

IOWA PUBLIC ARCHIVES

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Continued from July number

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Iowa in 1842 passed an act which established the Territorial Agricultural Society, provided for its organization, and defined its powers and duties but there seems to be no evidence that it was ever organized.

The State Agricultural Society was organized at Fairfield on December 28, 1853, and was recognized by law on January 22, 1855. Its objects were to be the promotion of agriculture, horticulture, manufactures and household and mechanic arts. The officers and directors were to be elected at the annual meeting of the officers and directors together with presidents of county agricultural societies. The first secretary was J. M. Shaffer of Fairfield.

The Fortieth General Assembly in 1923 established the Department of Agriculture and provided that the secretary be elected at the general elections when other state officers were elected. This law provided for the transfer of all the duties of the State Agricultural Society, except those pertaining to the State Fair and Exposition, the duties of the latter being left with the State Fair Board. This law also provided for the transfer of the following departments to the Department of Agriculture: Weather and Crop Service, Dairy and Food Department, Department of Animal Health, State Veterinarian Department, State Horticultural Society, Iowa Corn and Small Grain Growers' Association, Beef and Cattle Growers' Association, Iowa Dairy Association, State Poultry Associations receiving aid from the state, and Petroleum Oil Inspection Service.

The following classification is limited to the State Agricultural Society as it existed prior to the year 1910.

The records are practically complete, beginning with the call for the convention to organize the society in 1853.

STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY—CLASSIFICATION
MAIN DIVISIONS

- SERIES I. AFFIDAVITS AND STATEMENTS
 SERIES II. BIDS, CONTRACTS AND PROPOSALS
 SERIES III. CERTIFICATES
 SERIES IV. CLAIMS
 SERIES V. CORRESPONDENCE
 SERIES VI. REPORTS
 SERIES VII. VOUCHERS
 SERIES VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

SERIES I. AFFIDAVITS AND STATEMENTS

DOCUMENTS

Butter and Cheese
 Garden Seeds, Grains, etc.
 Registered Stock
 Sorghum
 Miscellaneous

SERIES II. BIDS, CONTRACTS AND PROPOSALS

DOCUMENTS

Fair Attractions
 Painting
 Printing
 Rates
 Superintendent of Fair Grounds
 Miscellaneous

SERIES III. CERTIFICATES

DOCUMENTS

Stock Registration

SERIES IV. CLAIMS

BOUND RECORDS

Claim Registers

DOCUMENTS

Claims, 1893-

SERIES V. CORRESPONDENCE

BOUND RECORDS

Letter Books
 Index to Correspondence
 County and District Agricultural Societies
 Crop Conditions

DOCUMENTS

Farmers Institutes
 Registration

State Fair
 Advertising and Printing
 Attractions and Privileges
 Entries and Premiums
 Passes
 Miscellaneous

SERIES VI. REPORTS

BOUND RECORDS

Superintendents
 Cattle, 1884-
 Fine Arts, 1884-
 Fruits and Flowers, 1884-
 Grain, Seeds and Vegetables, 1884-
 Machinery, 1901-
 Sheep and Poultry, 1884-
 Speed, 1889-

DOCUMENTS

Committee
 Credentials
 Enumerating Tickets
 Finance
 Mileage and per diem
 Premium awards
 County Auditors
 Crop and Farm Statistics
 Owners of Stallions
 Crop conditions
 District and County Agricultural Societies
 Officers
 Secretary, 1885-
 Superintendents
 Fair Grounds, 1896-
 Fine Arts, 1884-
 Horses, 1884-
 Privileges, 1884-
 Sheep and Poultry
 Speed, 1896-
 Swine, 1884-
 Treasurer, 1888-

SERIES VII. VOUCHERS

BOUND RECORDS

Account Books
 Advertising
 Hay and Straw
 Secretary
 Treasurer

Balance Books
 Day Books
 Journals
 Ledgers
 Registers
 Entry, 1894-
 Premium, 1878-
 Race, 1882-
 Tickets
 Secretary, 1894-
 Superintendents, 1891
 Warrant Registers

DOCUMENTS

Expense, 1883-
 Premiums, 1884-

SERIES VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

BOUND RECORDS

County and District Agricultural Societies
 Farmers' Institutes
 Minutes of State Agricultural Society
 Receipts
 Weather and Crop Service
 Unclassified

DOCUMENTS

Credentials (alphabetical by societies)
 Entries, Applications for
 Orders, Tickets and Miscellaneous
 Receipts
 Secretary
 Treasurer
 Unsold Tickets
 Miscellaneous
 Score Cards
 Unclassified
 Articles of Incorporation, Co. and Dist. Societies
 Balance Sheets
 Description of lands, bought for Fair Grounds
 Entry and Premium Tags
 List of Machinery Exhibitors
 Manuscript copy of Minutes
 Maps, showing yield if Agricultural Products
 Memoranda Sheets
 Pedigrees of Stock
 Petitions and Protests
 Photographs
 Recommendations for the Appointment of Judges

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