ENDOWMENT RANK.

The following summary contains a complete review of the business of the Endowment Rank for the quarter ending March 31st, 1899, and shows continued progress in that department of the Order:

With the close of the quarter, March 31st, 1899, the Endowment Rank completes its twenty-second fiscal year. A decided increase is shown in the new business over that recorded at the end of the last quarter.

Eighty-seven sections were organised since January 1st, 1899, Illinois taking first place, having added twelve, Iowa ten and Main, Ohio, and Pennsylvania seven each, the remainder being distributed throughout twenty-two Grand Domains.

During the quarter twenty-five hundred and fourteen applicants were accepted and admitted to membership, the certificates issued amounting to three million six hundred and sixty-one thousand five hundred dollars, a gain in members over the preceding quarter of four hundred and forty-nine, and in the amount of endowment seven hundred and sixty-four thousand five hundred dollars.

Nearly three hundred thousand dollars was disbursed for death benefits, involving the adjustment of one hundred and forty-eight deaths.

A review of the results during the fiscal year shows the organisation of three hundred and thirty new sections; applicants admitted to membership eight thousand four hundred and thirty-four; amount of endowment issued twelve million eighty-nine thousand dollars; number of death claims adjusted and paid five hundred and seventy-seven; amount of endowment paid one million one hundred and fifty-nine thousand dollars. The total sum paid beneficiaries to date amounts to thirteen million three hundred and twenty thousand, seven hundred and seventy-six dollars and ninety-four cents.

On April 1st, 1899, there were in active operation thirty-six hundred and eighty-five sections, with a membership aggregating fifty-five thousand five hundred. The total endowment in force was one hundred and one million five hundred and forty-six thousand dollars, and the cash on hand and investments was four hundred and eighty thousand five hundred and thirty-seven dollars and eighty-five cents.

The field work is being improved upon and rendered more effective from day to day. The Board is pleased to state that, from recent reports received from nearly every organiser, the prospect for the future growth of the Rank is in the highest degree encouraging. With the continued aid and assistance heretofore given our laborers in the Pythian field by many of the rank and file of the Order we may look forward to results far greater than those of the past.

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The purpose and aim of the Endowment Rank is to furnish Pythians with life insurance at cost, or, in other words, to furnish it without the addition of the great salaries that are associated with the management of stock insurance. This, it is doing, and is paying out over a million a year.

Brother F. Silberg, of Lake Shore Lodge K. of P., held a certificate for $1,000 in the Endowment Rank. In twenty-three days after his death, the Secretary of Sec. 89 received a draft in favor of the beneficiary for the amount. The prompt payment of the death claims has done much to popularise the Rank.

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