Excursions and Entertainments

R. A. Emerson

Entertainments provided for the members and guests of the Sixth International Congress of Genetics were all informal. On Wednesday evening, August 24, an informal reception was given in Willard Straight Hall by the executive council. On Friday afternoon, August 26, from 4 to 8:30 a picnic at Taughannock Falls State Park, in charge of L. H. McDaniels, was attended by about 800 members and guests of the congress. The afternoon sports, baseball, horse-shoe pitching, and swimming, as well as the picnic supper and later the community singing, were typical of large-scale American picnics. A special feature arranged by E. A. Bates, primarily for the entertainment of foreign delegates, was ceremonial songs and dances by a group of American Indians from the Onondaga Reservation near Syracuse, New York.

The music of the week was in charge of Paul J. Weaver. On Sunday afternoon, August 28, an organ recital was given in Sage Chapel by David Hugh Jones, organist of the Westminster Choir School of Princeton, New Jersey. The university chimes were played three times each day. The program consisted largely of the music of the several countries represented at the congress.

Numerous excursions to points of interest were a prominent feature of the congress. These were organized by R. G. Wiggans with transportation arranged for by C. H. Myers. Each afternoon automobile trips were taken to either Enfield Glen State Park, Taughannock Falls State Park, Watkins Glen State Park, or to points of interest in the city of Ithaca, through the campus of the university, and to the agricultural college farm and experimental fields and gardens. On Sunday, August 28, an all-day excursion was made by railway train to Niagara Falls.

Special entertainment was provided for the women guests by a committee under the chairmanship of Mrs. R. A. Emerson, and Mrs. C. H. Myers. Afternoon teas were served in the library of Willard Straight Hall. Tours were made of the university campus with visits to some of the buildings of general interest; some of the more interesting private gardens of Ithaca were visited and excursions were made to near-by glens and state parks. Luncheons and card parties were also given.

Entertainment of boys and of girls from seven to fourteen years of age was provided on certain days by the Ithaca Boy Scout Council and by the Ithaca Girl Scout Council. Children below the age of seven years were cared for by a committee of young women at the nursery school of the College of Home Economics.