

OFFICIAL ORGAN.
C. M. B. A.

From conversation with several C. M. B. A. friends we have learned that there exists a feeling that it might be well to refrain from passing any further resolutions, or publishing any more letters on the Separate Beneficiary Question. The reason given for this view is that since the last Supreme Council convention, and especially since the President of the Grand Council of Canada addressed a letter on said subject to the C. M. B. A. members in Canada, all branches and members in the jurisdiction of said Council have had ample opportunity given them to express their views, and that no good can follow from any further discussion. While inclined ourselves to hold this view, we may state that the Record will be in the future as it has been at all times past—pleased to publish any official news from the Supreme and Grand Councils, also Branch resolutions and letters of instruction or interest to C. M. B. A. members. Our desire is to permit the fullest and freest discussion of all C. M. B. A. matters in these columns.

At the last meeting of Branch No. 4, London, Ont., the following resolutions were moved as an amendment to another set of resolutions, and carried by a vote of 38 to 7:—

Moved by Samuel R. Brown, and seconded by T. J. O'Leary.

Whereas, the Grand Council of Canada of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association has, under charter granted said body by the Supreme Council of said Association, jurisdiction over all C. M. B. A. Branches in Canada, and

Whereas, the said Grand Council, at its last convention, adopted a resolution in favor of a Separate Beneficiary Jurisdiction for Canada, and

Whereas, the said Grand Council has expressed no intention of forcibly withdrawing from the Supreme Council, nor of forming a Separate Beneficiary Jurisdiction, unless it be granted by the Supreme Council, or it be enabled to do so in accordance with the C. M. B. A. constitution, or unless it be compelled to do so by Canadian laws,

Therefore, be it resolved, that this Branch (No. 4, London, Ont.) hereby endorse the above-stated action and intention of our Grand Council.

Resolved, that it is the sense of this Branch that, if our Branches in Canada would now lay aside all little differences of opinion regarding this question of Financial Separation from the United States and the action of the Supreme Council in regard to the petition from the Grand Council of Canada, and go to work with a determination of increasing their membership; and if our Organizing Deputies would second this determination, and use their utmost endeavors in working up new Branches—the C. M. B. A. in Canada would soon be in a position to form a Separate Beneficiary jurisdiction even under our present constitutional regulations, and with honor both to the Supreme and Grand Councils.

We respectfully request our sister Branches in Canada to work harmoniously and energetically to extend the benefits of our noble Association among our co-religionists, irrespective of nationality.

Resolved, that these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this meeting, held April 16th, 1885, and published in our official organ.

Wm. COCHRAN,
Sec. Br. 4, C. M. B. A.

Resolutions adopted by Windsor Branch, No. 1, C. M. B. A., at regular meeting, held on the 2nd April, 1885:—

Whereas, Branch No. 9, C. M. B. A., Kingston, has, by resolutions duly adopted, censured Brother Thomas A. Bourke, of this Branch, for opposing, at the last session of the Supreme Council, the petition of the Grand Council of Canada, praying for Separate Beneficiary jurisdiction, and

Whereas, Brother Thomas A. Bourke was not a delegate at said Supreme Council from the Grand Council of Canada, and was free to act in the premises as he saw fit; and

Whereas, Brother Thomas A. Bourke has always been a conscientious, faithful and zealous member of this Association, and held in high esteem by his fellow-members; and

Whereas, the action of Brother Bourke, in reference to said petition, was in good faith and prompted by motives of honesty and directed for the best interests of the C. M. B. A. in Canada; be it therefore

Resolved, that said resolutions of said Branch are an injustice to Bro. Bourke, and tend to lower him in the high esteem in which he is held by his fellow-brothers; be it further

Resolved, that this Branch fully and unqualifiedly concurs in the action of Brother Bourke in reference to said petition to said Council; and that the same was prompted by honest motives; and that this Branch has the utmost confidence in the honesty and integrity of Brother Thomas A. Bourke; be it further

Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the CATHOLIC RECORD for publication, and that a copy thereof be sent to Brother Bourke by the Secretary.

Moved by C. W. Casgrain, seconded by M. J. Manning.

J. M. MURPHY,
Sec. Br. 1, C. M. B. A.

At a meeting of Branch No. 28, C. M. B. A., Ottawa, held 15th inst., the following resolutions were adopted by a unanimous vote:—

Moved by Rev. M. J. Whelan, seconded by Mr. E. J. O'Connor, that

Whereas, the Grand Council of Canada of the C. M. B. A. at its last meeting decided in favor of a separate beneficiary fund for Canadian members, and applied to the Supreme Council for its consent to the establishment of this separate beneficiary, and

Whereas, the petition from said Council of Canada came before the Supreme Council at its last meeting, but was not granted, and

Whereas, the vast majority of the members in Canada are in favor of a separate beneficiary, without prejudice to the friendly relations with the brotherhood in the United States, and without any doubt of their good-will toward us; be it therefore

Resolved, that this Branch regards as unworthy, mischievous and cowardly the spirit manifested in certain letters which have lately appeared in the "Irish Canadian" newspaper, throwing doubt on the honesty of purpose of the promoters of the separate beneficiary scheme, and its advocates in the Canadian official organ; and be it further

Resolved, that this Branch approves of the course pursued by the Canadian official organ in the matter.

E. T. SMITH,
Sec. Br. 28, C. M. B. A.

Resolved, that this Branch approves of the course pursued by the Canadian official organ in the matter.

(Copy of resolutions of condolence adopted at meeting of Branch No. 28, C. M. B. A., April 15th, 1885.)

Whereas, it has pleased Almighty God to call away from this world the beloved wife of our esteemed brother, Michael O'Reilly,

Resolved, that the sincere and heartfelt sympathy of this Branch be tendered to our afflicted brother, and we trust that a merciful Providence will give him strength to bear the severe trial.

Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be presented to our bereaved brother, that they be entered in the minute book of this Branch, and that they be published in the CATHOLIC RECORD.

K. T. SMITH,
Sec. Br. 28, C. M. B. A.

Resolved, that the sincere and heartfelt sympathy of this Branch be tendered to our afflicted brother, and we trust that a merciful Providence will give him strength to bear the severe trial.

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collection the publisher meets with a reasonable measure of encouragement, a Supplementary Series will be issued on the completion of this, which will contain all the Works of the Pious which have at any time been translated into English. Works never before translated will probably be added. Suggestions from the clergy and scholars invited.

A prompt and favorable response to this circular is respectfully requested by the Publisher.

We feel that we can safely bespeak for this great work a very general circulation amongst the clergy of Canada.

BETTER THAN GOLD: By Nugent Robinson, Notre Dame, Indiana: A. W. Maria press. This is a very little tale which, for vivacity, exactitude of detail, and excellence of literary merit, is sure to be read with more than passing care.

A SHORT AND PRACTICAL MAY DEVOTION, compiled by Clementine Deymann, O. S. F., Prov. S. S. Cordis Jesu. Approved for the use of the Right Rev. J. J. Hogan, Bishop of Kansas City, and St. Joseph, Mo.: Fr. Pustet & Co., New York and Cincinnati.

This is an excellent handbook of devotions for the Month of Mary. Its style is of the soundest devotional character, and its commendable brevity in the exercises for each day of the month.

It is a book that cannot fail to meet with encouragement.

RITUS CILIBRANDI MATRIMONIUM: Giving on four pages, bound in book form, (size of 9 1/2 inches) all the rites and prayers for the act of performing the marriage ceremony in Latin, English, French and German, red and black type, in leather cover, free by mail, \$1.00. This card will enable the rev. clergy to perform the ceremony of marriage with all the instructions and prayers as given in *extenso*. It ought to command a ready and extensive sale.

A FAR CRY FROM EGYPT TO IRELAND. AN INFLUENTIAL ENGLISHMAN ON IRISH DISCONTENT.

Mr. Joseph Cowen, M. P., addressing his constituents in Newcastle, on Feb. 14, referring to Ireland, said:—"It is not a far cry from Egypt to Ireland, but it is a far cry from Ireland to Egypt."

There is an inviolable spirit in Irish politics that all our ameliorative legislation cannot ally. Irishmen are not attracted by the bribe, tenacious, but somewhat ungenial order of mind that distinguishes our bourgeois law-givers. It has many merits, but it has certainly no government. Ireland wisely or well, it is a sad state rather than amiable, and sensitive, quick-witted Irishmen are repelled by it.

The Rev. Sydney Smith once gave characteristic expression to the average middle-class conception of Irish requirements. He defined the object of the Government to be the securing for the people of roast pork, potatoes, claret, a stout constable, an honest justice, and a clear highway.

"What is the use," he asked, "of bawling in the streets about the Green Isle, the Isle of the Ocean, the bold anthem of 'Erin go Bragh'?" A far better anthem would be that which would keep the rain out of Erin's pants without holes in them.

Mr. Smith, the sentiment that finds expression in the touching poem that you read me like you deride has quickened the heart of many an exile of Erin and made it tremulous with patriotic emotion to be the security for the people of roast pork, potatoes, claret, a stout constable, an honest justice, and a clear highway.

It is the living fibre that distils in every true man. It is because the inheritors of Mr. Smith's sensual philosophy conceive that all Irishmen want is only a well-filled trough and a well-lit street—it is because they don't appreciate the finer qualities that are deeply implanted in the Celtic nature, that their efforts after reconciliation have failed. Scarcely, wretchedness, huge, dank and baneful, are perennial in Ireland, and the people want only too urgently all that that factious, but worldly-minded, clergyman describes. But they want something different and more. Every nation has its ideal. Greece, typified by Pericles, Rome, by Cicero, and the Celtic, by the Celtic. The Celtic is practical; the Celtic is imaginative. But the existence of these diversities need create no intestine antipathies. If a legitimate outlet is furnished for their manifestations they will find picturesque and strength to the greater nationality which should be the Celtic nature, that Ireland, with sad and dishonoring results, the harsher form of administration. Our method has been a word and a blow—the blow usually first. Suppose we try the softer force of gentleness, generosity and courtesy. This is not an original suggestion certainly. It is as old as Christianity. But at all our plans we have attempted it yet in Ireland. Nations, like men, easily forgive injuries; but insult and distrust inflame their hatred and perpetuate their resentment. And what can be more insulting and distrustful than the systematic exclusion of all Irishmen from positions of trust and authority in the Celtic nature, that Ireland, with sad and dishonoring results, the harsher form of administration. Our method has been a word and a blow—the blow usually first. 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