

With reference to the legality of by-laws providing for life membership, it appears to have been decided that the payment of dues annually for any number of years cannot authorize the remitting of subsequently accruing dues. Life membership may be created by a single payment of a sufficient sum, or by the payment of such sum of money in installments, the basal idea being that, from interest or income upon the amount so paid, a fund may be derived for the support of the Commandery, and that thus each Sir Knight shall bear his part, and the Commandery not be subjected to the peril of becoming insolvent. Your Committee therefore recommend that the ruling of the Grand Commander on this subject be approved, except as to that portion which decides that payment of annual dues for a certain time may create life membership.

A capital report on Correspondence was presented by an old and valued member of the corps, Fratre Morton B. Howell, whose former reports were so well received. In his notice of Arkansas, he says:

We have long been of opinion that one of the most essential and important features of every Conclave should be an exemplification of the work of all the Orders. It should serve as a training school, and it is the only opportunity, certainly in this jurisdiction, that is afforded to Commanderies to learn how to perform their duties. This instruction might, with very great advantage, take the place of the banquet, the ball, or any other jollification, unless time were sufficient for both. We do not in the least detract from the advantage of the social features, and would promote them as far as possible, and there is generally no good reason why instruction and pleasure should not concur.

A lengthy extract is given from the address of our Grand Master in 1894.

Commanderies, 15; members, 1,065; decrease, 29.

Orion L. Hurlburt, (Chattanooga,) G. C.

Wilbur F. Foster, (Nashville,) G. R.

Texas.

Forty-first Conclave, Waco, April 17th, 1895.

E. J. Fry, G. C.

He has the following remarks on the condition of the Order:

While the growth of the Order has not been very great during the past year, probably owing to the stringency of the times, still the returns of the Subordinate Commanderies will show that the Order is in a good healthy condition, and we believe that the accessions to our ranks have been "good men and true," and that few, if any mistakes have been made; that the entrance