



THE Canadian

PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL OF THE C.M.B.A. OF CANADA.

Volume 6.

LONDON, ONTARIO, NOVEMBER, 1900.

Number 11.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Montreal Oct. 17, 1900.
S.R. Brown, Grand Sec. C. M. B. A.
Dear Sir and Brother—Enclosed find receipts from the Hazinet beneficiaries, who are well satisfied with your promptness in paying said claim.

Yours, etc.,
JOSEPH LOZBAU,
Rec. Sec., Br. No. 142.

Montreal, Oct. 27, 1900.
S.R. Brown, Grand Sec. C. M. B. A.
I received today the cheque for payment of the claim of the late Jean Emmanuel Viger. I have taken the required receipts therefor, which I return you at once. Thanks for your promptness; it is an encouragement for the members.

Yours, etc.,
J. E. DUPONT,
Rec. Sec. Br. No. 87.

THE CAMPBELL APPEAL.

Branch No 80, Tilbury, Ontario, acknowledges receipt of the following contributions to the above named appeal.

Br. No.	Amount.
210 Grand Falls, N. B.	1 00
247 Truro, N. S.	1 00
302 Marysville, Ont.	1 00
186 St. Vincent de Paul, Que.	1 00
31 Rentrew, Ont.	1 00
53 Winslip, Man.	1 00
44 Arapric, Ont.	1 00
100 L. E. Pabst, N. S.	1 00
221 Woodale, Ont.	1 00
173 Belle River, Ont.	2 00
335 Douglas, Ont.	1 00
288 Huntley, Ont.	1 00
37 Hamilton, Ont.	1 00
82 Kingsbridge, Ont.	1 00
106 Rock Island, Que.	1 00
279 Lourdes, N. S.	1 00
25 Fletcher, Ont.	2 00
23 Seaford, Ont.	2 00
291 Cape Bald, N. B.	1 00
164 Halifax, N. S.	2 00
122 Sandwich, Ont.	2 00
308 Dartmouth, N. S.	1 00
2 St. Thomas, Ont.	2 00
7 Arthur, Ont.	3 00
30 Peterborough, Ont.	1 00
115 Summerside, P. E. I.	1 00
163 Winslip, Man.	2 00
261 Battleford, N. W. T.	1 00
224 Spring Hill, N. S.	1 00
234 Palmer Road, P. E. I.	1 00
227 Buctouche, N. B.	1 00
118 Calumet Island, Que.	1 50
273 St. Joseph, N. B.	1 25
28 Campbellford, Ont.	2 00
45 Tecumseh, Ont.	2 00
294 St. Norbert, Man.	50
254 Kensington, P. E. I.	1 00
291 Tignish, P. E. I.	1 00
183 Snyder, Ont.	1 50
16 Louis, Que.	1 00
233 Maniwaki, Que.	1 00
13 Stratford, Ont.	1 00
181 Heepeler, Ont.	1 00
19 Ingersoll, Ont.	1 00
117 Joliette, Que.	1 00
33 St. Agatha, Ont.	1 00
151 Keanville, Ont.	1 00
130 Yarmouth, N. S.	1 00
246 Cap St. Ignace, Que.	2 00
288 St. Joachim, Ont.	1 00
27 Sarnia, Ont.	2 00
21 Simcoe, Ont.	1 00
292 St. Louis, N. B.	50
173 Montserrat, N. B.	1 00
183 Carleton Place, Ont.	1 00
176 Calgary, N. W. T.	1 50
26 Montreal, Que.	2 00
130 Bathurst, N. B.	1 00
285 Oakville, Ont.	1 50
98 Mattawa, Ont.	1 50
215 Chesetaw, Ont.	1 00
Amount previously acknowledged	63 55
Total	\$117 55

NEW BRANCH.

Branch No. 340 was instituted on Oct. 4, 1900, at Dundalk, Ont., by Grand Deputy Timothy Morau. The following is the list of officers:

Spiritual Adviser, Rev. E. P. Slaven
President, Rev. E. P. Slaven
First Vice-President, James McCue
Recording Secretary J. D. Morgan
Assistant Recording Secretary J. D. Morgan
Financial Secretary, P. J. Breen
Treasurer, W. J. Bolger
Marshal, Patrick Bolger
Guard, Robert Culliton
Trustees, James Culliton, John Kelly, Thos. O'Laughlin, Angus McDonald and C. J. McPherson.

INITIATIONS IN OCTOBER, 1900.

Initiations on October.

Br. No.	Location
56	Hamilton, Ont.
143	Montreal, Que.
75	Brockville, Ont.
70	Mildmay, Ont.
153	St. John, (west) N. B.
163	Cardinal, Ont.
291	Montreal, Que.
272	Wellington, P. E. I.
15	Stratford, Ont.
28	Ottawa, Ont.
44	Arapric, Ont.
168	Amherst, N. S.
194	Valcartier, Que.
210	Grand Falls, N. B.
259	Lourdes, N. S.
313	Lezardville, N. B.
337	St. Albert, N. W. T.
10	St. Catharines, Ont.
13	Berlin, Ont.
15	Toronto, Ont.
30	Peterborough, Ont.
37	Hamilton, Ont.
51	Montreal, Que.
77	Lindsay, Ont.
87	Montreal, Que.
89	Perth, Ont.
101	Three Rivers, Que.
111	Toronto, Ont.
130	Bathurst, N. B.
178	Memrancook, N. B.
186	Victoriaville, Que.
211	Rat Portage, Ont.
212	Owen Sound, Ont.
239	Stoney Point, Ont.
281	Tignish, P. E. I.
283	Pilot, N. S.
31	Centerville, Ont.
307	Toronto Junction, Ont.
314	South Durham, Que.
316	Mulgrave, N. S.
323	St. Basile, N. B.
340	Dundalk, Ont.

Total..... 96
N. B. The initiations in the last branch are charter members.
Les initiations dans la dernière succursale sont des membres fondateurs.

WHAT IS SAID OF THE C.M.B.A. BY OUR HIERARCHY.

There are other societies which bear the name of Catholic, and of these the best, to my mind, is the C. M. B. A. It has an entirely unselfish object. The benefit to be derived from membership would be conferred only after the member had himself gone to his reward.—Archbishop O'Connor.

I have been associated with a Branch

of the Association for years, and in leaving my parish one of the cords hardest to sever was that which bound me to the C. M. B. A. I admire the Association; I bless the Association. Its methods have the sanction of the Church, and therefore must be right and good. Distress had found relief through the C. M. B. A., and charity had been distributed by it. By the payment of small rates the father, brother or son became a member, and when the bread earner was called away and the widowed wife and orphaned children were left to themselves the society stopped in and cared for them and protected them. What a truly noble mission this is! Furthermore, I look upon the C. M. B. A. as an auxiliary of the Church. Every branch formed in a parish is a great help to the clergy. The ultimate object of the society is the salvation of souls, and it thus becomes an instrument in the hands of the Church.—Archbishop Gauthier.

I have a great interest in the C. M. B. A. I have been a member for a great many years, and have watched it very closely. I wanted to see the working of the Association before I joined it; and, after observing its development and worth, had become a member. I advise all who can possibly do so to join the C. M. B. A. at once. One became more thoroughly imbued with the Catholic spirit by becoming a member. We are influenced by our surroundings, and moral advice and assistance is obtained in the C. M. B. A. I wish the C. M. B. A. unbounded success.—Archbishop O'Brien

Not content with condemning Free Masonry and kindred associations, the great Pope goes further and says: "There are various sects of men, which, though in name, rites, form, and origin, they differ, yet in same need of aim and likeness of first principles they are bound together, really thereby agree with the Masonic sect, which forms for all a common centre whence all proceed, and to which all return. Though they, just now, seem very much to have cast off the garb of secrecy, and hold their meetings before the eyes of the world, and even have their own daily press, when we look into the matter we find that they still retain all the characteristics of secret societies." Now dearly beloved brethren, we have many such societies in our midst, and we notice with alarm and regret, that Catholics sometimes enroll themselves under their banner.

Perhaps, without realizing the danger to which they are exposed, they allow themselves to become members; because, they expect some social or pecuniary assistance from their membership. Let it not be said, by way of extenuation, that these societies to which we refer have not the formal condemnation of the Church. It is true, they are not formally condemned; but on the other hand they are not approved, and Mother Church always looks with suspicion on fraternal societies that are beyond her control. For this reason Pope Leo XIII., gloriously reigning, cheerfully blessed the general intention of the League of the Sacred Heart for last September, viz "The Struggle against Secret Societies." For the same reason we join our voice to that of the great pontiff, by exhorting all pastors laboring in this diocese, to endeavor to keep away from all such societies the faithful committed to their care. And you, dearly beloved brethren of the laity, do not lend an ear to those who come like wolves in sheep's clothing to allure you into any of the societies that have not the formal approbation of the Church. In other words, do not give your name to any society that has not a priest as spiritual advisor or chaplain.

We appeal to you on this occasion, all the more readily, because, we have now firmly established in this diocese a fraternal society enjoying all the temporal advantages claimed by the others and at the same time honored with the highest approbation of our Holy Mother the Church. We refer to the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Canada. It is our earnest wish that the above named Association, should grow and flourish in our midst, until there be a branch in every parish in this diocese. We recommend to all pastors of souls, that they explain to their people the internal workings of this Association, and impress on the minds of their hearers the many advantages to be derived from it.—Bishop McDonald.

It is a source of great consolation to me to find this beautiful society here, united as you are under the protection of your Holy Mother the Church. There is no fear of going astray you are sure of that under the direction of your beloved Bishop and priests. I am sure the blessing of God will be upon you. I hope this association will soon be spread throughout the island. A branch should be established in every parish. I know it will bring blessings to the places where it is established.—His Excellency, Mgr. Falconio.

THE CANADIAN

Price, - 50 Cents.

Published Monthly, in English and French, at London, Ont., in the interest of the

Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Canada

And mailed to members between the 10th and 15th of each month.

Members are invited to send us items of news or information that will be of benefit to the Association. Communications upon subjects of interest to C. M. B. A. members will always be welcome, but anonymous letters and letters which the Manager does not consider for the welfare of the Association will not be published.

Correspondents will please remember that copy must reach us before the 15th of the month, if intended for publication in the following month's issue, and that space is limited and briefly much desired.

Address all communications to
H. B. BROWN,
Editor and Manager,
Coope Block, Dundas Street,
London, Ont.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM.

LONDON, NOVEMBER, 1900.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

We are now prepared to accept advertisements for THE CANADIAN. The terms are \$30 per column per annum or \$5 per inch space per annum payable strictly in advance. There is no better medium for advertising. THE CANADIAN has a circulation of 14,000, extending all over Canada.

For further particulars address
H. B. BROWN, Editor and Manager,
Coope Block, London, Ont.

The resolution of condolence from Branch No. 87, should read on the death of Bro. John T. Youell's father.

A few branches are in arrears in the payment of supplies, etc. We would request the officers of said branches to read Sections 45 and 46 of Constitution and endeavor to comply therewith.

Branches in arrears for Per Capita Tax are hereby notified that the Grand President and Board of Trustees have instructed the Grand Secretary to mark said branches suspended in his books unless the amount due for said tax is paid at once.

The Grand Secretary occasionally receives from branches medical certificates of applicants to membership. This should not be so. Medical certificates are to be sent by the local examiner direct to our Supervising Medical Examiner, Edward Ryan, M. D., Kingston, Ont.

The Per Capita Tax, Initiation Tax and Supervising Medical Examiner's Fees for the quarter ending Sept 30th, 1900, are over due and should be paid without further delay. Officers of branches that have not remitted to the Grand Secretary the amount due therefor are requested to read Sections 60, 147 and 176 of Constitution and comply with same.

Some branches are very dilatory in reporting initiation of members. This should not be. Section 4 of Constitution is quite plain on this matter, and Recording Secretaries, alluded to, are requested to read same and comply therewith. We wish to state also that the sending of blank form No. 5 alone (application for a beneficiary certificate) is not complying with Section 4, which calls for the application for membership of the newly-initiated

member. We desire to call attention, too, to the foot note on the face of the application for membership, which states that the sending of said application constitute the proper notice of initiation.

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.

The nominating and the electing of representatives and alternates to the Grand Council Convention of 1901 shall take place at the regular nominations and elections of branches in November and December this year—1900.

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 be under a guarantee bond in compliance with Sections 176, 177 and 181 of the Constitution.

BRANCHES IN ARREARS FOR ASSESSMENTS.

There are some branches entirely too dilatory in forwarding the Monthly Assessment Reports and assessment remittances. The Constitution, as well as the regular monthly notice given in the official organ, plainly states that said Monthly Assessment Reports and remittances must be forwarded to the Grand Secretary on or before the 9th day of each month.

We would request the members to ascertain if their respective branches are among those not complying with this law of our Association. Any branch so violating our Constitution is doing a great injustice to each and every one of its members and their beneficiaries. A branch that does not pay the assessment or assessments within the time allowed by the Constitution *ipso facto* suspends itself; and should a death occur among its members during this time how could its officers make the affidavits required in our proofs of death, etc? A large number of branches do not pay on or before the 9th day of the month; they leave payment until the last week, and many of them until the last day of the month. All that said branches seem to care about is to have the money sent in time to have the payment of the assessment appear in THE CANADIAN, and those dilatory branches, or their members, would be the first to complain if the Grand Council did not pay claims within the constitutional time! How can our Grand Council pay claims promptly if our branches do not remit assessments promptly?

NATIONAL FRATERNAL CONGRESS

At the annual session of the National Fraternal Congress, held in Boston in August last, some very important papers were read. The following quotations from the printed report will be of interest to our readers, and our C. M. B. A. members can see the wisdom in the provisions in our association's constitution regarding the assessments, or premiums to be paid, and the Reserve Fund to be accumulated.

The first paper read was by H. A. Warner, M. D., on "Talking and Doing." He said in part:

"Having entered upon the discussion of the question of the amount to be collected from the members of fraternal beneficiary societies, that they might meet their obligations to the beneficiaries without delay, as we did in that memorable executive meeting of the Congress at Buffalo in 1894, there has been no place to cease the discussion, nor will there be until the question is finally settled by actuaries' calculations. If the decision is in favor of a fixed amount to be collected annually or quarterly or monthly, which is to meet the mortuary claims and leave a balance for the future, and which, with its interest accumulations, will enable the society to meet its future increasing obligations without increasing the amount of payment fixed at entry, then let all the societies adopting this plan collect the same amount. Should the step-rate plan be selected, then let the initial rate be the same and the steps be uniform. Here let the actuary have his say, and accept the tables made by him. Again, if the payment is to be the same for all members, the same rule should apply, and the actuary should fix the amount to be paid to the beneficiaries according to the age of entry, or if some plan of scaling or rebating is to be the method, then let uniformity prevail in this case as well as in the others.

"The time for guessing or for the use of haphazard methods ought to come to an end. And the Fraternal Congress should speak plainly on the subject, thereby enabling these societies which desire to make the necessary changes to do so, backed by the strength and the power of the Fraternal Congress. The membership of many of our orders have been educated on wrong lines. These errors need to be corrected, but to attempt to correct them means a world of trouble for those charged with the responsibility of the management. They are possessed of that false idea that the rate of assessment which they paid when they joined the order cannot be changed, holding that it is a fixed and definite contract. This we know to be erroneous. Yet it obtains in the minds of a large majority of the membership of all of our orders. The grumbling, the friction, the suspensions, and, in some cases, the litigation which follows any change in rates we are all well aware of. Much of this can be obviated if those who know and see the necessity for these changes could be backed up with positive declarations by this body, backed with the tables prepared by the actuaries of the Congress, which tables had been approved or adopted by the Congress.

"There are a number of orders which are now investigating the subject of a change of rates. They are confronted with grave difficulties if they do not make some change, yet from the membership comes a sudden protest. Standing between the things which they see before and those which

will come from behind, they halt, are undecided, do not act; or, if they do act, it is not up to the measure of their convictions, but to the measure of what is most expedient, and are not controlled by what is actually right, which should be the only rule of action.

"The future must be provided for and provided against. This we cannot evade. The orders which provide for the future will live and endure; those which do not provide against the future will fall—will die. How can the necessary provision be made? Individually, I believe the best provision that can be made is by accumulations in the present—you may call it by what name you please, surplus, emergency fund; my preference is for the term reserve fund, but by whatever name you choose, do not fail to make provisions for it. The inquiry comes at once, 'How shall we make the provision? how shall the accumulation be secured?' That which to me seems the most feasible, and at the same time the most equitable, is to collect at the age of entry more than experience shows is the actual cost of carrying the risk, add to this the plan of a rebate or deduction from those who die during the early years of membership, and you have adopted the right plan for creating a reserve fund with which to meet future liabilities. Give us the actuaries committee, make it one of the fixtures of the Congress, fix a rate of compensation for their services also, that to be charged to societies applying for its services. Through this place the fraternities and fraternal life insurance on a substantial basis. Give to the world the greatest example of the brotherhood of man through our fraternal beneficiary system it has ever had. Place fraternity and business side by side in such a bond of union that the world will approve and applaud; place it on a basis that the opposition cannot antagonize, that the financiers will approve, that none can condemn, that the doubting and timid will not fear, and we have conferred on the future beneficiaries of our land a blessing which cannot be measured by any ordinary rule, which can alone be tested by the infinite measure of brotherly love."

An animated discussion followed, in which there was a pretty evenly divided opinion as to the wisdom of the recommendations contained in the paper.

Hon. D. D. Aitken followed with a paper on "Certificate Conditions." He said in part:

"What conditions a certificate of membership in a fraternal benefit association should contain has been one of the problems that the societies have had to meet. Whether it should contain a copy of the laws making certificates void under certain conditions; whether it should contain clauses of forfeiture for certain acts; whether it should contain conditions of forfeiture for certain failures to perform, or whether it should be simply a certificate of membership, has been the question to be decided. The objection to a certificate containing a copy of any portion of the laws is that the laws are subject to change, and when changed, the copy that was endorsed upon the certificate is void and of no effect, and that part of the certificate ceases to be even a matter of information to the holder, and the only possible effect it can have is one of embarrassment. The same thing might be said of the certificates containing clauses of forfeiture, but an

additional embarrassment occurs from the fact that when clauses of forfeiture are printed on the certificate it is supposed to contain all those clauses of the laws which work a forfeiture; and, while the same conditions in the laws might be retained that worked a forfeiture at the time the certificate was issued, additional laws might be enacted working forfeitures for different and additional reasons, and might create new liabilities and new duties in addition to those enumerated in the certificate for which a failure to perform would void the certificate. For these reasons I have become satisfied that no conditions should be printed upon the certificate except that the member or his beneficiary would be entitled to participate in the funds, provided the member complied in every particular with the laws that were in force at the time he became a member, or that were thereafter enacted during his membership.

OUR LEGAL DIGEST OF INSURANCE CASES.

PAROL DECLARATIONS OF TRUST BY DECEASED.

Judgment was given on September 29 by Boyd, C. in *Milligan v. MacDonald*, an action tried at St. Thomas to determine the right of the creditors of Norman MacDonald, deceased, to \$25,000, the proceeds of certain insurance policies on his life. It was held that as the insurance was effected under the Ontario Insurance Act the proceeds must be paid to the widow, as beneficiary, for under Sec. 159 of that Act the parol declarations of deceased were not sufficient to vary the statutory trust nor can the Court enforce the terms of a letter written by him and received by his wife after his death. All the money was therefore the property of the widow, but having regard to the expressed wish of the deceased that his creditors should be paid no costs were awarded against them.

THE DEFENBACH CASE.

So much interest is being taken in this now famous Chicago case that a brief statement of the material facts and questions of law involved may not be out of place. Marie Defenbach, a handsome young woman then in the best of health, entered into a conspiracy with a Dr. Unger, with whom she had been living, to defraud various insurance companies and friendly societies. The scheme proposed by Unger seems to have been that she was to become engaged to a third party, to establish in him an insurable interest in her life, insure herself heavily in favor of her affianced husband and then slip quietly away, leaving Unger to deceive the insurers into paying the claims by the substitution of some pauper's body for hers. F. H. Smiley, the chief of the Chicago branch of a detective agency, was approached by Unger and offered a \$1,000 to become engaged to a young woman, who, he represented, was dying of heart disease, and having had a quarrel with her relatives was anxious to so arrange her affairs that she might leave her insurance to be divided among her friends. Smiley agreed, was introduced to Marie Defenbach about the first day of August, and in ten minutes they became engaged to be married, although from then until the time of her death he only saw her once.

Miss Defenbach then applied to the New York Life Insurance Company

for a policy of \$10,000.00 on her life, which, though she was physically an excellent risk, was refused on the ground that she did not show sufficient property interests to warrant insurance to such amount. Subsequently, however, she obtained from this company a policy for \$5,000.00. She also took out policies in the Independent Order of Foresters for \$5,000.00, and in the Knights and Ladies of Honor for \$2,000.00. Unger then induced her to make a will, leaving her insurance to Smiley, her affianced husband, and directing her body to be cremated.

Unfortunately, it seems, for the young woman, just at this juncture the police unearthed the extensive swindling operations practised on the Knights and Ladies of Security by Dr. Regent by similar means, and the moving spirit in this conspiracy seems to have determined to diminish the risk of detection by the production of the dead body of the real Marie Defenbach. Be this as it may, on August 20 Miss Defenbach complained of being ill and called in the doctor of the Knights and Ladies of Honor, who pronounced her complaint to be merely dysentery and prescribed some simple remedies. Two days later she made the will above referred to. On the 25th the lodge doctor again saw her and assured her she was all right. That night, it is alleged, she sent a boy to Dr. Unger with a message and received in reply a sealed package, the contents of which she took. Soon after she expired in frightful convulsions with what are thought to have been symptoms of strychnia poisoning. The doctor refused to grant a death certificate. Next morning (Sunday) Smiley and another employee of the detective agency named Brown took charge of the body, had it at once embalmed and notified the Coroner. On Monday a hurried inquest was held, which, owing to the presence of the embalming fluid, disclosed little, and a verdict of death from dysentery was given. On Tuesday Brown and Smiley had the body cremated and the ashes scattered.

Brown (who is joined with Unger and Smiley in the indictment) instructed a lawyer to collect the amount of the New York Life Insurance Company's policy from the company. They thereupon refused to pay to Smiley but paid into Court, and the uncle and legal heir of the deceased girl filed a bill of interpleader, attacking the will and claiming her estate. This action is now pending.

Following the precedent of the *Maybrick case* (*Cleaver v. Mutual Reserve, 1892, 1 Q. B. 147*) and other English cases, it seems clear that, unless the companies interested can show that the issue of the policies was secured by fraud so as to render the policies void ab initio, the murder of the assured by those interested in the insurance money does not avoid the liability of the insurer. The company must pay the amount of the policy to some one—the sole question is to whom.—*The Bulletin.*

AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

A life policy tells the following story of itself in a periodical published by L. D. Dreury & Co., general agents of the Mutual Benefit Life at Chateaugay: "I am only a piece of paper, eight inches one way and twenty-two inches the other; but the story of my life may interest some people who take thought of the 'little things'."

"I can boast of the very best auto-

try, for I am of the finest oak, and when I first came into existence at the mills, the large sheet of which I was a part was approved, and passed into the best of society whenever it was moved. Then I got into the hands of a man who cut me off from the rest of my immediate family, and established me as distinct from my brothers and sisters, though we lived together for some months afterward. We next went through a lot of machinery, and received printed expressions though you will note that these were not exactly, strictly speaking, my first impressions, as I was quite precocious from my youth up.

"I soon discovered that I had been imprinted with the name of a great life insurance company, and that in blank I was ready to convey to some one the company's guarantee of protection to his family. Soon thereafter my services were brought into requisition. A clerk took me down, and with many flourishes, made it apparent that I was to be owned by a Mr. John Jones who had asked me to come and provide for his wife, Mary Jones, after his death. I was duly inscribed with the signature of the president and secretary, and went out into the world with a very 'biggety,' self-important feeling. I went a long, long way in an 'elope' that was very crowded, and became quite weary of the journey, when I finally came into the daylight, and found myself in the hands of an agent. I knew he was an agent, for he talked so much, and my acquaintances who had been in his office before had told me about him. He put me in his pocket and carried me to Mr. Jones.

"Mr. Jones, I am sorry to say, did not seem to appreciate me as much as I hoped he would, for he made some remark about agents being so numerous nowadays that men had to take insurance to get rid of them. When he began to look more carefully, however, and saw that I was capable of bringing so much happiness to his family, if anything occurred to him so that he could not take care of them, he handed the agent something that I guessed was money or a check. That night when he went home he carried me in his pocket, and his wife saw me for the first time, and with very evident pleasure. She smiled and kissed him, and I really felt quite pleased with myself for having been the cause of so much satisfaction, for it seemed everybody was happy. The company sent me out on my mission without any sign of reluctance, the agent parted with me, with evident pleasure, and now these people were rejoiced at my coming into their possession. I was then put away in a dark place, and did not see the daylight for a long, long time. It seemed to me it was ages, though I know once I was out for a few minutes and heard my owner talking in a worried tone. He finally said, 'Well, if misfortune should come to me, and sickness and death, my wife won't suffer, and last of all, will I give up this policy.'

"The next thing I remember, I was taken out of the box where I had been kept and two or three people were standing around, and one was this lady I had seen who smiled so sweetly at me when I was in her home that night. I was glad to see her smile again though she was dressed in black, and she cried a little when she smiled this time. Then I was carefully inspected and I heard her say, 'Nobody ever had a better husband than mine, for this \$10,000 policy helps to take his place, in taking care

of the children and me, and it says I receive a yearly income as long as I live, or have the cash now, whichever I prefer.' Then she cried again and said although he was dead, she felt as though this policy was his living representative, and wasn't I proud? Well, then I was receipted and sent back to the company and nest away here where I am now, with some other old and musty papers for I must admit I was getting a little ashamed of my age and here I must stay forever and ever, I expect. But I have not lived in vain, I think, and if every paper as big as I am did as much for homes and educational advantages as I have done, they would soon have to close up the poor houses and orphan asylums, and jails and penitentiaries.

"Now think a minute, you who are reading this, my life's history, and when you are put away in a dark, musty place, can it be said you have fulfilled the purposes of your existence as well as I have mine?"

CONSUMPTION.

In his address on "Our Race and Consumption" before the Canadian Medical Association at Ottawa, Sir James Grant called attention to the growing prevalence of consumption on this continent and in Europe and the evils which threaten society in consequence. He quoted the conclusions of the British Royal Commissions appointed to investigate the matter in 1888 and 1890. These conclusions were:

- (1) That consumption is a contagious disease.
- (2) That contagion is in the form of a living germ.
- (3) This living germ can grow and propagate only in the body of man or some of the lower animals.
- (4) The principal source of infection is the dried sputa from the lungs of persons already suffering from the disease; the sputa becoming dry, the tubercle germs that are particles of dust in the air and are thus inhaled.
- (5) The other source of infection to man is from eating the flesh and drinking the milk of tuberculous cattle. Cooked meat destroys infection and is not as dangerous as raw milk containing tuberculous matter, and more particularly if the animal has well defined ulcerated udders.

The tuberculin test, while of great assistance in tracing the disease in animals, was, he thought, not absolutely certain. Above all other things, sanitation was essential to the health of cattle, he said. Dairy men should be registered. There should be inspectors to make reports at stated intervals to the Government. All animals for food supply should be inspected before sold. Some such system carried into effect would, he believed, reduce tuberculosis to a minimum. The bill passed at the last session of the Ontario Legislature, providing for the erection and maintenance of a sanitarium for consumptives in each municipality or group of municipalities, was commended as a progressive move, in keeping with the advancement of our day. To counteract the spread of tuberculosis, every effort should be made to inform the masses as to the importance of this malady and as to the manner in which their united co-operation would prove a service. The Dominion of Canada, he said, indicates a vigorous and healthy growth in this direction. By judicious enterprise and intelligent energy in our efforts we can expect the evil of tuberculosis to rapidly disappear. Canada would then be as free as any other known to the world from the scourge of this American continent.—*The Bulletin.*

Statement of Assessments Received in October, 1900

Etat des Cotisations Recues Durant le Mois d'Octobre

Branch No.	Assessment Nos.	Beneficiary Fund.	Reserve Fund.	Branch No.	Assessment Nos.	Beneficiary Fund.	Reserve Fund.	Branch No.	Assessment Nos.	Beneficiary Fund.	Reserve Fund.
1	11	210 25	11 07	11	11	23 45	1 50	231	11	15 87	8 43
2	do	102 41	11 17	do	do	34 56	1 10	232	do	31 78	1 07
3	do	143 78	11 57	do	do	34 91	1 75	233	do	24 18	1 25
4	do	172 90	11 19	do	do	16 65	1 55	234	do	34 34	1 81
5	do	57 19	11 10	do	do	21 28	1 12	235	do	31 66	1 67
6	10 & 11	57 19	11 10	11 & 12	11 & 12	17 91	1 04	236	10 & 11	42 18	2 22
7	do	15 13	11 10	do	do	55 29	2 01	237	do	29 13	1 37
8	12 & 14	183 95	11 21	do	do	11 59	0 81	238	do	29 69	1 50
9	do	157 65	11 21	do	do	63 60	3 30	239	do	26 49	1 39
10	do	101 60	11 21	do	do	...	...	240	do	79 67	4 19
11	10 & 11	74 53	11 21	do	do	46 60	2 45	241	do	22 29	1 17
12	do	134 14	11 21	do	do	42 13	1 22	242	do	31 58	1 82
13	10, 11 & 12	192 24	11 21	do	do	20 66	1 09	243	do	27 84	1 46
14	do	32 87	11 21	do	do	40 04	2 11	244	do	20 80	1 10
15	do	62 89	11 21	do	do	23 39	1 26	245	do	64 03	3 37
16	do	70 82	11 21	do	do	215 49	12 81	246	do	51 73	1 67
17	do	28 17	11 21	do	do	50 07	2 63	247	do	22 33	1 17
18	do	132 19	11 21	do	do	115 68	5 07	248	do	47 05	2 48
19	do	39 26	11 21	do	do	45 46	2 29	249	do	15 49	0 81
20	do	73 96	11 21	do	do	...	...	250	do	13 16	0 69
21	do	68 16	11 21	do	do	...	...	251	do	10 88	0 57
22	do	52 90	11 21	do	do	...	...	252	do	8 77	0 46
23	do	45 63	11 21	do	do	...	...	253	do	38 17	1 45
24	do	65 98	11 21	do	do	...	...	254	do	17 27	0 91
25	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	255	do	16 98	0 89
26	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	256	do	...	...
27	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	257	do	...	...
28	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	258	do	...	...
29	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	259	do	...	...
30	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	260	do	...	...
31	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	261	do	...	...
32	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	262	do	...	...
33	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	263	do	...	...
34	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	264	do	...	...
35	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	265	do	...	...
36	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	266	do	...	...
37	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	267	do	...	...
38	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	268	do	...	...
39	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	269	do	...	...
40	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	270	do	...	...
41	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	271	do	...	...
42	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	272	do	...	...
43	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	273	do	...	...
44	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	274	do	...	...
45	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	275	do	...	...
46	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	276	do	...	...
47	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	277	do	...	...
48	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	278	do	...	...
49	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	279	do	...	...
50	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	280	do	...	...
51	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	281	do	...	...
52	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	282	do	...	...
53	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	283	do	...	...
54	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	284	do	...	...
55	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	285	do	...	...
56	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	286	do	...	...
57	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	287	do	...	...
58	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	288	do	...	...
59	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	289	do	...	...
60	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	290	do	...	...
61	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	291	do	...	...
62	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	292	do	...	...
63	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	293	do	...	...
64	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	294	do	...	...
65	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	295	do	...	...
66	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	296	do	...	...
67	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	297	do	...	...
68	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	298	do	...	...
69	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	299	do	...	...
70	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	300	do	...	...
71	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	301	do	...	...
72	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	302	do	...	...
73	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	303	do	...	...
74	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	304	do	...	...
75	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	305	do	...	...
76	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	306	do	...	...
77	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	307	do	...	...
78	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	308	do	...	...
79	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	309	do	...	...
80	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	310	do	...	...
81	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	311	do	...	...
82	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	312	do	...	...
83	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	313	do	...	...
84	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	314	do	...	...
85	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	315	do	...	...
86	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	316	do	...	...
87	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	317	do	...	...
88	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	318	do	...	...
89	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	319	do	...	...
90	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	320	do	...	...
91	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	321	do	...	...
92	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	322	do	...	...
93	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	323	do	...	...
94	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	324	do	...	...
95	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	325	do	...	...
96	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	326	do	...	...
97	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	327	do	...	...
98	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	328	do	...	...
99	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	329	do	...	...
100	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	330	do	...	...
101	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	331	do	...	...
102	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	332	do	...	...
103	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	333	do	...	...
104	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	334	do	...	...
105	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	335	do	...	...
106	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	336	do	...	...
107	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	337	do	...	...
108	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	338	do	...	...
109	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	339	do	...	...
110	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	340	do	...	...
111	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	...	do	...	...
112	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	...	do	...	...
113	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	...	do	...	...
114	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	...	do	...	...
115	do	...	11 21	do	do	...	...	...	do	...	...

M. B.—All branches not appearing on the foregoing statement as having paid No. 11 Assessment, with the exception of Branches 8, 40, 51, 68, 78, 147, 157, 203, 214, 225, 273, 276, 287, 292, 298, 311, 328, 330, 331 and 333 are on this date (November 1st, 1900) in arrears or under suspension. Said branches paid No. 11 in September.

N. B.—Les succursales qui n'apparaissent pas dans l'état ci-contre comme ayant payé l'Assessment No. 11, à l'exception des succursales 8, 40, 51, 68, 72, 147, 157, 203, 214, 225, 273, 276, 287, 292, 298, 311, 328, 330, 331 et 333 sont à cette date (1^{er} Novembre, 1900) arriérées ou en suspens. Ces succursales ont payé l'Assessment No. 11 en Septembre.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM—SYSTEME DE COTISATION.
 November Assessments, 1900. | No. 13 and 14 | Deaths | Nos. 85, 96, 97, 98, |
 Cotisations du mois d'Oct. | | Décès | 99 and 100.

The Grand Council of the C.M.B.A. of Canada. | Le Grand Conseil de la C.M.B.A. du Canada.
 SECRETARY'S OFFICE, | BUREAU DU SECRÉTAIRE.
 London, Ont., November 1, 1900. | London, Ont., 1 Novembre, 1900.

Dear Sir and Brother—You are hereby | Cher Monsieur et Frère—Vous êtes, par le
 officially notified of the deaths of the follow- | présent, officiellement notifié du décès des
 ing named brothers: | frères ci-après nommés:

NO.	NAME.	BRANCH	LOCATION.	ADMITTED	DIED.	CAUSE OF DEATH.

RESOLUTIONS OF CONDOLENCE.

Branch No. 37, Hamilton, Ont., on the death of Brother John T. Youell
At a regular meeting of Branch No. 45, Tecumseh, Ont., held on the 17th of September, on the occasion of the death of Bro. Michael Dame, a vote of sympathy and condolence was unanimously passed and sent to the widow and Brother Charles Dame, son of the deceased, and to the members of his family.
Branch No. 70, Mildmay, Ont., on the death of the wife of Bro. Jos. G. Herringer.
Branch No. 77, Lindsay, Ont., on the death of Lawrence O'Connor, father of Bro. L. V. O'Connor.
Branch No. 175, Kinkora, Ont., on the death of Mrs. Peter Stock, wife of Bro. Peter Stock.
Branch No. 177, Newcastle, N. B., on the death of the mother of Bros. Michael and Thomas O'Brien.
Branch No. 212, Owen Sound, Ont., on the death of Bro. James Kanary's wife.
Branch No. 251, Kensington, P. E. I., on the death of Mrs. T. Driscoll, mother of Bro. Joseph Driscoll.
Branch No. 251, Kensington, P. E. I., on the death of Bro. Daniel McKinnon's wife.
At a regular meeting of Branch 285, Huntley, Ont., resolutions of sympathy were unanimously adopted to Brothers James, Denis and Michael Flynn on the death of their mother.
Branch No. 335, Douglas, Ont., on the death of Cornelius Lynch, brother of Bros. James and Jeremiah Lynch.
Branch No. 308, Kingston Mills, Ont., on the death of Bro. Richard J. Draper's sister.
At the last regular meeting of Branch 162, the following resolution was passed:
Whereas, in view of the loss we have sustained by the decease of our esteemed brother, Peter Connolly, and of the still heavier loss sustained by those who were nearest and dearest to him, therefore be it
Resolved that the members of this branch desire to place on record their esteem and appreciation of the deceased brother. In regretting his removal from our midst, we mourn for one who was in every way worthy of our esteem.
Resolved that, while we bow in submission to the will of Divine Providence, the members of this branch tender to the bereaved family their heartfelt sympathy in this their time of affliction.
Further resolved that a copy of the above resolutions be forwarded to deceased's family, placed on the minutes of the meeting and sent to THE CANADIAN for publication.

THE THIBODEAU APPEAL.

Barachois, N. B., October, 1900.
Dear Sir and Bro.--Enclosed you will find the list of the branches that have responded to our appeal in behalf of Bro. Joseph Thibodeau. Kindly publish same in THE CANADIAN.
Yours fraternally,
JEREMIE LEGERE, Rec. Sec.

Table listing branches and amounts previously acknowledged, totaling \$135.25.

Heaven is for those who try to get there.—Mrs. J. M. S.

THE FISCHER APPEAL.

Oakville, Ont., Oct. 3, 1900.
S. R. Brown, Grand Sec. C. M. B. A., London, Ont.:
Dear Sir and Bro.--Kindly insert in THE CANADIAN the following donations received towards Bro. William Fischer's appeal to date:
Mr. P. McDermott, Orillia, Ont. \$ 1.00
Bro. W. H. Lovering, Hamilton, Ont. 2.10
Dorset, Ont. 2.10
Gananoque, Ont. 2.00
Toronto, Ont. 2.00
Hamilton, Ont. 2.00
Galt, Ont. 2.00
191 Thru Rivers, Que. 2.00
31 Guilph. Ont. 2.00
12 Berlin, Ont. 2.00
63 St. Mary's, Ont. 1.00
329 Forest, Ont. 1.00
67 Pembroke, Ont. 1.00
44 Arnprior, Ont. 1.00
104 Waterloo, Ont. 1.00
74 Montreal, Que. 1.00
259 St. Alex. de, Que. 1.00
149 La Salette, Ont. 1.00
283 Picton, N. S. 1.00
9 Kingston, Ont. 1.00
71 Trankton, Ont. 1.00
29 Stoney Point, Ont. 1.00
85 Aylton, Ont. 1.00
908 Kingston Mills, Ont. 1.00
328 St. Basile, N. B. 1.00
315 Westville, N. S. 1.00
17 Paris, Ont. 1.00
309 Cheateville, Ont. 1.00
76 Havelock, Ont. 1.00
98 Renfrew, Ont. 1.00
49 Toronto, Ont. 1.00
Total.....\$51.50

Yours fraternally,
JOHN J. McDERMOTT,
Rec. Sec. Branch 250.

HYMEN FOLLOWS CUPID'S DARTS.

A very happy marriage was solemnized in St. Patrick's church, Grand River, Lot 14, on the 24th inst. when James Johnston, Esq., M. D., Emerald, was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Miss Lizzie McDonald, daughter of the late Capt. Hugh McDonald, Lot 14. The bride looked particularly pretty dressed in an exquisite suit of white organdie trimmed with satin ribbon and lace. The bridesmaid, Miss Annie B. Fraser, Kensington, wore figured Swiss muslin trimmed with green ribbon velvet and hat to match. The groom was supported by Dr. E. G. Gillis, Kensington. The ceremony was performed by Rev. A. P. McLellan, rector of St. Dunstan's College. After the ceremony the party took breakfast at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. J. E. Brown, Grand River, thence drove to the home of the groom in Emerald. Here they were received by a large number of friends and tendered a hearty welcome.

In the evening about thirty members of Branch 254 C. M. B. A., Kensington, with their wives and lady friends, waited upon them and made the first evening of their married life particularly enjoyable. J. T. Mullin, Esq., senior chancellor of the branch, presided and on behalf of the members presented the happy couple with an elegant sideboard and a handsome clock, while Prof. J. A. Ready, B. A., read the following

ADDRESS.

Dr. James and Mrs. Johnson, Emerald:
Dear friends,—We, members of Branch 254, C. M. B. A., Kensington, approach you this evening, on the occasion of your happy marriage, to tender our hearty congratulations. You have this day joined heart and hand and have entered upon a life of happiness that though beginning in time, shall know no end even in eternity. Ungrateful indeed would we be if we failed to embrace this opportunity of uniting with your best of friends in wishing you all the happiness that must bless such a felicitous union.
You, Mrs. Johnson we again welcome to our midst, changed only in name. We bespeak for you the same kind reception into the hearts of the people as you received in Kensington in days gone by, and guarantee you the popularity that springs from ability, rare accomplishments and a winning disposition

always command. We must congratulate Emerald Society on receiving so talented and desirable an acquisition, and we can assure you that the warm reception thus tendered you demonstrates their and our appreciation of your sterling qualities.

And you, Dr. Johnson, we congratulate on capturing so valuable a prize. Such, indeed, do you deserve. You have been an active, enterprising and energetic member of Branch 254 almost since its inception. You have labored zealously for the welfare of the branch both in securing new members and in promoting the interests of those already enrolled. In your own particular calling your unquestionable ability and very strict attention to business have given you a firm hold on the confidence of the people and have won for you a large and steadily increasing practice. Your integrity and fearless determination in the cause of truth and right have made you a power for good, not only in Emerald, but also in the community at large. May the same success crown your efforts in the future as has attended your labors in the past.

For you both we ask the choicest blessings that Heaven can shower upon you, that prosperity may reward your labors, and that your lives be the complete possession of conjugal bliss.

As a mark of the esteem in which we hold you and as a proof of the sincerity of our good wishes we ask you to accept these accompanying gifts, and in after years, when absent friends your thoughts engage, allow your mind to revel amid the happy associations with which they must ever be accompanied.

T. N. DONAHOE, Chairman,
J. T. MULLIN,
G. R. McMAHON,
JAS. A. McDONALD,
E. G. GILLIS, M. D.,
J. A. READY, B. A.,
Committee.

Dr. Johnson on behalf of himself and his charming bride, replied to the address in grateful and pleasing words, thanking the members for their kindness and generosity and wishing the Branch continued prosperity. Short and pleasing speeches were delivered by the chairman and by Bros. McMillan, Donahoe, McDonald, Gillis, Ready, Goodwin and others, all expressive of the many good qualities of the happy couple and wishing them a long and happy life.

But those who thus came to surprise the Dr. and his bride were themselves most agreeably surprised. The groom and his amiable wife entertained their guests in a manner most enjoyable, all entering heart and soul into the spirit of social intercourse and departing as well pleased with the reception accorded them as were the Dr. and Mrs. with the visit thus paid them.

The presents, which came from many friends in Emerald, Grand River, Kensington and elsewhere, as well as from abroad, were indeed elegant and attest louder than words, the widespread popularity of the contracting parties.—Patriot, Charlottetown, P. E. I., Sept. 26, 1900.

SIXTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF BRANCH 37.

The 16th anniversary of the formation of Branch 37 was the occasion of a most enjoyable banquet, held in their hall, Hamilton, Ont., on Oct. 9th.

About ninety guests, all C. M. B. A. men, were present; including the Hon. F. R. Latchford, Q. C., Minister of Public Works for Ontario; our Grand Solicitor, Geo. S. Lynch Staunton, Q. C.; J. C. McCabe, M. D.; Rev. J. H. Coty, Branch Spiritual Adviser; also representing His Lordship Bishop Dowling, Rev. J. J. Craven, Galt, first Spiritual Adviser of the Branch; Rev. F. O'Reilly, Oakville, and Rev. E. A. Doyle.

Letters of regret were received from T. P. Coffey, Esq., Grand Trustee, and from D. J. O'Connor, of Stratford, a charter member.

The chairman, Sergt.-Major Hug-

plus, and the Vice chairman, W. H. Lovering, Esq., Vice President of the Branch performed their duties in a manner which entitled them to the enjoyment of the unusually good toast list and program which was as follows:

- The Queen, O. S. S. The Queen
Our Country, Bro. Geo. Lynch, St. James, Q. C.
Chorus, The Maple Leaf
Song, Island of Dreams, Bro. J. A. Cox
The Clergy, Rev. H. Coty and Rev. F. O'Reilly
Song, Father O'Flynn, Bro. J. B. Lawlor
The C. M. B. A., Bro. the Hon. F. R. Latchford, Q. C.
Song, A Storm Song, Mr. Wm. Melody.
Mothers, Sweet Hearts and Wives.
Song, When the Pilot takes command, Bro. Woodcroft.
Our Guests, Bro. R. J. Purdy, Bro. M. F. Fitzpatrick,
Song, Bro. M. F. O'Brien.
Charter Members, Bro. John Ryan, Grand Deputy
Auld Lang Syne.

Bro. Lynch-Staunton, Q. C., whose name has been mentioned for the position of Judge of the High Court, made an eloquent and thoughtful address in reply to "Our Country."

Bro. Latchford Q. C., in responding to "The C. M. B. A.," predicted much for our Association and to accrue from the inevitable lauding together of Catholic interests, following on an increased membership, and approved and advised frequent social gatherings as being of the greatest assistance in building up our branches.

Bro. the Rev. J. H. Coty made a remarkably clever speech, full of practical suggestions to our members, dwelling specially on the desirability of union amongst them as Catholics, seeking always to keep ourselves, as Catholics, high in the esteem of the public generally, and improving every opportunity of living up to the teaching of our Association by aiding one another whenever possible.

The other Reverend gentlemen present responded with clever speeches. Father O'Reilly on behalf of the clergy, assuring the members of the interest "The Cloth" have in our Association, and Father Craven, in reply to "Charter Members," endorsing his remarks.

Dr. McCabe responded with a very clever and entertaining speech to the "Learned Professions."

The musical numbers, contributed wholly by C. M. B. A. members, were a feature of the evening's entertainment, Bro. Morrissey acting as accompanist.

Altogether the affair was the most successful exclusively Catholic one ever held in Hamilton, and the Committee in charge—S. J. Higgins, Chairman; W. H. Lovering, Secretary; Bros. Coffey, Bateman, Shields, Murphy and Rev. J. H. Coty—are to be congratulated on the result of their efforts.

It is proposed to make the banquet an annual affair.

Comparing old line methods with those of the fraternal societies, an exchange says: "The old line insurance companies of the country have collected from their policy holders in the United States in a single year, the sum of \$275,000,000 and have only returned to their beneficiaries \$100,000,000 retaining the magnificent sum of \$215,000,000 as their share of the business, charging policy holders 25 to 50 for every dollar collected and distributed. How will this compare with fraternal insurance?"

THE ANNUAL RELIGIOUS REUNION OF THE MONTREAL BRANCHES.

The annual religious reunion of the Montreal branches which was held in that city on Sunday, Oct. 14 was a most successful and imposing demonstration.

The event was in charge of the Grand Deputies of the District, Bros J. J. Costigan, A. H. Spedding, J. E. Bourgeau, A. B. Poirvin, J. H. Feeley, G. A. Carpenter and Chas. Fortlor.

The branches were called to assemble on the Champ de Mars at 11:15 a.m. but they began to arrive as early as 10 o'clock. The Deputies were present to receive the brothers on their arrival. Shortly after 11 o'clock the Grand President Hon. M. F. Hackett arrived on the ground, accompanied by Grand President McCaffrey, of the Grand Council of Quebec, Chancellor M. Sharkey of Branch 25 and others. He was most heartily greeted and received a most enthusiastic welcome.

The branches then formed in order of procession as follows:

Mounted Marshals, Brothers G. Vandelaec and J. Blanger, Branch 142
C. M. B. A. Banner.

Band of St. Peter a Temperance Society, 40 pieces.

Flag of Branch 240.

Branch 240, St. Henri; President Payotte, Secretary Messier and 80 members.

Branch 232, of the Cathedral; President T. R. Cowan, Secretary J. H. Neilson and 30 members.

Branch 207, St. Vincent de Paul parish, President N. Langlois, Secretary Jas. Langlois and 20 members.

Branch 196, St. Joseph parish; President L. N. Routhier, Secretary Dussault, Treasurer St. Laurent and 35 members.

Branch 191, Hochelago parish; President N. Racine, Secretary E. A. Paquin and 40 members.

Branch 143, St. Louis de France; President Prof. L. L. Primeau, Secretary Kieffer and 35 members.

Branch 142, St. Jean Baptiste Parish; President W. H. Auclair, Secretary Jos. Loxeau and 75 members.

Branch 140, Sacred Heart Parish; President A. H. Spedding, Secretary C. Perreault and 40 members.

Flag.

Branch 87, St. Bridget's parish; President Joseph M. Beland, Secretary J. E. Dupont and 100 members.

Branch 83, St. James Parish; President C. Daudelin, Secretary P. A. Hubert and 30 members.

Flag.

Branch 74, St. Gabriel's parish; President W. Dugan, Secretary John Deegan and 30 members.

Branch 54, St. Mary's parish; President C. O'Brien, Secretary F. McGovern and 35 members.

Branch 50, St. Anthony's parish; President W. P. Doyle, Secretary T. P. Tansley and 30 members.

Branch 41, St. Ann's parish; President A. Jones, Secretary J. J. Jones and 25 members.

Banner.

Branch 25, St. Patrick's parish; President J. J. Costigan, Secretary P. J. Mc Donagh and 150 members.

Following Branch 24 were representatives from the Branches in the outside district as also members of the Association present in the city from a distance, and amongst these were noticed members from Cornwall, Prescott, Toronto, St. Hyacinthe and Moncton, N. B.

Following these were the delegates from the Quebec Council, the Grand Deputies and the Grand President supported by Grand Chancellors T. J. Finn and the Grand President of the Quebec Council.

In all there were over one thousand men in line, all wearing badges. The route of the procession was through the principal streets to St. Patrick's Church. The streets were crowded with sight-seers and friends, and the processionists were at many points on

the route heartily applauded and cheered. The entry of the procession to the Church was by way of the handsome grounds in front, and the spectacle presented as the branches wended their way through the spiral road was a most pretty one, as was also the grand entry of the Grand President through the centre of the line preceded by the band and flags and banners of all the branches taking part. Deputy Costig in was heard to regret he had not arranged for the taking of a photograph of this scene, that it might appear in THE CANADIAN.

The Rev. Father Quinlivan was the celebrant of the Mass, and on the sanctuary were noticed the Rev. M. Cadaghau, Branch 26; Rev. John McGrath, Branch 26; Rev. J. M. Sbaue, Rev. J. Ouellette, Rev. M. Spellman and others. The chairs of honor in front of the sanctuary were occupied by the Grand President and other Grand officers.

After the gospel Rev. Thos. J. Hefernan, of Branch 26, ascended the pulpit and preached a most eloquent sermon—in fact two sermons, one in French, one in English. His text was "By their works you shall know them." The Rev. Father's discourse was in keeping with his well known eloquence and ability, and produced a deep impression upon the vast gathering before him. He forcibly pointed out that the title of the Association was Catholic, and admonished them to live up in truth and justice to that title and all it conveyed; One of the great objects of the Association was charity, not worldly charity, but that pure and simple virtue which springs from and is founded on God; their Association was a noble one—noble in title, in intention and in act. He exhorted his hearers to be ever true to the principles of the Association and their God.

The musical portion of the services was of a very high order, and reflected much credit on Prof. J. A. Fowler, St. Patrick's well known organist and conductor, who, by the way, is a member of Branch 50. The soloists were Grand Deputy Carpenter, Brothers Maiden and Rowan.

After the Mass the members dispersed to their homes, all of the opinion that the religious reunion of 1900 was one of the most successful they had ever attended and one that cannot help but be beneficial to the Association at large.

Grand President Hackett was loud in his praises of the grand turnout, and specially congratulated the Deputies on their arrangements and the success of the celebration.

AT TIGNISH.

Auspicious Opening of Branch 251, New Hall.

The large, well partitioned and handsome hall at Tignish, recently erected by the local branch of the C. M. B. A. was formally opened on Tuesday evening, Oct. 9th, with eloquent speeches, excellent music, timely refreshments and the dance. Though the weather was rainy and the roads very bad, a large audience gathered, comprising upwards of three hundred of the youth and beauty, as well as the experience and wisdom of the neighborhood. The President of the branch, Mr. J. A. Brennan, occupied the chair. The programme included musical selections by the Heckman Band, of Missouche, under the leadership of Mr. Arsene Poirier, speech by the Rev. A. E. Burke, Grand Deputy of the C. M.

B. A. for this Province, who declared the hall formally opened and set forth the benefits of the Association in an eloquent manner, a few encouraging words from the parish priest, the Rev. Dugald Macdonald, and some complimentary remarks by Mr. W. L. Cotton; a piano duet by the Misses MeTague and Dalton; several comic songs by Mr. Watson Clark, of Summerside, who was rewarded by liberal applause and a bouquet; an instrumental trio by Mrs. Dolron, piano, Arsene Gaudet, cornet; and Mr. Boloni Gaudet, violin, vocal solo by Miss J. C. Gaudet, of St. Louis. "Twas but a Dream," a piano solo by Miss MeTague, a piano duet by Misses Dalton and MeTague, a vocal duet by Mr and Mrs. J. P. Gaudet and a violin solo by Mr. Boloni Gaudet, Mrs. Dolron accompanying.

After the speeches and music came the sale of baskets, and a handsome sum was realized, some refreshments and then the dance until the wee sma' hours ayant the twal.

The entertainment was highly successful in all its parts. The energetic and popular Secretary of the Committee, Mr. F. J. Buote, of L'Impartial, directed the musical part of the programme, Messrs Daniel O'Brien, J. J. Arsenault, Peter M. Chalsson, provided the refreshments, and Mr. Jas. McGrath had charge of the sale of baskets; Mrs. Murphy and Mrs. F. J. Buote were the chaperones. To these ladies and gentlemen the great success of the entertainment is due.—The Daily Ex., Charlottetown, P. E. I.

SUICIDE EXPERIENCE OF THE MUTUAL LIFE.

Some interesting facts regarding suicide are found in the recent report of the medical directors of the Mutual Life on the mortality records of the company. Of the total number (46,525) of deaths from all causes since commencement of business in 1848 to the close of 1898, suicide was the cause of 991 deaths, or 2.20 per cent. of the total mortality. Considered with reference to age periods, suicide caused 482 deaths of persons under 45 years of age, which was 3.17 per cent. of the total deaths from all causes; 425 deaths of persons between 45 and 60 years, which was 2.86 per cent. of total mortality from all causes; and 184 deaths of persons above 60 years, which was .81 per cent. of the deaths from all causes. The rate is high throughout, ranging from 2.29 to 3.52 per cent. of the total deaths at all ages between twenty and sixty years of age. The largest number of deaths and the highest rate were in the age period between 45 and 50 years, the deaths being 163 and the rate 3.52 per cent.

At ages below twenty five there only sixteen deaths by suicide. But the total deaths at this period were comparatively few, and the suicide rate was 2.62, which is almost up to the average of succeeding ages. After sixty years of age both the number of deaths and the rate diminish considerably.

The methods employed for self-destruction were as follows: Firearms, 470 deaths; poisons, 143 deaths; hanging, 101 deaths; drowning, 61 deaths; razor, knife, etc., 59 deaths; illuminating gas, 21 deaths. Then there were 186 deaths ascribed to suicide which are unclassified and unknown.

Shooting, poison, hanging and drowning are shown to be the favorite means. Especially shooting, which

has been employed in nearly half of all the cases at all ages. The facility of obtaining a pistol, and the certainty, celerity and painlessness of the result are given as reasons which influenced the choice of this weapon.

In half the cases of death by poison, opium in some form was used. Strychnine, hydrocyanic acid or cyanide of potassium, carbonic acid and arsenic follow in that order of precedence as the favorite means of suicide.

Hanging is shown to be the least frequently used by the young and most frequently used by the old. No reason is given why this means should appeal more to the old than to the young. Perhaps it is found in the fact that the old are less used to handling firearms and naturally have a repugnance for them. Something less noisy would, therefore, find more favor.

Drowning, cutting the throat and the use of sharp weapons are also methods which find more favor with the old than with the young.

Nearly all the cases of suicide by illuminating gas happened within the past ten years. It is a comparatively novel method and is accomplished either by shutting yourself up in a close room and turning on the gas burners or else by more elaborate arrangements for inhaling the gas directly and undiluted.

Then among the rarer methods were the cases of persons throwing themselves in front of railroad trains, from windows and from other heights.

Considered with relation to residence of the insured, the report shows a very high rate of suicide in all countries except Mexico, where the rate was only 1.38 per cent. of total deaths under 45 years and .85 per cent. of total deaths between 45 and 60 years. In Europe the rate was extremely high—6.46 per cent. under 45 years, and 4.16 per cent. from 45 to 60 years. In the United States the rate was below the average in the Eastern States and above the average in the Western States and higher still in the States west of the Missouri River than in those of the middle west. The rate from Maine to Connecticut was 2.31 per cent. under 45 years and 2.27 per cent. between 45 and 60 years. The rates for Ohio, Indiana and Illinois were 3.58 and 3.41 per cent. For the Pacific Coast States the rates were 4.34 and 4.86 per cent. In Canada the rate was 3.45 under 45 years and 2.98 per cent. between 45 and 60 years.—The Bulletin.

THE GIRL AND HER VOCATION.

She Should Select Her Profession During Her School Days.

The future wage-earning girl should have in her mind during the latter part of her school life the selection of her profession. I think it well for her, too, very quietly, but with intention, to cast about among her friends for suggestions, to ask the kind offices of one and another, and to make known her need of immediate employment so soon as she leaves school. Many good positions are lost because of indecision, or false pride, or unwelcome reticence on the part of those who seek them. The mental attitude of the girl in search of employment should be neither indifferent nor patronizing; she should set in motion every legitimate means, and let those who may be able to assist her know something of her situation. They can help, and she can seek with much greater hope of success if the goal in view be something definite.

Selections from the November Ladies' Home Journal.

The people of the United States use more meat than the people of any other nation: England ranks second, and the other countries come far below. A person may eat meat perhaps to advantage once a day. It is not necessary, however, that meat should be on the table three times a day: in fact, it is quite an objectionable custom.

In furnishing a house, consider where and how you are to live, and the number of pairs of hands there are to do the work, and select your furnishings accordingly. If the articles you are buying are well made and good in shape and color you will make no mistake in selecting them, no matter how simple they are; indeed, the simpler they are the better. Do not be in a hurry to fully furnish your house. When buying a new piece of furniture, a drape or a rug, keep in mind the fact that it should harmonize with the old furnishings.

BEST WAY TO TREAT A SPRAIN.

In treating a sprain wring a folded flannel out of boiling water by laying it in a thick towel and twisting the ends in opposite directions; shake it to cool it a little, lay it on the painful part and cover it with a piece of dry flannel. Change the fomentations until six have been applied, being careful not to have them so hot as to burn the skin. Bandage the part if possible and in six or eight hours repeat the application. As soon as it can be borne rub well with extract of witch hazel.

COOKING BY THE CLOCK.

Time and Temperature for Cooking Fish, Fowl and Game.

Fish may be baked continuously at 300 deg. for one hour. Underdone fish is unwholesome, unpalatable and unwholesome.

Game, such as woodcock, snipe and pheasants, requires continuously 400 deg. for thirty minutes. Partridges split down the back, 400 deg. for thirty minutes. Prairie chickens, 400 deg. for forty-five minutes.

A haunch of venison requires 400 deg. at first; then cooled to 300 deg.; almost constant basting and roasting for two hours. Run in a skewer and if the blood follows the skewer out, and at the same time the meat is tender and rare, it is done.

An eight-pound turkey with stuffing should go into the oven at 400 deg. for half an hour; then cool the oven to 280 deg. and roast for two hours longer. Without stuffing it will require less time. The oven must be hot at first (400 deg.) for half an hour; then roast the unstuffed turkey for an hour and a half at 280 degrees basting every fifteen minutes.

A four-pound chicken if stuffed, will bake at 400 deg. in half an hour; at 280 deg. it will require two hours. The same sized chicken unstuffed will require the first half hour in a hot oven; then the oven cooled to 280 deg. for an hour.

A tame duck stuffed with potato, placed in the oven at 360 deg., will require an hour to brown. It should be basted every ten minutes. The oven may then be cooled to 280 deg. and the cooking continued for two hours.

KITCHEN WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

A List the Cook Should Keep Close at Hand or Commit to Memory.

Four teaspoonfuls of liquid make one tablespoonful.

Four tablespoonfuls of liquid, one gill or a quarter of a cup

A tablespoonful of liquid, half an ounce.

A pint of liquid weighs a pound

A quart of sifted flour, one pound.

Four kitchen cupfuls of flour, one pound

One cup of butter, half a pound.

Three kitchen cupfuls of corn meal, one pound.

A solid pint of chopped meat, one pound

Ten eggs, one pound

A dash of pepper, an eighth of a teaspoonful.

A pint of brown sugar, thirteen ounces

Two cupfuls and a half of powdered sugar, one pound

CIVILITY IS GOOD CAPITAL.

The Rudeness of American Salespeople Prevents Their Advancement.

Look at the army of salesmen and saleswomen in our stores. There is not, I believe, as capable or honest a corps of workers in the world. Yet a French or English shopgirl will sell twice as many goods in the same time, and the customer will come again and again to be served by the same woman. Why? Because she is civil and courteous.

There is something pitiful as well as ridiculous in the indifference, the hauteur, the actual rudeness of many of the intelligent young men and women behind our counters. Yet, civility is their capital. By selling gloves or tinware they earn their living, and the more civil they are, the more they sell.

Most of my readers know a few saleswomen who have remained in some of the old business houses until an honored old age, and, by their ability and courtesy, have made for themselves hosts of friends. It is a pity that these foolish young people could not learn their business from them.

WHEN THE CHILD "PLAYS HOOKEY."

Children sometimes pretend to be ill to escape going to school. Feigning illness to escape duty is called in the army malingering and is always punished when detected. A child who habitually complains of headache just before school time should be put on a sofa in a darkened room, not permitted to read, nor look at pictures, and have a hot-water bag placed at his feet. If the ailment is real this is the best treatment for the early stages; it is feigned the silence and solitude soon become so irksome that the culprit is glad to do anything to escape from them. Other affected pains should be treated as if they were real, and it should be distinctly understood in the family that the child who is too ill to go to school, and to learn his lessons, is too ill to be out of bed. If a child play truant the lessons he loses should be made up at home in his play time, and the mother should take pains to see that this is done, so that he may find truancy unprofitable. He may be put to bed as soon as he returns home on the assumption that he must be ill,

because nothing but illness should keep him from going to school.

OUR OVERFURNISHED HOMES.

Health, Comfort and Good Taste are Sacrificed for Display in American Houses.

More simplicity in our homes would make our lives simpler. Many women would live fuller lives because they would have more time. As it is, hundreds of women of all positions in life are to day the slaves of their homes and what they have crowded into them. Comfort is essential to our happiness. But with comfort we should stop. Then we are on the safe side. But we get on and over the danger line when we go beyond. Not one tenth of the things that we think are essential to our happiest living are really so. In fact, we should be an infinitely happier and healthier people if the unnecessary things were taken out of our lives. It is astonishing how much we can do without, and be a thousand times the better for it. And it doesn't require much to test this gospel of wisdom. We need only to be natural: to get back to our real, inner selves. Then we are simple. It is only because we have got away from the simple and the natural that so many of our homes are cluttered up as they are, and our lives full of little things that are not worth the while. We have bent the knee to show, to display, and we have lowered ourselves in doing it: surrounded our selves with the trivial and the useless; and filling our lives with the poison of artificiality and the unnatural, we have pushed the Real: the Natural: the Simple: the Beautiful—the best and most lasting things out of our lives.

WOMEN ARE SLAVES TO BRIC A-BRAC

No Other People Show Such Bad Taste in Furnishing Their Homes as Americans.

There are no people on the face of the earth who litter up the rooms of their homes with so much useless, and consequently bad furnishing as do the Americans. The curse of the American home to day is useless bric a brac. A room in which we feel that we can freely breathe is so rare that we are instinctively surprised when we see one. It is the exception, rather than the rule, that we find a restful room. As a matter of fact, to this common error of over-furnishing so many of our homes, are directly due many of the nervous breakdowns of our women. The average American woman is a perfect slave to the useless rubbish which she has in her rooms. This rubbish, of a costly nature where plenty exists, and of a cheap and tawdry character in homes of moderate incomes, is making houses keeping a nerve-racking burden. A serious phase of this furnishing is that hundreds of women believe these jim-cracks ornament their rooms. They refuse to believe that useless ornamentation always disfigures and never ornaments. Simplicity is the only thing that ornaments. It does more—it dignifies. The most artistic rooms are made not by what is in them, but by what has been left out of them. One can never quarrel with simplicity, and nothing goes to make for perfect good taste so surely as a simple effect. A tasteful effect is generally reached by what has been left undone. And that is the lesson most needed in America to-day; not what we can put into a room, but what we can leave out of it.

THE IDEAL BED-CHAMBER.

It should be as large and airy as possible, and Not Overfurnished.

The importance of the sleeping and bathing arrangements of a house is not half appreciated. Every bedroom should be provided with the essentials for healthful sleep and the daily sponge bath. As nearly as possible, the room should be kept free from anything that would tend to contaminate the air. It should be as large as one can afford, and the windows so arranged that they may be opened at the top and bottom. If possible the floor should be bare and the rugs so small that they can be taken outdoors with ease for cleaning and airing. Everything about the room should be washable. The bed should be light and fitted with strong casters so that it may be readily moved. The springs ought to be firm and strong, and the mattress of a kind that will not allow the heavier part of the body to sink and so cause the sleeper to be in a cramped position. My own preference is for a cheap hard mattress next the springs and a light one of hair on top, but any kind of a firm mattress is better than one that is too soft. Above all, do not overfurnish the bedroom.

OUR LEGAL DIGEST OF INSURANCE CASE.

MARRIED WOMEN AS NEXT FRIEND OF INFANT.

In the rather curious case of Kerr v. Rowell which came up before Judge Rose, sitting in Chambers, on Sept. 13, a point of interest to insurance men arose collaterally. The action was brought by a young woman to restrain the use of her photograph for advertising purposes. Defendant set up that the plaintiff was an infant and could not properly bring the action. A motion to join the mother as next friend was granted by the Master, but on appeal Rose, J., overruled this ruling. The cases relied on were *Thynne v. St. Maur*, 34 Ch D 465, and *Mastin v. Mastin*, 15 P R 177. *Thynne v. St. Maur* held that the old rule that a married woman cannot act as next friend has not been abrogated by the Married Women's Property Act, which, in providing that the married woman shall be capable of suing and being sued in all respects as if she were a *feme sole*, is limited to actions relating to herself personally. Following this, but going further, *Mastin v. Mastin* held that although a married woman could not act as next friend, yet her doing so did not render the proceedings void, and the defendant's remedy was to apply to remove her and to stay proceedings until a proper next friend should be appointed. The learned judge held that he was bound by these cases, and must, therefore, refuse to allow her to be joined as next friend.

The foundation of the rule seems to have been the non liability of a married woman for costs. As in many instances actions on insurance policies have to be brought on behalf of infants, and as the mother is frequently in such cases the most appropriate person to act as next friend, it seems a highly unjust state of the law that so long as her husband is living she should be unable to represent her children in an action. The legislature should so amend the law as to abolish this out-worn doctrine.

VOLUNTARY EXPOSURE TO UNNECESSARY DANGER

Deceased who was baggage man at

a railway station at the request of a brakeman was assisting to couple the cars of a freight train when he was killed. In an action on a policy on life of deceased:—Held, that deceased on doing the coupling as requested was not violating any of the rules of the railway company nor voluntarily exposing himself to unnecessary danger within the meaning of clause 4 endorsed on the policy.

McNevin v. Canada Railway Accident Ins. Co., Falconbridge, C. J., Aug 27th, 1900

The authorities referred to were: Cornish v. Accident Ins. Co. 23 Q. B. D., at p. 456 Stone v. U. S. Casualty Co., 34 N. J. L. R., p. 375, and, as to voluntary exposure to danger, Williams v. U. S. Mutual etc. Co 133 N. Y., 366

NON PAYMENT OF PREMIUM—REINSTATEMENT

In a case decided by the Court of Civil Appeal of Texas the policy lapsed by non payment of the premium after legal notice had been sent but a premium which was not due until some months later was sent. The agent retained this premium, but notified the assured that the policy had lapsed and that for reinstatement, payment of the prior premium and a health certificate were necessary. Some weeks later while the assured was ill, and two weeks before his death, the first premium was sent but no certificate, and he was notified that it would not be reported to the company until the certificate was also sent. Held the forfeiture had not been waived.

New York Life Ins. Co. v. Scott, (decided May 12th, 1900)

WAIVER OF PROOFS OF DEATH.

In McDonald v. Bankers Life Association, (29 Ins. L. J., 780) The Supreme Court of Missouri, held that when the company in response to a request for blank proofs of death from the agent of the beneficiary, replied that it understood that the insured had committed suicide, and therefore did not send them, the proofs were waived.—The Bulletin.

AN INSURANCE SWINDLE.

Two Men Arrested For the Death of a Chicago Woman.

DECEASED WAS ONE OF THE CONSPIRATORS, BUT REAL DEATH CAME TO HER THROUGH POISON—\$17,000 IN THREE COMPANIES WERE INVOLVED IN HER TAKING OFF.—A CANADIAN BENEFIT ORDER INTERESTED TO THE EXTENT OF \$5,000.

Chicago, Oct. 8.—The Tribune says:—The prosecuting authorities of Cook county last night laid hands on what they regard as one of the startling crimes of the country's history. Charges of conspiracy, back of which are allied insinuations of murder, are lodged against three men, two of whom are already in custody. These men will have to answer allegations of a carefully laid plot to swindle an insurance company and two insurance societies—a plot, which, it is said, progressed with the growth of fear into the actual death, by poison, it is thought of the insured person. According to the theory on which the prosecution will proceed, the dead person, a young woman of Chicago, was originally one of the quartette of conspirators. She had expected that her death was to be feigned, and that another dead body was to play the pas-

sive role of her corpse; instead of that real death came to her. The person whose death adds a new phase to what otherwise would have been a simple insurance swindle was Marie Defenbach, twenty three years old, and the two persons arrested upon bench warrants, issued by Judge Gibbons are Dr. August M. Unger and Frank H. Smiley. A third person for whom a warrant has been issued is not yet under arrest. The alleged conspiracy has been investigated with searching care by a private detective agency, by the Chicago attorney and detectives of one of the insurance companies, and by the State's Attorney himself. Yesterday it was decided to cause the immediate arrest of the suspects. Last April Miss Defenbach applied to a New York insurance company for a \$10,000 policy. This was refused, but later one for \$5,000 was taken out. On or about August 10 last, she also secured one in a Canadian benefit order to the amount of \$5,000. At the same date she took out a policy in an American benefit order for \$2,000. Two weeks afterwards she was dead, leaving a will which directed that a part of these insurance policies should be paid to Frank H. Smiley, her "affianced husband," and that her body be cremated. Her death was attended by the most horrible agony. The attending physicians refused to issue a certificate of death, but the coroner's jury later, and after the body had been embalmed found a verdict of death from dysentery. The next day the body was cremated. Without much delay, proceedings were begun to recover the value of the insurance policies she had left. This was resisted by the insurance companies, with the result that the fraud was discovered.

Later.—F. Wayland Brown has since been arrested. He is assistant manager of a detective agency, and was arrested to-day on his return from Virginia.

Lawyer George W. Hubbell, attorney for the New York Life Insurance Company, said to-day that the company had issued a policy for \$5,000 to Marie Defenbach a short time ago. They had been notified of the death of Miss Defenbach, and an investigation was being made, but they had not resisted paying the amount of the policy, as no claim had as yet been made for the money. However, he added, "I am without information and am not prepared to discuss the matter in detail."

THE WIFE'S INTEREST.

There is much discussion of the wife's interest in the matter of her husband's membership in fraternal Orders and in insurance generally.

Of course her interest will always be chiefly as beneficiary, although these later years are witnessing her entrance directly into membership by the thousands. Many women have come to occupy men's positions to-day as bread-winners, with others depending on them for support.

The position of beneficiary does not necessarily imply that the wife's interest in this matter of protection is subordinate to that of her husband. May it not be truthfully said that her interest is greater than his; to so connect himself is a duty for him, but it is a necessity for her. Speaking on this subject. The Traveler's Record says: "It is unnecessary to go into detail or cite examples of failures on the part of husbands to do their duty; they exist and are apparent on every hand, and there are few who do not know of

actual cases among friends or acquaintances where the husband's delinquency has resulted in disaster to those who depended on him.

"Surely the wife's interest in insurance is essential, yet how many women actually realize what insurance means to them? In a haphazard way, they accept the present and wonder how much John or Jim has laid away; but as for insurance—well, Jim will attend to that. And half the time Jim intends to, but finds at present and, as he thinks, a pressing temporary use for his money and postpones the day.

"A careful wife owes it to herself and her children to see that some provision is made for the future in case of her husband's death, and this foresight is neither mercenary or selfish; it is her right and protection, as it is his duty and obligation that owes it to herself and children that they should not be left destitute, and he owes it to them that they should not be."—Bee Hive.

RESTRICTION OF BENEFITS.

More and more our progressive Orders are coming to restrict their benefit provisions.

In other words where assessment rates have been constructed upon a basis limited, in fact, to the payment of death benefits, it is being found that old age benefits, payment of a stipulated amount at the age of 70, or an annuity after reaching 70 years, cannot be safely promised, and that a long continuance of said "extra" payments is mathematically impossible without an increase of rates.

A study of the various Orders, represented in the National Fraternal Congress will show that the number of these "extras" provided for in the laws and certificate conditions of the societies is legion. These provisions are potent talking points and aid materially the work of the organizer. Consequently nearly all Orders have catered to the fancy that that organization will be most successful in its recruiting that can promise "the most for the money."

There has been in this no deliberate purpose to deceive any member. Most of the Orders are young in years; only a few of them are yet face to face with the problems of growing out of old age, or 70 year annuity provisions. There has been a popular demand for the "extras" and the newer Orders have felt forced to offer them to meet the world of competition. As a result, the benefits, which by the certificate conditions are made to mature when the member reaches 70 years of age, are truly alarming. Orders are just awakening to the fact that the liabilities from this source will soon be enormous and that the beneficial fund will be in no condition to meet such a demand.

It is surprising to note how many members some of the older Orders have who are now approaching "three score years and ten." The American Legion of Honor, organized in 1879, has 897. The Royal Arcanum, organized in 1877, has 1,531. The Knights and Ladies of Honor, organized in 1878, has 661. The Chosen Friends, organized in 1879, has 918. The Knights of Honor, organized in 1875, has 1,655. Not all of these promise old age or annuity benefits, but the above statement serves to show the enormity of the liability resulting from such provisions. For instance the 1,531 such members in the Royal Arcanum carry benefits aggregating \$4,392,000.

The conclusion is that it is a grave

and most serious error for a society to proffer such benefits unless in the adjustment of its assessments, rates adequate provision is made to meet the requirements. What then is the proper course? Make an additional charge for the extra benefit. There is no other way. Otherwise a deficiency in the benefit fund will inevitably result. The good name of the Order is at stake. The case of the widow and orphan is incumbent upon the Orders and the ability to meet the demands should not be impaired.

The question is practically a new one to many societies. There has been no chart of experience to trim by until very recently; but the proper solution of the problem it brings is imperative, and the future integrity of several societies demand that measures of safety be speedily put into force.—The Rainbow.

SOLOMON SLOAN'S ADVICE AS TO EDUCATION.

Mr. Editor:—

If I were boss

We would have less clay modelling and more arithmetic in the public school.

Grammar and typewriting would take the places of music and color study.

If a boy or a girl is well up in arithmetic and grammar he stands less show of starving to death than if his specialty is color schemes or clay figures.

That's what most of us here on this earth are trying to do—keep from starving.

Multiplication tables and good English can be taught successfully to every pupil, if time and pains are taken. Color study and clay modelling can't.

In the first place the teachers are ordinarily just about as unfit to teach art as the pupils are to learn it.

In the second place the vast majority of pupils in the public schools will soon have to earn their own living, and even if they do become expert clay modellers and colorists, they never can make any use of their knowledge.

Give the children bread and butter, and those who have a taste for cake that's worth cultivating will get it.

And that's the way it would be if I were boss.—Solomon Sloan.

GOOD SELECTIONS.

This is the best time of the year to canvass for members. Everybody should get a move on.

Those Branches which have not brought in one member for the year 1900, should not forget that they have only two months left in which to redeem themselves. Do you belong to a Branch of this kind?

The "kicker" in a Branch is useful, if he would only kick to some purpose. All kickers are requested to kick good and hard, if their Branches do not contribute some new members towards the increase during the present year.

One mean man is an absolute necessity to every Branch. A comparison with him makes everybody think well of every other member. So sacrifice yourself and be the mean man. You can do it by rising to a point of order every time anyone proposes anything for the good of the Association or the relief of a brother.

LE CANADIEN

Publié mensuellement, en Anglais et en Français, à London, Ont., dans les intérêts de

L'Association Catholique de Bienfaisance Mutuelle du Canada.

Est envoyé par la poste aux membres entre le 10 et le 15 de chaque mois.

Les membres sont invités à nous envoyer des nouvelles ou informations dont l'Association pourra bénéficier. Toutes communications sur des sujets d'intérêt pour les membres de la C. M. B. A., seront reçues avec plaisir, mais toutes lettres anonymes et toutes autres lettres que le gérant jugera ne pas être dans l'intérêt de l'Association ne seront pas publiées.

Les correspondants voudront bien se rappeler que la copie doit nous parvenir pas plus tard que le 15 du mois, pour être publiée dans le numéro du mois suivant. L'espace étant limité, on voudra bien être concis.

Adresses toutes communications à

S. R. BROWN,
Editeur et Gérant.
Bloc Coote, Rue Dundas,
London, Ont.

LONDON, NOVEMBRE, 1900.

Quelques succursales sont arriérées dans le paiement des fournitures, etc. Nous prions les officiers de ces succursales de lire les clauses 45^{ème} et 46^{ème} de la constitution et de faire un effort pour s'y conformer.

Les succursales arriérées pour la taxe per capita sont par la présente notifiées que le Grand Président et le Bureau des Syndics ont donné instruction au Grand Secrétaire de marquer ces succursales suspendues dans ses livres à moins que le montant dû pour cette taxe ne soit payé sans retard.

Le Grand Secrétaire reçoit de temps à autre, des succursales, des certificats médicaux d'aspirants à l'admission. Cela ne devrait pas être. Les certificats médicaux doivent être envoyés par le médecin examinateur local directement au médecin examinateur en chef, Edward Ryan, M. D., Kingston Ont.

A Joliette, P. Q., le 18 Octobre dernier, l'épouse de Frère Félix P. Chevallier, membre de la Succursale No. 117, a donné le jour à une fille qui reçut au baptême les noms de Marie-Antoinette-Alice. Le parrain et la marraine furent M. Pierre Chevallier, maire de la ville et son épouse.

La taxe per capita, la taxe d'initiation et l'honoraire du Médecin Examinateur en chef pour le trimestre finissant le 30 Sept, 1900, sont passés dus et devraient être payés sans plus tarder. Les officiers des succursales qui n'ont pas encore fait remise au Grand Secrétaire du montant dû de ce chef sont priés de lire les clauses 60, 147 et 176 de la constitution et de s'y conformer.

Quelques succursales retardent d'envoyer leur rapport de l'initiation des membres. Cela ne devrait pas être. La clause 4^{ème} de la constitution est pourtant claire à ce sujet et les Secrétaires Archivistes auxquels nous faisons allusion, sont priés de lire cette clause et de s'y conformer. Nous désirons déclarer aussi que l'envoi du

blanc-formule No. 5 seul (demande d'un certificat de participation aux bénéfices), n'est pas en conformité à la clause 4^{ème}, laquelle mentionne la demande d'admission du membre nouvellement initié. Nous désirons encore attirer l'attention sur la note au bas de la face du blanc-formule demande d'admission, laquelle dit que l'envoi de cette demande constitue l'avis particulier de l'initiation.

NOMINATIONS ET ELECTIONS

Les nominations d'officiers des succursales de la C. M. B. A. du Canada pour le prochain terme, doivent être faites à la dernière assemblée régulière des succursales en Novembre.

Les élections doivent avoir lieu à la première assemblée des succursales en Décembre.

La nomination et l'élection des représentants et de leurs substitués à la Convention du Grand Conseil en 1901 doivent avoir lieu lors des nominations et des élections régulières en Novembre et Décembre de cette année 1900.

Afin de bien comprendre cette partie de notre travail, les officiers des succursales voudront bien lire les clauses 163—165—166—167—168 et 169 de la constitution.

Aucun membre ne devrait accepter la nomination à la charge de Secrétaire Financier ou Trésorier à moins d'être disposé de se soumettre à une garantie en conformité des clauses 176—177 et 181 de la constitution.

SUCCURSALES ARRIÉRES DANS LE PAIEMENT DES COTISATIONS.

Quelques succursales retardent beaucoup trop d'envoyer les rapports de la cotisation mensuelle et de faire remise des cotisations. La cotisation, aussi bien que l'avis donné dans l'organe officiel, disent bien clairement que les dits rapports de la cotisation mensuelle et la remise des cotisations doivent être envoyés au Grand Secrétaire le ou avant le 9^{ème} jour de chaque mois.

Nous prions les membres de s'assurer si leurs succursales respectives ne sont pas du nombre de celles qui ne se sont conformées pas à cette loi de notre Association. Toute succursale qui viole ainsi notre constitution, commet une grande injustice envers tous et chacun de ses membres et de leurs bénéficiaires. Une succursale qui n'a pas payé la ou les cotisations dans le temps alloué par la constitution *ipso facto* se suspend elle-même; et s'il survient un décès parmi ses membres durant ce temps, comment ses officiers pourraient-ils donner les affidavits requis par notre preuve de décès, etc.? Un grand nombre de succursales ne paient pas le ou avant le 9^{ème} jour du mois; elles retardent jusqu'à la dernière semaine, et plusieurs d'entre elles attendent jusqu'au dernier jour du mois. Tout ce dont ces succursales semblent s'inquiéter c'est d'envoyer l'argent en temps pour que le paiement

de la cotisation paraisse dans LE CANADIEN, et ces succursales en défaut, ou leurs membres seraient les premiers à se plaindre si le Grand Conseil ne payait pas les réclamations dans le temps voulu par la constitution! Comment notre Grand Conseil peut-il payer promptement les réclamations si nos succursales ne font pas promptement remise des cotisations?

RESTRICTION DES BÉNÉFICES

De plus en plus nos Ordres progressifs en arrivent à restreindre leurs stipulations concernant les bénéfices.

En d'autres termes dans les cas où les taux des cotisations ont été adoptés d'après une base limitée, comme question de fait, au paiement des bénéfices mortuaires, on s'aperçoit que les bénéfices de vieillesse, le paiement d'une somme stipulée à l'âge de 70 ans, ou une annuité après avoir atteint cet âge, ne peuvent être sûrement promis, et qu'une longue continuation de ces paiements "extra" est mathématiquement impossible sans une augmentation des taux.

Une étude des divers Ordres, représentés au Congrès Fraternel National, démontrera que le nombre de ces "extra," auxquels il est pourvu dans les lois et les conditions du certificat des sociétés, est légion. Ces stipulations sont de puissants agents qui parlent et aident matériellement le travail de l'organisateur. En conséquence presque tous les Ordres se sont pourvus du caprice que l'organisation qui peut promettre "le plus pour l'argent" rencontrera le plus de succès dans sa propagande.

Il n'y a pas eu en cela de but avéré de rompre aucun membre. La plupart des Ordres sont encore jeunes en années; quelques uns seulement d'entre eux sont actuellement face à face avec les problèmes du vieil âge, ou des stipulations d'annuité à 70 ans. Il y a eu une demande populaire pour ces "extra," et les Ordres plus récents se sont crus forcés de les offrir pour rencontrer la compétition. Comme résultat, les bénéfices, qui d'après les conditions du certificat arrivent à maturité quand le membre atteint 70 ans, sont vraiment alarmants. Les Ordres commencent à se réveiller au fait que leurs responsabilités de ce chef seront bientôt énormes et que le fonds des bénéfices ne sera pas en état de rencontrer une telle demande.

Il est surprenant de remarquer combien de membres quelques uns des plus anciens Ordres comptent, lesquels approchent maintenant "trois fois vingt et dix ans." L'American Legion of Honor, organisée en 1879, en compte 897; la Royal Arcanum, organisée en 1877, en a 1531; les Knights and Ladies of Honor, organisés en 1878, en comptent 661; les Chosen Friends, organisés en 1879, en ont 918; les Knights of Honor, organisés en 1875, en ont 1685. Toutes ces sociétés ne promettent pas des bénéfices de vieillesse

à l'âge de 70 ans, mais l'état ci-haut sert à démontrer l'énormité des responsabilités résultant de telles stipulations. Par exemple, les 1531 membres de cette catégorie dans la Royal Arcanum portent des bénéfices se montant collectivement à \$4 392 000.

En conclusion, c'est une erreur grave et une des plus sérieuses pour une société que d'offrir de tels bénéfices à moins que dans l'ajustement des taux une disposition proportionnelle soit faite pour faire face au besoin. Quelle est alors la meilleure ligne à suivre? Faire une charge additionnelle pour les bénéfices extra. Il n'y a pas d'autre milieu. Autrement il en résultera un déficit dans le fonds des bénéfices. Le bon nom de l'Ordre est en jeu. La cause de la veuve et de l'orphelin impose aux Ordres et leurs moyens de rencontrer les demandes ne devraient pas être mis en danger.

La question est pratiquement nouvelle pour plusieurs sociétés. On n'a pas eu d'expérience pour se guider jusqu'à dernièrement, mais la solution propre du problème qu'elle amène est impérative, et l'intégrité future de diverses sociétés demande que des mesures de sûreté soient promptement mises en vigueur.—Rainbow.

LA DEMONSTRATION RELIGIEUSE ANNUELLE.

Des Succursales de Montréal

La réunion religieuse annuelle des succursales de Montréal, qui a eu lieu dans cette ville dimanche le 14 Oct. dernier, a été un grand succès et une imposante démonstration.

L'exécution du programme de la fête avait été confiée aux Grands Députés du district, Frères J. J. Costigan, A. H. Spedding, J. E. Bourgeois, A. B. Poltevin, J. H. Feeley, G. A. Carpenter et Chs. Fortier.

Les succursales avaient été invitées à se réunir sur le champ de Mars à 9 heures et trois quarts, mais les membres commencèrent à arriver dès les 9 heures. Les Députés étaient là pour recevoir les frères à leur arrivée. Peu après les 10 heures le Grand Président, l'Hon. M. F. Hackett, arriva accompagné du Grand Président McCaffrey du Grand Conseil de Québec, du Chancelier M. Sharkey de la Succursale No. 26 et autres. Il fut salué et reçu avec enthousiasme.

Les succursales se formèrent alors en procession dans l'ordre suivant:

- Commissaires-Ordonnateurs à cheval; Frères G. Vandelaar et J. Bélanger de la Succursale No. 142.
- Bannière C. M. B. A.
- La Fanfare de la Société de Tempérance de St. Pierre.
- Drapeau de la Succursale No. 240.
- La Succursale No. 240, de St. Henri de Montréal; Président F. X. Payette, Secrétaire G. O. Messier et 8) membres.
- La Succursale No. 232, de la cathédrale; Président T. R. Cowan, Secrétaire J. H. Neilson et 3) membres.
- La Succursale No. 237, de la paroisse St. Vincent de Paul; Président N. Langlois, Secrétaire Jos. Langlois et 30 membres.
- La Succursale No. 136, de la paroisse St. Joseph; Président L. N. Houthier, Secrétaire Eugène Dussault et 36 membres.
- La Succursale No. 191, de la paroisse de la Nativité, d'Hochebaga; Président N. Racine, Secrétaire E. A. Paquin et 40 membres.

- La Succursale No. 113, de la paroisse St. Louis de France; Président L. A. Primeau, Secrétaire Henri Kiefer et 85 membres.
- La Succursale No. 142, de la paroisse St. Jean Baptiste; Président W. H. Auclair, Secrétaire Joseph Lozeau et 75 membres.
- La Succursale No. 140, de la paroisse du Sacré Cœur; Président A. H. Spedding, Secrétaire C. Perreault et 40 membres.
- La Succursale No. 87, de la paroisse Ste Brigide; Président Joseph Baland, Secrétaire J. E. Dupont et 100 membres.
- La Succursale No. 83, de la paroisse St. Jacques; Président C. Daudelin, Secrétaire P. A. Hubert et 50 membres.
- La Succursale No. 74, de la paroisse St. Gabriel; Président W. Deegan, Secrétaire John Deegan et 50 membres.
- La Succursale No. 51, de la paroisse Ste Marie; Président C. O'Brien, Secrétaire P. McGovern et 55 membres.
- La Succursale No. 50, de la paroisse St. Antoine; Président W. P. Doyle, Secrétaire T. P. Tansy et 50 membres.
- La Succursale No. 41, de la paroisse St. Anne; Président Arthur Jones, Secrétaire J. J. Jones et 25 membres.
- La Succursale No. 26, de la paroisse St. Patrice; Président J. J. Costigan, Secrétaire P. J. McDonagh et 150 membres.

A la suite de la Succursale No. 26 venaient des représentants des succursales des districts environnants ainsi que d'autres membres de l'association venant d'autres endroits et qui se trouvaient dans la ville dans le temps. Parmi ceux-ci il s'en trouvait de Cornwall, Prescott, Toronto, St. Hyacinthe et Moncton, N B.

Venaient ensuite les délégués du Grand Conseil de Québec, les Grands Députés et le Grand Président escorté du Grand Chancelier T. J. Finn et du Grand Président du Conseil de Québec. En tout il y avait au delà de 1,000 membres dans les rangs de la procession. Le spectacle de cette troupe d'hommes portant sur la poitrine les insignes de la société, et défilant en bon ordre dans les rues de la ville, était très imposant. Le parcours de la procession s'est effectué par les principales rues conduisant à l'église St. Patrice. Ces rues étaient bordées de spectateurs et d'amis et à plusieurs points sur le parcours on applaudit au passage des membres en procession. L'entrée dans l'église se fit par le porte principale à laquelle on arrive en passant par les allées serpentantes d'une magnifique pelouse. Le spectacle qui présentèrent les succursales à ce moment fut très joli, comme le fut aussi l'entrée du Grand Président, au centre de deux lignes formées par les membres, et précédé de la Fanfare, des drapeaux et des bannières. (On a entendu le Grand Député Costigan dire qu'il regretta de n'avoir pas fait arranger cette scène pour qu'elle parut dans Le Canadien).

Le Rév. Père Quinlan, curé de St. Patrice, célébra le service divin. Dans le sanctuaire on remarqua les Révs. M. Callaghan et John McGrath, de la Succursale No. 26; aussi les Révs. J. McShane, J. Ouellette, Spellman et autres. Les fauteuils d'honneur en avant du sanctuaire étaient occupés par le Grand Président et autres grands officiers.

Après l'évangile le Rév. Thomas J. Hefferman, de la Succursale No. 26, monta en chaire et fit un sermon des plus éloquentes, ou plutôt deux, l'un en Français, l'autre en Anglais. Le prédicateur fit une excellente impression

sur les auditeurs et ses paroles de bienvenue aux membres Français de l'Association ont prouvé que la langue Française était très familière à l'orateur.

M. l'abbé Hefferman avait pris pour texte de son sermon "Vous serez jugés selon vos oeuvres". Il demanda aux membres de rendre gloire et honneur au Dieu tout puissant en ce grand jour de fête. "Plusieurs autres sociétés, a-t-il dit, sont déjà venues s'agenouiller dans ce temple, mais l'Association Catholique de Bienfaisance Mutuelle est une Association supérieure à toutes, car elle est essentiellement catholique. La race et la nationalité ne sont pas considérées dans l'Association Catholique de Bienfaisance Mutuelle, Anglais, Français, Irlandais ou Écossais, tous peuvent, s'ils sont Catholiques sincères et pratiquants, entrer dans les rangs de la société. Les membres doivent pratiquer la justice et l'amour du prochain car le but de l'Association est la charité chrétienne; non pas cette charité qui éclate au dehors, mais celle que l'on peut appeler la vertu qui rend les hommes tous frères. Dieu seul peut assurer une base solide à cette charité chrétienne. Les sommes payées par l'Association aux membres de la famille d'un sociétaire défunt mettent des malheureux à l'abri du besoin et de la misère, mais le but de la société est encore plus noble. Tous doivent prier Dieu de leur accorder la charité fraternelle, la charité chrétienne. En travaillant avec entente comme des frères, les membres acquerront des droits à une éclatante récompense qui sera la possession du Royaume éternel."

La partie musicale était sous l'habile direction de Frère J. A. Fowler, de la Succursale No. 50, organisé en même temps que directeur du chœur de l'église St. Patrice. Les solistes furent le Grand Député Carpenter et les frères Maiden et Rowan.

Après le service divin les membres se dispersèrent, tous d'opinion que la réunion religieuse de 1900 avait été un grand succès et profiterait à l'Association.

Le Grand Président Hackett ne ménagea pas ses éloges de cette grande démonstration et félicita spécialement les Grands Députés sur leurs efforts et le succès de la fête.

A TIGNISH.

Ouverture, sous d'honnoreux auspices, de la Nouvelle Salle de la Succursale No. 281.

Mardi soir le 9 Octobre dernier avait lieu, avec grande solennité, l'ouverture de la salle de la C. M. B. A. à Tignish. Quoique le temps fut des plus défavorables, de bonne heure, au delà de trois cents personnes se réunirent dans l'enceinte de cette magnifique salle pour y jouir d'une soirée agréable comme on en passe rarement.

La fanfare de Miscouche, sous l'habile direction de M. Arsène Poirier fit ressortir les plus beaux morceaux de son répertoire. Meslles, Georgie McTague et Fréda Dalton, deux jeunes demoiselles de cette paroisse, qui se sont déjà acquises un nom enviable dans l'art musical, contribuèrent beaucoup à rehausser l'éclat de la soirée en donnant plusieurs duos sur le piano et méritèrent de chaleureux applaudissements.

M. et Mme. J. B. Gaudet, de St. Louis, voulurent bien aussi contribuer leur part au programme musical et furent fort appréciés dans leurs solos et duos.

Mme. Doiron, d'Albion, avec le talent qu'on lui connaît toucha le piano, tandis que M. Hénoni Gaudet faisait ressortir de son violon les sons les plus harmonieux.

M. Clark, de Summerside, donna plusieurs chansons comiques, M. Toussaint Arsenault l'accompagnant sur le piano de la manière habile qu'on lui sait.

Les personnes qui prirent part au programme musical ont les remerciements sincères du comité d'organisation ainsi que de l'auditoire.

Le Rév. A. E. Burke, Grand Député, qui se montra toujours si dévoué à l'avancement de la C. M. B. A., prononça un magnifique discours au cours duquel il démontra d'une manière explicite les grands avantages qu'il y a pour tout catholique de joindre cette association.

Le Rév. D. McDonald, curé de la paroisse, félicita chaleureusement les membres de la C. M. B. A. de Tignish, sur leur esprit d'entreprise et sur le magnifique temple qui s'élève aujourd'hui dans ce village, labours, dit-il, qui font l'éloge de la succursale.

M. W. L. Cotton, Rédacteur de l'Examineur, dans quelques remarques bien pensées, complimenta les membres pour leur énergie. Parmi la foule on remarquait: Le Rév. A. J. McDougald, M. J. F. Arsenault, M. L. A., de Wellington, M. E. Hackett, M. G. Buote, Rédacteur de L'impartial et sa Dame, M. B. Gallant, de Bloomfield, F. Kelly, de Charlottetown, Bleckhorn, Halifax, Mme. Wilson, Denver, Col., Melle. Malone, etc.

Les membres de la succursale accompagnés de leurs Dames étaient: MM. J. F. Chaisson, J. J. Arsenault, Dr. P. C. Murphy, Jas. McGrath, Chas. Dalton, F. J. Buote, N. Walsh, Chas. McInnis, Jos. Clohosey, J. P. Gallant, P. Max. Chaisson, J. Bernard, Ed. L. Harper, J. A. Brennan, Jas. Kinch.

Le programme et l'organisation, sous la présidence de M. Albert J. Brennan, président de la succursale, étaient comme suit:

Adresse et ouverture, sous la direction de Dr. P. C. Murphy.

Programme musical, sous la direction de M. F. J. Buote.

Dance, sous la direction de MM. Albert J. Brennan et J. E. Gallant.

Vente des paniers, sous la direction de MM. Albert J. F. Chaisson et J. McGrath.

Salle de rafraîchissements, sous la direction de MM. D. O'Brien, J. J. Arsenault et P. Max. Chaisson.

Cette grande soirée fut remarquable surtout par le plaisir, l'agrément et le bon ordre du commencement à la fin.

La soirée a réalisé la jolie somme de \$134.65, ce qui prouve encore une fois que la C. M. B. A. est bien vue à Tignish.

Les membres de la succursale 281 prennent cette occasion de remercier très sincèrement les personnes qui ont bien voulu contribuer au succès de la soirée, soit par leur présence ou leurs donations; Mess. J. H. Myrick et M. Glidden, qui ont eu la bienveillance de mettre à la disposition du comité plusieurs articles dont il avait besoin, ainsi que Mlle. Malone pour les soins qu'elle a pris à décorer la salle.—L'Impartial.

FRÈRE LIEUTENANT - COLONEL PARENT.

Commandant le 81ème Régiment d'Infanterie à Ottawa.

C'est avec plaisir que nous publions dans ce numéro la notice biographique suivante de Frère A. R. Parent, que nous trouvons dans "La Presse."

Le Colonel Parent naquit à St. Raymond, comté de Portneuf, dans la Province de Québec, le 1er de l'an 1859, de Steur Eugène Parent, brave et riche cultivateur, et de Clarisse Clermont, tous deux de la Pointe-aux-Trembles de Québec.

Le Lieutenant-Colonel Parent débuta très jeune dans la vie militaire. A 17 ans, il s'engagea comme simple soldat dans la compagnie No. 2, commandée par le (Dr.) capitaine Thomas Gendron. A 18 ans, il fut admis à l'école militaire de Québec, sous les ordres du Lieutenant Colonel Casault et du major de brigade Lamontagne. Il remporta, dans un seul cours, ses deux certificats de seconde et de première classe.

Ayant toujours le devoir pour guide, il devait arriver à une des plus belles positions qu'un soldat puisse ambitionner; aussi sa carrière fut aussi brillante que rapide.

En huit années, il franchit les grades de sergent instructeur, sergent major, enseigne, puis lieutenant.

En 1882, la charge de la compagnie No. 1 lui fut confiée. Animé d'un courage et d'une énergie indomptables, il eut commander le respect et s'acquiescer les sympathies de ses camarades.

Il se distingua comme franc-tireur, en 1883, à Lévis, dans un concours de tir organisé parmi les officiers de la brigade, où il remporta les premiers lauriers.

Consécutivement adjutant, second major, premier major, il est finalement arrivé à la tête de son régiment, succédant au lieutenant colonel Dassault, transféré à la réserve des officiers.

Pour résumer toutes les qualifications requises à cette fin, il alla, en 1898, renouveler son cours militaire à l'école Royale, où il remporta les premiers honneurs de ses examens; peu après, il eut les mêmes succès dans son cours d'équitation. Il est le plus jeune officier en commandement d'un régiment canadien.

Le lieutenant colonel Parent fit ses études à l'école normale Laval de Québec, sous la direction de M. le Principal Lagacé. Sorti qualifié des premiers diplômés, en 1880, il obtint une position comme professeur dans les hautes institutions enseignantes des Comtés de Prescott et Russell, dans la province d'Ontario.

Il prit, plus tard, une part active, à Ottawa, dans la C. M. B. A. Membre fondateur de la Succursale Ste Anne (176), établie en 1892, il en est le secrétaire-archiviste depuis son organisation. Lors de la grande convention de la C. M. B. A. à Ottawa, en 1896, il faisait partie du comité local de réception et c'est lui qui rédigea et lut l'adresse française de bienvenue aux délégués.

L'ESPRIT DE FAMILLE.

La famille est la protection, l'asile, le lieu de pénitence; c'est le lieu de la régénération et du pardon; la famille est loü, mais elle veille; elle pense à l'enfant qui ne souge point à elle; elle le reçoit meurtri, blessé, humilié par la vie; elle le console, elle le relève, elle le guérit.

Je ne crains rien du jeune homme qui a conservé l'esprit de la famille; pleu d'amour pour ses parents, il craindra de rien faire qui puisse les faire rougir ou pleurer. Présente, la famille impose au jeune homme le respect de lui-même; absente, il pourra l'oublier un instant; mais une lettre du père, mais la pensée des larmes d'une mère, l'arrêteront sur la pente d'une mauvaise action; et si l'un et l'autre ont disparu, leur mémoire sera encore puissante; et il la respectera d'autant plus qu'ils ne sont plus là pour lui pardonner.

Qu'est-ce que l'esprit de famille? C'est un mélange de crainte affective pour le père, de tendresse craintive pour la mère, de respect pour tous les deux, d'admiration pour leurs vertus, de volontaire aveuglement pour leurs travers, de reconnaissance pour leurs bienfaits, de compassion pour leurs souffrances, de pitié pour leurs sacrifices. De tous ces sentiments se forme un sentiment unique et complexe, le sentiment de la vénération.—La Défense.

APPELS CAMPBELL, THIBODEAU ET FISCHER.

Les Succursales Nos 50, 264 et 286 accusent respectivement réception des contributions aux appels ci-dessus. On trouvera dans la partie Anglaise la liste des succursales qui ont répondu à l'un ou l'autre de ces appels, et en regard du numéro de la succursale le montant contribué par chacune.

NE CALCULEZ PAS VOS BIEN-FAITS.

(La poésie suivante est du défunt premier ministre de la province de Québec.)

Demandez à l'enfant qui chante Le motif de son refrain. Avec une moue innocente Il vous répond : "Je n'en sais rien."

Demandez à l'enfant qui pleure D'où lui viennent ces gros sanglots. Ses larmes que l'angoisse effleure Pour le dire n'ont pas de mots.

Demandez à l'enfant qui donne Quel est ce transport généreux Auquel son âme s'abandonne. Sans le comprendre, il est heureux.

À l'enfant que ce don soulage Demandez s'il peut expliquer Le bonheur peint sur son visage. Il ne saura vous l'expliquer.

Où, la douce et naïve enfance, Exempte des instincts pervers, Sans calcul et sans méfiance, Se livre à ses penchants divers.

Faisons comme elle, et que notre âme, Sans en rechercher les effets, Donne au pauvre qui la réclame Un humble part de ses bienfaits.

- F. G. MARCHAND.

ACCUSES DE RECEPTION.

Montréal, 17 Octobre, 1900.

S. R. Brown, Grand Sec., C. M. H. A. : Monsieur et Frères—Ci-inclus les reçus des bénéficiaires Hazinet qui sont très satisfaits de la promptitude apportée à payer cette réclamation.

Votre dévoué, JOSEPH LOZEAU, Sec.-Arch. Suc. 142.

Montréal, 27 Octobre, 1900.

S. R. Brown, Grand Sec. C. M. H. A. Cher Monsieur—J'ai reçu aujourd'hui même le chèque concernant le décès de feu Jean Emmanuel Viger. J'en ai pris les reçus voulus que je vous retourne immédiatement. Merci de votre diligence; c'est un encouragement pour les membres.

Votre dévoué, J. E. DUPONT, Sec.-Arch. Suc. 87.

UN ESPRIT FORT... BÊTE

Un prétendu esprit fort avait entassé beaucoup d'absurdités pour prouver que nous n'avons pas d'âme. Les personnes présentes à ce discours étaient à se regarder sans lui répondre. Il s'adressa à une dame et lui demanda d'un air de triomphe ce qu'elle pensait de sa philosophie.

Monsieur, lui répondit cette dame, il me semble que vous venez de me prouver avec beaucoup d'esprit que vous n'êtes qu'une bête.

A ST BONIFACE MAN.

À une récente réunion de la Succursale No. 231, une résolution de condoléance a été passée à l'occasion de la mort de Mme. Henri Cusson, mère de M. M. Henri et Arthur Cusson, membres de cette succursale.

Une copie de la résolution a été transmise à la famille.

À cette réunion Mgr. Pascal, évêque de Prince Albert, lui-même membre de la C. M. H. A. honora la succursale de sa présence, en même temps qu'il fit jurer les membres présents de sa parole éternelle dans un très joli discours.

RESOLUTIONS DE CONDOLEANCE

À une assemblée régulière de la succursale No. 238, de St. Joseph, N. H., tenue le 8 Octobre, sous la présidence de Frère Cyrille Cormier, les résolutions suivantes ont été adoptées à l'unanimité, à l'occasion de la mort de Frère François M. Richard, membre de cette succursale.

Proposé par Frère Henri P. Leblanc appuyé par Frère Napoléon H. Leblanc : Que c'est avec une vive douleur que les membres de cette succursale ont appris la mort prématurée de Frère François M. Richard.

Que la famille éplorée du défunt veuille bien accepter les condoléances et les sympathies des membres de cette succursale.

Que copie des présentes résolutions soit transmise à la famille et cruellement éplorée, et envoyée pour publication à l'organe officiel LE CANADIEN, ainsi qu'à Monsieur Acadia.

L'AUTOMNE.

" Multa renascentur quae jam ceciderunt." Bien des choses renaitront qui sont déjà mortes! Ce vers d'Horace, qui est le cri de l'espérance, me revient à la mémoire et sur les lèvres, en ces dernières journées d'Octobre ou la nature, paraît mourir, elle aussi, et nous faire ses adieux, à la veille des fêtes que nous consacrons au culte de ceux qui ont trop passé de cette vie à l'autre. Soit que le brouillard et la pluie assombrissent la campagne, soit que le soleil nous accorde encore quelques rayons qui se jouent dans les feuilles jaunes dont les arbres se dépouillent et que le vent emporte de la forêt dans les prés, tout est à la mélancolie, à la tristesse, aux souvenirs ôlés. Les sages qui insistent sur le problème des destinées et se recueillent avant d'entrer dans la paix, les humbles, qui sont pareils à ces ascètes rejoints dans le Seigneur auxquels St. François d'Assise apportait de pieuses allegories, tous, même ceux qui se précipitent indifférents, sont anxieusement sollicités par l'austère idée de la mort et la grande affaire de l'au delà. Et, comme nul d'entre nous, ici bas, ne veut se résoudre à s'en aller tout entier pour toujours, il est fortifié et doux de se convaincre, par la philosophie et par la foi, qu'il y a ailleurs un renouveau; selon la parole de Lamartine, une terre ou tout doit renaître. " Multa renascentur quae jam ceciderunt."

L'ombre évanouie revient, quand revient le soleil, mais l'âge enfui ne revient pas! Eh oui! après l'hiver qui accourt, après les frimas qui se préparent, d'autres soleils se lèveront dans de radieuses aurores, et d'autres floraisons remplaceront les fleurs flétries et les feuilles desséchées qui tournoient et se perdent dans la rafale, mais les jours écoulés ne reviendront plus; l'instant se rapproche où nous suivrons, à notre tour, ceux qui ont disparu. Ou sont ils donc ces êtres aimés dont les restes achèvent de se dissoudre sous l'herbe du jardin des morts? (Où les retrouverons-nous lorsque, dans peu ou dans beaucoup de soirs, sonnera pour nous, au cadran des âges, l'heure de la séparation et du départ, quand il faudra joindre nos mains et nos endormir?) Ils sont en l'un est bien, c'est votre croyance et notre souhait: ils sont devant Celui en qui la rédemption est copieuse et la miséricorde surabondante. " Cognosce apud eum redemptionem."

Ces méditations sur la brièveté de la vie et la fragilité des choses s'imposent à nos Intel ligences, dans ces périodes agitées de l'arrière saison, quand il nous semble que tout est mort, que tout meurt, que tout va mourir. À côté du deuil qui nous ôte, nous éprouvons l'impérieux besoin de mettre l'espérance qui nous réconforte, de nous unir, en pensée, à ceux qui ne sont plus avec nous, de participer à leur affranchissement, libérés qu'ils sont de nos maux, de nos angoisses, de nos luttes et nos quêtes et pourtant si âpres. Le pied sur une tombe, ou tient moins à la terre, a dit le poète, et il a raison: c'est de la que, plus librement, nous aspirons à l'Infini et à l'Éternité. Les matérialistes, qui nient cette évidence, sont des sourds, de l'avis de Jean Jacques Rousseau, et il ajoute: " l'homme ne vit qu'à moitié durant sa vie et la vie de l'âme ne commence qu'à sa mort du corps."

Puisqu'il en est ainsi, à quoi bon ces combats, ces perplexités, ces passions du monde? Pourquoi l'ambition des honneurs, des richesses, du pouvoir, de la renommée, si nous vivons pour mourir? Tout nous abandonne au sein du tombeau, et nous descendons sous la terre, faibles, pauvres et nus comme nous en nous sortis. Ainsi se voit la forte parole de l'Église à l'homme, " Pulvis es et in pulverem revertaris." C'est l'expérience de chaque jour: elle domine notre raison et nous force à nous courber sous sa loi. Voilà pourquoi, en ces brumeuses journées, quand l'automne, qui decline, nous enveloppe dans sa langueur triste, je m'isole. Je songe à tout ce qui n'est plus, à ceux que j'ai perdus, aux années passées que le temps efface, aux tombes lointaines que j'ai laissées derrière moi sur la route, et souffrant et chagrin, j'élève, dans mon cœur, un autel à la résignation qui console. — Du Soleil.

RECREATION.

Un catholique, un Irlandais, menait quelquefois sa vache paître près du pré d'un certain ministre. Un jour, la vache, mal surveillée, passa dans la propriété du clergyman. Celui-ci s'en aperçut. Il appela le propriétaire de la bête, qu'il connaissait être catholique, et lui dit :

— Je suis en droit de vous faire un procès, mais, réflexion faite, je ne

vous mènerai pas devant le juge si vous voulez venir à mon église, dimanche.

Notre homme alléché par l'offre, répondit :

— Au right!

Le dimanche arrivé, il s'en va en effet au temple. Jolie et triomphe du clergyman! A quelques heures de là, toujours dans la matinée, le ministre sort et rencontre par hasard son nouveau paroissien.

— A la bonne heure! dit le révérend, vous êtes venu chez moi ce matin, je vous félicite; mais où allez-vous donc maintenant?

— Quelle question! répond notre homme, je vais à l'église catholique.

— Vous avez accompli le précepte chez moi, ce n'est pas nécessaire d'aller à votre église, pourquoi faire?

— Ce matin, je suis allé au temple, il est vrai, mais c'était pour ma vache. maintenant, je vais de ce pas à l'église catholique, mais, cette fois, c'est pour moi!

NOUVELLE SUCCURSALE.

Une nouvelle succursale a été instituée le 4 Octobre, 1900, à Dundalk, Out., par le Grand Député Timothy Moran. Voir la partie Anglaise pour la liste des officiers.

L'OMELETTE DU COMMIS VOYAGEUR.

Le P. Lacordaire se trouvait un jour à dîner à une table d'hôte dans je ne sais quelle ville de province.

C'était un vendredi, un jour maigre, occasion précieuse pour les commis voyageurs qui dinent à table d'hôte, de montrer en public combien ils se mettent en dessus de tout ce qu'ils appellent les vieux préjugés.

Après plusieurs sarcasmes plus ou moins spirituels, contre le maigre, les dévots l'obscurantisme et le cléricalisme, le libre-penseur interpella l'orateur de Notre Dame, tout en lui passant un plat d'omelettes dont il venait de s'adjuger le plus gros morceau.

— Moi, monsieur, lui dit-il d'un air moqueur, j'ai pour principe de ne croire que ce que je comprends.

— Monsieur répondit poliment La cordaire en se servant les débris de l'omelette que son interlocuteur avait bien voulu lui laisser, comprenez vous comment le feu qui fait fondre le beurre, fait durcir les oeufs?

— Ma foi... je n'en sais trop rien, dit le commis voyageur interloqué.

— Moi non plus, dit finement le religieux... Mais je vois avec plaisir que ça ne vous empêche pas de croire aux omelettes... N'est ce pas?

LE DRAME DE LA PASSION.

À Ober-Ammergau, en Bavière

C'est un spectacle des plus intéressants et unique au monde, dit ce, que la représentation du Mystère de la Passion qui se donne cette année à Ober-Ammergau, petit village de Bavière. Cette représentation n'a lieu que tous les dix ans (la dernière fois en 1890). Le drame dure tout le jour, de huit heures du matin à cinq heures et demie du soir, avec un intermède à midi pour permettre aux spectateurs de prendre leur dîner. Le Mystère est représenté en allemand, mais des traductions françaises, et la connaissance que le spectateur a du sujet, lui permettent de suivre parfaitement l'action.

Nos lecteurs liront avec intérêt, sans doute, le compte rendu suivant, publié par "La Presse", d'un témoin oculaire.

AVANT LA REPRESENTATION.

Enfin, me voilà rendu à Ober-Ammergau. Depuis longtemps déjà, je caressais l'espérance de venir assister à la représentation du grand "Drame de la Passion," représentation qui ne se donne, on le sait, que tous les dix ans.

C'est demain que mon vœu sera réalisé. En attendant, et comme préparation au grand jour, je veux faire une petite excursion à travers l'église du Village de la Passion et du "Passionspiel" lui-même.

II.

Ober-Ammergau est un village de 1 200 habitants environ, situé dans une délicieuse vallée, au sud-ouest de la Haute-Bavière, et à l'entrée des montagnes bavaroises, il est en un point plus culminant. Tout concourt à donner à cette région un caractère de grandeur et de sérénité. Les montagnes sont hautes, mais elles ne sont pas escarpées: il y a de beaux arbres et du gazon. Il semble que la nature elle-même s'est chargée d'avance de faire les décors dont on aurait besoin plus tard. La bonhomie du Christ, avec son sourire affectueux et bon, avec ses yeux limpides, doux comme une prière, à la le cadre qui lui convient.

Nulle part mieux qu'à Ober-Ammergau, on ne saurait prêcher le Dieu de la grâce, le Testament de l'amour.

À proprement parler, l'histoire d'Ober-Ammergau ne commence qu'au neuvième siècle. L'église fut érigée en paroisse en 1121.

Un peu plus tard, le village devint partie intégrante du duché de Bavière.

Au seizième siècle, l'industrie de la sculpture sur bois, que des missionnaires avaient importée dans le pays, longtemps auparavant, en 1111, commença à prendre de l'importance. Cette importance n'a fait que s'accroître depuis, et bien que, maintenant les braves Bavarois créent de vrais petits chefs-d'œuvre sur bois.

Mais des malheurs terribles allaient fondre sur le petit bourg.

En 1525 les troupes de Maurice de Saxe envahirent le pays. En 1622, les Suédois, à leur tour, brûrèrent, ravagèrent, pillèrent et massacrèrent tout sur leur passage. Cette invasion donna à plusieurs prêtres la palme du martyre.

Puis vint la peste, et avec ce fléau épouvantable, l'origine de la représentation du Drame ou du Mystère de la Passion.

Les annales disent: "En 1632, la peste faisait d'affreux ravages dans tout notre pays, une imprudence commise par un habitant d'Ober-Ammergau fit pénétrer le germe contagieux dans le village. En une semaine, 84 personnes succombèrent au fléau. En une telle détresse, nos conseillers réunis, firent vœu, pour fléchir le ciel, de faire représenter tous les dix ans, par les habitants de la Commune, le Mystère de la Passion. À partir de ce moment, la peste ne fit plus une seule victime parmi nous."

Voilà donc un drame, un théâtre qui a pour origine non pas le mauvais instinct des passions, mais un acte de foi, d'espérance et d'amour, une prière, un cri de pitié jeté au Très Haut, une larme. Il fait bien, dans ce siècle de froides, d'indifférence et de sensualisme, de rappeler l'exemple de ces humbles artisans.

La première représentation eut lieu en 1890. Depuis 1890, on a joué régulièrement le grand drame toutes les dix ans. Et à ce propos, les bons villages d'Ober-Ammergau méritent tout notre respect et tout notre admiration pour la fidélité avec laquelle ils ont toujours acquiescé à leur vœu. Car, on sait les révolutions d'opinions et d'idées, les nombreuses révolutions politiques et religieuses dont la Bavière a été le théâtre depuis le dix-septième siècle. Mais malgré tout, malgré tous les obstacles, les braves Bavarols ne se découragèrent jamais, jusqu'à ce qu'enfin ils tinrent entre leurs mains cet acte officiel, (vers 1820): "Le théâtre de ce village se dévot par sa grande ancienneté, par le soin tout particulier apporté à l'exécution du Mystère, et par la beauté excep-tionnelle du site qui lui sert de cadre. Toutes ces circonstances s'élevèrent jusqu'au sublime cette représentation unique; mais elle ne saurait être qu'une exception."

Je ne résiste pas au plaisir de citer quelques belles paroles qui disent bien le délicieux paysage, la beauté d'Ober-Ammergau:

"On ne saurait dire ce que l'aspect de la nature ajoute de vérité, de charme, aux diverses scènes évangéliques. Ces riantes collines couronnées de bois, ces monts majestueux, tout prend un langage et s'associe le plus heureusement du monde aux émotions du spectateur. Il n'est pas jusqu'au ciel lui-même qui ne joue parfois son rôle en ces émouvantes journées. Quel-ques-fois, pendant l'entrée à Jérusalem, la foule humaine, avec ses costumes éclatants, bariolés, est inondée de chauds et radieux rayons de soleil; pendant le crucifiement, de sombres nuages jettent parfois sur le théâtre comme des volles de deuil, et le tonnerre accompagne les paroles du Sauveur expirant. En de semblables moments, il n'est pas besoin de posséder une imagination d'artiste pour se croire transporté en pleine réalité."

Et voilà précisément pourquoi non seulement le peuple, mais les gens cultivés, des altesses royales, des princes, des princesses, des excellences, des ministres, tous ceux qui aiment le beau, le vrai et le bon, n'ont cessé d'accourir au théâtre de la Passion, chaque fois que l'on a joué le grand Mystère.

II.

Et le drame, le texte de la Passion, que faut-il en penser?

La Passion suit très fidèlement les saints Évangiles. En la composant, on n'a jamais perdu de vue cette sublime vérité: tout vient du Christ, tout se rapporte à lui. L'Ancien Testament, on le sait, n'était que la figure du Nouveau. Jésus Christ, soleil de justice, projette ses rayons devant et derrière lui, et toi ce qui est arrivé avant l'Incarnation du Verbe n'était qu'une préparation.

C'est pourquoi il y a dans la Passion une heureuse association de la vérité et des figures qui l'ont annoncée. Des tableaux vivants que l'on dit absolument parfaits—nous verrons demain préparer le spectateur et lui laisser deviner ce qui va se passer.

Le mystère de la Passion est un peu comme une trilogie grecque. La Première Partie s'ouvre à l'entrée de Jésus à Jérusalem et va jusqu'au moment où il est livré à ses ennemis par Judas.

La Deuxième Partie s'étend de l'interrogatoire de Caïphe à la sentence prononcée par Pilate.

La Troisième Partie enfin commence à la condamnation de Jésus et se termine par sa résurrection triomphante.

La ou l'Évangile se tait, le texte du drame prête aux personnages un langage, des dialogues qui n'ont certainement rien d'artistique ni de bien littéraire, mais du moins tout est justement approprié à leur esprit et à leur caractère. Une charmante simplicité qui se marie si bien avec le sublime des paroles de l'Évangile y règne par tout.

Au contraire quand le récit évangélique est complet, le texte du drame se tait. Et en effet qu'aurait-il pu ajouter?

Il est heureux, il est beau tout de même qu'on l'ait compris.

III.

On aimera peut-être à avoir quelques détails sur les préparatifs de la représentation; il y a deux espèces de préparation, la préparation éloignée et la préparation prochaine.

Inutile de dire que ce n'est pas une mince besogne que d'apprendre à de simples artisans à sortir de leur personnalité propre pour entrer dans leurs rôles respectifs, pour se faire les interprètes du plus sublime de tous les drames.

"C'est afin d'obtenir ce résultat que l'on a établi à Ober-Ammergau un théâtre spécialement destiné à l'éducation des acteurs du mystère. Tous les ans pendant les soirées d'hiver, on y étudie, on y joue des pièces sacrées et profanes, des morceaux classiques et populaires, c'est là qu'on apprend aux acteurs à se mouvoir, à parler; chanteurs et chanteuses s'exercent à exécuter un morceau avec ensemble, et les mémoires sont cultivées avec un tel succès, que dans les plus longs rôles, nos villageois se passent presque entièrement de souvenir."

"C'est sur ce théâtre que les jeunes talents se révèlent; on les étudie avec soin afin de les employer plus tard à remplir les vides qui se produiront infailliblement."

"Les enfants aussi prennent part aux répétitions; il faut tant de temps, de si longs, de si patients efforts pour habituer ces petits êtres mobiles et légers à rester souvent plusieurs minutes de suite dans les attitudes les plus difficiles et cela sans faire un seul mouvement!"

"Car c'est dès l'enfance que se forment les acteurs d'Ober-Ammergau; le personnel grandit en jouant. L'enfant de deux ou trois ans fait son premier début sur les bras de sa mère, qui représente une matrone de Jérusalem. Dix ans plus tard, il agitera son rameau et chantera l'Hosannah au Fils de David. Plus tard encore, il sera soldat romain ou serviteur du Temple; enfin il siègera au Grand Conseil, et finira peut-être parmi les Apôtres son honorable carrière artistique."

Un règlement veut que les natifs ou naturalisés seuls d'Ober-Ammergau soient acteurs. Il y a 104 rôles d'hommes et 15 de femmes. Les rôles muets sont au nombre d'environ 250, les enfants compris. Ajoutons à cela le chœur des anges, l'orchestre, les gens du théâtre, les surveillants et nous sommes en face d'un personnel de 697 personnes environ, plus de la moitié de la population, quoi!

Après cette préparation éloignée vient la préparation prochaine. On commence à s'exercer six mois à l'avance sous la direction du curé de la paroisse. Les répétitions se font d'abord au presbytère, puis au théâtre de la Passion.

Faut-il s'étonner maintenant que l'on ait toujours décerné tant d'éloges aux acteurs de la Passion? Il me semble qu'après une telle formation,

leurs rôles doivent être vécus, rien, ni dans l'ensemble, ni dans les détails, ne doit sentir l'appât, l'effort.

La question de moralité, je puis le dire, tous mes détails dans les meilleures opuscules sur Ober-Ammergau et je les tiens aussi de la bouche même de deux des principaux acteurs) est aussi l'objet d'une grave préoccupation. Les membres du comité et les acteurs eux-mêmes veillent avec un soin scrupuleux à ce que des sujets irréprochables sous le rapport des mœurs soient seuls appelés à l'honneur de représenter les principaux personnages. La plupart, mais surtout ceux à qui sont confiées les tâches les plus difficiles, s'approchent des sacrements avant le grand jour. Qui ne se souviendrait lui de ces maîtres du temps passé qui se préparaient à leurs chefs-d'œuvre par la réception de la sainte Eucharistie, et venaient chercher dans l'aliment divin le soutien de leur faiblesse et le secours d'en haut!

IV.

Pour la première fois cette année on a construit une immense halle en bois, soutenue par des arceaux en fer, d'une hauteur de 20 mètres sur une largeur de 43 m. On dira peut-être que c'est moins poétique, moins pittoresque que les anciennes installations à ciel ouvert; c'est possible, c'est même vrai, mais on avouera aussi qu'un abri contre le vent et la pluie a aussi ses charmes, surtout dans les montagnes de la Bavière. Du reste le spectacle n'en est pas moins beau, car des flots de lumière, j'ai déjà visité le théâtre deux fois) pénètrent encore sur la scène par un espace libre en avant de la halle. Ce paysage unique dont j'ai déjà parlé et qui surpasse en grandeur, en beauté, tous les décors artificiels du monde, le spectateur peut toujours en jouir.

Le nouveau théâtre contient 4,200 places, c'est-à-dire 200 places de plus qu'en 1890. Et cependant l'affluence à Ober-Ammergau est si grande depuis le mois de mai qu'à chaque représentation annoncée il semble encore trop petit. S'il y avait un peu moins de curiosité ce serait vraiment beau.

LA REPRÉSENTATION

À 8 heures du matin, j'ai pris ma place au théâtre de la Passion. La représentation s'est terminée à 5½ heures du soir. À midi on nous a donné à peine 45 minutes pour nous reposer, et casser une croûte. La grande salle était absolument remplie; nous étions donc un peu plus de 4,200 personnes. Eh bien! chose à peine croyable, lorsque le rideau est tombé pour la dernière fois, personne n'a bougé. Après avoir écouté pendant 5½ heures, avec la plus grande attention et le recueillement le plus complet, nous attendions encore. De fatigue, nous n'en sentions pas; une émotion profondément religieuse, inconnue à plusieurs, s'était emparée de tous. Le grand drame s'était déroulé devant nous sans qu'un seul spectateur pensât à prodiguer aux acteurs de ces applaudissements banaux qui ne veulent rien dire ou plutôt qui excluent le véritable enthousiasme, et qui, pour cela, même sont la monnaie courante des théâtres mondains.

Mais quelques instants après, lorsque l'immense auditoire s'est ressaisi, lorsqu'il est redevenu sur la terre, oh! alors une clameur s'est échappée de toutes ces poitrines, grande, forte, puissante comme les sentiments qu'elle exprimait. Malgré leur dissonance, ces cris avaient quelque chose d'imposant. Les coeurs étaient trop pleins, ils débordaient.

Il est évident que je n'entreprendrai pas de faire un compte rendu complet d'une représentation qui a duré presque une journée. Je vais tout simplement jeter quelques notes sur le papier un peu "à la diable" comme on peut le faire en voyage.

Et d'abord, voici le programme officiel de la Passion, avec les noms des principaux acteurs. Je donne cela à titre de curiosité et aussi pour montrer la grandeur, les difficultés du drame lui-même.

LE MYSTÈRE DE LA PASSION

La fête solennelle de la Rédemption des hommes, célébrée au Golgotha, ou l'Histoire de la Passion et de la mort de Jésus, d'après les quatre évangélistes, accompagnée de figures symboliques tirées de l'Ancien Testament, et représentée à Ober-Ammergau pour l'Instruction et l'édification du peuple chrétien.

Ier Tableau.—L'entrée de Jésus à Jérusalem.

Ile Tableau.—Les délibérations du Grand Conseil.

IIIe Tableau.—L'adieu de Béthanie.

IVe Tableau.—Le dernier voyage à Jérusalem.

Ve Tableau.—La Sainte Cène.

VIe Tableau.—La trahison.

VIIe Tableau.—Jésus au Jardin des Oliviers.

VIIIe Tableau.—Jésus devant Anne.

IXe Tableau.—Jésus chez Caïphe.

Xe Tableau.—Le désespoir de Judas.

XIe Tableau.—Jésus devant Pilate.

XIle Tableau.—Jésus devant Hérode.

XIIIe Tableau.—La flagellation et le couronnement d'épines.

XIVe Tableau.—Jésus condamné à mort.

XVe Tableau.—Le chemin du Calvaire.

XVIe Tableau.—Jésus sur le Golgotha.

XVIIe Tableau.—La résurrection.

XVIIIe Tableau.—Jésus dans sa gloire.

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Liste des principaux acteurs en 1900:

Le Christ, Anton Lang; Le Prologue, Joseph Meyer; Saint-Jean, Peter Rendi; Saint-Pierre, Thomas Rendi; Saint-Jacques, Mathias Dädler; Caïphe, Sébastien Lang; Pilate, Sébastien Bauer; Judas, Johann Zwick; Marie, Anna Flungor; Madeleine, Bertha Wolf; Marthe, Maria Schalb, etc., etc., etc.

De plus: Prêtres, Pharisiens, Marchands, Témoin, Gardes, Chefs du peuple, Soldats, Courtisans, Bourgeois, Rabbin, Peuple, Saintes Femmes, Enfants, Valets, Servantes, Foule, Choeurs.

Il est 8 heures précises. La grande salle offre un joli coup d'oeil. Partout des têtes; les fichus bariolés des femmes de la campagne font un très pittoresque effet. On entend le murmure confus des voix: les Allemands, naturellement sont en majorité, mais il y a aussi beaucoup d'Anglais, d'Américains, voire même quelques Canadiens, et un peu moins de Français, d'Italiens, d'Espagnols, de Russes, etc., une vraie tour de Babel, quoi!

Tout à coup éclatent trois détonations: Chut! écoutons, l'orchestre commence l'ouverture.

A CONTINUER AT MOIS PROCHAIN.

C'est le meilleur temps de l'année pour solliciter des membres. Chacun devrait faire un mouvement dans ce sens.