

That he is a believer in fraternalism is evident from the fact that he is a member of A. F. and A. M., the K. of P. and the M. W. of A.

To the I.O.F., however, that he joined as a charter member of Court Alliance, he gives first place in his esteem, and all the time that he can spare from a large and growing practice. His first appearance in High Court was at Mansfield, 1895, when he was elected Counsellor. At Sandusky, in 1896, he was elected H.V.C.R., and at the session recently held at Conneaut he was unanimously chosen for the first position in the gift of his brethren. In Bro. Rogers, Bro. J. D. Clark, P.H.C.R., who filled the chair last year with conspicuous success, will find a worthy successor. A good deal is expected of Bro. Rogers' administration of the I.O.F. in his jurisdiction. He places a high estimate not only on the material benefits that the Order provides for its members, but also on the fraternal possibilities that inhere in it. He believes in its two-fold mission of providing substantial benefits for the sick and the bereaved, and cultivating habits of forethought, thrift, and self-denial, as well as setting to the community, through its members, a high example and of upright living.

We extend to Bro. Rogers our hearty congratulations on the honor conferred upon him by his brethren. We will rejoice at his success in carrying out his high purposes for the further development of the principles of the Order. In his profession, the work of his Church, and the work of the I.O.F., the 125,000 Foresters for whom we speak wish him abounding success.

First Official Circular.

Office of the High Chief Ranger,
ALLIANCE, OHIO, December 10th, 1897.

To the Officers and Members of the Subordinate Courts of Ohio:

BRETHREN,—Your attention is invited to the steady growth of our work in Ohio. We may take courage when we consider our progress and prominence in the development of the principles of our Order. Your High Chief Ranger desires to express to you his appreciation of the honors conferred upon him. True honors are ever associated with duties. The work of the High Chief Ranger is becoming more arduous with each succeeding year, and as his duties increase the necessity for the hearty co-operation of the entire membership becomes more apparent.

The member who joins the I.O.F. for the benefits it has for him and his family does a wise act; but he who comes into our work determined to assist in its growth does an infinitely wiser act. A broad and ever-widening field for usefulness opens out before him, and he is brought face to face with the possibilities of a life devoted to the service of others.

We must ever advance. No business institution can afford to do otherwise. We must remember that:

"New occasions teach new duties:
Time makes ancient good uncouth.
He must upward still and onward
Who would keep abreast of truth."

As Forestry advances, marking out the pathways in which others will gladly follow, we should inculcate in our lodge rooms a love for our Order that shall make us all valiant workers in the field at large for the good of ourselves, our Order and all mankind.

We should grow stronger in fraternity. We should bind ourselves together with ties of mutual strengthening. We should work together harmoniously for the good of all. No society can say truthfully that all the good is confined within its walls. The oldest must progress or fall into disrepute. Forestry is second to none in its possibilities along this line.

Your High Chief Ranger would impress upon each and every member of this jurisdiction the fact that opportunities for doing good are everywhere crowding around us. Life is not measured alone by the years we live. Monuments of memory reared in the minds of those we help along in the struggle of life are grander, greater, more enduring and much more to be coveted than those of marble, no matter how costly, that hide from view the glaring inconsistencies of selfish lives spent in the vain search for happiness, not knowing that this fickle goddess hides herself in the wants and needs of others.

"Let us then be up and doing
With a heart for any fate:
Still achieving, still pursuing,
Learn to labor and to wait."

Commissions will be issued to Court Deputy High Chief Rangers as soon as their respective elections are reported to the High Secretary.

Desiring to pay off as soon as possible our indebtedness to the Supreme Court, which has been carried over from preceding administrations, we request courts to report promptly the per capita tax and other items of revenue to the High Court.

The present administration is resolved to so conserve the funds of the High Court as to enable succeeding High Chief Rangers to enter upon their duties without embarrassment arising from lack of funds.

Consistently with this plan, help will be extended to weak courts and Forestry will be spread into the new fields that lie so temptingly open in various parts of the State.

Courts desiring the assistance of members of the High Standing Committee, or of other prominent members of the Order in connection with the installation of their new officers, will communicate with the High Chief Ranger, who will assist them, as far as possible, to make suitable arrangements.

No expenses for such services will be paid from funds of the High Court unless the ceremonies are conducted at a public meeting where invitations, either special or general, have been extended to the public and arrangements made for the spread of the principles of Forestry.

In cases of public or other meetings of importance, where the interests of the Order can be advanced, arrangements can be made for the attendance of suitable persons to assist. When it appears proper to do so, the High Chief Ranger will, prior to such meeting, direct the payment of part or all of such expenses from the funds of the High Court, and no expenses will be allowed without such order.

It is thought by many who are experienced in the work of the I.O.F. in Ohio, that the coming two or three years will be the critical point in the history of our work. If so, we need to remember that our future does not so much depend upon our numbers as upon the quality of our membership. Ohio may not build as fast as some other jurisdictions, but if she does her work carefully and builds with the best material which this, the best State of the best Nation of the whole wide world, affords, we can rest secure that the verdict of succeeding