

it is vested the supreme power of the Order in North America.

The National Division is the law-making body, promulgates the rituals and ceremonies, prescribes the regalia and badges, and its presiding officer issues the passwords for the year. The National Division of North America meets annually, and it has also chartered National Divisions for Great Britain and Ireland, Australasia, and Victoria and South Australia.

Each branch has its appropriate work and together they form a perfect unity, vigorous and effective for the spread of Temperance, Fraternity and Charity.

In Ontario an excellent system of District Divisions is in operation. These are composed of the Subordinate Divisions in certain specified Districts. Representatives are elected and meet as a rule quarterly, for the purpose of making the acquaintance of the co-workers in their District, for counsel, encouragement and inspiration in carrying on the work. This branch of our organization has no legislative functions, but serves a very useful purpose in binding and cementing the Order.

#### MEMBERSHIP.

It has no privileged classes; it enrolls under its tri-colored banner all ranks in society. Women have every right and privilege accorded to any member, and are eligible to every office in the gift of the Order. It recognizes no distinction on account of race, sex, color, or former condition, but all are alike equal, and all join in the common purpose of promoting the public weal and overthrowing the wrongs of intemperance from which the world suffers.

It admits to membership persons of fourteen years of age and upwards, and its quarterly dues and initiatory fees are regulated by the local or Subordinate Division. Its membership is loyal and devoted to the extension of the Order, and it aims to bring to the discussion of this problem, intelligence, patriotism and true heroism.

The Order not only enjoins total abstinence, but it takes all legitimate and honorable means to suppress and prohibit the manufacture of and the traffic in intoxicating beverages, and will never rest satisfied until the annihilation of the drink system is secured.

#### ITS CEREMONIES.

The Order is made attractive by impressive ceremonies, and a solemn admonition, to so live as to make men better—consequently happier. While classed among the "secret" temperance societies, it is destitute in its mystic features of either sign, grip or degree. It is purely a voluntary association with just and explicit laws.

The ritual service is brief, including admonitions from the Bible, elevating moral precepts, and the refining influence of music.

#### THE ORDER IS EDUCATIONAL.

No person can fill the various official positions without practically fitting himself or herself for the various duties and positions in public

life outside of the Order in civil, social, municipal, political and religious organizations.

Under the "Good of the Order," readings, declamations, debates, music and other literary exercises are introduced. The relation of the temperance reform to every phase of social, moral, political and religious life is discussed; thus are taught the principles of total abstinence, justice, truth, good government, morality and religion. Temperance literature is widely circulated by the Order at large.

#### MUTUAL RELIEF SOCIETY.

The Sons of Temperance National Mutual Relief Society is conducted as a business enterprise. The admission fee is small and the assessments are equitably graded. The insurance is mutual and for safety and economy is excelled by none and equalled by few. An insurance from \$100 to \$2,000 is given. It is a valuable auxiliary in Propagation Work and merits and should receive the hearty support of the Order.

#### LOYAL CRUSADERS.

The Loyal Crusaders, our children's organization, is new in all respects. It is an open society with a simple and beautiful ritual, with banners, badges and attractive supplies. Each Subordinate Division is required to have a Superintendent of Young Peoples Work, and should at once organize a company of Loyal Crusaders. This branch of the work is rapidly pushing itself to the front. If the boys and girls are enlisted the future strength of the Order is assured. The desire of the National Division is to make the Loyal Crusaders the brightest, happiest, and most aggressive children's organization in the world.

#### AN INVITATION.

The Sons of Temperance co-operate with all other temperance organizations, either secret or open, and by the influence of Love, Purity and Fidelity, strive to make happy homes, pure lives, and more exalted characters, thus hastening the day when peace, temperance and righteousness shall triumph over war, intemperance and sin.

Will you aid us in this beneficent work? Please send your application for membership, giving name and address to any member of the Order in your vicinity; if there is no Subordinate Division in your locality, please communicate with the Grand Scribe whose address is below.

Address of Grand Scribe:

W. H. Bewell, Whitby, Ont.

#### SPECIAL.

With next issue we will give to each subscriber a copy of the photo engraving of the representatives attending the 49th annual session of the G. D., held at Toronto in December last. It will be printed on heavy toned paper and will be an interesting picture.

#### WHAT MAKES LIFE WORTH LIVING.

*Two letters bringing cheer to the Sanctum.*

EDITOR RECORD:—Some good brother favored me with the January RECORD and I must tell you how delighted I am with it. I see many society journals, but seldom, indeed, have I seen so much really interesting news of any Order compressed into such small compass. "The success of THE RECORD depends on YOU," met my eye on the 1st page, so I am sending my mite, 25c., because I cannot attend my Division very often and your newsy paper will keep me posted and in touch with the first secret society I ever joined, now a little over 30 years ago. As you suggest, Divisions should first of all order a copy for each family and then appoint a member to send all suitable items to help make THE RECORD interesting to all.

You will be glad to know that although there is no Division in Bowmanville now, the good work done here years ago has borne abundant fruit. When I came here 20 years ago, if my memory serves me right, there were 9 or 10 licensed bars and shops. Now only 2 licenses are issued in this beautiful town.

Wishing you and THE RECORD the success you deserve and trusting that Ontario will lead, I am

Fraternally yours,

M. A. JAMES.

Bowmanville, Jan. 18, 1898.

CAINTOWN, Jan. 12th, 1898.

*To the Officers of the Grand Division:*

At the meeting of the Life Boat Division, January 8th, was made the following resolution: Moved by Bro. Jas. Ferguson, seconded by Bro. W. G. Connoley, that we the members of Life Boat Division, No. 242 S. of T. desire to convey to the Grand Division our most hearty thanks for the prize of a regalia which was awarded this Division for increased membership."

I do not know that I could convey to you more acceptable tidings than to tell you how much we appreciate your kindness in awarding the prize, and that it will I believe serve as an impetus to make still greater exertion in the way of gathering in new members.

I have pleasure in telling you that on our last night of meeting we initiated eight new members and have on hand several proposals. We are making our Division very interesting and no matter what the weather is we always have a large attendance. We always have visitors as we do lots of visiting. But we not only have a good time socially, but we are doing a work as the friends of the liquor traffic are aware. We have a great work to do and we believe we can do more by co-operating and in uniting our forces than by any other way, and this is what we are doing.

Wishing you a happy and prosperous new year.

I remain

Yours in L. P. and T.,

GEO. L. BUELL.

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