

that they had already collected over 1500 items toward a bibliography of Canadian musical compositions.

The main difficulty over the copyright act remains unchanged so far as legislative action is concerned. However, representatives of the disputing parties have eventually come to a compromise on practically all the points at issue, and it was only the interruption occasioned by a long adjournment which prevented the act as thus revised from being submitted at the last session of parliament. Tribute was again paid to the tact and helpfulness of Mr. Leon J. Ladner, M.P.

Later in the afternoon the delegates were driven up the Gatineau Valley to the new power plant of the pulp company at Chelsea. After leaving the automobiles, we perched ourselves upon a couple of flat-cars and were drawn by a soot-shedding work-locomotive to the site of the plant. Those who braved the heat and the climbing of many stairs were rewarded by the thrill of walking along the summit of the dam, with the sheet of placid water a few feet away on one side, and the foaming falls dashing sheer down on the other, to where the river resumed its course far below and wound onward toward the spires of Ottawa fairy-like in the distance.

Returning to the city, we performed miracles of haste in removing the stains of exploration and getting to the Chateau Laurier with the punctuality required for an affair which is honored by the presence of the Governor-General. The recital was given by Mlle. Juliette Gautier de la Verendrye, who has made a special study of the folk songs of Canada, and who presented those of three races, the Eskimo, the Indian, and the habitant. She wore the appropriate costumes of the three peoples, and in the first two groups accompanied herself with rattle and drum. In the intervals, appropriate moving pictures were displayed. Premier Mackenzie King acted as Chairman, and in introducing Mlle. Gautier stressed her family's connection with Canadian history, extending from the discoverer of the Rocky Mountains to the late Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

On Thursday morning the delegates were graciously received by Lord and Lady Willingdon at Rideau Hall, and were shown the reception rooms of the house with their many treasures.

The afternoon began with another symposium, this time the critics being heard, on the question of "Conscious Canadianism in Literature." Professor Watson Kirkconnell decried the applying of national standards in literary judgments, declaring that art is uni-

versal. Mr. B. K. Sandwell quoted from recent books on the theory of mental processes to prove that the literary heritage of a country is one of the essential factors determining national identity. Mr. Howard Angus Kennedy stressed the necessity of Canada's retaining her imperial affiliations, and held that distinctive Canadian literature was compatible with their continuance. Mr. Austin Bothwell forcibly brought out some characteristics of Canadian literature by comparing Canadian books with some recent successes in England and the United States. In closing the discussion, Mr. W. A. Deacon began by strongly condemning the topic of debate as implying that coercion might be brought to bear on Canadians to restrict their choice of topics to their own country; but he proceeded to formulate a high ideal to which he hoped that Canadian literature might attain.

The concluding business of the session was rather rushed owing to lack of time. The chief resolutions were an expression of approval for those provinces which have begun to include Canadian literature in school and university courses, coupled with the recommendation that the other provinces do likewise; and an exposition of certain injustices in the clause of the copyright act which requires foreign authors to be present in person or by proxy when their books are licenced. A resolution favored by the Toronto and Calgary branches, that each branch collect its own dues, was defeated after the National Secretary described the chaos which existed when such a system was formerly in force. The request of the Toronto branch for a larger percentage of the dues was also voted down.

An invitation from Calgary for the next convention was referred to the executive.

The nominating committee named Dr. C. G. D. Roberts, President; Judge Surveyer, Vice-President (a new office, giving representation to the French Section; Mr. M. O. Hammond, Secretary, and Dr. E. J. Hardy, Treasurer. Headquarters will accordingly be in Toronto. Mr. Hammond's acceptance of office could not be obtained; but it was decided that further efforts should be made to persuade him to change his mind. The national committee of twenty-one was nominated from the floor, Mrs. Isabel Ecclestone Mackay being among those elected.

The usual dinner was the concluding event. The chief speaker was Hon. Fernand Rinfret, Secretary of State, whose eloquent address included expressions of sympathetic interest in the copyright affair. A brilliantly witty

speech was delivered by Mr. B. K. Sandwell, and the French section had its speaker in M. Aime Plamondon, who mentioned the work that is being done in translating French-Canadian books into English, and vice-versa.

The foregoing report of the formal programme, crowded and interesting though it was, does not begin to convey the full value of the convention, since the contact with other writers, the chance to become personally acquainted with those whose work is already familiar, is extremely stimulating.

The Ottawa members deserve the heartiest gratitude of all the visitors for their kind friendship and helpfulness, and there is no rashness in asserting that everyone who attended the convention carried away intensely valuable impressions and the most cordial feelings of mutual regard.

The majority of the delegates remained in Ottawa for two or three subsequent days to attend the jubilee celebrations, but that, in the favorite phrase of our great contemporary, "is another story."

LITTLE LASS COME TELL ME

(By Robert Watson)

Tell me, tell me, little lass,
Ere the fleeting moments pass;
Tell me, tell me, is it true,
Have the fairies in the blue
Wide and sparkling eyes like you?
Little lass, come tell me.

Tell me, tell me, little sweet,
As you go on patt'ring feet;
Tell me, tell me, is it true,
Sunbeam cirlets fell and grew
On the golden head of you?
Little sweet, come tell me.

Tell me, tell me, little maid,
Looking upward, unafraid;
Tell me, tell me, is it true,
Heaven's love and morning's dew
Blend to make the smile of you?
Little maid, come tell me.

Tell me, tell me, little miss,
As you waft your good-night kiss;
Tell me, tell me, is it true,
Sprites, and elves, and fairies, too,
Dance around the cot of you?
Little miss, come tell me.

Tell me, tell me, little pet,
—See, my eyes with tears are wet—
Tell me, tell me, is it true,
When we yearn for light anew
God sends little girls like you?
Little pet, come tell me.