

B. C. GOOD TEMPLAR.

"FOR GOD AND HOME AND EVERY LAND."

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THE B. C. GOOD TEMPLAR.

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

The Official Organ of Good Templars in British Columbia.

Edited by C. S. KEITH, T. C. WHITE and W. W. FORRESTER, under special instructions from the Grand Lodge.

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Correspondents and reporters should, in order to secure notice, pass in their communications before the 5th of each month.

Brothers M. Bryson, F. B. Stinchcombe and A. E. Mann have been appointed to look after the interests of this paper in New Westminster, and are authorized to receive subscriptions and arrange advertisements.

A red mark around this article indicates that your subscription is due. You are earnestly solicited to renew.

PICNICS AND EXCURSIONS.

The summer holidays which for a long time have been considered a luxury, are now recognized as necessary to the proper development of the physical, mental and moral nature of mankind.

On the Atlantic coast the now almost universal practice of summer recreation has led to the opening up of new resorts, and instead of going to the fashionable hotels of Long Branch and Old Orchard Beach and flitting away the time, the more thoughtful persons go to Chautauqua, and similar centres of learning. Good Templars, likewise recognizing the benefit of such summer outings, have Lakeside, Ohio, and Phantom Lake, and other places in Canada and the United States, at any of which they can spend not only a pleasant and profitable vacation, but can at the same time learn something of practical value about their own order.

Phantom Lake is, to all intents and purposes, a school of instruction, the day being varied by lectures, papers, aquatic sports, and rambles through

the beautiful surrounding country. Has the time not come when British Columbia should come to the front and do something in this direction? We think so.

With the unsurpassed opportunities afforded by Nature in this province, there should not be much difficulty in starting a resort or camping ground. Grand sites could be secured on the Gulf of Georgia on Pitt Lake, and numerous other places. If a site or two were selected now, they could in all probability be secured from the Government free of cost, and if a joint-stock company were started to run the resort, and composed only of Good Templars, it ought to be made to pay a fair dividend. Let some of our leaders look into the matter. There is nothing to prevent a camping ground being prepared in time for the hot weather next summer. Good Templars, let us hear what you think of it.

If the camping ground was arranged so that persons attending could stay one, two or more days, and good programmes arranged and expenses made light, it ought to be a success. The warm weather is here; now is the time to decide.

FLOODS.

A large number of our members throughout the valley of the Fraser river and tributaries have suffered from the floods. Some of them have lost nearly all they had, and unless the water speedily lowers, will be in destitute circumstances.

It has been estimated that the loss in the Fraser valley alone will exceed \$150,000, not counting the damage to the C. P. R. tracks and bridges, which is estimated at nearly \$3,000,000. Subscriptions and Relief Committees have been started in all the large cities in the Province, and the Dominion and Provincial Governments have been asked for aid.

It has been suggested, and we think quite in order, that the members of Lodges, who have not suffered by loss, should contribute to the Grand Lodge the tax due from such Lodges as say Hatzic, Matsqui, Maple Leaf, Coqualeetza, No Retreat, and such others as are in the flooded districts; by so doing, these Lodges will be greatly relieved and assisted, and the Grand Lodge, which needs the money, will be maintained.

SOUVENIR NUMBER.

Owing to the prevailing stringency in money matters, the management of this journal deem it advisable not to expend as much money as was intended in making the *Souvenir Number* an extra-large and attractive issue. The issue will be made as attractive as possible without entailing extra and what might be considered unnecessary expense. Some extra-good articles are being prepared (if our brethren do not forget about them). All arrangements have been made for the regalia, and Bro. Tuttle, whose advertisement appears on the last page of this issue, promises to give us something extra good. Unless, however, a larger vote is made, we cannot be expected to give a second prize.

OFFICIAL VISIT.

The Grand Chief Templar will make the following official visits this month: Dominion Lodge No. 4, New Westminster, June 20; Pride of Ridge Lodge, Victoria, June 25; Perseverance Lodge, Victoria, June 26; Victoria West Lodge, Victoria, June 27. Lodges interested are required to take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

We wish to call the attention of the Executive of District No. 3, that but a short time remains in which to make arrangements for the next District Session.