THE CANADIAN MUTE.

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PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY

At the Instiution for the Deaf and Dumb,

BELLEVILLE, ONT.

OUR MISSION

First — That a number of our pupils may learn type-setting, and from the knowledge obtained be able to earn a livelihood after they leave school.

Second — To furnish interesting matter for and encourage a habit of reading among our pupils and deaf-mute subscribers.

Third — To be a medium of communication between the school and parents and friends of pupils, now in the Institution, the hundreds who were pupils at one time or other in the past, and all who are interested in the education and instruction of the deaf of our land.

SUBSCRIPTION

Fifty (50) cents for the school year, payable in advance. New subscriptions commence at any time during the year. Remit by money order, postage stamps, or registered letter.

Subscribers failing to receive their papers regularly will please notify us, that mistakes may be corrected without delay. All papers are stopped when the subscription expires, unless otherwise ordered. The date on each subscriber's wrapper is the time when the subscription runs out.

☞ Correspondence on matters of interest to the deaf is requested from our friends in all parts of the Province. Nothing calculated to wound the feelings of any one will be admitted — if we know it.

ADVERTISING

very limited amount of advertising, subject to approval, will be inserted at [illegible] cents a line for each insertion.

Address all communication and subscriptions to

THE CANADIAN MUTE,

BELLEVILLE.

ONTARIO

MONDAY, JULY 1, 1896

The Convention.

This issue of THE CANADIAN MUTE is a special number designed to furnish our readers with as complete a report of the recent Convention as is possible within the space alloted for that purpose. Since such space, however, is limited there was not room for even a good summary of all the addresses, therefore such of the papers as were in manuscript form have simply been referred to, and we propose in future issues to publish these papers in full.

We heartily congratulate the deaf-mutes of Ontario on the success of the Convention, which must have equalled, if it did not surpass, the most sanguine expectations. The attendance was large, the papers and discussions practical and interesting, and the social reunion in every way delightful, nor can too much be said in praise of the excellence of the arrangements made by the Brantford mutes for the entertainment of their guests.

Such a Convention as this is somewhat unique in the experience of most hearing people, and of course much attention was attracted among the people of Brantford towards the mutes, who were much in evidence in all parts of the city. It was very gratifying, indeed, to note the very favorable impression made by the deaf throughout the city, such expressions as "What a remarkably respectable looking, intelligent lot of people they are," being often heard; while the keen enjoyment derived by the members from the Convention and from all they saw and experienced in the city, won the sympathetic good will, as their uniformly courteous deportment did the approbation, of all with whom they came into contact. To those constantly associated with the deaf these marks of superiority occasion no surprise; but to others whose ideas relative to the deaf were based upon the absurdly erroneous impressions that even yet so widely prevail, the spectacle of these couple of hundred of well dressed, intelligent, wide-awake, happy-looking deaf-mutes, walking the streets or assembled in the hall, similar in appearance and equal in quality to the best class of hearing people, was a genuine revelation and a pleasant surprise.

ONTARIO DEAF-MUTE ASSOCIATION.

Fifth Convention, held in the City of Brantford.

A HAPPY REUNION OF THE DEAF FROM ALL PARTS OF ONTARIO — FOUR DAYS OF GENUINE ENJOYMENT — PHYSICAL, SOCIAL, INTELLECTUAL AND SPIRITUAL.

The Fifth Biennial Convention of the Association of the Deaf Mutes of Ontario was held in the beautiful and prosperous city of Brantford on June 18th to 21st. The deaf throughout the Province always look forward to these gatherings with ardent anticipations, and when the longed-for day arrives friend meets friend with a heartiness of greeting and all participate in the joy of reunion with a keenness of enjoyment that it is a genuine delight to witness. Some pessimistic members had expressed the fear that the attendance would be small at a place where so few of the deaf resided and that therefore the Convention would be a comparative failure, but the issue proved the complete falsity of these predictions. From all parts of the Province the deaf flocked to Brantford with willing haste and when the President took the chair on Thursday afternoon the number present was greater than it has usually been at the opening session, while the large number of arrivals that evening and next day swelled the attendance to a figure nearly equal to that of any previous meeting. In all other respects, also, the Convention was a great success. President Smith and the other Brantford mutes had made every provision for the pleasure and entertainment of the members during their stay in the city, while an excellent programme was provided for their edification during the sessions. The unanimous verdict of all present was that this was one of the most enjoyable and successful Conventions ever held in the history of the Association.

R. MATHISON, M. A., Supt.

Following are the names of those who were in attendance: —

Bayne, David, Merivale, Carleton
Ball, Bessie, Detroit, Michigan
Braithwaite, John, Carlisle, Wentworth
Bowlby, Colver B., Simcoe, Norfolk
Bell, Mary, Belleville, Hastings
Byrne, J. L., Milton, Halton
Braven, Mr and Mrs., Buffalo, N. Y.
Bradshaw, Mr and Mrs., Toronto
Brown, Hamlet, Ancaster
[illegible]ford, George, Dundas
[illegible]lbert, John, Brantford
Crozier, Fred, Westport
Connelly, Margaret, Windsor
Crowe, Mr and Mrs. Thos., Springvale
Campbell, Marion, Berlin
Cunningham, Nellie, Oakville, Halton
Campbell, Archibald, Fernhill, Middlesex
Clark, Arthur J., Aurora, York
Darney, John, Toronto
Douglas, George, Onondaga
Dean, Joseph, Sandhill, Peel
Elliott, Laura, Toronto
Elliott, Charles, Toronto
Ellis, Mr and Mrs. John L., Toronto
Fraser, Mr and Mrs. P., Toronto
Flynn, John, Toronto
Fos[illegible], Sarah, Brantford
Frances, Alice, Toronto
Fuller, Maggie, Mitchell
Forsyth, Louisa, St. George
Gottlieb, Mr and Mrs. H., Brantford
Gustin, Mrs. C. A. W., Forest
Gardiner, Flossie, Berlin
Gould, W. H., London
Gillam, Chas., Orinsby
Grace, Allie, Waterford, Norfolk
Gates, John A., Toronto
Goodbrand, James, Brantford
Goble, Charles, Milton, Halton
Gottlieb, Emil, Brantford
Hazelton, Thomas, Delta, Leeds
Holmes, Mary, West Flamboro, Wentworth
Henderson, Jonathan, Tolledville, Royal
Halliday, Emily, Harriston
Hadden, Daniel, Moore, Lambton
Hutchinson, Maggie, Toronto
Harris, Frank, Simcoe
Johnson, Thomas, Belgrave, Huron
James, Ada, Belleville
James, Elizabeth, Oshawa, Ontario
Kelly, George, Glen Meyer, Norfolk
Keebler, Louis, Wellesley
Ledds, David, Walkerton
Lewis, Levi, Vanessa, Norfolk
Moore, Charlie, Selmaville, Perth
Mathieson, Annie, Komoka, Middlesex
Mason, Mr and Mrs. A. W., Toronto
Moore, Mr and Mrs. Henry, Toronto
McKillop, Duncan, Belleville
McIsaac, John, Delhi, Norfolk
McGillivray, Neil A., Toronto
McLaren, Thomas, Brantford, Brant
McPherson, Robert
McCulloch, J., Seaforth, Huron
McGlashan, Thomas, Hamilton
McIntyre, J., London
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[illegible]
Smith, Mr and Mrs. D[illegible]
Slater, Mr and Mrs. R. C., Toronto
Smith, Mr and Mrs. A. E., Brantford
Sutton, Robert, Brantford
Sutton, Miss Mary, Simcoe, Norfolk
Smith, Archie, Brantford, Brant
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Shepard, A. E., Toronto
Terrell, [illegible], Toronto
[illegible], Robert, Oakville, Halton
[illegible], John, [illegible], Perth
Terrell, David, [illegible], Middlesex
Watt, Maggie, [illegible], Wellington
[illegible], A. S., [illegible], Waterloo
Wark, Wm., [illegible]
Wark, Walter, Sarnia
Wells, R., [illegible], Huron
Woodward, A. A., [illegible]
Ward, Mrs. W., Los Angeles, [illegible]
Zieal, Eva A., [illegible]

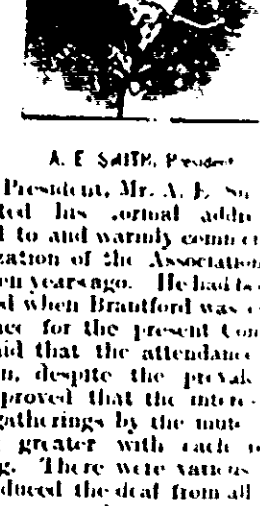
Honorary Members. — R. Mathison, M. A., Mr. Woodyatt, D. R. Coleman, M. A., Mrs. Terrill, W. J. Campbell, Geo. F. Stewart, Mr. J. D. Nasmith, Mr. Brigden, Miss A. Fraser, Miss Dempsey, Mrs. James, Mr. D. R. James, Mrs. J. D. Nasmith, Miss Minnie Slater.

At about three o'clock President Smith took the chair and called upon Mr. Brigden, who opened the proceedings with prayer.

The first item on the programme was an address of welcome by Enos Woodyatt, Esq., Police Magistrate of Brantford. Unfortunately Mr. Woodyatt was ill and not able to be present, but he had prepared and transmitted an address couched in most cordial terms, which was read by Mr. Mathison and interpreted by Prof. Coleman. Mr. Woodyatt bade the Association a hearty welcome to the city, which was a locality that would be of particular interest to the deaf, it being the former home of Prof. Bell and the place where his great invention, the telephone, was perfected and first put into practical operation. Special interest would also be felt in this place because there was here situated an Institution similar to that at Belleville, the Asylum for the Blind. Mr. Woodyatt then enumerated some of the objects of interest which were to be found within the city, and concluded as follows:

> This is also the home of the Hon. A. S. Hardy, the present Commissioner of Crown Lands, who for a number of years had under his particular charge the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, and we know that it was always a matter of particular regard and interest to him that the management of that Institution should be placed in a position equal to any on this continent. Personally it also gives me a great deal of pleasure to know that out of our community there was selected by the Government many years ago an individual who, for his many excellent qualities, recommended himself to their notice and after faithfully and efficiently discharging all the duties with which he was entrusted in various public institutions, Mr. Mathison was called upon to take charge at Belleville of that institution from which most of you have received your instruction and graduated, and that he is here with us to-day is another evidence of his kindly and continuous interest in your progress and welfare. The people of Ontario who have had their children placed in the Institution recognize that under the charge of the Superintendent the greatest devotion has been shown and zeal manifested in order that the full benefits of instruction and care might be given to them, and the school occupies a foremost place among similar institutions.
>
> It has been my pleasure at various times during the past ten years to visit the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb at Belleville and to see to some extent the work that is done there and the manner in which it has been performed, and I feel quite satisfied that it is the universal sentiment of the people of this country that no public money is more appropriately expended or from which greater benefit is derived than that which is expended for the purpose of assisting the aims and objects of that Institution. I have felt it a privilege to be brought into direct contact with a number of the members of your Association who are residents of this city and neighborhood, and while feeling that they were sometimes amused at me in my endeavors to talk to them in their own language I can bear testimony to the fact that they are all law-abiding citizens standing in good repute and maintaining themselves as reputable and respected citizens.
>
> I understand that your Association has for the purpose of its assembling the social and intellectual advancement of its members and, from the programme which is presented, your deliberations on the important subjects which you will be called upon to consider must be productive of benefit and advantage to you.
>
> While I cannot speak officially on behalf of the Mayor or Council of the city, I certainly only echo the sentiments of the whole of our community when I express the wish that you will have a pleasant and agreeable time. If any of you in the exuberance of your spirits so far forget yourselves as to go beyond the bounds of propriety, which I have very little fear, you will, you may rest assured, that we will be like yourselves in that respect, not able to hear it.
>
> The freedom of the city is extended to you, and I give a cordial and hearty welcome to your Association and trust that you will carry away pleasant memories of your meeting here.

On behalf of the Association, Mr. Nurse responded. He said he was sure that every member present would join with him in thanking Mr. Woodyatt for his kind words of welcome [illegible] he spoke not only for [illegible] for the citizens of Brantford [illegible] self and many here [illegible] the city before, but as [illegible] ped off the train they [illegible] once and knew that they [illegible] Their stay would be [illegible] they left they hoped [illegible] city and visit the places [illegible] Woodyatt spoke of [illegible] citizens and not only [illegible] their visit, but also, by [illegible] course, to gain many fr[illegible] respect of the people [illegible] While here they hoped to s[illegible] deaf were not objects for [illegible] and that though bereft of [illegible] many of speech yet they [illegible] comport themselves as tru[illegible] gentlemen who through the [illegible] of the Ontario Government [illegible] prepared to take their place [illegible] ed and self sustaining citizen[illegible] fair Dominion. Mr Woodyatt [illegible] fear but that the deaf wo[illegible] themselves, they always did w[illegible] together as at present [illegible] could assure him, would be [illegible] opportunity to exercise the pre[illegible] of mercy on their offenders in [illegible] capacity. He again thanked M[illegible] yatt on behalf of the Association [illegible] hearty welcome.



A. E. SMITH, President

The President, Mr. A. E. Sm[illegible] presented his formal addr[illegible] alluded to and warmly comm[illegible] organization of the Association [illegible] ronto ten years ago. He had be[illegible] gratified when Brantford was c[illegible] the place for the present Con[illegible] and said that the attendance [illegible] occasion, despite the preval[illegible] times, proved that the intere[illegible] these gatherings by the mute[illegible] coming greater with each [illegible] meeting. There were various [illegible] that induced the deaf from all [illegible] the Province to thus assemble [illegible] First among these was the desire [illegible] the graduates of their dear Alma Mater at Belleville, as most of them [illegible] meet together at stated inter[illegible] new their acquaintance and [illegible] friendships formed when at sch[illegible] could all look back with pleasure [illegible] time they had spent there and [illegible] that they lived in a land where [illegible] ample provision had been made [illegible] education of its people, and the [illegible] Superintendent, officers and [illegible] were men and women who had the [illegible] fare of the deaf truly at heart and [illegible] voted so faithfully to their [illegible] charge their duties as citizens [illegible] favored land. Again, they met [illegible] intercourse, and since many [illegible] were to a great extent isolated [illegible] ing people this is perhaps the [illegible] joyable feature of the gathering [illegible] these Conventions were of great [illegible] the deaf because of the opportu[illegible] afforded for the discussion of [illegible] interest to them as a class and [illegible] mutual interchange of thou[illegible] sentiment relative to the vario[illegible] of life and activity. He was [illegible] see so many of the officers and [illegible] from the Institution present, w[illegible] an evidence that their intere[illegible] deaf does not end when school [illegible] He bade them and all presen[illegible] hearty welcome to Brantford a[illegible] Convention. He hoped that th[illegible] all derive both enjoyment and p[illegible] the meetings, and that when [illegible] days of their reunion were [illegible] their farewells to each other [illegible] said, they would go forth to t[illegible] regular duties of life with rene[illegible] and a determination that [illegible] more than ever so conduct t[illegible] as to reflect credit on them[illegible] their fair Province and "[illegible] Home."

R. Mathison, M. A., Superin[illegible] the Belleville Institution, then [illegible] the Convention. He said the [illegible] had just closed after another [illegible] term and all the pupils had [illegible]