

May 24, I attended Essex Lodge Demonstration, Oshawa.

Oct. 6, Old England Lodge Demonstration, Port Perry.

Nov. 17, Paid an official visit to Old England Lodge, Port Perry.

Nov. 18, Accompanied and assisted by the R. W. G. Secretary and Bros. Swait, Barker, Edmett, and others, I instituted Buckingham Lodge, No. 40, in the town of Uxbridge, and installed its officers.

Aug. 21, Met the Executive Officers of the Grand Lodge of the Sons of St. George, *re* amalgamation; a report of the proceedings will be printed by our W. G. Secretary.

I have also made official and fraternal visits to all the lodges in the City of Toronto, and have installed the officers in a number of them. During the year just ended I have made seventy-three visits, and I am pleased to report that a very marked increase and improvement has taken place in our lodges both numerically and financially; I therefore claim that we have been fairly successful in the past year.

In conclusion, I would respectfully urge upon you the necessity of making our lodge rooms as attractive as possible; comfortably furnished rooms should always be a pre-requisite, then a good live staff of officers who are punctual in their attendance with harmony and sociability; unkind words and bickerings never permitted; essays, readings, debates and general business should all be a portion of each night's work. Outside the lodge room the members should especially guard their words and actions, always remembering that one evil disposed member permits the finger of scorn to be lifted at the entire body.

I am also pleased to report that our beneficiary department is in a very prosperous and satisfactory condition, and is no longer a doubtful experiment, I would therefore respectfully suggest that it be allowed to remain in its present shape with this exception, that the Finance Board shall not be allowed to receive any pay whatever for services rendered.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

THOS. R. SKIPPON,

*R. W. G. V. P.*

On motion the address was received and referred to Committee on Officers's Reports.

The Grand Secretary then read his annual report and financial statement.