

that has come up here to-night is a token of the cordiality with which we receive you. We were privileged in being able to listen to you yesterday as you preached to us touching the great things which make for the spreading of the principles of our Order—the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. Let us assure you that we feel grateful to you for these two eloquent discourses, and that we join with you in the prayer that God's richest blessing may attend our effort as we labor together for the Order which we so much love. We rejoice with you in the marvellous progress which the I.O.F. is making, as evidenced by the constant and steady increase of the membership and surplus fund; and we note with pleasure the success which is being achieved in the British Isles, especially in the jurisdiction over which you so ably preside. The thousand Foresters of St. John greet you. We bid you welcome, and through you send fraternal greetings to the thousands of brethren across the Atlantic. We hope that you may enjoy your sojourn among the brethren here, and return to your home and friends invigorated in health and stimulated with a livelier zeal in the interests of the Order.

The address was signed by the chief rang-ers of the St. John courts, as follows: E. R. Chapman, La Tour; S. A. Thorne, Loyalist; S. H. Morrell, Frederick; A. G. Fenety, Wygoody; Chas. E. V. Cowan, Lancaster; W. H. Chambers, Intercolonial; Frank Fales, Rockwood; D. G. Lingley, Ouangondy; John R. Dunn, Martello; J. W. Vanwart, Epping Forest; Robert Maxwell, Log Cabin.

In reply, Rev. Mr. McCaughan expressed his thanks, and extended fraternal greeting on behalf of the Foresters of Ireland. He had greatly enjoyed the sessions of the high court of New Brunswick. Forestry had been but three years in Ireland, yet it had more members than New Brunswick had at the end of three years. The constituency in Ireland was small, as the bulk of the people were Roman Catholics, and while there were members of that church in the order in Belfast and Dublin, yet that church was not strongly favorable to such societies; and in other ways the country was behind the rest of the world in the general development of fraternal societies. There was a national prejudice to be overcome. For himself, believing that for the vast majority of men there was no other way so good to make provision for the proverbial rainy day that must come, he had thrown himself heartily into every movement of the beneficial brotherhood class. The Independent Order of Foresters was but one of several with which he was identified. Another difficulty in Ireland was that many young Foresters emigrated. As a result the death rate might be higher, but that was provided for by the members there paying a rate 15 per cent. higher than in this country. But in that dense population recruiting would go on quickly, and from those islands would soon come the larger portion of the profits of the Order. Already the receipts had paid all the heavy cost of introducing the Order, and left a handsome profit, and each year, now that the initial expense was over with, would show a larger increase. He predicted a great development of the Order on the other side. He believed that no other fraternal benefit society on either side of the ocean combined all the benefits derived from Independent Forestry. It was an ideal organization, with a promise of greater welfare to the member in time of need than any other. They had secured the endorsement of promi-

ent men on the other side, and let their record be the answer to all criticism. The system of insurance had three striking features, simplicity, stability and success. The speaker discussed these features in a very clear manner, pointing out that the membership is now nearing 100,000, and the surplus nearing \$2,000,000. In conclusion he expressed the hope that the members here would be inspired to greater efforts, and that in this province and every province in this broad Dominion the Order would take the lead of all others as the premier fraternity. (Applause.)

Following this address there was a short intermission, during which the ladies and gentlemen present were afforded an opportunity to get acquainted with the reverend gentleman and his charming wife.

The meeting being again called to order, Dr. J. W. Daniel sang as a solo The Toilers.

Then followed a recitation, Annie Laurie, by Miss Mary Baillie, delivered with such dramatic power and skill that the young lady was compelled to respond to an encore.

A. W. Macrae, in a brief address, paid a tribute to Judge Wedderburn, whose absence was much regretted, and in eloquent words welcomed the distinguished guest of the evening, as a Forester, as a fellow subject from over the sea, and as an eloquent preacher whose words from the pulpit on Sunday had been heard with so much pleasure. Mr. Macrae also referred to the benefits of membership in the order of Forestry, and observed that if Mr. McCaughan was a type of the kind of young Foresters who emigrated from Ireland, he hoped they would all come to Canada. (Hear, hear.) He could assure the reverend gentleman that if ever he should come this way again he would receive a warm welcome from St. John Foresters. (Cheers.)

H. C. Creed, P.S.V.C.R. and P.H.C.R. of New Brunswick, delivered a neat address, in which he observed that the letters I. O. F. should be interpreted by the guest of the evening and his friends at home as meaning "Ireland Our Field," and if it were permissible to drop the Mac from a man's name, the letters L B C might be interpreted "Led By Caughan." (Laughter.) Mr. Creed referred to his own connection with the order, and its wonderful growth in the last ten years. He expressed great pleasure in the opportunity to meet and listen to the distinguished brother from the Emerald Isle.

Rev. Thomas Marshall President of the Methodist Conference, joined in a word of welcome to the visitor, and declared that on his next voyage across the ocean he would certainly endeavor before returning to kiss the Blarney Stone, that he might be able off-hand on an occasion of this kind to speak in the manner becoming to its requirements. (Laughter.)

The pleasant evening closed with the national anthem.

Yesterday afternoon Rev. Mr. and Mrs. McCaughan were taken for a drive to points of interest around the city.

Rev. Mr. McCaughan and Mrs. McCaughan will leave this morning in the Clifton for