

to day and poverty to-morrow have been witnessed on many occasions.

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It is good to know the law—it is better to obey it. The brother who brings in new members is better than the one who rises to points of order.

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Six months till Supreme Court meets. We want to add at least 23,000 to our membership before then; an average of 4,000 a month will do. Bring in your member at once.

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New York with 224, Ontario Centre with 217, Illinois with 211 and California with 207 accepted applications for February run a close race, and show fine work done. Keep it up. More, improve on it.

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February, 1898, was the best February on record for applications. 3,295 were received, of whom 2,865 were accepted. It looks as if the 150,000 mark would be reached by Supreme Court meeting.

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Bro. Callaghan is on record to the effect that Michigan will pass Quebec in the race for second place among High Courts. There is a difference just now of about 330, and Quebec has a way of holding its own.

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Ontario leads all Provinces, States and Countries, not only in total membership but in monthly gains. For February the accepted applications were 434, just 120 more than the next highest Province, and 210 more than the highest State.

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When you have read your copy of the FORESTER from cover to cover, hand it to your neighbor who is not a member, but who is eligible for membership in our great Order. The Official Organ, Deputies and Inspectors assure us is their best canvassing agent.

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The interest on money is going down, the interest in the court should be going up. If you can only save a dollar or two a month let it be to maintain your membership in the I.O.F. The best asset you can leave your family will be a certificate for a few thousands in our Order.

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Ontario with 12,817, Quebec with 12,540, and Michigan with 12,210 make an interesting group. It is any one's race between now and June 30th. New York with 11,179 is saying but little, but stranger things have happened than that the Empire State should make a dash for first place.

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It is interesting to note that there has been a marked increase in the number of applications for protection among the fraternal societies. This

is a gratifying sign of the times, in that it indicates more healthy business conditions and, at the same time, it bespeaks the degree of favor with which fraternalism is being received by the general public. The system is yet in its infancy. It would require a vivid imagination to portray its future achievements.

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About once a year we hear a brother remark, "I have been paying into the I.O.F. for years. Nothing has come of it; I am still alive and well, and likely to live." We hope so. The members of the Order are great stayers. It is better to live and pay, than to die and have some one paid.

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It looks as if Toronto, where the Order has its headquarters, were going to take the place that belongs to it, and that it ought to occupy. Within the last two months two courts have been instituted, each with a charter membership of over 100. Toronto should have 10,000 Independent Foresters.

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From all quarters we hear of good work being done for the month of March. It is next to June the best month in the year for applications. There is a keen contest going on between New York, Quebec, Michigan and Illinois for first place with accepted applications. March should bring 5,000 additions to our ranks.

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Members from the Select Knights seeking admission into any of our Courts are to be received on the conditions set forth in a circular issued by Bro. B. J. Leubsdroff, Supreme Recorder of the Society. These conditions have been agreed upon by the Executive Council. Courts will please bear this in mind and act accordingly.

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"I am living just as well as ever I did, though I am now paying for a two thousand dollar benefit certificate in the I.O.F. My income is not any larger, but I am more careful in my expenditure than before." So said a brother the other day. He was only voicing the experience of thousands. Our Order has been a great educator in thrift, forethought, economy, etc.

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The time for the Supreme Court meeting is approaching. Six months more and it will be here. The months are made up of days. Every day counts. What are our members doing? How many have put forth an effort to persuade an acquaintance or friend to join? Remember, we want to meet Supreme Court with 150,000. We will do it, but we want your help.

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We are constantly meeting with cases of families from whom the bread-winners have been taken. In their lifetime the circumstances of the families were