

THE CANADIAN

Price, - 50 Cents.

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 10th 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 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welcome, but anonymous letters and letters which the Manager does not consider for the welfare of the Association will not be published.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.

Address all communications to
S. R. BROWN,
Editor and Manager,
Coote Block, Dundas Street,
London, Ont.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM.

LONDON, JANUARY, 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.

THE NEW YEAR AND THE C. M. B. A.

Another year with all its memories of pleasure and pain, all its burden of weal and woe, and all its load of sorrow and sin, is passing into the gulf of eternity, and the world, tenderly regretful of the past, but cheerily hopeful of the future, stands on the threshold of its successor waiting to speed the parting and to welcome the coming guest.

The moment is a solemn one, and almost unbidden suggests a host of reflections, some of which are not without their application to my brethren of the C. M. B. A. and to the noble organization to which we have the honor to belong. The year now going out with the tide has added another to the history of our Association, and I am happy to think that it has also added not only to our experience and to our prosperity and strength, but also to the force of the bond of union, fraternity and affection which links us together in a great brotherhood for the maintenance of our holy faith and the protection of those who are dear to us when our race here has been run. There are gaps in our ranks since I had the pleasure of addressing to you my last Christmas greeting.

The grave has closed over some of our members who were deservedly esteemed by their brethren and their fellow-citizens generally, but while we deplore their loss and honor their memory, we are to some extent consoled by the knowledge that their last hours were soothed by the recollection of the wise provision which they had made through the C. M. B. A. for the comfort of their loved ones. Their

passing away emphasizes the moral which our Association aims to inculcate and which should tend not only to the increase of our membership, but to a redoubling of exertion on our part for that purpose. The constant introduction of new blood is as desirable as it is essential to the perpetuation of the order and the extension of its usefulness. This can best be assured by vigorous effort, individual and collective, by demonstration of our prosperity and strength, and above all by the constant renewal of our youth through fresh accessions to our members, and by the example of a genuine brotherhood based on the true sentiments of affection and fraternal union.

Indeed, I cannot lay too much stress on the pre eminent necessity of this last and most important feature of our Association. The principles of true brotherhood, union and affection are its very essence, and by the diligent cultivation of the feelings which underlie these principles will the admirable objects of our noble order be more surely and speedily attained.

I venture to hope, therefore, that the incoming year will witness such additions to our ranks and such fervent recognition of the fraternal spirit, that should ever and always animate us, as will place the C. M. B. A. in the foremost ranks of Catholic Mutual Benefit Associations.

And now at the parting of the ways, looking back to the past and forward to the future, with the old year drifting out and the new year coming in, I can only repeat the assurance I have often given to the brethren of how deeply I feel by the loyal trust they have reposed in me and of how anxious I am for the promotion of their good and that of our Association.

In securing this I may not have been so successful as I would have wished, but I have the proud satisfaction of knowing, at all events, and so have we all, that the C. M. B. A. was never in a more prosperous and flourishing condition than it is at present and that its prospects for the coming year are equally encouraging.

Upon this auspicious condition of affairs, I sincerely congratulate the whole brotherhood and I take advantage of the occasion to wish them all, individually and collectively, with their families, A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR and many returns of the season.

M. F. HACKETT,

Grand President, C. M. B. A.
Stanstead, 26th December, 1899.

NOTE.

Officers of branches are reminded that the per capita tax, initiation tax and Supervising Medical Examiner's fees for the quarter ending December 31, 1899, are overdue, and should be paid without further delay. See Sections 60, 147 and 176 of Constitution.

1900.

With this issue of THE CANADIAN we begin a new year—the last of the old century.

The year just past has been one of unusual brightness for the C. M. B. A. In no year during the history of the Grand Council of the C. M. B. A. of Canada has the Association made more substantial progress. At no period of her existence has her position been more secure.

Looking backwards from to-day on the grand work we have accomplished we can truly say we have been in all respects a great factor for good. And during the past we have been especially blessed. Our death rate has been exceedingly low and the duration of membership has been markedly increased. From sudden and unprovided deaths, under God's mercy, we have been especially exempt. The number of calls for our charity and benevolence have been decreased, showing our membership to be in a happy and prosperous condition and free from want and sickness and distress.

Our financial position is all that the most sanguine and enthusiastic member could demand.

The remarkably low number of fifteen assessments have sufficed.

Only once in the history of the Grand Council have our assessments gone below this figure.

Our Reserve Fund has gone on steadily building up, until now it forms a bulwark against all danger both for the present and for the years to come.

But it has been in the great increase in our membership that the past year stands out almost unique in the history of the C. M. B. A. of Canada.

About sixteen hundred new members have been added to our roll during 1899.

New branches have been established in every quarter of the Dominion. And the most significant feature of the year's work is the fact that a good percentage of our new membership during the year has come from the old branches. In some branches as many as fifty new members were added during a single month.

There is no dry rot in the C. M. B. A. There is vitality and vigor in the old branches and a love and respect and confidence in the Association where it is best known.

Therefore we review with pride and satisfaction the record of the year just closed, and we look forward with hope and confidence to the year upon which we are now entering.

All along the line the tide has set in our favor. And with the new year let new resolutions come. Let us take advantage of our present high standing in order that we may advance higher still. Let each member resolve to do his duty to our beloved C. M. B. A.,

and make the last year in the old century the proudest in our history.

A happy, happy New Year to our brothers, one and all.

GUARANTEE BONDS.

All branches of the C. M. B. A. of Canada are hereby notified that arrangements have been made with the Employers' Liability Assurance Corporation, Limited, of London, Eng., through its agent, Mr. H. J. McKeon, of Montreal, Que., by which said company will issue a "Blanket Bond," covering all officers of our Association that are required by our Constitution to be under bonds. The Grand Council will pay said corporation the total premium in one sum, and the branches will pay their respective premiums to the Grand Secretary. This will be much better and more convenient for all concerned.

Each branch will therefore remit without delay its premium at the rate of 50 cents for each \$100 bonds for its Treasurer and its Financial Secretary. The amount of bond is \$3 for the Financial Secretary for each member, and \$5 for the Treasurer for each member in the branch. See Sections 17 and 177 of our Constitution.

Example: A branch has 100 members. Its bond is \$3 for Financial Secretary and \$5 for the Treasurer. Total \$8. Amount of premium \$1.

The premiums for bonds must be remitted to the Grand Secretary annually in January, and when a new branch is instituted.

OUR APOSTOLIC DELEGATE

His Excellency Mgr. Diomedo Falconio, Apostolic Delegate to Canada, was born in 1842, at Pescocostanzo, in Abruzzo, Italy, and entered the Order of St. Francis at the age of eighteen. After a brilliant course of studies, under the direction of learned members of his Order, he was, in 1865, sent to the United States. The following year he was raised to the priesthood by Right Rev. Doctor Timon, Bishop of Buffalo.

In July, 1866, he was appointed to the vice presidency of St. Bonaventure's College, at Alleghany, N. Y., filling, at the same time, the chair of philosophy. He became successively secretary of the Franciscan province of the Immaculate Conception, professor of theology, and president of the seminary and college. In 1871, he was transferred to Newfoundland, to assist Mgr. Corfagnini, O. S. F., Bishop of Harbor Grace.

In these various offices Mgr. Falconio gained the good will and esteem of all who had dealings with him, and several years ago when he revisited America after a long sojourn in Europe, he was the object of touching and sympathetic demonstrations on the part of his former spiritual children.

From 1883 to 1892 Mgr. Falconio gave his services to his Order as provincial of one of the Franciscan provinces in Italy. During this term of office he opened a novitiate, founded a house of studies, and re-established a number of convents.

In 1888 Mgr. Falconio had just been named superior of his province for a