

20th in a body. They also held a special meeting, at which a beautiful new banner was dedicated and a programme appropriate to the occasion rendered.

Bro. John Hartman, F.S., of Court Manhattan, gives the sign of distress. Cause, loss of membership during May. Since January, 1896, this court has reported additions each month, a record of which it may well be proud. Alas! for May. No wonder that the brother's heart is sad.

Court Rose, of Terre Haute, has become *one* of the most, if not the *most*, active courts in the State, and reported a membership of 82 on June 1st. At the last meeting of the High Court, Court Rose was given the next session and promised to be the banner court by February, 1898. It now looks as if the promise would be made good.

Court Miami, of Peru, held its first meeting in its new court room on June 3rd. This court now has one of the neatest halls in the city, and hereafter will have weekly meetings. The members presented 12 applications at the last meeting, and promise as many more during the month. This is Miami's annual boom and it expects to distance all other courts in Indiana.

Bro. H. L. Chadwick, D.S.C.R., who has been soliciting members for the Indiana Courts since the first of the year, returned to his home at Minneapolis, Minn., on a short vacation. During his stay in our State he has added to the membership of courts at Michigan City, Lipton, Frankfort, Marion, Alexandria and Valparaiso. We trust he may soon return to "Hoosierdom" and continue the good work.

Courts White River, No. 1094, and Anderson, No. 3110, accepted an invitation from the G.A.R. to participate in the memorial exercises on May 30th. The two courts united and presented a greater number in line, in proportion to their membership, than any other order. Each court decorated the grave of Bro. Dr. Houston with a beautiful floral emblem of the Order. The H. Sec. was present and was pleased to note the good-fellowship existing between these two courts.

Court Alexandria for three years past held its charter with a membership of 5. The Secretary's report shows a membership of 27 on June 1st, and 16 applications pending. Hereafter regular meetings will be held and many new members may be expected. The court observed the anniversary of the Order by attendance at the Congregational Church. Bro. J. Challin Smith delivered a sermon appropriate to the occasion. This court is to be congratulated on its improved condition.

Court Noble, of Logansport, attended divine service at the First Presbyterian Church (D. D. Putnam, pastor), on Sunday morning, June 20th. In the afternoon the court united with the K. of P. and I.O.O.F. organizations in decorating with flowers the graves of the beloved dead. For several years past Court Noble has selected the Sunday nearest the 17th of June as "Decoration Day." This year it was recognized as a Fraternal Society by the two great Orders mentioned above, and on invitation united with them in Memorial Day exercises. Nothing succeeds like success, and the I.O.F. is being recognized as a great fraternity.

Bro. Hugh Faloona, Court Mount McKay, No. 287, Fort William, wishes to express thanks for the receipt of \$36, 56 days' sick benefit.

## California.

The Golden State maintains a good average for twelve months in the year.

High Chief Ranger McElfresh has been at Santa Rosa arranging for the forthcoming meeting of the High Court; 300 delegates are expected.

For May the applications were 129. For June, which is both the closing and crowning month of the Forestry year, the number will be doubtless higher.

For the month ending June 10th, Bro. G. A. McElfresh delivered 25 public addresses, and secured 124 applications calling for \$197,000 of protection. We would like to hear of a better record.

Court Sebastopol, No. 1148, I.O.F., entertained High Chief Ranger McElfresh recently. The visitor delivered an address, and 11 new members were initiated. The excellent address of the High Chief Ranger was the means of a number joining the Order. The banquet was enjoyed by 125 Foresters and their friends. Among those present were Past High Court Delegates J. G. Dont and H. R. Ekstrom.

Court Seal Rock, San Francisco, tendered a reception to High Chief Ranger McElfresh in its hall on Devisadero Street, recently. There was a large attendance, and a first-class programme was presented. During the evening the High Chief Ranger delivered an address that was so telling that at its close 29 strangers to the Order made application for membership, and were made "Foresters at sight" and attached to the court. Refreshments were served.

Court Watsonville, No. 3352, of Watsonville, tendered High Chief Ranger G. A. McElfresh a grand reception on the occasion of his visit to the court on the 26th May. More than 300 specially invited guests were present. A fine musical programme was rendered by local talent. The High Chief's address was so convincing as to the merits of the Independent Order of Foresters that 22 gentlemen came forward and made applications for membership, after which the members and guests repaired to the Hoffman House, where a sumptuous banquet was enjoyed by all.

G. A. McElfresh, High Chief Ranger of the I.O.F., was tendered a reception by Courts Stanford, Mayfield and Mountain View, at Mayfield, on Monday night, May 24th. The members of the several courts turned out to the number of 150, visited the High Chief Ranger at his hotel, and then formed a procession; and with brass band and fireworks escorted him from the hotel to the hall, where a meeting was held. After an address the High Chief Ranger initiated 10 candidates, and then the Oriental degree was conferred on 10 novitiates and a grand banquet followed. It was stated the affair was the greatest, in a fraternal sense, that was ever seen in Mayfield. It was well planned and well carried out.

The Foresters of San Francisco had a gala day on the 30th May. The games in the afternoon were largely attended, and the different events were keenly contested and watched with great interest. The attendance at night was very large. The Casino, said to have a seating capacity of 10,000, was filled to its utmost limit, being crowded with Independent Foresters and their friends, assembled to witness the entertainment that had