

stance, our boys, who do attend, (and in my opinion constitute the real Pythian), are proud of being Knights of Pythias, and who love it, who preach it, and are not afraid to show their colors, introduced a motion which was unanimously carried, directing the Keeper of Records and Seal to ask the pleasure of the Grand Chancellor for a special dispensation of placing the initiation fee at \$10 instead of \$20, as heretofore, which was thankfully granted us until the 31st of next month. So far, the result has been most gratifying. About a dozen applications were received at the first meeting, which are now in the hands of the Investigating Committee, and the prospects are that all will go through. Many more new names are expected to be brought forward at the next meeting, as many are taking advantage of the reduction while it lasts. It was a great step taken at a great time. Now that we can see ahead, we are in hopes that it will produce the desired effect in gracing Castle Hall with a full attendance each meeting. I would suggest to our sister lodges who are laboring under financial difficulty, or are troubled with the non-attendance problem, to ask like favors, and with a little push and energy they can regain a hold of solid Pythianism.

September 27th last, Esquire Ralph S. Clark reached the Pythian Temple, thereby binding him to our fraternity in bonds of Friendship, Charity and Benevolence, and he now wears the Pythian smile in all its glory. Bro. Clark has since been ushered into the chair of Keeper of Records and Seal, and the way he ejaculates the minutes of previous meetings signifies that he is the right brother in the right place.

We were greeted by a visit from Brother Fred. Kommerr, of Northport, Wash., in which he assisted us in escorting two candidates through the canyon of darkness.

It pains us to pen the burning affliction which has overcome Page J. T. Medhurst, which occurred while visiting Rossland a week ago. Page Medhurst was stricken down on the street by a severe attack of appendicitis which has developed into a critical form, and his life is despaired of. He was initiated one week ago.

Last Thursday evening Trail Lodge gave its second annual ball, and, as usual with Pythians, it was a pronounced success. It proved to be as good financially as it was socially, and by the latest reports all were more than satisfied with the excellent manner in which Brothers Worth,

Lewis and Widmer managed the affair, considering the difficulties they had to contend with. The hall showed unmistakable evidence of their untiring efforts, it being decorated and illuminated as never before. The music, consisting of five pieces, was considered to be the finest that ever strained an ear-drum in this section. Supper was served at Past Chancellor Bro. Petersen's hotel and great credit is due him for the artiseness in which he arranged the evergreens, flowers, tables, Pythian emblems, and most particularly the menu, which was beyond a doubt the most sumptuous repast ever served in Trail.

Brother Wm. H. Chase, who last Fall started for the Klondike country in search of golden treasures, swooped down upon us last week with a complexion as sour as a pickle, and with the exclamation that, "experience is a dear teacher." Sorry to say Bro. Chase neglected to roll in the necessary silver "cartwheels" during his absence, but has promised that he will start them, "rolling down the mountain side from Grand Forks at no distant date.

To the Order in general I would like to say that we are beginning to show our expected prosperity more and more. Friendship reigns supreme at every meeting, and a hearty welcome is extended to all brothers who can to visit us at Castle Hall any Thursday evening, where for the next six or eight weeks degree work will be in vogue every meeting.

For the next issue of "True Knight" I will comment at length on the result of the special dispensation which so far is a decided success, and which I think will tend to stir up those lodges that are practically asleep for lack of attendance.

Yours in F. C. & B.,

THOMAS E. ABBOTT.

Trail, B. C., Nov. 20th, 1898.

:o:

FROM VERNON.

The fourth issue of the "True Knight" was duly received and the several ably written articles read with interest and appreciation, particularly the one from our G. K. of R. & S. I think Brother Pferdner hits the nail on the head when he advises the members to no longer look on the lodges as so many branches of an insurance stock company, and I believe your efforts (the "True Knight") as well as the Committee who has charge of the point meetings at the Coast will

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