

# Forest Agricultural Society

The first Fair held in Forest was at the corner of Broadway and Main Streets in 1870. Later, it was moved to the Drill Shed. In 1874 twelve acres of land at the south-west corner of town were purchased, and called the Forest Pleasure Park. This was used as a Fair Ground until the present park was purchased in 1909. This property was given to the town by the Pleasure Park Company in 1939. In 1946, the Town leased the grounds to the Forest Agricultural Society.

No accurate record of the first officers is available, but one of the early Presidents was Albert Gifford. Working with him were George Core, George Gammon, and a Mr. Fisher, from Plympton. The first Park Board of which there is any record was in 1909, when the officers were: President - Reg. F. Scott; Vice-President - W. J. Skinner; Secretary - J. M. Shaw; Treasurer - H. E. Taylor, Directors - Bosanquet - John Emerson, Hugh Russell, John Vivan. Plympton - George Core, Sam Bailey, Archie McKinlay. Warwick - Duncan Campbell, John Campbell, John Farrell, William Janes. Forest - Chas Anderson, John Maylor, H. B. Stoddart, H. J. Pettypiece.

Present officers are: President - Cecil Vance; 1st Vice President - Allan Garrett; 2nd Vice President - O. R. Totten; Treasurer - R. S. Fleming; Secretary - Mrs. W. J. Morrison. Directors - Forest - Miss Laurena Campbell, R. B. Douglas, Bosanquet - Joe Hill, Duncan McIntyre. Plympton - Wm. Manning, Frank Smith, Melford Lester. Warwick - Mrs. Orville Dailey, W. R. Cable. Besides the twelve directors, there are at the present time about one hundred Associate Directors and Lady Directors.

A number of the directors have served the Society for as long as fifty years, and a number of fathers and sons have been directors at the same time. In at least one instance, a father and son both held the office of president - the late Hamilton Taylor in the late thirties and R. Geo. Taylor in 1956-57. While Hamilton Taylor was President, W. W. Kemp was Secretary, and his daughter was appointed Secretary during George Taylor's term of Office.

The Fall Fair is a symbol of life in which urban and rural people get together and become better acquainted. It is also the show window for the products of the farm. It is by coming into competition that livestock, grain, seeds, vegetables and fruit are improved. The Women's Section — baking, canning, sewing, fancy work, art, crafts, hobbies and flowers are no small part of the Fair, and the School Displays are a very important part of it.

We sincerely hope that the interest of the public will be sustained, and that the people of the community will continue to work together to make our fair bigger and better in the years to come.