

on Monday evening, Dec. 16th. The subject under discussion read as follows, "An elected and salaried Commission, with the rights of initiative, referendum and recall reserved to the people, is the best form of civic government." The affirmative argument was presented by Messrs. Hackett, Lajoie and Hayden, while the negative contention was upheld by Messrs. Unger, Lally and Howard. The affirmative urged for the simplicity of the system proposed, and also claimed that it would effect the concentration of power in the community, and be effective in tracing any responsibilities to their correct sources. The negative essayed to convince the audience that the proposed plan would mean too radical a change. Upholding the merits of the council system now chiefly in vogue, the speakers for the opposition cited the success which attends this method of council administration in nearly all the large cities of Europe, Great Britain and America.

Mr. J. Tallon occupied the chair. At the conclusion of the debate the decision of the judges awarded victory to the negative.

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The French Debating Society held its last session of the 1912 season on Tuesday evening, Dec. 17th. The question before the members was "Was the Confederation of 1867 favorable to the French Canadians of Canada"? The debaters were Mr. J. Peron for the affirmative and Mr. J. Dubois for the negative. The palm of victory was bestowed on the speaker for the affirmative. Mr. J. Labelle presided over the meeting, and the following gentlemen acted as judges, J. Sauve, S. Plouffe and A. Bourbonnais.

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One of the best debates of a good many weeks was listened to at the session of the English Debating Society which was held on Dec. 9th. From an argumentative and oratorical point of view, the debate itself was a good one. The spirited discussion which was heard from the floor of the house, however, proved the principal attraction of the evening. A number of senior members engaged in an argument replete with refutations and counter-refutations, and which incidentally provided much amusement for those assembled. The resolution was as follows: "That the enactment of an anti-treating law in the province of Ontario would mean more for the cause of temperance than would the abolition of the bar." The affirmative was represent-