

ORDER OF BUSINESS

OF THE C. M. B. A.

(CONTINUED)

DOES ANY MEMBER KNOW OF A SICK BROTHER OR A BROTHER'S FAMILY IN DISTRESS?

Under this item are practised fraternity and Christian charity that should animate the members of the C. M. B. A. towards a sick brother or his family if in distress. Section 183 states that the duty of the Relief Committee shall be to visit the sick or disabled brothers, and report at each meeting the condition of such members.

Sickness suspends work, occasions unforeseen expenses, often exhausts savings collected by dint of long and careful efforts, and the sick brother then finds himself unable to continue, for a time at least, the payment of his assessments and dues, besides having recourse to credit for his subsistence and that of his family. The Relief Committee reporting that said member is worthy of relief, the branch should keep him in good standing by paying his assessments until he recovers his health and resumes his work. It is not fair that this member should lose the benefit of his past assessments, for the only reason that temporarily he finds himself unable to continue to his make his monthly payments. The branch should more readily come to his assistance than in case of the death of said member: it is guaranteed to the extent of \$100 by section 12, which states that the amount of assessments which it shall have paid, not exceeding the maximum above stated may be deducted from the amount due under the policy of said member, the claim of the branch having been duly presented with the proof of death.

For cases of distress Section 76 provides an appeal to the charity of all the branches of the association, the local branch having already done all in its power to do in such cases.

Speaking of appeals, there are no reasons for branches to ignore same when said appeals have first to be sanctioned by the Board of Grand Trustees before they reach branches. This section has for its object the prevention of abuses, and also the giving at the same time of more efficacy to appeals deemed worthy. For this reason contributions to appeals should come not only from a number of branches, but all should make it a duty to respond to each appeal. The object should be to give assistance not only in a particular case, but in all cases. Branches may do this by giving a little less for each appeal and thus be enabled to contribute to all of them. The result will be the better for every brother in distress.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS, NOTICES AND BILLS.

Communications may be of a various nature, but the branch should take them up on the conditions only that they relate to the interests of the C. M. B. A. Special attention should be given to all communications bringing instructions from the Grand Council. At every meeting, the chancellor, in the declaration already mentioned in the beginning of this study, recalls to members that there should be due respect paid to all mandates and decrees of the Grand Council or President.

The same applies to any mandate, decree, order or notice emanating from the proper authority and published in the official organ of the asso-

ciation, which Section 2 says shall be and is hereby declared to be official notice for the purpose for which it is given to the officers and members, or to whom it may concern. Thus, for instance, when, in the issue of the official organ for the month following each quarter, notice is given to branches that the Per Capita tax, the Initiation tax and the supervising Medical Examiners fees are due and should be paid without delay, the officers of each branch should pay attention thereto and comply with same by not delaying any longer the payments called for.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL AND STANDING COMMITTEES.

Reports of special committees take place when there is cause for same.

The Business Committee is supposed to report at each meeting. This committee has in particular the duty to look after members out of employment and to do all in their power to find employment for them. At every meeting, then, those who know that there are vacancies to be filled somewhere should make it known to the committee and the members out of employment should notify said committee, also. It is on such conditions only that this committee may do good.

We have already spoken of the Relief committee under order No. 3.

The Finance Committee must report on all bills against the branch referred to them, and the branch should authorize payment thereof only after said Committee has certified them to be correct. They must also examine the books and vouchers of the Financial Secretary and the Treasurer and make a report of such examination at the end of the term, or whenever directed to do so by the president or the branch (Sec 184). These quarterly audits should always be made for the benefit of all concerned. It is the only means to keep accounts always straight. Business is business. To be good, careful attention to same must be given.

In making its report the committee should not fail to call the attention of the branch to the fact, if the latter is in arrears to the Grand Council.

The committee on the good of the association must be able to report at each meeting. Its field of action is very much extended. Its duty is to promote the best interests of the association locally by arranging for literary or musical entertainments; procure papers of interest to the members to be read or discussed; familiarize members with the constitution, by-laws, rules of order and ceremonial of the association; visit members who may not be in good standing, or who may be dilatory in paying dues and assessments, and endeavor by every means to prevent suspensions and expulsions; prepare and keep a record of all persons eligible for membership, which shall be reported at each meeting, that they may be induced to join the association; create a livelier interest in the association and cultivate a better fraternal feeling among members.

TO BE CONTINUED.

SMOKING CONCERT.

Branch No. 35, Goderich Ont., held a most successful smoker on April 17th in their branch hall, which has been newly fitted up in a most becoming style. A number of the members of St. Peter's congregation were invited to attend, and a very enjoyable evening of progressive euchre, with lunch

con together with a number of addresses, was the programme. Bro T Stapleton carried off the first prize—a valuable pipe—and the second prize—also a valuable pipe—went to Bro McAvoy. A very interesting address was delivered on the sound financial standing of the Association.

A short and witty address from Bro E. Campion, J. C., was highly applauded, and other addresses of special merit were delivered by our Recording Secretary, F. McAvoy, Bro J. J. Doyle, Chancellor D. P. McCarthy, after which Bro D. Neville followed in that old familiar song "Bridget Donaghue." This was followed by a song from Bro J. J. Doyle, Bro J. Kidd, Ex Grand Organizer for the Province of Ontario, delivered the address of the evening. Bro Kidd, who is an eloquent and convincing speaker, in the course of his address traced the history of fraternal societies from the earliest ages to the present time, and gave a graphic description of the benefits that were derived by becoming members of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association. The eloquent speaker closed by appealing to Catholics to become members and also discussed the Goderich branch's first attempt in a social sphere that more such enjoyable and interesting meetings would be arranged for the future. After presentation of prizes by President O'Connell in a fitting and a neat little speech, the evening closed, with praise on all sides for their President, Bro D. J. O'Connell.

GRAND ENTERTAINMENT

Of Branch No. 232, Montreal, Que.

Branch No. 232 held their closing progressive euchre party and social in Beaman's Conservatory Hall, on Easter Monday evening, and a large number of members of the C. M. B. A. and their friends were present. There were upwards of seventy-five couples who took part in the progressive euchre and social, and each one present enjoyed himself to his heart's content.

The arrangements were most perfect, and the officers of the branch are to be congratulated upon the manner in which they looked to every detail and performed their arduous duties. Every attention was given to the many friends of this highly esteemed branch, and they were loud in their praises for the courtesy shown them by the members of the committee. Nothing was left undone to make all enjoy themselves, and it must certainly be said that the Committee of Management in charge of affairs of Branch No. 232, when it comes to social matters are stalwarts, and they are deserving of all praise.

The systematic manner in which their past entertainments have been conducted was in evidence last Monday evening, and everything passed off with smoothness and precision, and nothing occurred to mar the pleasure of the evening. The progressive euchre playing started at 8:15 p.m. and continued unabated until 11:30 p.m., when fifteen games all told had been played. The playing was most spirited, which was, no doubt, occasioned by the fact that the prizes which were on view in the hall, were the most handsome and costly that have ever been given for a like entertainment, held under the auspices of any society.

Many were the remarks made upon the excellence of the prizes, and the good judgment and taste exercised by

the gentlemen who formed the committee. Many were the envious glances, cast upon the fortunate ladies and gentlemen who had won them as they were called to receive the reward. The presentations were made by Grand Deputies J. J. Costigan and J. H. Fooley, Chancellors T. P. Tansey and T. A. Lynch, Bro J. J. Curran and President T. R. Cowan, of Branch 232. As each lady and gentleman received their prize they were accorded quite an ovation.

After the prizes had been distributed, the floor was cleared, and the committee, assisted by the caterer, changed the scene, of what had been a short while before, a euchre party, into a banquet room. Tables were brought in heavily laden with good things, which had expressly been prepared for this occasion under the personal supervision of Bro W. J. Shea, who is a member of Branch 232. When the guests were seated, the committee attended to their wants, everyone being well looked after. Bro Shea was the recipient of many congratulations upon the excellence of the menu.

To the gentlemen who composed the Committee of Management are due many thanks for the manner in which they carried out their duties, and future entertainments, if in the same hands, are bound to be as successful as they have been for the season just brought to a close.

The following are the names of the committee: President, T. R. Cowan; Chancellor, T. A. Lynch; Chancery, T. M. Ireland; Bros J. H. Nelson, R. J. Cherry, W. J. Fidd, W. E. Darach, W. J. Shea, E. M. Rayan, J. McDonald, T. McGillivray, A. C. Coleman, E. Thompson and G. A. Carpenter.

The following are the names of the successful winners:

- 1st Lady's Prize—Miss M. Crowley, brass mounted decorated opal ware fern pot
- 2nd Lady's Prize—Mrs. J. Ryburgh, Linlog's china berry set
- 3rd Lady's Prize—Miss J. Adrian, large berry dish
- 1st Gent's Prize—Mr. J. Blanchfield, piano lamp
- 2nd Gent's Prize—Mr. B. Tansey, sr., Adderley china cheese dish
- 3rd Gent's Prize—Mr. E. Quinn, Austrian china loving cup.

BRANCH 20, MAIDSTONE

On the evening of April 20 an open meeting of Branch No. 20 Maidstone, Ont., was held in the branch hall. Through the exertions of the highly esteemed and revered pastor Rev. Father McGee, and the members, a very large number of the parishioners were present. Judge McHugh, Mr. Cleary, barrister, and Brother Keogh, Secretary of Branch No. 1, Windsor, were there and addressed the meeting in a very eloquent manner and with very beneficial results. Several applications were taken immediately after the meeting. Our Windsor brothers had to drive twelve miles to attend the meeting and they certainly deserve great credit for the interest they take in C. M. B. A. matters.

Two legal papers met on the way to the funeral of a smart business man. By way of introduction, the speaker said: "I am a mortgage deed and I have most of the property in the world means," said the speaker. "I am an insurance policy. All I want is to get out just such fellows as you are. I am for the family every time."—Pheaps.