ORIGIN OF THE LIBRARY

SKETCH OF THE FOUNDING OF THE INSTITUTION IN ST. PAUL

WAS BEGUN IN THE FIFTIES

First Organization Was the Mercantile Library Association, Which Started With Very Limited Resources.

The St. Paul public library is a model institution, a world-book in itself, and quite impossible to thoroughly describe in language, much less do justice in a brief article. It must be seen and the contents of the volumes examined before it can be appreciated.

This great collection of 50,000 books lives and breathes, and sends forth inspiration just the same as any living human being. It is a nucleus from which the greatest amount of general knowledge of an established character must emanate. And in a business sense it is one of the very essential institutions of the city. It is impossible to comprehend the large amount of intellectual worth that can be obtained from such a library, any more than it would be to figure on the tiny particles of the sands which lie along ocean's waters.

The proverb says: "Life without literature is death." Then possibly reasoning from that standpoint, life with literature means the true life itself. Anyhow in this library one might satisfy his rage for reading, basking to his heart's content either in the realms of charming prose or verse. The examples and illustrations found in books are mirrows and magnifying glasses, which reveal comparisons between the ordinary individuals and those who have swayed the rod of empires, or were emblems and insignia of the highest authority. And from the portfolio presented one chooses his models and selects his beau ideals. Side by side in the library are the thoughts of master minds with those having the most fascinating and beautiful word pictures in all languages, and all these books, in their moral and intellectual teachings, leave no tone of evil influence, but give impressions that are pure and elevating in character.

From the Pierian springs of poetry to the fountains of dramatic inspiration, or to healthful every-day knowledge, all are alike illustrated by the camera, painted in colors, or polished and glossed in rare effects and ideas that make books actual, real living companions.

Prone as is modern man, in his onward rush to progress, to eschew the past, yet there are few persons who do not really desire to have some acquaintance with the Bonapartes, the Caesars, the sultans and the kings and queens and moguls of past history. Likewise he may want to know of its Cinderellas, its Jean d'Arcs as well as of its Cleopatras. The serfs, the mercenaries, and the puppet figures of historical prominence are alike of immense interest to the reader.

The new quarters of the library on the south part of the second floor, in the old market block, corner of Seventh and St. Peter streets, have been entirely remodeled, and, with a new finish of birch and repainting, present a very handsome appearance. The rooms are large and airy, well ventilated, and the contrast between this and the former location is very apparent. It is a model of neatness, well worth any one's while to pay a visit, and the city can be congratulated on the taste and management shown in the arrangements and details. Considerable new furniture in the way of shelves, etc., has been added to the library since its removal to this location, and it may be said now to be complete, except books, magazines and newspapers that are daily being added to the vast collection. The last lot of the new furniture arrived Friday.

The active working force of the library consists of nine clerks, including the heads of the departments, and there are four necessary boys.

Mrs. Helen J. McCaine is the librarian, assisted by Miss J. S. Brown, in the reference department; Miss L. W. Clute, in charge of the circulating department; Miss Julia Hess, catalogues, and Miss Hammond, of the children's room, or juvenile department—one of the most interesting features of the institution.

There is a very happy surprise in store for the young patrons, as well as for older ones. Over the door of the entrance on the interior side there is this motto: "This room is under the protection of the boys and girls of St. Paul." It is a good sized room, stretching across nearly the whole south side of the building, are about three thousand volumes of books, all devoted to the use of boys and girls. The collection includes books on travels, history, biography, literature, poetry, science, fairy tales, with quite a large amount of story books of various kinds. In addition the room is adorned with pictures, in one corner of which appears the latest views of China, arranged on the blackboard. The furniture in this department is neat and appropriate. On the walls are many pictures and paintings, one of the latter, a copy from Guido Rene's "Aurora," was presented by Mr. Richelt, is exceptionally attractive, and doubtless the collection of scrap books and picture books in this room are sufficient to give the children endless entertainment. More books, however, could be placed in this room to advantage.

Magazines are given a special department, and there are nooks and corners where one can consult books that pertain to some certain subject, and read away without fear of any disturbance. The reference room alone in the library contains 12,000 volumes, and the balance, except those in the juvenile department, belong to the circulation.

A very interesting sketch of the origin and early history of the library is given by Mr. T. D. Simonton, who participated in the first movement for the establishment of a public library in the city.

One of the last acts of the late Mr. William H. Kelley, for so many years secretary of the St. Paul Library association, of St. Paul, was to call at my office, having in his hand some extracts from the early records of the Mercantile Library association, of St. Paul. These he presented to me, with the request that as one of the original founders of that association, I should complete the history of the increment which gave origin later to the present St. Paul Public library, of which we are all so justly proud.

There is with me a pathetic interest in the attempt to carry out this last wish of Mr. Kelley, whose interest and devotion to the cause have had so much to do with giving us the reading facilities we possess.

By whom the idea of a library for our city was first suggested I cannot now recall, but I well remember the term "Mercantile" as part of its name came from Mr. D. C. Jones, who had been familiar with such an institution in the city of Baltimore. After casual mention for a week or two among us, a meeting was called, as per the first items in the record hand to me by Mr. Kelley:

"A meeting was held on the 15th of September, 1857, at the office of Dr. T. D. Simonton, at which Girart Hewitt was chairman, and John W. Roche secretary. A committee of five was apointed to report at the next meeting a list of officers and a constitution and by-laws for a Mercantile Library association. Committee: D. C. Jones, J. P. Pond, O. A. Benjamin, S. D. Gould and Dr. T. D. Simonton."

The contemporary report of this meeting appears in the Pioneer and Democrat newspaper of Thursday, Sept. 17, 1857, as follows:

MERCANTILE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

Last evening, in response to previous notice, a number of our citizens convened at the office of Dr. Simonton for the purpose of organizing a Mercantile Library association.

On motion, Girart Hewit was called to the chair, and Mr. John W. Roche to act as secretary.

After the object of the meeting was stated by the chairman, interesting and appropriate remarks were elicited from several gentlemen.

On motion a committee of five was appointed to report to the next meeting suitable officers for a permament organization of the society and a constitution and by-laws for its government.

On motion the following gentlemen comprise said committee: Messrs. D. C. Jones, J. P. Pond, O. A. Benjamin, S. D. Gould and Dr. T. D. Simonton.

On motion it was resolved that the proceedings of this meting be published in the daily papers of St. Paul and that we respectfully invite the attendance and co-operation at our next meeting of all who feel or will take any interest in the success of a library association in this city.

Resolved, That when we adjourn we adjourn to meet in this room (over Bond's drug store) next Friday evening, the 18th inst., at 8 o'clock. Adjourned. John W. Roche, secretary.

And so the work was undertaken in this humble way that was to bear fruit in the future. I present some slight biographies of the seven gentlemen who had the first official connection with the library movement, together with the rest of the newspaper reports of the day, in accompanying papers, for the sake of record and confirmation in connection with this history. The latter are not only collateral evidence of the truth of this story, but an illustration of the exceedingly valuable work our State Historical society is doing in thus preserving our history in its carefully collected newspaper files. See supplement A.

Meantime there was some discussion in the city papers in regard to interference from a previously organized society. See supplement B.

Mr. Kelley notes the second meeting, Sept. 18, at which the Mercantile Library association was organized with the following officers:

President, Harwood Iglehart; vice presidents, Wescott Wilkin, D. J. Justice; corresponding secretary, D. C. Jones; recording secretary, R. G. Sharp; treasurer, J. P. Pond.

Board of Directors—S. D. Yould, Girart Hewit, E. D. Cobb, J. W. Cathcart, Dr. T. D. Simonton, G. G. Walker, W. Sprigg Hall, Andrew Lovering.

Committee of Arrangements—C. D. Elfelt, O. A. Bergamin, J. I. Beaumont.

Committee on Collections—J. W. Hamliton, Richards Gordon, D. C. Jones, C. W. Carpenter, George Cady, G. W. Holmes, O. A. Benjamin, N. P. Langford.

Committee on Library—Harvey Officer, D. C. Cooley, Dr. T. D. Simonton, T. M. Newson, J. J. Knox, D. Ramaley.

From the Pioneer and Democrat of Sept. 20, 1857, we add the following resolution, passed at the same meeting:

"Resolved, That a notice of this meeting, with the adoption of a constitution and election of officers, with names, be published in the daily papers of the city.

"Adjourned, subject to the call of the board of directors. John W. Roche, Secretary pro. tem."

Of the next meeting we learn from President Harwood Iglehart's article in the Pioneer and Democrat of Sept. 24, 1857 (given in full in the supplement, C.).

He notes a meeting held on Monday evening, Sept. 21, at which by-laws were reported and passed for the use of the association; a committee appointed to draft a form of subscription lists; books opened for the enrollment of members, and the committee of arrangements instructed to procure a larger room, probably the court house, for the next meeting, when a larger attendance is expected, to hear addresses and take such action as will further the movement for a library.

The Minnesotian of Oct. 3, 1857, reports the holding of the proposed meeting in the court house. Addresses were made by President Harwood Iglehart and others, the music being furnished by the "Old Gents' band," in charge of the Munger brothers.

Thus, launched upon its career, the Mercantile Library association continued to advance year by year, furnishing courses of lectures (see supplement D), and moderate reading facilities to our citizens, till by the absorption of the library of the Christian association, Oct. 30, 1863, and with change of its name to the St. Paul Library association, it became the immediate predecessor of the present St. Paul public library, organized Sept. 25, 1882, as the annual reports for that and the two succeeding years (printed in 1887), satisfactorily show.

—T. D. Simonton.

SUPPLEMENT "A."

Girart Hewit, chairman of our first meeting was a sanguine real estate man. Was born in Pennsylvania, had lived in the South, and came to St. Paul in the fifties. Had his weather eye on the doings of us younger men as they might affect the reputation of the city and the price of corner lots. So he favored the library movement, though he is especially remembered as having run steamboat excursions upon our river the first of December several years.

John W. Roche was an accountant, a splendid penman, and eventually became the noted watch dog of our city treasury (comptroller) till the day of his death.

D. C. Jones lived in the city for years, kept a place for the sale of agricultural implements in the long building running from Third to Fourth streets near St. Peter, of late used as a market. Had come from the South, and was a cousin of the John Andrew Jones who shot a man in a court melee in the days of bloody Kansas.

J. P. Pond was a bookkeeper, a genial good fellow, and a consistent friend of the library as officer, till his death some ten or twelve years since.

O. A. Benjamin I remember, but he left the city at an early day, as did also S. D. Gould, after the financial crash that broke every bank in St. Paul but that of McKubin & Edgerton, in which he had had some position. He was a genial and refined gentleman, whom we were sorry to lose. His home was in the state of New York.

The foregoing names, with that of the writer, who has resided here ever since in the practice of his profession, represent those who had the first official connection with the library movement that was to eventuate in the establishment of the present St. Paul Public library.

SUPPLEMENT B.

In reference to any possible interference on the part of an already existing society, the Pioneer and Democrat, of Saturday, Sept. 19, 1857, contained the following:

"In an article published on Friday morning we mentioned that the objects of the proposed Mercantile Library association and of the library association chartered last summer, were similar, and that we thought one of them, at least, ought to be abandoned."

In the Minnesotan of the same morning was an article emanating from the latter society, from which we infer it is not the intention of the society to organize in accordance with the charter, but merely to keep up their existence as a debating or literary society, for which purpose it was first organized. This leaves a clear field for the new society, whose aims and objects are entirely dissimilar, and we trust it will meet with the encouragement of every young man in the city. The term "Mercantile" is not to be considered as exclusive, the intention of the society being, we presume, as in other cities, to induce membership from all the industrial classes.

It is pleasant to be able to say that no further opposition from the supposed previous organization ever materialized.

SUPPLEMENT C.

In the Pioneer and Democrat, of Thursday, Sept. 24, we find the following article:

Mercantile Library Association.—An adjourned meeting of the Mercantile Library association was held at the rooms of Dr. Simonton, over Bond's drug store, on Monday evening, Sept. 21. By-laws were reported ad passed for the use of the association. A committee was appointed to draft a form of subscription lists, to be circulated among the citizens of St. Paul at once, with a view to the immediate prosecution of the enterprise. Books were thereupon opened for the enrollment of members, when in a short time over $60 were subscribed. The committee of arrangements were instructed to procure a suitable room for the next general meeting of the association (together with such citizens as may be disposed to attend), to be held, most probably in the court house, on Wednesday evening next, when a full attendance of all favorable to the object is earnestly requested. Several short addresses, it is expected, will be delivered on the occasion, whereupon the books will be opened for the enrollment of such members as may feel disposed to join the association.

The following is the draft of the subscription list which will be circulated among the citizens of the place by the committee, consisting of the following gentlemen, viz.: Messrs. J. W. Hamilton, Richard Gordon, C. W. Carpenter, D. C. Jones, George Cady, G. W. Holmes, O. A. Benjamin and N. P. Longford:

We, the undersigned, desirous to show our appreciation of, as well as to lend our aid and assistance to the efforts now being made among the young men of St. Paul to start a Mercantile Library association in our midst, do subscribe severally the amounts set opposite our names. The design is to place this institution, when chartered, upon a footing with those of a similar character in the large cities of the East; such as, for example, in New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Cincinnati, etc., so that all persons of respectability, of whatever class or condition in life, the scholar equally with him possessed of but a common school education, may enjoy the advantages of an interchange of thought upon the various topics presented thereby. The great benefits derived from such institutions none will question; nor will any one question the need of such an institution among us at the present time. The enterprise is one that must enlist the sympathies of the entire community, and we feel assured that this appeal for their support will not be in vain.

The regular initiation fee is $5, but larger sums than this which persons may feel disposed to subscribe will be most gratefully acknowledged. Lists will be left also at the different hotels and public places where persons so disposed may have an opportunity of subscribing.

On motion, the request was made that the several papers in the city lend their aid by publishing the proceedings.

—Harwood Iglehart, President.
—R. G. Sharp, Secretary.

SUPPLEMENT D.

From a journal kept at the time, I am enabled to give some details in regard to the lecture course of the winter 1859-60.

The Christian association and the Mercantile Library association had lectures in turn every Tuesday evening, each association selling tickets enough to secure expenses.

Col. D. A. Robertson opened the course before the Merchantile, his subject being, "The Influence of the Climate of Minnesota Upon Man and Woman." It was not a little amusing to find the main doctrines taught by the colonel, "that we have no sudden changes of temperature in Minnesota. They are all described by wave-like lines, full and deep, but not angular," received the shock of a sudden and tremendous depression in our temperature shortly afterwards. But in this, as in some other of his theories, the colonel seemed to be little discomforted by facts.

The second lecture of the course was by the Rev. John Mattocks, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, and for a time superintendent of schools, on the "Physical History of St. Paul," from the standpoint of the geologist. A report of this excellent lecture, a column in length, is to be found in the Minnesotian of that day.

The third lecture was by our accomplished citizen, Gen. C. C. Andrews, on "The Elements of Civilization." He was followed two weeks later by S. R. Bond, a talented young lawyer of our city at that day, on "The Characteristics of Greatness," and he by Gen. J. H. Baker on "Soul Life."

But perhaps quite as interesting may be some account of the unique and spontaneous Saturday evening reunions of our citizen membership in 1860. We had secured new quarters on the ground floor of the Greenleaf building, on upper Third street, near Market. In a casual conference as to our opening of the new rooms Mr. H. M. Knox said, "Why don't you invite some speakers and have a time?" So speakers were invited for that evening, among them Col. Robertson and Mr. Mattocks, and the occasion proved to be so pleasant and sociable, and so in the line of what every one felt was needed in the rather scant intellectual commerce of that day that before we broke up Mr. Mattocks said, "Why cannot we meet here next Saturday evening, and every Saturday evening? We wish to have a place to meet and talk—this room is the very place for that." The suggestion met with universal favor, and thus were instituted a series of unique and rather remarkable reunions, week by week, wholly informal, at which questions of living interest were discussed. The climate of Minnesota was suggested as the subject for the next meeting, and when the time came proved of too much interest to seem sufficiently dealt with in one evening, and so it was continued for one week, Mr. D. C. Shepard being appointed to prepare a paper on the subject meantime. This he did, with general acceptance. The subject for the next week was "The New York Ledger Style of Literature." Still later subjects were "Transportation"—we were without a mile of railroad—and "Emigration," on which my journal notes, "Von Glahn made a most laughable speech."

Rev. Mr. Mattocks, whom some of our citizens will still well remember, was perhaps the best "talker" at these reunions, which served an admirable purpose in the development of the home talent and the intellectual life of our city.

By March, 1862, the Civil war was on, and the attention of our people much distracted. But I am able to note three lectures that year of a course from home talent, that had taken place up to that date. The first was by Judge Palmer, on "Gossip, or Social Intervention." It was followed by Mattocks on "The Philosophy of Life," and by D. C. Cooley on "Errors of Public Opinion."

By conference with the Christian association it was arranged in 1863 that its library should be added to that of the Mercantile Library association, which henceforth was to constitute the one public library of the city.

—T. D. Simonton.

Medical Notes.

There is an old saying that he who lives by rule dies a fool. Temperaments vary so much that it is impossible to formulate any hard and fast laws of health. It is the same in medication. Opium, in the majority of cases, alleviates pain and induces sleep, but in certain cases a most undesirable result may ensue, although it cannot be foreseen. In such cases opium causes excitement, sometimes even temporary mania. Yet taking mankind as a whole there are certain laws which may be formulated as health precepts or aphorisms. The following are of general application:

* * *

Don't hold the book nearer than is necessary for clear, sharp vision.

Send flowers to your invalid in the morning if you wish them appreciated.

Don't think because you have good eyes that they will bear all kinds of abuse.

Don't make a practice of reading type too small to be seen readily at eighteen inches.

Don't use the eyes continuously at close work without occasionally resting them by looking off in the distance.

Sufferers from neuralgia are warned by a medical writer not to drink tea, but to partake freely of coffee into which the juice of a lemon has been squeezed.

Never commit the blunder of sending into a sick room pure white flowers. They hint of that last, long sleep which the bravest of us do not care to contemplate.

* * *

The method of washing the face daily is of great importance. Highly scented or highly colored soaps should be avoided, and one which gives a soft lather and does not cause any feeling of irritation is the best. The soap should be well rubbed into the face with a clean piece of flannel, and then bathed of in a basinful of absolutely clean water, so that every particle of soap may be removed. After thoroughly bathing the face should be dried with a Turkish towel, but if the skin is at all sensitive a very soft towel should be used, and the face finally well rubbed over with a piece of chamois leather. Gentle friction of the face with soft leather or, better still, with the finger tips, when clean, tends to remove lines and to prevent the formation of wrinkles. If lines have formed the skin should be rubbed in a direction contrary to their length, as, for example, if there are vertical lines between the eyebrows, they should be rubbed from side to side; if there are straight lines across the forehead, they should be rubbed down from the hair to the roof of nose and back again.

* * *

In a narrow gold frame hung near the dainty dressing table in a girl's room are the following "rules for beauty:"

"Beauty is only skin deep and does not come in a day."

Never sleep on a high pillow unless you admire a double chin.

Breathe from the diaphragm, inhale deeply, keep the mouth closed and hold the chest well up, if you would secure a high chest, broad shoulders and a slim waist.

Walk from the hips and bear in mind that a woman's greatest sins are a wobbling walk and a shrill voice.

The secret of beauty is good blood, excellent digestion and a clear conscience.

These wise and quaint precepts were laid down by the family physician.

* * *

To grow plump: Don't worry. Don't lie awake at night to think about your shortcomings and other people's sins.

Don't care violently for any one. Hearts and consciences are opposed to rounded contours and shapely necks.

Eat meats with fat on them. Eat fish with white sauce. Eat potatoes and simple puddings.

Wear warm luxurious clothing, but be careful not to have it so warm as to induce perspiration for that will prove thinning. Do not let it be too heavy either.

Eat fruit for your breakfast. Eat baked apples with plenty of sugar and cream and all sorts of stewed fruits which require sweetening.

Drink milk and cream whenever you happen to want them. If you don't care for these nourishing drinks cultivate a taste for them. Drink beer, but avoid lemonade, lime juice, and the like.

Eat for breakfast oatmeal swimming in cream. Drink not tea and coffee, but cocoa, chocolate and milk. Spurn toast. Eat freshly made wheat bread with butter and honey.

Do not take more exercise than is absolutely essential to health. Take the air, yes, but let it be in a carriage whenever you can. Violent exercise is the worse possible thing for a woman who would fain grow plump.

* * *

Extreme plumpness would be avoided if the rocking chair were given up. If women were less lazy they would not grow so stout, says a recent writer on the subject. No woman can reduce her flesh who lacks courage. The woman who is inclined to be stout can gain a pound easier in a day than a slender woman can in a year. It is said that when the beautiful empress of Austria discovered that her waist was growing larger and that her beautifully modeled chin was losing its curve she, the finest horsewoman in the world, gave up riding and took long walks every day and in all sorts of weather.

To grow thin you must exercise. Walk if you can, but better still, work; keep mind and body busy. Above all, renounce everything that comes from the confectioner. Eat moderately of underdone meats, green vegetables, salads and those fruits that are slightly acid. Drink but little, bathe regularly, taking tepid baths. Constant work will do more to reduce one's flesh than anything else.

* * *

A well known society lady is responsible for the following, which is doubtless good advice to those in the position to follow it: When I get overworked with my social duties, when things go wrong generally, and when I get into that mood with which every woman is familiar, when life does not seem worth living, and one hates one's best friends, I simply go to bed and stay there till things come straight and I begin to feel a new zest of life. I come back into the world in the most beatific frame of mind with all my incipient wrinkles gone and everybody glad to see me. If women would just try this prescription they would be surprised to find out how it lengthened their youth, soothed their nerves and made them far more agreeable companions and friends.

The daytime nap should always be taken in a darkened but well ventilated room, and under sufficient bed covering. In a sleep like this a weary housekeeper gains enough strength to enable her to feel fresh and bright in the evening, when so many women are worn out. Where one must trespass upon night hours usually allotted to sleep, the daytime nap should be prolonged.

As fresh air is the best tonic, it is said that a window may be opened at the top on a sunny day, no matter how ill the patient be, if in the opening a wooden frame, covered with flannel, is fitted. On this point, however, the doctor should be consulted. An umbrella covered with a shawl makes a good screen when the windows are open, the patient being sheltered under it as if in a tent. A folding clothes horse may also be utilized as a screen frame.

As a person lying on his back is deprived of the protection of his eyelids from the light, the blinds and curtains should be adjusted with regard to that fact. A room a little shaded is more restful to a person in illness, but if a patch of sunshine can be let in somewhere in the room it makes a cheery spot for the patient to turn if so minded. The Italian proverb says: "Where the sun does not enter the doctor does."

* * *

Don't sleep with eyes facing the light. A test by closing the eyes when facing the light quickly shows that the strain is only lessened, not removed, and the interposition of an adequate shade is as grateful to the shut eyes as when they are open. It is sometimes necessary in a small room to have the bed face the window, but even then by means of shades rolling from the bottom instead of from the top the window may be covered to a few inches free for the passage of air.

PRESCRIPTIONS.

In acidity of the stomach, accompanied with pain, the Medical Press and Circular recommends: Subnitrate of bismuth, 10 grains; carbonate of magnesia, 15 grains; solution of potash, 6 minims; dilute hydrocyanic acid, 2 minims; tincture of ginger, 5 minims; peppermint water, to make 1 ounce. This is one dose. To be repeated two to three times daily. Shake well.

In ivy poisoning the following is useful. Sulphite of soda and glycerine, of each 1 drachm; camphor water to make 4 ounces.

—Leon Noel.

500

Ladies' Summer Shirt Waists, worth from 75c to $1.00, on sale tomorrow at

25c each, AT

HABIGHORST & CO.'S

Ladies' and Misses' Straw Sailors and Trimmed Hats, what's left of them, on sale tomorrow at Half.

Children's 15c Straw Sailors, what's left of them, on sale tomorrow at, each..... 7½c

Ladies' and Misses' 25c Sailors, what's left of them, on sale tomorrow at, each.. 12½c

Ladies' and Misses' 50c Straw Hats and Sailors, what's left of them, on sale tomorrow at, each..... 25c

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We have a fine fitting and substantial wearing $1.00 value in Summer Corsets, which we let out tomorrow, all sizes, and plain white and fancies, at, each..... 49c

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All classes of Summer Goods are being cut in price to make room for New Fall Goods; therefore, if you think of investing in any Summer Dress Goods by the yard or ready-made SEE Us. We will give you extraordinary values.

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OUTING OF EDUCATORS

FEATURES OF THE WORK DONE AT BAY BIEW, MICH.

Special Correspondence St. Paul Globe.

BAY VIEW, Mich., July 20.—Bay View, the beautiful, is only two hours by ferry and cars from Mackinac, and is a second Chautauqua. Here gather every year the assembly lecturers and workers in the university summer school and those who have come just for the summer outing.

The region of Little Traverse bay has already become famous as a resort, with Petoskey as a radiating center. The beautiful bay extends inland from the coast line of Lake Michigan about nine miles, and along these shores three associations have planted themselves—Bay View, Wequetonsing and Harbor Point. Bay View is really a suburb of Petoskey, being only a mile distant. The land rises from the bay in natural terraces, and the grounds are handsomely laid out in building lots and parks. There are many pretty little cottages and two good hotels.

Twenty-five years ago a little band of the leading members of the M. E. church from different parts of Michigan selected this site for their annual camp meeting. The place was at that time a dense forest, and is now a lively center of interest. Every hour little steamboats run to and from all points on the bay, and are used as freely as our trolley cars. All these places are also connected by steam cars, running every half hour. Carriage roads and bicycle paths skirt the shore and lead through the pine woods.

All this region is a harbor for hay fever sufferers from all over the country, Petoskey being the headquarters of the Western Hay Fever association, and the members of this association usually remain until the frost comes.

This week a camp meeting is in progress here.

The university classes opened July 11 and will close Aug. 15. The season has been so rainy, cold and stormy so far that the attendance has not been as large as usual, but a little later the hotels and cottages will be filled to overflowing. Among the speakers engaged for the assembly this year are Lon Vincent, of Philadelphia; Dr. S. G. Smith, St. Paul; Dr. N. D. Hillis, of Henry Ward Beecher's church, Brooklyn; Dr. S. Parks Cadman, of New York, and George R. Wendling. The large auditorium seats 2,000, and is usually well filled, every state in the Union being represented. Every day or evening this large building is open for a musical treat, a lecture or readings.

Prof. F. E. Phoenix, of the Art Institute, Chicago, is here in charge of the art department, and a very delightful and instructive way to spend part of the day is to join one of his out door sketching classes, this location offering so many charming spots for sketches. Mr. Phoenix has studied in Holland and Paris and is a very popular teacher. There are also classes in artistic photography and china painting.

Mr. F. E. Morse, of Boston, has charge of the conservatory of music.

Another attractive feature of the assembly is the Woman's council, under the leadership of Mrs. Henry Wade Rogers, wife of the former president of the Northwestern university, who has been an active and prominent worker in the woman's clubs of Chicago. The topics outlined for the meetings are: "American Home Life," "Home Life in Foreign Countries," "The Simplification of Life," "The Home in Relation to Living, Health, Comfort and Beauty in the Home," "The Organization of the Home," "Women in Industrial Life, and the Effect Upon the Home," "Country Life As the Ideal Life," "Life As a Fine Art."

Mrs. Rogers will be aided by speakers who will make this a very interesting session.

The children at Bay View are well cared for. First there is the kindergarten under the management of Mrs. W. L. Treat, well known for her work as a lecturer, then the children a little older may work all morning at sloyd and wood carving, and a popular Boys and Girls' club will be organized, which will be as much a source of pleasure as instruction.

Frequent field trips will be made and the children will be taught how to make collections of minerals, plants and animals.

This place is a paradise for children and tired mothers. Here also ambitious teachers, club women, and students of all grades will find instruction and entertainment.

—A. V. W.

DEEPEST MYSTERY OF THE CENTURY HIDDEN BEHIND THE WALLS OF PEKIN

PEKIN RUMORS THAT ARE TORTURING THE WORLD.

June 15—Rumored murder of German minister and menaces toward the legations.
June 16—Report from Shanghai that foreigners were imprisoned in the legation.
June 17—Report from Hongkong legations had been destroyed.
June 18—Report that Admiral Seymour's relief column had reached Pekin.
June 19—Authentic report Seymour in retreat.
June 20—Report Russians in possession of Pekin and only three ministers had been killed.
June 21—Report Seymour had reached Pekin finally and all legations safe.
June 22-23—Vague rumors from Shanghai and Hongkong of assassination.
June 24—Vague assurance that all was well with the foreigners.
June 25—All previous rumors discredited by fresh rumors that Pekin had not been heard from since June 12, and that Seymour had not been heard from at any time.
June 26—The worst feared in many rumors, but for no apparent reason.
June 27—Minister Wu, at Washington, hears ministers had left Pekin under strong guard of "good" Chinamen.
June 28—Report of June 27 verified apparently by Li Hung Chang's statement that ministers had arrived in safety at Tien Tsin.
June 29—Ministers had not arrived at Tien Tsin, but were safe somewhere.
June 30—Fresh rumors, indefinite, and, as usual, conflicting.
July 1—Rumor that executions had been in progress for days in Pekin.
July 2—All ministers, except French envoy, reported to have been alive on June 26.
July 3—Report from Shanghai that foreign army had reached Pekin—again.
July 4—Definite contradictions of rumors of July 3.
July 4-5—Guards of Chinese legation reported slain, and foreigners said to be making last stand.
July 6—Shanghai reports murder of all foreigners on June 30. Another Shanghai rumor that all foreigners were safe on July 1.
July 7—Shanghai warns the world to fear the worst—again.
July 8—Legations rumored to be still holding out—tempered by report that all foreigners were dead.
July 10—Prince Ching had taken all the foreigners under his protection.
July 12—Shanghai said: "Situation most ominous."
July 15—Sheng reports definitely that there had been a massacre.
July 16—Full details of the final battle around the legation come from Shanghai—Everybody dies at sunrise—Prince Ching among the slain.
July 18—Minister Wu hears that everybody was safe up to July 9.
July 19—Li Hung Chang says all legations were safe July 8.
July 29—Message (undated) from Conger says legation is under bombardment, and fears general massacre.

The mystery hidden behind the walls of Pekin has riveted the attention of the civilized world for nearly two months. On June 1 the foreign legations in Pekin were occupied by 515 representatives of the elite, the noble, the cultured of the six most powerful and enlightened states of the modern world, besides notables of half a dozen minor states, each in its way representative of the science and progress of the nineteenth century. There were seventy-nine missionaries. And with these their wives and children.

Six weeks ago the vast city of Pekin was already overrun by hordes of fanatic and incomprehensible rustics. In all times each legation had a small guard of a dozen or score of soldiers; these were re-enforced by 400 sailors and marines, proportionately contributed by the sea powers concerned.

At the most there were at the beginning of the great mystery some 500 armed foreigners landed on July 1 from the warships, of whom perhaps 200 spoke or understood the English language.

These were distributed among the respective legations, which are scattered at wide intervals, in extensive private grounds, along the street known as Legation street, but which in Pekin is called, from its sanitary neglect, the "streets of stinks."

The outer circumference of the whole double city is perhaps over thirty miles; the Chinese and Tartar cities are again divided, and in the midst of the Tartar City stands the Forbidden Imperial City, whose huge yellow tile walls are twelve miles in circumference and whose gates only one European has passed. In the Tartar City, where the legations stand, the avenues are open, wide and straight, but no friendly house fronts with lights and curtains and hospitable doors about thereon, but only walls, walls, walls.

The origin of this, the deepest mystery of modern times—a mystery literally unparalelled in the history of all times—must really be sought, the Chicago Tribune says, in the "Boxer" movement, which began so far back as October of last year with the murder of two missionaries in the Western province of Shan Tung.

The rioting, which has since ensued, was originally due to the insistence of the Germans in proceeding with the construction of a railway, a proposal deeply resented by the inhabitants of the province of Shan Tung.

The "Boxers" resenting this, slowly but surely, and with great secrecy, gathered together their scattered forces and finally succeeded in the two-fold object for which their society—one of the greatest and most secret societies in China—was originally constituted—namely: The extermination of all foreigners and the extermination of all native Christians, who are "worse than foreigners."

Although repeatedly warned during the whole of the winter of 1899 and the spring of this year by their respective representatives at Pekin of the undoubted danger which threatened European interests in China, and also Europeans themselves, if this movement were allowed to go on unchecked, the governments of the great powers do not appear to have realized the seriousness of the situation with the exception of the government of the United States.

It was only in May that the awakening of this government came. On the 25th of that month instructions were sent by the state department to Minister Conger at Pekin bidding him inform the Chinese government that the government of the United States expected it promptly and thoroughly to stamp out the Boxers; to provide proper guarantees of the maintenance of peace and order, and for the protection of the lives and property of Americans in China. Unfortunately the power of the Boxer movement had by this time become irresistible.

On May 28 a telegram from Tien Tsin stated that the Boxer army was marching on Pekin; that 500 refugees had sought protection in the French cathedral. Minister Conger telegraphed from Pekin regarding the "etxreme gravity of the situation," and on the same day 100 American marines who had been landed at Taku from the United States cruiser Newark arrived at Tien Tsin.

All the great powers were now fully alive to the gravity of the situation, so orders were sent that 100 each of American, British, Japanese, German, Italian, Russian, and French troops should proceed to Pekin to guard their respective legations.

On June 8 telegrams were received from Tien Tsin stating that place had been surrounded by Boxers.

On June 9 the legations in Pekin wired for reinforcements, and on June 10 came the famous telegram from the missionaries in Pekin saying: "Save us! Or avenge us!"

On the same day the international relief force, composed of 1,500 foreign troops, and under the command of Admiral Seymour, the ranking officer in the foreign fleet, started from Tien Tsin for Pekin by forced marches.

On June 29 Admiral Seymour's relief expedition was driven back and reported failure. He had been unable to reach Pekin owing to the destruction of the railway, the lack of supplies, and the fact that he was hampered by his wounded.

In the meantime, despite these heroic efforts by the great powers to save the lives of their luckless representatives in Pekin, their fate still hung in the balance. It has been repeatedly reported that the horde of Chinese have destroyed one by one the different legations; that the German Ambassador, Baron Ketteler, was assassinated in the streets; and finally that the foreign envoys, with their wives, children, guests, and over three score missionaries, made their last stand in the British and French legations, the stoutest buildings in Pekin.

For more than three weeks the 600 diplomats, ministers, women, and children, are alleged to have occupied these two houses of 100 rooms.

What the inmates suffered one can only imagine. The native palace and garden of the British consulate are spacious enough, but there was not house room for 100 guests. Still here, cabined, cribbed, and confined in this small space were huddled together some 600 white men, women and children.

For days the legations had been surrounded. On June 25 the Boxers and imperial troops and the lust-maddened, ravenous Chinese mob are reported to have massed themselves near the legation buildings. Sortie after sortie, it is asserted, was made by the marine gurads. So bold, so gallant, so desperate were these sorties that the Chinese were obliged to move back their encampments from the immediate vicinity of the legation.

Ultimately Prince Tuan, leader of the Chinese, other rumors declare, decided to make an organized night attack. A conference of the Chinese leaders was held and a regular plan of attack was agreed upon. Three powerful columns, with strong reserves, at 6 p. m. on July 6 opened fire with artillery upon the legation where the allies were concentrated. For two hours the walls of the building were battered with shot and shell and huge breaches were made.

Then, so the Shanghai story goes, a general advance was ordered, and the Chinese infantry, constantly firing volleys, moved toward the gaps in the walls. Toward sunrise it was evident that the ammunition of the allies was running out, and at 7 o'clock the Chinese made a rush. Thus, standing together as the sun rose, the little remaining band met death stubbornly. Every one of the Europeans remaining, it was declared, was put to the sword in the most atrocious manner.

But since the arrival of the alleged details of the massacre said to have taken place on the night of July 6 the mystery has become greater than ever. Foreign governments have been assured that the legations were safe on July 4. Again they were reported to be safe on July 8. Then Li Hung chang declares they were safe on July 8. Other reports have declared that the foreigners had all been removed to Prince Ching's palace, in the northern part of the city, where they were being guarded by imperial troops.

Now comes Minister Conger's message indicating that all were alive on July 18, but in imminent danger of massacre. Yet many diplomats in Washington and London are suspicious, saying Minister Conger's message might have been written at any time within the last month, held back by the Chinese, and only dispatched on July 18, to allay suspicion.

No one knows what to believe, and the mystery may not be definitely revealed until the allied armies fight their way to Pekin, batter down the walls, and thus get at the truth.