

the state; the population is estimated at 120,000. Many conventions meet in it each year. The University of Syracuse is situated on the heights, in the southeastern part of the city, overlooking Onondaga lake and valley. The location is beautiful, and must be healthy. The view from the Fine Art building is not easy to surpass.

The College of Liberal Arts had an undergraduate body last year of 450, and special students 94. Provision is made in the general curriculum of the University for instruction, both theoretical and practical, in pedagogy for those who desire preparation for teaching during their undergraduate course. The State Department of Education recognizes the value of the course in the licensing of teachers for State schools.

The 14th Annual Conference of the Associated Academic Principals of New York State High Schools was held here this year, on the 27th, 28th, and 29th December. Many other teachers and masters besides these were present at the meeting: Chief Superintendent Skinner, of the State of New York; Melvil Dewey, Secretary of the Board of Regents of the University of New York State, and many of the County Superintendents. The total attendance would be between 600 and 700. A new thing it was in the experience of the Editor of THE CANADA EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY to be at such a gathering of educationists, and scarcely a lady to be seen. To a member of the Convention this remark was made, and the quick reply came, these are all principals; not quite, we would venture to say, but almost. Secretary Dewey says that the High Schools are becoming most influential, and are virtually the pivot of their educational system. At the Convention young men predominated, but there were many present whose mature appearance indicated years of service, and in the discussion

these took the lead and were listened to with great attention. The Convention fully deserves the commendation: prove all things, hold fast that which is good.

Secretary Dewey (Melvil Dewey, sec. of the University of the State of New York) spoke, first of the American system of teaching institutions as they are, Elementary School, High School, College, University. The College is the only one that is losing ground, as High Schools prepare more generally directly for the university. The old endowed and private academy is also losing ground as the High School increases year by year in influence and breadth of work. The speaker then touched upon libraries, museums, university extension, summer institutes, evening schools, home study clubs—of which there are now 300 registered.

"Of all these agencies" continued Secretary Dewey, "the crown of the educational system for its locality is the High School, whether in a large city or a village. The principal of the school should be a kind of educational bishop for the community. He should have an eye for the Elementary Schools. They deserve all support. But the High School, though it costs much, is worth all its costs. This is an age of specialism. The great men in all lines of endeavor are coming from the laboring classes to-day. We must get those embryo geniuses. We can afford to spend money to reach boys who cannot be reached otherwise when that education produces the men that it has produced in America.

"The time has come when we should spend more on High Schools. New York is spending more and more every year for high schools and we don't spend half enough. We have now 500 of these schools; we need 1,000. It required a long crusade to secure free elementary education. The right to a higher education belongs to every man. The state can afford to pay for it for