

the Beautified work of the Rebekah Degree. It was moved, seconded, and carried, that the offer be accepted and the Lodge informed that the Grand Lodge will be pleased to witness the work in this Hall, to-morrow evening, at 8:30 o'clock.

The Grand Master read his Report, which was, on motion, ordered to be received and handed to a Committee to distribute the same to the various Committees.

*To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.:*

BRETHREN.—It is with mingled feelings of pleasure and honor that I extend to you greetings and welcome you at the Twenty-Fourth Annual Session of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, and to present to you the annual report in connection with the office of Grand Master.

I regret not being able to report an increase in the number of members during the year 1897; but this is not to be wondered at when we consider that during the greater part of that year the Province of British Columbia was, commercially and industrially, in a very depressed state. From information supplied me, I have every reason to believe that the returns to the end of June will show that the loss has been more than recovered.

During my term of office I have made every effort to visit as many Lodges of the Jurisdiction as possible, and am only sorry that, owing to the urgent claims of my new business venture on my time, I could not pay an official visit to each lodge holding allegiance to this Grand Lodge. However, I trust that the members of the Lodges I have been unable to reach will accept my excuse, for I can assure them that it was my earnest desire to become personally acquainted with every Lodge, and, if practicable, every member, in the Jurisdiction.

During my official visits to the Lodges in the Mainland Division of the Jurisdiction, I had the good fortune to be accompanied by Grand Representative Bro. D. Welsh, who very efficiently and carefully exemplified the secret work of the Order, and I am certain he has effected quite a change for the better in many of the Lodges we visited. To secure uniformity in the Floor Work, arrangements should be made for some Brother, duly qualified, to visit all the Lodges in the Jurisdiction, at least once in two years.