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mences Jan. 4, 1904.W. W. BROOKS
J. W. WESTERVELT
Chartered Accountant
Principal

Our Montreal Budget

(From our own Correspondent.)

The regular meeting of the Roman Catholic School Board took place last week at the Commercial Academy, under the presidency of Rt. Rev. Mgr. Racicot. The Commissioners present were: Rev. Martin Callaghan, Rev. Charles Larocque, Mr. J. H. Semple, Mr. L. P. Demers, M.P.; Ald. Gallery, M.P.; Ald. Laporte, Ald. Martineau, Mr. J. R. Savignac, and Mr. U. E. Archambault.

Ald. Martineau's motion for free books in the schools took up most of the time. Commissioners J. H. Semple, Ald. Martineau and J. R. Savignac argued in favor of the idea. Rev. Charles Larocque opposed it very strongly. Father Larocque's objection that the free books would endanger the moral and religious teachings was answered by Ald. Martineau that only books approved by the Council of Public Instruction could be used.

Ald. Laporte was in favor of the proposal but would like to have a report, showing what the distribution of free books would cost.

Mr. J. H. Semple maintained that it would not cost much more than \$400 per school and that the Board had saved that amount this year on the insurance. The matter was finally held over for the financial report of a special committee composed of Rev. M. Callaghan, Mr. J. R. Savignac and Ald. Martineau.

A letter was read from Rev. Father Kiernan, P.P., of St. Michael's, asking to suspend in his favor the by-law which says that: "Pupils whose parents live beyond the city limits, may be admitted to the school when there is room for them; such pupils to pay double fees, unless their parents pay the Montreal school tax."

Father Kiernan desired that these outside pupils should be admitted on the same terms as others. The request was strongly recommended by Commissioners Semple and Gallery, and was finally adopted.

Principal Desautels, of Belmont school, was granted two weeks' leave of absence. Prof. Reynolds, of the Belmont school, was appointed librarian of the Polytechnical library, replacing the late Mr. Bond.

The question of uniformity and free books in the schools is one that will cause considerable difficulty in adjusting. The Brothers and Sisters have books compiled by members of the order, and they are not likely to change them. Again there are laymen who have compiled good works also, and the question of uniformity will be a puzzle.

The financial statement submitted and approved shows that the value of the buildings and real property of the commissioners has increased by \$240,047 since last year, being now valued at \$1,039,715. On the other hand, the furniture in the schools has depreciated, being valued at \$30,230, as compared with \$56,678 last year.

The taxes collected in 1902 amounted to \$188,172, as compared with \$180,988 in 1901. This increase allowed an increase in the salaries of some teachers, and the addition of new teachers, but the commissioners record the necessity for a far greater increase in the funds to maintain the schools, as the operations of the year show a deficit of \$1,414, which had to be taken from the reserve fund.

Last year 10,369 Catholic children and 237 non-Catholic were received in the schools. Notwithstanding the large increase in the number of children, there is much complaint from all sides that it has been impossible for many to obtain admission, as the schools are crowded.

The expenses of maintenance of the schools was \$187,561, an increase of \$7,084 over last year. Large expenditures were made on capital account for the improvement of the Meilleur and Chauveau schools, as the debentures issued the preceding year for that purpose had proved insufficient.

Branch 26 of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Canada held their semi-monthly meeting on Monday evening on Monday evening at 92 St. Alexander street. A very

large number of members were present, and it was decided to give an open meeting on Wednesday evening, December 2, at which the Grand President, Hon. M. F. Hackett, and the Grand Officers would be present and address the meeting. In addition the executive are preparing an excellent musical programme.

The arrangements were complete and St. Patrick's Hall was filled on the occasion of the visit of the Grand President. Music, song and speeches made an enjoyable evening, and Branch 26 can claim the honor of being the excelsior C.M.B.A. Branch of Montreal.

A pretty wedding was celebrated at St. Ann's Church Tuesday, the event being the marriage of Mr. Edward Dault to Miss Kate Quinn. The bride was given away by her brother, Mr. Wm. Quinn. The presents were numerous and beautiful. The ceremony was performed by Father Caron, C.S.S.R. Among the guests were: Mr. and Mrs. Daly, parents of the groom; Mr. William and Miss Mary Quinn, Mr. and Mrs. Troude, Mr. and Mrs. Cusack, Mr. and Mrs. Washbrook, Miss Washbrook, Mr. and Mrs. Hanley, Mrs. and Miss Brennan, Miss McMahon, Miss Ward, Miss Donavan, Miss Corcoran, Miss Walsh, Miss Peterson, Mr. B. Dancy, Mr. and Mrs. Casey, Mr. and Mrs. Maillette, Miss Maillette, Mr. and Mrs. Noonan, and Mr. Colopoe.

The marriage of Dr. Fred Pelletier, a well known young newspaper man of this city, son of Prof. R. O. Pelletier, organist at St. James' Cathedral, to Miss Helen Bernard, took place on Saturday morning at the Sacred Heart Chapel, Notre Dame Church. Mr. Jos. Saucier, baritone, sang, while Prof. Goulet rendered a violin solo during the nuptial mass. On Friday evening a party of newspaper men gathered in the parlours of the Queen's Restaurant to present their confere with a purse and their best wishes on the occasion of the event. After assuring him that he was a jolly good fellow, those present drank to his health, and a pleasant time generally was enjoyed.

On Friday an anniversary Requiem service for the repose of the soul of the late Very Rev. Father Colin, Superior General of the Sulpicians, was held at Notre Dame Church. All the Sulpician Fathers of the city, and a large number of the city secular and religious clergy together with all the seminarians, assisted. On Saturday morning another service was held. This was given by the different religious communities as the late Abbe Colin was considered a great benefactor of the Archdiocese of Montreal.

Education and the means of bettering it seem to be getting a live topic here. The city council grapples with the question of increased taxation.

Certain city fathers warmly discussed the proposition of the Protestant School Commissioners that an additional tax should be put on property in order that more funds could be raised for school purposes.

Ald. Martineau, who is a Catholic School Commissioner, came out very strongly to-day against the proposition that real estate should bear the burden of additional taxation for the cause of education. He was in favor, however, of more revenue being raised for the cause of education, and proposed other means of raising revenue than by assessments on property.

"It must be admitted," said Ald. Martineau, "that neither the Catholic nor the Protestant School Board can, with the means at their disposal, build the new schools that are needed, increase the number of teachers and their salaries, and equip properly the classes. Additional revenues must, therefore, be found. But from where? By an increased tax on property? I am absolutely opposed to any such increase, for three reasons: 1. The immovable property is already heavily taxed.

2. It already pays more than its fair share in the civic treasury.

3. The property holders are not more interested in the cause of education than the other classes of the community, which should all be called upon to make good the amount necessary to give us efficient schools in the city.

Why should the personal capital not contribute its quota to the school fund? Instead of piling more taxation upon immovable property, why not impose a tax upon individuals, stock transfers, etc.?

There can be, according to me, no objections to such a course which would, I believe, solve the difficulty. If not, I see no other way to improve the situation than a direct contribution to the school fund by the city council. If it is true that our civic finances are now in the very best position, surely we ought to be able to devote to school purposes, a sum varying from \$75,000 to \$100,000 a year, even if to do that, it were to cut short, and for many years to come, the expropriations now talked all over the city.

Ald. Lavallee held a much different opinion as to how revenue should be raised. He said that he thought the best way to raise additional revenue was to put a small additional tax on real estate, but at the same time efforts should be made by the city council to get revenues from new sources. It might not be impossible for the city to levy taxes on accumulated capital in banks, and upon various companies that now paid no taxes to the corporation. It was

scarcely fair that real estate should be made to bear the whole burden of increased taxation when there were other ways of raising additional revenue.

"I must say," said Ald. Lavallee, "that at the present time many poor people are not sending their children to school on account of inability to pay the school fees and purchase the expensive books which scholars must constantly get. This is a very serious matter. In other cities education is free. It should be so in Montreal. Education is badly handicapped in Montreal. There should be some way out of the difficulty we are now face to face with. I have not had time to carefully consider exactly what means should be adopted to raise the revenue, but I am certainly in favor of more money being given to the School Commissioners."

Continuing, Ald. Lavallee said: "It might be a good thing if a by-law were submitted, asking proprietors if they were willing to bear increased taxation for the cause of education. The whole question, however, was a very complex one and would take a great deal of consideration by the city council."

The Catholic Sailors' Club held the last concert of the season on Wednesday, when the employees of the James McReady Company gave a fine musical and literary entertainment. This year has been the most successful in the history of the popular repertory.

Mgr. Racicot celebrated Solemn High Mass in the basement of St. Mary's Church, as it was the formal opening. Rev. Father Gerald McShane, S.S., Notre Dame Church, preached the sermon. Every effort is being made to have the opening of the church ready for Christmas.

"Count life a stage upon thy way. And follow conscience, come what may; Alike with heaven and earth sincere, With hand and brow and bosom clear, 'Pear God'—and know no other fear."

—FELIX.

Montreal, Dec. 1, 1903.

SCHOOLS

HONOR ROLL FORM III. — ST. HELEN'S.

Excellent—W. Doyle, W. Kerr, J. Kelly, F. Heffron, V. Kirby, J. Keane, F. Wilson.

Good—W. Kelly, H. Goodwin, G. Norman, F. Newton, T. Plumbtree, M. Cullen, F. Doyle, H. Pegge, A. Foyle, E. Garrity, C. O'Connor, H. Tracy, V. Pegge.

Monthly Examination.

Sen. Div.—B. Kearns, C. O'Connor, F. Wilson.

Junior Div.—M. McDonald, G. Norman, J. Travers.

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL.

Boys who obtained the highest number of notes in monthly competition.

Form IV. Senior—1st Vincent Varley; 2nd, John Witmer; 3rd, Willie Maloney.

Form IV. Junior—1st, Joseph Boner; 2nd, Wilfred Bourdon; 3rd, Michael Moat.

Form III. Senior—1st, Newman Mackintosh; 2nd, Thomas O'Brien; 3rd, Izrie Milne.

Form III. Junior—1st, Louis Murphy; 2nd, Thomas Shannon; 3rd, Harold Landerville.

Form II. Senior—1st, Francis Shannon; 2nd, Wm. Hand; 3rd, Francis Ackrey.

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL.

Boys who received testimonials of merit for excellent department and application to study during the month of November: John Witmer, Wm. Overend, Vincent Varley, Wilfred Bourdon, Joseph Boner, Michael Moat, Joseph Clarke, Harold Campbell, James Glynn, Wm. Maloney.

Good—George Ryan, Patrick Delaney, Charles McCurdy, John McClean, "Senior Shine," Newman Mackintosh, Izrie Milne, John Skain, William McKinn, John Byrne, Francis Sicking, William Williams, Wm. Gibbs, Ed. Lane, Michael McCarthy, Norman Kelly, Wm. Ayers.

Good—Howard Perry, Chas. Corcoran, John McCrohan, Romeo Grosi, Thomas Lundy, Ernest Hanson, Thos. O'Brien, Jas. Nicholson.

Junior Fourth—Excellent, W. Mulhall, G. Foyle, J. Torpey, F. Tracy, G. Kirby, H. Belisle, P. McAleer.

General Proficiency—Francis Tracy, Joseph Torpey.

Junior Fourth—Excellent, R. Clarkson, F. Riordan, Ed. Creary, W. Galvin, Wilbert Henderson, J. Foley, W. Markle.

Good—W. Holland, F. Boland, C. Higgins, T. Dault, W. Dault, W. Artkin, F. Wallace.

General Proficiency—R. Clarkson, F. Riordan.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections; also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. Jones, 847 Powers' Block, Rochester, N.Y.

De La Salle Cadets

Major Mason inspected the De La Salle Cadets last Thursday afternoon. The corps was in command of their inspector Sergeant Ernest A. Fall of the Royal Canadian Grenadiers.

The boys did remarkably well considering that they have been but recently organized. Several features of the review were well worthy of praise.

At the conclusion of the inspection Major Mason addressed the boys complimenting them on the highly satisfactory nature of the work exhibited, and encouraging them to put forth still greater effort. Mr. John Hall and trustees D. A. Carey and Andrew Cottam, accompanied the inspector.



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Rev. B. Kiernan, Quyon, Que.

Your records are ahead of any I ever heard.

Rev. D. Matte, Hospice St. Joseph, Que.

The Gramophone I bought of you a few months ago is giving entire satisfaction and is admired and praised by all who have heard it.

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Rev. J. Vaillancourt, Levis, Que.

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Rev. Pere A. Carion, Kamloops, B.C.

Permit me to tell you that I am perfectly satisfied with the Gramophone I bought of you. It is a source of endless amusement to the children of our school as well. I do not think anything more perfect could be invented.

Rev. Geo. Bonsfield, Pembroke, Ont.

The records are still in good condition although they have been used hundreds of times.

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