

THE INDEPENDENT FORESTER.

HIGH COURT OF ILLINOIS.

The Second Biennial Session of the Illinois branch of the Supreme Court was held at Washington Hall in this city (Chicago), October 19th. The Courts were well represented, and a very enthusiastic meeting was the result. The meeting was called to order at 9 a. m. by O. E. Stevenson, High Chief Ranger. On report of the Committee on Credentials it was found that most of the delegates were present.

The report of the High Chief Ranger was read and unanimously adopted. The success achieved by the Order in this State during the past two years was commented upon everywhere throughout the hall, and the satisfaction of the delegates of the various Courts was shown when the election of officers took place later in the day.

Bros. A. E. Stevenson, H.C.R.; E. T. Richards, High Sec.; Florence Donohue, High Treas.; William C. Schaefer, High Counsellor, and Bro. L. A. McFadden, High Physician, were re-elected to fill their offices for another term. Bro. Geo. Schaubel was elected to fill the office of Past High Chief Ranger, and Bro. J. K. W. Rudesill, of St. Louis, was elected to fill the office of High Vice-Chief Ranger.

The election was a very pleasant affair, as all seemed anxious to elect men who were not only capable, but men who could and would give time and attention to the work.

Dr. Uronhyatekha, Supreme Chief Ranger, was present at the afternoon session, and the rousing cheers that went up from those assembled as he came in, was the best possible indication of the warm place every Forester in this jurisdiction has in his heart for him.

The Doctor gave a short talk, giving a brief yet concise account of the work the Order is doing, and giving unstinted praise to the workers of Illinois.

The words of wisdom which he uttered were received with great interest by the delegates, and all who had not heard the Doctor before felt that it had been a fortunate circumstance that gave them such a privilege. New energy, new zeal and increased effort will be the result of this visit of the Supreme Chief Ranger.

A great feature of the meeting, and one that all took great pleasure in hearing, was the report of the Committee on State of the Order. Bro. W. R. Gillette, Chairman of the Committee, read the report, and as the progress made by the Order at large, and then the marked increase in Illinois was made known or called to mind, every Forester present felt that he had a right to congratulate himself on the work that had been accomplished in the past two years. Illinois had increased from 4,000 to 7,000 during that period, and each month is adding materially to the number. One feature of the High Court at this time was the presence of twenty-five or thirty ladies, delegates from Companion Courts, they having been admitted to the High Court. Bros. W. W. Wilson, High Sec. of Indiana, and MacDonald, High Chief Ranger of West Michigan, were among the visitors of note. Bro. MacDonald gave a rousing speech, which was very favorably commented on by those present. The business of the session was concluded in one day, and on Friday the Companions, as previously arranged, held their meeting. At this meeting the new initiation team did their first real work. The costumes were very fine, and the work done was highly complimented by men who have been connected with fraternal societies all their lives. Taken altogether, the High Court meeting was a pronounced success.

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