

Canadian  
**Royal Arcanum Journal.**

Communications upon all subjects appertaining to the Royal Arcanum will be received and published, if suitable; the editor and publishers assume, however, no responsibility for the sentiment, expression or arguments contained in any communication. Anonymous communications will not be considered.

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TORONTO, MAY, 1894.

OUR SPECIMEN PAPER.

It has been the opinion of many members of the Royal Arcanum in Canada, for some time past, that our Order here has now reached a position demanding the publication of a paper in the jurisdiction, wholly devoted to our own interests. No doubt if there were any prospect of lucrative returns from such an undertaking there would be many aspirants forthcoming to vie with each other in securing the field.

As, however, there is "nothing in it" for the pocket of any ambitious newspaper man, he is, perhaps, very much of a visionary journalist who would venture out with such a publication without any promised support. The paper at the best will have a limited circulation and the subscription price must be placed low enough to attract councils to subscribe for their entire membership.

But if there is going to be an organ published, the Order very reasonably wants to know beforehand what kind of a paper they are likely to get when a newspaper project is placed before them. Hence someone must be bold enough to run the financial risk of a specimen edition, or rather, we hope, be trustful enough in the fraternity of the Order, and in the good sense of the members, to venture a trial edition.

We take this trustful position in placing this sheet before you.

We have lately retired from journalistic connection with another large society in the province, and having some leisure evening hours at our disposal we are willing to offer our services in this line to the R. A., if such services shall be deemed worthy of acceptance.

Our future numbers are not to be judged by this hurriedly got up specimen. We have been out of active R. A. work since 1887 but can soon become re-acclimated to its atmosphere again. We believe our success in the journalistic line in two other Orders is some preparation and a guarantee of moderate ability to cater to the taste and appetite of the R. A. fraternity if they have any longing for home production in the fraternal newspaper line.

THE R. A. NEEDS A PAPER.

The Royal Arcanum in Canada needs a paper of its own.

The papers published in the United States in the interests of the Order have done fair service in the past for the Canadian branch of our Order.

They however cannot do for us what we can do for ourselves.

The support given to them by our Councils has been very limited and the space devoted to our jurisdiction still more so.

Every society worthy of the name has its own newspaper organ. Why should the R. A. in Canada remain in the background to its own hurt?

A Canadian R. A. Journal would be devoted especially to the upbuilding of our own jurisdiction and be the means of stirring up an unflagging enthusiasm in the work of the Order.

It would keep our whole Canadian membership interested in the advancement of our R. A. Order locally, while there would be sufficient information given as to

other jurisdictions to keep members in touch with the workings of the Order as a whole.

A fraternal organ of our own would do better work for the R. A. in Canada than the combined machinery of local circulars, folders, and occasional local press items, etc., and be more economical, too.

Do you, brother reader, believe this? If so will the R. A. Order in Canada give a paper of its own a fair trial?

ARCANUM DAY.

Past Grand Regent Judge Reynolds, said last year that:

"The day which is known as 'The Day of our Order' should be observed in such a way as to mark its annual recurrence, and make it be looked forward to as a red-letter day when the plain, unvarnished tale of what we have done, are doing, and are prepared to do, as a fraternal and benevolent society may be emblazoned forth so that he who runs may read."

How many of our Councils have made this known to their membership. We venture to say but few have obeyed the suggestion of Judge Reynolds, and hence the Royal Arcanum is not advertised in our midst as it should be. Let us henceforth keep the "Day of the Order" in remembrance.

NOTICES IN THE LOCAL PRESS

We are always pleased to see some interest taken by local Councils in placing the merits of the Order and their own Council before the public. Every Council should follow the example of Morrisburgh Council which keeps the following notice in its local newspapers.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM.

THE ROYAL ARCANUM,

MORRISBURGH.

Over 120,000 Members.

Meet in A.O.U.W. Hall 1st and 3rd Mondays each month. Assessment according to age when joining.

RATE ON \$3,000.

21 to 22	\$1 00	each assessment.
24 to 25	1 12	"
30 to 31	1 38	"
34 to 35	1 62	"
40 to 41	2 06	"
44 to 50	2 46	"
50 to 51	3 26	"
54 to 55	4 00	"

(One-half above rates on \$1,500.)

Information furnished by officers and members.

L.S. FROATS, Sec. A.G.F. DREW, Regent.  
 "GO THOU AND DO LIKEWISE."

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NINTH ANNUAL SESSION.

It is the intention of the Editor of this paper to attend the Grand Council meeting in Hamilton on the 9th inst. If, therefore, the Grand Council honors the Canadian R. A. Journal by adopting it as either its official or semi-official paper, we can promise our subscribers a good report of the Grand Council proceedings in the June number. Those, therefore, who cannot attend would, in our June issue, be able to obtain almost as good a knowledge of the session's work as if they had personally attended. Councils, therefore, that wish to keep their members informed on the workings of our Society in Ontario should pass an order during May for supplying the paper to their members, subject, of course, to the proviso that the paper is acceptable to the Grand Council and has been adopted for the jurisdiction.

THE CANADIAN FRATERNAL ASSOCIATION AND THE R. A.

Our Canadian Fraternal Association was heartily endorsed by the Supreme Council of the Royal Arcanum at its last Annual Session.

The matter came up under the report of the "Committee on State and Society Relations," to whom was referred certain portions of the Supreme Regent's report. The resolution adopted connected the National Fraternal Congress of the United States and the Canadian Fraternal Association together under the following resolution, which was accepted and adopted by the Supreme Council:

"Resolved that we recognize the National Fraternal Congress and the Canadian Fraternal Association as prominent factors in crystallizing legislation to the adaptation of the fraternal societies, and we commend their efforts in that direction."

NINTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The members of the Royal Arcanum in Canada, who were privileged to take part in the first Grand Session of the Order held in London, in 1885, will be hardly able to realize that so many years as are indicated by the caption of this article have really passed away since that inaugurative meeting was held.

Those who attended the first session will never forget the enthusiastic gathering of delegates, the masterly manner in which the instituting officer, Bro. Past Supreme Regent Butler, conducted the formation of the Grand Council and the fraternal advice and brotherly instruction he gave to the representatives assembled.

They will also recall to mind the keen but friendly rivalry for some of the offices in the gift of the Grand Council.

They will remember the able first Grand Regent, Bro. Daniel Spry, who, on assuming the chief executive chair, at once wielded the gavel with grace and presided over the after deliberations of the Grand Council with the wisdom and dignity of an old officer of the Order.

The genuine esteem in which the R. A. Canadians were held by the officers of the Supreme Council of that day was voiced by the Supreme Regent in his report for that year, when he wrote:—

"The future of the Grand Council is bright and hopeful. I was satisfied as I watched the conduct, viewed the personnel, looked into the faces, and felt the hearty hand grasp of the men in that grand body, that we were entrusting the welfare of our Order there to safe and reliable members."

While I have reason to be proud of our membership in the several jurisdictions throughout the States, I am pleased to acknowledge that in all those elements which we value in members, our Canadian brothers are our peers."

And who that was then present can ever forget how the London brethren entertained their guests at the Tecumseth House. The banquet at which Dr. Cl. T. Campbell was, on behalf of the London members, the presiding host, was superb as an entertainment, and all who were there—Supreme officers, Grand officers and delegates—carried away from that session the liveliest sense of appreciation of the princely manner in which the R. A. of London know how to treat their brethren and guests.

But we must not linger longer in the past. Nine years have flown away since that day, and the R. A. Order in Canada, which was then a mere child, has in the interval become the sturdy youth and will shortly enter its prime of life. The Ninth Annual Session takes place in the Ambitious City in a few days and promises to be a meeting fraught with much interest to the whole Order.

May the deliberations and discussions of the delegates at this session be such as will in every respect tend to increase the usefulness and prosperity of the Order, and hasten the day when the R. A. in Ontario shall number over ten thousand members.

WHAT DOES THE R. A. DO FOR ITS MEMBERS?

It gives all the moral and material aid in its power to its members and to those dependent upon them.

It forms a fraternal union whose tendency and aim is to draw out the powers of its individual members, socially, morally and intellectually, and to render assistance to the bereaved widows and orphaned children of deceased brothers.

It provides financial relief for any member who may become sick, destitute or financially distressed.

It provides for the payment of \$1,500 or \$3,000 (as selected by the member himself) to the member's wife, children, relatives or dependents, upon proper proof of the decease of the member.

THE SOCIETY PRESS.

Nearly every Order has discovered that it is absolutely necessary for the prosperity of the organization to have published in its interests a journal devoted exclusively to the interests of the Society. When these journals are properly conducted the good they accomplish is really incalculable. The A. O. U. W. is the strongest society on the continent and boasts of the largest number of papers issued in its interests of any similar organization.—The Order that provides for placing a good monthly society paper in every comrade's hand is wise in its day and generation.

THE POLITY OF OUR ORDER.

The Royal Arcanum is a fraternal beneficiary society and not an insurance company in any sense of the word. Insurance companies are, or at least are supposed to be, based on the principles of life insurance science, but the regular life insurance companies have evolved their great system for the main purpose and object of business profit. The R. A. has an entirely different end in view. There is, of course, a certain single basis common to both but their main principles and aims are entirely different. The R. A. has no contest with any life insurance organization, only it wishes it clearly understood that it is not one of them. Our Widows' and Orphans Benefit Fund is founded upon the duration of human life and the calculations necessary to realize a given sum in the period limited by such duration, but the main structure of our society rests upon the thrice tried foundation—Virtue, Mercy and Charity.

We rely upon the power of the fraternity that binds us together to fulfil all the charitable and financial obligations of the Order.

The greatest of all fraternal societies has no beneficial feature for its widows but answers all the same the call for aid in any clime or raised by any tongue. So the R. A. relies not on great financial reserves but rather upon a strong unselfish brotherhood to care for the distressed and needy and to keep the financial promises given by the Order to the beneficiaries of the dead. Our polity is then Fraternity of a practical and active character, which when carried out in the true spirit as our foundation principle renders the Order impregnable and progressive.

GRAND COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

It is not as generally known to our members as, perhaps, it should be, that at the Grand Council Session of 1893 a provision for an Executive Committee of the Grand Council was adopted. This Committee consists of the Grand Regent, Grand Vice Regent, Immediate Past Grand Regent, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, the Chairman of the Committees on Finance, Laws and State of the Order.

The duties of this Committee embrace the general control of the work of the Order, organizing new Councils, reviving, strengthening and visiting existing Councils, and generally promoting the interests of the Order in this jurisdiction while Grand Council is not in session.

This Executive Committee meets at least once between each Annual Session, as well as during the Session of Grand Council.

This committee is called to meet on the 8th inst., the day preceding the Grand Council Session, at which time it doubtless will do much towards preparing the work of the regular session upon the following day.

The Committee has been in existence now for one year, and we are sure the report of their labors and the benefits, resulting to the Order therefrom, will be gratifying to our entire membership.

OUR R. A. BENEFIT CERTIFICATE FEE.

It is well-known in R. A. circles that two dollars is the fee charged new members for their benefit certificate. It is also known that this is a larger fee than is charged by many competing societies for their certificates. At the last Ontario Grand Council Session, held in London last May a motion was passed pointing out this fact and giving expression to the opinion that the higher rate in the Royal Arcanum was a serious hindrance to its progress in this jurisdiction. Our Grand Council instructed its representative to Supreme Council for 1893, Bro. Past Grand Regent D. F. MacWatt, to bring the matter before the Supreme Session and to use every effort to have the cost of the benefit certificate reduced to \$1.00—as formerly.

Our Supreme Representative duly attended the Supreme Session held at Minneapolis, Minn., in June, 1893, and presented the resolution from the Grand Council of Ontario. The resolution was referred to the Supreme Council Committee on Finance. It was then apparent that other R. A. jurisdictions held similar views to Ontario on this question. Resolutions to the same