

THE NATIONAL CONVENTION.

Great Preparations in the Beautiful City of Detroit.

The headquarters of the General Executive Committee in charge of the arrangements for the coming National Convention, are already a busy place. Chairman Cunningham and Secretary Peddie and a corps of assistants are actively engaged in closing the details of the preparations for the coming of the great invading army next August. Already letters received from all over the country indicate a universal interest and enthusiasm among the Pythians, and in Detroit the citizens are active in their support of the Committee and its work. Every indication points to a tremendous attendance, and there will surely be nothing lacking in the way of entertainment for those who attend the convention.

Elaborate preparations for decorations and entertainment are making. One of the special features of the week will be a grand naval parade on the Detroit River, upon which the City of Detroit has a frontage of twelve miles. Detroit is fortunately located for such an event as the Detroit River and Lake St. Clair, upon both of which the city is located, are two of the most beautiful waterways in the world. Every ton of commerce of the Great Lakes passes this port. This fact will make several hundred vessels of all classes available for the naval parade, and as Detroit vesselmen are heartily supporting the parade project, it is probable that this will be one of the most elaborate naval displays ever seen. The parade will be given at night, accompanied by an elaborate display of fireworks, adding to the picturesqueness and beauty of the scene.

The Bureau of Information of the Detroit headquarters has been opened, and will be conducted on an elaborate scale, so that it will be possible, from this time on for those anticipating attending the convention and encampment to thoroughly inform themselves on any desired point. Letters of inquiry addressed to Secretary F. J. Peddie, Headquarters Pythian Executive Convention Committee, 1237-38 Majestic building, will receive prompt reply and the Committee will consider it a pleasure to answer questions.

The Committee desires to take time by the forelock and request all Knights of Pythias bodies contemplating the Detroit trip to communicate with the Detroit Headquarters as soon as possible, in order that proper preparations can be made for entertainment. Those who have attended any of the previous big meetings will readily understand the value of assisting the local Committee to this extent, as visitors who come practically unannounced and at the eleventh hour sometimes suffer inconveniences for which they are alone to blame.

Detroit intends to "do her self proud" on this occasion and the "1900 Committee" only asks the co-operation of the Order to a reasonable extent in order that every one may be well taken care of during the Convention. From present indications the Knights and their ladies

are coming from the remotest parts of the earth, as it were, and it is the wish of the Committee that there be nothing lacking to render their visit to Detroit the most enjoyable social event in the history of the Order.

THE ENDOWMENT RANK.

The Endowment Ranks of Knights of Pythias is an exception to the record of decline which too many of the older orders have exhibited—because of bad plans or bad management. It may be, however, that all of them, now that they have again placed themselves on the right track, will soon be in a position to record substantial gain along all the lines tending toward permanency and solidity. The Endowment Rank, although established in 1877 always shows steady increases in business, and to-day it is greater than ever before. Note the increase in membership for the past few years:

Year—	Members.
December 31st, 1894	36,371
December, 1895	40,988
December, 1896	46,833
December, 1897	51,715
December, 1898	58,482

It will be noted that the increase for the first nine months of 1899 exceeded the whole increase of 1898.

FROM NEW DENVER.

To the Editor of the "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother.—Much to the keen disappointment and sorrow of the general populace of the Slocan, the negotiations for a compromise between the contending forces of capital and labor in this camp, have been terminated and the position of affairs is the same as before any attempt at a settlement was made. Seven long, weary months of this contest have passed and the agony of suspense and uncertainty is still with us. What the end will be is hard to predict. That the situation is hard on our membership one can well believe, and if our statistics show a decline, the cause is known. It takes courage and perseverance to keep the Pythian barque in right good trim in the Slocan for the besetting influences are many and great, but the New Denver and Sandon brethren will endeavor to be true to their trusts.

The full slate of officers, as sent you last month, has been duly installed by Bro. Nelson, D. G. C., with the exception of the Prelate, but his turn will come so soon as he gets down from the hills.

Bro. C. F. Nelson and Bro. J. A. McDonald have resigned their positions of K. of R. & S. and M. W., respectively, the former because of press of other work, and the latter because of his removal this week to Moyie. Bro. McDonald will be much missed, as he was a regular attendant and a most zealous officer.

Bro. Evans, P. C., now of Kaslo, paid the brethren a visit during the week and was warmly greeted.