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c 71 Agricultural Societies Act

Ontario

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CHAPTER 71.

The Agricultural Societies Act.

1. In this Act—

(a) "Department" shall mean Department of Agriculture;

(b) "Minister" shall mean Minister of Agriculture for "Minister" the Province of Ontario;

(c) "Society" or "societies" shall mean any agricultural society or societies formed under this Act or The Agriculture and Arts Act, or under any former Agriculture and Arts Act;

(d) "Superintendent" shall mean Superintendent of "Superintendent" Agricultural Societies. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 2.

2. The Minister may decide all matters of doubt or dispute as to the working or construction of this Act, and his decision shall be final, except that an appeal therefrom may be made to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 4.

3. The Minister may appoint a person to inspect the books and accounts of any society receiving Government aid under this Act, and may empower such person to summon witnesses and enforce the production of documents before him, and to take evidence upon oath in regard to such inspection; and all officers of any such society, whenever required so to do, shall submit the books and accounts thereof to such inspection, and shall truly, to the best of their knowledge, answer all questions put to them in relation thereto, or to the funds of such society. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 5.

4.—(1) Subject to the provisions of the following subsections a society may be organized in any section of Ontario.

(2) A society shall not be organized within twenty miles of an existing society organized under this Act or under The Agriculture and Arts Act, being chapter 43 of The Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1897, or under any former Agriculture and Arts Act, unless the physical or other natural conditions of the adjoining country are such that the formation of such society will not injuriously affect the nearest adjoining society.
(3) An application for permission to organize a new society at a specified point that is within twenty miles of the headquarters of an existing society, shall be made in writing to the Minister, and shall set forth clearly and fully the facts of the situation, and shall be signed by at least sixty of the persons desirous of forming such society, except in provisional judicial districts or unorganized counties, where the number shall be at least forty.

(4) Upon receipt of such application the Minister shall instruct the Superintendent to confer with and, if necessary, to call a special meeting of the officers of the existing society whose headquarters are at the point nearest to the point at which it is proposed to form a new society, at which meeting such officers, by resolution, shall declare themselves as being in favour of or opposed to the granting of the application.

(5) Should the resolution be in favour of granting the application, the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may grant permission for the formation of the society.

(6) Where the granting of the application is opposed, the Superintendent shall call upon the existing society and upon the petitioners each to appoint one arbitrator, and the two arbitrators shall appoint a third arbitrator, and the three arbitrators shall consider the granting of the application, and they or a majority of them shall make a recommendation thereon to the Minister.

(7) If either the signers of the petition or the officers of the existing society refuse to appoint an arbitrator, the Minister may grant or refuse the application, as he may deem best.

(8) The parties concerned in all such disputes shall deposit with the Department such money as may be required to pay all expenses connected therewith, such payment to be made according to the decision of the arbitrators, or a majority of them. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 6.

5. The mode of organization shall be as follows:—

(a) A declaration, Form 1, shall be signed by persons residing within ten miles of the point designated as the headquarters of the society desiring to organize a society under this Act. The number of such persons shall be at least sixty, except in the case of societies organized in provisional judicial districts and unorganized counties, where the number shall be at least forty.

(b) No person shall be considered a member of any society for any year unless he shall have paid at least $1 into the funds of that society as membership fee for that year.
(c) Subject to the by-laws of the society, a firm, or an incorporated company may become a member of any society incorporated under this Act by the payment of the regular fee, but the name of one person only shall in any one year be entered as the representative or agent of such firm or company, and that person only shall as such exercise the privileges of membership in the society.

(d) Within one month after the membership fees of the signers thereof have been paid the declaration with the names and addresses of the signers, shall be transmitted to the Minister, who shall thereupon authorize a person to call the first meeting for the organization of the society.

(e) The first meeting of the society shall be held between the 15th and the 21st days inclusive of January next ensuing, at the point designated as the headquarters of the society, of which meeting at least two weeks’ public notice shall be given by advertisement in one or more newspapers published in the county or district, and also by printed placards or bills posted in local places of common resort.

(f) At the first meeting there shall be elected a president, a first vice-president, a second vice-president, and not more than nine other directors, who shall be duly qualified members of the society, or who must become so within fourteen days after their election, and who together shall form the board of directors, a majority of which board shall reside within ten miles of the place designated as the headquarters of the society.

(g) At the first meeting the society shall appoint two auditors for the ensuing year.

(h) The board, from among themselves, or otherwise, shall appoint a secretary and a treasurer, or a secretary-treasurer, who shall remain in office during pleasure, and shall, by virtue of his office, be a member of each committee appointed, and may be given the powers of managing-director acting under the control and with the approval of the board of directors.

(i) The board, from among themselves, may appoint an executive committee of not more than five members to perform such duties as the board by resolution may specify.

(j) A report of the organization meeting, certified by the president, the secretary and the convener, and containing a statement of the number of members.
bers and a list of the officers elected and appoint-
ed, shall be sent to the Department within one week after the holding of the meeting. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 7.

6.—(1) Upon the receipt of such report the society so organized shall be deemed an agricultural society, within the meaning of this Act, and shall bear the name designated in the declaration as the headquarters of the society, or such name as may be determined by the members and approved by the Minister.

(2) In case of a dispute as to the name of any society, or in any case where in the opinion of the Minister, the name of a society prejudicially affects the interests of another society he may change the name of any society.

(3) For the purpose of this Act, the headquarters of a society shall be the place at which the society held its last annual exhibition, or which it has designated by by-law or resolution, at a meeting duly called for the purpose, as its headquarters or place of holding its exhibition, a certified copy of which by-law or resolution shall be forwarded to the Department and the society shall thereafter be designated by the name of such place, or by such name as may be determined by the members and approved by the Minister. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 8.

7.—(1) The Minister may authorize the society to elect at its first or at any subsequent meeting not more than six persons as directors, in addition to those hereinbefore provided for.

(2) A society may appoint not more than six honorary directors, but such directors shall not have the right to vote or take part in meetings of the board of directors. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 9.

8. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Minister may authorize any society to elect six directors in addition to those already provided for. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 10.

9. At the first meeting, and at any subsequent meeting of any society, ten members shall form a quorum. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 11.

10.—(1) The object of a society shall be to promote improvement in agriculture, horticulture, arboriculture, domestic industry, manufactures and the useful arts,—

(a) by awarding premiums for live stock other than grade breeding males, for agricultural or horticultural implements and machinery, for the production of grain and of all kinds of vegetables,
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plants, flowers, fruits, home manufacturcs, and generally for excellence in any agricultural or horticultural production or operation, article of manufacture or work of art;

(b) by organizing plowing matches, holding seed fairs, spring stallion and bull shows, competitions respecting standing crops, and for the best or best managed farms;

(c) by owning or distributing pure bred registered animals, and seeds and plants of new and of valuable kinds;

(d) by promoting the circulation of agricultural periodicals;

(e) by offering prizes for essays on questions of scientific inquiry relating to agriculture, horticulture, domestic industries, manufactures and the useful arts; and

(f) by taking action to eradicate poisonous and noxious insects and weeds.

(2) A society which expends any of its funds for any purpose inconsistent with those herein mentioned shall forfeit all claim to participate in the legislative grant. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 12.

11.—(1) The annual meeting of each society shall be held on or after the 1st day, and not later than the 21st day of January in each year at the headquarters of the society and at an hour to be fixed by the directors of the society.

1924, c. 29, s. 3.

(2) At any such meeting only those members who have paid the subscription for the ensuing year shall be entitled to vote.

(3) At least two weeks’ previous notice of any such meeting shall be given by advertisement in one or more newspapers published in the municipality or municipalities in which the society is organized, and also by printed placards or bills posted in places of common resort, or by sending such notice by registered post, mailed to the last known post office address of each member of the society in good standing, such notices to be mailed at least one week previous to, and to state the time and the place of the meeting. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 13 (2, 3).

(4) In case a society shall, through any cause, fail to hold its annual meeting at the time appointed, the Minister, on petition of the president and secretary, may appoint a time for holding the same before the 1st day of March in the same year, the meeting to be called as for the regular annual
meeting, and this meeting shall be taken for all purposes as the annual meeting of the society. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 13 (3); 1918, c. 20, s. 12.

(5) In the event of the annual meeting not being held as provided for in this Act, or in the event of the number of members on the 1st day of September in any year being less than the number required for organization, the society shall have no further claim to participate in the legislative grant, and shall be deemed to have been dissolved; but the directors elected at the last properly constituted meeting of the society prior to the 1st day of September shall be the trustees of the assets of the society until the same are disposed of by the order of the Minister.

(6) Where a society is dissolved or ceases to exist it shall be re-organized only by proceeding under section 5, and in accordance with section 4.

(7) Upon being notified or becoming aware of the dissolution of any society under the provisions of the preceding subsections the Minister may order the directors to deliver over to the Department the assets, if any, remaining after all just debts have been paid. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 13 (4-6).

12. In addition to any other business the following business shall be transacted at the annual meeting:—

(a) The board of directors shall present at such meeting a report of their proceedings for the past calendar year, in which shall be stated the names of all the members of the society, the amount paid by each being set opposite to his name, the amount offered, and also the amount awarded in prizes for each kind of live stock, agricultural products, implements, domestic products or other objects respectively, and the number of entries in each class, together with such remarks and suggestions upon the agriculture and horticulture of the district, and the arts and manufactures therein as they are enabled to offer.

(b) The board of directors shall present a detailed statement of the receipts and expenditures for the preceding year, also a statement of the assets and liabilities of the society at the end of the year, certified to by the auditors.

(c) The officers and other directors specified in clause f of section 5, qualified as therein provided, shall be elected by the members, and auditors shall be appointed for the ensuing year. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 14.
13. The reports shall, if approved by the meeting, be placed on record in the books of the society, and shall also be sent within one month to the Department, and the Minister may require all such reports to be made out on schedules to be supplied by the Department in such form as he may direct, and failure to comply with such requirements shall be sufficient to forfeit all claim on the part of the society to participate in the legislative grant. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 15.

14.—(1) The members of each society may, at an annual meeting or at a special meeting, of which two weeks’ previous notice has been given by advertisement in the manner required by subsection 3 of section 11 make, alter and repeal by-laws and regulations for the general management of the society, but subject to such by-laws and regulations, the board of directors shall have full power to act for and on behalf of the society, and all grants and other funds of the society shall be received and expended under their direction. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 16 (1); 1918, c. 20, s. 13.

(2) On petition of thirty members of any society, the secretary shall call a special meeting for the consideration of such matters as may be set forth in the petition. The meeting shall be advertised in the manner prescribed by subsection 3 of section 11, and the advertisements shall state the nature of the business to be transacted. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 16 (2).

15. The first meeting of the board of directors of a society may be held upon the day of the annual meeting, and the subsequent meetings shall be held pursuant to adjournment, or be called by written notice given by authority of the president, or, in his absence, of the first vice-president, or in the absence or on the neglect of the president and first vice-president, then on the written request of any three of the directors, at least one week before the day appointed, and at any meeting five shall be a quorum. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 17.

16.—(1) Every society shall be a body corporate, with power to acquire and hold land as a site or as an enlargement of an existing site and the society shall have and may exercise the like powers as to lands required for the enlargement of an existing site as in the case of lands required for the original site, and subsection 3 shall apply thereto, for fairs and exhibitions, and, subject to the approval of a meeting of the society called for the purpose, to sell, mortgage, lease, or otherwise dispose of the same, or any other property held by such society. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 18 (1); 1927, c. 28, s. 4 (1).

(2) At least two weeks’ previous notice of such meeting shall be given by advertisement in one or more newspapers published in the county or district and by printed placard; and at such meeting only those persons shall be entitled to
vote who are members for the current year and who were members for the two previous years. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 18 (2).

(3) (a) If the owner of the land selected as a site for fairs and exhibitions, approved of at a meeting of the society called for that purpose, refuses to sell the same or demands therefor a price deemed unreasonable by the board of directors, then such owner and such board of directors shall each forthwith appoint an arbitrator, and the arbitrators so chosen shall appoint a third arbitrator, and such arbitrators or a majority of them shall determine the value of such land.

(b) If the directors or the owner of such land neglect or refuse to appoint an arbitrator, the senior judge of the county or district court of the county or district in which the land lies may, on the application of the party who has so appointed an arbitrator and on notice to the opposite party, appoint an arbitrator on behalf of the party so neglecting or refusing to appoint an arbitrator. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 18 (3), cl. (a, b).

(c) If the arbitrators appointed as aforesaid fail to agree on, or either of them refuse to appoint a third arbitrator, the senior judge of the county or district court of the county or district in which the land lies may, on the application of one or other of the said arbitrators and on notice to the other, appoint a third arbitrator. 1914, c. 21, s. 10.

(d) The arbitrators so chosen shall have the power to hear and determine all claims or rights of encumbrancers, lessees, tenants or other persons as well as those of the owner of the land required for the purpose of such site upon notice in writing to every such claimant or person.

(e) Upon payment by the directors of the amount determined by a majority of the arbitrators appointed as aforesaid, to the owner or other persons entitled thereto, the land may be taken and used for the purposes aforesaid.

(f) Any award for a site for fairs and exhibitions made and published under this Act, if there be no conveyance, shall be deemed thereafter to be the title of the society to the land mentioned in it, and shall be a good title thereto against all persons interested in the land in any manner whatever, and shall be registered in the proper registry
office, on the affidavit of the secretary and treasurer or secretary-treasurer of the directors verifying the same.

(g) The parties concerned in all such disputes shall pay all the expenses incurred in regard to them, according to the award or decision of the arbitrators or a majority of them. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 18 (3), cl. (c-f).

(4) The provisions of subsection 3 shall be applicable only by consent of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 18 (4).

17. Any township society and town or village municipal-ity that had, prior to the 4th day of March, 1868, jointly purchased and held any land or buildings for the purpose of agricultural fairs or exhibitions, may continue jointly to hold such land or buildings, or may sell, mortgage, lease or otherwise dispose of the same, subject to the approval of a meeting of the society as provided in section 16. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 19.

18. Where two or more municipalities have been united under the provisions of The Agriculture and Arts Act, R.S.O. 1897, c. 43, or any former Agriculture and Arts Act to form a township society, a dissolution of such union society may be effected in the following manner: a petition requesting a dissolution and the organization of new societies shall be signed by a majority of the members residing in any one of the municipalities and shall be forwarded to the Minister, and if the number so signing is equal to the number required for the organization of a new society, as provided by section 5, the Minister shall direct that new societies shall be organized in the manner prescribed in that section, and the former union society shall thereupon become dissolved and cease to exist. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 20.

19. On the dissolution of a union society the assets of the society shall be equitably apportioned or divided by arbitrators, or a majority of them, one to be appointed by the board of directors of each of the new societies, and another arbitrator to be chosen by the arbitrators so appointed, or in the event of the arbitrators failing to choose such arbitrator within ten days after being appointed, then the senior judge of the county or district court having jurisdiction in the county or district shall appoint such arbitrator. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 21.

20.—(1) On or before the 1st day of March of each year, the officers of every society shall send to the Department an affidavit, Form 2, stating on forms to be provided by the Department, the exact financial transactions of the society during the previous year. This statement shall set forth
plainly the number of members of the society in good standing, the amount of money paid in prizes for horses, cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, articles of domestic manufacture, other products of the farm, orchard and garden and for such other purposes as are set forth in section 10, and such money shall be considered to have been expended for agricultural purposes.

(2) In the case of societies holding a spring stallion show, a spring bull show, a combined spring stallion and bull show, or a spring seed fair, the officers of such societies shall send to the Department on a separate form to be provided by the Department, within thirty days after the holding of such spring show or fair, an itemized statement showing the receipts and expenditures in connection therewith, together with the number of entries.

(3) Any society failing to send in the statement within the prescribed time shall forfeit all claim to share in the legislative grant for the current year. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 22.

21. Every society shall be entitled to receive a grant out of the unappropriated money in the hands of the Treasurer of Ontario, to be paid on the recommendation of the Department, on condition:—

(a) that the number of paid-up members for the current year is not less than sixty, except in the case of societies organized in provisional judicial districts or unorganized counties, where the number of paid-up members must not be less than forty;

(b) that all reports and returns required by this Act have been made to the satisfaction of the Minister;

(c) that the annual meeting has been held as required and officers elected, in accordance with section 12;

(d) that the objects of the society as prescribed by section 10, have been strictly adhered to, and that none of the funds of the society, from whatever source derived, have been expended in any manner not in harmony with these objects. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 23.

22.—(1) Such amounts as may be voted by this Legislature shall be paid to the societies on the following basis:

(a) A society that has owned and maintained pure bred stock, for the benefit of its members, for a period of at least nine months during the next preceding year, shall receive a grant of $50 for every registered stallion, $20 for every registered bull, $10 for every registered boar and $5 for
every registered ram so owned. In the event of a society devoting its funds solely for the main-
tenance of pure bred stock, such society shall receive
a special membership grant of $1 for every mem-
ber of the society in good standing, up to fifty.

(b) A newly organized society, during the first three
years of its existence, shall receive a grant each
year equal to $1 per member up to three hundred
members.

c) The remainder of the grant voted for agricultural
societies shall be divided among the societies
other than new societies, in proportion to the
amount they expended during the next preceding
three years for agricultural purposes, as shown
by their sworn statements, and as defined by sec-
tion 20, and there shall not be included in such
expenditure money used for the purchase or
maintenance of pure bred stock, for the holding
of spring stallion shows, spring bull shows, or
combined spring stallion and bull shows or for
spring seed fairs.

d) Societies in provisional judicial districts and unor-
ganized counties shall be entitled to receive their
grants on the basis of double their actual expendi-
ture for agricultural purposes.

e) A society shall not be entitled to receive a total
grant exceeding $800;

f) A society that holds a spring stallion show, a spring
bull show, or a combined spring stallion and bull
show shall receive a grant not exceeding $50,
equal to one-half the sum expended in the holding
of such show.

g) A society that holds a spring seed fair shall receive
a grant not exceeding $25, equal to one-half the
sum expended in the holding of such fair.

h) Should it be found within one year after the re-
ceipt by the Department of a society’s annual
statement, that an officer of the society has wil-
fully made false returns with an intention to de-
eceive, such officer shall incur a penalty not ex-
ceeding $100, recoverable under The Summary
Constitutions Act, or be liable to imprisonment for
a period not exceeding thirty days. R.S.O. 1914,
c. 47, s. 24 (1).

(2) If the Superintendent, on or before the 31st day of
October in any year, receives proof by the joint affidavit of
the president, secretary and treasurer of an agricultural
society that rain or snow has fallen at the place of holding
an exhibition before three o'clock in the afternoon on any day during which such exhibition was held, or if during such exhibition or within thirty days previous to same one or more buildings on the exhibition grounds have been destroyed by fire or storm, and upon the Superintendent being satisfied that as a consequence of such weather or fire conditions the gate receipts were less than the average of three previous normal years of holding the exhibition, such society shall be entitled to receive a grant from the fund provided therefor equal to ninety per centum of the difference between the gate receipts of the current year and the average of the gate receipts of three previous normal years, but the amount to be paid to any one society shall not exceed $500 and the total amount so paid to all societies shall not exceed $10,000. 1917, c. 27, s. 14; 1921, c. 30, s. 2.

(3) In the event of a society which has been organized for only two years suffering loss in gate receipts owing to wet weather, it shall be entitled to receive a grant equal to seventy-five per centum of the difference between the gate receipts of the current year and those of the previous year. In case of loss of gate receipts from the above cause during the third year of a society’s existence, the grant shall be seventy-five per centum of the difference between the gate receipts of that year and those of the average of the two previous years, but the amount to be paid shall not exceed $500. 1914, c. 21, s. 12; 1921, c. 30, s. 3.

23. Out of any unappropriated money in the hands of the Treasurer of Ontario a further sum not exceeding $5,000 shall be subject to division among The Canadian National Exhibition Association of Toronto, The Central Canada Exhibition Association of Ottawa, and The Western Fair Association of London, in proportion to the amount of money expended for agricultural purposes as set forth in section 10, provided that not more than $2,500 be paid to any one society, upon condition that

(a) returns similar to those prescribed by sections 12 and 20 have been made to the Minister;

(b) the provisions of section 30 have been strictly adhered to or enforced in connection with the exhibition held by the society in the last preceding year. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 25; 1914, c. 21, s. 13.

24.—(1) Horse racing other than trials of speed under the control and regulation of the officers of the society shall not be carried on during the days appointed for holding any exhibition by any society at the place of holding the exhibition or within five miles thereof.

(2) Any person who is guilty of a violation of this section shall be liable to a fine not exceeding $50, recoverable under The Summary Convictions Act.
(3) If any person is convicted under this section, the society to forfeit the legislative grant in the next ensuing year.

(4) Prosecutions under this section may be made only upon the information being laid by a person who is a member of the society for the current year and who also was a member of the society in the previous year. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 26.

25.—(1) The exhibition of any society shall be held at the place designated as the headquarters of the society.

(2) When the members of any society have by by-law or resolution fixed upon a place as the headquarters of the society, or upon any place for holding the exhibition of such society for any year, the place so designated shall not be changed to any place within twenty miles of the headquarters of another society, but it may be changed to any place not within such radius upon the decision of a majority of the qualified voters as follows:—

(a) A special meeting shall be called by the board of directors, or by thirty members as provided in subsection 2 of section 14, for the expressed purpose of considering the question.

(b) At least two weeks' previous notice of such meeting shall be given by advertisement as prescribed in subsection 3 of section 11.

(c) Only paid-up members for the current year who were also members in the previous year shall be qualified to vote.

(d) The meeting shall be called for ten o'clock in the forenoon, and if a poll is demanded it shall be opened at once and remain open until six o'clock, except that it may be closed by the presiding officer of the society if at any time one hour elapses without any vote being polled. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 27.

26. The exhibitions of any society shall be held at such place only as shall afford sufficient accommodation for such exhibitions. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 28.

27. The board of directors of any society on being made aware of any fraud having been committed by any member or exhibitor in the entry of any stock or goods in competition for prizes at any exhibition, shall have the power of withholding the payment of any prizes that may have been awarded by the judges to such members or exhibitors on such fraudulent or any other entries made at any such exhibition. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 29.
KEEPPING THE PEACE, ETC., AT EXHIBITIONS.

28. — (1) Any justice of the peace having jurisdiction in any city, town, village or township, wherein a fair or exhibition is or is to be held, shall, on the request of the president or executive committee of any society, appoint as many policemen or constables, to be named by the society, as may be required.

(2) The duty of such policemen and constables shall be, at the expense of the society, to protect the property of such society within the exhibition grounds, and to eject all persons who may be improperly within the grounds, or who may behave in a disorderly manner, or otherwise violate any of the rules or regulations of such society. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 30.

29. If any person wilfully hinders or obstructs the officers or servants of any society in the execution of their duty, or gains admission to the grounds contrary to the rules of such society, he shall incur a penalty of not less than $1, nor more than $20, recoverable under The Summary Convictions Act, to be paid over to such society for its use and benefit. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 31.

30. — (1) The officers of a society may by their rules and regulations prohibit and prevent all kinds of theatrical or circus or acrobatic performances, exhibitions or shows, and may also regulate or prevent the huckstering or trafficking in fruits, goods, wares or merchandise on the exhibition grounds, or within three hundred yards thereof; and any person who, after notice of such rules and regulations, violates the same shall be liable to be removed by the officers, policemen or constables of the society and be subject to the penalty prescribed by the next preceding section.

(2) The officers of the society shall prevent all immoral or indecent shows and all kinds of gambling and all games of chance, including wheel of fortune, dice games, pools, coin tables, draw lotteries or other illegal games at the place of holding the exhibition or fair, or within three hundred yards thereof, and any association or society permitting the same shall forfeit all claim to any legislative grant during the year next ensuing.

(3) The officers of a society shall not allow any person to exhibit either publicly or to any individual any gambling device, or to bring any such gambling device into the buildings or upon the grounds in or upon which the exhibition or fair is being held.

(4) No person shall carry on, or assist or aid in carrying on, any kind of gambling, or any game of chance, at any agricultural, live stock, or industrial exhibition or fair, or within half a mile thereof.
(5) It shall not be lawful to sell or to have for sale on any exhibition ground during the time of holding an exhibition, any wine, beer or spirituous liquors, and any society permitting the same shall forfeit all claim to any grant during the next ensuing year. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 32 (1-5).

(6) Every person guilty of a violation of any of the provisions of this section, in addition to any other liability which he may incur thereby, shall incur a penalty of not less than $100 nor more than $300 for a first offence, and in default of immediate payment of the penalty, shall be imprisoned for a period of three months unless the penalty or costs are sooner paid, and for every offence committed after conviction for a first offence, shall be liable to imprisonment for a period of six months. 1918, c. 20, s. 14.

(7) This section shall apply to all exhibitions held by any society. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 32 (7).

31.—(1) Any Dominion police constable or Provincial police constable shall have the right of free entrance to the grounds and to all the buildings on the grounds where a fair or exhibition is being held under the direction of any society, during the time that the fair or exhibition is being held.

(2) Any constable or other peace officer may, without warning or notice, immediately seize all devices and instruments used by any person in connection with any kind of gambling or games of chance or immoral or indecent side show, and may arrest such person without warrant and take him before the nearest magistrate having jurisdiction, there to be dealt with according to law, and every such device or instrument, after the conviction of the person concerned, shall be destroyed under the direction of the magistrate before whom the case is tried. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 33.

GENERAL PROVISIONS AS TO ELECTIONS.

32. Every person not under eighteen years of age who has paid the membership subscription for the year then next ensuing to any society, shall have the right of voting at the election of officers, and on all other questions submitted to the annual meetings of such societies. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 34.

33. No membership subscription for the ensuing year, paid after the president or presiding officer has declared the poll open for the election of officers, shall entitle any member to vote for such officers, nor shall any votes be received earlier than one o'clock in the afternoon nor later than six o'clock in the afternoon of the same day. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 35.
Chap. 71.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Sec. 34.

Except as otherwise provided, a vacancy occurring by the death or resignation of any officer of a society may be filled by the remaining officers thereof; and it shall be the duty of such officers to nominate and appoint a fit and proper person to fill the office for the unexpired term of the person so dying or resigning; but in the event of the remaining officers being insufficient to form a quorum, or if for any reason a quorum cannot be obtained, persons to fill the vacant offices shall be elected in manner provided by the following section. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 36.

35.—(1) In the event of an election of any officers of a society not being held at the time or place herein directed, or being for any reason illegal and void, the persons in office at the time when such officers should have been elected shall continue to be, and shall be deemed to be, the officers of such society until their successors are legally appointed.

(2) In the event of any such non-election or illegal election, a special meeting of the members of such society shall be called as soon as practicable for the election of such officers; such meeting to be called in the manner provided in subsection 3 of section 11 by the president, or, in his absence or on his neglect, by the vice-president, or in the absence or on the neglect of the president and vice-president, then by any three members of the society, and at such meeting the election of officers shall take place, and the persons elected shall thenceforth, until their successors are appointed, be the officers of such society. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 37.

36. A special meeting of the directors of any society may be called by the president thereof, or, in his absence or on his neglect, by the vice-president, or, in the absence or on the neglect of the president and vice-president, then by any three members of such society, of which meeting at least seven days' notice shall be given to each member; and, except as otherwise provided for, a majority of the directors of any society shall be a quorum. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 38.

37.—(1) The treasurer of every society, before entering upon the duties of his office, shall give such security, either by joint or several covenant with one or more sureties, which may be in such form as the board of directors or other managing officers may deem necessary, for the faithful performance of his duties, and especially for the duly accounting for and paying over all money which may come into his hands.

(2) It shall be the duty of the board in each and every year to enquire into the sufficiency of the security given by such treasurer and report thereon; and where the same treas-
Sec. 38 (3).

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Chap. 71.

The officer for any society is re-appointed from year to year his re-appointment shall not be considered as a new term of office, but as a continuation of the former appointment, and any bond or security given to the society for the faithful performance of his duties under such re-appointment shall continue valid as against the parties thereto.

(3) If the officers of a society neglect to procure and maintain proper and sufficient security they shall be personally responsible for all funds of the society in the possession of the treasurer. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 39.

MUNICIPAL AID TO SOCIETIES.

38.—(1) The municipal council of any city, town, village, county or township in Ontario may grant or loan money or grant land in aid of any agricultural society formed within the limits of the municipality or partly within the limits of such municipality and partly within the limits of other municipalities, or wholly within the limits of an adjoining municipality, when such society has made the returns required by this Act to be made to the Minister, provided always that the total amount or value of the money or land heretofore or hereafter granted or loaned by any municipality to an agricultural society under this section shall not exceed, in the case of a city, $5,000, in the case of a town, $2,000, and in the case of a village, $1,000.

(2) If such grant is a loan of money to enable the society to acquire land, such municipality may hold the land so acquired or may take a mortgage thereon, as security for the amount of such grant until the amount of such grant be repaid to the municipality; and any such grant heretofore made in accordance with the provisions of this Act shall be legal and valid.

(3) Any of such municipalities owning land or buildings for public purposes shall have the power to make agreements on such terms and for such periods as they may deem expedient with any company formed under the provisions of chapter 196 of the Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1897, or under any enactment that may be substituted therefor, or with any agricultural society for the use of such land or buildings, or either of them, or for the privilege of erecting on said land, subject to such terms as may be agreed on, such buildings as they may require for agricultural and industrial shows, and to give the company the power of renting such grounds and buildings when owned by the company to any agricultural society formed under this Act or any amendment thereto, to and for the purposes of the annual show or shows of the society, and to grant to such company or society the power to collect during such show, or at other times, as may be agreed, from any person wishing to go into or upon any such grounds.
or buildings, or for any privilege thereon, or for any car-
riage, wagon or other vehicle, or for any horse or other
animal that may be taken thereon, such entrance fee or other
charge as the company or society may deem necessary or
expedient. R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, s. 40.

(4) Any of such municipalities may pass by-laws for pro-
viding for the erection of buildings on parks, fair grounds
or other property belonging to any such municipality, for
the joint purposes of the municipality and of any agricul-
tural society, or other body, or trustees for any club or
society, upon such agricultural society and other body, or
trustees for any club or society contributing to the cost of
such building, and in such case, the municipality shall have
power to grant leases for a term not exceeding twenty-one
years to such agricultural society, incorporated body, or the
trustees of any club, providing for the use of such building
at such time or times as to such council may seem proper,
and upon such terms as may be arranged with the said coun-
cil. The powers hereby granted may be exercised in respect
of any building erected since the 1st of January, 1919.
1920, c. 28, s. 2.

39. The property of an agricultural society shall be ex-
empt from taxation other than for local improvements when
in actual occupation by the society, or by its tenants if the rent
is applied solely for the purposes of the society. 1927, c. 28,
s. 4 (2).

FORM 1.

(Section 5.)

DECLARATION OF ASSOCIATION.

We, whose names are subscribed hereto, agree to form ourselves
into a society, under the provisions of The Agricultural Societies
Act, to be called the Agricultural Society of (designating the point
that the Department will be asked to recognize as the headquar-
ters of the society), and we hereby severally agree to pay to the
treasurer the sums opposite our respective names; and we further
agree to conform to the by-laws and rules of the society.

Names. $ cts.

R.S.O. 1914, c. 47, Form 1.
County of

To Wit: }

I, , of , treasurer of the Agricultural Society of , make oath and say, that during the year ending 31st day of December, 19 , the said Agricultural Society expended the sum of $ , solely for agricultural purposes, in accordance with the Act, as set forth in the audited financial statement of the society, and that no prizes for horse races or special attractions, and no prize money other than cash is included in the above amount, and that the number of members of the society for 19 is .

Sworn before me this day of , 19 .

Justice of the Peace for the County of or a Commissioner for taking affidavits.

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EXPENDITURE FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

Prizes paid, Horses, $ Cattle, $ Sheep $ (Prizes for horses not to include horse races) Prizes paid, Pigs, $ Poultry, $ Dairy Products, $ " " Grain and Seeds .............................................. " " Roots and other hoed crops ................................... " " Orchard and Garden products ................................ " " Implements and General Manufactures ......................... " " Fine Arts, $ Ladies' Work, $ " " All other objects on Exhibition ................................

Money paid for prizes awarded in previous years. " " " " " " at Plowing Match ............................................. " " " " " " for Field Crop Competition .................................

(Contributed by Society)

Meetings or Lectures for discussion of Agricultural Subjects ..........................................................

Agricultural Periodicals ..................................................

Purchase of Live Stock .................................................

Purchase of Seed and Plants ..........................................

Keep of Stock ..................................................................

Expenses of Delegates to Fairs and Exhibitions' Convention .................................................................

Total Cash Expenditure for Agricultural Purposes .................................................................