

THE CATHOLIC TEACHERS CONVENTION

Respective Field of Lay and Religious Teachers Considered.

NOBILITY OF PROFESSION

The Convention of the Catholic
School Teachers Celebrated Their
Golden Jubilee Yesterday.

The Catholic Teachers' Association celebrated its golden jubilee yesterday at the Jacques Cartier Normal School. Fifty years ago the association was founded at the Chateau de Ramesay, by the then Superintendent of Education, Hon. P. J. O. Chauvreau.

A cable from His Holiness Pope Plus X., sending a special blessing to the members of the association, was read by Chairman Cassgrain.

Among those present at the celebration were: Hon. Boucher de La Bruere, superintendent of public instruction; Rev. N. Dubois, principal of Jacques Cartier Normal; Rev. P. Perrier, school inspector; Inspectors McGowan and Lippens; A. D. Lacroix, superintendent of Montreal Catholic Schools; J. C. Magnan, of Quebec Normal School; Principals P. Ahearn, J. V. Desaulniers, J. J. Maguire, Labland de Brumath, H. D. Dore, L. A. Primeau, N. Ferrault, Rev. Abbe Harrel, former assistant principal of the Normal; Profs. W. J. Brennan, P. P. Burke, C. E. O'Ryan, J. D. Guerlin, W. L. O'Donoghue, J. Anderson, F. S. Banks, T. K. Brennan, J. T. McCarthy, W. Gallagher, J. McCullen, J. J. Fyman, D. P. O'Keefe, G. Fendull, P. J. Fitzpatrick, W. Kelly, C. J. Miller, J. Manning, B. J. O'Byrne, G. J. Beckingham, A. D. Armstrong, and many others.

The meeting was called to order by the president, J. O. Cassgrain. After welcoming those present, he spoke briefly on the importance of the work of a teacher.

"The end and object of education," he concluded, "is to bring out all that is best and noblest in human nature; it is the perfecting of the Divine Image engraven upon every soul created by God; it is a preparation for this life

He traced the history of the association from its foundation, giving due praise to the men who loyally and steadfastly stood by the association when the very existence of lay teachers in Montreal, was seriously threatened.

THE TEACHERS' VOCATION.

Hon. Boucher de La Bruere read a paper on the teachers' vocation. He appropriately compared the teacher to the priest. He advised the teachers to be abreast of the times, to move with the progress and advancement in educational matters. The methods of yesterday will not suit to-day, nor will the ways and means of to-day meet the requirements of to-morrow. Onward and upward should be the true teacher's motto.

Prof. J. C. Mangan, from Laval Normal, Quebec, condemned the efforts of those who vainly try to prove that a teacher of a religious brotherhood is superior to the lay teacher. Both are needed in this country; both are fulfilling their respective missions in the broad field of education. "The Christian professor," said he, "should be a man of high honor, of fine scholarship and refined manners, and if he be all this, be he religious or lay, he will turn out Christian scholars and gentlemen.

If he be strong in character and affectionate in susceptibility, his pupils will admire and love him; they will look at the world through his eyes; they will love what he loves, hate what he hates and do what he does. The teacher should live for his pupils, and if he does, he will have the consciousness that he has not three or four sons, but as many as there are students in his class. This is the ideal teacher, his power in the moulding of hearts, in the development of character is far beyond all that we can estimate. His students will learn to love good and shun evil; to be docile and obedient; to be industrious, self-restrained and pious; to be honorable and upright, ambitious to excel, knight errants of virtue and apostles of truth."

He concluded by pointing to Prof. J. O. Cassgrain, the dean of Montreal teachers, as the highest type and grandest model worthy of imitation.

After the banquet a paper on music was read by Prof. Bornier of the Montcalm school.

The last paper was delivered by Rev. Father Perrier, school inspector. Father Perrier spoke on school law.