



### Towers Above Them All.

The outline sketch given on this page of part of a mountain range is the happy conception by which a fourteen year old pupil of one of the public schools in Toronto compares the achievements and present position of the Independent Order of Foresters with those of its competitors, whether old line or fraternal. The mountain which towers above all its neighbors, and in its general proportions is much larger and more commanding in appearance than any of them, very aptly represents the Independent Order of Foresters, both as regards the work heretofore done and the position which it now occupies before the world and in relation to other fraternal beneficiary organizations and old line insurance companies, which are represented by the smaller surrounding mountains and hills of varied altitude and bulk. Some recently published figures, embodied in the table printed on the opposite page, and giving the results of old line work during 1897, compare with the results accomplished by the Independent Order of Foresters very much as the several small mountains and hills do with that majestic mass on whose summit are seen the magic letters "I.O.F." The illustration and table combine to form an object lesson that cannot fail to impress those who study them with the vast superiority of the Independent Order of Foresters.

With respect to the table, the two points that will chiefly claim the attention of those who examine it are (1) that the Independent Order of Foresters accepted more insurance during the year 1897 than was written by all the Canadian old line companies combined, and (2) that while the Independent Order of Foresters returned to insurers or their beneficiaries, as "claims paid," \$59.02 of every \$100 received for premiums, the average return of the old line companies was only \$32.47. In other words, for every \$100 of premiums returned by the old line companies to insurers in the form of "claims paid," the Independent Order of Fores-

ters returned \$181.76. There are other points also in which the contrast is equally marked, but these appeal directly to the personal interest of every man insured or about to insure; the first as demonstrating the large and constant infiltration into the Independent Order of Foresters of "new blood," which has become so important a factor in the economics of life insurance, and the second as illustrating the larger proportion of the money received from insurers for carrying their risks which the Independent Order of Foresters returns in the form of benefits to them or their beneficiaries, as compared with the returns made by the old line companies.

### Supreme Court Meeting on Aug. 25th

The membership will note with satisfaction that the date for the meeting of the Supreme Court has been fixed. The meeting will be an important one. It will be the first meeting in the magnificent Temple building, the home of the Order; it will also be the first meeting in Toronto in nine years. The thirty-four High Court jurisdictions will all, doubtless, be represented. The Supreme Court will meet under most gratifying circumstances. The membership will be greater and the surplus larger than the most sanguine hoped three years ago. That the surplus will be \$3,000,000 is now assured, and nothing is needed to make the membership 150,000 but a united effort on the part of the brethren in the Order. There is a healthy rivalry among the High Courts for first place in bringing in new members, and we confidently expect that by the 1st of September the membership will reach **150,000**. An important function in connection with the Supreme Court meeting will be the formal dedication of the temple to Forestry purposes on Tuesday, the 30th August. Arrangements are already in progress for running excursions from points in the United States and Canada. Toronto will doubtless witness the largest gathering of members of the Order ever brought together in one place.