

The True Knight of British Columbia.

"The true Knight does no Man wrong."

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J. E. EVANS,

Secretary,

Vancouver, B. C.

G. R. MAXWELL,

Editor.

VANCOUVER, MAY, 1900.

OUR SPECIAL NUMBER.

The committee in charge of the "True Knight" have deemed the approaching session of our Grand Lodge a fitting time to put forth a special effort, not only to make our paper more popular than it is, but to stimulate our members throughout our domain. The meeting of our Grand Lodge, the coming together of representatives from our subordinate lodges should be a matter of special interest to all who know what Pythianism is, and for this reason we present as far as possible life-likeness of the men who have been, and who are, our foremost knights. We want to make our members familiar with these men, and have gone to some expense to gratify our ambition. In doing so we feel that we are in a small way recognising meritorious services, and at the same time we hope that others may be constrained to take a deeper interest in the spread of Pythian

principles, so that they also in time may be placed in our gallery of Pythian heroes. The Grand Lodge of British Columbia was instituted in the City of Victoria in May, 1890—exactly ten years ago—with five subordinate lodges, and a membership of between three and four hundred. When the Grand Lodge meets in Rossland during the coming May, we expect to report twenty-three or twenty-four lodges, with a membership of about fifteen hundred. Such is a bare statement of the progress made by Pythianism in our Province, but it fails to give any adequate view of the worthy labors of worthy men, and of the good done in every city, town and place where it has been established. Perhaps some may say our progress has not been made, and in a sense our progress has not been what it should have been, considering the worthy nature of our magnificent knighthood, but in another sense our progress has been such as to make men love and admire the practical nature of our work, and to make our influence felt for good everywhere. Our only desire is that our members were thrice as many, that we might do thrice as much good. Pythians have a good word for all societies like their own. We rejoice with them who do rejoice over men helped and comforted, and weep with those who weep, but knowing as we do the value of Pythianism to the individual, to the home, to the church, and to the community, we could fain hope that our brethren would wake up, and would go forth conquering and to conquer. British Columbia is growing and growing wonderfully. New towns and villages are springing up here and there, and we are not doing our duty to these places unless we give them an opportunity to join our Knighthly band. We hope our Grand Lodge will deal with this problem, how to spread, how to propagate, how to disseminate Pythianism. Whilst we must ever strive to get the best men possible, yet there are hundreds of good men and true who are outside our Castle Halls. We need what may be called a forward movement; we need enthusiasm, and we hope our worthy brethren will create it at their meeting in Rossland by showing the members that they mean to grapple with this problem. Let a committee be appointed in the Grand Lodge to consider every part of British Columbia where a lodge would thrive, and let them make generous recommendations, then let the Grand Lodge create the machinery for successfully carrying out what we desire to see accomplished, viz., to have a Pythian lodge in every place where it is likely to be supported; we must increase or we will decrease.

We all regret that Grand Chancellor Mearns has been unable to do what we expected he would do. The best laid plans of mice and men gang aft a-glee, and the plans of our good broth-