

**STY THE KING**  
no breakfast delicacy —  
acon; but to use an old  
for it see that you get

**Bacon,**  
les of the famous "Har-  
an, however, fill orders

**on Cheese**  
(brays)  
irect from the best dair-

**LE CIDER!**

idder. The best made in  
but returnable.)  
ASER, VIGER & CO.

**GRAPE FRUIT.**

ian River Shaddocks,  
to the box—60 cents per  
to the box—50 cents per  
mammoth," "Superla-  
cents each, \$2.50 per  
—20 cents each, \$2.50  
ts each, \$1.50 per doz.  
SER, VIGER & CO.

**APPLES!**  
N' APPLES.  
\$4.75 per barrel.  
\$4.75 per barrel.  
\$4.75 per barrel.  
y in Nova Scotia, and  
SER, VIGER & CO.

**SUCCOTASH'**  
003.  
State of Maine grows  
America.  
on Pink" and "Webb's  
lb. Cans,  
ase of 2 dozen cans.  
2-lb. Cans,  
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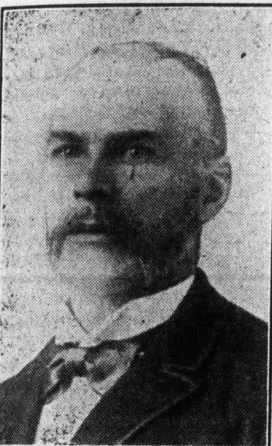
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## Grand Officers Of C. M. B. A. Visit Local Branches

Branch No. 50, C.M.B.A., of Can-  
ada, held a public meeting, and re-  
ception to the Grand President, Hon.  
Michael F. Hackett, K.C., and the  
Grand Secretary, Mr. J. J. Beehan,  
on Friday last in the hall of St.  
Anthony's parish.

The attendance was a large and  
representative one.

Mr. Patrick Doyle, one of the vet-  
eran enthusiasts of the great Catho-  
lic organization and President of the  
Branch, occupied the chair. Among  
those who occupied seats on the  
platform were:—The Grand Presi-  
dent; Grand Secretary, Rev. John E.  
Donnelly, P.P., of St. Anthony's;  
Rev. Father Salmon, Kingston; Dr.  
Harrison; Mr. George A. Carpenter,  
Grand Deputy; Mr. Jeremiah Coffey,  
Chancellor; Mr. Frank J. Curran, B.  
C.L., Chancellor; Mr. P. J. Darcy,  
President of Branch No. 26, and  
others.



MR. PATRICK DOYLE.

President Doyle, in a neat speech,  
welcomed the distinguished guests. He  
referred to the fact that the Branch  
over which he had the honor to pre-  
side had completed its 17th year of  
existence, and was in a prosperous  
condition. He then introduced the  
talented young organist and choir-  
master of St. Michael's parish, who  
contributed a piano solo with much  
artistic skill. The Glee Club of  
Branch No. 74, Messrs. Charles Kel-  
ly, John Deegan, M. McCarthy, Wil-  
liam Cox, William Hennessy and J.  
J. Shea followed in selections which  
were greeted with applause.

The Grand President, Hon. M. F.  
Hackett, was then introduced by the  
chairman, and met with a reception  
which showed his popularity with  
the members of the association in  
this city.

After expressing the sincere pleas-  
ure it afforded him to meet his bro-  
ther members of Branch No. 50, the  
Grand President proceeded to review  
the great movements of past centu-  
ries when the idea of mutuality held  
sway in many lands and in various  
forms.

Dwelling upon the work of the C.  
M.B.A. in the past, the speaker said  
the Association had achieved much  
for Catholics since its inception and  
is certain to do much more in future.  
Catholics should study its principles  
and join its ranks. It aims at the  
elevation of Catholics of this coun-  
try and uniting them from ocean to  
ocean. It aims to promote the in-  
terests of Catholics generally, both  
spiritually and materially.

Hon. Mr. Hackett then referred to  
the fact that the Association had  
distinguished members of the hierar-  
chy and hundreds of the clergy in its  
ranks. Referring to the membership,  
the Grand President stated that on  
January 1st, 1903, it was 17,088.  
Since that date it had been increas-  
ed to 17,962. By provinces the mem-  
bership on the 26th November, 1903,  
was as follows:—

Ontario .....	9,710
Quebe .....	2,746
New Brunswick .....	1,792
Nova Scotia .....	2,189
Prince Edward Island .....	865
Manitoba .....	376
North-West Territories .....	242
British Columbia .....	48
Total .....	17,962

Hon. Mr. Hackett here mentioned  
that the amount paid to beneficiaries  
to the 1st of November last was  
\$1,901,631.80. The reserve fund, he  
stated, amounted to \$155,261.57,  
and is under deposit in the following  
banks:—

Bank of Nova Scotia .....	\$16,853.56
Eastern Township Bank .....	16,213.63
Ontario Bank .....	22,665.57
Bank of British North Am- erica .....	21,579.13
Banks of Toronto .....	17,111.75
Bank of Montreal .....	16,085.59
Canadian Bank of Com- merce .....	15,401.24
Merchants Bank .....	23,438.18
Bank interest included in this to 31st August .....	\$149,348.65
Amount accrued from the 5 per cent. from May 31st to Nov. 26th (not deposited) .....	5,912.92
Total amount Nov. 26, 1903 .....	\$155,261.57

In closing his eloquent effort, the  
Grand President made a strong ap-  
peal to the ladies to interest them-  
selves in the praiseworthy task of  
extending the membership of the as-  
sociation which he said was in a  
large degree organized for their be-  
nefit.

Mr. and Mrs. Laing were then called  
upon, and sang a duet with much  
expression, and were deservedly re-  
called amid much applause. A piano  
solo by Mr. W. A. Murchison was  
much appreciated, and a song by  
Mr. W. F. Costigan, who is the pos-  
sessor of a melodious voice which he  
used with much ability.

The chairman here requested the  
Grand Secretary to address the  
meeting. On rising, the old adminis-  
trator with a new office was accord-  
ed an enthusiastic greeting. He is a  
calm and practical speaker, and im-  
pressed the audience very much by  
the way in which he discussed the  
many advantages to be derived by  
those holding a membership certi-  
ficate in the C.M.B.A.

A song by Mr. W. H. Nolan, who  
possesses a powerful baritone voice,  
was enjoyed, also a ballad by Mr.  
John Deegan, and the solo and  
chorus of the Glee Club of Branch  
No. 74, in which Mr. Shea was the  
soloist, displaying his powerful and  
well cultivated voice in an artistic  
manner.

The proceedings were brought to a  
close by Mr. Frank J. Curran mov-  
ing a vote of thanks to the Grand  
Officers for their eloquent addresses,  
in which agreeable task he was ably  
supported by that zealous worker in  
C.M.B.A. ranks, Mr. T. P. Tansey.

Afterwards the Grand Officers were  
entertained at a well known dining  
hall, at which the officers, members  
of Branch No. 50, and officers of sister  
branches, assisted. President  
Doyle occupied the chair, and Bro.  
J. Fallon was vice-chairman. Toasts  
were proposed and responded to as  
follows:—"The King," proposed by  
Chairman, the members singing "God  
Save Our King." "His Holiness the  
Pope," proposed by vice-chairman.  
"The Association," proposed by  
Chancellor T. P. Tansey, responded  
to by Grand President Hon. M. F.  
Hackett. "Our Guests," proposed by  
Chancellor W. P. Doyle, responded to  
by Grand Secretary J. J. Beehan.  
"Grand Deputies and Sister  
Branches," proposed by Chancellor  
J. P. Gunning, responded to by  
Grand Deputy J. J. Costigan, Grand  
Deputy, G. A. Carpenter, President  
P. J. Darcy, Branch No. 26, Dr.  
Harrison, Bro. O'Reilly (of Ottawa),  
Chancellors T. Lynch, P. Reynolds,  
and J. Coffey. "The Press," propos-  
ed by Chairman, responded to on be-  
half of press by Chancellor F. J.  
Curran. "The Ladies," proposed by  
Rec.-Sec. T. M. Tansey, Branch No.  
50, responded to by Chancellor F.  
J. Sears, Branch No. 26, and by  
Bro. Dr. Mullally.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman  
proposed by Hon. M. F. Hackett,  
brought a most successful banquet to  
a close.

BRANCH 26.—The banner branch  
also held a rousing public meeting  
in their well-appointed rooms on St.  
Alexander street, on Wednesday  
evening, at which a large number of  
members and friends of the branch  
were present.

On the platform were the enthusi-  
astic president of the organization,  
Mr. P. J. Darcy; Mr. J. J. Beehan,  
Grand Secretary; Dr. Ryan, of King-  
ston, Grand Medical Examiner; Rev.  
P. Heffernan, St. Patrick's; Hon.  
Mr. Justice Curran; Messrs. T. J.  
Finn, J. J. Costigan, P. Reynolds,  
F. J. Curran, advocate and others,  
while among the audience were no-

ticed many of the charter members  
of the branch.

President Darcy introduced Grand  
Secretary Beehan, who delivered a  
spirited address, during the course  
of which he outlined the organization  
and progress of the C.M.B.A. and  
its present sound financial standing.  
Other members followed Mr. Bee-  
han in enthusiastic addresses, all of  
which spoke of the confidence in and  
loyalty to the great Catholic Associ-  
ation.

An attractive programme of songs,  
recitations and other features was  
provided, in which Messrs. J. H.  
Maiden, Walter Costigan, J. H. Kel-  
ly, Fred Hogan and Thomas Hogan,  
and Miss T. Harrington took part.  
Branch No. 26 has always enjoyed  
the reputation of being the foremost  
section of the C.M.B.A. in the Irish  
parishes of this city, and its success-  
ful open meeting was another evi-  
dence that it is entitled to that hon-  
or.

## LATE MRS. GOULDEN.

This week took place the funeral of  
the late Mrs. Rosanna Goulden, an  
old and highly esteemed resident of  
Ottawa. She was a sister of ex-Al-  
derman M. Starrs, and had reached  
the ripe age of eighty-one years.  
Death was not altogether unexpected  
as for the past year or more her  
health was failing. She leaves three  
sons: William, proprietor of the  
Goulden hotel, with whom she lived;  
J. P. Goulden, now of Cuba; and  
Robert A. Goulden, of Ottawa. She  
leaves also three brothers, Messrs.  
Michael Starrs of Ottawa, and Robert  
and John Starrs, of Michigan.  
She was one of the first organizers  
of the St. Patrick's OrphanAsylum,  
and was associated in the organizing  
of St. Joseph's Orphanage. She was  
a native of Omagh, County Tyrone,  
Ireland, and came to Canada in  
1845.—R.I.P.

## Striking Figures on Church Attendance

We are often pitied because, as  
Catholics, we are subjected to the  
apparently severe ecclesiastical law  
that obliges us to attend Mass, at  
least once in the week, and that on  
Sunday. Yet, if our non-Catholic  
friends could only know it and un-  
derstand it, we are so happy under  
this rule that we would feel it the  
greatest of all misfortunes were we  
deprived of the facility of hearing  
Mass on the Sabbath. So much so  
is it, that millions of Catholics, all  
the world over, make a practice of  
hearing Mass daily.

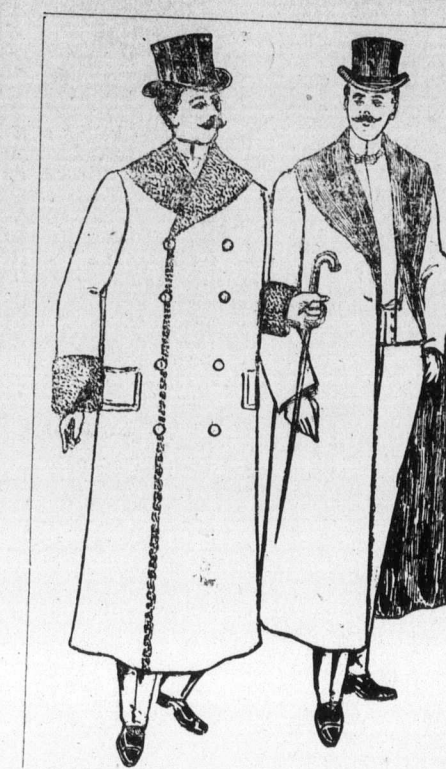
When, then, we find comparisons  
instituted between Church attendance  
on the part of Catholics and on that  
of Protestants, we are astonished  
that our friends outside the Church  
do not consider how much more ex-  
act our Church is, than any of  
theirs, in the matter of Sunday ob-  
servance. Some time ago, an Amer-  
ican Catholic organ made a regu-  
lar study of this subject and cited  
some local incidents, with accom-  
panying statistics, concerning one  
city, and consisting of answers from  
the clergymen of fifteen Protestant  
and of ten Catholic churches. The  
statistics submitted show that the  
attendance at the ten Catholic  
churches amounts to 17,225; and the  
attendance at the fifteen Protestant  
churches amounts to 9,000, with a  
margin of about 500 for some small-  
er churches not heard from by the  
writer.

We now publish the table as given  
by our contemporary. But it must  
be remembered that the people who  
attended both morning and evening  
services in the Protestant churches  
were counted twice. As to Catholics  
they either attend Mass, or, as a  
rule, they do not go to Church at  
all. In Protestant churches it is dif-  
ferent. They are not morally bound  
to attend church on Sunday.

Here then is the table:

The attendance at the Catholic churches is as follows:—	
Immaculate Conception .....	5,500
St. Ann's .....	2,500
St. Francis Xavier .....	2,100
St. Patrick's .....	1,700
Sacred Heart .....	1,600
St. Thomas's .....	1,450
Our Lady of Lourdes .....	1,000
St. Joseph's .....	800
St. Cecilia's .....	400
St. Michael's .....	175
Total attendance .....	17,225

Three columns of figures are used



## Shivers and Sleigh Bells!

The snow is here and the real  
cold weather is upon us.

The winter climate of Canada  
does not alter. The thermometer  
drops and drops until it gets to the  
very bottom of the Fahrenheit tube.  
Then everybody shivers to the  
accompaniment of the sleigh-bells  
as the sleighs glide along rapidly  
over the snow.

Warm sleigh robes and fur-  
lined garments are rendered neces-  
sary to personal comfort by the  
extreme cold.

Not only are furs necessary  
from the point of view of comfort,  
but the dictates of fashion also com-  
pel people to have them.

Everybody wears furs because  
they are more useful and less ex-  
pensive here than elsewhere.

The fur trade is one of the greatest commercial specialties of Canada.  
Several firms do an enormous trade, and among these the firm of Charles  
Desjardins & Co. takes first place.

This establishment has no rival—in stock, "creations," special furs,  
and its great display of beautiful, stylish patterns designed by artists  
and made up by experts.

In our store you will find a profusion of fine overcoats. There is  
an abundance of Mantles in a thousand and one forms Little furs for  
Baby also abound, and we have fancy furs innumerable.

Furs Here undergo a  
Transformation into All sorts  
of Original Shapes.

There are so many of these  
that we cannot begin to describe  
them. We state simply this: "Our  
establishment is the greatest of  
its kind on this continent."

We do the biggest trade and  
our customers are always loyal to  
us. The reasons are easily found  
in the quality of the fur, the ele-  
gance of the cut and the low prices.

Purchasers are requested not  
to forget that we give

25 p.c. to 40 p.c. better  
Value than else-  
where for the same  
price.

**Chas. Desjardins & Co.,**

1533 to 1541 ST. CATHERINE STREET, - - MONTREAL.



in giving the attendance at the Pro-  
testant churches. They represent re-  
spectively the attendance at the  
morning service, the evening service  
and the Sunday school. The attend-  
ance follows.

	M.	E.	S.S.
First congregational .....	300	100	150
Second Congrega- tional .....	450	200	475
Third Congrega- tional .....	125	100	175
St. John's Episco- pal .....	300	200	310
Trinity Episcopal .....	350	175	400
St. Paul's Episco- pal .....	70	80	
First Baptist .....	500	850	340
Second Baptist .....	50	50	
Swedish Baptist .....	50	50	25
Grace Baptist .....	50	175	45
First Methodist .....	200	300	350
St. Paul's Metho- dist .....	150	175	250
Grace Methodist .....	85	100	82
Chapel street Meth- odist .....	100	100	
Second Advent .....	150	75	140
Swedish Lutheran .....	250	225	59
Total attend- ance .....	3180	2955	2792

Giving every benefit of the doubt  
to the Protestant element, we find  
that, after adding together those

who attend at either morning, or  
evening service, or Sunday school  
(which is not a service at all), we  
have 8,927; while the Catholics num-  
ber 17,225; a difference in favor of  
the latter of 8,298.

The same writer then takes the  
trouble to ask the opinions of Catho-  
lic and Protestant clergymen re-  
garding the increase or decrease in  
church attendance; and by the pub-  
lished answers we find that all the  
Catholic pastors speak of an increase  
and the majority of the Protestant  
pastors tell of a decrease. To what  
are we to attribute this plain condi-  
tion of affairs in the religious world?  
We can find but one explanation; and  
that is in the attraction which the  
Church has for the people. The Catho-  
lic Church never changes, and for  
rich and poor, learned and ignorant  
alike, she has but one rule; and she  
possesses the only real magnet that  
can draw people to the altars. She  
alone has within her the living and  
actual presence of Christ; not a figu-  
rative one alone, but a real pres-  
ence in the Sacrament of the Altar.  
And the Mass is the only act of real  
adoration known to man, under the  
new dispensation, because it is the  
only one that comes directly and by  
means of a sacrifice in contact with  
the Person of Christ. This is the  
mighty power that draws the faith-  
ful to the Church, that keeps alive  
the spirit of practical faith, that is  
the secret of the many sacrifices of

time, ease, comfort, and inclinations  
that Catholics make rather than  
miss the Mass. This, then, is the  
source of the increased attendance.  
And the rule that obliges a Catholic,  
under pain of sin, to attend at Mass  
on Sunday, instead of being a hard-  
ship, is one of the best illustrations  
of Christ's meaning when He said  
that His yoke was light and easy to  
bear.

Our subscribers would do the "True  
Witness" a very great favor if they  
would patronize those who advertise  
in its columns.

## DOWIE'S FAILURE.

Reports in the daily press state  
that Dowie, the self-styled "Elijah  
III.," is now in financial difficulties  
and his Zion city is in possession of  
receivers.

Some idea may be gleaned of the  
magnitude of the operations of this  
sensational preacher when it is con-  
sidered that the assets of his organ-  
ization are estimated at between  
\$20,000,000 and \$30,000,000.

Mention the name of the "True  
Witness" when making your pur-  
chases.