

HIGH SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Bro. T. L. Combs, H.S., reported that there had been an increase of one hundred per cent. in the membership of the High Court. They had lost by death three worthy brothers. The High Court started without a dollar, went into debt for its charter, necessary stationery, office fixtures and supplies. By the strictest economy all these items are now fully paid, besides many incidental and minor expenses. Miss Anna M. Saunders has been doing splendid work for us and the Order in our city, and gave us Courts Sioux and Homer, three Courts of Companions of the I.O.F., and has courts almost ready for institution at Kearney and Broken Bow. The work done by the officers of the High Court has been wholly voluntary, and largely at personal sacrifice; not a dollar of remuneration has been paid. As a High Court we are deeply indebted to our worthy H.C.R., Bro. Hall, for the great amount of attention and work he has devoted to his office, busy man that he is. We know what it means to leave one's urgent and remunerative duties to hold meetings, answer correspondence, or make visits, especially when one is liable to criticism for not doing more. And Bro. Hall's work has been well seconded by Bros. Aikin, Henderson, Bomholt and Sullivan.

HIGH TREASURER'S REPORT.

Bro. Chas. Bomholt, H.T., submitted his report and showed a balance of \$40.60 to the credit of the High Court.

A recommendation of the High Auditors was adopted, making it obligatory upon the secretary of each court to send to the H.S. immediately after the last meeting in June and December a statement of the number of members in good standing in the court, to enable the H.S. to determine the membership and the exact amount due from the courts to the High Court.

A resolution was passed unanimously requesting the Supreme Executive to place a representative of the Order and a liberal supply of literature in the Nebraska building at the International Exposition, the High Court furnishing the fixed space and fixtures therefor.

The following officers were elected:—H.C.R., Dr. J. M. Aikin, Omaha; H.V.C.R., Jas. Muir, Omaha; H.S., T. L. Combs, Omaha; H.T., Chas. Bomholt, South Omaha; H.P., C. M. Schindell, South Omaha; H. Coun., E. J. Sullivan, Omaha; P.H.C.R., M. A. Hall, Omaha.

The appointed officers were:—Rev. J. O. Staples, Omaha, H.C.; R. A. Morrison, Omaha, H.J.S.; John Hayny, Jr., South Omaha, H.S.W.; P. A. Summerlad, Lincoln, H.J.W.; R. T. Marshall, South Omaha, H.S.B.; John Shuenaman, South Omaha, H.J.B.; E. J. Chissell, Omaha, H. Mars.; Dr. Wm. Davis, South Omaha, H. Cond.; P. Dasha, South Omaha, H. Mess.

Bro. T. L. Combs was unanimously elected delegate to the Supreme Court, and Dr. J. M. Aikin as alternate.

THE LADIES.

Definite and decisive instructions were given to the delegate to the High Court to vote for and work for the admission of the Companions to the mortuary benefits of the Order.

He was instructed to secure as large a representation as possible of officers and delegates from the Supreme Court to attend the Exposition after the close of the Supreme Court session.

The next meeting of the High Court will be held at South Omaha, in July, 1899, the exact date to be fixed by the H.S.C.

HIGH COURT OF NORTH DAKOTA.

The ninth annual session of the High Court was held at Larimore on July 20th and 21st. H.C.R. Cooper presided. Forty-three of the fifty-four courts in the jurisdiction were represented. The representatives and about one hundred visitors received the High Court degree. The H.C.R. reported an increase in membership of about three hundred. He made some recommendations concerning the advancement of the Order in the jurisdiction, and thanked the officers of the High and Subordinate Courts for their kind assistance during his term of office.

The High Secretary reported the institution of five new courts. There were eleven deaths in the jurisdiction. The amount of endowment carried by the deceased brethren was \$17,000, all promptly paid by the Supreme Court.

The High Treasurer reported cash on hand \$1,652.85.

THE LADIES.

A warm discussion arose over the report of the "Committee on the Advisability of Admitting Ladies into the Order." Bro. Peter Cameron crossed swords with Bro. Dr. Burrows, but the doctor was not in it, and the High Court goes on record as being in favor of the admission of the ladies.

The following officers were elected: H.C.R., C. F. Clark, Dickinson; H.V.C.R., O. L. Ross, Crystal; H. Sec., G. R. Jacobi, Grand Forks; H. Treas., H. E. Payne, Fargo; H. Phy., Dr. Rounsevell, Larimore; H. Coun., C. W. Andrews, Walhalla; H. A., Peter Cameron, Tynner; H. A., J. D. Seny, Hamilton. The following officers were appointed: H. Chap., Rev. H. C. Jephcoat, Valley City; H. S. W., C. E. V. Draper, Mandan; H. J. W., S. E. Yolfson, Gardar; H. S. B., F. McDonald, Milton; H. J. B., C. F. Wilkins, Thompson; H. Mar., A. B. Chernes, Grand Forks; H. Con., G. A. Glenn, Voss; H. Mess., G. W. Ion, Drayton; H. J. Sec., C. W. Breahey, St. Thomas.

Grand Forks was selected for the next place of meeting.

OFFICIAL CIRCULAR NO. I.

GRAND FORKS, N.D., July 25th, 1898.

To all Brethren of the Independent Order of Foresters, of North Dakota, greeting:

BRETHREN.—Your representatives at the last meeting of the High Court called on me to perform the duties of the office of your High Chief Ranger, and to lead you in your forward march campaign to a great Forestric victory. Before we start on this campaign let us look over the field and see what work there is to be accomplished. The northeast part of the state is already ours, and we have several courts along the line of the N. P. Railway, and a few scattering ones elsewhere.

With this large scope in which to operate, and coupled with the prospect of an abundant harvest, our Order should establish many new and prosperous courts this season. The field is large, the prospects are good, and the harvest is sure to be greater than ever before in the history of Forestry in North Dakota—*provided* the reapers do their duty.

Brethren, you are the reapers, and upon your personal work depends mainly the advancement of