

be very careful in their selection. They do not hold many meetings, but the books are well kept and the balance is on the right side.

Palestine Preceptory, Port Hope, had no work, but we had a very pleasant meeting. The members residing in Port Hope are few in number, and as many live at a distance it is difficult to keep up that interest which would be taken if more of the members were residents of the town. The town is a live one, and the Masonic Hall and necessary rooms are commodious and well furnished. There should therefore be a greater interest taken in the Order of the Temple in this locality and an addition to the membership from the town of Port Hope.

Cyrène, Toronto, worked the Consecration part of the K. T. degree in an able manner on the occasion of my visit. R. Em. Frater J. McL. Stevenson accompanied me and we had a very pleasant visit. The books are beautifully kept and this Preceptory is in a healthy condition financially and otherwise.

All the Preceptories in the Toronto District are in a sound financial condition, and the books are well and correctly kept. I am also glad to report that the returns are all in the hands of the R. Em. the Grand Chancellor.

While I cannot speak of a very heavy increase in our membership in this district during the year, still this can easily be accounted for, as the severe financial depression has no doubt prevented many from joining the Order, and the depressed state of Capitular Masonry has also had an injurious effect upon Templarism.

The progress of the Order has also been seriously affected this year on account of the proposed change of ritual. I trust this and the question of uniform will be settled at the ensuing meeting of great Priory for years to come, so that we may no longer be injured by these agitations, and whatever changes be made in either direction let them be on Canadian lines.

The prospects for the future are on the whole brighter in the Toronto District than at any previous time, and there is a general feeling towards an increased interest.

I am of opinion that the present ritual, with a few changes, is much better and more suitable than the proposed new one, and this seems to be the opinion of this district so far as I can gather.