

that \$75.25 has been received while \$70.00 has been paid out in grants to certain of these offices in order to enable them to send their delegate to Convention. Do you commend or condemn such action on the part of our officers? If you commend such methods, then you cannot support a 25c proposition.

This Association of ours is fast-passing out of its childhood days and as year succeeds year so will it improve. Why wait for years to pass before introducing improvements which are apparent to-day? It is generally conceded that a movable Convention is by far the best, but as to the advisability of an annual Convention doubts have been expressed. In any case, whether the Convention be annual, bi-annual, or called by majority vote, there is no doubt that when such Convention be held *every* branch should be directly represented.

Voting by proxy has never proved satisfactory. A proxy vote is inanimate and should it be cast with the opposition it does not count at its true worth, whereas if a delegate were present to place the views of his branch lucidly before the Convention it might happen that instead of it being cast with the minority it would be with the majority. Remember, there are many sides to most questions and the proxy vote might be representing one of the sides you failed to see. Two heads are always better than one. Leaving out the expense of sending a delegate or delegates to a Convention the yearly expenses of any branch is very small. Many of our branches have monthly due of 25c, collected each month on the card system, and where this figure has been fixed it has always been found successful for it is far easier to collect 25c every second pay day than it is to collect 50c or 75c every six months. The boys get used to it and hand over their "two bits" cheerfully. The branch therefore collects \$3.00 per annum from each member and if the per capita were reduced to 25c the revenue of the branch

from each member would be \$2.75. Even with the per capita at the present figure a large branch can pay their tax, send their delegates to Convention, and still have a balance in hand at the end of the year. You can therefore see how easy it is for the large offices to help the small offices.

This question of per capita/tax will be a very live topic at the next Convention and it behooves every member, or intended member, to consider the matter very carefully, so that when the Convention is held we may be able to get a truly representative vote on this question. My ideal is for a scheme to be worked out whereby the Association will be able to pay railway and sleeper fares to every delegate in attendance at all Conventions and at the same time to always carry a balance of about \$500.00. An initiation fee of \$1.00 would help out the balance very considerably. It is not by any means impossible, and some day you will see it come to pass. To the member working in the large office I would say "How would you look on this question if you were employed in a small office"? True, you might be just as eager to be a member, but when Convention time came around would you not like to see your small branch represented? There is no doubt but that you would, but when it comes to digging down in your pocket for about \$5.00, or perhaps more, in order to send a delegate, then the question becomes extremely personal.

I would suggest that this question be settled by a vote of our total membership. If left entirely to the delegates assembled in Convention the delegate from a small branch of, say, fifteen members would equalize the vote of a delegate representing fifty members. Let each branch take a vote of its entire membership and submit the result to Convention. The vote could be taken under two headings: "Do you favor the lowest possible minimum," or "What amount do you consider reasonable." By this means