

and the brethren were considering the Division. The September record may tell a different tale.

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With daily reminders of the brevity and uncertainty of life, men who have made no provision for their families defer insuring. Hundreds of those who have insurance allow their policies to lapse. The number of suspended members reported each month in the fraternal societies is startling; it is still greater relatively in the old-line companies. In the I.O.F., the number of lapses is less, proportionately, than it was, and lower than in the majority of fraternal societies, but still too high. Insure, and keep insured. No one knows what a day may bring forth.

The High Courts.

The thirty-two High Courts of the Order afford some interesting comparisons. They may be divided into groups of three, according to membership:

FIRST THREE.

Ontario, membership	12,000
Michigan "	10,350
Quebec "	10,342

SECOND THREE.

Central Ontario, membership ..	8,500
Eastern Ontario " ..	8,400
New York " ..	7,703

THIRD THREE.

California, membership	5,550
New Brunswick "	4,743
Ohio "	4,702

FOURTH THREE.

New Jersey, membership	3,001
Minnesota "	2,229
Illinois "	2,146

The other jurisdictions have each less than 2,000 members.

The Supreme Chief Ranger.

On Monday, the 21st September, the "Chief" left for Chicago, where he will confer with the workers in Illinois, and spend a day or two visiting the large office buildings of the city, and getting pointers for the perfect equipment of the *Foresters' Temple*, that will be when finished, not only the tallest but the best appointed office building in Canada. From Chicago he will proceed to California, where he is already announced to address a dozen meetings in important centres, besides attending the meeting of the High Court at San Jose. On his return he is billed for a big meeting in Chicago. He will not be back in Toronto before the end of October. To our suggestion that he "should

combine some rest with business," the Doctor has made answer that "change of work and scene is rest." We hope he may find it so. 100,000 Foresters join in wishing him pleasant journeying, successful meetings, and a safe return home.

Suspensions.

In the August issue of *THE FORESTER*, we had something to say about Suspensions. We pointed out the obvious cure, "prompt payment of assessments" by the members. The *Gilroy Advocate*, California, says that when a brother is suspended, the Order is at fault or the brother is too poor, and that to speak of prompt payments to "the man out of work, or sick, or with some misfortune in his family is transparent mockery." In the article to which our contemporary refers, it was stated "that if a brother is in hard luck, the court will not suffer him to become suspended; if the favor is worth having, it is worth asking." We have never known a case where help, when it was needed and deserved, was refused. The man most interested is the brother who is liable to suspension. The responsibility to pay up and keep in good standing rests on the member and not on the Order. To say that because an Order is fraternal and has the principles of brotherhood writ large into its ritual, should carry the careless and improvident, would be imposing too heavy a burden, and encouraging not a few to violate the spirit of brotherhood. We repeat what we have said more than once, that brotherhood, while bearing the burdens of others, adds none that it can possibly avoid; and the truest brotherhood is the one that teaches and helps each brother to bear his own burden.

The I.O.F. Tent at the Exhibition.

Society row is one of the features of the great annual World's Fair at Toronto. The members of the different fraternal Orders find the Society tent a convenient meeting place. The I.O.F. tent, in charge of Bros. Whale, Parkinson and Gilmour, was patronized more extensively than ever. It is a literal fact that it was visited by thousands, as the visitors' book will testify. The representative of Royalty Lord Aberdeen, Lady Aberdeen, and Ministers and ex-Ministers of the Dominion and Ontario, are among those whose autographs will be carefully preserved.