

THE CANADIAN MUTE.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1901.

Association of Instructors of the Deaf.

The last days of June found a large number of the teachers of the deaf preparing for a trip to Buffalo, N. Y., where the meeting of the American (including Canada) Association of Instructors of the Deaf was to be held from July 2nd until July 9th. The school for the deaf located there in charge of the Sisters of St. Joseph, was the meeting place. It is a beautiful new building with modern conveniences and was responsible for a frequent breaking of the commandment, "Thou shalt not covet," on the part of officers and teachers of schools where such things are grievously lacking though greatly needed. The Sisters, lovely and lovable women, individually and collectively, spared no pains to make the occasion in every way delightful. More than a hundred and fifty of the ladies had rooms in the main building, and there were scores of places of accommodation in the neighborhood for all who could not secure quarters in the Institution; and meals were served to all who desired them in the Institution dining hall. The Assembly Hall was commodious and most comfortable. The weather was all that could be desired during the entire time of the convention. The spacious lawn with its fresh green grass furnished sufficient stamping ground for disgruntled mankind, who were debarred the privileges of rooms in the main building. Lights were cut early and doors were locked, so the luckless individuals who were caught on the wrong side of the door, had to get in as best they could. It would require columns to chronicle all the amusing things and the happy hours spent together in Buffalo, and we have not the space. The first meeting on the evening of July 2nd, was called to order by President Gallaudet. There was a large attendance and the Assembly room was filled with an interested and appreciative audience. The usual addresses of welcome and responses were made. Then followed the President's address, a well written and gracefully delivered oration. The forenoon of July 3rd found the Convention buckled down to business. Knowing that all wished to attend the Pan-American Exposition, whose buildings were in plain sight and the nightly illumination of which lent light and brilliancy to the sky, it was announced that the Fourth would be a holiday, so that day the Institution and its grounds were almost entirely deserted by the members of the convention, but Friday and Saturday were busy days. A number of good papers were read and much business was transacted. The evenings were given over to social amusements. There was dancing and music for those who enjoyed them, and a very fine concert was given one evening by professionals from the city. The Gallaudet College Alumni held their banquet at Staller's Hotel. There was a most fearful thunderstorm that evening and many persons had thrilling adventures. The most of the guests reached the Hotel just as the storm burst, but others were caught in all sorts of positions and some were compelled to forego the pleasure of attendance at the banquet. Mr. and Mrs. Ballis, Mr. Madden and Miss James of our faculty were in attendance. Mr. Mathison was prevented by a prior engagement. Mrs. Ballis responded to the toast "The Associated Co-Eds," she being the only lady upon the toast list. Sunday offered many ways of passing the day, there being

many fine churches in the city. The Convention was especially invited to attend services at Rev. Helm's church and those who accepted the invitation heard one of the most beautiful sermons it had ever been their lot to enjoy. There was an afternoon session of the Convention, the topics being of a religious nature, and dealing with matters of interest to the profession. The election of officers resulted as all had anticipated in the re-election of Dr. E. M. Gallaudet, President for the third term. Mr. Mathison not desiring to continue in office, Mr. John W. Swiller was elected Vice-President. Mr. Dobyas was retained as Secretary and Mr. Smith as Treasurer. The vacancies in the Executive Board were filled by the election of Mr. W. Argo, Mrs. J. C. Ballis and Mr. J. W. Blatter. The sessions of the Convention came to a close at noon of the ninth of July. There were three hundred and seventy-seven persons, actively engaged in educating the deaf, in attendance. Some two hundred and seventy-five or more became active members of the Association. Many familiar faces were missing and many strange faces were to be seen. The list of those who had died since the former meeting of the Convention seemed unusually long. Some of the people present had travelled very long distances, the far south and west having quite a number of representatives. Canada also sent a number, Manitoba, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Ontario were all represented. Those who made the trip and were present at meetings of the Convention were Dr. Chamberlain, Inspector, Supt. Mathison, Miss Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Ballis, Miss Bull, Miss Templeton, Mr. Madden and Miss James. Mrs. A. H. Chapin, of Belleville, and Mrs. Wm. Templeton, of Vancouver, B. C., were present as honorary members. Mr. Campbell and his wife were also present for a short time but Mrs. Campbell's illness cut their stay short. Friday evening was the time set for an exhibition of the Akoulalion. Unfortunately it was also the evening of the banquet and many who would have been glad to test it were attending the banquet. Yet, from what was said of it both by witnesses and by those who had tried it, it appears to be of little if any practicable use to the deaf at large. Those merely hard of hearing may benefit by its use. While it is perhaps a wonderful invention, it has not yet reached that perfection that would make it advisable to spend time and money necessary to secure any satisfactory results. We must not forget to mention the remarkable blind deaf, who were in attendance at Buffalo. There were nine such afflicted children there with their teachers, and one young man with his mother, among them being Tommy Stringer, Orris Bouson, Leslie Oron, Elizabeth Robin, Edith Thomas and Lillian Hagnwood. They were certainly about the happiest people in Buffalo, and they enjoyed the Pan-American very nearly as much as those blessed with all their faculties. They were met in the Streets of Carlo one afternoon riding donkeys, camels and the elephant, and everywhere they went their sensitive fingers wandered lightly over the exhibits. All these delights, the long journeys and the happy week at Buffalo they owe to the kind heart and generous hand of Mr. William Wado, of Oakmont, Penn., whose greatest happiness and interest appears to centre upon these terribly afflicted people. To him, Helen Keller also owes much. Not content with giving pleasure alone to his charges and their teachers, he kept the ladies of the Convention beautifully supplied with beautiful flowers, and some had the

daily delight of receiving a box of lovely long stemmed roses from him. We are glad to be able to say, that steps were taken looking to the preservation of the numerous children's stories being published in the various Institution papers. It is hoped a large number may, in time, be collected and bound in book form. Besides the attractions of the Pan-American Exposition, there were delightful trips made to places in the vicinity, notably Niagara Falls, to which place, on the Fourth of July, adjourned about thirty persons. Olcott Beach attracted others and though seasickness claimed its victims those who escaped enjoyed it thoroughly. The exhibits of Art and Industrial Work were good. Gallaudet College sent some particularly fine specimens of Art work. The fine exhibit from Delavan, Wisconsin, never arrived, owing to some delay in transportation, but the Olathe, Kansas, Institution had a very fine exhibit. All things come to an end and the time soon came to say good-bye. Yet before adjournment it was announced the next place of meeting would be at the beautiful School for the Deaf in Morgantown, North Carolina, three years hence. We were made most happy by the presence of many old time friends, among whom we may mention Mr. Connor, of Georgia, who is so enamored of Canadians he spent some time after the Convention at Muskoka. Then there was Mr. McDermid, of Winnipeg, Mrs. Irish, of Nollsville, Wis., Mr. Swiler, of Delavan, Wis., Mr. Gordon, of Illinois, and—well there were others. Their names will all appear later in the official proceedings, but we regret space forbids our giving the entire list here and now. To sum up—it was a fortnight of profit and pleasure and we all hope to live to enjoy another. And in behalf of all the delegates from Belleville, we wish to express our thanks and appreciation of the many favors and kindnesses shown us by all connected with the Le Couteux St. Mary's Institution for the Deaf.

How and Where Vacation was spent.

Mr. Madden spent a pleasant vacation at Forest.
Mr. Keith spent his vacation at his home in Toronto.
Miss Linn passed her vacation very quietly but pleasantly at Bronson and Belleville.
Miss McNinch spent her holidays at her home in Gananoque. She also visited Morrisburg.
Mr. Denys' Mokka is his old home, like which he avers with the old song there is no place.
Miss Jack visited friends in Toronto and Kingston for a few weeks, and spent the rest of the vacation at home.
Miss Mathison accompanied the Superintendent on the Press Association trip to the Maritime Province.
Miss M. Bull spent her holidays very pleasantly with friends at Niagara Falls, Buffalo, Bloomington and Toronto.
Miss Metcalfe took in the delightful trip down the St. Lawrence to Quebec. She also spent a couple of weeks at Rice Lake.
Mr. Colonsu spent the summer in Belleville and vicinity. He was acting Superintendent during Mr. Mathison's absence.
Miss Dempsey accompanied Miss Metcalfe on the beautiful St. Lawrence trip to Quebec. She spent a couple of weeks in Toronto.
Mr. W. Cochran remained at home during the summer his only outings being a few excursions to various points on the Bay.
Messrs. Dowie, Cunningham, Poppin, Langmuir and Moore remained at the Institution during the summer in the discharge of their duties.
Miss James spent a few weeks among the beautiful Muskoka lakes. She also visited in Toronto, and Buffalo, where she saw the Pan American.
Mr. Stewart and family spent a week at Niagara Falls and the Pan-American. They afterwards spent a few weeks at Hamilton, Brantford and Palmerston.
Mr. Burns visited the Pan-American, and spent a few days at Niagara, Toronto

and Port Hope. At the latter place he attended the gathering of the Port Hope old boys.

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas spent ten days camping out at a delightful place on Lake Erie, below Dunnville. They afterwards visited Brantford, Niagara Falls and Toronto and also spent a few days at the Pan-American.

Mr. and Mrs. Campbell attended the Convention at Buffalo and visited the Pan. They afterwards spent a few weeks at Peterborough, Lakefield and other places in that vicinity and a few days in Toronto and Hamilton.

Miss Walker spent most of her vacation at her home in Hamilton. She attended the convention at Buffalo and was much interested in the proceedings and also visited the Pan-American.

Miss Belle Mathison has spent the summer at Winnipeg, Vancouver, Victoria, Greenwood and Nelson, and has been so greatly enjoying herself that she may not return till the end of the year.

Mr. Nurse spent his holidays at Newmarket and among his deaf friends in Toronto and afterwards with Mr. Nurse and family spent a time amid the beautiful scenery and quiet of the 1,000 Islands.

Miss Gibson visited friends in Brockville and enjoyed a delightful trip down the St. Lawrence to Quebec. She spent a few days at the Pan-American and spent the rest of the holidays at her home in Hamilton.

Mrs. Mathison, who had not been very well since she had the grip a year ago, spent some time among the Muskoka lakes. She also made short visits at Hamilton and Toronto and returned home much improved in health.

Mrs. Terrill had a delightful vacation, every day of it full of enjoyment. In company with her sister, Mrs. Ashcroft, she spent some weeks among the White Mountains at South Harswell, on the coast of Maine. She also visited at Kingston, Peterborough, Toronto and Oakville. At Toronto she attended the meeting of the Provincial Historical Society.

Superintendent Mathison attended the Convention at Buffalo and incidentally visited the Pan-American. He then took in the Press Association excursion to the Maritime Provinces and on his return attended the High Court of Foresters at Cornwall. He also enjoyed a week's fishing at the Gattineau Fish and Game Club's preserve at Thirty-one mile Lake, back of Ottawa. He also took business trips to Toronto, Hamilton, Dundas, Brantford, Kingston and Ottawa.

At the beginning of the vacation Miss Templeton was agreeably surprised by a visit from her sister-in-law, Mrs. Wm. Templeton, of Vancouver, B. C. Together they went to Buffalo, attended the Convention of the Teachers of the Deaf and revelled in the beauties of the Pan-American, after which several weeks were spent in Toronto and vicinity. Friends in Napauoc, Madoc and Prince Edward Co. were also visited for a short time, where a quiet delightful rest was much enjoyed.

Mr. Forrester hied him away to the Land of the Heather as soon as school closed, where of course he had a delightful time renewing old acquaintances. Haggis, tripe, parritch and other Scotch dainties seem to have agreed with him and we suspect that some bonnie Scotch lassie had something to do with cultivating the look of unalloyed bliss that beams upon his countenance. In our next issue Mr. Forrester will favor our readers with some interesting observations on his trip.

Mr. and Mrs. Ballis attended the Convention of Instructors of the Deaf in Buffalo as a holiday after and remained until July 12th to rest, prior to a trip westward. From Buffalo they went to Norwalk, Ohio, and trolleyed about the country, then to Chicago and Milwaukee, visiting friends and relatives for five weeks, spending most of their time out of doors, on trolley lines and drives about Chicago's magnificent parks. On their return they stopped over in Buffalo and spent four days at the Pan, and on the various electric lines radiating from that city. Three days were devoted to Niagara Falls and the lines as far north as St. Catharines, Ont. Two days trolleying in Toronto wound up their trip by rail and three days at the Sand Bank, P. E. Co., completed a very healthful and pleasant vacation tour.