

## EMPIRE DAY.

As was to be expected, the celebration of Empire Day in the schools this year surpassed in interest and enthusiasm anything of the kind done in former years.

The noticeable features in the arrangements were the increased number of meetings held in the open air, either in school grounds or public squares, and the number of public men who interested themselves in the proceedings and addressed the children.

In Halifax the most memorable celebration of Empire Day in the history of the city took place in the Arena, where upwards of 7000 school children gave expression to their loyalty and devotion to the British Empire in stirring patriotic songs and ballads. Inspiring addresses were given by the Chairman of the School Board, Alderman Finlay, Mayor Martin, Rev. Dr. Foley, Hon. A. K. Maclean, M. P., and by Rev. Professor J. W. Macmillan, D. D.

In Fredericton the principal event of the day was the great gathering which took place at Parliament Square in the open air in the afternoon. There upwards of 5,000 persons gathered, including over 1,500 pupils of the public schools and students of the Normal School, and listened to patriotic addresses, sang patriotic songs, and cheered every mention of the King, the flag or Canadian heroes now fighting on Europe's battlefields.

Lieut. Governor Wood presided, and Rev. Dr. G. M. Campbell, of Mount Allison University, was the orator.

In St. Stephen, N. B., the school children marched in procession through the streets before going to the school grounds for the Empire Day exercises. Happily, the prevailing fine weather made out-of-door celebrations feasible and it was possible for more people to enjoy them than could have met in the school buildings.

From all parts of the provinces come accounts of increased interest and more careful planning for the observance of this day which plays so large a part in training for patriotism.

Last month we gave prominence to a statement of the objects and methods of the League of the Empire. An important part of the work of this association is to link schools in different parts of the Empire by putting pupils in widely

separated schools into correspondence with each other on any subjects that may be of mutual advantage. In connection with this we notice the following report from the branch of the League at Sheffield, England, printed in the May number of the *Federal Magazine*:

Since the outbreak of the war we have made another attempt to get a response from our linked school at ———, New Brunswick; the girls writing to their "comrades" in ———, and showing their deep appreciation of the loyal and ungrudging support that Canada has given to the mother country.

Again on January 29, as a last attempt to gain their attention, a parcel of drawings and maps, executed by the boys and girls for exhibition last Empire Day, was despatched, and the "May Queen" of the school also wrote a letter to her "head girl comrade" describing our celebration of Empire Day. We have not yet, however, received any communication in return.

We print this in hopes that it may meet the eye of someone connected with the New Brunswick school referred to. We can hardly think that such interesting and friendly communications as were sent from Sheffield could be deliberately met with ungracious silence. It is possible that some mistake in addresses, or other reason for non-delivery, will be found to account for the apparent neglect. At this time, especially, such a correspondence should not be allowed to drop.

We have received the following acknowledgment of the receipt of the prize offered in the March REVIEW to the teacher sending us the best short account of how to celebrate Empire Day in an ungraded school.

BEDELL, N. B.,

May 11, 1915.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EDUCATIONAL REVIEW:

I wish to thank you for the beautiful flag chart which I have received. I find it very useful and decorative. I am sure every teacher would find it a splendid addition to the school-room equipment. WILHELMINA HAYWARD.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—We regret to say that three letters containing questions to be answered in the June REVIEW did not reach us until after the paper had gone to the printers. The questions will be answered in the August issue.