

The Catholic Register.

"Truth is Catholic; proclaim it ever, and God will effect the rest."—BALMEZ.

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Canadian Lyceum and Athletic Club

AN AUSPICIOUS OPENING

(WRITTEN FOR THE REGISTER)

The new Canadian Lyceum and Athletic Club, St. Catharines, was opened Saturday evening by the Archbishop of Toronto, Most Rev. Dr. Walsh. The club house is centrally situated on Church street, occupying one of the most advantageous sites in the city. Its handsome appearance gives it an undoubted claim to prominence among the institutions of the Garden City.

which a full-length portrait of Dean Harris is seen, a very fine billiard room, with English and American tables, and a suite of cheerful rooms. In the library there are already 600 volumes in uniform binding, stamped with the name of the C.L.A.C. The building room has an artistic drop-lamp like the reception room below it. All the walls are ornamented with pictures presented by friends of Dean Harris amongst others Hugh Ryan, Sir Frank Smith, Loretto Abbey,

and McNulty had made the reception room beautiful with flowers. The doors were thrown open before eight o'clock, and a musical programme was gone through. Mr. McCarron, brass chairman of the committee on music and Mr. J. P. Casey organizer of the programme.

Among those present were Sheriff Dawson, Mayor Gilliland, Capt. Neelon, Johnson Clench, John E. Cuffo, Dr. P. King, W. R. Kernahan, James E. Lawrence and Mrs. Lawrence, H. R. Cuddon, C. M. Arnold, Arthur W. Holmes, D. D. E. Pottor, H. Montgomery, Major Spilletto, John Connolly, John W. Coy, M. V. Keating and Mrs. Keating, Mr. J. McCarron and Mrs. McCarron, Thos. Nicholson, Capt. King, H. E. McSloy, J. P. Casey, Dr. J. Sheehan, J. K. Kernahan, P. O'Brien, R. Dunn, Mrs. James McSloy, Mr. F. O'Donnell and Mrs. O'Donnell, Mr. J. Timmons, and Mrs. Timmons, Mr. J. Shea, Mr. Manana, M. J. Moran, the Messrs. Morsey, T. Foy, J. Devaney, the Messrs. Doransey, Frank Coyle, F. Coyle, Jr.

The Archbishop held a reception after his arrival assisted by Father Whalen. This lasted half an hour after which Dr. Walsh formally declared the club open. In doing so he said:

Dean Harris, ladies and gentlemen, I thank you all most heartily for the kindly reception you have given me this evening. I must also express the pleasure it affords me to open this handsome and commodious club house which you have erected for the benefit of the young men of the city. You have done well indeed for the young men of St. Catharines, and I am as much surprised as I am pleased at the solidity, the comfort and the elegance of everything to be seen here. The object for which this institution is intended is most laudable. There is in my experience, no class of our people so neglected as the young men. Other portions of our vast congregations are looked after. But the young men in many places are left to themselves. They are, in the abstract, supposed to be able to take care of themselves, but it does not always happen that this is the case, and, therefore other means are desirable and necessary to advance their moral, intellectual and physical welfare. In this institution there is most generous provision made for them. After toiling behind desks and counters and in their various avocations of the day they can assemble here to advance their moral, intellectual and physical welfare. In this institution there is most generous provision made for them. After toiling behind desks and counters and in their various avocations of the day they can assemble here to advance their moral, intellectual and physical welfare. In this institution there is most generous provision made for them.

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Those who are inclined towards study can improve their minds by knowledge of the book books, whilst lighter literature and the best newspapers will not be lacking. The equipment of the club in the athletic way looks to the development of bodily strength and activity; but of course our young men will never use their strength in a way unworthy of youth and young manhood. Indeed, in the institution we have opened this evening, nothing seems to have been overlooked towards promoting the great ideal of manhood in this age, men sans sin in corpore sans in healthy mind, as a healthy body. Furthermore it will have a tendency to withdraw many from associations that mean grave danger to their moral good. The lives of many very promising young men have been wrecked and ruined by temptations held out to them to spend the hours of leisure after work in places such as I allude to. But here they can meet in a pure and wholesome atmosphere; they can im-

provable for two things the extraordinary capacity of the human mind for knowledge and the equally extraordinary tendency towards association and organization. And these two things are closely related to each other. Surely never in the history of the race was the universal effort of the human mind

policy. To be honest in our lives, honest in our pursuits, honest in our hope to do good, that is the thing that in human life builds up the man's social welfare and commercial credit. Ladies and gentlemen the opportunity is afforded here to our young men to have access to all that is excellent and desirable

specialization. This matter of specialization might bear a remark. The Dean and the other athletes of U.L.A.C. would know that when a man develops one part of his body he does so to the detriment of some other part. The athlete should be developed in every part, and this remark is more true of



THE CANADIAN LYCEUM AND ATHLETIC CLUB, ST. CATHARINES



VERY REV. DEAN HARRIS, M.D.

The formal opening was looked forward to for weeks, and was naturally attended with considerable eclat. By eight o'clock the spacious and brilliantly lighted rooms were filled with fashionable people; and upon his arrival the Archbishop received a hearty ovation. His Grace travelled from Toronto by train, and was accompanied by Rev. Frank Ryan, rector of St. Michael's Cathedral. Both wore the guests of Very Rev. Dean Harris, to whose energy and public spirit the new club house is a solid monument.

Although the onerous has been promoted for the immediate welfare of the young men of the Dean's congregation, the club will be open to all without distinction of class or religion. It will be controlled by a board of trustees composed of one representative of the Catholic Separate School Board, one representative of the Canadian Mutual Benefit Association, and two representatives of the Young Men's Club, acting with Very Reverend Dean Harris and his curate, Rev. Father Whalen.

The institution is replete in all the requirements of a first-class library, club house and gymnasium. The formal opening saw it complete in all the details of decoration, furniture and equipment. The drawing which appears in THE REGISTER to-day gives an excellent idea of its appearance; but it looks decidedly at the best when lighted up in the evening. It stands on the opposite corner from the artistic residence of Mr. H. E. McSloy, and from the architectural point of view is a credit to that quarter of the city. The plans were drawn and the work all carried out under the personal supervision of Mr. Arthur W. Holmes, architect, of Toronto, who is to be congratulated upon the success of his design. The materials used in the building are pressed brick, with stone facings and dressing. The exterior dimensions are 70 x 30 feet, and the front is very handsome and home-like. The basement floor embraces the bowling alley, laid in concrete with oak floors, along with the room required for the gymnasium, lavatories and heating apparatus. The reception room and G.M.B.A. assembly room take up the greater portion of the first floor. Both are connected by folding doors, so that they may be thrown open upon occasion of assemblies, concerts or lectures. They are richly furnished in northern pine, and artistic fireplaces give an inviting effect of warmth and comfort. The adjoining hall, vestibule, and ladies' cloak room are furnished in harmony with these spacious parlors. On the next floor are the handsome library, in

George Foy, Peter Small, Peter Ryan, Dr. Francis L. Cowan, Capt. Wigle, Mrs. Gaspar, Dr. King, the Vatican Council, through Very Rev. Dean Harris, H. P. Cuddon, Thomas Nibau. An especially attractive feature in the scheme of ornamentation is a large stained glass window on the staircase with the figure of an armoured knight. The effect either from outside or within is very pleasing, and the young men of St. Catharines are very proud of their new club house. Among the gentlemen who have been prominently connected with and have added the outpouring of Dean Harris in this matter are Mr. M. J. Keating, Mr. M. J. McCarron, Mr. Thomas A. Nicholson, Dr. Sheehan, and last but not least, Rev. Father Whalen. Father Whalen, like the Dean, is himself an athlete, and both have taken the greatest interest in all the sports of the young men. Some of these events have proved most successful in every way, and a field day has now become a permanent institution. Father Whalen has found the most hearty co-operation in the promotion of athletics from the committee of the games, composed of Messrs. Thomas Joy, Thomas Nicholson, W. McNamara, J. E. Lawrence, L. Beay, John Sullivan, Thomas Shea, W. Cahill, James Murphy, Joseph Maloney, James Sanderson, and W. McCarthy. The ladies have naturally taken the liveliest interest in these matters.

In so thorough and earnest a way has the work upon the new club house been pushed that nothing was left in an uncompleted state for the opening on Saturday evening. The building was ablaze with electric lights; and a committee of ladies composed of Mesdames



M. J. KEATING

Brown, Connolly, Murphy, Nicholson, Hennessy, Bain, McNulty, Skinner, Lawrence, and the Messrs. Nicholson, Clifford, Lawrence, Nolan, McNamara

aimed so earnestly as it now is to extend the boundaries of the kingdom of knowledge. We dig into the bowels of the earth to wrest from its silent bosom the buried secrets of the centuries, which bring the inventions of our modern science to develop a new astronomy that measures the stars and their distances from us and from each other. We all most hope to know something definite this matter of canals has a local interest (laughter) it must not astonish us if we discover that the Marsian canal makers were the equals of the Welland canal engineers, who are naturally regarded by the citizens of St. Catharines as the citizens of the world. When Herr Andros shall have proved the practicability of his theories of balloon-



J. SHEAHAN, M.B.

prove and help each other by the acquisition of knowledge here, and the result cannot be otherwise than the elevation of their status in the community and the promotion of their welfare in life. More than that the influence of such associations among young men generally, can be confidently held out to us to win the better life hereafter. I am glad that your very reverend Dean has accomplished with God's help a means so great for contributing to the intellectual moral and physical welfare of the young men of this city. I am proud that his labors and yours is but that the benefits of this institution should be confined to the Catholics alone; but that young men of every other denomination are made heartily welcome here. Influences that are good for one are good for all, and all can meet to gather here without any distinction religious and otherwise. Upon an occasion of this kind it naturally occurs to us that in the erection of such institutions as this lyceum and athletic club we have a characteristic evidence of the age we live in. I need hardly tell you that the close of the 19th century is most

both in study and in the cultivation of friendship. The books found in the library of this club are chosen with the view of exciting in morality and the study of literature. There are none of those scandalous publications that rot the very fibre in those who read them. No publications of that character can enter here, nothing but what tends to the profitable and pleasant affairs of human life. I most cordially wish this institution every success. Your very reverend Dean has I believe realized his ideal in this club as you see it this evening, and you ladies and gentlemen who have supported and encouraged it in its undertaking also deserve to be congratulated upon what has realized. The club is bound to do for the city a permanent good, and future generations will call the Dean blessed for having accomplished the task so well. In other cities such institutions as this are needed as much as here. We should put our hand to every undertaking that is calculated to promote the life of our young country, intended as it is by nature to become a great and mighty power. Canada's best grand rivers rolling to the ocean, her lofty mountains are surely destined by nature to be the home of many millions of happy and prosperous people. In all our efforts to keep the greatness of our country's future in view, for the true Canadian ideal is that which tends to the up-building of the national life of this great country. Here everyone is free to kneel before the altar of his choice, but all are citizens and bound by the obligations of their free citizenship to be good Canadians. All are equal in Canada and we must bear in mind that it is upon such equality our country has



REV. FATHER WHALEN

ing, then the future man may aspire to carry civilization to the uncharted lands of the planets we are presently investigating. But joking aside the age is one of intellectual and scientific progress, and the tendency towards organization has brought the knowledge of every man's invention in the field of science and discovery in the region of knowledge within the general reach. The time was and that not long ago, when education was confined to the leisure classes, to the wealthy people and the barons and lords of the land. They the boon of education is brought to every man's door, its light shines into the cabin as brightly as in the hall; the poor can enjoy it at will with the rich, for like the sun in the heavens it shines for all and upon all the earth. This is the influence that is breaking down the old boundaries of this modern education, which shines everywhere lighting up the dark places and drawing all men's minds together in the effort to widen the boundaries of human knowledge. But my friends, such a knowledge alone is not sufficient to enable men to reach their true destiny. This is true even with regard to social, civil and commercial life; it is not enough even to make men good citizens. More than that it is necessary, and we know that the cultivation of moral strength and rectitude cannot possibly be overlooked even in the affairs of human life and human endeavor. Our jails are filled with the canaille of the earth, and we know that the mechanism of burglar safes in order to become an expert bank-robbler, or the man who forges the signature of a wealthy financier cannot possibly be imagined an ignorant fellow. No man can stuff his mind with learning without as much as an intention of giving them true education, which while it develops the intellect also fortifies the man morally and religiously. It is thus only that he can be excellent. All this necessary to say to every citizen is necessary also comprehended in the old expression, Honesty is the best

the intellect than of the day. One of the dangers of specialization in education is that it does not follow the athlete plan enough. The intellectual athlete must have his memory, his intellect and his will all developed. The tendency of mental training is to develop the intellect and memory and neglect the will; but this third faculty is really the most important of all. The will is the great moral power. The will of the intellectual athlete must be trained in the cardinal principles of justice, fortitude and temperance. Build our young men upon these principles and they will become men of power. The O.L.A.C. provides the means for true physical development, and its plan is also based upon the corresponding principle of mental training. He believed the membership of the club would show the best material for success to the end in view. The young men of St. Catharines, the young men of Canada should know no superior in physical and intellectual manhood. The Canadian land supplies all the requisites—materials, and all that is needed is proper training—such as this club is intended to supply. The purpose of the promoters of the club was not only intellectual and athletic, it was social and national as well. St. Catharines had set an example which he hoped Toronto would follow, because Toronto could afford in this matter to take a profitable lesson from the Garden City.

Shoriff Dawson was called upon. In congratulating the young men upon the magnificent building that in the future would supply their club with a home, he said it is especially satisfactory that it is open to every religious denomination. This is an age of enlightenment when men can meet together without prejudice or friction on the athletic field and in social and literary movements. Thank God that from St. Catharines and the surrounding country such friction and prejudice has disappeared. The young men of the city have given this club the Canadian stamp and the influence of the club could not help but make them more thoroughly Canadian.



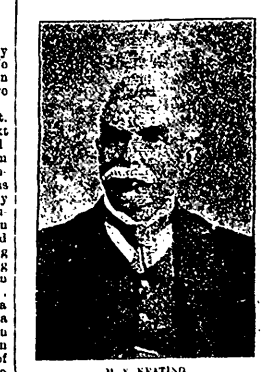
THOS. A. NICHOLSON

been built, and also upon such equality must our liberty and our national life rest. I thank you ladies and gentlemen for the kindness with which you have listened to my remarks (applause). Mr. Frank Ryan, rector of St. Michael's Cathedral, Toronto, was next called upon. After the impressive address which they had listened to from the Archbishop he felt that it was unnecessary to say more than offer his heartfelt congratulations to the very reverend Dean for the proof this institution afforded of his energy and zeal in behalf of the people. He congratulated the young men especially upon having such a leader in everything contributing to their welfare. The Dean had set an example becoming an all round man, for his pastor and leader is not only a dean but an LL.D. and not only a very distinguished churchman but an athlete into the bargain. He has been in his day the all round athlete of Canada, so that he may be truly said to be an all round man, an athlete physically and intellectually. This made him an exceptional man at the present time when the general tendency is towards

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Mr. John Coy, Mr. S. Montgomery, Capt. Neelon and Mr. John McIntyre spoke in somewhat similar terms, each one expressing satisfaction that the club is open to all, that its erection has elicited nothing but praise all round and that there is but one opinion as to its influence for the intellectual and physical improvement of the young men of the city.

Dean Harris brought the speechmaking of the evening to a close by a few brief and happy remarks. He took occasion to thank the Archbishop for his great kindness and for the spirit of his remarks.



M. J. KEATING

The rest of the evening was spent by the visitors looking through the rooms and listening to the music.