

The man we are after is not a member of this Order, and therefore not sure to see what we want to say to him. Will the brother who reads this take it and read it to the man we are after? That is the man with no insurance, but with a wife and children, or perhaps aged parents, dependent on him. His income is limited, his accumulations are *nil*. His only asset is his health and his ability and willingness to earn a sufficiency for the needs of himself and his loved ones. Should health fail or life cease, the means of support would be at an end. The thought should make him uncomfortable. We say to him "Insure, have connection with an Order that gives sick and disability benefit. The Order for you is the I.O.F., sign an application and get in with the least possible delay."

The "Forester" in French.

The Supreme Chief Ranger hopes to be able to issue the first number of the FORESTER in French with the January number. The long absence from the Head Office, due to the fact that the S.C.R. has, since his return from Great Britain, attended no less than nine High Court meetings, including the North-west Territories and California, has made it impossible to complete the necessary arrangements for the issue of a creditable first number much earlier than the date named.

The "Forester."

We owe an apology to our brethren in the United Kingdom for the omission from last FORESTER of the British Budget sent us by Bro. J. Marshall, and we promise that such an omission shall not occur again. It has been arranged to "make up" the FORESTER on the 24th day of each month, and go, forthwith, to press, so that all jurisdictions will have the official organ in their hands within the first ten days of each month. All matter for our pages should be in Toronto not later than the 20th of each month.

Brethren everywhere are respectfully requested to promptly report any irregularities in the delivering of the FORESTER to the Supreme Chief Ranger; also, if the magazine should be delivered later than the 10th of each month. High officers, especially High Chief Rangers and High Secretaries, and all officers and members of Subordinate Courts and Courts of Companions, are requested to send items of interest to the Supreme Chief Ranger for the columns of the FORESTER. Make all letters brief and to the point. We are going to try to make THE INDEPENDENT FORESTER more interesting than it ever has been. Please help us to accomplish this end by sending us news of the Order from your section.

"A Brother is Born for Adversity."

For the first time in the history of the I.O.F. misfortune through fire has overtaken a considerable number of our members. Four of our courts were located in districts that have been swept by the devouring element. In the Ottawa region of Eastern Ontario three courts have lost all their furniture, books, and so on, and the majority of the members their homes, and everything that they possessed. In the town of Windsor, N.S., that has been completely wiped out and 500 families left homeless, there was a court of 45 members; these and their families are sharers of the terrible calamity that fell upon their fair town. The duty of the whole membership in the face of so urgent a need is evident. Foresters everywhere will, we are sure, come to the assistance of their comrades that have been overtaken by adversity. Doubtless the High Chief Rangers of the jurisdictions within which the brethren who have suffered loss reside will take the initiative in the matter, and send out the formal appeal for help. We bespeak for it a sympathetic reception, and a prompt and liberal response. The need is great and urgent. He who gives quickly gives twice. Benevolence is one of our watch-words. Now is one of the times to give it effect. The Order will be equal to the occasion.

National Fraternal Congress.

The National Fraternal Congress held its eleventh annual session in Port Huron, Michigan, from October 5 to 8, 1897.

The question of increasing the rates in some of the Orders came in for a good deal of discussion, also the wisdom of creating in every benevolent society giving mortuary benefits a surplus fund. The plan of the I.O.F. meets in almost every particular the most practical suggestions that were made at the Congress.

A fraternal press association was formed among the editors and publishers of fraternal papers, with a view to greater efficiency.

The election resulted in the choice of James E. Shepard, of St. Lawrence, Mass., for president; D. E. Stevens, of Philadelphia, Pa., for Vice-President; and M. W. Sackett, of Meadville, Pa., for Secretary-Treasurer. Baltimore, Maryland, was selected as the place of meeting in 1898.

The following extracts from the report of the Committee on Statistics will furnish food for thought and reasons for congratulations to all Fraternal Society men:

PORT HURON, MICH., Oct. 5th, 1897.

TO THE NATIONAL FRATERNAL CONGRESS:

Your Committee on Statistics and Good of the Order submit the following report: . . .

In the year 1895 there were 41 Orders represented in the Congress, only one of which made no re-