

will be taken to the effect of affiliation, and we hope that M.E.A. will gladly accept our proposition.

The officers for the present year are: Mr. M. Stechishin, the President; Mr. W. J. Mihaychuk, the Secretary-Treasurer. It was decided not to change the secretary-treasurer every year.

It would not be out of place here to refer to the history and aim of our association. The association was formed in 1906, and although young, it has had some rough experience. It was not as difficult to secure members as it was found hard to get rid of a few intruders who pretended to be teachers' friends. The matter is delicate, but we must be frank with ourselves. We have been misrepresented long enough, and consequently misunderstood. It is time we know others, and that others should know us, for enmity between any two peoples may be traced to lack of their knowledge of each other.

The majority of our teachers are conscientious, but young men. The above-mentioned intruders took advantage of our innocence, and, having their selfish political ends in their views, they came to our conventions to make friends with us, but went away as so many Iscariots. But they did not stop at that. They tried to keep our association in a state of unimportance and inferiority by scandalizing the characters of officers and other able and influential members of the association in the eyes of the weaker and more innocent, or before the authorities. Such machinations were sly enough, but at last they leaked out, and this is why this year our executive closed the doors during the convention before all uninvited friends, political heelers, job seekers, and such other persons, who never really had anything common with teachers and education.

Being yet young, the association, although meaning good, made these serious blunders, but no doubt it will profit from its bitter experience and make its steps sure in the future.

The aim of our association is purely educational. It is our aim and duty to teach the Ruthenian element what the British Constitution and Canadian ideals are. We realize that our people must be familiar with these in order to become good Canadian citizens. We also realize that the inculcation of the love for what is best in our language and literature, in addition to Canadian ideals, tends to make of our boys and girls better Canadian citizens, and more efficient members of society at large.

Sometimes it was given out publicly that the Ruthenian bi-lingual teachers are race agitators, and their association was suspected of doing some outlandish propaganda. This misconception went so far that it was published that Ruthenians (Ukrainians) aimed to build (?) "Canadian Ukraine," and Ruthenian teachers were supposed to be at the root of this plot. There is nothing of the kind, and we do not believe that respectable Canadians attached any weight to such newspaper stuff.

Ruthenians came to Canada to stay and make their homes. Canada is their adopted land. This we know, and we care not for the fancies of the jingo. The teachers and the Ruthenian people cannot be held responsible for what the newspaper man has to say. Some of them are only political hirelings, and serve the purpose of their dishonest masters. The Ruthenian people have already realized that there is no government in the world as good as the British Constitutional Government, which they have pleasure, and are fortunate enough, to enjoy.

These are the ideas the teachers impart to the Ruthenian settlers, and whenever nationality is referred to, it is only to arouse aspiration to education, for no man can be made to love his adopted land or care for education if he cannot be inspired by the memories of his native land, and does not love to remember and cherish what is best and noblest in the tradition, language