

second time when the general Franciscan Chapter chose him as procurator general of the Friars Minor in the reformed provinces of Italy. In this capacity he was more than once entrusted with delicate missions by the Generals Bernardin de Montgruaro and Louis de Parma. He visited thirteen provinces of his Order, inculcating the principles of the monastic life and spirit of St. Francis everywhere he passed.

He was on the point of visiting France, in 1892, on a similar mission, when the Sovereign Pontiff precluded him Bishop of Lacedonia in the consistory held in July of that year. The new Bishop made his solemn entry into his diocese on February 2 1893, and began immediately to work for the spiritual welfare of his flock. His affability, united to a great firmness of character, soon gained for him many friends. He aimed chiefly at getting into direct contact with his flocks, and in the three years that he remained in Lacedonia visited the whole diocese three times. His pastoral letters, written during this term, were remarkable productions, one deserving special mention, the letter which treated of the respect which Catholics owe to their priests.

The Holy Father raised him, in 1895, to the united archiepiscopal sees of Acarozza and Matera. In this new and wider sphere of action, Archbishop Falconio was distinguishing himself when Leo XIII again called him to a higher dignity, that of Apostolic Delegate to Canada.

His Excellency has been with us now a couple of months, and has already visited several of our cities and their religious institutions. He is for the present in residence with the Oblate Fathers at the Ottawa University.

HIGHLY APPRECIATED.

At a regular meeting of Branch No. 251, Tignish, P. E. I., held Dec. 22d, 1899, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas His Lordship the Bishop of Charlottetown has lately addressed a Circular Letter to the clergy and laity of his diocese, in which he warns them against the danger of joining not only those secret societies formally condemned by the Church, but also those others that seem to be closely allied to the Masonic Order, doubtless because of the wording of the rituals used at their burial services, wherein the name of Christ is not to be found, and because some of these societies are governed and directed by men belonging to the higher order of masonry:

And whereas in the same Letter His Lordship highly recommends the institution known as the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Canada to the faithful of his diocese, as one deserving their confidence and patronage and as one that is socially, religiously and morally well adapted to the wants of Catholics:

Therefore resolved by the members of Branch No. 251 of the said Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Canada that they hereby record their high appreciation of the interest His Lordship is taking in the advancement of their society throughout his diocese and their deep sense of gratitude for the favorable light in which he places their organization in his late Circular Letter.

And let it be further ordered and resolved that a copy of these resolutions be addressed to His Lordship the Bishop and another to THE CANADIAN, the C. M. B. A. organ, in its next issue.

AN ORGANIZER'S THANKS.

To the Grand Deputies of Ontario:
Dear Sirs and Bros. — Through the medium of our official organ I beg to thank the Grand Deputies of Ontario who have so generously responded to my letters of 12th December in reference to C. M. B. A. work. I find the information very useful: it will, no doubt, aid and assist me in my canvas and prove beneficial to our Association.
Yours fraternally,
Jos. King, Grand Organizer.
Seaforth, Jan 5, 1900.

ENTERTAINMENT OF BRANCH 21, ST. CLEMENS, ONT.

On the evening of Saturday, December 16, 1899 a regular meeting of Branch 21 was held in their hall at St. Clements, Ont. Some of the members had, during the afternoon, lent their services to the work of decorating the hall, which presented a very pleasing appearance.

The meeting was largely attended, every officer being present. The most important business of the evening was the initiation of the following nine new members: F. J. Stumm, J. G. Meyer, Alex. Bush, Alex. Fahrenkopf, J. Fahrenkopf, J. K. Brenner, G. Voit, T. Wunsberger and J. Schickler, after which the applications of five other candidates were laid before the Board of Trustees.

The President then addressed the meeting. To the newly initiated members he pointed out their duties both in regard to the Association and to their families; the old members, he congratulated on the success of their efforts to increase the membership of the Branch. He returned thanks on behalf of the Branch to Brother J. F. Stumpf for the valuable services he had rendered while holding the position of Recording Secretary. In concluding his remarks the President announced that an oyster supper was about to be served, and cordially invited all to remain. The following members were present: Spiritual Adviser, Rev. Father Brohman; Brothers Kuntz, Mattell, Heckler, Stumpf, Weber, C. Biegel, J. Biegel, L. K. Meyer, J. S. Meyer, G. S. Meyer, J. G. Meyer, J. E. Meyer, Leyes, Burauch, Greyerbiehl, Fahrenkopf, Hirtles, Herrick, Hunsberger, Lorentz of St. Clements; Brother Buiche, of South Bend, Indiana; Brothers Haid and Voll, of Hawksville; Brother Berges, of St. Jacobs; Brothers Friedman and Weber, of Litwood; Brother McGeoy, of Macton; Brothers O'Donald and Morris, Wausfield; Brothers Hanley and Korman, of Hescon; Dr. More, the Medical Examiner; and several outside guests.

Rev. Father Brohman, at the request of the President, gave a stirring address, which was highly appreciated and called forth applause. Dr. More also spoke and was well received. Choice musical selections were rendered by Professors Krotsch and Shummer.

An enjoyable evening was brought to a close by cheers for the C. M. B. A. and cheers for the Queen; the national anthem was sung by a chorus of fifty voices, and it was unanimously declared that never before had the members of Branch 21 assembled on a more pleasant occasion.

True friends wait to be summoned in the time of prosperity, but in trouble they come and offer their help — De Phalere.

INSTRUCTIONS

To Grand Deputies or Organizers of the C. M. B. A.

HOW TO INSTITUTE A BRANCH.

1. Call the meeting to order, and have the usual opening prayer said by a priest, if present, and if not, by yourself.
2. Read the report you received from the Grand Secretary, giving the names, etc., of the applicants whose medical certificates have been approved, and have said applicants answer to their names. Then request all others, excepting Rev. Fathers or those who are already members of the Association, to withdraw.

3. Arrange the room, as nearly as possible, in accordance with the diagram in our Ceremonial.

4. Read the obligation of the Association to the candidates, and be assured that the answer, "I do," is given by each of them to the question contained in the last sentence of said obligation.

5. Have each member sign the roll-book, pay his first assessment according to Section I of our Constitution, and his initiation fee of \$1. and Supervising Medical Examiner's fee of \$2. If the last two items have not already been paid, then present each member with a copy of the Constitution.

6. The nomination and election of officers should then take place.

7. Immediately after the election, install the officers elect and conduct each to his respective station when obligated.

8. Now put the branch through a form of meeting, according to Section 207, explaining thoroughly each order of business as you proceed.

9. Instruct the members well in the use of the "Gavel," the "Duty of Members Entering or Leaving during Session," the "Method of Balloting," the meaning of the "Design" placed over the President's station, and the "Opening" and "Closing Ceremonies."

10. Under order 14, New Business, have the branch arrange the date and place for holding its regular meetings, and the amount of monthly dues. This may be done by a "standing resolution" or "by-law" in compliance with Sections 156 and 185.

11. Under order 15, Good of the Association, give a thorough explanation regarding the working of the Association and the duties of members, especially officers of branches. Impress upon them the necessity of dealing promptly with the Grand Secretary in remitting assessment and general fund monies, and forwarding applications for membership with blanks properly filled in as soon as possible after initiation. If branches are negligent in the discharge of their duties towards the head office, how can they expect the Grand Secretary to conduct the business with that efficiency which we so much desire should characterize the C. M. B. A. of Canada?

12. Have an order drawn on the Treasurer of the branch for \$20.00, and forward said order and amount, the applications for membership and your report to the Grand Secretary without delay.

The necessary expenses of Grand Deputies when instituting branches are paid by the Grand Council.

After the branch has been instituted and the Grand Secretary has received a list of the officers and charter members, he will make out the charter for the branch and forward it to the Recording Secretary.

The welfare of a branch depends in a great measure upon its first officers,

and the way in which they discharge their duties.

RESOLUTION OF BRANCH 218.

Whereas the members of Branch No. 215 Summerside, P. E. I., were filled with deep emotion on Sunday, 10th ult., when our Spiritual Adviser read from his pulpit the circular just issued by His Lordship Bishop McDonald, wherein he renewed his disapproval of fraternal societies not formally recognized by the Church and recommended instead, in warmest terms, the well-known association of the C. M. B. A., honored as it is with the highest approbation of our Holy Father the Pope, fondly hoping that a branch may in time be established in every parish of the diocese.

Therefore resolved that this branch do hereby desire to express to His Lordship our appreciation of his pastoral zeal in seeking the further extension of this Association in the diocese.

Further resolved that we pledge ourselves to second His Lordship's efforts by steadily striving to enlarge the sphere of the Association in our own midst and to popularize it throughout the diocese wherever our influence may be felt.

And further resolved that a copy of this resolution be engrossed in the minute book, one sent to His Lordship and one to THE CANADIAN for publication.

READ AND DISCUSSED.

At the last meeting of Branch 251, Kensington, P. E. I., the excellent Circular letter from Right Rev. J. C. McDonald, Bishop of Charlottetown, was read and enthusiastically received. It dealt extensively with secret societies, and clearly showed that the most effective means of counteracting the evil influence of such societies is for Catholics to enrol themselves under the banner of an association that commands all the advantages which other societies possess, and that enjoys spiritual favors which the latter can never hope to attain. Such an association is the C. M. B. A. This letter has been read in every parish church in the diocese and has been discussed in every branch in the province, and it is safe to say that the end for which it was conceived will ere long be attained — of seeing a branch in every parish in the diocese. Branch 251 passed unanimously and forwarded to His Lordship a resolution thanking him for his able co-operation in behalf of the C. M. B. A. of Canada.

APPEALS

An appeal to the Members of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Canada.

Brothers—Branch No. 44, C. M. B. A. Annapolis, which, since its organization in July, 1899, has never failed, in any instance, to respond to an appeal, regrets to have to make its first appeal, on behalf of a very deserving brother, John McDonald, who has been a member in good standing in this branch for the past ten years.

Brother McDonald has been afflicted for the past six years with the terrible disease of cancer, although the branch has been paying his assessments and assisting him with several substantial loans from our branch funds for many months past, we have decided that we cannot do as much