

noble cause. A worker in a cause whose holy mission is the protection of the weak and helpless and in the social and intellectual advancement of mankind.

There are many duties not laid down in the rules that your humble Secretary is supposed to be perfect in. She must be able to sit with smiling face while the perpetual fault-finder picks her record to pieces. She (the fault-finder) never worded the motion in "that ungrammatical style," or "that motion was not carried after all," and when our fault-finder is usually convinced that she is wrong and the Secretary is right she still acts as if she were the one that has a right to feel offended.

The Secretary is also supposed to be a walking edition of the history of her Court since its conception, and as such must have every event that has transpired at her tongue's end so as not to be obliged to take the time to look it up.

It is also the duty of the Secretary to always appear at the appointed time with a dray-load of books, papers and records that may possibly be used that evening, for if she did neglect to bring anything that was needed she might be reminded that it was her business and what she was paid for. But enough of this lecturing, or you will get the impression that as Secretary of Court Minnehaha I have a hard time of it, but nothing could be farther from the truth than this, for our thriving Court is little blessed with the genus "Kicker."

The responsibilities of a Recording Secretary are of course in exact ratio to the accountability she feels for the faithful performance of her duties. But for any one who has the interest of the Order at heart, the responsibility felt should be great. As the duties are most pressing so are the responsibilities involved equally great and the Court that makes the mistake of electing a Recording Secretary who fails to recognize her responsibility is sure to suffer.

A Court is no more bound to tolerate a slothful and negligent Secretary than the Secretary is to tolerate a perpetual fault-finder. A Recording Secretary should by all means be present at the meetings with her minutes duly written, nothing but of the most vital importance should keep her from her post of duty.

Perhaps the one duty for which all Secretaries feel the most responsibility is the correspondence and it is well that this is so, for it is by the correspondence of a Court that it is judged. But many Recording Secretaries make the mistake of supposing neatness and style to be of more importance than prompt attention and sagacity in wording. The prompt notification of a candidate of her election or rejection is absolutely necessary, yet how often is this the straw upon which we stumble.

The Constitution in three words (record all proceedings) defines the most important work of the Recording Secretary. Work which calls for a knowledge of parliamentary procedure and English composition and for impartiality, discriminating judgment and strict fidelity to truth; for in a way the Secretary is the historian of the Court and it is necessary that the data handed down from one administration to another be correct.

Another responsibility which rests heavily upon the Recording Secretary is account keeping with the Financial Secretary. The importance of this cannot be over-estimated. For the sake of the Financial Secretary, if for no other reason, the Re-

ording Secretary should see that matters, financial in nature, should be kept straight.

Sister Secretary: When you feel discouraged and in despair at the lack of appreciation showed you in your work take courage in the thought that you are helping on a movement that is lightening the load of the sick and helpless and is steadily making the "Brotherhood of Man" not a dream but a reality.

Procrastination is a lender who exacts heavy interest.

The High Courts.

HIGH COURT OF CENTRAL ENGLAND.

A meeting of the Leeds and district members was held on Monday, July 3rd, in the Queen's Hall, Hunslet, at which fourteen courts were represented, Bro. J. Gibson, H.C.R. Central England, presided.

Bro. Martin, P.H.C.R., introduced the subject of a Central Committee being formed in Leeds, and also a Central Room and Office; he had brought the matter forward at the High Court meeting held at Southport, and felt that it was a necessity in order to carry on more successfully the work of the I.O.F. The idea has been carried out in Southport and Glasgow in a very successful manner, and it was for the brethren of Leeds and district to decide whether they should follow out the same idea. The committee, he suggested, should meet at least once a month and discuss matters affecting each Court in the district.

It should arrange for some of its members to pay visits to the various Courts, giving addresses on Forestry work, and encouraging the officers and members to improve their Courts, particularly in the method of working the same.

After some discussion it was decided to form a Joint Committee of all the Courts in the district.

The following officers were elected:—

President, Bro. J. Gibson, H.C.R., Court City of Leeds, 2052.

Vice President, Bro. H. J. Martin, P.H.C.R. Court Rothwell, 2028.

Secretary, Bro. W. T. Walker, H.A., Court Horsforth, 2254.

Treasurer, Bro. T. K. Diggle, D.D.H.C.R. Court Armley Excelsior, 2106.

Bro. Gibson was congratulated upon his election as High Chief Ranger by several speakers, and in responding said that the High Court meeting at Southport had been the most successful and pleasant one since the formation of the High Court, and that the membership in this jurisdiction had increased 92 per cent. during the past two years, whilst the membership in the Order was nearly 149,000.

They could be congratulated upon the valuation which had been made on behalf of the Order by Mr. Rea, the Actuary, to the Pearl Life Insurance Company for the Board of Trade, which distinctly showed that we were in a sound financial position, and pointed out that in this gentleman's report he stated that owing to the fraternal system in which our business was conducted, and the splendid way in which our funds were invested, they were more than ample to meet all liabilities.