

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 statements of news of their activities to the Editor of the Canadian Mutual Benefit Association, a copy of the subjects of interest to the C. M. B. A. members will always be welcome. All communications and letters should be addressed to the Manager, who will not consider them for publication unless they are accompanied by the name of the contributor.

Correspondents will receive in return a copy of the Canadian Mutual Benefit Association, published monthly, at a special rate, and a copy of the following: "The C. M. B. A. and its Successors," published by the Canadian Mutual Benefit Association.

Address all communications to:

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Editor and Manager,

10 Queen's Ave., London, Ont.

LONDON, DECEMBER, 1896.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our C. M. B. A. brothers.

The year 1896 will soon be gone. Although it has been a fairly prosperous one for the C. M. B. A., still our increase in membership is not so great as was expected. The membership in many of our old branches has not increased as it should, and the number of new branches organized is not large. Of course we do not believe in a mushroom growth; it would not be a benefit to the Association; and while we admit that the C. M. B. A. has a continual, substantial solid growth, yet considering its great benefits, its increase in membership is not as rapid as it should be. We hope 1897 will show that our Grand Deputies lately commissioned by our Grand President are live, up-to-date organizers. There is no good reason why we should not double our membership next year. However, we must not expect all this to be accomplished by the work of our Grand Deputies; every member in the Association should consider himself an agent for soliciting applicants for the C. M. B. A. If each one of our present members would bring in only one new member during the year, the object would be attained! Brothers, let the following be one of your New Year resolutions: "I will do all in my power, and use every legitimate means to bring in at least one new member into my C. M. B. A. Branch during 1897."

The Late Mr. P. O'Reilly.

We regret to learn of the death of Mr. P. O'Reilly of Montreal, which took place on 30th Nov. Mr. O'Reilly was a strong advocate of benefit societies. He was a member of the Grand Council of the C. M. B. A. of Canada up to the time of its separation from United States when he remained connected with the Supreme Council. He was instrumental in organizing a Grand Council in the Province of Quebec under the jurisdiction of the C. M. B. A. of United States, and was president of said council at the time of his death. We extend to the family of the deceased our sincere sympathy in their bereavement and pray that God may console them in their sad affliction. The Montreal Gazette refers to him as follows:

There will be a feeling of general regret this morning in C. M. B. A. circles at the death of Mr. Peter O'Reilly, Secretary of the R. of D. of the C. M. B. A. of Canada. Mr. O'Reilly, a prominent lawyer, was in the city on a visit to his family in the week-end. He was struck by a car on Monday night at his residence on Murray street. In addition to holding the important office of Secretary of the R. of D. of the C. M. B. A. of Canada, he was an active member of several Irish national and

benefit societies, being Grand President of the Quebec Council of C. M. B. A. a member of the Patriotic Society, Ancient Order of United Workmen, C. B. L. and of the Order of St. John, and other similar organizations. At a special meeting of the Grand Council of C. M. B. A. of Canada, after an address by Mr. P. McDermott, presiding, and attended by a large number of officers and members, resolutions of condolence with the family of the deceased were passed. The late Mr. O'Reilly, who was about fifty years of age, leaves a wife and five children to mourn his loss.



HON. MICHAEL FELIX HACKETT, Q. C., M. P. P.

Grand President of the C. M. B. A.

The Hon. M. F. Hackett was born at Granby, Que., in August, 1854. He was educated at St. Hyacinthe College, commenced the study of law at Stanstead, with J. L. Terril, and afterwards studied with the Hon. J. J. C. Abbott, of Montreal. He graduated at McGill University in 1875, and was valedictorian of that year. In the same year he was admitted to the Bar, and since then has practiced in Stanstead. In 1890 he was made a Q. C., and for several years has been a member of the Board of Examiners of the Provincial Bar, and Barrister of the Bar for the District of St. Francis. He served as Mayor of the town of Stanstead, and Warden of the County. In 1892 he was elected to the Provincial Legislature, and in 1895 was sworn in as President of the Council in the Hon. M. Taillon's Cabinet, and is holding the office of Provincial Secretary in the present Quebec Cabinet.

In May, 1894, Brother Hackett joined the C. M. B. A. as a charter member of Branch 166, which he was instrumental in organizing. He was elected its first President, and has been re-elected every year since. He represented the branch at the Grand Council Conventions of 1892, 1894 and 1896. From the time he joined the Association he has taken a prominent part in its affairs.

At the Convention of the C. M. B. A. held in Hamilton, he was chosen a mem-

ber of the Special Committee to consider and report on the effect of the Ontario Insurance Act of 1892 on the work of the C. M. B. A. The delegates to that Convention will remember the eloquent and convincing address delivered by our present Grand President in favor of separation from the United States, and of the members of the C. M. B. A. in the Province of Quebec remaining connected with the Grand Council of the C. M. B. A. of Canada. During the difficulty of the settlement of "Separate Beneficiary" in the Province of Quebec, he devoted himself to the defence of the Grand Council of the C. M. B. A. of Canada, without regard to time or expense on his part.

He was elected Second Vice-President of the Grand Council in 1892; in 1894 First Vice-President, and at our Ottawa Convention last August, he was elected by acclamation Grand President, the highest honor the Association could bestow upon him.

The Montreal Gazette, in an article headed "The Provincial Government," says:

"The group of counties which constitute the Bedford and St. Francis districts are amongst the most progressive and thriving in Canada, and they have given both to the Legislature and the Parliament of Canada, some of the ablest and most distinguished men who have occupied seats in those bodies. Mr. Hackett

is a worthy successor in a long line of eminent ministers. His experience in public affairs is large. Many years before he sought the suffrages of the electors of Stanstead, his name was in a hotly held word throughout the Eastern townships, made so by his active participation in the electoral struggle of more than a decade. His personal popularity is attested in a measure by the large majority, 500, he obtained in 1892 in this constituency. But his popularity is by no means confined to the county of Stanstead. A man in the prime of life, possessed of marked intellectual and physical vigor, of strict integrity of character, and imbued with an earnest desire to promote the prosperity of the province, we anticipate with confidence a career of distinction and honor for him in the high sphere of usefulness upon which he is about to enter. Mr. Hackett is gifted with great oratorical power, being excelled by few public men in this respect, but better far than the gifts and graces of rhetoric, he has to commend him to the respect and confidence of the public the qualities of honest purpose to serve their interests faithfully, of broad tolerance, unimpaired on many occasions, and a keen appreciation of the wholesome doctrine that public office is a public trust.

LIFE INSURANCE ASSOCIATIONS.

WHAT THEY DO FOR THE MEMBERS AND THE GOOD OF THE BUSINESS.

[Taken from Charles B. Soule's Prize Essay in the National Underwriter.]

The individual member of our organization can best promote the welfare of these organizations by remembering first and above all else that his personal attendance and interest are necessary to the success of the Association.

All success in every organization is based on the concentration of individual enthusiasm, but while the individual, merely as an individual, is an important factor, yet we must remember that his own personal ambition or whims or plans must be set aside when they confront the welfare of the association itself. This great basic principle of success in all organizations is to have individualism merged into the cause.

He must also remember that his attendance at the meetings of the association is essential to its life. The great furnaces of commerce would never roar in their intense energy, carrying life to the loom and prosperity to the community, should you fire each with but one small brand. It is the inspiration of ten thousand brands working for a common end that gives to the mill its throbbing life. So in successful organization, life, activity and success must come from the aggregation of the fire brands of ideas, and the individual member must bear in mind that he is the essential part on which the whole depends. And so long as his membership lasts, his duty is to aid and abet the purposes of the association by active attendance and participation.

Attendance fosters interest; interest begets enthusiasm; enthusiasm insures success.

He must also remember this great principle, that every duty performed elevates the man. He who is known as one who stands firm in his own conviction of duty, even in things that seem trivial, is the man who sooner or later wields an influence, and that member who will quietly and persistently fulfil every little duty set before him, will suddenly awaken to a realization of an acquired power, and will be surprised to find that from himself there emanates a new-born influence.