

Our brethren at Vancouver had not much more than fairly got under way, when one Sabbath afternoon the young, ambitious and whiskey cursed city, in which they had unfurled the Templar banner, was, in one short hour, laid in ashes. But Blessed be God, Good Templary was not burned up. We no sooner heard of their calamity than we issued them a new Charter and sent them a new stock free of charge, which action we ask you to approve—which the brethren thankfully received, and with heroic zeal began again building the walls of their fortress on which again the Temperance banner waves, proclaiming of "things not burned up." And we cannot but think that the "baptism of fire" will have purified and sealed our brethren there to the work of emancipating from their thralldom the slaves of strong drink.

The older lodges are all, in so far as we can learn, endeavouring to do effective work, and generally are increasing their membership, and now our total strength is about 650, an increase of about 239 since the institution of our Grand Lodge.

Among the many matters of interest that will, and must engage our attention this session, we would invite careful consideration of the following:

1. The feasibility of having Bro. Finch, R. W. G. C. T., Bro. Bain or some other notable lecturer in our order, and under our auspices to visit this country and deliver lectures wherever for the interests of the order it may be deemed advisable to send him. And in this connection it would be a wise move to establish a lecture fund, monies to be raised by voluntary contributions, Temperance entertainments, &c., and to be faithfully applied to having lecturers as frequently as possible in the field.

2. It has been suggested and we think would materially affect the order for good, if the lodges were required to pay only half the fixed rates of Per Capita Tax on members under a certain age, say eighteen years, and as a result Lodges would reduce the amount of quarterly dues to be paid by members affected by such legislation. in consequence of which the younger members of families, where the tax would be somewhat of a burden might be secured to us, and we cannot over estimate the advantage to our cause in securing the young, the hope of our country. Hence the adoption of such a measure might work great benefit to us, not only as above, but otherwise.

3. We will need to carefully consider and adopt such By-Laws and Rules of Order as are necessary for the governance and well-being of the Order.

4. Some difficulty occurred in executing the Treasurers bond in No. 7, Salt Spring Island, on account of the ambiguous nature of the text of blank form in use; also on account of the largeness of the minimum amount as required by the Constitution and in which sureties were bound. We granted permission to said lodge to execute the bonds for the quarter ending October 31st for any amount deemed advisable not less than seventy-five dollars (\$75). We ask your approval of this act and also the careful consideration of the whole matter, that no difficulties of this kind may in any way interfere with the good working of the Order.

At the last session of the Right Worthy Grand Lodge changes were made in our Constitution, particularly in reference to the degrees, certain matters connected therewith are left to the Grand Lodges to take action upon. This will therefore require our attention.

Brethren this is a supreme hour in our history; never were we having such successes; never such accessions to our ranks; but, never were the unscrupulous upholders and abettors of regnant evils more determined; never

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