

THE CANADIAN

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Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Canada

And must be to members... at least the 10th of each month.

Members are invited to send... to the Association... subject to the rules...

Correspondence... copy may be sent... following...

Address: 100... S. B. HOLLOWAY, General Manager, 100... Street, London, Ont.

LONDON, NOVEMBER 1907.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

The nominations for officers of branches of the C. M. B. A. of Canada for the ensuing term, must be made at the last regular meeting of branches in November.

The elections shall take place at the first meeting of branches in December.

At the coming nominations and elections, a Representative and Alternate to the Grand Council Convention of 1898 must be nominated and elected by each branch.

In order to understand this part of our work, branch officers will please read Sections 163, 165, 166, 167, 168 and 169 of the Constitution.

No member should accept nomination for the office of Financial Secretary or Treasurer unless he is willing to make application for a guarantee bond in compliance with Sections 170, 177 and 181 of the Constitution.

HON. MR. HACKETT'S RECEPTION IN PETERBOROUGH, ONTARIO.

He Entertains and is Entertained by the C. M. B. A.

His Opera House Address—A Great Audience Listens to a Great Address—Addresses at a Banquet Afterwards—A Long Wait and a Good Programme Presented to Fill in the Time—A Successful Occasion.

The Opera House was crowded to the doors on the evening of the 6th ult. on the occasion of a public reception being tendered to Hon. M. F. Hackett, ex Provincial Secretary, Quebec, of Stanstead, Que., Grand President of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Canada.

The Toronto train upon which the distinguished visitor was expected to arrive, was delayed for over two hours and a half and yet the large audience waited patiently to hear an address, from one of Canada's most gifted orators. That those present were amply rewarded for their long wait was evidenced by the burst of applause which continually broke forth as the climax of the many bursts of eloquence was reached by the Grand President during the evening.

The chair was occupied by Bro. John Coughlin, President of the local branch of the C. M. B. A., and

amongst those seated upon the platform were Ven. Archdeacon Casey, Rev. Father McColl, Rev. Father Fitzpatrick, J. R. Stratton, M. P. P., T. C. Bell, Dr. Moher, Harry Phelan, M. H. G. Quinn and Thos. Duvin.

IN INTRODUCING THE SPEAKER of the evening, Bro. Coughlin spoke as follows:

As President of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of this town it is very gratifying to myself and the members of our branch to have with us this evening such a large attendance of Peterborough to welcome our Grand President on his first visit to our Branch.

No doubt many of you are aware of the aims and objects of our society, chiefly to give life insurance at the lowest possible cost for reliable insurance.

Life insurance it is true is a very dry subject, still it is a very important one, and in these days it is customary for men to belong to some society, and this evening the Hon. Mr. Hackett will ably and eloquently lay before you the claims of the C. M. B. A.

We are particularly pleased to have so many ladies present this evening, as after all it is chiefly in their interests that we often deprive ourselves of many little luxuries in order to pay our assessments and keep ourselves in good standing.

WE ARE PROUD

of the record of our Association and are confident of its future, as our laws and constitution have been pronounced by the highest authority in the land as being the best that has come under his notice, as every member has a voice and a right to cast his ballot on every question of importance to the society and since we separated from the American Order we have home rule in every sense of the word, and having those good laws we have been fortunate in having good men to administer them.

We have reason to be proud of the men who have given freely of their valuable time and ability to the management of our association without any salary, as the only paid officers we have are the Grand Secretary and his assistant and the Solicitor at very moderate salaries.

At the head of our organization we have His Grace Archbishop Walsh, of Toronto, and the gentlemen who have held the office of Grand President in the past were men like Mr. O'Connor, of Stratford, Dr. MacCabe, Principal of the Ottawa Normal School, and O. K. Fraser, of Brockville, all of whom discharged their duties in a manner that deserves the life long gratitude of our members. These gentlemen were from the western part of Canada and at the last convention it was unanimously decided to select one of the wise men of the east in the person of the Hon. M. F. Hackett, Provincial Secretary of the Quebec Government at that time, a gentleman who has been an earnest worker in our society, holding many offices until he reached the highest place in our association.

I am sure those present will be delighted with Mr. Hackett and feel they were fortunate in having an opportunity of hearing so eloquent a speaker.

MR. HACKETT

prefaced his address by an apology for appearing on the platform at so late an hour, stating that no one regretted more than himself the unfortunate accident which prevented him reaching the audience earlier in the evening. He had been most anxious to meet the people of Peterborough, the members of the C. M. B. A., and the Catholics of

the community. It was not without a feeling of pride that he found himself, a resident of the east, coming into Ontario to explain—not to explain the objects of an insurance company, but to say that the organization which he represented had a nobler, holier mission—that of uplifting the Catholics under one altar and one flag, this being the primal and main objects of the C. M. B. A.

For years Catholics had been waiting and watching for the formation of some organization that would bind them together as brothers and give them their rights from one end of the country to the other. This universal fraternal want was now supplied by the C. M. B. A. Its motives were great and grand. It was an insurance society, but the speaker wishes all Catholics to understand that when entered on its membership roll, they stood shoulder to shoulder, and man to man, asking for the mental, moral and material improvement of the Catholics of Canada as a mass.

IF YOU OR I DIED

to-morrow, said he, we might be forgotten but if our efforts have made a position for the Catholics of Canada, then our mission is accomplished and the tears of our widows and children will be those tears which build up a nation.

Mr. Hackett claimed that the C. M. B. A. stood at the head and front of the Catholic societies of Canada to-day. It was a bond of friendship and benevolence which knew no class and embraced every condition of mankind, asking only that they kneel before the one altar. He thought there was something comforting in the reflection that there was something which possessed a salutary effect upon Catholics from the coast of the Pacific to that of the Atlantic. That the birth of the C. M. B. A. had filled a much needed want was emphasized by its growth.

It might be said that the Protestants of Ontario, seeing the Catholics united, might not like it, and such would doubtless be the case if their object was not so noble and so good. They were

ELEVATING AND EDUCATING.

and trying to put their people on the same plane as their Protestant brethren. They were better citizens when they were better Catholics, and no one could say aught but "God speed you in your endeavor."

In the words of the old song, "we are a band of brothers." The C. M. B. A. is a brotherhood of friendship and benevolence which knows no distinction of origin or of class, but which embraces in its protective folds every class and every condition of mankind from the highest to the lowest, only asking that they kneel at a common altar and mingle in a union of hearts. A reciprocal affection—a mutual aid which will rebound to their greatest moral, material, general and individual advancement.

The C. M. B. A. is much more than a material benefit Association. It has not only for aim to assist the widow and orphan, but its mission is to form, educate and elevate the Catholic masses, and to establish upon them a brotherhood which will assure them their legitimate influence and which will make them respected and esteemed by other elements of society.

There is something comforting in the thought that the Catholics of Canada possess an institution which extends its protective mantle over them, and whose salutary influence is felt from the shores of the Atlantic to the

Pacific, and by those who may wish to enjoy its advantages.

AN INSTITUTION

which has for its aims and objects to make men greater, nobler, truer, better men and better citizens, and which instills into their minds a sense of security in the conviction that wherever they find themselves in this vast Dominion they are certain to meet both brothers and friends.

That the birth of the C. M. B. A. has answered a much felt want is plainly proved by its extraordinary development.

The growth of the C. M. B. A. since its foundation is simply marvellous, its ramifications extend through the United States and Canada, and there is no locality of any importance, no group of Roman Catholics upon this continent, which does not feel directly or indirectly the beneficial and salutary effects of this grand association.

It might have been surmised that a movement like this, which tends to consolidate the Catholic masses into a general brotherhood might be criticised by some of our separated brethren, and so it might, were not the C. M. B. A., so noble, so charitable and so disinterested in its aim.

ITS GREATEST AMBITION

is to unite the Catholics of Canada for their moral, their intellectual and their material advancement, and we are sure that in this good work our separated friends will wish us God speed.

Our mission is great, is noble, is generous and is good, and no man who loves his country and his fellowman, I care not before what altar he kneels, or in what language his lullaby was sung, will fail to say from his heart of hearts to the officers and members of its rank and file, "God bless you; go on in your noble work."

In the face of this magnificent demonstration, which bears unmistakable testimony of their loyalty to their order and their appreciation of the great principles of unity, fraternity and concord which underlie it, it might seem superfluous on my part to offer the members any advice on that score. But if I might venture to do so, I would say to them, cultivate and encourage above all the fraternal spirit which constitutes the chief aim and strength of our beloved society. Indeed, I cannot lay too much stress on this point. Let this blessed spirit not merely influence your action as a body, let it not appear merely in the meetings

OF YOUR BRANCHES

or social occasions like the present; but let it penetrate your whole rule of life and carry it with you in your daily relations towards your fellow members. Let it be a band of brothers in the fullest and truest sense of the words, thus setting an edifying example to our co-religionists who have not yet affiliated with us and preparing the way for that unity and concord amongst Catholics, that consolidation of the Catholic masses under our banner at no distant day, which we should all earnestly strive for.

The benefit of example is great. We may not all be born to be great, to cut a conspicuous figure in the eyes of the world; but we can all do something within the measure of our respective strength, within the scope of our respective spheres, to make our fellow-men better and happier.

Catholics of education, wealth and influence owe it as a solemn duty to themselves and to their co-religionists to help in the grand work which the