

Suppose, for instance, that instead of that the table would read as follows: Age, 30, rate, 1.20; age, 31, rate, 1.22; age, 32, rate, 1.24; age, 33, rate, 1.26; age, 34, rate, 1.28; age, 35, rate, 1.30; Those of 30 and 35 years of age pay the same rate as before but the others between would pay proportionately as their age increases, and why should they not? It would only be fair to all concerned, and the increase to the beneficiary fund would surprise you.

I do not expect the suggestions I am now expressing here to be accepted generally, but if I have done nothing else than raise a point that may be taken up and discussed to the ultimate benefit of our Society, I shall be satisfied if it should tend to lessen the grumbling element in our midst.

B lieve me,
Yours Fraternelly,

L P O NOEL, Grand Deputy
Battleford, N. W. T., 21 Feb., 1898

Moncton, N. B.

Mr. Editor: Dear Sir and Brother— Judging from the drift of opinion that is heard on all sides and particularly in the columns of our valuable little paper, THE CANADIAN, that the words "Biennial Conventions" in Section 32, of the constitution will be eliminated at the next convention and substituted by "Triennial Convention." If this amendment is carried it will certainly be appreciated by a large number of the association as an act in the proper direction of curtailing the expenses of our conventions which have become so burthensome. The good results of those conventions, either socially, financially or numerically, "if there be any" do not by any means repay for the enormous expense involved. If we have at the head of our association the best men available and on account of their good standing and business like principle we place all confidence, as well as the affairs of our association, in their hands for two years, why not continue that same confidence for three years. The Finance Committee audits the accounts of the association and finding them correct, the financial position of the association in a satisfactory condition, the trustees perform their duties in the same assiduous manner, what more is necessary, their reports are sent to us through THE CANADIAN. It is not necessary to go to the expense of seven or eight thousand dollars to accept their reports, as submitted, for Mr. Editor there is little more than this down at our convention with the exception of amending a few sections of the constitution, and some unnecessarily so. Thanking you for the space, I will, in your next issue, offer some suggestion as to proceed in making the Triennial Convention even less expensive than the present Biennial Conventions.

Yours fraternally,
John Sutton, jr.

Grand Deputy Rooney's Visits.

Grand Deputy Peter J. Rooney paid an official visit to Branch 111, Brocton, on Thursday evening, March 10th, carefully examined the Financial Secretary's books and found them the acme of perfection, and everything in the branch appears to be in a flourishing condition. Four applications were read, three new members balloted for, and two initiated young men about twenty years. The President and members received the Grand Deputy in a becoming manner and requested him to initiate the two new members, which he did in his accustomed,

graceful and business like style, and presided during the balance of the meeting. Under the good of the association, he spoke to them words of advice and counsel, showed them the progress their branch had made during the last five years, inspired them to continue their good work and predicted for them in the near future, that their branch would soon be recognized as the premier branch in the city. A vote of thanks was carried and tendered to Grand Trustee Rooney on the account of his official visit, and for the able manner in which he performed his duties, not only as a Deputy but as the chairman of the meeting, etc. The members are looking forward for Bro. Rooney's next visit, and he can be assured of a rousing reception.

Grand Deputy Peter J. Rooney surprised the members of Branch 19 on Friday evening, March 11th, in paying them an official visit. He carefully examined the books of the Branch and found them in perfect order. The Fin Sec. is quite a hustler, and up to date, as he had every member on his ledger charged with assessments 3 and 4. At no time in the history of this branch has the financial department been so well managed. No members are carried without the consent of the branch. The Recording Secretary, Bro. W. J. Smith, in his usual pains taking manner, carries on this office to perfection. It is a pleasure to hear him read the minutes of the preceding meeting in language and minuteness that it would be impossible to procure his equal, etc., etc. This branch now numbers 89 members and they are making good progress towards the century work, which will be accomplished in a short space of time, so much interest is taken by the individual members in keeping their branch in the proud position as the strongest branch in the city. Perfect harmony now reigns supreme in this branch. Brotherly love, unity and affection are dispensed in abundance and it is a pleasure to spend an evening with the members of Branch 49. Under the good of the association, the Grand Deputy reminded some of the members of their duties towards the Grand Officers of the association, and his plain and truthful words cannot fail in having a lasting and beneficial effect. This Branch to day has, in the opinion of the Grand Deputy, the best set of officers that ever were elected to their respective chairs. Brother Byron, the delegate of this branch to the Quebec convention is quite a hustler and Bob will make many friends during his visit to Quebec. A vote of thanks was passed and tendered to Brother Rooney on this his official visit, and it is the wish of the members that he will come again soon.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. GRACE OF BRANCH 241.

The members of Branch 211, C. M. B. A., and citizens of Pakenham, hearing that Mr. P. J. Grace, the genial proprietor of the Mississippi Hotel was about taking his departure from their midst, assembled at his hotel on Monday evening, 21st inst., for the purpose of showing him some mark of the esteem in which he is held by them. The host invited all present to supper, and, it is needless to say, ample justice was done to the excellent spread, which reflected great credit on both host and hostess. Supper being over, Mr. Allan Carswell was appointed chairman, and filled the post with that grace and

humor which he can so well command. The chairman, after a few preliminary remarks, called on Bro. D. Smith to read the following address:

P. J. Grace Esq. Pakenham.
The members of Branch 211, C. M. B. A., in conjunction with your fellow citizens of all creeds and classes, of the village of Pakenham and vicinity, upon this the occasion of your removal from our village, wish to give evidence of the sincere regret of their loving you as a fellow citizen, and to express the best wishes for your future that are entertained by those who have been your neighbors during the past few years, since you came to reside amongst us. The members of Branch 211 wish to place on record their deep sense of the loss of one of the best members, and charter members of the C. M. B. A. in Pakenham, and to hereby extend to you their fraternal good wishes and sincere regret at parting with you as a neighbor and worthy brother. The citizens heartily avail themselves of this opportunity to set hand in hand with your fellow members of the C. M. B. A. in testifying that you have always been a good citizen, and that you deserve in your new sphere the respect and confidence of all those who are members of the greatest of all societies—Mankind the true motto of which will always be "The fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man." Irrespective of class or creed distinctions. We therefore beg of you to accept the accompanying purse as but a feeble expression of the sincere good wishes of the many friends you have made in Pakenham and vicinity.

Signed on behalf of Branch 211, C. M. B. A.
D. SMITH, President.
J. H. BIRK, Rec. Sec.

Signed on behalf of the citizens,

E. W. GEMMILL,
A. L. SARGE,
C. M. STEWART,
GEO. F. FRANCIS,
A. CARSWELL.

Mr. Geo. Francis presented Mr. Grace with the purse. Mr. Grace although deeply moved by the kind words, recovered himself sufficiently to make a neat reply, thanking the members of Branch 211 and the citizens for the hearty send off tendered him. He said he would never forget the people of Pakenham, and was sorry to have to part with such true friends. Dr. Murphy and Dr. Gemmill also gave short speeches eulogistic of Mr. Grace and family. A few hours were then spent in social intercourse and singing, and a very pleasant evening was brought to a close by the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

A PLEASANT EVENING IN BRANCH 267.

The members of Branch No. 267, Truro, N. S., held an At Home on Friday evening, Feb. 18, in their pretty hall, which was tastefully decorated with Chinese lanterns, flags, etc., presenting a brilliant and striking appearance. Brother J. T. Halliday presided, and seated on his right was Rev. Father Kinsella, the Spiritual Adviser of the branch, who opened the programme with an eloquent address on the C. M. B. A. His discourse, including an extract from THE CANADIAN, was highly appreciated and marked the success of the evening.

The following was the programme:

Opening address	Rev. Father Kinsella
Piano solo	Mrs. Fanning
Recitation	Mrs. J. A. McDonald
Musical	Leopard Bro.
Violin solo	Mrs. Leonard
Har. J. and Violin	M. M. Norris and M. Nutt
Vocal solo	Mrs. Mattie
Instrumental quartette	M. M. Norris, M. Nutt and Leopard Bro.
Song	Mrs. J. A. McDonald
Violin and piano	Mrs. Leonard and Fanning
Musical	M. M. Norris, M. Nutt and Leopard Bro.
Reading	Bro. P. Cosgrove
Song	Mrs. Mattie
Recitation	Mrs. J. A. McDonald
Speeches	Bro. W. McDonald, barrister, and Wm Craig, Esq.

Various games were played during the evening. Luncheon was served by the ladies, and was much enjoyed. The chairman afterwards called on Rev. Father Kinsella for a song. Although taken by surprise the Rev.

Father cheerfully responded, much to the delight of the attentive guests. The favorite Lombard lads are well worthy of special mention for their inspiring music throughout the evening, especially during luncheon.

After the usual autumn "God Save the Queen" the pleasant evening of Branch 211 successfully ended.

The C. M. B. A. in Pictou, N. S.

A Branch of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Canada was formally opened at Pictou, N. S., on the 3rd March, by the Grand Deputy of the district, Rev. R. McDonald, of New Glasgow.

Following is the list of officers:

President, Wm Brennan
1st Vice, J. Grattan
2nd Vice, N. Doherty
Recording Secretary, A. McKenna,

Assistant Secretary, W. J. Brennan.
Financial Secretary, F. J. Tobin
Treasurer, A. McKenna, sr
Marshal, D. Smith
Guard, F. Grattan

Despite the inclemency of the weather no less than seventy five brothers from the branches of New Glasgow and Stellarton accompanied the Grand Deputy, and their presence tended in no small degree to inspire the young branch with enthusiasm, and make its first meeting a complete success.

After the installation and regular order of business had been disposed of the Grand Deputy delivered an able and enthusiastic address, setting forth the manifold benefits to be derived from a vigorous branch of the C. M. B. A. The President followed in a speech brim full of that wit, eloquence, and sound good sense which has made him a central figure at the council board, and as invincible in Ward one, as was his former namesake, "on the moor."

The stirring address of the 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents showed that these officials were fully convinced of the great possibilities of a well regulated Catholic Society, and confident that "Stella Maris" branch was destined to supply a want, long felt, by the Catholic young men of Pictou.

After the meeting had adjourned the members and visiting brothers repaired to the Revere Hotel where a repast, befitting the season yet fully up to that high standard of excellence which has ever prevailed at the "Revere," was enjoyed. After satisfying the wants of the inner man, a pleasant hour, enlivened with toast and song, did much to cheer the company for the unpleasant drive home.

The following toasts were proposed and fittingly responded to:

"Her Gracious Majesty the Queen."
Wm Brennan

"Canada, Our Country," N. Doherty.

"Total Abstinence," proposed by Rev. J. McKeough, responded to by J. McKinnon, New Glasgow.

"The Shire Town," proposed by A. McKenna, sr., responded to by, Wm. Brennan

"Our Visiting Brothers," proposed by A. McKenna, jr., responded to by J. M. Pherson, Stellarton.

"The Men of the Sea," proposed by A. Smith, responded to by D. Smith

"Our Spiritual Adviser," proposed by F. Grattan, responded to by, Rev. J. McKeough.

"C. M. B. A.," proposed by T. J. Tobin, responded to by Rev. R. McDonald, N. Glasgow.