

cheery greeting to all he knew, as did also the members of the court generally.

A short, interesting speech relating to the Order was at a fitting time given by James Marshall, Esq.

COURT PRINCE BLADUD, of Bath, No. 2086, held its regular monthly meeting in Beau Nash House on the 12th Oct., when the court, which is making considerable headway in its work of spreading the Order and its many benefits among our citizens, received further impetus to their efforts from a visit by Bro. Thomas Coles, H.C.R., several High Court officers, and officers and brethren from the three courts in Bristol. The visitors were warmly welcomed to Bath by Bro. Ernest J. White, C.R., and after the usual business of the court had been disposed of, including the initiation of a new member, H.C.R. Coles addressed the court, after congratulating it on the additions which were being made to its membership. Last year had seen the membership more than doubled in southern England, and he felt confident that this year would far eclipse it. Called upon by Bro. White, C.R., Bro. C. E. Price, H.V.C.R., Organizing Deputy, said nobody could question the advantage of having the Independent Order of Foresters in their midst when it was paying about £12,000 a month to aged or totally disabled members, and to the widows and orphans of deceased brethren. One hundred thousand men now enjoyed its protection for themselves and their families for sums up to £1,000, not one for less than £100. Less than a year ago there was only one member in Bristol, but by the time the year was complete there would be about eighty.

The High Chief Ranger, High Secretary and High Treasurer visited Court 1st Manchester, No. 2064, on the 23rd ult., for the purpose of advising and consulting with the brethren on a matter affecting the welfare of the court.

A special whip had been made to ensure a good attendance to meet the High Officers, and in consequence there were a goodly number present.

The High Chief Ranger went into the question thoroughly and in detail, and was followed by nearly every member present. The High Treasurer was pointed and convincing in his remarks, and the High Secretary spoke strongly against a resolution on the agenda, which was, however, ultimately withdrawn.

The encouragement, the presence, and the advice which the High Court officers gave to the brethren will, it is believed, help them to renewed effort in the various directions in which it is most wanted.

A special meeting of the five courts of Nottingham was called by H.C.R. for 7.30 Monday, 12th October, at North Lodge Room, Albert Hall, when members attended from each court. Several letters of apology were received, and many members had given reasons to H.C.R. for non-attendance. After opening the meeting in due form, the H.C.R. gave an address, practical and thoughtful. More than ever before the brethren realized what an interesting topic the I.O.F. is; in-

deed there was evidence that it was thought desirable the H.C.R.'s address be printed and distributed to every member—but this was not urged, as it was hoped that the substance of it might appear in the FORESTER in due course. Referring to the Order he said:

"Perhaps you think I ought to say a few words to strengthen the confidence of any who may be just a little weak in their faith in the Order. I proudly and promptly say that I have every confidence in the Order, and our great, energetic Supreme Chief Ranger. I joined the Order in November, 1893, and I am pleased to reflect that I have served my brethren as Beadle, C.D.H.C.R., and C.R. in my sub-court. Twice I have been elected delegate to the High Court, and since attending as delegate I have had a probationary period as H.V.C.R., before I was elected H.C.R., and I wish to say that from the very first I had confidence in the stability of the Order, and step by step as I have seen more of the splendid manner in which everything is worked, I may say that I have added to my confidence in the I.O.F. Might I point out that every member should be a canvasser and agent on behalf of the I.O.F. I feel gratified that seven members were added to my court during my presidency, and that I can justly claim three of them as mine. I know, of course, many who can't so speak are trying hard and doing their best. To them I would like to say something pleasing and for encouragement. Bro. Marshall said at our last High Court meeting that, though our progress was not what he would like, still he was glad to point out that the progress in Britain was greater than it had been in Canada over the corresponding period in its history there, viz., the first three years after re-organization. We all ought to be proud of this. Let us show *more* energy, and resolve that each court shall be strengthened. Progress must be our watchword. The friendly and brotherly side of the Order must not be lost sight of. We cannot get away from the fact that once we join the I.O.F. we are BROTHERS, and more should be made of this privilege."

Questions were invited, and these led to excellent discussions.

Bro. Pyatt, H.V.C.R., then exemplified the unwritten work of Subordinate Court, the members having pleasure and profit thereby.

Brother Furze hoped the High Court would soon be able to have an able organizer. Brother Pyatt, H.V.O.R., introduced the subject of united meetings of greater frequency for devising aggressive effort, and for social purposes. It was resolved that this question be dealt with by every court at their next meeting, and the H.C.R. was to be communicated with regarding a quarterly united meeting. After other matters had been dealt with, the H.C.R. closed the meeting, which had been a most interesting one, and augured well for the future.

At a special meeting of Court Major Oak, No. 2,089, Nottingham, held on the 6th Oct., a member was initiated by the H.C.R. (Bro. C. Gerring), assisted by the H.V.C.R. (Bro. Pyatt) and Bro. W. F. H. Thompson. There was a good attendance, and the full initia-