

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 of the Association the 20th of each month.

Members of the Association are entitled to a copy of the Association's Constitution and By-Laws, and also to a copy of the Association's financial statements, upon application to the Association's Secretary.

Correspondence should be addressed to the Editor of THE CANADIAN, at the following address:

Address: The Canadian, 100 St. James Street, London, Ont.

LONDON, O.N.T., 1908

ELEVENTH CONVENTION.

Notice is hereby officially given that the next regular convention, being the eleventh, of the Grand Council of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Canada, will be held in the city of Quebec, Province of Quebec, on the fourth Tuesday in August, 1908, commencing at nine o'clock, A. M.

M. F. HACKETT, Grand President. SAMUEL R. PROSS, Grand Secretary.

QUEBEC CONVENTION.

RAILWAY FARES

The rates for the Convention at Quebec will be on the standard certificate plan, that is, single fare to be paid to Quebec, and standard Convention certificates obtained at point of starting. This certificate is to be certified to at the Convention by the Grand Secretary. Then return tickets will be issued free by ticket agent at Quebec on the surrender of certificate, which was signed by the Grand Secretary.

Delegates must purchase first-class fare one way tickets. A standard certificate receipt will be supplied free by the agent from whom the ticket for the going journey is purchased. No other form of certificate will be recognized.

No refund of fare will be made in any account whatever because of failures of the delegates to obtain certificates or to observe the requirements of same.

Wives of delegates accompanying their husbands to Convention may procure same rates as delegates.

The above mentioned railway rates are obtained on condition that we have at least 300 attending the Convention.

We therefore advise those who intend being present to comply with the regulations regarding such rates, and not take advantage of any excursion that may possibly be from any particular point, if such would have a tendency to reduce the number holding certificates to less than 300, and thus, of course, all those holding certificates

would have to pay one third fare to return.

HOTEL RATES.

Table with 3 columns: Hotel, Accommodation, Rates. Lists various hotels and their respective rates.

BRANCHES IN ARREARS

Standstead, P. Q., May 27, 1908. Brothers.—A statement has been received by me from the Grand Secretary, showing several branches of the Association in arrears to the Grand Council.

The Representatives and Alternates of such branches are hereby notified that their credentials will not be honored at the coming convention of the Grand Council, unless all arrears due by their respective branches to both General and Beneficiary Funds have been paid. A delegate shall not be admitted from any Branch in arrears.

Yours fraternally, M. F. HACKETT, Grand President.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

Following are the proposed amendments to our C. M. B. A. constitution:

BRANCH 1.

Recommends triennial instead of biennial conventions; also the increasing of the Reserve Fund at the rate of 10 per cent instead of 5 per cent, also that the Grand Council be empowered to retain the amount of one full assessment from the Reserve Fund for the purpose of paying beneficiaries, also that Grand Deputies be elected by districts.

BRANCH 2.

To amend Section 131 by striking out "and all branch officers" in the second line, and the last four words of the section; to amend Section 132 by adding after the word "all" the words "Grand Council;" to amend Section 133 by adding after the word "all" the words "Branch Financial Secretary and Treasurer," and after the word "Canada" the words "who shall receive \$2.00 per each hundred dollars of security furnished, to be added to the General Fund of the Grand Council."

BRANCH 3.

Recommends to strike out the words "separate ballot" in section 131, and substitute therefor the words "separate or combination ballot."

BRANCH 11.

To add after the word "business," in section 157, the following: "except in branches numbering less than fifty members, in which case five members shall constitute the quorum."

BRANCH 12.

That section 94 be amended by striking therefrom in the first and second lines the word "representatives," and that there be added at the end of said section "and the Grand Council shall pay its branch representatives at the rate of \$2.50 per day during their attendance at regular or special conventions, including each day necessarily spent in coming to and

going from the convention, but not including railway or other travelling expenses, berth, fare, board and hotel bills: the travelling and berth fare expenses so excluded shall be defrayed by the branches directly from which the branch representatives are respectively delegated.

BRANCH 13.

I. That the present system of selecting representatives to Grand Council be abandoned, and the following system substituted therefor:

a. That all the Branches of the C. M. B. A. be divided into districts so that in each district there shall be from 200 to 300 members.

b. That each such district shall be entitled to one representative for each 200 members in said district.

c. That the mode of election of such representatives shall be as follows:

(1) The Grand Secretary shall furnish to each Branch in each district, at least two months before the date of election, a list of the members in said district eligible for election as representative, and shall also certify the number of representatives which such district is entitled to elect.

(2) The Grand Secretary shall also at the same time supply to the Recording Secretary of each Branch a sufficient number of ballots for such Branch marked with the number of such Branch.

(3) One of such ballots shall be supplied by the Recording Secretary to each member present at the meeting for the election of officers, such ballot having been previously signed on the back thereof by the President and Recording Secretary of the Branch.

(4) Each member so supplied shall write on the face of his ballot the names of the persons for whom he wishes to vote as Representatives, the names so written not to exceed in number the number of Representatives for the district and shall thereupon return the same to the Recording Secretary whose duty it shall be to forthwith transmit all the ballots so cast in his Branch to the Grand Secretary.

(5) The Grand Secretary shall, during the calendar month following the month in which the election is held, count the ballots under such supervision as the Board of Trustees may determine, and shall declare the persons receiving the largest number of votes in each district duly elected as Representatives for such district to the number to which such district is entitled.

(6) In the event of a tie he shall declare the candidate who shall have been longest a member of the Association, elected.

(7) The Grand Secretary shall cause to be published in the issue of THE CANADIAN for the succeeding month the names of the persons elected as Representatives and Alternates for each district.

II. That conventions of the Grand Council be held every three instead of every two years.

III. That an auditor be appointed at each convention whose duty it shall be to make an annual audit of the books of the Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer and Trustees of the Reserve Fund, whose report shall be published annually in THE CANADIAN and that the Finance Committee be relieved of the duties so directed to be performed by the Auditor.

IV. That each person hereafter becoming a member of this Association shall, if he hold a \$500 certificate, pay into the Beneficiary Fund each month the amount set out opposite his

age at initiation in column 1 of the underwritten Table of Rates; if he hold a \$1,000 certificate he shall pay the amount so set out in column 2 of said table; and if he hold a \$2,000 certificate, he shall pay the amount so set out in column 3 of said table.

TABLE OF RATES.

Table with 4 columns: Age at initiation, For a \$500 Certificate, For a \$1000 Certificate, For a \$2000 Certificate. Lists rates for various ages.

V. The Board of Trustees shall have power to make said table apply to all persons at present members of this Association whenever they may deem it expedient to do so.

VI. The moneys realized from the monthly payments under the above table shall be invested in so far as not needed for the payment of current death claims, and the moneys so invested shall at all times be available for the payment of the death claims which in any one month may exceed the amounts collected during such month.

BRANCH 30.

That section 35 be amended by striking therefrom in the first and second lines the words "Branches shall be represented by their Representatives or Alternates," and the following be substituted: "Each group of two branches shall be represented by one Representative or Alternate, the grouping of the branches to be arranged by the Grand Council, the appointment of Representative to be made from each branch of the group alternately, the Representative first appointed to be from the senior branch of the group, the Representative to take his instructions from both of the branches. In case of disagreement between the two branches of each group regarding amendments or instructions to Representatives, a vote of the members of both branches shall be taken, and the Representative to be governed by a majority vote.

BRANCH 49.

Recommends the employment annually of a selected chartered accountant to examine into the accounts, books and vouchers of the Grand officers of the C. M. B. A., reporting thereon to the Grand President and Grand Secretary and such further officers or persons as may be designated by the members assembled in convention, also signs or passwords.

BRANCH 63.

The holding of conventions every four years instead of every two years.