

evening the sight under the electric light was an exceedingly pretty one. The tent was crowded all evening, and not the least interesting feature was an address by Mr. William Bacon, of Orillia, who by his lecture last winter firmly established himself as a prime favorite with Paris horticulturists. Mr. Bacon, at considerable inconvenience to himself, came here to act as judge, and his decisions, backed up as they were by a thorough knowledge of his subject, gave universal satisfaction. Kay's orchestra provided pleasing music, and an ice cream stand helped to cool the temperature of the inner man on a night which was perhaps the warmest of an exceedingly hot week. We trust the society will not be weary in well doing, but will repeat its efforts at a future date. The prizes were all honorary.

Out Door Art.

Being one of the Vice-presidents of the American Art and Out Door Association, the writer regrets not having been in attendance at the recent meeting in Chicago on the 5th of June.

Dr. Howard Taylor, in behalf of Mayor Harrison, welcomed the visitors to Chicago. His remarks were seconded by Wallace Heckman, President of the Chicago Art Association, and by P. W. E. Wight, who, in place of Franklin MacVeagh, represented other local art interests. President Charles M. Loring, of Minneapolis, responded to the welcome extended to the delegates and delivered his annual address. He complimented the association upon the growth of the last year, and the great interest which is being manifested in the work. "It is a matter of congratulation," he said, "that the Municipal Art League and the American Institute of Architects have the same ideals in view that the American Park and Outdoor Art Association is striving for, and that they are working harmoniously along the same lines. Our association is represented in twenty-eight states and territories, and in Canada. The influence of the present gathering will be far-reaching, inasmuch as the movement is just beginning to show its strength, and has reached that point where it will culminate in a wave of enthusiasm for beautifying scenery and landscapes throughout the country."

In impromptu addresses from the floor, delegates E. J. Parker, of Quincy, Ill., president of the Quincy Park and Boulevard Association, and Sidney A. Foster, of Des Moines, Ia., strongly advocated the establishment of such a system.

"I am pleased," said Mr. Parker, "to see throughout the country the manner in which our universities and higher educational institutions are taking up the work of landscape gardening. What we need now is to make the grounds of every village school a park, and after it has been made beautiful to keep it open the year round and allow the children to play there. If the school grounds were made park playgrounds throughout the country, the children who are being educated in parochial schools would flock to that place, and gradually overcoming the prejudices of their parents, the Public schools would soon make friends with the Roman Catholic taxpayer."

"To accomplish this we should establish a system of prizes to be offered for the best results obtained, and insist that the school boards throughout the country, as well as in the large cities, make public parks of the school grounds. I would suggest the necessity of the co-operation of the women's clubs throughout the country as a means to accomplish this end."

In order that delegates might see Chicago parks to the best advantage, the park commissioners entertained them with drives through the park and boulevard properties. The commissioners of the South Side were hosts the afternoon of the first day. The historical World's Fair site in its new dress was viewed with much interest, and the local committee took great pleasure in pointing out the landmarks of the vanished White City. After a ramble through the Field Museum, the bugles were sounded and the guests were taken for a trolley ride down Midway Plaisance to Washington Park, where the landscape effects and the greenhouses with their wealth of tropical verdure and mass of bloom were inspected with delight.

At Washington Park the guests were invited into the refectory (which, by the way, is maintained by the park commissioners) and a dainty luncheon was served to the delegates. Choice fern fronds were artistically arranged before the plates as souvenirs of the occasion. After this event the drive was continued down Drexel Boulevard to Michigan avenue, past typical Chicago homes, back to the Auditorium.

At the evening session J. H. Patterson and E. L. Shuey, of Dayton, Ohio, led in a discussion of ways and means of improving the conditions and surroundings of factories and employees' homes. The discussion was illustrated by stereopticon views, and much of interest was told of what has been done in the past few years by the National Cash Register Co., of Dayton. The views showed the homes of the laboring people before and after systematic attempts at improvement had been made by artistic grouping of shrubs and flowers.

"We have found the moral effect of beautifying the homes of our people most gratifying," said Mr. Patterson. "We all know that everyone is influenced by his surroundings, and if they are made attractive and beautiful the influence cannot but be good. On the other hand it will follow that unsightly, hideous surroundings will lower the moral, spiritual and physical life of the people. If we cannot make labor a pleasure, we can make the surroundings and conditions more bearable."

"I believe that the employer of to-day will find that in this very thing he has a problem of the gravest importance to cope with. Conditions since the advent of the locomotive and quick transportation have changed immensely, and we must adapt ourselves to them. In the old days men had small shops and few employees, and they were directly interested in their moral and physical welfare. I hold that the man who employs three thousand men and women has just a so much greater responsibility, and if he can make life brighter for them by showing them how