

as follows, in accordance with the provisions of Section 39, sub-section 7, Supreme Court Constitution :

Membership 1st July, 1895.....	80,765
Net increase to 1st July, 1896.....	15,359
Membership 1st July, 1896.....	96,124
Net increase to 1st July, 1897.....	19,877
Membership 1st July, 1897.....	116,001
Net increase to 1st July, 1898.....	19,961
Membership 1st July, 1898.....	135,962

Increase during term, 55,197 ; percentage of increase, 68.

HIGH COURTS.

In existence July 1st, 1895, 27. July 1st, 1898, 36.

Increase during the term, 9.

SUBORDINATE COURTS.

In existence July 1st, 1895, 2,063. July 1st, 1898, 3,164.

Increase during the term, 1,101.

FUNDS.

NAME.	Bal. on hand, Dec. 31, 1894.	Receipts from all sources.	Total.	Disbursements.	Bal. on hand, Dec. 31, 1897.
Mortuary.....	\$1,128,136 54	\$3,691,394 76	\$4,819,531 30	\$2,381,036 36	\$2,438,494 94
S. & F. Ben.....	59,088 57	414,515 33	473,603 90	353,266 06	120,337 84
General.....	33,229 31	799,265 40	799,265 40	(33,229 31)	
				(766,036 09)	
Surplus.....	1,187,225 11	1,371,607 67	2,558,832 78		2,558,832 78
Contingent.....		245,043 34	245,043 34	185,666 13	59,379 21

STATE OF THE ORDER.

In brief, the state of the Order on the 1st day of July, 1898, was as follows :

Members in good standing.....	135,962
Applications accepted since July 1st, 1898.....	3,222
Applications awaiting action by Medical Board.....	536
Insurance in force.....	\$185,000,000
Insurance accepted since July 1st, 1898.....	\$2,161,000
Insurance accepted awaiting action on application.....	\$967,000
Death rate during last term.....	5.51
Death rate since organization.....	5.89
Benefits paid during past term.....	\$2,493,673.85
Benefits paid since organization.....	\$5,776,929.88
Average daily disbursement during past term for Death, Sick and Funeral Benefits.....	\$2,277.32

TEMPLE BUILDING.

Your Committee are of the opinion that the erection of the magnificent edifice we occupy today as the permanent home of the Order was in every way a judicious and prudent investment, and that the action of the Supreme Executive with relation thereto merits and should receive the approval of this Supreme Court. The building is not only modern and complete in every respect, but it is proving a profitable investment from a financial standpoint. The fact that ours is the only society of its kind which owns such a structure will direct attention to the Independent Order of Foresters, and the more investigation our system receives, the more will it be appreciated and the greater will be the growth of the Order.

ORGANIZING WORK.

During the past term some two hundred thousand dollars have been expended for organizing and mission work.

Upon this subject your Committee beg to report that they have made diligent search into the methods and procedure thereof, and hereby express their commendation of the great activity, earnest efforts and intelligent services rendered by those having in charge the aforesaid duties throughout the entire jurisdiction. Your Committee feel that

they would be derelict in their duty did they not in some measure fittingly refer to this subject and make report thereon expressive of their appreciation of the organizers in the employ of the Order ; for statistics prove that during the past term the old line insurance companies averaged about 1.25 new policies written for each policy lapsed, whereas the Independent Order of Foresters wrote 3.75 Benefit Certificates for each one forfeited.

Realizing the great importance of this work and the beneficial results which are sure to follow, the energetic prosecution thereof upon the lines heretofore adopted, your Committee earnestly recommend that the Supreme Chief Ranger be directed to have all necessary steps taken for a continuance in the future of the measures which, with reference to this particular branch of our labors, have crowned the Independent Order of Foresters with such signal success.

INVESTMENTS.

Your Committee are in most hearty accord with the statement of the Supreme Chief Ranger, that the matter of our investments is of the most vital importance.

In December last a large and representative committee of the High Court officers of the various jurisdictions made a complete examination of all investments made for the Order, and after the exhaustive and satisfactory report made by them, which has been published in full, we do not deem it necessary to report at any length on that question.

We feel that the officers of the Executive who are entrusted with the investment of our funds are fully capable of attending to the work in a manner that will promote the best interests of the Order. In this connection we beg to call particular attention to the report of Hon. S. C. Wood, ex-treasurer of the Province of Ontario, and Hon. R. P. Tomlinson, manager British Canadian Loan and Investment Company, which establishes beyond peradventure that the securities of the Order are without doubt in a healthier and better condition than the securities of any other financial institution in the world.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS.

Your Committee have had under consideration the various memorials and petitions from the High