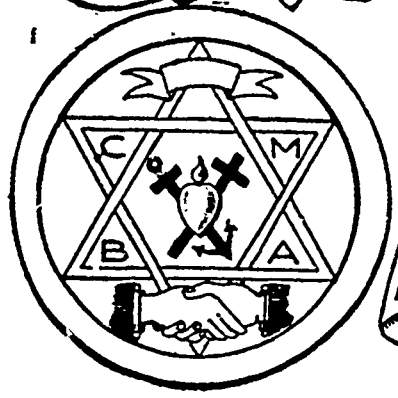


The CANADIAN



PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL OF THE C.M.B.A. OF THE CATHOLIC MUTUAL BENEFIT ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

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ASSESSMENT SYSTEM.

THE OTTAWA CONVENTION.

The tenth Convention of the Grand Council took place in the city of Ottawa, Ont., on Tuesday, 25th August, 1895.

At 9 o'clock the delegates and members of local branches formed in procession at the Opera House, and by way of Metcalfe, Sparkes, Rideau and Sussex streets, marched to the Basilica, where a pontifical High Mass was celebrated by His Lordship Bishop Emard, of Valleyfield, Que. Within the sanctuary sat His Grace Archbishop Duhamel upon the throne. He was surrounded by a number of clergy, among them the Very Rev. Canon McCarthy and Rev. J. C. W. Deguire, D. D., the preachers of the occasion.

The musical service in the Basilica was very fine, and under the direction of Prof. A. Tremblay at the organ, the following programmes were rendered:

Organ entry, Allegro, Mozart.
Offertory, Pontifical March, Lemmens.
Choir, Mass, F. Bazin, director, of the Orpheon of the City of Paris.
Kyrie, solos by Cyp. Breton; duo, by M. Dupont and Cyp. Breton.
Sanctus Benedictus, solo by Cyp. Breton.

Agnus Dei, solo, by G. B. Benard, Sr., tenor; bass, M. Dupont; duo, J. B. Benard, tenor and F. X. R. Saucier, alto.

Rev. Canon McCarthy, in his sermon was eloquent and impressive:

"I leave you the commandment that ye love one another as I have loved you." This was his text. When reading the New Testament, he said, the reader often meets passages in which Christ speaks in words so loving, so dear and so sublimely eloquent; this was one of the passages.

These words were uttered on the night of the Last Supper. The Lord had just finished the washing of the disciples' feet, teaching them the lesson of humility and love. He had told His disciples that he was about to leave them, but in doing so he left them the commandment of the text and enjoined them to keep it.

There was something beautiful, the preacher said, in the words themselves, but their real beauty lay in their meaning. The Lord in these sentences gave His disciples a synopsis of His whole life. His whole life was summed up in that one word—love.

The Lord called it a new commandment because he wanted to impress it forcibly upon the mind of His disciples. He called upon them not to love one another merely as one man loved another, but as a Christian should love a Christian, being of the same mind and body.

This love was being shown through the church by the many virgins who had given up the pleasures and comforts of the world to attend to their sick and dying fellowmen. This was the Christ-like love.

The many benefit organizations showed that this commandment was still being kept. The C. M. B. A. was one of these organizations. The delegates of the body here assembled had not forgotten the Lord's command. They had left business and come to this city to decide how best they might help their brother man. The Church had blessed

the C. M. B. A. Bishops had strongly approved of it. It was a commendable association. It was a charitable society formed on business principles. It aimed to prevent poverty. With such noble objects it had grown until it had a membership in Canada of 11,000. Each year \$150,000 was being paid out to widows and orphans, and this was but part of the good work the C. M. B. A. was doing.

Priests of the church had the best means of knowing what good the association was doing, as they went about visiting in the homes. Nothing gave as much consolation to them as to know that in cases of distress the head of the family belonged to the C. M. B. A.

"It is a Catholic society. Keep it so," he said. "Leave all things that distract men outside of the assembly room of the C. M. B. A. Go on, then, and prosper. That is my wish."

These were the concluding remarks of Canon McCarthy.

Returning to the Opera House, the delegates filled the building to the doors. Brother E. R. Latchford, President of the local Advisory Board, read the following address of welcome on behalf of the local branches:

To the officers and members of the Grand Council of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Canada, in convention assembled:

Brothers—The members of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Ottawa, on this the first occasion of your holding a convention here, desire to extend to you a most hearty welcome.

For many years we sought in vain through our representatives to procure for this fair city the honor of being the seat of your deliberations; and when at length, at the St. John convention, success crowned the efforts of our delegator, a thrill of joy was felt by every member here. The pleasing anticipations we then formed of meeting you are fulfilled to day, when we extend fraternal greetings to such a large and representative body of distinguished men assembled from every Province of the Dominion to promote the interests of the most widespread and beneficent Catholic organization in America.

We hope your stay in Ottawa will be pleasant to yourselves and profitable to the association, and that you will entertain such memories of the capital of Canada as to induce you to frequently revisit here the brothers who now cordially greet you, and pray that God will bless you and direct your deliberations.

On behalf of the members of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Ottawa,
F. R. LATCHFORD,
Chairman Ottawa Advisory Board.
A. R. PARENT,
Secy. Ottawa Advisory Board.

Brother A. R. Parent read a similar welcome in French.

His Worship Mayor Borthwith also welcomed the delegates. The Mayor said:

Mr. President and members of the Grand Council of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Canada:

Gentlemen—My predecessor in the office of which I have the honor to fill, extended to your Council, when in session in the city of St. John, two years ago, an invitation to hold your meeting this year in our city. I am pleased to know that with the influence of our representatives from this district, the invitation was accepted, and you are now doing

us the honor of holding your tenth convention in Ottawa.

Our citizens are always ready to extend a hearty welcome to those who visit us on legitimate business, but coming as you do, representing an association that is so numerically strong, and its objects of such a lofty and beneficent character, and the fact that there are so many residents of our municipality and surrounding districts who are bound to you by the same bonds of fraternal brotherhood, gives me all the greater pleasure in extending to you a cordial welcome. I find I cannot congratulate you on having an ancient history as an organization, or on the fact that your order had its birth on Canadian soil, but I can congratulate you on the noble work you have done during the time you have been in existence. We have had many instances in our own municipality where the wolf has been kept from the door by the thoughtful provision of the heads of families in being members of your order.

And though your organization is of American origin I am not one of those who believe that no good thing can emanate from our American cousins, but I am satisfied that what is good will lose none of its elevating influence when it is imported and reflected in our Canadian citizens, and thus I feel that the grand object of your order, which is to improve the moral, mental and social condition of its members, and to educate them in integrity, sobriety and frugality, to teach them contentment and to make provision for their families at a most trying time, will be honored and duly appreciated by our people; I can ask for no better evidence than that such is the case than the fact that there are so many of our prominent and respected citizens members of your order.

Gentlemen, in bidding you welcome to our city, I do so not merely in a formal manner in my official capacity, but with a sincere desire that your deliberations may be conducted with wisdom; that harmony may prevail; that the welfare of your association may be promoted by insuring its permanency and stability, and widening the bounds of its influence, and that the light that you shed may attract eligible candidates in every section of our Dominion, and when your business is over you may leave feeling perfectly satisfied that the city of Ottawa was the proper place to hold your convention.

Brother F. R. Latchford introduced Brother Napoleon Belcourt, M. P. for Ottawa.

Bro. Belcourt said:

Mr. Chairman and Brothers— I am much pleased in having the honor of joining with your friends in wishing you among us a most hearty welcome to the capital of this Dominion.

I have been quite a number of years a member of this great and dear Society, the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association. I not only think, but am convinced, that very much good has been done by the Association, and more will be done. I am very pleased to have heard some of our most popular citizens express in very strong terms their admiration for the splendid display made on our principal streets this morning. It is a source of gratification to me because of the nationality to which I belong, and also because of the fact that Ottawa is my residence. It is quite a pleasure to hear these congratulatory remarks come from such a source.

Let me say briefly, that I join most heartily with all in wishing the most pleasing welcome to the capital. When you leave here for your respective homes, we all entertain hopes that you will take back with you memories which you will cherish, and may

be the means of bringing you again in our midst.

Grand President O. K. Fraser replied in English, thanking each respectively for the kind sentiments voiced in the addresses. Grand Vice-President Dr. Bourget, also replied in French, and the ceremonial part was over, the delegates adjourning for lunch, after which the business of the Convention was taken up.

At the opening of the afternoon session a committee of the clergy in attendance at the Convention met together and prepared the following cablegram, which was forwarded to His Holiness, Pope Leo XIII.:

"The Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Canada, assembled in Convention in the city of Ottawa, prostrate at the feet of Your Holiness, humbly beg the Apostolic Benediction."

In reply the following was received: "The Most Holy Father lovingly imparts the blessing asked for."
[Sgd.] CARDINAL RAMPOLLA.

The Grand President's report was then read by Grand Secretary S. R. Brown:

Brockville, Aug. 25, 1896.
To the Officers and Members of the Grand Council of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Canada:

Brothers—Since the ninth Convention of this Association, held at St. John, the progress thereof reported has continued steadily, and I am happy in being able to say to you that you have every reason to feel satisfied with the condition of the Order at the present time.

During the term just closing we have initiated some 3,000 new members, making our total membership to date 11,000. Thirty-six new branches have been organized, making a total of 272, and there are several more on the way. The numbers and location of these new branches, together with the name of the organizers, to whom credit is due for their existence, are as follows:

No.	Location.	Date of Organization.	Organizer.
26	Quebec, Que.	October 27, 1891	C. D. Hebert
27	Stony Point, Ont.	December 30, 1891	John Dugal
28	Quebec, Que.	December 31, 1891	P. J. Montreuil
29	St. Henri de Montreal	February 1, 1892	C. Daudelin
30	Fakenham, Ont.	February 11, 1892	M. Galvin
31	Fredrickton, N. B.	February 11, 1892	P. J. O'Keefe
32	Edmonton, B. C.	February 11, 1892	Rev. A. E. Burke
33	Hallifax, N. S.	February 27, 1892	Rev. E. F. Murphy
34	Kempville, Ont.	March 5, 1892	P. C. Mordock
35	Cap St. James, P. Q.	March 12, 1892	P. J. Montreuil
36	Fredericton, N. B.	April 9, 1892	P. J. Montreuil
37	New Glasgow, N. S.	May 27, 1892	G. W. Cooke
38	Yorkeana Mines, N. B.	June 13, 1892	G. B. Hebert
39	L. Avenir, P. Q.	June 13, 1892	Hon. C. B. Rouleau
40	Bathurst, N. W. T.	June 13, 1892	Hon. C. B. Rouleau
41	Prince Albert, N. W. T.	June 13, 1892	Hon. C. B. Rouleau
42	Manawaka, P. Q.	July 17, 1892	James Martin
43	Kennington, P. E. I.	July 31, 1892	Rev. A. E. Burke