

Scott, who spoke very enthusiastically of the future prospects of our Pythian paper.

The attention of the Lodge was called to the wife of a deceased brother of the Order, who had met with a painful accident, depriving her from following her avocation, which she depended on for her subsistence.

Supreme Representative, Brother H. J. Anstie, of Rathbone Lodge, was very much missed in the Castle Hall.

On Friday evening, August 19th, at the meeting of Rathbone Lodge, No. 7, Grand Vice-Chancellor, W. D. Mearns, gave an able address on the principle of Pythianism, which was well received. Several visiting brothers also made eloquent speeches, complimenting the Grand Vice-Chancellor on his address.

No. 7 boasts of having the only canine attendant at lodge in the city.

"Shot" our special favorite.

The following is a list of Rathbone's officers for the present term:

C. C., J. A. Mitchell; V. C., M. J. Conroy; P., G. R. Maxwell; M. of W., J. H. Grady; K. of R. and S., W. D. Mearns; M. of E., H. J. Anstie; M. of F., Robt. Brooke; M. at A., R. H. Allan; I. G., Benjamin Simon; O. G., David Waite.

ARTHUR T. CROOK,

Correspondent of Rathbone, No. 7.

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GRAND LODGE SESSIONS.

At the last annual session of the Grand Lodge held at Kamloops, May, 1898, invitations were extended to the Grand Lodge by Rossland Lodge, No. 21, of Rossland, and Far West, No. 1, and Victoria, No. 17, Lodges of Victoria to hold the next annual session at their respective cities.

The invitation from Rossland set forth the advantages that would accrue to the Order should the Grand Lodge elect to hold its next sessions at their City. Unfortunately, the question of the financial ability of the Grand Lodge to meet the expenses of a session at Rossland came up and after some discussion it was referred to a special committee to report upon. After careful consideration, the Committee reported that there would not be funds enough available to bear the expenses of a session of the Grand Lodge at Rossland, therefore the invitation was respectfully declined, and the City of Victoria decided upon to hold the next session of the Grand Lodge.

The special Committee is to be commended for its report, and the action of the Grand Lodge in selecting Victoria to hold its next annual session is in keeping with the avowed purpose of its members to keep the expenditures within limit of its revenue.

As a member of the Grand Lodge, I have felt convinced that this question should be fully understood by every member of the Order, and, that after the lodges have fully informed themselves as to the conditions of affairs, that a repetition is not likely to occur again. The Grand Lodge should have at all times sufficient funds on hand to meet the expenses of a session if the interests of the Order require it—at Rossland, Vernon, Kamloops, Nelson, or any other point in the upper country, as well as at Vancouver, Victoria or New Westminster. If the per capita tax of \$1 is not sufficient, then it should be increased to such an

amount as will give ample funds to meet all demands for a session to be held in any part of this Grand Domain.

This is a matter that should be taken up by the different lodges in this Grand Domain, and considered carefully and conscientiously for the good of the Order. The representatives should be instructed to vote an increase of the per capita, so that the Grand Lodge may not be placed in the position to reject for the lack of funds, an invitation from any lodge to hold its next session, if the good of the Order demands it.

The lodges in the extreme east of the Domain are as justly entitled to have a session of the Grand Lodge as the lodges in the extreme west.

I hope the correspondents of the different lodges throughout the Domain will take this matter up in their lodges and give us through the columns of this journal the decisions arrived at. I am confident that when this matter is brought before the brothers in this Domain, that there will be but few dissenting voices. While I am not in favor at any time of the unnecessary expenditure of the funds of the Grand Lodge or an oppressive tax on the subordinate lodges, yet it seems to me if we take pride in our Order and wish to build it up to the position it belongs in British Columbia, we will not let the question of an extra 50 cents on each member deter us from that purpose.

At the last session of the Grand Lodge, the members voted to accept \$2 per diem. This disposition on the part of the members to accept that amount, was commendable, and while it barely paid living expenses, it gave no compensation to many members who could ill-afford to give their time gratuitously.

It is true that to many of the members this was no hardship, but that is no reason why any should be compelled to attend a session of the Grand Lodge at a loss to themselves.

PAST CHANCELLOR.

:o:

The lodge attendance has greatly increased since the publication of the "True Knight." Go it "True Knight."

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