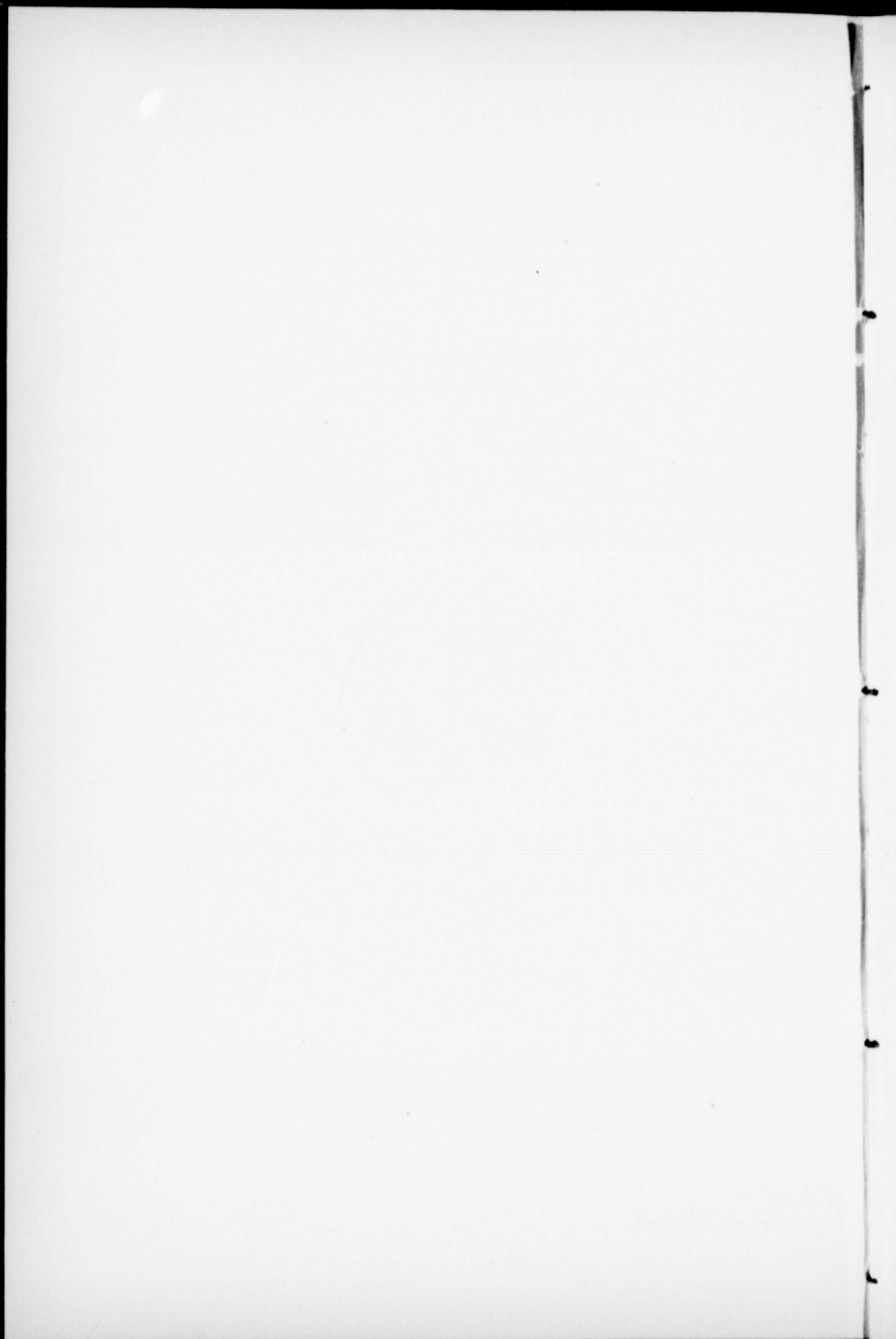


Ontario
Society of Artists



The President's Report
1895=96



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Sam. Johnston & Co., Printers, Toronto.

Ontario Society of Artists

INSTITUTED 1872

Honorary Patrons :

THE MARQUIS OF LORNE.
HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS LOUISE.
THE EARL OF DUFFERIN.
THE MARQUIS OF LANSDOWNE.
THE EARL OF ABERDEEN.
THE HON. BEVERLEY ROBINSON.
HON. G. A. KIRKPATRICK.

Officers :

HON. G. W. ALLEN, M. MATTHEWS, R. F. GAGEN,
HON. PRESIDENT. PRESIDENT. SECRETARY.
W. REVELL, VICE-PRESIDENT AND TREASURER.

Executive Council :

M. Matthews. W. E. Atkinson. J. A. Smith.
T. M. Martin. R. F. Gagen. W. D. Blatchly.
W. Cutts. F. L. Foster. W. Revell.

Members :

Atkinson, W. E. 203 Crawford St., Toronto
Bell-Smith, F. M. 336 Jarvis St., Toronto
Blatchly, W. D. 119 Rose Ave., Toronto
Bruenech, G. 32 Bismarck Ave., Toronto
Challener, F. S. 87 Garden Ave., Toronto
Coleman, Dr. A. P. School Practical Science, Toronto
Cox, Arthur 39 Huntley St., Toronto
Cruikshank, Wm. Yonge St. Arcade, Toronto
Cutts, W. 43 Adelaide Street East, Toronto
Ede, F. C. D. Paris, France
Forbes, J. C. N. Y.

Forster, J. W. L.	81 King E., Toronto
Foster, F. L.	Medical Council Building, Toronto
Griffiths, Jas.	London
Gagen R. F.	79 King W., Toronto
Jacobi, O. R.	Summerhill Ave., Toronto
Knowles, F. McG.	162 Jarvis St., Toronto
Kelly, J. D.	Toronto
Manly, C. M.	75 Adelaide E., Toronto
Martin, H.	56 Gloucester St., Toronto
Martin, T. Mower	N. Drive, Rosedale, Toronto
Martin, Miss E. May	N. Drive, Rosedale, Toronto
Matthews, M.	Bracondale, Toronto
Muntz, Miss L.	3 Rue Bara, Paris, France
O'Brien L. R.	26 College St., Toronto
Patterson, A. D.	Canada Life Building, Toronto
Revell, Wm.	618 Ontario St., Toronto
Reid, G. A.	Yonge St. Arcade, Toronto
Reid, Mrs. M. H.	Yonge St. Arcade, Toronto
Rolph, J. T.	158 St. George St., Toronto
Shrapnel, E. S.	Victoria, B. C.
Sherwood, W. A.	Yonge St. Arcade, Toronto
Spurr, Miss G. E.	248 Gerrard E., Toronto
Smith, W.	St. Thomas
Staples, O. P.	39 McGill St., Toronto
Thompson, Earnest	Toronto
Verner, F. A.	16 Edith Villas, W. Kensington, London, Eng.
Williamson A. C.	Toronto
Wickson, P. G.	Paris, Ont.
Watts, J. W. H.	Ottawa, Ont.
Wilkinson, T. H.	271 Crawford St., Toronto

Architects and Designers :

Hahn, Gustav	Roxborough Ave., Toronto
Hovenden, R. J.	78 King W., Toronto
Jones, S. M.	76 King W., Toronto
Lennox, E. J.	Cor. King and Yonge Sts., Toronto
Radford, J. A.	40 McGill College Ave., Montreal
Smith, Jas.	Summerhill Ave., Toronto

Sculptors :

McCarthy, Hamilton	28 Toronto St., Toronto
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Ontario Society of Artists.

President's Report, 1895=6.



THE month of May again brings this Society to the close of another year, which can scarcely be classed as eventful in its history.

Still it has not been unmarked by a fair amount of success, especially when the very general commercial and industrial dullness throughout the world, and more especially on this continent, is taken into account.

One encouraging circumstance has been the decided increase of interest in and respect for the Society by parties outside its ranks.

This is clearly evinced by the several applications coming from parties in different parts of the Dominion for exhibitions. That held last spring in Owen Sound being fairly successful and resulting in the sale of several works.

Applications looking towards similar undertakings¹ were received from Mr. Bruce, of Collingwood, representing certain social circles in that town, also from the Rev. Mr. Green, of Orillia, as well as one from Peterboro.

Arrangements have also been nearly concluded for holding an exhibition in Winnipeg next July, in connection with the Agricultural and Arts Association of that city, practically without incurring any expense. These are tangible evidence of the usefulness of our organization as well as of the growing recognition of its public importance, and it is matter at the same time for regret that we are unable to incur expense in carrying out all or any of these proposals, as the very limited revenue of the Society precludes it.

The Toronto Industrial Exhibition.

The Fine Arts Department of this very successful exhibition in the fall of last year was again placed under the control of our Society, and a large and full collection of Canadian work was placed on the walls fully up to former standards, and the conclusion is fair that our success in this direction has prompted other associations to apply to us for similar co-operation.

Hovenden's "Breaking Home Ties," so prominent at the World's Fair and perhaps increased in public interest by the tragic death of this very noted artist a few days previous, and "Choosing the Bride" a really wonderful work of world wide fame, were both procured as a special attraction for which an extra admission fee was charged.

The Exhibition of the Royal Canadian Academy

whose membership is so largely composed of artists also on our roll, contained many works of merit and importance from the easels of members of the Ontario Society, though it was held in Montreal this year. It is an encouraging sign to note that the public attendance was good, and the list of sales from this exhibition much greater than for several years past.

The year has not passed without several schemes and propositions being advanced looking to the founding of a public Art Gallery, either in connection with municipal or government institutions. No tangible results have so far been reached, the times being inopportune.

The provincial government has, however, done a little in this direction by way of picking up a few pictures with which to commence the embellishment of the New House of Parliament.

After considering inquiry and research, looking towards improving the quarters of the Society, arrangements were made with The Canadian Life Association, into whose hands the galleries had passed, to alter and renovate the same, changing and refitting them throughout, whereby great improvement has been made, especially in the great if not vital matter of lighting, as is so evidently shown in the present Annual Exhibition, in

which it may be said every work is well displayed. In fact it would be difficult to find a gallery anywhere better in this important respect.

The Cabot Exhibition.

This enterprise now being so energetically advanced by Mr. O. A. Howland and others, is to take place during this summer, and it is hoped that the artists of Toronto will do all in their power to assist it.

The Art Union of Canada

has not been successful this year. Various reasons may be assigned as causing this untoward result, but doubtless in dull times will be found the most potent factor. Infringement on our charter by outside parties and associations, may also be looked on as having been exceedingly harmful to this enterprise, as well as to the cause of Art generally in the Dominion, in fact it is not unlikely that the Government will withdraw the privilege entirely.

The Central Ontario School of Art and Design

(which acquired great increase in accomodation from the alterations in the Art building,) in fact is now in excellent quarters, has given evidence of its improved facilities by the work being done, and the marked increase in the attendance of students.

An exhibition of student's work was held in the Galleries in May last, and awards made by the Board of Examiners in the various departments. A very creditable display was made and particularly in designs for industrial purposes.

Much interest was manifested and many visitors attended. These circumstances all tend towards improvement in the very difficult direction of arousing the interest of our community in sound and practical Art education. At the same time it could well be wished that some increase could be made in the Governmental and Municipal assistance made to the School, as notwithstanding the improvement made, the financial

condition is not much better than last year, and the institution has still to rely on the aid of private subscriptions, obtained through the efforts of our Honorary President and other friends.

The Life Classes

have continued to be an important professional privilege during the winter, for which we are indebted to the Council of the Royal Canadian Academy for its usual grant. These have been opened to students of the school and others under careful restrictions, which have been judiciously carried out by our committee. An evening reception was jointly held by the Society and the School, upon the completion of the improvements.

The 24th annual exhibition may fairly be deemed a surprise when the present times are considered, as artists have shown much courage in preparing works, and incurring expense necessary in the face of but little prospect in return.

It may be doubted whether any other class exists who would evince such pertinacity, thus proving that material gain is not their chief aim, but that a strong love of the work itself sustains them in their course. Were it not so the world might bid good-bye not only to Art progress, but to Art itself.

The conditions on which the Society receives its annual

Government Grant

have been changed this year. By these the Government requires that a selection be made of work by the Society to the amount of two hundred dollars, to commence a collection for the Educational Department. This is being complied with cheerfully, and is regarded as desirable. A ballot will be taken this evening to select two works from the present exhibition of the value of one hundred dollars each for this purpose. We have cause of satisfaction that the Society has sustained no losses by death during the year, and but one name has dropped from the roll.

It is also pleasant to observe that old members who for reasons of their own had left us are now rejoining, and the

Ontario Society of Artists is more than ever a Provincial Institution, comprising in its ranks nearly all the talent of any prominence in the country.

A radical change has been made in our system of electing members, nomination being made previous to each annual meeting, at which time only can elections take place.

Our Honorary President has lately suffered a severe illness, but will now receive our sincere congratulations on his recovery, and the expression of our hopes for a long continuance of his strength and ability for usefulness.

The Vice-President of the Art School Board also deserves our recognition of the exertions he has made in the service of that body.

The accounts and auditor's report will be laid before you.







SECRETARY'S REPORT.



REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR
ENDING APRIL 30TH, 1896.

REVENUE.

Balance at credit P. and Loss, May 1, 1895		\$2,230 14
Government Grant		500 00
Members' Fees.		430 00
Interest, Home S. & L. Co.		44 43
Rent :—		
R. C. A.	\$250 00	
Central Ontario School of Art	400 00	
		650 00

INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

Exhibition Association, Annual Grant and Amateur Department		\$1,035 00
Exhibition Association, Grant account Special Pictures	250 00	
Catalogues	80 25	
Sundries	43 35	
		1,408 60
		\$5,263 17

EXPENDITURE.

Art Gallery, net.....		\$ 140 90
GENERAL EXPENSES:		
Secretary's Salary.....	\$200 00	
Auditor's Fees.....	35 00	
Taxes.....	12 04	
H. J. Matthews, hanging pictures.....	11 96	
Printing, Stationery and Postage.....	22 40	
Sundries.....	31 67	
R. J. Hovenden, glass sky-light.....	71 42	
P. Curtis, sky-light sash.....	32 00	
Coupons.....	6 40	
		422 89
RENT:		
J. E. Thompson.....	\$200 00	
Canada Life Co.....	700 00	
		900 00
INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION:		
Exhibitors.....	\$330 00	
Hanging Committee.....	100 00	
Secretary's allowance.....	100 00	
Wage account.....	148 50	
Matthews Bros. & Co.....	55 01	
Catalogues.....	50 00	
Insurance.....	37 50	
Express.....	33 67	
Sundries.....	28 30	
		882 98
Balance at credit of P. and L. account.....		2,916 31
		<u>\$5,263 17</u>

ASSETS.

Due by Members	\$681 65	
Central Ontario School of Art.....	250 00	
Industrial Exhibition Association.....	9 00	
Annual Exhibition Account.....	25 00	
Art Union.....	18 75	
Home Savings & Loan Co., deposit ..	\$1,316 40	
Dominion Bank, deposit.	871 08	
Cash	18 53	
	<u>2,206 01</u>	
		<u>\$3,190 41</u>

LIABILITIES.

Due to Members.....	\$ 27 48	
R. C. A. Life Class	35 37	
Art Union, Prize account	11 25	
Canada Life Co	200 00	
Assets in excess.....	2,916 31	
		<u>\$3,190 41</u>

Examined and found correct.

JAMES SMITH, Auditor.

TORONTO, May 18th, 1896.