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MGR FALCONIO AND THE C. M. B. A.

The Charlottetown Branch Presents an Address to His Excellency.

On the evening of July 7 the members of Branch 216 of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association, waited upon His Excellency at the Palace and presented him with an address. The parade of the society to and from the Palace was highly creditable, and many words of praise were heard along the route. The line of march was up Queen street to Richmond, along Richmond to Great George and down Great George to the Palace. From the Palace the society returned to their hall by way of Great George, Water and Queen streets. Mr. Charles Harmans acted as marshal. The address from the Society was presented to His Excellency in the drawing room of the Palace, in the presence of His Lordship Bishop Macdonald, several of the clergy and the members of the C. M. B. A. It was read by Mr. James McIsaac, Grand Deputy, and is as follows:

To His Excellency the Most Reverend Damiano Falconio, Archbishop of Larissa Apostolic Delegate.

May it Please Your Excellency:

We, the members of Branch No. 216 of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Canada, take advantage of Your Excellency's presence in our midst to tender you a hearty greeting, and to testify our homage and respect to your distinguished person and office. Your Excellency's illustrious career and the many important ecclesiastical offices which you have filled with such distinguished honor, are of themselves sufficient to elicit our highest admiration. But coming to us as the immediate personal representative of His Holiness Pope Leo XIII, now gloriously reigning, Your Excellency has a double claim on our Catholic loyalty and devotion.

The illustrious Pontiff, whom you so worthily represent, is the great patron of Catholic societies, and the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association is under the deepest debt of gratitude to His Holiness for his unwavering care, his constant encouragement and his special benediction. The Catholic Mutual Benefit Association came into existence about twenty-three years ago, so that its institution almost synchronizes with the elevation of our Holy Father to the chair of St. Peter.

The growth of our Association has been rapid, and it has received the encouragement and approbation of the clergy and hierarchy in every diocese in our wide Dominion. Among its members are to be found not only representatives of all classes of the laity, but many of the Bishops and clergy. In this diocese we have made substantial progress under the fostering care and encouragement of our devoted priests and especially of our esteemed and revered Bishop, whose interest in the Association is deep and effective.

Our organization is a Catholic Fraternal Insurance Society; it embraces the best features of older associations, as well being specially adapted to the wants of the present time. It affords to its members life insur-

ance at the lowest possible cost consistent with absolute financial security. It encourages Christian union and mutual protection and strives to educate its members and those dependent on them in piety, integrity and frugality.

We extend to Your Excellency our best wishes in the exercise of the functions of the exalted office to which you have been elevated by the Supreme Pontiff, and it is our earnest prayer that Almighty God may always have you in His holy keeping, and that, in the designs of Providence, still greater dignities may be in store for you.

In conclusion we beg that Your Excellency would be pleased to convey to our Holy Father the Pope, the sentiments of our profound love and devotion to the Holy See and its illustrious occupant, and ask him to again bless the work in which we are engaged.

Signed at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, on the 7th day of July, 1900, on behalf of Branch No. 216 by the following committee:

James McIsaac, Alex. McDonald, Joseph McCreary, Stanislaus Blanchard, James Byrne.

Mgr. Falconio, replying to the address said:

Gentlemen—I return you my best thanks for the beautiful sentiment of love and attachment towards our Holy Father the Pope, so well expressed in this address. Nothing can give greater pleasure to our Holy Father than to know your love and affection towards his sacred person. It is also a source of great consolation to me to find this beautiful society here, united as you are under the protection of your Holy Mother the Church. There is no fear of going astray; you are sure of that under the direction of your beloved bishop and priests. I am sure the blessing of God will be upon you. I hope this association will soon be spread throughout the Island. A branch should be established in every parish. I know it will bring blessings on the places where it is established. It is also a source of great consolation to find such faith amongst you. Perhaps you may ask how it is that such affection, love and reverence towards our Holy Father exists here. It is the great faith which you received from your ancestors who for the love of their religion exposed their lives. This faith was brought to Canada by bands of religious missionaries who laid the germs of civilization placing us on such a high position as to be on a level with the most enlightened nations of the earth. You are not ashamed of your religion. You are proud of your faith; and as long as this faith will live in your hearts you will go ahead without fear no matter what your position may be. In the past your forefathers had to suffer for the sake of your religion. You live today in a free country, and can exercise your holy religion. Perhaps there might be some danger if you should not

listen to the words of your bishop and pastor. I am happy to find you listening to their advice, as words coming from our Lord Jesus Christ. Our Lord said to His ministers, "He who listeneth to you listeneth to Me." You must take these words as coming from God Himself. As long as you are faithful you may be sure you will prosper. Your Bishop will spare no labor as was done in the past for the good of his people. Try to listen to his words and the blessing of God will be upon you. As a token of my love I will bestow the blessing of our Holy Father the Pope.

The Papal Blessing was then bestowed upon all present after which the officers and members of the society were formally presented to His Excellency. Then the society formed up in procession and returned to their hall where a brief meeting was held after which the brethren dispersed.

INITIATIONS IN JUNE, 1900.

Initiations on July.

No.	Location
1	Montreal, Que.
2	Quebec, Que.
3	St. John's, N.S.
4	Halifax, N.S.
5	St. Catharines, Ont.
6	Wellington, Ont.
7	Reserve Mines, Ont.
8	Pembroke, Ont.
9	Charlottetown, P.E.I.
10	Montreal, Que.
11	Hamilton, Ont.
12	Formosa, Ont.
13	Ottawa, Ont.
14	West Pubnico, N.S.
15	St. Henri de Montreal, Que.
16	Trantah, P.E.I.
17	Trantah, Ont.
18	Wingham, Ont.
19	Hamilton, Ont.
20	Brockville, Ont.
21	New Germany, Ont.
22	Waterloo, Ont.
23	Montreal, Que.
24	Cap St. Ignace, Que.
25	Chesler-Hill, Ont.
26	South Huron, Que.
27	Port Lambton, Ont.
28	Montreal, Que.
29	Arnprior, Ont.
30	Tecumseh, Ont.
31	Gananoque, Ont.
32	Kentrev, Ont.
33	Quebec, Que.
34	Merrickville, Ont.
35	Montreal, Que.
36	St. Laurent, Que.
37	Wolfe Island, Ont.
38	Montreal, Que.
39	Parabola, N.S.
40	Port Arthur, Ont.
41	Fredericton, N.B.
42	Jacques Mines, N.S.
43	Rimbouco, N.B.
44	Meteghan, N.S.
45	Mount St. Patrick, Ont.
46	Meteghan, N.S.
47	Windsor, Ont.
48	St. Catharines, Ont.
49	Kingston, Ont.
50	Berlin, Ont.
51	Niagara Falls, Ont.
52	Quebec, Que.
53	Montreal, Que.
54	Montreal, Que.
55	Ottawa, Ont.
56	Tremont, Ont.

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N.B. The initiations in the last branch are... the members of the society...

C M B A PICNIC

The C M B A Will Patronize La Presse's Picnic at Bout de l'Isle, Montreal

Arrangements have been made for the fourth of La Presse's picnic at the Hotel de la Ville, Montreal, under the patronage of the C. M. B. A.

Grand Deputy... the members of the society... the evening of July 7... the members of Branch 216... the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association... waited upon His Excellency at the Palace... presented him with an address... The parade of the society to and from the Palace was highly creditable... many words of praise were heard along the route... The line of march was up Queen street to Richmond, along Richmond to Great George and down Great George to the Palace... From the Palace the society returned to their hall by way of Great George, Water and Queen streets... Mr. Charles Harmans acted as marshal... The address from the Society was presented to His Excellency in the drawing room of the Palace... in the presence of His Lordship Bishop Macdonald, several of the clergy and the members of the C. M. B. A. It was read by Mr. James McIsaac, Grand Deputy, and is as follows:

Montreal, Que. June 20, 1900. Dear Sir and Bro. The great C. M. B. A. picnic at Bout de l'Isle will take place on Monday, July 9th. One thousand tickets for children will be distributed to the various branches in Montreal.

The object is to show that we are a body, to show the working class that the C. M. B. A. is capable of doing good. We are all practical Catholics and it is necessary to examine our work to be convinced that it is the best which gives complete security.

I will make all possible arrangements to have the greatest number of children attend with their friends this great day of the C. M. B. A. Further, expect that the tickets shall be distributed to the poor children of Montreal who will have but one voice and one heart to get them in their families all the benefits of the C. M. B. A.