

ARTICLE XXV., DEGREES.

Any qualified brother, wishing to take a degree, shall make application for the same in open meeting, personally, or by proxy, when his application shall be referred to a committee of three, composed of degree members, reported upon at the regular meeting, and balloted for as in election of members.

ARTICLE XXVI.

When a brother makes application he shall pay for each degree one shilling and three pence.

ARTICLE XXVII., BENEFITS.

As this Order is intended to be strictly a charitable institution, no provision is made in this Constitution in regard to paying benefits; the whole subject is left entirely in the hands of the subordinate Lodges, to pay or not pay. Sick committees must always attend to their duty. It is believed that much more good can be accomplished with much less money, without paying benefits than with. In a word, experience has satisfied most Orders, that a vast amount of money has been wasted in paying benefits.

ARTICLE XXVIII.

No money shall be appropriated or drawn from the treasury, except provided for, and the actual necessary expenses of the Lodge, unless by a two-third vote of the members present at a regular meeting.

ARTICLE XXIX., SUSPENSION.

Members shall be liable to suspension for non-payment of dues after four months; for indecent, disrespectful or profane language in meetings; for bringing charges against a brother without a reasonable foundation; or failing to report a brother whom he knows to have violated the pledge.

ARTICLE XXX., EXPULSION.

Any member who shall violate the pledge, illegally

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