



BANQUET DU 8 AVRIL 1912 — LES CONVIVES A TABLE.

David, Georges Guy, Dr A. Mathieu, J. A. Giard, F. Charbonneau, Georges Viau, J. E. Laguerre, J. H. Vaillancourt, Dalbé Viau, Dr Poissant, Dr Damien Masson, L. N. Cadioux de Courville, Jos. Marois, Dr Garceau, Dr Ranger, Dr Daigle, Ernest Brossard, Jos. Gauthier, Alf. St-Cyr, W. Michaud, Alp. Rousseau, Jos. A. Lapierre, Rodolphe Lavallée, Dr Noël, J. A. Piette, E. A. Derochers, A. Charrette, L. E. Charron, etc.

LA PATRIE.

9 avril 1912.

"The Gazette"

Mayor Lavallée made a plea last night in the course of a banquet given in his honor at the armory of the 65th Regiment, for a more efficient inspection of mutual benefit associations of the province, upon which point Mr. Tellier, leader of the opposition at the Legislature, replied in a speech, promising to do his utmost to bring about such an improvement. The dinner was organized by the Alliance Nationale, of which Mayor Lavallée is the general president, and his colleagues gathered around him last night to express their congratulations on his election to the post of chief magistrate of Montreal. About 300 guests were present. There were three toasts, that of the King, that of the Pope, after which came that of His Worship, as chief guest. Mr. F. Turgeon, chairman of the

committee of organization, proposed the health of Mayor Lavallée, cursorily reviewing the latter's career, both as a member of the Bar, and a member of the civic administration.

He remarked how pleased were the 25,000 members of the Alliance Nationale to have one of their own brethren filling the office of chief magistrate of Montreal.

Mayor Lavallée, after expressing his thanks for the honor done him as well as his conviction of the great work being accomplished by mutual benefit associations in the province, declared they were pleased to have with them an important member of the Legislature, upon whom fate might have a special favor to bestow at no distant future. However that might be, Mayor Lavallée stated he desired to say that the present legislation was not sufficient to protect the interests of mutual societies.

After touching briefly on the matter His Worship suggested that the Government should appoint a commission to study the actual state of affairs in regard to such organizations, as well as that of reciprocity regarding the operations of such societies.

Mr. F. C. Laberge, in proposing the health of the guests, stated what they wanted was better legislation to prevent societies from doing business when they had not the proper guarantees of solvency. Such organizations

were detrimental to the public interests, declared the speaker.

Rev. Canon Gauthier, general chaplain of the Alliance Nationale, delivered an interesting and patriotic address on the aims and benefits of the order, pointing out, at the same time, the need of taking up arms against the taint of Socialism.

Mr. Tellier, leader of the Opposition, occupied a seat at the guest table. After preliminary remarks, Mr. Tellier said he believed that Mayor Lavallée was justified in uttering a warning in regard to the need of more stringent legislation for the good working of mutual benefit associations. There was no doubt as to the truth of the complaint, and while the appeal was well made it was but just to say that perhaps mutual associations were themselves to blame for the reason they had not come to the Legislature asking for redress. For his part, Mr. Tellier, added, he was convinced that no matter what Government was in office, the day they were informed of the kind of inspection wanted, no time would be lost in introducing the necessary legislation. It was impossible to imagine either party as a Government refusing what was just. Personally he would also do what was within his power to protect the association against unfair competition. Mr. Tellier was very well received and took no advantage of the opportunity to discuss provincial politics. Mr. Thos. Gauthier, president of the St. Jean Baptiste