

THE CANADIAN

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Published Monthly, in English and French, at London, Ont., in the interest of the

Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Canada

And mailed to members between the 1st and 15th of each month.

Members are invited to send us items of news or information that will be of benefit to the Association. Communications on subjects of interest to C. M. B. A. members will always be welcome, but anonymous letters and letters which the Manager does not consider for the welfare of the Association will not be published.

Correspondents will please remember that copy must reach us before the 15th of the month, if intended for publication in the following month's issue, and that space is limited and brevity is desired.

Address all communications to S. R. BROWN, Editor and Manager.

Coote Block, Dundas Street, London, Ont.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM.

LONDON, JUNE, 1900

ADVERTISEMENTS.

We are now prepared to accept advertisements for THE CANADIAN. The terms are \$30 per column per annum or \$5 per inch space per annum payable strictly in advance. There is no better medium for advertising. THE CANADIAN has a circulation of 14,000, extending all over Canada.

For further particulars address S. R. BROWN, Editor and Manager, Coote Block, London, Ont.

OUR CONSTITUTION.

We are in receipt from time to time of the most flattering expressions of opinion with respect to our constitution. Our English correspondents speak of it as being evidently the result of very matured thought and of the most careful preparation. Mr. Fox, a prominent member of the great Australian fraternal society, "The Hibernian Australian Catholic Benevolent Society," in a communication enclosing a copy of their constitution says:

"The rules of the C. M. B. A. are such models of comprehensiveness and lucidity that I fear you will be somewhat disappointed with those of the H. A. C. B. S."

Our constitution and rules are all right. Let the brothers live up to them, and the success of the C. M. B. A. will be doubly assured.

JUDGE LANDRY HIGHLY HONORED.

The New Brunswick University has informed the Hon. Judge Landry, of Dorchester, N. B., that the title LL. D. will be conferred upon him by said University on the occasion of its closing exercises for the year.

Judge Landry is the first Acadian to receive such consideration and high honor from the English universities of the country. We hope he will not be the last. The event is a recognition of the ability which the Honorable Judge has displayed on the bench of the Supreme Court.

The judge is a charter member of Branch 167, C. M. B. A., and was its Vice-President of the Grand Council of the C. M. B. A. of Canada for two years. At the time of the heated dis-

ussion on separation of the C. M. B. A. of Canada from the Supreme Council of the C. M. B. A. of the United States, Judge Landry was one of the Committee selected by the C. M. B. A. Convention, held in Hamilton in 1892, to investigate the matter and report to the Grand Council, and by his strong argumentative power and advice, aided very materially in bringing the vexed question to a final settlement.

We heartily unite our congratulations to those of the numerous friends and admirers of Brother Landry.

PRESENTATION TO JUDGE O'REILLY

Friday evening, May 18th, witnessed one of the most pleasant social and friendly functions that has taken place in Prescott, when His Honor Judge J. O'Reilly was invited to be present at a meeting of his friends and admirers, which was held in the Victoria Opera House. It was an expression of friendly congratulation and regret offered to this gentleman, on his being raised to the bench and on his taking up his necessary residence in Cornwall. The Opera House was well filled by ladies and gentlemen, and among those on the stage were: The Rev. Vicar General Masterson, Messrs. I. D. Purkie, John Carruthers, J. K. Dowsley, Geo. McCrea, G. T. Howard, Mayor Mundle, Albert Whitney, Jas. Cosgrove and others.

Mr. John Carruthers acted as chairman of the meeting, while Mr. P. K. Halpin, P. M., filled the secretary's chair. Mr. I. D. Purkie, on behalf of the subscribers to the presentation, presented His Honor with a beautiful cabinet of solid silverware, which bore the following inscription on a brass plate: "Presented to James Redmond O'Reilly, by his Prescott friends, on his appointment to the Judgeship of the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, May, 1900"

An engrossed address was also presented to him. The judge made a suitable reply.

Judge O'Reilly is a member of Branch 16, C. M. B. A., Prescott Ont. We offer him our hearty congratulations.

FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC SOCIETIES

The federation of Catholic societies seems to be in the air. The question has been discussed in a desultory way in some quarters for a few years past, but now it appears to be advocated with some vigor by many leading Catholic papers.

At the biennial convention of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, recently held in Boston, a significant letter was read from Bishop McFaul, of Trenton, which has given a fresh impetus to the idea of federation. After speaking of the unfair exclusion of Catholics from

public office in New Jersey, Bishop McFaul says:

"It seems to me that all societies composed of Catholics should endeavor to touch at certain points, that, while retaining their identity and pursuing their own aims independently of other organizations, there should be a bond of union enabling them in given circumstances to exert a united influence."

The Bishop is perfectly correct. There are times when, and places where, the Catholic societies can, by acting in concert, accomplish what Catholics individually, or one society alone, cannot hope to achieve. It is easier for the laity to speak through their organized societies than to speak singly. Such a junction of forces, however, ought never to be employed for any personal or purely party purpose, but only on those momentous occasions when it becomes the duty of every Catholic, regardless of party considerations, to assert the common rights of his co-religionists.

The beloved Bishop expressly disclaims the idea of Catholics forming themselves into a separate party: and as will be seen from the above quotation he means that the identity of the separate societies should be preserved.

It would be very unwise to advocate complete amalgamation; it would be impracticable. The various Catholic societies have their distinctive objects and their own peculiar fields. Some are organized primarily to promote temperance: some make a prominent feature of sick benefits; others, like our own C. M. B. A., provide for post mortem benefits. The St. Vincent de Paul Society is devoted to charity and to the deserving poor; the Catholic Truth Society to the dissemination of Catholic literature, and so with every Catholic society. Each has its own peculiar field in the division of Christian labor, and any attempt to fuse all these societies and to do all this work by one society is sure to meet with failure. Nevertheless it may be found to fall well within the domain of practical effort to have a federated society, composed of representatives of all the Catholic societies of the country, who would meet periodically for the promotion of the interests of Catholics generally, while not attempting in any way to interfere with the complete autonomy of the various societies from which they are drawn.

At the convention of the A. O. H., to which we referred, a resolution was passed, looking to the affiliation of the A. O. H. with the Australian Hibernian Society, about which we wrote a short time ago in these columns.

WANTED.

We are in need of a few copies of THE CANADIAN of April, 1895, and would be much pleased to receive same from any member who might have it and who is not keeping the official organ on file.

ANSWER TO QUESTIONS SUBMITTED

1. If you surrender your \$2000 policy and receive a \$1000 one, your rate for assessments shall be according to your age at the date of your initiation—that is, if you were twenty four years of age at the time you joined the C. M. B. A. and received a \$2000 policy and if you now surrender said \$2000 for a \$1000 one, your rate will be 50 cents per assessment no matter what your present age is. (See section 2 of our Constitution)

2. If you are not over 50 years old and hold a \$1000 policy in the C. M. B. A. and desire to take a \$2000 policy, you may make application to your branch for such, using our regular printed forms for said application. You must be examined by the branch physician, approved by our Supervising Medical Examiner and balloted for the same as a new applicant. If the ballot is favorable, you shall be entitled to a \$2000 policy. You do not have to be initiated for an increase of policy. Your rate per assessment for your new \$2000 policy shall be the amount you have been paying for the old \$1000 policy plus the rate per assessment you would have to pay for a \$1000 policy according to your age at the time the additional said \$1000 increase was granted by the ballot above mentioned; that is, if you were 22 years of age at the time you were initiated and received a \$1000 policy your rate was 50 cents per assessment, and if you were 24 years of age at the time the increase was granted your rate per assessment for the \$2000 policy would be \$1.00, but if you were 26 years old at the time the increase was granted your rate for the \$2000 policy would be \$1.05 per assessment. (See Section 3 of our Constitution.)

3. A medical examiner for a branch of the C. M. B. A. is not to collect the Supervising Medical Examiner's fee; he shall collect his own fee only, which is \$1.50 from each applicant he examines. See Section 122 of constitution. The Supervising Medical Examiner's fee must be collected by the branch from the applicant at the time the application is made; this fee is 50c. and is paid by the applicant when paying the \$3 initiation fee, and branches must remit said 50c. to the Grand Secretary, no matter whether the applicant is approved or rejected. See Section 147, constitution.

4. The applicant must be examined by the medical examiner for the branch to which application for membership is made. The Supervising Medical Examiner may, however, grant a dispensation in special cases for the examination to be made by some other physician. See Section 124.

5. The Supervising Medical Examiner has full power to appoint the medical examiners for branches. This part of our C. M. B. A. business is entirely in his hands. See Section 119.