

camp an interesting place at night. Thousands of comfortably made cots and pillows are now being made for the Committee, and will be furnished for a slight fee, which will insure against breakage. Each visitor will furnish his own blankets. It is intended that every man in camp shall enjoy life to the limit.

The Committee in charge of the entertainment arrangements for the D. O. K. P. has quietly planned something in the way of a surprise for the pilgrims, and it is a sure thing that the slaves of His Royal Highness, the Imperial Prince, will return home from Detroit well satisfied. There will be one day set apart by the Municipality of Detroit, when the shrouded votaries will be allowed to run amuck, with license from Mayor Maybury to have nothing but a good time, and to see to it that no one else has the blues. There will be a heavy fine for anyone chancing to appear without his identity properly disguised, and when night comes, those who miss the sights and sounds will miss more than they have ever missed before.

Chairman Cunningham wishes to once more urge all veterans of the Spanish War who wish to have a grand reunion in Detroit during the Convention, to write to him at once. Some interest has been shown, but to make the plan a success it is necessary to have general expression for or against the plan.

—:o:—

SUSPENSION FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

Speech made by S. R., John T. Sutphen, at a Recent District Meeting.

The suspension of members for non-payment of dues has been the bete-noir of every Chancellor Commander, Deputy and Grand Chancellor of every domain for the past ten years. The malady has received various prescriptions. While carefully made in keeping with the diagnosis, the disease is of doubtful prognosis. Most of us have handled this matter as a financial monstrosity, treating it as a monetary mongrel.

The plans to alleviate this growing thorn in the fraternal body, have been numberless and unfruitful to a large degree. The Master of Finance has come in with both praise and abuse. He has had his salary diminished in proportion to his loss of membership in some lodges. He has received a percentage on collections in others. He has been forced to accept

payment of dues anywhere and everywhere, and then accept unkind words for real, supposed or imaginary clerical errors. Frequently carried to the destruction of harmony and brotherly love.

Other plans with the same self-aggrandizement as the crowning feature have been tried with failure branded upon the effort. All of these have added selfishness in a large ratio to the membership; drifting the Order into a grafting aggregation of "money sharks," ignoring the beautiful teachings of the ritual in every particular in the egotistic effort to line our exchequer or pockets with the lucre of the day.

The suspension of members for non-payment of dues is the natural sewer for our own misapplication of the good to be derived from the Order, by making misrepresentations to persons whom we invite to become members, that are not warranted by the teachings of the ritual. It may well be illustrated by the butcher at the meat-block the next morning following his introduction into the mysteries or the ranks of Knighthood. "Them Knights of Pythias did not do a thing to me last night. Oh, no! but then that is all right. Just think of it: If I get sick five dollars a week and a man to sit up with me; if I die they give me fifty dollars, a funeral procession with a brass band and a drum major with all his high-faluten clothes and all the flub-dubs that goes with it; and it only costs 'steen' dollars and one fifty every three months."

Now what induced him to join the fraternity of Knights of Pythias? What kind of a member will he make? Who is at fault? He was solicited to join the Order of Knights of Pythias by a member whose sole argument was compulsory benefits that the law provides for. He was led into the Order by the allurements of the "Golden Calf" held up as the crowning virtue of a humanitarian Order that is pledged to brotherly love by a member who had failed to comprehend the obligation he had taken, or the beautiful lessons taught by the Order.

Yet we boast of our excellent ritualistic work, magnificent and costly paraphernalia which together convey to the candidate in full and realistic exemplification the beauties of the Pythian fraternity. But on these two at least it was lost. They must, from their actions and words, look upon the Order as a cheap insurance company, and that they must get sick or die soon to beat the game on which they have staked a few dollars, in the hopes of beating their fellow

**A Superb Velvet and Satin Outfit
of Costumes for a Knights of Pythias
Lodge for \$256.00.**

The Detroit Uniform \$24.50.