

THE CANADIAN

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Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Canada

And mailed to members on or about the 10th of each month.

Members are invited to send us items of news or information that will be of benefit to the Association. Communications upon 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welcome, but anonymous letters and letters which the Manager does not consider for the welfare of the Association will not be published.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 much desired.

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LONDON, MARCH, 1898.

THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF BRANCH NO 1.

On the evening of February 10th Branch No. 1 Windsor, Ont., celebrated its 20th anniversary with a banquet at the Crawford House.

It was a magnificent gathering, as 111 guests in all sat down to table. The chair was occupied by Bro Cleary. It is needless to say that the important function was filled with credit.

The menu was one of Landlord Cooney's best efforts and full justice was done to the choice viands.

Supper disposed of, Chairman Cleary rose and introduced the intellectual part of the programme with a felicitous speech. In facetious terms he regretted the absence of Bros. McKee and Killackey. He alluded in feeling terms to the melancholy reason which forbade the presence of Judge McHugh, namely the death of his mother.

In glancing back over the history of the organization Bro. Cleary said there was abundant cause for congratulation. In 20 years there had occurred only 20 deaths, one a year, and all of the deceased brethren had the \$2,000 certificate. The branch had had 20 presidents, all of whom were yet in the flesh, although some had left the city. At present No. 1 branch had 187 members in good standing.

Secretary Keogh read letters of regret from the following:

Hon. M. F. Hackett, of Stanstead, Que., grand president of the C. M. B. A.

- J. Green, jr., Detroit.
- J. Ronan, Hamilton, Ont.
- J. Carr, U. S. vice consul.
- J. H. Breen, Detroit.
- Thos. Reid, mayor of Walkerville.
- James Scully, Windsor, and Rev. Father McKeon.
- Saml. R. Brown, grand secretary, London.

Father Ryan of Amherstburg. Bro. Cleary then in a speech proposed the toast of "The Queen," which was enthusiastically drunk, the company rising and singing "God save the Queen."

"The governor general" was the next toast, introduced by the chairman in a speech in which he recalled how Earl and Lady Aberdeen had endeared themselves to the Irish people.

This toast met an eloquent response from Bro. Murphy, who was frequently interrupted by applause. He reminded his hearers that it was Lord Durham who had given Canada home rule as she presently enjoys it. Allusion was made to the important work done by Governor General Lord

Dufferin in looking into and spreading a knowledge of the great resources of the Dominion. But industrious as Lord Dufferin was in this patriotic work, he had not discovered all our resources. He did not find out that the waters of the far northwest flowed over sands of gold—untold wealth in fact.

Bro. Murphy's speech was followed by a sacred song, "Jerusalem" by Thos. Condon of Detroit, rendered in splendid voice.

"The president of the United States" was proposed by the chairman in the absence of Judge McHugh, Consul Lay should have responded, but as he was absent Mr. Condon was invited to perform that duty. Mr. Condon reminded the gathering that he had never made a speech in his life—that he was present to sing and not to speak. He said, however, that Mr. Collins of Detroit, who sat beside him, was a speaker and would respond fittingly. This was in the nature of "putting up a job" on Mr. Collins, who was thus obliged to rise and make his maiden speech, of which, however, he has no reason to feel ashamed. It was exceedingly appropriate and was well received.

J. W. Manning of Detroit sang "The minster song" in a very acceptable way.

At this point Grand Treasurer Wm. J. McKee, M. L. A., entered and was received with thunders of applause.

"Our grand spiritual adviser, Archbishop Lynch" was proposed by the chairman and this was followed by a song by E. H. Collins of Detroit, who sang charmingly the plaintive ballad "The Maid of Dundee," and to an enthusiastic recall sang "The Old Red Cradle." Mr. Collins' voice is a pure flutelike tenor and his method is exquisite, his fine enunciation and phrasing being more especially noticeable. Mr. Collins sings in the Jefferson Ave cathedral and Windsor will not forget his capability as a vocalist.

"The Dominion Parliament and Ontario Legislature" was proposed by Dr. Resume and responded to by Gaspard L'aud, ex M. P., in one of his most stirring and eloquent efforts, a fine patriotic address touching on the liberal, in fact lavish, support which the province affords to agriculture, education, and every branch of government.

Messrs. Condon and Manning sang "I feel thy angel spirit," a beautiful composition, to which they gave a very artistic rendering.

"The supreme council of the C. M. B. A." of United States was proposed by A. P. E. Panet in a neat address, and responded to by T. A. Bourke, one of the founders of the council, both speeches evoking warm applause.

Messrs. Pepin and McLaughlin sang a duet, "Hope Beyond" in a manner to earn them a vociferous recall, but to the disappointment of their audience, they were not prepared to respond.

"The grand council of the C. M. B. A. of Canada" was proposed by J. M. Meloche in the absence of Jos. DeGurse. He laid stress on the great benevolent work of the association at large, which since 1893 had paid out \$715,000 to widows and orphans.

Bro. McKee, responded in a happy speech, saying that this was the time when he was knocked about from pillar to post. He had narrowly escaped the pleasure of meeting with them, but had found them perhaps in their sunniest mood. They had gotten the start of him in the matters of eating and drinking, but he would do his

best to recover lost ground. He congratulated the organization on the fact that the clergy, who had at first opposed them, were now enthusiastic endorsers of the association. Ten years ago the C. M. B. A. numbered in Canada only 3,000 now it had 12,000 members, and its influence was operative from ocean to ocean. Such a phenomenal growth, had represented a great missionary effort on the part of members.

Bro. Killackey was down for a speech but, as said, was absent.

Messrs. Pepin and McLaughlin again favored the audience with a duet, "The banks of the Wabash," and were warmly encouraged.

"Branch No. 1, Windsor," was proposed by P. Hanrahan in a short but pointed address, and Bro Bourke responded.

Dr. H. R. Casgrain was called upon for a song, and responded with "The Palms" by Faure, singing it with fine effect. The doctor is one of the finest amateur singers in the city, and is heard too seldom.

"Sister societies" was proposed, and was fittingly responded to by Messrs. C. E. Lucier, Chas Bourbeau, Jos. Fitzgibbons and J. L. Murphy.

F. W. Burton sang acceptably "The same love is waiting for you," by Cooper.

Dr. Casgrain was properly assigned the duty of proposing "The ladies," and able responses were made by Messrs. J. H. Connelly and P. M. Keogh.

Alex. McLaughlin sang "Take Back Your Gold," and earned warm applause.

The duty of proposing "The Press" devolved on A. J. E. Belleperche, but when this toast was reached about 1 a. m. was found that the only representations present, Messrs. A. Pacaud and T. D. Niven had succumbed to weariness and gone home. Secretary Keogh was kind enough to stand for the absent scribes, and responded. The toast was proposed by Mr. Keogh in the absence of A. J. E. Belleperche.

Jol. Mooney contributed a song and Francis Cleary a recitation, and the very enjoyable meeting was brought to a close.

A. J. Pepin played the accompaniments during the evening, and Ruthven's orchestra discoursed its best music.

The toasts were all drunk in the generous wine of Sandwich, several of Mayor Girardot's best brands being on the tables.

The musical programme demands special mention, and it is not saying too much, to pronounce it one of the finest ever rendered at any social function in Windsor. Each contributor was an artist, and the selections were in the best taste. Special thanks are due to Messrs. Pepin and McLaughlin, who took the "butt end" of the choice entertainment.

A fragrant brand of cigar circulated freely, and toward the close of the banquet the brethren viewed one another through a somewhat hazy medium.

Finally congratulations were in order to the committee of management, whose arrangements were carried to so happy and successful an issue.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

Bathurst, N. B., Feb. 25, 1898.

To the officers and members of Branch No. 130, C. M. B. A., Bathurst, N. B.

Gentlemen—I beg to acknowledge receipt, through your Recording Secre-

tary Mr. Wm. La Plante, of a cheque for \$2000.00 being the amount of Insurance Policy on the life of my late husband James J. Power in your association. I wish at the same time to express to you my deep appreciation of and sincere gratitude for the fraternal and charitable interest manifested by you towards my husband during his illness and especially on the occasion of his death and funeral.

Your association deserves the support of all Catholics who have at heart the welfare of their families or of those dependent on them.

I am, gentlemen, with much esteem and gratitude,

Yours faithfully,
Mary Power.

Niagara Falls, Ont., Feb. 17, 1898

To the officers and members of C. M. B. A., Branch No. 18, Niagara Falls, Ont.

Gentlemen—Please accept my most heartfelt thanks for the very kind and charitable way in which you treated my late husband, Joseph Gormican during his long and painful illness. Wishing the C. M. B. A. the success it deserves.

I remain sincerely yours,
Mrs. Ellen Gormican.

Initiations Reported in February, 1898.

Initiations Rapportees en Fevrier, 1898.

Br.	Initiated Members.
281	Glace Bay, N. S. 8
282	Sarnia, Ont. 5
283	Chatham, N. B. 5
284	Memramook, N. B. 4
285	St. H. de Montreal, Que. 3
286	Brantford, Ont. 2
287	Wallaceburg, Ont. 2
288	St. Mary's, Ont. 2
289	Kinkora, Ont. 2
290	Sydney, N. S. 2
291	Truro, N. S. 2
292	Amherstburg, Ont. 1
293	Kilgushton, Ont. 1
294	Berlin, Ont. 1
295	Stratford, Ont. 1
296	Toronto, Ont. 1
297	Seaforth, Ont. 1
298	Thorold, Ont. 1
299	Montreal, Que. 1
300	Hamilton, Ont. 1
301	Toronto, Ont. 1
302	Barrie, Ont. 1
303	Mount Forest, Ont. 1
304	St. Agatha, Ont. 1
305	Dublin, Ont. 1
306	Penetanguishene, Ont. 1
307	Smith's Falls, Ont. 1
308	Pictou, Ont. 1
309	Chepstow, Ont. 1
310	Sudbury, Ont. 1
311	Calgary, N. W. T. 1
312	St. John, N. B. 1
313	Chapleau, Ont. 1
314	La Salette, Ont. 1
315	Brechin, Ont. 1
316	Ottawa, Ont. 1
317	Montreal, Que. 1
318	St. Jean Baptiste, Man. 1
319	St. Alexandre, Que. 1
320	Dartmouth, N. S. 1
321	Dalhousie, N. B. 1
322	Fredericton, N. B. 1
323	Cap St. Ignace, Que. 1
324	L'Avenir, Que. 1
325	Somerset, Man. 1
326	Cartier, Ont. 1
327	Barabook, N. B. 1
328	Wellington, P. E. I. 1
329	Tracadie, N. B. 1
330	Louise, N. S. 1
331	Oakville, Ont. 1
332	Belliveau, N. S. 1
333	St. Joachim, Ont. 1
334	St. David de L'Auberiviere, Que. 1
335	Cape Bald, N. B. 11
336	St. Norbert, Man. 11
Total 106

N. B.—The initiations in the last branch are charter members.
Les initiations de la dernière succursale sont des membres fondateurs.

NEW BRANCHES.

Branch No 291 was organized on February 27th at Cape Bald, N. B., by Grand Deputy Dr. L. J. Bellivau. The following is the list of officers:

- Sp. Ritual Adviser, Rev. Father Collette
- President, Napoleon S. LeBlanc
- First Vice-President, Laurent F. Leves
- Second Vice-President, Abel A. Fagan
- Recording Secretary, H. C. LeBlanc
- Assistant Recording Secretary, Mathias C. Leves