

gymnasia, and otherwise make them more serviceable as areas for recreation for the children of the city.

Lord Balfour, of Burleigh, did not speak soft words to the deputation that waited on him in behalf of Gaelic. He takes the common-sense view that the Highland children should not be encouraged to cling to Gaelic at the expense of English, since that means shutting them out from a wider area of employment than their native glens can offer.

---

At the last regular monthly meeting of the Protestant Board of School Commissioners, this morning, a memorial was presented from the Christian Endeavor Union of the city, asking for permission to introduce into the schools a set of temperance pledge blanks which the pupils might take home and sign if their parents were willing that they should do so. Two or three members of the Board strongly objected to the proposal, with the result that the matter was referred back to the committee for reconsideration. The Board as a whole was unanimous with regard to the desirability of inculcating principles of temperance and morality into the minds of the pupils, but the members were divided as to the advisability of accomplishing such by means of pledges.

---

The number of conventions which a teacher takes an interest in during the year always includes the provincial convention, and the great national convention held in the United States. Our own national convention of teachers does not seem to have the necessary life about it, and some means will have to be adopted to make it more of an active, assimilating power in the land, if it is to receive the attention from our teachers it deserves. There is to be a convention of teachers in Montreal this sum-

mer, but we have not been taken into the confidence of its promoters, nor do we know why those, who were once so active in the organization of our Dominion Association but are now not even lukewarm towards its perpetuation, have come to invite this association to Canada. Attention begins to be turned toward the annual meeting of the National Educational Association, Milwaukee. Literature on it begins to circulate. A list of side-trips has just been issued showing of how much that is interesting Milwaukee is the centre. The officers of the association are apprehensive lest the recent dissolution of the Railroad Traffic Association may spoil the arrangements as to rates which had just been consummated when the decision of the Supreme Court was announced. But the indications are that new combinations, or organizations, or understandings, will soon be arranged between the roads which will practically be an equivalent in many ways for the dissolved organizations. It is to be hoped that the N.E.A. officers will yet succeed in eliminating the 50 cents from the rate now fixed, which the railroad associations demanded to pay the expenses of a joint agent at Milwaukee to take care of the tickets. How the local executive committee is going to succeed in its work it is too early to judge. We have been informed from New York that Dr. J. M. Harper, of Quebec, has been reappointed as one of the managers for Canada, a position which he held last year. The bulletins for the year have not yet been issued.

---

The convention of the Provincial Association of Ontario has been held this year, as last, during the Easter recess, and elsewhere the reader will find a synopsis of its proceedings. The conventions of the Provincial Associations of Nova Scotia, New