

authority regarding his religious belief. The Grand Lodge confirmed the judgment of the subordinate lodge.

A question that stares the Craft in the face, and one that must be carefully considered at an early day, is: How to retain members and avoid the numerous suspensions for non-payment of dues? Something must be radically wrong in certain lodges, or the members would evince sufficient interest to attend the meetings and pay their dues, or something is wrong with the material received in our lodges; if not, why do so many get weary by the way and faint?

Our space is too limited to print the names of all newly elected officers. The brethren, we are sure, will bear with us in reaching this conclusion, and admit the space thus occupied could be devoted to some matter more acceptable to the Craft at large. THE CRAFTSMAN is a Canadian and not a local institution, and in order that justice may be dealt out evenly, the names of all newly elected W. M.'s. and Secretaries that may be sent us will be published.

Evolution is the order of the day. In some portions of the United States the brethren are doing their level best to turn Masonic lodges into temperance societies, while in Canada an effort is being made to conduct them on the "die to win" plan, that is, making benefit, not benevolent, societies out of them. No doubt there is yet ample time at the disposal of the Canadian theorists to make Freemasonry an adjunct of the Louisiana lottery, where the odds are greatly against the ticket-holders.

Those United States Grand Lodges who are finding fault with the Grand Lodge of Scotland for allowing its subordinates to initiate sojourning Americans have reason to complain. If the Grand Lodge of Scotland has no regulations regarding length of residence in its jurisdiction prior to initiation, and the applicants are aware of that fact, then American lodges have a remedy. When the foreign-made brethren apply for affiliation, let the ballot box speak.

A brother writes for an opinion regarding a case where one Mason swindled another and refuses to make restitution. It has been laid down by certain authorities that a Freemason's lodge is not a court of law, and consequently such matters are beyond the jurisdiction of a lodge. We do not hold such an opinion. Freemasonry is not only a moral but an honourable institution, and its adherents should discipline all who show a disregard for morality or honour. No society can be kept pure, no matter what it teaches, if impure members are tolerated.

Comp. John H. Brown, of Kansas City, has forwarded us a copy of the proceedings of the Grand Council of Kansas, which met in Junction City, on February 14th. There are nine subordinate councils in this jurisdiction, with a membership of 330. The initiations for the year were 19; deaths, 2; dimits, 15, twelve retiring from one council, and the suspensions 6. Comp. James Snedden was elected Grand Master, and Comp. J. H. Brown re-elected Grand Recorder, both being residents of Kansas City. The next meeting will be held at Wachita, on February 19th.