A.O.R.S. 35 th. Aniversary held at Royal York Hotel Feb. 26, 1996

Mr. President, Head Table Guests and Delegates.

It is an honour to announce the celebration of the 35th Anniversary of the Association of Ontario Road Superintendents is being held this year at the 102nd. Ontario Goods Roads Association Convention. This Association is composed of Road Superintendents, Managers, Supervisors and Foremen throughout Ontario. Further festivities will be held at the 11th annual International Municipal Trade Show to be held on June 5 & 6 at Meaford Ontario, hosted by the Grey County Road Superintendents Association and Association of Ontario Road Superintendents. The first Trade Show was organized by the Huron County Road Superintendents Association in 1986.

On Feb. 20, 1961, about 24 Road Superintendents who were interested in forming an Ontario Road Superintendents Association met at this Convention. It was agreed to form a Provincial Road Superintendents Association. Vermont Pow, Road Superintendent, Township of Southwold, County of Elgin, was elected President and myself appointed Secretary-Treasurer.

The seed for this organization was sown, May 12, 1959, at the first Ontario Good Roads, T. J. Mahony Road School, held at Toronto University with N. L. Powell President of O. G. R. A. and the Hon. F. M. Cass, Q.C. Minister of Highways present. Vermont Pow, Rd. Supt., gave a paper on the Elgin County Road Superintendents Association and its merits, which was formed in 1946. During the discussion period, a Grey County Road Superintendent stated that Grey County had organized in 1957.

Ontario Good Roads Association were most co-operative with

the new association and have supplied meeting rooms at the Ontario Good Roads Association conventions since 1962 and have been listed in the Ontario Good Roads Association Convention program since 1964.

Municipal Roads branch of the Ministry of Highways have always been supportive of the Association of Ontario Road Superintendents.

By the early 1970,s there were 26 Road Superintendents Member Associations in the Association of Ontario Road Superintendents.

On May 5, 1964, at an Ontario Road Superintendents Association meeting held at Hart House, University of Toronto, it was decided to send a letter to the Ontario Good Roads' Road School Committee regarding the use of class rooms for better participation and education at the Road School for the "Roads Scholars, instead of using an auditorium for a class room.

The Road School Committee agreed and the T.J. Mahony Road School was moved to Guelph University. A special Road School Committee consisting of Chairman Jack Rettie, York County Eng., Course Director Charles Wilmot, Municipal Roads Subsidy Engineer, Department of Highways and myself representing the Association of Ontario Road Superintendents were appointed to draw up a program for a three year course about Road and Bridge Maintenance and Construction, Legal Matters, Drainage and Bookkeeping for the T.J. Mahoney Guelph Road School.

On Feb. 27, 1968, Ontario Good Roads Association President Hugh Lamb P.Eng. announced in his remarks that 210 "Roads Scholars" had successfully completed the first 3 year, T. J. Mahony Guelph Road School course and 27 "Outstanding Students" had an average of 90% or more.

The seed of Certification of Road Superintendents, Managers,

Supervisors and Foremen sown in the mid 1970's continued to be discussed in the 1980's.

Michael Woodcroft, Director of the C. S. Anderson Road School picked up the seed of Certification and in 1986 with his paper on " Certification Through Education", he produced a plant, which flowered in 1989 with the issuing of the first Certification Certificates.

Mr. President, I would like to thank you and the Ontario Good Roads Association on behalf of Association of Ontario Road Superintendents for this oppertunity to announce the 35 th. Anniversary Year of this Association.

We hope you will visit our display booth for a 35 th. anniversary pamphlet. Anniversary pins are on sale for $2.00. See you at Meaford, Ontario, June 5 & 6 where the Grey County Road Superintendents Association is hosting the 1966 Trade Show.

Thank You.

Melvin R. Dale.