

ments of the work, and that the handsome surplus, with the addition of the appropriations to be made for organizing work for the coming year, will go far, I trust, in bringing still greater additions to our membership.

8. The following shows the number of applications received, accepted, and rejected during the High Court year ending June 30, 1900:

Month.	Received.	Acc.	Rej
July.....	55	44	11
August.....	89	81	8
September.....	100	90	10
October.....	111	101	10
November.....	305	275	28
December.....	298	268	30
January.....	122	112	10
February.....	90	72	18
March.....	67	53	14
April.....	106	93	13
May.....	185	157	28
June.....	352	300	52
	1,378	1,646	232

9. The above figures speak for themselves, and show the substantial increase before referred to, and it is pleasing to know that the High Court of Central Ontario is now beginning to contribute its proper quota to the whole membership of the Order, as during the year we have stood as high as third in all the jurisdictions of the world, and during six months led the Ontarios, and the other six months took second place.

GEORGE L. WILSON,
High Chief Ranger.

AFTERNOON.

AT M'LAUCHLIN PARK.

In the afternoon the Order formed in procession at the Market square, and, marching down to the dock, boarded a little fleet of four steamers engaged for the purpose, and were conveyed to McLauchlin Park, four miles from the town, where the afternoon was spent. Over 3,000 people were present on the grounds, and addresses were delivered by Dr. Oronhyatekha, Hon. Dr. Montague, Rev. A. MacGillivray, of Toronto, High Chief Ranger Wilson, and Hon. E. J. Stevenson, of Detroit. H.C.R. Wilson was the first speaker and was welcomed with loud applause. He voiced again his gratitude to the people of Owen Sound for the welcome given the High Court. He dwelt briefly upon the great progress recently made, and modestly withdrew to make way for other speakers.

DR. MONTAGUE'S ADDRESS.

Hon. Dr. Montague was the next speaker. He was introduced by the chairman as a "baby Forester," though renowned throughout Canada as one of its most eloquent speakers. As he rose to address the audience he was loudly applauded. He congratulated the Central Ontario district upon the successful High Court meeting which was now being held in the splendid town of Owen Sound. The greeting of the town, kindly and enthusiastic as it had been, showed how popular Independent Forestry was in the community. He was somewhat at a disadvantage in following upon the platform the Supreme Chief of the Order, whom they had come, he was sure, principally to hear—the builder and successful guide of the organization. After some humorous allusions, which were received with great laughter, Dr. Montague said that anyone who saw the body gathered in Owen

Sound at the present time would be struck, first, with the good-fellowship existing in the Independent Order of Foresters. The social element in such societies was a most important one. As a result of it they ought to be better neighbours, friends, and citizens. (Cheers.) Secondly, he would be impressed with the class of men who were the representatives of the Subordinate Courts. A large number of the representatives were members of the learned profession, prominent business men, or leading agriculturists—in fact, among the most successful and trusted citizens who could be gathered together. (Cheers.) He was glad to say that a large number of the members of Parliament were also members of the Independent Order of Foresters, among them the honoured leader of the Government, and Sir Charles Tupper, the distinguished head of the Conservative party. (Loud cheers.) "I have, sir," said the speaker, "twice visited Owen Sound; the first time I accompanied that great Canadian, Sir John Thompson, who by his patriotism and ability climbed to the highest place in the gift of Canadians. (Cheers.) I am glad to be here to-day with a gentleman—Dr. Oronhyatekha—who has by his genius, worth and energy reached the highest position occupied by any Canadian in the field of fraternal insurance. (Applause.) You all remember doubtless the statement of Wolfe, when upon the St. Lawrence upon his way to Quebec he was handed a copy of Gray's great poem, 'An Elegy in a Country Churchyard.' He said: 'I would rather be the author of that poem than take Quebec to-morrow.'"

A RECORD TO BE PROUD OF.

"Sir, look at the work your Order has done. Your Order has paid thus far to the widows and fatherless, the enormous sum of nearly ten million dollars. (Loud cheers.) Looking at such a record, the Chief of the Order might well say that he was proud of it, and that he would rather have borne a principal part in such a work than to have received public honours." (Cheers.) Only the other day the speaker said he had met a lady, who, when the subject of fraternal insurance was talked of said that her family had been saved to her by the Foresters; her sons had, by means of their help, been placed in professions, and she would ever be grateful for the existence of such an institution. That was a sample only of the work which fraternal societies every day were doing for the home and for mankind. (Cheers.) The history of the Foresters was one which told of hard work and great achievements.

"See the work as told by the figures. I notice, sir, from the statistics that in 1881 you had 880 members, in 1900 you have 170,000. In 1881 you carried \$1,140,000 of insurance; to-day you carry \$194,792,500. In 1881 you had as a reserve fund \$4,568; in 1900 you have the sum of \$4,125,000. (Loud cheers.) That was a record of which any institution should be proud. It was a record of which Canadians should be proud. There was no doubt that much of that success had been due to the great head of the Order. (Cheers.) In its poor days he had been generous, refusing to accept emoluments. His great genius had always been at their disposal, and his upright course—and if the speaker read aright the history of the organization, it was founded in a determination to do rightly and generously by those depending upon it—had always maintained its high character. (Cheers.) Altogether, the Supreme Chief Ranger