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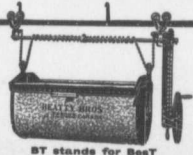
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It is desirable to mention the name of this publication when writing to advertisers.

### Ontario Fairs and Exhibitions

The Ontario Association of Fairs and Exhibitions met for their tenth annual meeting in the City Hall, Toronto, last week. Fully 300 men were present, there being the largest number of delegates ever at a meeting of the association.

President H. J. Gould, Uxbridge, in his annual address, emphasized the importance of the farmer's calling and of the fall fairs. He reviewed the agricultural situation, and pointed out how closely are the interests of town and city people allied with those of the farmers. He suggested a better system of selecting breeding stock than now prevails. He stated that it was well that societies did not offer prizes for grade males, and he advocated expert inspection of all stallions. He regarded the swine industry as a credit to the farmers, although some better understanding was needed between the farmer and the packer. Sheep had declined in numbers, but poultry raising was going forward. Regret was expressed that the cheese output had fallen off considerably.

An interesting report was presented by Mr. J. Lockie Wilson, Toronto, Superintendent of Fairs. He made a proposal that the Province be divided into 12 districts in connection with the 350 societies in the association, and that a director on the association be appointed from each district. This suggestion was afterwards acted upon. Mr. Wilson proposed a scheme to insure agricultural societies against loss by reason of wet weather during fall fairs. His scheme included the provision of a fund of \$12,000, to be taken from the amount available from the Government grant of \$70,000. The standing field-crop competitions were reported as meeting with increasing favor. Last year 50 agricultural societies entered the competition; 1,500 farmers taking part; the crops entered including 20,000 acres. Last year 355 judges had been sent out by the Department.

#### WAIT ON GOVERNMENT

The association waited on ministers of the Government on the first day of the convention with the request for an increase of \$30,000 in the present grant, \$70,000 per year. That all the members of the association were not agreed upon the advisability of having the grant increased is shown in the following words, which were exchanged during the interview.

"You are growing," said Mr. James, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, "and it is a good sign to see people wanting more money, even if they do not get it." (Laughter.)  
"If you don't get it, what will you do?"

Delegates—"Come back again." (Laughter.)

Mr. James—"If you are going to lean on the Government for help in your work, I can see the time coming when you are going to lose a whole lot of your usefulness."

Voices—"That's right."  
Mr. James—"The best societies in Ontario are those that stand on their own feet."

Mr. James further pointed out that the most progressive agricultural country in Europe is little Denmark, and the farmers there did not go to the Government for help. They even build their own schools, and they proved that they were doing a good work for agriculture, and then the Government came to help them along in it. The work that can be done in this country in the improvement of agriculture is almost beyond calculation.

#### CAUSE OF HIGH PRICES

Mr. James concluded with a very earnest appeal to the delegates to do their utmost to improve the conditions of agriculture in Ontario so as to prevent the serious movement of population from the farms to the towns and cities. This, he said, was the chief

cause of the high prices of which the people in the towns and cities are now so strongly complaining.

At the evening session, the Hon. Mr. Duff, Minister for Agriculture, advised the association to try to bring about a greater consolidation of the small fairs in Ontario. He said that there was a waste of energy in the multiplication of small fairs. President G. C. Creelman, of the Ontario Agricultural College, in addressing the meeting, took the opportunity to deny the report that he was going into politics. He said he would remain with the Agricultural College for many years. Mr. T. G. Raynor, of the Seed Division, Ottawa; Mr. John Campbell, Woodville, and Principal W. J. Black, of the Manitoba Agricultural College, Winnipeg, also addressed the meeting.

On the closing day of the convention addresses were delivered by Mr. C. C. James, Mr. A. G. Gilbert, Manager of the Poultry Department of the C.E.F., Ottawa; Miss Shuttleworth, Toronto, and Mr. J. E. Brethour, of Burford.

#### OFFICERS

The following officers were elected by acclamation: Pres., H. J. Gould, Uxbridge, Ont.; 1st vice-pres., J. V. Simmon, Toronto; 2nd vice-pres., John Farrell, Forest, Ont.; Sec., Alex. McFarlane, Otterville; sec. and editor, J. Lockie Wilson.

The association decided to divide the Province into 12 districts, each district to elect its own director. Following are the districts and the directors chosen therefrom:

District No. 1.—Glengarry, Prescott, Russell, Frontenac, Dundas, Carleton and Grenville—W. R. Farlinger, Morrisburg.

No. 2.—Leeds, Lanark, Renfrew and Frontenac—R. J. Bushell Kingwood.

No. 3.—Lennox, Addington, Prince Edward, Hastings and Northumberland—C. W. Neville, Newburgh.

No. 4.—Peterboro', Durham, Victoria and Ontario—Dr. A. Galloway, Woodville.

No. 5.—York, Simcoe, Peel, Dufferin and Halton—J. D. Orr, Meadowville.

No. 6.—Haldimand, Wentworth, Lincoln and Welland—W. A. Fry, Dunnville.

No. 7.—Wellington, Brant, Norfolk, Waterloo and Oxford—J. T. Murphy, Simcoe.

No. 8.—Perth, Middlesex, Elgin and Huron—John Brdies, Mount Brdies.

No. 9.—Essex, Lambton and Kent—R. A. Harrington, Chatham.

No. 10.—Grey and Bruce—William Searf, Durham.

No. 11.—Haliburton, Muskoka and Parry Sound—Mr. W. H. Johnston, Sundridge.

No. 12.—Nipissing, Sudbury, Algoma, Manitoulin, Thunder Bay, Rainy River and Kenora—Rev. T. J. Crowley, Warren.

### Good Roads Convention

Since 19 counties in the Province have adopted the Good Roads system, and have planned the improvement of 3,000 miles of their leading highways, the Good Roads Association of Ontario consider the time favorable for the general advance in the construction of good roads throughout the whole Province. With this in view, they are arranging for a widely representative convention to be held in Toronto on March 3, 4 and 5. Efforts are being made to secure the attendance of members, not only of the county township, but from the county bodies and all other associations that are interested in improving the roads of the country.

During the convention a huge delegation will await upon the Provincial Government to consult with it as to future assistance. Over 5,000 delegates are expected to attend. Single fare rates will probably be secured. Communication from the Ontario Good Roads Association at Whitby.