

the Lodge in regular order. The reports of committees appointed at the former meetings will now be taken up for reading and consideration. Of these, the reports on petitions for initiation or affiliation take precedence of all others. If these reports are favorable, the next business will be the balloting for the candidates. Other reports of standing or special committees will be next in order. Those of special committees as seeming to have a more important character should take precedence of those of standing committees. Motions made at a former meeting and postponed for consideration, or laid upon the table, may now be called up: if postponed without reference to any hour, they will be in order at any time after the reception of and action on the reports of committees. If they had been postponed to a particular hour, they then become special orders, and can be called up only when that hour arrives; but whether in the one or the other category, it is not the duty of the presiding officer to call the attention of the Lodge to such motions, and if they are not called up by the special motion of a member, they will pass over without notice. The unfinished business being thus disposed of, the Lodge is now prepared for the consideration of any new proposition which may be presented, and the precedency of these propositions will be regulated by the parliamentary law as already described in the present work.

The presiding officer having learned, either by direct inquiry or by observation, that no further business is likely to be transacted, will direct the Lodge to be prepared for initiation, if there be any candidates in waiting; for this is always done after the business of the Lodge is transacted. After which the Lodge is closed.

It was formerly the usage, but one which is now too much neglected, to read the rough minutes of the evening, before closing the Lodge, and this was done, not for their approval, because no question of confirmation was taken at the time, but that the members present might suggest to the Secretary the correction of any errors that he might have inadvertently made. This practice, though peculiar to Masonic bodies, is a good one, and should not be neglected.

The order of business thus detailed may, for convenience of reference, be placed in the following tabular form:

1. Opening of the Lodge.
2. Reading and confirmation of the minutes.
3. Reports on petitions.
4. Balloting for candidates.
5. Reports of special committees.
6. Reports of standing committees.
7. Consideration of motions made at a former meeting, if called up by a member.
8. New business.
9. Initiations.
10. Reading of the minutes for information and correction.
11. Closing of the Lodge.

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We regret to have to announce the death of R. W. Bro. Capt. Thompson Wilson, of London, Ont., who died on Sunday the 20th inst. We will endeavor to give a biographical sketch of our deceased brother in our next issue.