

The Canadian. Royal Arcanum Journal.

Devoted to the interests of the Royal Arcanum in Canada.

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NO. 1.

TO THE GRAND OFFICERS, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GRAND COUNCIL, ROYAL ARCANUM OF ONTARIO.

TORONTO, May 5th, 1894.

SIRS AND BROTHERS:

In taking the liberty of submitting for your consideration a specimen copy of a Royal Arcanum JOURNAL proposed to be issued monthly in the interests of our Order in Canada, I desire to append a few reasons for such action, trusting that the Grand Council in its wisdom will acknowledge their force. To be practical in this matter, I also submit an alternative offer to publish such a paper for the Order.

1. As a member of the R.A. in good standing since 1884, a Past Regent of the Order, a Representative to the Grand Council's inaugural meeting of 1885 and therefore a life member of the Grand Council, and as one fraternally and financially interested in the growth, prosperity and stability of the Order. I have personally in common, no doubt, with a large number in the Society felt the great need of such a paper being published and devoted solely to the extension of the Order in Canada.

2. Although, we Canadian Arcanumites must acknowledge a certain indebtedness to the American papers of the Order, yet considered from our standpoint it must be candidly owned that these papers do not "fill the bill" as regards our special fraternal needs in this Province.

3. A Royal Arcanum paper published in our own province *officially or semi-officially*, under the direction, more or less, of the Grand Regent, or Executive, and placed in the hands of each member monthly, would be productive of immense benefit to the Councils and to the entire membership of the jurisdiction.

4. Some of the advantages may be stated as follows.

(a) Such a paper would be a regular, efficient and economic way of educating our members in fraternal matters.

(b) Such a paper would furnish a medium for communication between Councils, and make our officers and members better acquainted with one another, would draw the Councils more closely to each other and consolidate the Order for more aggressive work.

(c) A journal of this kind would provide a fund of information for the public as to the merits of the R.A., and thus making the Society better known and appreciated, a larger percentage of new members would be attracted to the Order.

(d) A paper of this kind would incite the passive members of the Order to activity, and not only interest the families of the members in our work, but provide valuable fraternal and other reading matter for the members' firesides.

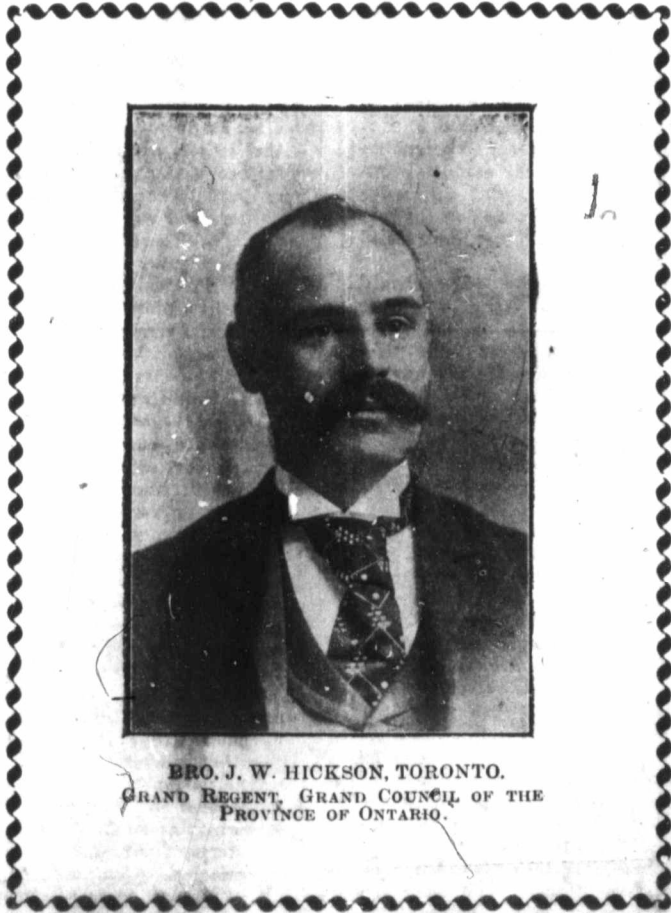
(e) It would be a medium for conveying to each and every member full information as to the proceedings of the various Sessions of the Grand and Supreme Councils, the statistical and financial reports of Grand and Supreme Officers, and all the general circulars of instruction and advice issued from time to time by our Grand Officers. By this means, therefore, the humblest member of the Order would be put in possession of full information about the Order, which now reaches only a few in official positions.

(f) An official or semi-official paper issued in the interests of the R.A. of Ontario would place this Order abreast of other competing societies that have such organs, and are prospering by the aid thus furnished. We should then be better able to hold our own against competitors in the struggle for new members and in the competition for public favor.

Not to trespass further upon your time and patience I now make the following alternative offer:

AN OFFICIAL PAPER—OFFER NO. 1.

I would be prepared to issue an official monthly paper in the interests of the Royal Arcanum of Ontario, size, double demy, 8 pp., the same to be under the direction and control of the Grand Regent or Grand Executive, giving space to proceedings of



BRO. J. W. HICKSON, TORONTO.
GRAND REGENT, GRAND COUNCIL OF THE
PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

The Canadian Royal Arcanum Journal is pleased to be able to present to its readers, in this initial number of the paper, the above portrait of our worthy Bro. J. W. Hickson, Grand Regent of the Royal Arcanum of the Province of Ontario. Bro. Hickson, although still a young man is probably, fraternally, one of the oldest members of the Order in Toronto, he having joined the R. A. in 1884, as one of the charter members of Canada Council No. 612, which was organized in the month of July in that year. To his efforts, in fact, may be credited a large part of the success and prosperity of this Council which has always occupied a place in the front rank of Canadian R.A. Councils, and which we believe has been the banner Council of Ontario for some years past, it having at the present time over three hundred of a membership. Bro. Hickson was elected Secretary of Canada Council, at the time of its institution, and in the following year was elected Regent. He was also elected as representative of his Council to the first Grand Council of Ontario, which was organized in London in May 1885. At this Grand Council meeting when the election of the first Grand officers for the new jurisdiction took place, Bro. Hickson was chosen as a member of the Grand Council Committee on Finance. Having served for two years on this Committee, at the Grand Council session of 1887, he was elected Grand Orator and re-elected to the same position in 1888. The next four years he continued to be an officer of the Grand Council, serving during that time on the Committee on Appeals and Grievances. At the eighth annual Session held in the City of London last year, Bro. Hickson's keen interest in the Order, and his zeal and enthusiasm in promoting and extending its benefits and influence met with the well merited approbation of the Grand Council and was acknowledged by his being unanimously elected as Grand Regent of the Order for the Province of Ontario. The wisdom of the Grand Council in making the selection, has been shown by results obtained. During the past year Bro. Hickson has been very active in visiting almost all the Councils in Ontario. These visits have been, as may be judged, productive of very beneficial results to the Councils, awakening fresh interest in our work and inciting the officers and members to increased zeal and activity in our fraternity.

A pleasing and practical result of the Grand Regent's numerous visits and his words of counsel to the membership has been a large increase in the membership of the society for the past year. Most of the fraternal societies are realizing that there is wisdom in keeping an efficient chief executive officer in his position for at least two years, and if this is the feeling of the present Grand Council in regard to Bro. Hickson, the Order may look forward with confidence to a still more prosperous era under his leadership in 1894-5. In regard to other societies we may mention that Bro. Hickson is a charter member of Doric Lodge No. 316. A.F. & A.M. and of Occident Chapter 77 R.A.M. of which he is a Past Z. He is also a member of the Lodge of Perfection No. 3, Toronto. Bro. Hickson was one of the Charter members of Fidelity Tent No. 13 K.O.T.M., which has the largest membership of any Tent in the City of Toronto. Bro. Hickson occupied the chair of Sir Knight Commander in this Tent for the first three years.

the Grand Council Sessions, reports of Officers, official notices and circulars to Councils and members, monthly or other financial statements of the Order, and general and miscellaneous articles, news, etc., in the interests of the Order.—The paper to be official and considered the sole medium of communication between the Grand Council and the subordinate officers and members, on the condition that the R.A. Journal, as per specimen submitted, be made the official organ of the Order to be sent by the publisher to each and every member of the Order in Canada, at a cost of 25 cents per copy per annum, the same to be paid for by the Grand Council in monthly payments and

mailing lists of the membership to be furnished by the Grand Secretary.

A SEMI-OFFICIAL PAPER—OFFER NO. 2.

If the Grand Council cannot see its way clear to adopt an official organ then I would offer to furnish a semi-official paper in consideration of a bonus, and trust to getting Councils and individual subscriptions sufficient to supplement the bonus in meeting expenses of publication and mailing. As a semi-official paper I would furnish a copy of it monthly, free, to each Grand Officer, and Secretary of the Councils and fifty copies free to the Grand Secretary for general use, supply the paper at 50c. per annum for single copies, and at the rate of 25c. per annum per copy to the Councils subscribing for 10

copies or over for their members, and trust to making the venture pay expenses, on condition that the Grand Council pay me an annual bonus of four hundred dollars, payable monthly.

Fraternally submitted in V.M.C.
H.M. Wilkinson, P.R.

Opinions on a Canadian R. A. Journal.

Bro. Shaneman, Secy. Gananoque Council, is of opinion that we should have an Arcanum paper in Ontario, but that it cannot be made a success by depending on members to subscribe for the same. He thinks that unless the Grand Council can see its way clear to take hold and send every member a copy and pay for same out of Fund of Grand Council it will be a failure. Nearly if not all Grand, High, Supreme or similar governing bodies pay for a paper for the individual members and have same distributed.

An official says:—"We do need a paper for our Royal Arcanum and I will help you all I can."

A Toronto member says:—"Go ahead Bro. Wilkinson; we greatly need an organ for our R.A. in Ontario. You have started papers for other societies and made them a success and can do the same for the R.A."

B. W. Tackaberry, Secy. Brookville Council, writes:—"Your card of the 18th duly received and in reply might say that your card was read in Council last night and I was instructed to inform you that our Council is in favour of such a paper as you refer to. Wishing you all manner of prosperity with your proposed sheet."

Another brother says:—"If you start a paper for the Order and submit a creditable specimen sheet, the Grand Council should take some definite action in the matter and order the same to be published at the expense of the Grand Council or give the publisher a bonus monthly to aid in its publication."

Bro. W. Ray, Regent of Maple Leaf Council writes:—"I think the idea of issuing a Journal, such as you describe, is a good one and should commend itself to the Canadian Branch of our Order. At our next meeting I will have the matter brought before our Council and ask that instructions be given our delegates on the question. I do not know that I can give you any items regarding Maple Leaf with which you are not already familiar, as you are aware we are now the Banner Council and will be sending two delegates to Grand Council. We are steadily increasing in our membership and hope, by the end of this year, to be so far in advance, numerically, that we will be able to easily hold first position. Wishing you every success in your proposed undertaking."

Bro. John Kinder Cor. Maple Leaf Council, No. 867 says:—"Canadian Arcanumites should hear with pleasure of your intention of floating the Royal Arcanum Journal on the Sea of Literature. It is my opinion that there is an opening for such a Journal among the members of the Royal Arcanum in Canada and, I think I voice the sentiments of the members of our beloved Order in general, when I wish you every success in your undertaking. As correspondent of Maple Leaf Council it will be my pleasure to offer you from time to time any assistance in my power."

Bro. E. C. Sanders, of St. Thomas Council, writes, "I believe with you that a monthly paper of the right kind would be helpful to the Order at large."

Royal Arcanum Pointers.

"All the roads in the Roman Empire led to the City of Rome." So the fraternal efforts of all live Arcanum members should direct their fellow citizens to this Royal Society.

"The law of habit tends to make us whatever we want to be, enough to express our desires in action." If we therefore wish to be active, efficient members of the R. A. we must begin to do something for it, and by act upon act we shall soon gain the live fraternal character that will make us appreciated by our fellow members.

"Capital and Labor."

"Now, supposing I borrowed \$5 from you; that would represent capital, wouldn't it?"

"Yes."

"But, supposing, after a while, you wanted to get it back?"

"That would represent labor."—[Life.