

The proposed amendment to meet biennially was also lost. No change was made in the mileage and per diem.

The R. W. Grand Corresponding and Recording Secretary addressed the Lodge as follows, previous to adjournment :

*Most Worthy Grand Sire* : I rise at this late hour, by your permission to address this Grand Lodge, for which I have to ask its indulgence, pre-facing what I have to say with the promise that I shall be brief. It is apparent to you all, my brethren, that old age has overtaken your Grand Secretary, and that, in the evening of his life, his health, which has always been frail, has been gradually declining. Although heretofore I have been, and still am, equal to the requisitions and responsibilities of the office, and my mental vigor has been mercifully preserved, as abundantly appears, yet my physical infirmity is not less manifest. My mind has been struggling, while sitting at this desk during the session, between official duty and pressing private interests. "Duty" has at length prevailed in the issue ; in obedience to which I now notify the Grand Lodge that if, by the law of nature, as is reasonably probable, I shall after the end of my present term, be physically disqualified, or unable to serve you longer, it will be your duty to supply the succession adequately. You all know that this is by far the most important office within your gift. I have been honored by this Grand Body, as its incumbent, as no other man in this Order, or perhaps elsewhere, has been honored before, having been continued, by re-election, in office for thirty-seven years, for which I now bow before you with profound gratitude, and with memories of love and emotions of heart which are difficult to describe or to restrain.

The following resolutions were adopted from the Report of the Legislative Committee :

*Resolved*, That a member of a Subordinate Lodge or Encampment, who is in arrears for weekly or funeral dues more than thirteen weeks, is not entitled to the term password, or to vote in the Lodge or Encampment, but is a contributing member until suspended, dropped or expelled, in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution, and as such is entitled to visit his own Lodge or Encampment. He cannot, however, become entitled to benefits until he shall have paid up in full all dues and fines (weekly and funeral) that have accrued against him up to the day of payment, if the By-Laws of the Lodge or Encampment shall so provide ; nor then until the expiration of such time thereafter as may also by the laws be provided as a penalty.

*Resolved*, That when any member of a Lodge or Encampment shall neglect or refuse to pay the dues fixed by the laws, for the space of one year, the Secretary or Scribe shall report the same to the Noble Grand or Chief Patriarch, and, unless the Lodge or Encampment otherwise direct, such member shall thereupon be suspended, he having been first notified of the action that would be taken, a record of which shall be made upon the minutes. The mere fact of a member being over twelve months in arrears does not constitute him a suspended or dropped member. To render him such the Lodge or Encampment must formally declare him to be suspended.

*Resolved*, That a Lodge or Encampment cannot refuse to receive, in full or in part, the dues of a member prior to his suspension, and no member can be suspended or dropped from membership in the Order for non-payment of dues, unless, at the time of his suspension, he shall be indebted to the Lodge or Encampment for one year's dues.

*Resolved*, That all previous legislation inconsistent with the foregoing resolutions, be, and is hereby, repealed.