

SPLENDID TESTIMONY.

In the October issue of the "Pythian Knight," of Waco, Texas, appears the following very excellent contribution from Brother R. F. Naylor, of Savoy, Texas. It is a voluntary expression of admiration of, and confidence in the Endowment Rank, and one that all Pythians can heartily endorse. He says:

In this progressive age there is scarcely any question in which the people are more deeply interested than the subject of life insurance. The reason there is so much excitement in the subject is that it has solved the perplexing question as to how a man of limited means may make ample provisions for his family, or those dependent upon him in case of his death.

There was a time when fraternal insurance companies were in an experimental stage, and it could not be clearly demonstrated that the rates had been adjusted in such a manner as to enable them to promptly meet all claims which might be made upon them.

Of recent years, however, this question has been solved to the entire satisfaction of a majority of the people, and fraternal insurance companies are generally regarded (with possibly a few exceptions) as sound and reliable, and there can be no doubt that they will continue to grow in popularity on account of their cheapness and reliability.

Most prominent among the organizations that furnish insurance to their members is the Endowment Rank, K. of P. It was established in the year 1877, and from the time of its establishment there is not an instance on record where it has ever refused or failed to pay a claim.

At the period of its incipency it experienced some difficulty in regard to properly adjusting the rates, but it has gradually been improved in this and other respects until at the present time it has reached a high state of perfection and is managed in a more efficient and methodical manner than at any previous time in its history.

The affairs of the Endowment Rank are managed by the Board of Control, located at Chicago. The Board has entire charge and management of the affairs of the Endowment Rank, but are subject to restrictions as the Supreme Lodge may from time to time provide. The men composing this Board have been selected from the very best material in our Order, and deserve much praise for the creditable manner in which they have discharged the arduous duties imposed upon them.

The strongest evidence we have of the popularity of the Endowment Rank is its phenomenal growth, which has been nearly commensurate with that of the Order. In the year 1897 it had a membership of 50,000, which since then has been augmented to an appreciable extent. Its present endowment amounts to \$107,000,000, and since its organization it has paid to beneficiaries an immense sum of \$14,000,000.

We do not believe that an individual who feels a deep interest in those dependent upon him can make a more judicious expenditure than to invest a portion of his income in reliable life

insurance, thus securing his family against penury and want. We believe it is the imperative duty of every eligible Knight to become a member of the Endowment Rank, provided he does not carry other reliable insurance.

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MRS. RAFFERTY'S 'CENSUS.

"How many in your family?" the census-taker said.

"Hoo mony?" Mrs. Rafferty she shook her tousled head.

"Well, shure, I think there is eliven. Just let me count," said she.

"There's Mike, my mon thot's did, an' me an' Patsy—hat makes three—

The triplets four, and Mary five, Tim six, and Bridget seven;

The blessed twins is eight. That's all." "But that is not eleven."

"Now wait a bit. There's me—thot's wan—and little Patsy, two,

The triplets three, an' Bridget four, an' Timmy, there by you.

Is five, an' poor did Mike is six, an' me darlin' little twins

Is seven, an' Katy eight. Oh, dear! Now if I just begins

Wid Molke that's did—Hiven rest his sowl!—I'm shure to git thim right.

For 'dade there's 'liven—leastways there was when they went to bed llast night.

Poor Mike is wan, the twins is two, Timmy and Patsy four,

An' Mary five, an' Mike—oh, no; I counted him before—

An' Mary five, an' Bridget six—ah, now I've got them straight—

An' Katy seven, the triplets eight—shure, the triplets they make eight—

An' Katy seven, the triplets eight. Where have the others gone?

By all the saints in Hiven, I know I've counted ivery wan.

Now whist an' shtop yer shpakin': I'll count thim just wance more.

There's me, an' Tim, an' Patsy, an' Katy—that is four;

The triplets an' the twins is six, an' Bridget—now jist wait—

An' Bridget seven, and poor did Mike—yes, poor did Mike makes eight;

Yes, thot is right," said Mrs. R., and rubbed her tousled pate;

"I t'ought there was eliven, but I see there is but eight."

—Pearson's Weekly.

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The rate for members of the Order joining the Endowment Rank, who desire to take out a \$1,000 certificate, payable at death, where their age does not exceed twenty-five, is 30 cents per month, including the charge for the expense of doing the business, so that really it costs a Knight of Pythias, at that age, but \$10 a year to secure insurance for \$1,000—and remember, that this price does not change.