

out of their "holiday clothes," have an opportunity of correcting imperfections and rendering valuable assistance. By this means a greater uniformity of work could be obtained than by the present system, and as the additional labor devolving upon the Secretaries and expense to the Lodges would be but trifling, we think Grand Lodge should not fail to adopt this important amendment. Anything that will systematize the method of transacting the regular business of our Lodges, and lead to a better performance of the beautiful ceremonies of our Order, should commend itself to every thinking Mason. This addition to the Constitution gives promise of good results, and, as far as we can see, no serious objection can be raised to it.

Two notices of motion are given, which have for their object the reduction of fees to be paid to Grand Lodge; one, (No. 4), to the effect that no Grand Lodge fees shall be paid for Honorary members; the other, (No. 5), reducing the annual fee of members to Grand Lodge from fifty to twenty-five cents. The first would probably increase the roll of Honorary members in private Lodges: this is not desirable: we should have no Honorary members. Every brother should consider it an *honor* to belong to the Craft; and if at any time a Lodge thinks that it will be a compliment to a brother to make him an Honorary member, it certainly should not shirk the duty of paying his fees to Grand Lodge, for this renders the compliment of a very doubtful character. The reduction of the fee from fifty cents to twenty-five, would cause a serious falling off in the annual receipts of Grand Lodge. It is true that at present the receipts are greater than are required; but are we not to hope that some day, not far distant, the Freemasons of Canada will follow the example of the Brethren in England, and in some of the States of the Union, and establish and support some Charitable Institution worthy of their name, and thus manifest to the world by their deeds the living principles of the Order. This we cannot hope to do if the revenues of Grand Lodge be diminished rather than increased.

The resolution of W. Bro. Cascaden (No. 7.) will no doubt provoke considerable discussion. Much may be said for and against the proposed change. It is inexpedient to make alterations in the Constitution unless it be found actually necessary in the interests of the Craft, and the proposed change is a material one. Let its effect be well considered before any change in the present law be made.

The last notice on the motion paper is another by V. W. Bro. Forbes, who proposes that the expenses of the District Deputy Grand Masters be paid by Grand Lodge—on what principle we cannot see. We certainly think that some provision should be made for paying travelling and other necessary expenses of the District Deputy Grand Masters, but we think these expenses should be paid by each Lodge when visited, or in whose interest he is acting when the expense is incurred. We should be glad to see a clause added to the Constitution to that effect.

Other business of importance, besides routine, will no doubt be brought before Grand Lodge, and the attendance will probably be large, the City of St. Catharines having other attractions besides the meeting of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Canada.

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