

because The Supreme Court has said "Until the next session of The Supreme Court we want every member of the Order to help in the work of propagating and extending the Order by trying to secure at least one new member during each year, failing which each member of the Order carrying a *five hundred dollar* policy must pay an additional monthly tax of *five-sixths* ($\frac{5}{6}$) of one cent, to be used by The Supreme Court in trying to secure the new member for such a brother." To the member carrying a *one thousand dollar* policy The Supreme Court has in like manner said, "Help in our work by securing each year one new member, or, if you are unable to do this work yourself by reason of being too busy with your own private affairs, then give us an additional tax of *five and five-sixths* ($5\frac{5}{6}$) of a cent per month, so as to enable us to do the work for you." This duty of helping in the work of extending the Order was laid upon each and every member of the Order, either by securing a new member or by giving a small contribution. At the same time the taxation has been readjusted equitably according to the interest which each member may have in the benefits of the Order. For instance, the brother with a \$5,000 policy pays an additional taxation of $25\frac{1}{2}$ cents per month, or six times more than his brother who has only a \$500 policy, instead of as heretofore, each contributing a like amount.

We repeat, Courts and the brethren have the right to protest against this or any other legislation, howsoever essential it may be to the welfare of the Order and just and beneficial to themselves. That is a *liberty* that all free people enjoy, and with which there ought to be no interference. But when a Court publishes its discontent outside of its walls and those of the High Court and The Supreme Court, it strikes at each and every Benefit Certificate held, not only by the brethren of that particular Court, but at the policy of every other Forester in the whole Order, and becomes an act to be deplored. We are glad to know that not many Courts have indulged in this rare pastime of "biting off their own noses to spite their faces."

When, however, a Court is not content with its own discontent, but, in direct violation of the Constitution and Laws of the Order, endeavors, by the issuing of circulars or otherwise, to stir up discontent in other Courts, it ceases to be anything else than a license "to do grievous bodily harm" to the Order, and ought to be stopped forthwith by the Executive Council, by any means placed in their power by our Constitution and Laws.

Such violations of the Constitution and Laws of the Order becomes the more aggravated because the legislation of The Supreme Court cannot be altered nor affected in any way till its next session three years hence. There is, therefore, ample time to bring any imaginary or real grievance in

the Constitutional way before the High Court and take it thence to The Supreme Court itself.

The legislation complained of was adopted, after mature consideration, by as intelligent a body of men as were ever assembled in any meeting of the kind. The revision of the rates was carried with *only 16 non-contents* out of a total of 155 voting members. The "Extension of the Order Tax" was adopted by practically a unanimous vote. The revision of the rates has been commended without stint, not only by the whole fraternal benefit society world, but in all circles interested in fraternal benefit society work, as a measure which is likely to make the I.O.F. one of the strongest and best insuring societies the world over.

As to the other measure of The Supreme Court which has been made the subject of condemnation and attack, we have already been given a practical evidence of the wisdom of the "Extension of the Order Tax" in the magnificent figures presented to us, by the Medical Board, of work done during December just past. It surpasses all previous records, notwithstanding the large cash and other "prizes" that were formerly offered by The Supreme Court and by High Courts for such work, while the only "prize" offered this time was "love for the Order" and the influence of the "Extension of the Order Tax Law."

We have never had any doubt as to the ultimate result of the recent legislation of The Supreme Court, not only with regard to "the readjustment of the rates and of the benefits" of the Order, but also with regard to the "Extension of the Order Tax," viz., the advancement of the Order's best interests and the entire contentment of the membership with the legislation so soon as the brethren properly understand the same and become familiar with its working.

We are glad to be able to say that the discontent is confined, comparatively speaking, to a small section of the Order. Indeed, it might be said with truth that there is practically no discontent with the legislation of The Supreme Court in the whole of the United States nor in Great Britain and Ireland. The brethren seem to be willing to give such legislation a fair trial, at least, before pronouncing judgment thereon, which is the only rational course.

Move Now.

This is the month when officers elect are wont to look forward to the first meeting at which they shall fill their chairs, and utter the swelling phrases of the ritual and "monarchize, be feared and kill with looks." That is as it should be. But it sometimes happens that the installers are content with their installation and go passively