

California.

Official Circular No. 1.

LOS ANGELES, CAL., November 5, 1896.

To the Officers and Members of the Subordinate Courts throughout the Jurisdiction of the High Court of California, I O.F.:

It is with pleasure that I take this opportunity of acknowledging the high honor that has again been conferred upon me by the High Court of California, in placing me, for the sixth time, in the honorable and trustful position of chief executive officer over the affairs of our beloved Order in the jurisdiction.

With my grateful acceptance of this mark of appreciation, I give my assurance of an earnest and constant effort to make this the most prosperous and successful year of Independent Forestry's history in California, and to this end I most respectfully ask for the co-operation of every loyal Forester throughout the jurisdiction.

From an official circular just issued by the Supreme Court, it will be seen that many and valuable prizes are offered by the Supreme executive for work done during the months of November and December of this year. It is hoped that every Court in our jurisdiction will avail themselves of the offer, the terms of which will reach the several Courts either by circular or through THE FORESTER.

A copy of the proceedings of the seventh annual session of our High Court will be mailed to each Subordinate Court, and I would request all C.D.H.C.R.'s to have the reports of officers, as set forth therein, read in open Court.

I have compiled a new general principle circular, in which the special features of the I. O. F. are set forth, together with the names of all of the officers of the High Court, General Deputies and District Deputies, names and numbers of Courts, their place and time of meeting, names of Chief Ranger, Court Deputy and Recording Secretary. These circulars can be procured from the High Secretary at \$1.00 per hundred copies, and will be found very valuable in calling the attention of those outside the Order to the advantages of a membership in the I. O. F.

The District Deputy for your district will be Bro. _____, of Court _____, No. _____, located at _____.

The coming year gives great promise of being a very prosperous one, and I confidently feel that the entire membership can be depended upon to put forth their best efforts in spreading the principles of our Order, so that when we are called together again in High Court session at Santa Rosa, in October next, we may be able to report a progress of which every Independent Forester can be justly proud.

Wishing you all peace and prosperity, I am as ever,

Yours in L., B. and C.,
G. A. MOELFRESH,
High Chief Ranger.

COURT GOLDEN WEST, at Sutter Creek is one of the latest additions to the long list of courts. It was instituted at Sutter Creek, California on November 11th, by Bro. A. A. Campbell, D.S.C.R. It has a charter membership of 32, and is splendidly officered. We predict for it a successful career.

High Court of New York.

District Deputy J. A. Belch, M.D., of Syracuse, is organizing a new court, which will soon materialize.

The court at East Aurora, being organized by Bro James Boddy, is nearly completed, and bids fair to be one of the finest courts in the State.

Bro. M. Edward Downey, of Court Industrial, is Vice-Grand Commander of the American Legion of Honor for the State of New Jersey.

COURT BRUSHTON has moved into its new hall, and intends having a public dedication, to which Court Adirondack and District Deputy Dr. Cameron have been invited.

COURT SOUTH BUFFALO initiated 22 members during the past six weeks, and has eight more ready for its next meeting. This court is composed largely of Scotchmen, who know a good thing when they see it.

Bro. C. B. Cummings has gone to Buffalo. Bro. C. is the youngest member in our court, also a hustler, having brought in several applications in the short time he has been with us. Success to him in his new home.

A novelty in organizing work is being accomplished at Syracuse by the venerable "Founder," who is organizing a court out of the Fire Department of that city. The court, it is said, will start out with 50 members at the sound of the gong.

COURT IDLEWOOD opens the winter entertainments in Buffalo by giving its second annual ball, on the evening of November 18, at Union Hall. The simple announcement that this court will give a "hop" is sufficient to draw a good audience, and we wish them all the good luck imaginable.

A prominently-mentioned candidate for Speaker of the New York State Legislature, the Hon. George C. Austin, of New York city, is the Court Deputy of Court Knickerbocker. He was recently elected to the Assembly, representing the Twenty-First District, and is said to be very popular among the brethren.

Bro. James H. Irving, Senior Woodward of Court United States, No. 1050, on Thursday evening presented his court with a \$10 American flag. He was voted thanks by a rising vote. It is a beauty, and Chief Ranger Pilger and High Junior Beadle Ford were delegated to suitably inscribe the flag, and festoon it around the court charter.

As the mills and shops are opening and men are obtaining employment that have long felt the need of work, we trust those who have been holding off waiting for better