

AMERICAN CERAMIC SOCIETY.

The Summer Meeting.

April 4-7, 1919.

The lobby of the Iroquois Hotel, Buffalo, during the forenoon of August fourth, presented a scene familiar to those who attend ceramic meetings. S. C. Linbarger and other members of the local committee had their table in the center and were busy registering the members as they arrived. After registration came lunch and the distribution of tickets for the evening dinner and the Tuesday excursion. The party then took street cars for the Pierce Arrow Motor Car plant. The tour through the factory was rather too hasty to suit the more inquiring but it left time for visits to the Albright Art Gallery and other places of interest. Dinner was served promptly at seven in a private room and about sixty sat down to an excellent repast. Singing popular and familiar songs enlivened the occasion and a short time was devoted to speeches which were very informal, as the evening was to be used for meetings of the professional divisions and the Board of Trustees.

Tuesday was Niagara Falls day. The trip was well arranged by the local committee and the tickets included all charges for the day. The journey was made in three motor omnibuses along the famous brick-paved boulevard, and the city of Niagara Falls was reached about eleven o'clock. The first visit was to the Shredded Wheat plant, noted for its accommodations for visitors, its perfect sanitation, and its wonderful automatic machinery. From this point the party went to the Power Houses and inspected the colossal installations of penstocks, turbines, and generators, by means of which the power of the Falls is harnessed and converted into electrical energy.

Lunch was served on the cafeteria plan at the Chamber of Commerce, after which Mr. Harper, chief engineer of the power company, explained the principles governing the utilization of the Falls and told of schemes of advancement.

The famous Falls were then visited and stops were made at the points of vantage. Crossing the International bridge, the party took a special car to Niagara Glen, through which they were conducted by Mr. Morphy, who has the reputation of knowing every stone and plant in the glen. The varieties of botanical growth were explained and the geological formation was discussed, including the remarkable pot-holes for which the locality is famed.

A sumptuous dinner was served at the Clifton House on the Canadian side, overlooking the Horseshoe falls, and the return journey to Buffalo was made in the cool of the evening.

On Wednesday morning the street cars took the members to the Buffalo Pottery, where they were met by L. H. Bown, general manager, W. J. Rea, superintendent, and other members of the staff. A thorough inspection of the plant was made, special interest being evoked by the electrically driven machinery, the newly installed driers for jigger work and dipping, and the roller machine for underglaze printing. The greatest courtesy was shown by the officials and this proved to be the most profitable and enjoyable visit of the trip.

Next in order was the great Larkin plant in which a great variety of soaps, perfumes, spices, and household supplies are produced or prepared. The automatic machinery proved most interesting and opened up numerous possibilities in view of the present shortage of labor. Before inspecting the plant the party was entertained at luncheon by the Larkin Company and during the meal a motion picture film was shown illustrating the "Larkin idea." Mr. J. D. Larkin, the head and originator of the firm, spoke a few words of welcome to the members.

The huge plant of the Lackawanna Steel Company was next visited and the operations of steel manufacture were followed with interest. The Bessemer converter, always spectacular, delivered its Niagara of sparks and glowing ingots were transformed by the rolls into fiery serpents.

The boat "City of Buffalo" of the C & B Line transported some forty-five of the crowd to Cleveland, over a calm lake illumined by a half-grown moon. Cleveland was reached early Thursday morning and at the Hotel Cleveland an additional number of members was met. A local committee had here made excellent

arrangements and after a welcome breakfast automobiles and street cars transported the visitors, some to the research laboratories of the National Lamp Works at Nela Park, and some to the plants of the Enamel Products Company and the Cleveland Metal Products Company.

At Nela Park the party was met by a guide who explained the interesting historical collection which showed the evolution of the electric lamp in all its parts. They were then conducted to the auditorium where a film was shown which illustrated in great detail the winning of the raw materials and the manufacture and assembling of the modern lamp. It was explained that, as the manufacture was carried on as to the various parts in widely separated parts of the country, it would be manifestly impossible to view the actuality, and in fact the film showed the details in the most thorough manner. At the same time some regret was expressed that the laboratories themselves were not opened for inspection.

About twenty-five persons were driven to the plant of the Enamel Products Company, where Leon J. Frost conducted the party through the factory and explained the details of the manufacturing process. Following this, the plant of the Cleveland Metal Products Company, one of the largest producers of high grade enamel ware in the country, was visited. Before going into this plant it was announced that those going through thereby granted permission for a representative of this company to visit their plants in return. All agreed readily to this proposition. The equipment and grade of ware made in these two plants are fully up to the standard of enameling concerns in this country.

Thursday afternoon was given over to gaiety. The scene was the Cleveland Yacht Club, situated by Rocky River, about ten miles west of the city. The Divisions on Glass and Enamel took advantage of the occasion to hold meetings but these did not interfere with the fun. Several donned bathing suits and disported themselves in the water. Others organized a baseball game in the court with F. G. Lord and F. W. Walker, Jr., as captains. Hits and runs were many and the final score was 19-15. The winning team had some advantage by virtue of being on the Lord side.

Dinner was served, with the compliments of the Northern Ohio Section, and was accompanied by dancing. This was followed by "retreat" by the local Naval Boy Scouts, with the sunset gun and the lowering of the flag. Some of the party then returned to the city, while others continued to dance until a late hour.

The local committees are to be congratulated upon very excellent arrangements and efficient management. The Summer Meetings are necessarily becoming more and more social in their nature, as there is increasing difficulty in obtaining admittance to scientific establishments, but the meeting this year combined both elements in a very happy way.

CHARLES F. BINNS, *Secretary*.

ACTIVITIES OF THE SOCIETY.

Actions taken by the Board of Trustees at a meeting held at the Hotel Iroquois, Buffalo, N. Y., Monday evening, August 4, 1919. Those present were R. T. Stull, Pres., R. H. Minton, Vice-Pres., R. D. Landrum, M. F. Beecher, H. F. Staley, Chas. F. Binns, Sec'y., Norah W. Binns, Assistant Sec'y.

1. It was voted that, for the present year, 10 per cent of the dues and fees, as of 1919, paid by a member of the Society, who has or shall become a member of a professional division, be allotted to that division for legitimate divisional expenses, such as postage, stenographic services, stationery, printing, and multigraphic work. An accounting of money expended shall be rendered by the Secretary of each division to the Secretary of the Society at the end of the fiscal year.

(NOTE.—In the case of a member who wishes to belong to more than one division, he shall designate his "major" division, and 10 per cent of his dues and fee shall be allotted to that division.)

2. It was voted that the purchase of other volumes in order to obtain those low in stock shall be left to the discretion of the Secretary, it being the sense of the Board that such purchase is wise.

3. It was voted that the list of members of the Society shall not be available to anyone not a member, and that the Year Book shall not be sold separately.

4. It was voted to create a department in the Journal, of $\frac{1}{2}$ " single column advertising, free to members of the Society, for ceramic employers wishing men, and men wishing ceramic positions.

5. It was voted to amplify the booklet on the scope and purpose of the Society and to keep a supply constantly available.

6. Mr. F. H. Riddle was appointed chairman of the Membership Committee in place of Mr. R. C. Purdy, resigned.