribution of road making material.

##### SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

4. Resolved that a special committee of this association consisting of his honor Judge Woods of Chatham, Messrs. A. P. Macdougall, A. W. Campbell and the president and secretary of this association be requested to draft legislation which will carry the principles of our drainage laws into the work of road building, and enable municipalities or sections of them to build and maintain permanent highways for themselves when they desire to do so, the money for which shall be raised through the issue of municipal debentures, to be repaid by taxation on the municipalities or sections effected. The said committee to petition the Ontario legislature to pass such legislation as it may agree upon in this direction.

The following resolutions were then adopted:

##### LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS.

Moved by J. F. Beam, seconded by James Sheppard,

That members of this association should use their influence towards forming local county and township Good Roads Associations and aid the road reform movement, and that they are requested to take such action on their own account.

Moved by James Sheppard, seconded by P. Mahon;

That the thanks of this meeting be tendered to Mr. A. H. Pettit, secretary of the Central Farmers' Institute for his attendance, thereby enabling the delegates to take advantage of special railway rates when they were in a position to do so.

Moved by Wm. Munro, seconded by Jas. Beattie;

That a committee consisting of the president, A. F. Wood and Mr. P. Mahon are hereby appointed to petition the Ontario government and legislature for