

Tears of pleasure wet the cheeks of earnest and valiant fratres, joy filled every heart. There are now, in actual numbers, sheltered within the walls of the Home, fifty-eight orphan children, who, had not the mantle of Mrsonic charity been thrown around them, would to-day be wanderers, subject to the trials and temptations of a cold, selfish and wicked world, with no one to cheer or guide their footsteps while passing to manhood and womanhood. There are also fifteen widows, who, through the mysterious dispensation of Him who "doeth all things well," have been deprived of the support and protection of their husbands. Six indigent Masons, who through the misfortunes of life are now helpless. Fathers and mothers in Israel, whose race in life is near its end, who, when as you now are, were blessed with health, and the luxuries of life, were ever ready to aid the unfortunate, are now by the aid of their Masonic brethren sheltered and cheered, while passing through the remant of their days, with the necessaries of life.

Go with me to the Home. Songs of gladness from the little ones; the hearty handshake, accompanied with words of cheer, will greet you from the aged and infirm. Your hearts will swell with joy, your eyes fill with tears of pleasure, at the good work you have done.

We still have a great work to do. Our home is full, and must be enlarged. A hospital and sanatorium has become a necessity.

Your commitee, appointed one year ago, has accomplished a noble work. The most pleasant task I have had during my administration was to aid them in this laudable enterprise.

Concerning non-affiliates, the following were adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Recorder notify the Recorders of all Subordinate Commanderies to ascertain the name of each and every member that is not affiliated with a Chapter or Lodge, and the length of time they have been non-affiliated.

Resolved, That the Recorder of every Subordinate Commandery be instructed to inform each member of the decision of the Grand Commander in reference to non-affiliates approved at this Conclave.

Resolved, That the Grand Recorder, in preparing blank reports of subordinate commanderies supply a blank space for reporting non-affiliate chapter and lodge members.

The Sanitarium Fund was thus disposed of:

Resolved, That the several sums of money contributed by this Grand Commandery and its subordinates, already paid into its treasury, together with such other and further sums as may be subscribed and so paid, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Missouri concurring, be transferred and paid over to the Treasurer of the Masonic Home of Missouri, to be devoted and disbursed by its Board of Directors in such manner as will best subserve and carry out the intention of the donors, that our aged, infirm and helpless proteges may, when entering the dark valley, retire with naught but blessings upon their lips, thus carrying into demonstration the sentiment that giving to the poor is but lending to the Lord.

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