



THE CANADIAN MUTE

Four, six or eight pages.

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At the Institution 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

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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. Names calculated, to wound the feelings of any one will be admitted—if we know it.

ADVERTISING.

A very limited amount of advertising, subject to approval, will be inserted at 25 cents a line for each insertion.

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Domestic Science.

It is said, that no other language in the world—except the cognate languages—contains a word fully equivalent to the English word "home," with all its holy associations, its tender memories, its potent influences, its vast and comprehensive significance. Ours is in a peculiar sense a "nation of homes," and to this fact in a very considerable degree may be attributed the sterling excellences of the Anglo-Saxon character and the domination of Saxon ideas and civilization, and in the preservation of our home life in all its purity lies our hope and confidence in the final triumph of Saxon ideals. This being the case it is self-evident that anything which tends to enhance the attractiveness and stability of the home is worthy of the warmest public approbation and support. Hence it seems rather inexplicable that the science of Domestic Economy should be the last in the round of human knowledge to receive a specific place on the school curriculum. All other trades and professions are limited in their scope and each one directly concerns but a small part of the community, while Domestic Science is intimately associated with the comfort, the happiness, the physical health and the potential usefulness of every man, woman and child in the state, yet heretofore, while all other fields of human endeavor have received due attention from educationists—and properly so—nothing has been done for the mothers and the home-makers. The first steps are now being taken for the removal of this anomaly, and there should be no difference of opinion as to the great need and the transcendent importance of the now Domestic Science that has recently been introduced into the educational systems of Ontario and other progressive states and countries, and which should—and we hope soon

will—be taught in every town and city in the Province. It is to the credit of England that, though somewhat behind in many other countries in her general educational system, yet in this intensely practical and utilitarian phase of education she was one of the pioneers and occupies a high rank. In 1891 there were 12,000 pupils in England taking a Domestic Science course. In 1896, 200,000, and now over 3,000,000. In Germany and Sweden it is now a compulsory subject in all schools, and in the United States it has been introduced in many of the largest cities. A few years ago the Ontario Educational Department took hold of it and established at Hamilton a Normal School of Domestic Science, and efforts are now being made to establish schools in all the larger places. Many of the more progressive towns have promptly and eagerly availed themselves of the opportunity offered of instructing the children in so useful a branch, but much difficulty is being found in inducing some school boards to adopt it or even to investigate or inform themselves relative to its scope and purpose, the idea prevailing with too many trustees, including most members of the Belleville Board, that what was good enough for them in their boyhood is good enough now, henceforth and forever more. The propaganda of this new idea in education is in the capable hands of Mrs. Hoodless, President of the Normal School of Domestic Science. She is a lady of fine talents and persuasive powers, and is abundantly endowed with that prerequisite of success—a thorough belief in and an enthusiastic devotion to her work. Wherever she has spoken she has been greeted with crowded houses, and great and hopeful interest was taken in the subject she so ably advocated.

It is the hope and desire of the Education Department that classes in Domestic Science be established in connection with the various public and high schools throughout the Province. These are not meant to be mere cooking classes, although that is included. The girls—all girls—would be expected to work in the domestic kitchen and, if possible, the boys in a workshop, at least two or three hours a week. The children would be taught where our spices come from and how to use them in preparing foods, how to manage a stove, not how to make fancy dishes but how to prepare digestible food, getting the best results from economical expenditure, and minimizing time and money. They are taught to be expert and painstaking and to build up strong bodies and cheerful dispositions. Lessons are given in the laws of health and the children made to understand what is essential to a well managed, healthy home. Moreover, the effects of this training where it has been adopted have been to develop in a marked degree the intellectual cleverness, mental activity and executive ability of the children, and it has been abundantly demonstrated that manual training in schools exerts a very potent and healthy moral influence on the pupils and is a most effective counteractant to cigarette smoking, street-corner loafing, vile language and precocious wickedness manifested by so many of our boys, and to the different but no less regrettable faults and weakness of the girls. Surely anything that would have these beneficial effects and would help to correct the evil tendencies of the youth of our land, should be cordially welcomed and heartily supported by everyone who is interested in the welfare and advancement of the state. Too many women do not know how to make home comfortable and attractive, where jaded energies can be renewed and fresh hope and inspiration for the daily labor be obtained, while too many young men

are incapable of providing the means for supporting even a humble domicile. Hence there seems to be a growing tendency towards the loosening of homes and the weakening of the home influences. It is quite time, therefore, and of the utmost importance, that an intelligent effort should be made to counteract these deplorable tendencies, and towards this end the now Domestic Science should very materially contribute. We hope it will not be long ere this branch of knowledge will be taught in every school along with the relatively much less useful subjects of history, geography, etc., and will occupy on every school and college curriculum the conspicuous place that its great importance merits.

The Chinese School at Chefoo, China

We are in receipt of letters containing the financial statement of the above school, covering the year of 1900. Though the report is necessarily much condensed it is nevertheless most interesting reading. Mrs. Mills in whose charge the school is, has accomplished a great deal and the future holds much of promise. She has a number of boys under instruction and with the assistance of a native teacher is gradually educating them and fitting them for lives of usefulness. Some of them are orphans, some have been left in this condition by the recent uprising of the Boxers. It has been the aim of Mrs. Mills and her assistant to keep the facts of the dreadful massacres from their pupils, but being like most deaf children exceedingly observant, they have gained some knowledge of what has been passing. It seems most wonderful that the school and its inmates should have escaped the notice of the blood thirsty hordes which have surrounded them. But they have been in no way molested. Some \$2,635.91 has been contributed to the support of the school during the past year, the larger part by persons residing in other countries, who have taken an interest in the work. It costs about \$200.00 per month to maintain the school. There is at present a mortgage of \$5,500 upon the plant and the time limit given is only three years. Often, Mrs. Mills has drawn upon her private bank account to keep the school running. It is a good work being done in a far country and one deserving of all assistance that can be given. In order to add a little to their income, the teachers and pupils have taken up photography and they have been successful in selling quite a large number of their photographs. They have also learned to make fancy candies, which they sell. Where such wills are shown ways are bound to be opened, yet a little assistance now and then is never amiss in any good work. We are pleased to note that the deaf of Canada have contributed their mite to this most worthy cause. They are credited with the sum of \$43.77. Part of this amount was collected during the Convention held here last June and the balance from other sources.

Vagrants "with a Story" are Frauds.

The majority of the "men with a story" (vagrants) are frauds. The expression is often heard, however, "Oh, well, help them anyway!" It is better to help many frauds than to let one genuine case suffer. That argument is all right provided there are any genuine cases. But are there any genuine cases? There is on record a statement of the late Doctor John Hall that in all the years of his experience in New York City he had never found one. Certainly of the two hundred strangers who have come to me during the past year not one was worthy of any help of the kind asked for.—Rev. David M. Steele, in the April Ladies' Home Journal.

Easter Chimes on Mount Zion

Low and sweet, low and sweet
Drifting down from Olivet
Easter bells their notes repeat
In that windy tower set

Sacred day on which Christ rose
Gives this music from Olivet
And more softly hestron flows
Christians lift to heaven their

Low and sweet, low and sweet
In the Sabbath hush we hear
On this ancient Jewish street
Chimes now ringing, O how dear

From the mount His feet have trod
Drifting down to every ear
Sweet-voiced messengers of God
To Jerusalem most dear
George Baker of N. Y.

Death of a Deaf-Mute Scientist

The following, clipped from *British Weekly*, gives high honor to Scotch deaf-mute and shows that business is no bar to scientific success. "The Dundee Advertiser" mourns the loss of a tried and trusted weather correspondent, in the person of Mr. J. Mustard, who has died, at the age of seventy-six years, at Montrose, of which he was a native. Mr. Mustard was a deaf-mute. Although his business was cabinet making, he was studiously inclined, meteorology being his special pursuit in his leisure moments. So versatile did he become with this branch of natural science that he was known upon as an almost infallible weather prophet, and in the eighties he was engaged by our contemporary to contribute weather forecasts, and especially when he went to America on a visit in 1891, did so with regularity until two or four years ago, when old age compelled him to lay his studies aside. Mr. Mustard was very successful with his predictions, and his notes on the weather were eagerly looked for by the agriculturists and his long conversations with Mr. Mustard preferred conversation to be tried on by a state. He seems to have been a most interesting person.

Deafness Cured (?) By Mail

A Milwaukee Daily gives more than a column to the phenomenal success of a poverty cure dodge of a Milwaukee man who is said to enjoy an income of \$160,000.00 a year. "The Sentinel" says: "The ex-matrimonial agent under indictment for alleged use of the mails for fraudulent purposes and alleged attempted bribery, has a remarkable faculty for making money. This is demonstrated by the fact that within seven months from the destruction of his first enterprise, his matrimonial agent has built up a mail order business of \$150,000.00 a year. A Cure for Deafness is his speciality now. He operates over the country and his daily receipts according to his own statement and of United States District Attorney W. C. Phillips, are between three hundred and four hundred dollars a day. "This man's wife also conducts a mail order business, which is even more profitable than her husband's. She guarantees a cure for \$15.00, but so more lenient and charges considerably less, 'my mail order business is as large as that of my husband's and nearly as profitable' she declared. 'I think it would seem that this couple are enjoying a mail order business of about \$250,000.00 a year.' Whether the authorities will succeed in breaking up these operations in what a glib public appears so willing to succeed, remains to be seen. See Weekly.

To Parents of the Deaf

The information has come to us several times lately that parents of deaf children in our State have been flooded with circulars setting forth in glowing terms the alleged merits of an electro-travance to restore lost hearing. The circulars hail from Coboes, New York. The circulars that we have been permitted to see, sent no testimonials of effect and no endorsement by a competent to judge of the merits, contrivance, as to whether it is safe of producing any beneficial result safe to place into the hands of all of people. Until such evidence is coming we advise parents of the deaf let it severely alone. If the inventor has any merit the fact will be known to the profit of the company. It has no merit, which, judgment appearances, is likely to be the same will be justly condemned. See Weekly.