

One of the most important features in our organization is too often lost sight of, and that is, care in the selection of its officers. Fitness and willingness to give attention to his duties should be the qualifications of one who aspires to office. Those who seek positions merely for the title and honor that it brings them, should be discouraged in their aspirations by your ballots. The roll of officers should be called at every conclave, and their attendance during the year should be read at the Annual Conclave, that the members may be able to judge who have been attentive to their duties and who have not. The right material, and abundance of it, is to be found in the ranks of all our Commanderies and should be brought out and developed.

Another good point was that "absence of music in nearly all of our Commanderies is a grave error." He stated that while a musical instrument was in every asylum, only four out of twenty-seven Commanderies had music at the inspection.

The address showed a painstaking interest, and that his duties were conscientiously discharged.

The report of the Inspector General was an elaborate detail of the standing of each subordinate. Bariboo Commandery won a handsome silk flag for making the best inspection.

That Veteran Frater, W. C. Swain, presented his sixteenth annual report, and like all its predecessors it is bright and entertaining. Canada, 1897, at Montreal, is fraternally reviewed.

He is frequently facetious, and his remarks are to the point. He is not a lover of water, especially the variety with possible microbes in it, and objects to it as a substitute for the Christmas libations. Referring to this subject, under South Dakota, he makes the following comment:—

We know a Sir Knight of this jurisdiction who ate too much watermelon and got a stomach-ache. Let us weigh well the evils and woeful pain of a stomach-ache, and consider if we had not better fight for the abolition of watermelons.

Membership, 3042; increase, 77.

Theo. W. Goldin,	Janesville,	Grand Commander.
John W. Laplin,	Milwaukee,	Grand Recorder.