

in their pockets—and we all can understand how pleasant and agreeable it is to do that. We like it so well that in a short time one after another drops out, and finally the Lodge, after a brief existence, surrenders its charter. It should be our endeavour to make the expenses of starting Lodges as small as possible. Some might say that the revenue of the Grand Lodge will be decreased thereby, and that the Lodges would have to be taxed more heavily. To such I would point out that for the last two years no new Lodges have been instituted, and that Grand Lodge has been supported entirely by the present assessments; and therefore the greater number of Lodges, the larger the revenue would be. I trust you will give this subject the consideration it deserves, and that some method may be adopted to strengthen our position.

During the past year advantage has been taken of the Act of Amalgamation, which was adopted at our last session. Two Lodges, Enterprise, No. 14, of Yorkville, and Olympic, No. 19, of Toronto, who otherwise would have had to have suspended, and thereby many members lost to the Order, have amalgamated with other Lodges, the former with Mystic, No. 1, and the latter with Ivanhoe, No. 4.

In connection with this matter I would draw your attention to the fact that the compelling of members to sign the Roster of the Lodge, as required by your law, cannot be enforced without a great deal of trouble to Lodges and members; and, in some cases, injustice to the latter. For instance, what is to be done in the case of a member who is in good standing in his Lodge, and, by amalgamation, is transferred to another; but at the time of such being done he is in the States, and, upon deciding to remain, he wishes a withdrawal card? Under your law he would, before he could be granted one, have to travel several hundred miles simply to sign the Roster. Such a case has come to my personal knowledge, and I hope a remedy will be found.

Damon Lodge, No. 8, of Chatham, has ceased to exist, and its effects have been forwarded to me by D.D.G.C. McKellar.

I am unable to obtain any word regarding either Algoma Lodge, No. 11, at Sault Ste. Marie, or Crusader Lodge, No. 5, of Prince Arthur's Landing. Last fall Bro. Clarke, the Deputy of No. 5, wrote me that he was unable to work the Lodge up, and desired to know whether he should send its effects to me. I replied, telling him to do so; but I have heard nothing from him since. Something should be done towards getting the effects from both Lodges or having them started again, as our books and work should not be lying scattered all over.

From information received since the beginning of this year, I am pleased to be able to say that all our other Lodges, with one exception,