

tional institution in the Territory, and its educational nature has never been questioned.

"The first effort to establish a school for deaf mutes in Utah was made in 1868. In that year Mr. John Beck, of Lehi, whose three oldest sons were deaf mutes, sent a circular letter to the Bishops of the various wards in the Territory, asking for information regarding deaf mutes. In this way he secured a list of about fifty. At about the same time William Wood, a resident of this city, decided to educate his deaf mute daughter, then ten years old. For this purpose he took her to Colorado Springs, Colo., and placed her in the state school there. The length of the journey and the expense incurred caused him to determine to try and have a school established in Utah for the deaf and dumb. Learning of Mr. Beck's efforts in the same direction he went to see him regarding the matter. This conference resulted in the drawing up of a petition to the legislature, which convened in January, 1884. This petition was presented by Mr. Wood. This appeal met with a ready response from the legislators and an appropriation of \$2000 per annum was made with which to educate a class of deaf mutes in the University of Deseret.

"In 1866 \$3000 per annum was appropriated for the same purpose. In 1888 the first and only law governing this school was passed. This law provided for a building on the university grounds and the introduction of trade instruction. It also provides that all indigent deaf mutes of the Territory should be educated free. The legislature of 1890 made an appropriation to finish the building commenced with the funds appropriated in 1888.

"Soon after the granting of the appropriation by the legislature in 1884, Dr. John R. Park, president of the University of Deseret, made efforts to secure a competent teacher for any deaf mutes who should apply at the university for instruction. None being found in the Territory, he made application to the heads of schools for the deaf in the East. H. C. White, himself a deaf mute, was secured for the place. The first year there was a class of fourteen. For two years the school was conducted as a day school. This plan did not meet with the success desired, and in 1886 a home was opened for the school on Second North street, near the university. In 1887 the home was moved to the Hooper property on First West street. In 1890 the school moved into its present building.

"Since the opening of the school eighty-seven deaf children have been under instruction for a longer or shorter period. The enrollment by years has been as follows: First year, 14; second year, 18; third year, 18; fourth year, 18; fifth year, 37; sixth year, 41; seventh year, 37; eighth year, 45; ninth year, 48. The large increase between the fourth and fifth years was on account of free tuition and board to the indigent deaf. The expenses of the school are met by appropriations from the territorial legislature.

"Our method of instruction is that known as the American or combined method, as distinguished from the oral method. The combined method includes every means which it is pos-

sible to use to reach the mind and intelligence of the child. We use the sign language as a medium through which to teach written language and reach the understanding. We use the manual alphabet; teach by means of objects, actions and pictures, anything to develop the child's mind.

"We employ a special teacher of speech and speech reading. A class of our pupils are taught entirely by the oral method. Others are taught to speak and read lips. We have a number of pupils who could be benefited by aural instruction, but at present have not a sufficiently large corps of teachers to give it to them. In our instruction we aim to cover the ground usually comprised in a common school course. Language occupies almost the whole attention of the deaf child during the first years of its education. It is only after a foundation of language is obtained that other branches of learning can be pursued. After our pupils have finished a course of instruction in our school, the college at Washington is open to them, where a thorough college course can be pursued. A deaf child can thus be lifted from mental darkness into the full light of knowledge and understanding.

"But we do not educate the mind alone, but the hand as well. Three trade classes are in successful operation: A class in printing, one in carpentry and one in shoemaking. We publish a semi-monthly paper, the *Deseret Eagle*. The composition and press work being the work of our deaf boys.

"The girls are taught sewing of all kinds, cooking and housework. The fact that our school was awarded the special premium for best display of the products of manual training at the territorial fair last fall, speaks for itself as to the results obtained in the class of instruction. In closing I wish to invite all of you to visit our school and bring your friends with you. You will receive a hearty welcome."

OTHER CHARITIES.

Mrs. Perry reported the Industrial Christian Home. She stated that Mrs. Angie Newman introduced a resolution favoring the building of such a home here. An association was formed in March, 1886. The movement was endorsed by the federal officials of the Territory. Mrs. Newman secured an appropriation of \$40,000. In 1888 another appropriation of \$40,000 was made by Congress, and the central portion of the present home was erected. Afterwards a further appropriation of \$28,000 was made to complete and furnish the structure. Out of some 300 applicants, a total of 111 persons had at various times been admitted to the home. In 1892, the Utah legislature memorialized Congress to turn over the home for use as a deaf mute institute. Against this a protest was filed and the petition was denied.

Mrs. Arthur Brown read a report on the Orphans' Home. The institution was established originally through the efforts of Elizabeth Dickie, in 1884. At first it was simply a day nursery, and did not thrive. Then it expanded into an orphans' home. In December, 1886, a cottage was purchased for \$2000 and for eight years the legislature had been appealed to in vain for aid. In August, 1888, the cottage was sold and more commodious home was es-

tablished on corner of State street, and the system of endowments was adopted. At present nineteen beds have been endowed. Since its establishment, 927 children have passed through the home. It was sustained principally through donations of provisions from the merchants and cash contributions from the charitable.

The conference then adjourned until 7:30 p. m.

EVENING SESSION.

The attendance in the evening was larger than at any other session, and a pleasant feature was the excellent singing, led by Miss Bertha Mulpas.

The first speaker was Mr. D. W. Stafford, his subject being the Catholic charities of Utah. First in importance among the Catholic charities was the Hospital of the Holy Cross, which was established in 1875. Fifteen sisters were constantly employed there, and over 15,000 patients had been treated there, of whom 2000 were charity patients. In 1892 over 2000 patients were treated, between 400 and 500 of whom were charity cases. At present there were eighty-five patients there. The building was inadequate to the demands, and it was hoped this year to add a wing, to cost from \$30,000 to \$40,000, to be used entirely for surgical cases. The Catholics had also established a hospital at Silver Reef and the hospital at Ogden was in charge of the sisters, although not controlled by them. St. Ann's orphanage owed its existence to Bishop Scanlan, and it was opened in 1891. The average number of children cared for there was thirty. The orphanage was in a prosperous condition, although the building now in use was not adequate to meet the increasing demands of the orphanage.

The superintendent of the reform school was not able to attend, and Mrs. Paddock read some extracts from his last annual report.

"The charities of the W. C. T. U." was the subject of a very interesting paper read by Mrs. Caroline H. Read. Poverty, the lady thought, was the chief cause of crime, and was the cause, indirectly, of much insanity. The great effort of the W. C. T. U. was to relieve poverty and inspire independence. The work of the organization had been confined to this city, Ogden and Provo, where restaurants had been established. Besides this, much had been done among the criminals in the jails and prisons. The women wearing the white ribbon had put themselves in touch with these outcasts and had accomplished much.

Mrs. Mary Grant Majors said the Rescue mission was established only about a month ago. Already about 200 men had received aid of some sort from the mission. A free reading room had been provided, and gospel meetings were held every evening. This charity would embrace a home for fallen and destitute women, lodgings and a restaurant for men. It would distribute clothing and relieve all cases of distress brought to its notice which were worthy of aid.

Professor F. W. Metcalf followed with an address on the education and care of the blind and feeble-minded. The speaker thought that a school for the education of the blind should be established in connection with the deaf mute institute. A bill providing