

sum disbursed amounting to two hundred and eighty thousand six hundred and sixty-seven dollars.

The close of the quarter ending September 30th, 1898, shows an active membership of fifty-three thousand seven hundred and sixty-seven, the endowment in force nine million three hundred and eighty-nine thousand five hundred dollars, and cash balances and investments amounting to four hundred and eighty-one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine dollars and fifty-five cents.

The total amount paid for death claims to date aggregates twelve million seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

It is but fair to assume that during the mid-summer months the labors in behalf of the Endowment Rank are attended with much greater difficulties than during any other period of the year, subordinate lodges being inactive and the greater part if the membership scattered; therefore the results accomplished by the field workers is encouraging.

We are pleased to state, however, that every day there is evidence of an increased recognition of the Endowment Rank—especially apparent in the Eastern States and Canadian Provinces. A greater degree of confidence in the stability of the Rank is being constantly inspired; and as the membership of the Order is made aware that no change has been made in its condition, but that the Rank, stronger numerically and financially than ever, is paying its losses promptly and satisfactorily, as it has always done, we are assured that the confidence and support it so justly merits will be further increased."

TO OUR READERS.

At this season our brethren, in common with the rest of their fellow mortals, will no doubt be purchasing gifts of various kinds, to give to their loved ones. The "True Knight" is deeply indebted to those merchants who have favored us with their patronage. They are all reliable men, and sell as cheap as those who do not patronize us. We can commend and recommend everyone of them. We, therefore, hope that all true Knights will remember these merchants who are nobly sustaining the only organ of the Knights of Pythias in British Columbia, and gave them Pythian patronage. Favours thus conferred will come back to us again in renewed subscriptions. Heaven helps those who help themselves, and we should help those who help us.

PLEASANT SURPRISE.

We cannot help but call the attention of brother Knights to the opening of the new drug store on the corner of Granville and Robson Streets by Bro. Charles Nelson. That it fills a long-felt want is well known. That Bro. Nelson's company in branching out will receive our due encouragement is a foregone conclusion. It is pleasing to see that the real men who have made Vancouver (not the "Province's") progressing in every up-to-date station. Bro. Nelson opened in business on Carrall Street in 1886, and joined Granville Lodge the same winter. Later he took out his card on account of stern business, but we are pleased to say will soon replace it and again

be with us in the front ranks. The new stock and fixtures make a pleasing and attractive appearance, and are a credit both to the City of Vancouver and its owners. See advertisement in another column.

VERY REASONABLE.

A lady who kept a small seaside hotel thought it would be profitable to bring the fact prominently before the public by means of an advertisement or two. Accordingly she carried a carefully worded one to the newspaper office, and inquired the cost of five insertions. It was the custom of this paper, where "ads." were inserted more than four times to deduct 25 per cent. from the usual rates. The clerk, after reading what she had written, told her the expense would be twenty-six shillings, but as it was going in over four times it would be twenty-five off. "Oh!" said she, "that's very reasonable," and putting down a solitary shilling she started for the door. It was difficult to tell which was the more embarrassed, the landlady or the clerk, when he called her back and endeavored to explain that "twenty-five off" meant twenty-five per cent., and not twenty-five shillings.

RATHBONE SISTERS.

The history of the Order of Rathbone Sisters has been written so many times that it is quite necessary that we must repeat, in some degree, that which has already been written. Yet, considering the growth of the Order, in the ten years of its life there are many new developments, plainly showing that our Order is progressive—moving rapidly onward.

In the little town of Warsaw, Indiana, October 23rd, 1888, Joseph Addison Hill, S. R., insti-

