

# REPORT

In accordance with the requirements of the Statute, your Directors beg to submit the following report of their proceedings during the year :

As preliminary to carrying out the usual Flower and Fruit Show, your Directors made arrangements with the Toronto Horticultural Society, for the use of the Gardens and Pavilion, on terms similar to those of former years. Arrangements were also made for the early issue of an enlarged and improved prize list.

## *FLOWER SHOW*

The Flower Show was held on Wednesday and Thursday, the 15th and 16th of July. This late period was selected, as it was found last year to have the effect of bringing out a larger and finer display of cut flowers and fruits than if held two weeks earlier, as was usual in previous years.

It was decided this year to make an improvement on the stereotyped mode of arranging the tables ; and with this object in view, a plan was prepared by which the Pavilion was laid out so as to give it the appearance of a flower garden with its numerous winding walks. At former shows, the cut flowers and designs were arranged on tables against the stage ; and as a consequence much inconvenient crowding ensued. This year the table for cut flowers was circular in form, and occupied the entire centre of the building ; so that the exhibits could be examined more leisurely and with greater pleasure than heretofore. The change generally was most favourably commented upon both by the press and the public. The Show, as viewed from the gallery, presented a most pleasing effect ; and your Directors feel that they were amply repaid for the extra trouble and expense involved in carrying out the improvement.

In point of excellence the Show was up to, and in most respects surpassed, those of previous years. One of its most gratifying features was the very large increase in the number of entries in the Amateur Class : outnumbering by 47 those of last year. It should be the effort of next year's Board to endeavour to still further encourage amateurs by enlarging their classes, and, if possible, by increasing the amount of prizes to be offered. It would be well also for the Directors to personally wait upon some of our leading amateurs, with the object of inducing them to make such exhibits as would be mutually beneficial to the exhibitors and to the public, and at the same time serve to foster a love for horticultural pursuits.

The number of entries this year was far in excess of any summer show, being 398 as against 290 of the previous year : an increase of 108 entries. That this increase was not anticipated, may be seen in the fact that sufficient table room was not provided ; and, at the last moment, your Directors had to personally construct temporary ones to enable them to meet the unexpected demand upon them.