

For May the applications for Great Britain and Ireland exceeded any former month. The number was 162. Indications point to a marked increase on this figure for June.

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With this month the Order completes the 24th year of its history. Every year has shown a marked improvement on the year preceding. The one just closed has in every particular been the most prosperous in the history of the Order.

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What about promises to increase the membership? The Forestric year will close in a couple of weeks. There is still time to secure that long promised new member. There is certainly time and opportunity to *try* and secure one. Improve it.

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Every court in the Order should have a Thank-giving service, if not on June 19th, then on some other Sunday that would be more convenient for the brethren. Members have much for which to be thankful. The year closing is the best in our history.

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The press of the United States is commenting very favorably on the liberal way in which the I.O.F. treats members of the Order who, in the present war with Spain, respond to their country's call. The Order has done its duty in a generous, statesmanlike way.

The Late Bro. R. J. Dodds, High Treasurer, Washington.

By the sudden death from heart failure of Bro. Alderman R. J. Dodds, of Seattle, the High Court of Washington loses its High Treasurer, and one of the most active members of its High Standing Committee, his Subordinate Court an officer that always took pleasure in attending the meetings, the Order at large a zealous and enthusiastic member that always placed the I.O.F. in the front rank of all kindred organizations, and the city of Seattle one of its public-spirited and enterprising representative men. The sad event took place on Sunday, May 22nd. The funeral was taken charge of by the Foresters, and was under the direction of Bro. J. A. Forsyth, H.C.R., who deeply deplores the death of his active colleague. The funeral ceremonies were very impressive, and called forth many expressions of approval. The writer had the pleasure of meeting the late Bro. Dodds at the High Court meeting, at which he was elected to the position that he held at the time of his death. Of his kindness and courtesy he has very pleasant recollections. A short time ago we congratulated the brother on his election to the City Council of Seattle—to-day we mourn his loss. Such are the uncertainties of life. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Dodds in her great sorrow.

Welcome Home to the Chief.

The courts of the city and suburbs have completed arrangements to give the Supreme Chief Ranger a rousing "Welcome Home," on the evening of June 16th. A reception will be tendered him in the Assembly Hall, Temple building. Temple Encampment Royal Foresters will escort him to the building, and Bro. Rev. W. J. McCaughan, P.H.C.R. of Ireland, will, on behalf of the courts participating, deliver the address of welcome. Addresses will be delivered by a number of leading Foresters, and prominent public men who are members of the Order. The Assembly Hall will doubtless be taxed to its utmost capacity by the many friends of the Chief, desirous of joining in bidding him welcome back to Toronto. It will be gratifying to Dr. Oronhyatekha's hosts of friends, both within and without the Order, to be assured that his health is completely restored, and that his capacity for work is as great and his zest for it as keen as ever.

High Court Meetings in the Old Land.

With the 4th of June, the Supreme Chief Ranger completed a most interesting and satisfactory tour of the High Courts of Great Britain and Ireland. On the above date he instituted the High Court of the South of Ireland, which makes the *thirty-fourth* High Court of the Order. The Chief had the privilege of meeting the High Courts in session. In a letter to head office he expresses himself as delighted with what he saw, heard and learned. From the day the Order was introduced into the British Isles the personnel of those that identified themselves with it was of a high character; time, instead of witnessing any deterioration in this respect, has only wrought improvement—finer bodies of men it would be difficult to find than the Delegates to the High Courts of London, Mid-England, Centre England, Southern England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Southern Ireland. Not less gratifying to the Chief than the physical and intellectual character of the representatives that he met was the spirit of confidence in the Order that all manifested. If any misgivings as to its complete success among the conservative people of the home country at one time prevailed, these have given place to a sentiment that is not only one of absolute satisfaction with the principles of the Order, and its ability and willingness to carry out all its promises and obligations, but also one of enthusiasm for its more rapid extension. The Doctor is confident that in the immediate future the applications for membership will be largely in excess each month of what they have been in the past.