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CHAUTAQUANS.

Close of Their Fourth Annual Assembly.

THE MOST SUCCESSFUL YET HELD.

Splendid Lectures—Fine Class Work and Round Table Talks—A Camper's Delight.

Last Saturday evening the fourth annual assembly of the Willamette Valley Chautauqua Association came to a close. From a small beginning four years ago when a three-days assembly was held it has grown, the number of days session being increased each year, until this year the assembly occupied 12 full days. Yet with this lengthening of the session the interest nor the attendance did not drop off one bit, on the contrary the last day was one of the big days of the assembly. In the crowds which it gathers, this assembly has come to rival the State fair and the Portland exposition and in the array of literary and musical talent it out-ranks any gathering on the coast. The success of the assembly has been phenomenal when the fact is noted that it was started just as the hard times began and that it has grown and prospered despite the continued business depression, until it now has the best appointed grounds and buildings of any Chautauqua association on the coast, and it has the special honor of being the only one that is out of debt.

The number of campers this year was nearly double that of last year and so well pleased were they with the attractions and conveniences of the park that all will be back again next year with as many more. At no other place in Oregon were campers made so comfortable and the cost of living so cheap as at Gladstone park. They had all the enjoyment and freedom of a camp in the wild woods with none of the inconveniences to be encountered at the coast or in the mountains. Each morning the newsboy with the morning papers, the milkman with fresh milk, and the bread wagon with bread hot from the oven, the delivery wagons for the meat markets, the grocers and the vegetable growers made the rounds of the park to supply the people, while twice a week the laundry wagon called to attend to soiled clothes. The campers were not disturbed with an instance of pilfering, neither was there any disorderly conduct or disturbance of any kind to annoy them, perfect quietness reigning in the park within a few minutes after the close of each evening's exercises.

The officers of the association did their full duty and gave the most attention to every detail of the assembly work and they are entitled to the thanks of every person who favors the intellectual and moral upbuilding of our people. Each did his part as faithfully as though drawing big wages, yet not an officer drew a cent of salary except the secretary, who was paid a small sum. President R. A. Miller was constantly at his post for the entire twelve days and gave his entire attention to his duties as did also Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Dye, the secretary and assistant secretary, and their constant alertness and discreet management made it possible for the program to be carried out without a hitch or break to mar the success of the assembly. To Ground Manager H. E. Cross is due the credit for the perfect order maintained on the grounds and the carrying out of the hundred and one details whose execution contributed so much to the peace and pleasure of the thousands upon the grounds each day. Director E. E. Charman in charge of the athletic grounds was indefatigable in his attention to the matters under his control and the success of the athletic games with their future promise of becoming a leading feature of the assemblies hereafter was largely due to him. Capt. J. T. Apperson, the vice-president and the other members of the board of directors, Rev. Gilman Parker, G. A. Harding, C. H. Caulfield and James Steel were on the grounds much of the time and were very helpful in assisting the other officers in looking after the multiplicity of matters demanding attention. The ticket office was in charge of O. S. Ohlson and he proved himself to be quick and accurate in making change and selling tickets and did not once allow his window to become blocked when big crowds were to be served. The gates were in charge of J. B. Henninger and Capt. W. H. Smith and so well did they look after them that on the big days when the rush was the greatest, no delay or confusion was had in handling the thousands who passed in and out of the grounds.

On Saturday afternoon of the last day of the assembly the annual meeting of the stockholders was held. The question of limiting the number of years to which stockholders shall be entitled to free admission to the grounds was brought up and indefinitely postponed. A motion was carried sustaining the board

in their order providing for the publication of the Chautauqua News, the association's official organ, quarterly during the year as well as daily during the assembly. It was also ordered that stockholder's certificates include a paid up subscription to the association paper. In the election of officers Col. R. A. Miller was honored by being re-elected president for the third term. The same honor was also conferred upon Capt. J. T. Apperson who was given a third term as vice-president. Prof. J. W. Gray was chosen secretary, both Mr. and Mrs. Dye declining, as they could not give the time necessary to the office, Mrs. Dye planning to again take up her literary work. T. F. Ryan was elected treasurer. H. E. Cross, Rev. Gilman Parker, James Steel, E. E. Charman and G. A. Harding were re-elected to the board of directors. C. H. Caulfield not having the time to spare to serve on the board declined a re-election and Charles Meserve was elected director to take his place. A vote of thanks was tendered Mr. and Mrs. Dye for their long and faithful service in behalf of the association, and a vote of thanks was also passed for the other officers of the association.

Tuesday afternoon the board of directors held a business meeting to audit the bills and close up matters pertaining to the recent assembly, but owing to the delay in getting all the bills in it will probably be the last of the week before a complete report of the officers can be made. The reports in show that the receipts from ticket sales was \$2835 and there is about \$275 to come in from concessions and other sources, making the total receipts about \$3,100. So far as is known the expenses will be about \$2,700. After paying a debt of \$357.75 carried over from last year by a balance due on the construction of the auditorium, there will be a small balance left to begin the next year's work, with the association out of debt.

THE CLASS WORK.

The class work at the assembly this year was far more successful than at any former assembly and gave the promise as to what may be expected of this most important feature of the Chautauqua system. The management hope to be able another year to give better facilities and more hours to the class leaders so as to enable them to be more thorough in their instructions and to broaden out their work so that it will be of more value to the pupils and thus make it possible to secure a larger attendance.

Under the direction of Prof. R. A. Heritage, the department of music was made a greater success than at any previous assembly. The class in chorus work numbered from 30 to 50 and their singing was a feature of special interest in the assembly programs. The Professor also had a large class in voice culture which made splendid progress. Prof. Heritage proved himself to be one of the best musical directors ever at this Chautauqua and his services were highly appreciated by the management for his work contributed very much toward the success of the assembly. He was for 17 years, before coming to Oregon, in charge of the department of music in the Valparaiso, Indiana, normal school where from 2000 to 2500 teachers were in attendance each year and he now holds a like position in the Willamette university in Salem.

So thoroughly did Mrs. Hamill-Handcock please her class, the audience, and the Chautauqua management with her work in elocution that she has made her re-engagement for the next assembly almost a certainty. She proved herself to be an elocutionist of more than average merit and a teacher in the fullest sense of the word.

Prof. Reginald L. Hidden as an instructor on the violin displayed unusual talent and gave promise of what may be expected of this brilliant young man in the years to come. His solos were a most pleasing feature in the assembly program.

The art class under Prof. W. R. Rollins made about the most satisfactory progress of any of the classes. His students embraced many of the best amateur artists of Portland and Oregon City and they were more than pleased with the skill and patience Prof. Rollins displayed in his work as a teacher.

The study of American history was made one of the most attractive branches in the entire course from 100 to 150 persons being in attendance each day. In the line of history President Hawley, of Willamette university is one of the strongest men in the country and his methods of bringing out and making clear the many points in the history and political economy of our country was highly appreciated by the members of his class.

Physical culture was given a higher standing in the course of class work than ever before attained at this assembly and so large was the attendance that Prof. E. E. Green, of Seattle was forced to divide it into three parts, one for the gentlemen, one for the ladies and one for the children. The children's class

was in charge of Mr. C. C. Swift also of Seattle, Prof. Green's assistant and the little folks were delighted with their work. Prof. Green's methods were decidedly in advance of any heretofore employed in this class and were of special benefit to school teachers who have this study to handle in their schools, and many of them were members of the class.

The athletic features were in charge of Frank E. Brown, physical director at Willamette university and they attained a higher position than ever before had at the assembly and proved Mr. Brown to be a fine director as well as able teacher in athletic sports, and he made many friends both with the management and on the field.

Prof. J. H. Goodell, of Pacific Theological Seminary, Oakland, Cal. proved himself to be a specialist in conducting the class in bible study and so much interest did he arouse that he had to give extra hours to his class, many of whom were ministers and Sunday school teachers. He made this class the greatest success yet attained at the assembly.

Mrs. E. W. Allen, of Portland, state superintendent of Junior Bible work, had the largest class of graduates yet sent out from the class in junior bible study at the assembly, the class number-56. The little folks were delighted with their class and teacher.

Botany was made one of the most interesting as well as useful studies of all the class work under the tutorage of Prof. Moses Craig, professor of botany at the State Agricultural college, and he had a fine class each morning. As a sample of the class work carried on by Prof. Craig, it may be mentioned that one morning the theme was "The Kind of Trees to Plant, and the Manner of Beautifying Lawns, Cemeteries and Parks," and much valuable information was secured by the class on this subject on which such woeful ignorance is displayed in the ornamentation of many yards and public grounds.

The class in entomology did not meet with the success anticipated, owing to the delay of Prof. A. B. Cordly in reaching the assembly grounds by reason of a trip to California, but enough was done to demonstrate that the class could be made a great success another year, for the study of the insects of this state both injurious and beneficial has come to be a most important one to our farmers, fruit growers and florists. Prof. Cordly is one of the leading specialists of this Coast and is in charge of the department of entomology at the State Agricultural college.

The class in English literature was made a grand success by Prof. Irving M. Glenn, of McMinnville college, whose advanced work was highly appreciated by the members of this class, many of whom were teachers of literature from other institutions and who took notes for future use in their class work.

The many teachers and mothers attending the assembly were more than pleased with the class work of Mrs. Caroline Dunlap, of Portland, in which she made it so plain how little one could be amused and at the same time be instructed by means of the kindergarten methods. Her talks on the training and governing of children were most practical and thorough and drew to her class a large attendance of mothers.

Prof. E. E. Balcomb of the State Normal school, conducted two classes, one in natural history and one in astronomy. In the study of natural history, Prof. Balcomb made it plainer and more easily understood than is usually done, and the class gained a very good knowledge of the animals found in this section and their habits. His class in astronomy aroused a deeper interest in those attending than did almost any other class. At his morning talks he gave the technical information regarding our solar system so plainly that all could understand, and then in the evening with his telescope, he gave his students an opportunity to view the beauties of the sky and to learn the positions of the various planets and constellations.

PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS.

Now that the permanency of the Chautauqua assembly is assured the association has begun to plan for further improvements about its grounds, with a view of having the best appointed as well as the most beautiful grounds of any assembly on the Coast as well as of the East.

The improvements now under consideration and which will be undertaken as fast as the finances of the association will permit, is the erection of a building adjoining the auditorium in which will be offices for the secretary, president and directors and dressing room for the convenience of those appearing upon the platform. The grading down and leveling of the athletic grounds, bringing it to a level with the track and the erection of a grand stand. The laying of additional water pipes to all sections of the camping grounds together with the placing of more lights for the convenience of

(Continued on Page Seven.)