

taken on a peculiar character, which, though by no means stereotyped, has become comparatively fixed. It is old enough to have traditional methods, but not conservative enough to be unwilling to modify them. Its officers are always experienced and able men. No others can come to the front in a body with a membership so large and so intelligent. Of the methods adopted it may be said generally that they are exceedingly effective. The mornings and evenings are given up to mass meetings, and the afternoons to meetings of sections or departments. The number of these sections tends, of course, to increase with the growing tendency of the day to differentiation and specialization. At present they are (1) kindergarten, (2) elementary, (3) secondary, (4) higher, (5) normal, (6) superintendence, (7) industrial and manual, (8) art, and (9) music. To these have been added, in a tentative way, "conferences for original research," of which six were designated for this year, only one, however, being at all successful, that held under the direction of Dr. Stanley Hall for the study of mental growth in children. This is a feature of the Association's meetings which will probably grow in interest and usefulness, for it has in it great possibilities of development. The attendance was enormous and was thoroughly international. The membership numbers thousands, and of these, Canadians constituted probably as large a proportion as the population of the Dominion bears to that of the United States. Canadian delegates took a fairly prominent share in the proceedings, and to all appearance were quite up to the general average in ability to do so with credit to themselves and advantage to the body as a whole. The various provinces of Canada were represented individually, the largest contingent being from Ontario, and the next largest from Quebec, the Maritime Provinces contributing small but somewhat distinguished delegations. All sections of the United States were well represented, and most of the States had "headquarters," at which local enrolment of delegates was made. On the whole, the vast gathering was thoroughly representative of the continent, from the Gulf of Mexico to the northern limit of inhabited Canada, and from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific. In preparing for such a meeting, it is natural that there should be a good deal of anxiety as to accommodation, and this occasion was no exception. No city in America has ever been subjected to so severe a strain in this respect as Toronto has just endured, but the precautions taken were so effective that the whole mass of visitors were quietly located as fast as they arrived, with far less than the usual amount of friction and