

12. QUE.—“Is the chairman of Committee entitled to vote as a member as well as give a casting vote as chairman?”

ANS.—Yes. In all cases where his vote would affect the result, or when the vote is by ballot, it is his privilege.

13. QUE.—“Has a D. D. G. C. a right to look over the books of the Lodge at any time to satisfy himself as to a brother's standing?”

ANS.—Yes.

14. QUE.—“Has a D. D. G. C. the authority to give a decision verbally to the Lodge?”

ANS.—No. (See Art. v., sec. 12, G. L. Constitution.) All communications from Lodges to him and his answers should be made in writing.

In answer to a request from Myrtle Lodge No. 2, of London, for another year's extension of the dispensation granted them by my predecessor to confer the three ranks on candidates for \$6, I replied as follows:

“I feel that in justice to your membership and the Order at large, I must respectfully decline my official sanction to such extension. Under your by-laws, as stated in your communication, you guarantee to your members \$3 per week sick benefits; \$40 funeral benefits, and \$40 annually to the widow of a deceased brother, whilst the annual dues paid by members amount to only \$6 per annum. In undertaking the noble mission for which our beloved Order was instituted, viz., to visit and care for the sick, to bury the dead, to care for the widow and educate the orphan, we, as Knights of Pythias, are assuming grave responsibilities, and must, in justice to those dear ones whose future is in our keeping, conduct the business of our Lodges on business principles, and make provision for the possibilities and inevitable responsibilities of the future. From the Financial and Numerical Reports from your Lodge to Grand Lodge for the year ending December 30th, 1882, I find you had at the latter date a membership of 59; that during the year you had expended in relief \$139.50, and that although your receipts from all sources amounted during the year to \$469.33, the total amount of funds on hand and invested by your Lodge amounted only to \$83.59. I submit these figures to the earnest, careful consideration of your Lodge membership, in a spirit of Pythian friendship, and would urge upon them the absolute necessity—having due regard to the duties they have assumed—to discount the certainties of the future by increasing rather than reducing the fees for ranks, and grading the dues from all new members according to age, as has been wisely done in most of the other Lodges.”

From Charity Lodge No. 20, St. Catharines.

[Letter Book C, 5.]

1. QUE.—“On the 13th July, ‘A,’ a member of this Lodge, was taken sick, and went the next day to a health resort in New York State for treatment, and was away about four weeks; on his return he submitted the following certificate to the Visiting Committee:—‘August 11th: This is to

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