

Time of Payment of Assessments and Dues.

Toronto, Canada, Feb. 1st, 1900.

To all Members of the Order, Greeting:

The attention of the Executive Council has been called to the fact that, regardless of the provisions of the Constitution and Laws of the Order as to the time of payment, many Financial Secretaries are in the habit of receiving assessments from members who stand suspended for non-payment of assessments and dues at the proper time and of reporting such suspended members to The Supreme Court as being in good standing. I am directed by the Executive Council to notify the Courts through the columns of this the Official Organ, that this practice on the part of Financial Secretaries is reprehensible, detrimental to the interests of suspended members, and must be discontinued. Members are required to pay their assessments and Court dues on or before the last day of the month to cover for the succeeding month, falling in which they stand suspended by their own act on the first day of such succeeding month, and a Financial Secretary should not receive assessments nor dues from such members until such time as they make application for reinstatement on Form No. 15; which application should be acted upon by the Court and immediately transmitted to Headquarters, and all such assessments should be held by the Financial Secretary and not remitted to The Supreme Court until such suspended members are reinstated and notice of their reinstatement, Form No. 16, has been received from Headquarters. Payment by a member within the Constitutional time is necessary to preserve his good standing in the Court and Order and to protect his own interests and the interests of his Beneficiaries. On the death of a member the Financial Secretary is required to make affidavit as to the date on which the assessment for the month in which the member died was paid; and in many instances the fact is revealed that late members had not paid their last assessments within the Constitutional time, and there is therefore no alternative for the Executive Council but to reject such claims. The Executive Council has recently been obliged to reject several claims for Mortuary Benefit from this very cause, and hence my instructions by that body to notify the members that it is absolutely necessary for them to pay within the time provided by the Constitution and Laws in order to preserve their good standing in the Court and Order and thereby secure to their Beneficiaries the prompt payment of their Mortuary Benefit in the event of their death.

Fraternally in L., B. and C.,

JOHN A. MCGILLIVRAY,

Supreme Secretary.

cording Secretary of the Court, and sent to the High Chief Ranger not later than 30th of June next.

I enclose with this circular a copy of a very able pamphlet on the present war in South Africa, for the purpose of giving Courts an opportunity of reading and discussing the events therein set forth at their Court meetings, and I venture to say, if this is properly taken up by the Courts, increased interest and some valuable information will be gained.

Courts which require the services of an organizer will please write to me, when, if possible, arrangements will be made to have one visit the Court.

Our District Deputies are doing a good work in their districts, and I ask the officers and members to assist them in their efforts.

I must again ask the officers of Courts to be prompt in the despatch of business, and in seeing that the proper returns are made, and dues remitted according to constitution.

Trusting the liberal offer of the H.S.C. will inspire you to active work during its continuance,

I remain, yours fraternally,

GEO. SPENCE, H.C.R.

GEO. L. DICKENSON, H.C.

HIGH COURT OF MANITOBA.

Meeting of the High Court of Manitoba, Independent Order of Foresters, held in Albert Hall, Winnipeg. Opening session, Tuesday, 20th February, 1900, at 9 a.m.

HIGH COURT OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN.

BAY MILLS, MICHIGAN, Jan. 17th, 1900.

Editor of INDEPENDENT FORESTER, Toronto, Ont:
DEAR SIR,—In October the High Standing Committee of Northern Michigan met for the purpose