

## GRAND LODGE OFFICERS.

The following officers were elected at the late session of the Grand Lodge:—

W. D. Mearns, Grand Chancellor, Vancouver.  
J. W. Graham, Grand Vice-Chancellor, Ross-land.

J. L. Brown, Grand Prelate, Kamloops.  
Ernst Pferdner, Grand Keeper of Records & Seal, Victoria.

E. P. Nathan, Grand Master Exchequer, Victoria.

N. Binns, Grand Master at Arms, Trail.

D. D. Griffiths, Grand Inner Guard, Wellington.

A. Ferguson, G. and Outer Guard, Westminster.

—:o:—

LETTER FROM GRAND CHANCELLOR:  
MEARNS.

The following letter has been sent to all the lodges by the Grand Chancellor, W. D. Mearns, on his return from Victoria:—

Vancouver, May 18th, 1899.

To the Chancellor, Commander, Officers and Members:

Greeting:—

Dear Sirs and Brother Knights.—By the time this letter reaches you, you will have selected your officers for the coming term. It is my wish and desire that the work of the lodge be done without the use of the ritual, so far as it lies in your power: that the different officers commit to memory the ritualistic work of their respective offices, so that at least in the opening and closing of the lodges the ritual will be entirely done away with.

Our noble Order in this domain is to be congratulated upon the progress it has made in the past, but we must not rest upon our laurels. We must buckle on our armour and work with renewed vigor for the cause of right and humanity. Therefore, I would urge upon every knight in this Grand Domain the importance of his carrying in person, both in spirit and deed, the cardinal principles of our Order, viz., Friendship, Charity and Benevolence: that we do our part one towards the other in our daily intercourse with one another, so that we will excite the curiosity and admiration of an observing public, and they will learn that Pythianism is more than a name.

Avoid dissensions: work together in the spirit of fraternity. Above all, avoid petty bickerings and back-biting, and give to each brother the credit of good intentions: even if his opinions do not agree with your own. He may be right: you may be wrong. Let us all work for the interests of the Order, and make this the banner year of Pythianism in British Columbia.

While I would be proud to know that the lodges were adding new names to their rosters, I would be more gratified to learn that means had been discovered to bring back to our castle hails delinquent and suspended members, and that the suspension of members for non-payment of dues has ceased. I hope some good knight may formulate some wise plan that will interest and entertain, so that the old story of non-attendance at lodge convocations and

suspensions of members will be a thing of the past.

I commend to your favorable consideration the Pythian journal now being published in the City of Vancouver, named "The True Knight." The Grand Lodge, at its last session, endorsed this paper, and by resolution made it the official organ for this Grand Domain. I therefore take great pleasure in calling your attention to this journal. No other one thing has added more to the material interest of our Order in this Domain than this paper. Conducted wholly by the Knights of Pythias lodges of Vancouver, and entirely in the interests of the Order, its influence for good has already been felt. This journal is not conducted as a business enterprise or proposition, but purely for the propagation of Pythian principles, and to bring the Knights of British Columbia in closer touch, one with the other. Every lodge should see to it that it has a regular correspondent who will contribute monthly matters of interest affecting his lodge, so that the members of this Grand Domain may know what progress is being made outside of their own lodges. This paper should be in the hands of every Knight of Pythias in British Columbia, and all lodges financially able to do so should give it support by the insertion of lodge cards and subscriptions.

I hope to visit your lodge during the year, and I look forward to the pleasure of meeting you in person in your castle halls, and making the acquaintance of the brother knights of this Domain.

If at any time I can be of assistance to your lodge, don't fail to command me, for I will cheerfully respond to any summons I may receive, looking to the advancement of our Order. You will always find me willing to assist you at any time to the best of my ability. I wish to keep in touch with the membership, and hope no brother will hesitate to approach me at any time on any subject affecting the welfare of the Order in general and this Grand Domain in particular.

Wishing your Lodge a prosperous year, I am, with best wishes, sincerely and fraternally

Yours in F. C. and B.,

W. D. MEARNS, G. C.

—:o:—

## MEMORIAL DAY.

Victoria, B. C., May 27th, 1899.

To the Officers and Members of Subordinate Lodges of the Grand Domain of British Columbia:—

Knightly Sirs and Brothers.—Section 444 of the Supreme Statutes designates the first Tuesday after the second Sunday in June of each year as "Memorial Day" of the Order, Knights of Pythias, but provides that subordinate lodges may select a different day for such services when the circumstances render it desirable. Therefore it is my request that all subordinate lodges in this Grand Domain meet in their respective localities on the day designated, or as soon after as practicable for the purpose of engaging in such services and exercises as may be appropriate to the occasion.