

From many sources we hear that Sunday, June 20th, was observed by the courts of the Order as a day of thanksgiving. This is as it should be; members of our noble Order have much to be thankful for.

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The I.O.F. is not only strong in the number of its members, their youth, physical vigor and business enterprise, but it is still stronger in their attachment to its principles and their loyalty in promoting its success.

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The record for June will stand alone. Up to Friday, the 25th, about 4,000 medical examination papers were examined. There will be at least another 1,000 before the end of the month. "To him that hath shall be given."

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Deeds rather than words. THE INDEPENDENT FORESTER will strive month by month in the future, as in the past, to be worthy of the great Order for which it speaks, and of the great and growing constituency to whom it speaks.

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Every Forester who possibly can, will make it a point to attend the opening of the "Temple" building—the permanent home of the Order. The event will be a memorable one.

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The attention of Sculptors is directed to the advertisement in another column inviting competition, and offering prizes for models of a life-size bronze statue of the Supreme Chief Ranger, Dr. Oronhyatekha.

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The impetus from June will be felt through July—but then, July should have its own impetus. The work should go right on. Men are exposed to accident, disease and death every month in the year, and every day and hour of the month.

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The members of the Order have much to be thankful for. The twenty-third year of the history of the I.O.F. was the most prosperous. It was becoming that the anniversary services should be characterized by praise and thanksgiving.

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We got more members in June than any other month in the year. We beg to assure the workers that a member secured in July or August is just as welcome. The community need the benefits of the I.O.F. for each of the twelve months in the year.

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The twenty-third anniversary of the Order was observed with more than ordinary enthusiasm by the courts throughout all jurisdictions. Thank-giving services were very generally held, and the attendance of Foresters and their friends was highly gratifying.

For June the applications will number 5,000. For the Forestry year that closed with June 30th the net gain will be over 20,000, and the increase in the surplus over *half a million*. What say the critics to the vitality of the Order and the sufficiency of the rates?

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About the 1st of July, 1896, several thousands of our members said, "I am going to bring in a member this year; but there is no hurry, the year is long." The year is gone, and the member has not been brought in. When will humanity learn the danger of delay!

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The season of High Court meetings is at hand. North Dakota, New Brunswick and Manitoba meet in July. In August, the three Ontarios, Washington and Prince Edward Island follow. In every instance the officers will be able to submit reports of more than average progress.

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Every village, town and city in Canada had a celebration commemorative of Victoria's long and glorious reign of 60 years. In every place where a court of the I.O.F. exists (and the places where they do not exist are few), the brethren joined heartily in the celebration.

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It looks as if the chronic grumbler was in peril of finding his occupation gone. What with the membership increasing by *thousands* and the surplus by *tens of thousands* monthly, the fault-finder will be reduced to one grievance—the I.O.F. does not afford a chance to grumble.

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And now it appears as if the bright hope of the Chief is to be realized, and that he will meet the next communication of Supreme Court in August, 1898, with a membership of 150,000, and a surplus of \$3,000,000. Let every one work for it, and it will be more than accomplished.

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"I have never been sick a day. I am of a healthy stock. I can do better with my money than paying for insurance or protection." The battle is not always to the strong. We have followed more than one such to the grave. The uncertainty of life is an unanswerable argument in favor of insurance.

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That there will be a falling off in the number of applications during the months of July and August is to be expected. Almost everybody takes a holiday. The Deputies and Organizers who have been pushing the work with such splendid results are entitled to a vacation. The work, however, must not cease. Applications can be had for the asking, and our members must not lose an opportunity to secure additions to our ranks.