

FROM KAMLOOPS.

To the Editor of the "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother,—We have been treated to a series of pleasing and exciting events lately, not only in connection with our lodge, but our town is beginning to shake off its long spell of inactivity, and we are awaking to the prospects of a good and prosperous Summer. Our mining interests on Coal Hill are beginning to command the practical attention of capitalists and mining investors. The Kimberley group of six claims has been bonded for \$48,000; \$8,000 of that amount has already been paid down. It is the intention of the purchasers (who by the way are Standard Oil magnates of Cleveland, Ohio) to put a force of fifty men to work in the near future. Another important deal was the Lucky Strike property, on which, I am informed a \$25,000 cash payment was made. The veldt and surrounding kopjes have not looked greener or in better grazing condition for years. The Kamloops saw mill (John Shields, Manager), has started on its Summer's run of about 40,000 feet per day, so taking all in all we expect big things in Kamloops this season. And now, Mr. Editor, just a few lines on lodge matters. Of course there was a general time of rejoicing and congratulations were quite in order when we learned of the honors bestowed on Primrose by the election of our worthy C. C., J. L. Brown, to the position of Grand Chancellor Commander. Lodge Representative, Bro. George Mallory, reports having a good time, and that the Rossland boys are O. K.

One of our popular tonsorial artists, Bro. Charles Hulse of Crusader Lodge, Vancouver, drops in occasionally to see us. Charley generally packs around a little bit of sunshine wherever he goes. We are always pleased to have Bro. Hulse and his mellowing smiles with us at all times. Your correspondent is also in receipt of a gentle rumor that is being wafted by the Summer breezes to the effect that another of our up-to-date tonsorial artists is about to take unto himself a wee wife very soon, at least he is a strong advocate of International law. Primrose's pen-pusher has been on the sick list this month, having foolishly attempted to break up the Shields saw-mill by inserting part of his left navigator into the cog-wheels of part of the machinery, which resulted in the pusher pushing along a pair of crutches as a mode of navigation for some weeks.

Yours Fraternally,

JOE. MCGEE, L. C.

Kamloops, B. C., May 16th, 1900.

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FROM SANDON.

To the Editor of the "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Bro.,—I deeply regret to inform you that the thriving mining camp of Sandon is all but wiped out, and there is only a pile of ashes left of the once beautiful city.

About 12:40 p. m., 3rd of May, a fire broke out and spread rapidly to the four points of the compass. So far only one body was found in the ruins of the Clifton Hotel. The head of

the unfortunate man was burned completely off, his arms, and also his legs from the knees down, leaving only his breast and abdomen, which were buried by the city. Quite a few of the brothers of No. 24 Sandon Lodge sustained heavy losses. Amongst the principal sufferers are the following, viz:—

Chancellor Commander G. M. Spencer lost everything, Opera House, furniture, etc., also his Captain's Uniform Rank sword, amounting in all to about \$2,500; no insurance.

Bro. T. McMartin, barber shop, building, etc., value about \$1,800; no insurance.

Bro. Rev. Sanford, everything; value about \$1,000.

Bro. M. L. Grimmer, law books, etc., about \$800.

Bro. G. W. Grimmer, jewellery store, etc., about \$800.

Bro. R. Broddy, candy store, about \$600.

Bro. R. Cunnings, Sandon Hotel, furniture, etc., about \$3,000.

Bro. M. Krackenberg, tobacco factory, about \$750.

Bro. Fallows, office books, etc., about \$1,000.

The Castle Hall, though not destroyed by fire, was pretty badly upset and the paraphernalia, etc., shattered by explosions from buildings, that were blown up to stop the fire-fiend going further towards Cody.

It was a pitiful sight to see women and children sitting on trunks all night, waiting for some good Samaritan to give them a place to lay their heads.

Too much credit cannot be given to the benevolent citizens of Kaslo and New Denver for the generous supply of blankets, food, money, etc., that was shipped in for the relief of the unfortunate people. The few fortunate people of Sandon who did not lose their homes gave shelter to any one whom they saw on the streets, some kind neighbors sheltering 12 to 15 people.

The Relief Committee was kept busy for four days giving out food and clothing, and has two large tents, used as boarding houses, for the sufferers.

This year so far has been a very unfortunate one for Sandon—snow-slides, land-slides and fire. I trust we will not meet with any more disasters.

Only one man so far has been hurt, a colored man (Black Joe) who worked hard in trying to extinguish the flames. He was struck by an explosion from one of the buildings and received a broken leg; he is being well cared for at the Sloane Hospital, New Denver, B. C.

Yours in F. C. and B.,

LARRY O'NEILL.

Nelson Lodge, No. 25.

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THOS. SHARP, MANAGER.

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