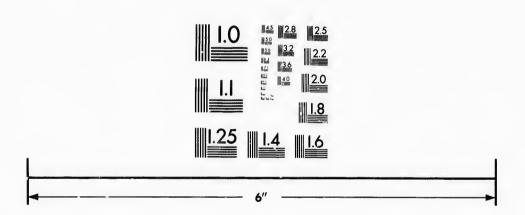


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CONSTITUTION

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BY-LAWS

OF

THE DEBATING CLUB

IN CONNECTION WITH'

THE Y. M. A. OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.

ORGANIZED NOV. 6th, 1891.

SAINT JOHN, N. B.:
GEO. A. KNODELL, PRINTER, CHURCH STREET.
1891.

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CONSTITUTION

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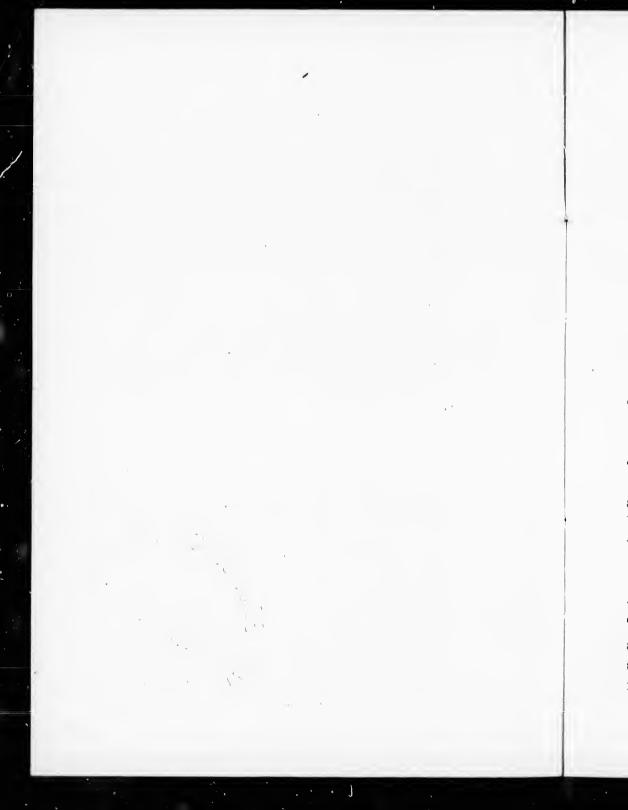
THE DEBATING CLUB

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CONSTITUTION

OF

THE DEBATING CLUB

In connection with the Y. M. A. of St. John's Church.

ARTICLE I.-NAME AND POSITION.

The full title of the Club shall be as above; its short title "The Debating Club."

ARTICLE II.

All members of the Y. M. A. of St. John's Church duly enrolled on Nov. 6th, 1891, and not in arrears, shall be duly constituted members of the Club. All other persons shall be elected in accordance with this Constitution.

The President and Vice-President for the time being of the Y. M. A. of St. John's Church, shall be the President and Vice-President respectively of the Club, and shall hold office until their successors are elected by the said Y. M. A. in accordance with its Constitution.

ARTICLE III.—OFFICERS.

There shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, and a Managing Committee of three. The President and Vice-President shall be elected in accordance with the previous article. All other officers shall be elected at the first meeting of the Club by nomination and majority ballot, and shall hold office until their successors are elected.

ARTICLE IV.—PRESIDENT.

The President shall call and preside at all meetings of the Club. He shall preserve order and shall have the same rights and privileges (except where altered or extended by this Constitution) as the Speaker of the House of Commons of Canada. He shall have the privilege of vetoing any measure laid before the Club.

The President shall not be a member of the Managing Committee.

ARTICLE V.-VICE-PRESIDENT.

In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall call and preside at the meetings of the Club, and shall have, when so acting as substitute, the same powers and privileges as the President. In the absence of both Vice-President and President, a Chairman shall be elected by the Club who shall have all the powers of the officer he represents.

The Vice-President shall be ex officio the Chairman of the Managing Committee, and as such shall be bound to provide a subject for debate for each evening.

ARTICLE VI.-SECRETARY TREASURER.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep the books and funds of the Club, and shall render a statement at the Annual meeting or whenever else requested by the Club of its financial standing.

It shall be his duty to collect all fines and fees; to keep a list of the members who by reason of arrears have forfeited their right to take part in the discussions of the Club, and to keep the President or Presiding Officer supplied with a corrected copy of such list.

ARTICLE VII.--MANAGING COMMITTEE.

The Managing Committee shall consist of three members and of the Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer of the Club. The Vice-President shall be Chaiman of the Committee. Any three of the aforementioned five members shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VIII.—MEMBERSHIP.

Males of any denomination, over the age of sixteen years shall be eligible for membership.

ARTICLE IX.-ELECTION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

Elections shall be by nomination and secret ballot. The names of persons to be balloted for must be placed on the notices calling the meeting at which the names are to be brought forward.

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ARTICLE X.—FEES.

Entrance Fee, - - - 25 cents. Annual Fee, - - - 50 "

The Charter members of the Club as mentioned in Article II, are not chargeable with the entrance fee.

Fees are payable in advance: the annual fee becomes due at the annual meeting. Members in arrears of fees for one year will be struck off the rolls, and can only be re-elected on payment of one years arrears with the additional entrance fee.

Members intending to resign must give notice in writing to the Secretary before the annual meeting otherwise they will be chargeable with the fee for the ensuing year, which must be paid, in accordance with this article, before re-election.

ARTICLE XI.-FINES.

Members named by the presiding officer for disorder or otherwise \$1.00.

Opener or Opposer of debate or Enrolled Mover of Amendment, Lateness, after ten minutes, 10 cents.

Opener or Opposer of debate or Enrolled Mover of Amendment absent without proper substitute accepted by the Vice-President, 25 cents.

Opener or Opposer of debate or Enrolled Mover of Amendment leaving before debate closes without permission from the Chair, 25 cents.

A member fined forfeits all rights in connection with the Club until the fines are paid in full. It shall be the duty of the President or Chairman of any meeting to openly notify any person who has been fined and who is exercising or seeking to exercise a right or privilege of the Club, that he cannot avail himself of the right until the fines are paid. Fines imposed cannot be remitted.

ARTICLE XII.-MEETINGS.

Every second Thursday, at eight p. m. at the Sunday School House connected with the St. John's Church, in the Parish of St. Mark.

Business matters may be discussed (quorum seven members), at any meeting of the Club, before the hour of half-past eight. All business meetings shall be held in one of the rooms downstairs in the said School House. The debate for the evening must begin at 8.30 p. m. or earlier.

The Annual Meeting shall be held on the second Thursday in October of each year.

ARTICLE.-XIII.

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This Constitution may be amended or altered by a three-fourths vote on two weeks notice of motion given. Articles II, IV and V, cannot be altered except by the Y. M. A. of St. John's Church, at one of its meetings, in accordance with the rules governing alterations in its Constitution.

BY-LAWS.

DEBATES, REGISTERS-MOVERS AND OPPOSERS.

SEC. 1.—A Book shall be kept in which subjects proposed for debates may be entered by anyone with the name of the mover. Any member can enter his name as opposer, the first named signed being the opposer appointed. From the subjects entered the Managing Committee shall select such as they consider suitable, but should there be no mover, opposer, or debates entered, the Managing Committee shall provide suitable subjects and debaters. The names and subjects for the following meeting must be announced by the Vice-President before the close of any meeting.

When no names appear on the Register in connection with a Debate, and the Managing Committee appoint any member thereon, such member on being notified of his appointment must perform the duty allotted to him or find a suitable substitute satisfactory to the Vice-President. In default thereof he shall be fined in accordance with Article XI of this Constitution.

AMENDMENTS.

SEC. 2.—Amendments to the subject for debate can be entered in the Register previously mentioned, in which case the mover of the amendment (provided the amendment is accepted by the managing committee) shall speak after the mover and opposer of the original motion.

On an amendment being offered during a discussion the presiding officer shall at once put the question "Shall the amendment be accepted and discussed"? On division on this question a two-thirds majority is necessary to accept or refuse the discussion. No amendment can be offered during discussion, unless offered on the member's first rising to speak.

CONDUCT OF THE DEBATE.

SEC. 3.—The rules governing the debate shall be the same as those of Dominion Parliament as set out in Bourinot's Parliamentary Procedure except as herein provided.

The opener and opposer of any debate may speak for fifteen minutes. Addresses from the floor shall be limited to ten minutes, and the Chairman shall touch a bell when a member's time has expired. Extra time of five minutes only may be allowed in special circumstances in the discretion of the Chair.

A Book shall be kept by the Secretary wherein members wishing to leave, may, after nine o'clock, record their votes on the debate.

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SEC. 4.—At ten p. m., if no one has the floor, or as soon thereafter as the floor is unoccupied, any member may move the adjournment of the debate. If carried, the mover has the first right of opening the debate on its resumption. If the Club refuses to adjourn the debate, a motion for a division may be taken, in which case two-thirds majority shall be necessary to divide the Club on the debate.

PRIVATE DEBATES.

SEC. 5.—All regular debates of the Club shall be open to the public after 8.30 p. m., unless immediately after the announcement of a debate, as required by section one, a motion is carried by a three-fourths majority that the public be excluded from the debate.

HONORARY SPEAKERS.

SEC. 6.—On motion carried unanimously, a person not a member of the Club may be permitted to speak on any regular debate before the Club subject however to the rules governing the debate.

SUBJECTS FOR DEBATES.

Sec. 7.—Any subject may be proposed or debated which does not include any question of theology.

N. B.—On November 20th, 1890, on motion carried, so much of Article IX as relates to the placing of names to be balloted for on the notices of meetings, was suspended until January 1st, 1892.

THE DEBATING CLUB.

Officers for Season 1891-92.

President: - - - A. O. SKINNER.

Vice-President: - - - GERARD G. RUEL.

Secretary-Treasurer: - - C. F. Sanford.

Managing Committee:

H. C. WETMORE,

G. A. KIMBALL,

E. P. RAYMOND,

C. F. SANFORD, G. G. RUEL, Chairman. Ex officio.

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