

DRHAM.—The semi-annual meeting of this Association was held in the High School buildings, Bowmanville, on Friday and Saturday of last week, Mr. Tamblin in the chair. Under the head of general business, the treasurer, Mr. Keith, read his report, showing that the finances of the Association were in a satisfactory state. The Committee on the Reading Circle reported, and the following resolutions were adopted:—“(1) That a Reading Circle be formed among the teachers of this Association. (2) That at least two books be read each year—one on the art of teaching and one on some department of science—the books to be named by the Executive of this Association. (3) It shall be sufficient that the books have been carefully read in order to receive credit for the same.” The Committee appointed to consider the matter of Scripture readings reported: “That the action of the Education Department, in making and distributing the selections of Scripture Readings for the schools of Ontario, deserves the hearty approval of this Association.” This report was adopted, and the secretary instructed to send copies to the Department and to the educational papers of the Province. The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, W. W. Jardine; 1st Vice-President, F. Wood; 2nd Vice-President, Mr. Allin; Secretary, R. D. Davidson; Treasurer, Chas. Keith; Executive Committee—Messrs. Tamblin, Thornhill, Hampton, Lee, McDowell, Reynolds, Hickson, Grandy, Richardson, Miss McNaughtan, and Miss Winslow. The retiring President, Mr. Tamblin, then gave a short address to the Association, and introduced the President-elect, Mr. Jardine, who took the chair and called upon Mr. Wood, Principal of the Port Hope Model School, to address the meeting on “School Offences and Punishment.” Mr. Wood dealt exhaustively with the subject, bringing not only his own experience, but also that of prominent educators throughout the country to bear upon it. The discussion was continued by Messrs. Hickson, Keith, and Gilfillan. On Friday afternoon Miss Raines read an excellent paper on “How First Book Classes should be Employed,” followed on the same subject by Messrs. Allin, Hickson, and McDowell. Mr. Tamblin introduced “School Premises and Equipment,” making a telling point in favor of improvement when contrasting the generally disreputable school building of the country with its neat, comfortable, and, in many cases, elegant churches and private dwellings. Messrs. Fairbairn and James continued the discussion. On Friday evening an entertainment was given in the basement of St. Paul's Church. Everybody was pleased with Mr. Boyle's humorous description of the different classes of teachers: the recitations were all well given, and the music by the Quintette Club was the best we have heard for a long time. The beaming faces of the auditors as they turned to go, on hearing the last strains of “God Save the Queen,” was of itself sufficient evidence that the entertainment was a success.

The Saturday's session began with Mr. Keith giving his methods of assigning a reading lesson. The subject of reading was further warmly discussed by Messrs. Tamblin, Jardine, Barber, and others. Mr. Wood said if the pupil had the thought of its intensity, suitable expression of it would naturally follow. Mr. Jardine, in introducing “Grammar for Entrance Examinations,” said that on account of the questions asked there was a tendency on the part of teachers to discard the formal study of grammar. Mr. Boyle, of Toronto, then gave his views on the question “Should Teachers Form a Union?” His remarks were listened to with the closest attention, and when the gentleman concluded Mr. Wood moved a resolution favoring the principle of union among teachers. This was carried unanimously by the Association. The secretary was appointed a delegate to a meeting to be held in Toronto for the purpose of making arrangements about a teachers' union. The Association then adjourned.—*Courtesy from Bowmanville Statesman.*

LANARK.—The annual meeting of the Lanark County Teachers' Association was held in the High School on Thursday and Friday of last week, and is said to have been one of the most successful gatherings of the kind that has ever been held in the county. The able assistance of Dr. McLellan and W. Houston, M.A., of Toronto contributed in no small part to the success of the meeting. About 9.30 a.m. on Thursday the President, Mr. P. C. McGregor, head master of the High School, Almonte, called the meeting to order and delivered a short opening address, alluding to a few of the living educational questions of the day. He then appointed Messrs. Walrond, Cochran, McEnte, Neslutt, and Miss Girard a committee on Journals and Drawing Classes; and Messrs. McCarter, Robertson, and Anderson a committee on the Improvement of the Profession. The calling of the roll showed that there were in attendance about 100 teachers. The first subject taken up was “Geography,” by F. L. Mitchell, M.A., I. P. S., in which he suggested many improvements that might be made in teaching this subject to young pupils. A discussion followed, in which most of the suggestions were approved of. Mr. D. A. Nesbitt, head master of Public School, Pakenham, next illustrated how he would teach “Mental Arithmetic” to all grades of pupils. Mr. Neslutt demonstrated two things—first, that he knew his subject, and second, that he knew how to handle a class to the best advantage. Miss Bessie Twigg, one of our youngest teachers, next read a very amusing paper on “The Experiences of a New Teacher.” The paper read by Miss Twigg displayed so much

literary merit that a motion was unanimously passed asking her to allow it to be published in the local papers. The election of officers was taken up in the afternoon, and resulted as follows:—President, N. Robertson, B.A., H.M.P.S., S. Falls; Vice-President, Miss L. Steadman, S. Falls; Secretary-Treasurer, M. M. Jacques, H. M. P. S., Perth. Committee of Management—Miss Girard, Carleton Place P. S.; J. R. Johnson, H. M. H. S., Carleton Place; Miss Gilroy, S. Falls P. S.; J. McCarter, H. M. P. S., Almonte; T. J. Walrond, Almonte H. S. Auditors—J. C. Hamilton, H.M.P.S., Smith's Falls; J. A. Goth, H.M.P.S., Carleton Place. Delegate to Provincial Association—F. L. Mitchell, M.A., I.P.S. Mr. Houston then gave a long and exceedingly interesting and profitable address on “English Literature.” Quite a discussion followed the delivering of this address, and, while many of the speakers differed from Mr. Houston on some points, all complimented him on the mastery grasp of the subject which he gave evidence of possessing. In the evening an entertainment was given in the Town Hall.

On Friday evening Dr. McLellan took up “The A, B, C of Arithmetic” in his usual able manner. He discussed the best method of teaching arithmetic to a beginner, and threw out many hints that cannot fail to be of service to young teachers. He was followed by Mr. Houston on “Spelling Reform.” This address provoked a long and animated discussion, the result of which was that Mr. H. succeeded in modifying the prejudices of many teachers against the movement, and also in correcting erroneous views as to the character of the movement. A motion to thank Mr. Houston and to endorse his scheme was changed to one referring the matter to a committee to report next year, as the Association did not think they were prepared to vote intelligently on the subject. Dr. McLellan closed the list of discussions by a long and instructive address on “The Art of Questioning.” It is better to lead a pupil to discover the truth himself than to make a mere parrot of him, by having him repeat merely what the teacher tells him, and to those who are experienced in the art of questioning Dr. McLellan's address must have been invaluable. The meeting closed with the usual formal votes of thanks. It was decided to hold the next meeting of the Association in Carleton Place, the date being fixed by the Minister of Education.—*Almonte Gazette.*

Literary Reviews.

DIE KARAVANE, by Wilhelm Hauff, with notes and vocabulary by Herman Hager, Ph.D., Lecturer in German in Owens College, Manchester. London: MacMillan & Co.; Toronto: Williamson & Co.

The notes on *Die Karavane* are very full and carefully compiled. Wherever a peculiar construction appears in the text it is fully explained and illustrated in the notes. All instances of irregular conjugations and declensions are carefully commented upon and philologically explained. The work contains good grammatical and introductory chapters, and has a copious vocabulary of 48 pages. It is a work which will at once recommend itself to all students of Hauff, the gifted story-teller and Sir Walter Scott of German literature.

PART II. MODERN GERMAN READER: a graduated collection of extracts in Prose and Poetry from modern German writers, edited by G. A. Buchheim, Ph.D., F.C.P., Professor of German in King's College, London, Examiner to London University, etc. Oxford: Clarendon Press Series. Toronto: Williamson & Co. Cloth 60c.

This work, which has recently been published, is just what is wanted in our Canadian schools, in order to inspire the young student with a love for the beauties of the German language. The selections are well graded and admirably arranged. They are in themselves gems of thought, and the prose extracts in particular are well adapted for illustrating the grammatical structure and genius of the language. The notes are well-arranged and consist of three kinds: I. Literary, Historical, and Geographical notes, necessary for elucidating the text. II. Grammatical and Syntactical notes, to explain idiomatic peculiarities. III. Concise and suggestive literary notes. These notes will be a valuable assistance to the student, and are not so extensive as to supersede the work of the teacher. The grammatical notes are nicely introduced, and are so arranged that the student will constantly and almost unconsciously be getting up grammatical rules and rivetting them in the mind by studying the appropriate illustrations in the text. The mechanical construction of the book is all that can be desired. We heartily recommend the work to students and teachers throughout the Province.

A little girl, three years old, attended church for the first time. She heard the minister mention the name of God several times, and acted as if she knew he was doing something wrong. The next time he said it she rose up and pointing her chubby finger at him, said in impressive tones: “Man, top you swear!”