

E. B. A.

## SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION.

The seventeenth annual convention of the Emerald Beneficial Association was opened in the Hall of the C. M. B. A. in the classic city of Stratford at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, May the 2nd, 1898. The following being present the Very Rev. Dr. Kilroy, his Worship the Mayor of the city, James O'Loane, Esq., Police Magistrate, D. A. Carey, Grand President, W. Lane, Grand Secretary Treasurer, C. Gorey, Grand Marshall, Grand Organizers C. Burns, J. Burns, P. J. Crotty, J. J. Hagarty, R. A. Kennedy, the delegates and several members of St. Joseph's Branch No. 26. The President having called the members to order, introduced the Very Rev. Dr. Kilroy to the delegates, who welcomed them to the city and said that he was heart and soul with them in their good work. He gave preference to the Emerald Association over other associations as its members were composed of Catholics of every nationality and therefore was open to the whole of his parishioners, where the A. O. H. only took in members of one nationality, and so long as they continued in the future as they had in the past he would do all in his power to assist them. He advised them to leave politics entirely out of their deliberations and confine themselves to the grand objects which were contained in the constitution of the Association. He concluded his remarks by arranging for the delegates to attend at Holy Mass on Wednesday morning.

The President then introduced the Mayor of the city who welcomed the Association to Stratford. After some remarks by the Police Magistrate, J. O'Loane, Esq., the visitors retired and the Association opened its meeting. A number of candidates who had presented credentials were admitted to seats in the Council. After the appointment of the necessary committees the Grand President read the following address—

GENTLEMEN AND BROTHERS—Another year has passed in the life of our noble order, another milestone been reached, another step taken forward in the march of progress, and it becomes my pleasing duty to preside over the opening of the 17th convention of the Emerald Beneficial Association in this hospitable and attractive city of our great Dominion.

I cannot allow this opportunity to pass without expressing my great pleasure at again meeting so many of the representatives of our order and to again unite with them in a careful review of our progress, and to confer as to that which will be most productive of good to our future advancement. The past year has been fraught with interest to all members of the E. B. A. in view of the many changes made at the last convention in London—changes which have been productive of much good. True our members have been slow to move and act, and our increase has not been as rapid as the aims and objects of our Association should warrant. Nevertheless our growth has been healthy and progressive, and our membership recruited from amongst the most intelligent and reputable members of our Faith.

Deep rivers flow with silent majesty; shallow brooks are noisy. The E. B. A. has moved along in majesty, leaving to its less stable fellows, the noisy credit. Restless as the mighty river carrying upon its broad bosom and salt waters all practical Catholics, be they of what race soever, knowing no narrow distinctions of nationality, but being as broad and cosmopolitan as the church from whence she flows, the E. B. A. rolls down its business way, giving hope, comfort and aid to all it mingles with and strengthening those who dip in its waters, shall forget nearer and still nearer reach to that ocean of

supremacy of good works and take the place there that the good Father W. D. Finan—her founder and creator—intended she should occupy, forever in the forefront of Catholic beneficiary societies.

The past year has created an era in Emeraldism, her works are better known, her aspirations more appreciated. The dawn of a new day of progress is breaking. The sun of knowledge of our work has pierced, the resplendence of its rays are shed around, giving strength, vitality and growth to our ranks.

The Emerald Beneficial Association, as an organization, is antagonistic to none. Its principles, well defined and demonstrated, are grounded on Faith, Hope and Charity, and these principles are carried out to the full. It was founded to meet the wants of a large Catholic body, to place Catholics on a par with those outside the faith, and to keep up with the benevolent spirit of the Holy Church. Within the Church, from its foundation by Christ to the present time, benevolent and beneficiary societies have been in existence. In the acts of the Apostles we are told of the early Christians "neither was there any needy amongst them, for distribution was made to every one as he had need." St. Paul also in his epistles exhorts his converts to "care for one another not only in their spiritual but in their temporal wants." The E. B. A. is both a benevolent and fraternal association affording Catholics large benefits socially, intellectually, morally and financially, and, gentlemen and brethren, if this convention offered us nothing more or was conducive of no further benefit than an opportunity to rehearse the glories of our order, to meet friends old and young, with a common love for it, and to rivet anew the chains of fraternalism, and by so doing infuse new strength and ardour on behalf of its cause, that of itself would be a sufficient justification of this gathering. But it is not for this alone we meet. We meet to give expression to the faith that is in us, we meet to review the history of the past, and to plan the future greatness of our order and shape its course aright.

As I before remarked, the E. B. A. is antagonistic to no association or people. We are a band of Catholic Canadians who love our country and believe in her, and the better Emerald a man is, so is he also a better citizen. Our society is an aid to our country, not as, unfortunately, many others are, a detriment and menace.

We perform a duty to our fellow men and therefore to the State. He has no connection with the interests of the State who has no connection with the interests of his fellow man. The heart of the citizen is a perennial spring of energy to the State, and if the citizen cares well for the interests of his fellow man, there is little danger of his neglecting the best interests of his country.

Associations of Catholics are necessary, their self-preservation demands such. In numbers we have strength, where divided we accomplish naught. Catholics in the past have suffered the pains and pangs of social ostracism, they were patiently endured, but thank God that day has gone by, the times change, and we change with them. And in this country, nominally at least, we are freed from invidious distinctions and enjoy the blessings of civic and religious liberty. And associations such as ours had no slight share in making this result. Still, gentlemen, even at this day Catholics on religious grounds socially are set apart sometimes as a class as not fitted for public trust. There is no need for it, Catholics bear the burdens of citizenship equally with their neighbors, we should enjoy to the full like benefits.

The condition is not our making. We ask no favor as a class. The time

has gone past when a man's religion should determine his fitness or unfitness for any position be it high or low. We are all Canadians, and as Canadians, loving our country and honoring her laws, do we desire to be judged, and as Canadians are we the members of the E. B. A. here in convention assembled. In conclusion allow me to say that of the work done during the year you are here to judge, of the progress of the E. B. A. to determine.

The position taken by myself as Grand President, on all subjects submitted for consideration, has been all treated by what I deemed in the best interests of the order, and which I trust have met your approval. I must also remind you that not alone to legislate for the order are you here, but also to select such officers as may render efficient service and reflect credit upon our organization.

Weigh well and carefully every official act of your grand officers, carefully scrutinize every item of expenditure, and in electing their successors cast personal friendship aside and let your minds only dwell on the trust committed to your charge, and your votes cast for those that will carefully govern and for measures that will redound to the interest of the order and the good of our Catholic fellow subjects.

And, now, gentlemen and brothers, while leaving the future of our organization in your hands, I cannot allow this opportunity to pass without thanking you one and all and in a special manner our grand secretary for the many courtesies extended to me during my term of office. And indeed during my whole career as a member of the E. B. A., (which extends from my school days to the present time and will I hope continue as long as I live), and for my successor I bespeak the same good encouragement. That the E. B. A. may continue in the future as it has in the past to work in concert with the Holy Mother Church under the great banner of Catholicity inscribed thereon our great principles of Faith, Hope and Charity, is the desire of yours in the noble cause of Emeraldism.

DAVID A. CAREY,

Grand President.

The Grand Secretary-Treasurer read his report showing that the death and total disability feature introduced at last convention had come into working order with every prospect of success.

Amongst the correspondence presented was a very complimentary letter of recommendation in regard to the Grand President, from Mgr. Rooney of Toronto, also letters of welcome from the local branch of the E. B. A.

On Wednesday morning the delegates and members of St. Joseph's Branch assembled at 7.30 a.m. and attended in a body at St. Joseph's Church. High Mass was sung by Rev. Father La Salle, and in the evening the Rev. Fathers La Salle and Gnam called upon the delegates at the Commercial Hotel and expressed their regret at not being able to attend the convention, but wished them every success in the good work they were engaged in.

The time of the convention was taken up in discussing the proposed amendment to the constitution and several very important changes were made, one being that a member can join the Association for medical attendance and sick benefits only, by the payment of 10c. per month, and if he so desires can take out a certificate for \$50, \$100, \$250 or \$500, payable in case of total disability or at death, for a fixed monthly payment, according to age, and no assessment at death. From the changes made and the election of a good staff of organizers there is every reason to believe that a great increase will be made in Branches and membership, as there are several only

waiting to see the action taken at this convention.

Resolutions adopted: 1st, That the next convention be held in the city of Peterborough on the first Tuesday in May, 1894. 2nd, That an excursion or pic-nic be held by all Branches on August 5th, 1898. 3rd, That the thanks of this convention be due and are tendered to the Very Rev. Dr. Kilroy for the active interest he has taken in the Association and for his encouraging remarks at the opening of the convention. 4th, That the thanks of this convention be due and tendered to the Choir, and particularly to Miss K. Oavlin, the organist of St. Joseph's Church, for the able manner in which they rendered the musical portion of the service. 5th, That the thanks of the convention be due and tendered to the Mayor, Aldermen and Police Magistrate, for the kind reception tendered to the delegates and for their encouraging address at the opening of the convention. 6th, That the thanks of this convention be due and tendered to the citizens of Stratford, and especially the ladies, for their kind reception of the delegates during their stay in the Classic City. 7th, That the thanks of this convention be due and tendered to St. Joseph's Branch, No. 26, for the use of their hall and also for the hospitality extended to them since their arrival in the city. 8th, That the thanks of the convention be due and tendered to the officers for their service during the past year. 9th, That the thanks of this convention be also tendered to the daily press of the city for the many reports they have published of this convention while in session in Stratford. The following resolution of condolence was also accepted: Whereas it having pleased Almighty God to afflict our respected Brother Member of the Grand Branch, P. I. Crotty, by the death of his beloved mother. Resolved, that the members of the Grand Branch in convention assembled beg to express our feelings of regret and sympathy with our respected Brother in the bereavement which he is called upon to bear, trusting and believing that his loss will through the merits of our Lord and Saviour be the eternal gain of one who was a kind and loving mother, and be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to Brother P. I. Crotty. Signed on behalf of the delegates, W. Lane, Secretary-Treasurer.

Election of Officers—Very Rev. Monsignor F. P. Rooney, V.G., grand chaplain; president, D. A. Carey; vice-president, E. W. Smith; secretary-treasurer, W. Lane; marshal, C. Gorey; organizers, J. J. Nightingale, J. Burns, I. T. Gould, E. W. Smith, J. F. X. C'Meara, J. J. Hagarty and J. Drain. W. Lane, Grand Secretary-Treasurer.

## A Woman's Bright Idea.

It has remained for a woman to invent and patent glass doors for ovens. The wonder is that the idea has not long ago been thought of by some woman who cooks. All cooking instructors lay the greatest stress on the care to be observed in opening an oven door to watch the progress of cakes or muffins. Maria Parloa, making sponge cake, touches the knob with the most delicate care and lightness, dreading even to jar the cake within, and peeks through the smallest crack that will afford the necessary glance. What a relief to walk boldly up to the oven and through these transparent doors, which the genius of a Michigan woman has discovered, study at leisure the progress of rising cake dough or crisping fowl.

A SHORT ROAD to health was opened to those suffering from chronic coughs, asthma, bronchitis, catarrh, lumbago, tumors, rheumatism, excoriated nipples or inflamed breast, and kidney complaints, by the introduction of the inexpensive and effective remedy, DR. THOMAS' ELECTRIC OIL.