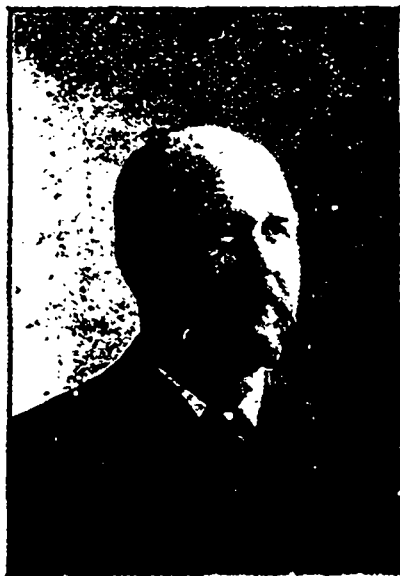


committees of the Council and for two years as Chairman of the Finance Committee.

Bro. Cooke is solicitor for the many different Catholic institutions in Guelph and for a number of manufacturing and financial corporations. He is also Vice-President and a member of the executive committee of the Dominion Building and Loan Association, a company doing business all over Canada, and having a subscribed capital of over \$3,000,000 and a paid-up capital of over \$1,000,000, besides being a director in many other companies.



John Ronan, Esq., Chairman of the Finance Committee.

Mr. John Ronan is a native of Ireland. He came to Hamilton, Ont., with his parents in 1850. In 1867 he started the grocery business which he still carries on, and in which he has been very successful.

On Sept. 18th, 1881, he joined Branch No. 37 as a charter member, and was elected its representative to the Stratford Convention in 1886. At this Convention he was chosen a member of the Finance Committee. He attended the Conventions at Toronto, Montreal, Hamilton and St. John, at each of which he was re-elected to the important position he at present holds in the Association. This, in itself, is sufficient to show the confidence our membership has in Brother Ronan's ability and integrity; and well may they have, for, speaking from experience, we say without fear of successful contradiction, that an auditor could not be more careful, painstaking or exacting in the discharge of the duty he has to perform, than John Ronan; and we have no doubt the services our worthy brother has rendered the Association will fully justify the confidence of our Branch representatives.

Brother Ronan, by displaying that strict attention to C. M. B. A. work which has been a characteristic of his since his acceptance of office in the Association, so won the respect and regard of his colleagues that they elected him Chairman three times in succession, a position for which he is particularly well adapted, and which

he has filled with credit to himself and advantage to the whole C. M. B. A. of Canada.

Brother Ronan is one of Hamilton's leading citizens. He is the type of the fortunate man. Happy husband and father, successful in business, friend to all, he can have no enemies.



George W. Cooke, Esq., Member of the Finance Committee.

Mr. George W. Cooke was born at Malagash, Cumberland county, Nova Scotia, September 8, 1815. The family having moved to Halifax in 1870, the subject of our sketch received his early education there. In 1834 he accepted a position in Amherst, N. S., with the firm with which he is now connected. In 1837 he was admitted to partnership, and in 1839 was given full management. Since then he has made a number of important changes, among which was the establishing of a branch of the business in Vancouver, B. C. The firm, Dunlap, Cooke & Co., carry on an extensive business, which under the able management of Mr. Cooke, is very successful.

On Nov. 17th, 1891, he joined Branch 168 as a charter member, and was elected its representative to the Convention of our Grand Council at Hamilton, in 1892, and also to the Convention held at St. John, N. B., in 1894. Here he was elected a member of the Finance Committee, a position which he still holds, and for which he has proven himself highly qualified. His brother representatives made no mistake in selecting him as one of the Association's auditors; no item, how ever small, shall "pass" Brother Cooke without being thoroughly investigated and understood.

As a speaker, Brother Cooke has considerable ability. He is interesting and instructive, and his every ready fund of quiet humor, with an inexhaustible store of anecdote, which he relates with most telling effect, secure for him a hearty welcome. He is a master, too, of repartee and kindly sarcasm, and succeeds in putting his audience in good humor.

Brother Cooke is married and has four children. He is in the prime of vigorous manhood, and we trust that

there are before him many long years in which to enjoy the confidence of his brothers and serve the C. M. B. A.

### PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

#### Branch No. 8.

1. That Section 119 be amended by striking out after the word "appointment" the following five lines as far as "statement," and the following substituted: "They must also be elected at the regular election of officers in branches in December of each year. The return of said election must be forwarded to the Super-vising Medical Examiner, together with a statement."

#### Branch 13.

1. That Branch No. 13 recommend the representation to Grand Council in districts instead of individual branches.  
2. That the representation be based upon the following, viz.: (1) One delegate for the first 100 members, or less. (2) One delegate for each additional 100 members.  
3. Mode of election: By proxy system, under the supervision of the District President.

4. That Branch No. 13 recommend the appointment of organizers  
5. That some secret be recommended for the protection of its members.

6. That Branch No. 13 recommend that the assessments should be sent out according to death rate.

#### Branch 30.

1. That Section 35, page 18, be amended as follows: "Instead of each Branch being represented by a delegate at Grand Council Convention, the Grand Council divide the branches in couples, and that one delegate represent the two branches, and that the oldest branch have the privilege of electing the first delegate, the other branch have same privilege at next Convention, and each in turn thereafter."  
2. That special assessments be numbered in their order.  
3. That an official be appointed by the Grand Council, whose duty will be to organize new branches, canvass for new members where branches are established, and be empowered to inspect the books of branches, collect from branches in arrears, and instruct branch officers.

#### Branch No. 55.

1. That the following words in Section 149 be struck out: "If it shall appear that the balls are all white, or that not more than two black balls for the first ten members present and entitled to vote, are cast; or not more than one black ball in addition to said two to each additional ten members, or fraction thereof present, and entitled to vote, the applicant shall be declared elected," and insert the following words: "If it shall appear that not less than two thirds of the balls cast are white, the applicant shall be declared elected"

#### Branch No. 101.

1. We are in favor of the holding of biennial conventions.  
2. No branch should be allowed to send a delegate to the biennial Conventions unless it has a membership of at least twenty brothers at the time of the election of the delegates to the Grand Council, and a newly organized branch having such a membership shall not be permitted to send a delegate to the Grand Council unless it has

paid an amount of per capita tax equal to what is due for a period of six months upon its membership.

3. Strike out in Section 170, everything after the ninth line to the sixteenth line, and substitute therefor: "The Financial Secretary shall reinstate any suspended member immediately upon payment to him of all arrears and a fine of five cents, upon any day after suspension of such member during reasonable hours, and within three days thereafter he shall notify the Grand Secretary of such reinstatement, stating in such notice the amount of the payment in detail of beneficiary money, dues and fines."

4. We are in favor of the payment of a small fine of five cents, to be paid by a suspended member at the time of his reinstatement, this fine to be placed to the credit of the General Fund of the branch to which such brother belongs.

5. Section 62 should be amended to read that "The Canadian" be mailed free to all members of the Association in the first week of every month."

6. We recommend allowance for disability.

7. We recommend that branch meetings and elections be held in December, and the installation in the meeting thereafter.

#### Branch 193.

1. That there should be established Provincial Councils, such as are provided by Article 4 of the Act of Incorporation, and that in case Provincial Councils are not established, the actual Conventions of the Grand Council shall take place every three years.

2. It is also resolved that there should be a day fixed during the year as a festival of the C. M. B. A. of Canada.

#### Branch 234.

1. Branch 234 is of the opinion that monthly assessments should be so increased as to lessen the necessity of extra assessments.

2. That there should be a sign, or signs, that members of the C. M. B. A. would know and recognize each other.

3. That no branch of less than forty members should have a delegate to the Grand Council, but that two or more branches having not less than fifty should have a delegate.

To the Editor of The Canadian.

I enclose you for publication report of committee appointed for the purpose of considering changes in the Constitution, which Branch No. 1, Windsor, approved, recommending that our delegate be requested to introduce and press motions to amend the Constitution at the next meeting of the Grand Council, so as to provide

(a) That payment of delegates from the fund of the Grand Council be limited to a per diem allowance of \$2.75 during actual attendance of the Grand Council.

(b) That branches may be represented by proxy, limited to delegates from other branches.

That Conventions henceforward be held triennially.

(d) That the editing, printing and publishing of the official newspaper be let by tender at a premium, advertisements being permitted under the supervision of the Grand Council.

(e) That the per capita tax be reduced as soon as reduced expenses shall permit.

Recommending that our delegate request consideration by the Grand Council of the question of employing paid organizers.