

The question naturally presents itself, "What is the cause of this reluctance to take advantage of our plan of life insurance?" It certainly is not lack of confidence in the stability of our Order at large or the Beneficiary Department in particular, nor does it show a low estimation of the general principles of life insurance, for scarcely a member of the S. O. E. B. S. can be found to-day who does not warmly endorse the course of the Grand Lodge in the original action taken by them in the matter, or fails to recognize the great benefits to be derived therefrom; the majority resolve to apply for a certificate at some time in the indefinite future. Meanwhile the grim reaper is surely gathering in his harvest, and in many cases time ends for them before they have a chance to make ready.

Out of the seventeen members who died during the year 1887, only four belonged to the Beneficiary branch—the families of whom will thus be provided for—and it behooves each one to consider whether his loved ones would be reduced to poverty if he were suddenly called away. However, we are pleased to note that policies were taken out by 153 applicants last year, making a total of 515 members insured, although this is certainly a very small proportion of the whole number of the Order. There is no perceptible reason why at least three-fourths should not at once join, the Department being in a very healthy condition and run on a basis of the strictest economy, with no costly establishments to keep up nor highly salaried officers to maintain, while the fees have been placed at so low a figure that a policy is within the reach of the poorest workingman in our ranks.

So far, good work has been done by the Department this year, but we notice that a number of the lodges are without one insured member, and we think it essential that the Beneficiary agent and medical officer of every lodge should at once take the matter in hand and persistently keep it in the minds of those who are favourably disposed to help themselves and the Order at the same time, that no excuse may be found for their negligence by the plea that they know nothing about its workings. In the lodges where such neglect has been exhibited there is something decidedly wrong, but we hope to see them aroused from their lethargy and work with the energy and zeal that has shown such marked results in the gigantic strides of our society in the past two years.

We will give our brethren a gentle reminder that this is the season most opportune, and that it is possible they will have to give to their families a substantial present, one that can be relied upon and one that will be cherished both by the giver and the probable recipient, by taking out a \$1,000 policy in the Beneficiary Department of the Sons of England. Brothers, let us join together and take out 500 policies of \$1,000 each, or an aggregate of \$500,000 during the present quarter.

A REPREHENSIBLE CLAIM.

The man who comes forward in any part of Canada as an aspirant for a public position on the sole ground that he is a French-Canadian, an English-Canadian or an Irish-Canadian, is deserving of no sympathy whatever. We desire to see Canada the home of a great nation, her people as one in their aims, and aspirations. Our country has grand and inexhaustible resources, and if her people only work harmoniously together there can be no doubt as to the future. Let us be Canadians, above everything, dropping the distinctive appellation French, Scotch, English, Irish or German.

Bro. Pritchard, son of Bro. J. J. Pritchard, Secretary of Preston Lodge, met with a serious accident on Saturday, Dec. 22nd, being thrown from a waggon which caused concussion of the spine and brain. He is in the General Hospital in a precarious condition.

OPEN COUNCIL.

A MONTREAL BROTHER'S VIEWS.

To the Editor Anglo-Saxon:

DEAR SIR AND BRO.:—As the time is now near at hand for the assembling of our Grand Lodge it is to be hoped the Lodges will select delegates to transact their business with a thorough knowledge of the workings of the Order, and what is most requisite for its future prosperity. Let us see to it then that we get men of knowledge, not men of favor, to fill these positions. I am of opinion that the office of District Deputy should be held by a member nominated by the delegates from the district over which he is to preside, a real live and active member, who has the furthering of the interests of the Order at heart and who intends to perform the duties laid down for his guidance. By the way, Mr. Editor, I would like if you could explain the duties of a D.D., and if there was one appointed for the Hochelago (Montreal) district at the last session? I believe there was one before that for I think my Lodge saw him once. I have now been in the Order two years, and that was the only time I have had the pleasure of seeing that representative of the Grand Lodge, so that if it is necessary for us to see him but once in two years I think it would be as well to dispense with that official and save the expense.

I have pleasure in endorsing the opinions of Bro. W. E. Wilkinson and Bro. J. W. Kempling as to how far our order ought to extend. I heard a story one time of a certain General being in command of the Garrison of Gibraltar, and making some changes in the direction of the sentry boxes on the neutral ground by which they were advanced a little, when he was questioned by some of the Spanish authorities how far he was going to extend the English territories—replied, if necessary he would extend them as far as the Rock guns would carry. I think we ought to extend our Order not only that far, but to the point wherever there is an Englishman to use his influence, no matter in the United States, or any other States, and be just as true to our Order and as loyal to that glorious Old Flag. We are doing well in Montreal, but you will hear from us after our Quarterly meeting.

J. A. E.

Montreal, December 1888.

A SAINT'S VIEWS.

To the Editor of the Anglo-Saxon:

DEAR SIR:—I was very much pleased with the last issue of the ANGLO-SAXON. The brethren of the Order are beginning to rally around the Editor's desk. That is what we want, good live letters on the points that bring the Order to the front.

I am merely dropping you a line to say that I am heartily in favor of the proposition made by the scribe from 'Chester Lodge' re. District Deputies. I think a District Deputy should have the appointing of his Organizers, and that the Grand Secretary attend solely to official work.

Bro. Kempling of Barrie, winds up his letter in the Dec. issue with the words: "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the Laborers are few. Do you know the reason why? It is because they are paid a miserable pittance for their labor. The idea of giving a good organizer one dollar per day for his work. What our Order requires is to have a set price, say sixty dollars for charter fee; out of that amount let the District Deputy collect ten dollars from the organizer for Lodge supplies and the balance to go the organizer. Other societies pay a higher commission, and why should a grand and loyal Order like ours make our organizers work for one dollar per day. No wonder the Laborers are few.

I believe that the "limits of our Order" should embrace every land where British subjects dwell, and who desires to embrace the advantages and become members of our loyal