

2. That by reason of delicacy of constitution the majority of blind youths need, even more than the seeing, such means of physical training and development.

3. That no institution for the blind is or can be complete without a well constructed and properly furnished gymnasium.

4. That it is now a recognized fact that physical training is a primary necessity in the education of the blind.

5. That the mental and industrial education of the blind is at every point thwarted and obstructed by the want of systematic physical training.

6. That a gymnasium for the blind must be (1) a substantial well warmed building (2) As nearly as possible a part of the main buildings, accessible without exposure to weather or changes of temperature by all the classes, and by both male and female pupils as part of the daily routine of school exercises. (3) Large enough to be used for general exercise when the weather confines the male pupils within doors. When these simple statements of facts are recognized and acted upon the first and last educational want of the Ontario Institution for the Blind will have been supplied.

THE GROUNDS.

Those who recollect the appearance of this estate at the time it first came into possession of the government, and have not seen it of late years, will be almost incredulous if told that, in the planted portions of the grounds vigorous tree pruning and even, in some cases, thinning out to prevent injury to choice trees from overcrowding has become a necessity. The growth of trees for the past year or two has been very rapid with the results mentioned. The appearance of the grounds will be improved by the work just accomplished. While there are yet places in which a few ornamental trees may be planted to advantage, I am not disposed to recommend any large expenditure in the near future for this purpose. Cultivation and careful attention to the existing planted stock will be what is most necessary for some time to come. The new land in the rear of the institution is fairly well covered with deciduous trees and evergreens, and will ultimately, I trust, become a favourite resort of the citizens who now use the grounds freely for walking exercise, while not a few vehicles bring visitors and others to enjoy the fine view of city, woods and river, obtainable from our elevated position.

THE FARM.

The year has on the whole been a favourable one for our limited farming and gardening operations. With the exception of potatoes, which have fallen short in the yield, all the crops have been heavy.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

My acknowledgments are again due for the many evidences of kindness and good will extended to the institution by our city friends.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. H. DYMOND,
Principal.