

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Your Finance Committee begs to submit the following report and recommendations.

We recommend that the per capita tax of 40 cts. be continued at the present rate, and that the High Standing Committee use as much of this as possible in building up weak courts by the distribution of literature and the appointment of District Deputies where travelling expenses shall be paid by the High Standing Committee.

Respectfully submitted, L. L., B. and C.,
R. C. PLUME, P. A. BANKER,
A. G. BLACK, W. A. THORP,
J. T. LINES.

Report received and adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON STATE OF THE ORDER.

High Chief Ranger and Brethren of the High Court of N. J.:

Your Committee on State of the Order respectfully report the condition of Forestry in New Jersey. It is in many respects highly satisfactory. The increase in membership, while not numerically as large as the merits of the Order warrant, is still gratifying, all the circumstances being considered. At the same time, it is a source of regret that other like Orders are making much more strenuous efforts than we to secure new members, and are succeeding. These facts should spur us to greater effort. Our Order is second to none.

Ten per cent. of the moneys due to the High Court remains unpaid, a proportion altogether too large.

We commend very highly the courts which have paid their dues in full, and regret that the high percentage of general prosperity is so reduced by the delinquencies of a few courts.

Yours in L., B. and C.,
C. C. MCBRIDE,
F. WELLER,
THOMAS HEYWOOD,
WILLIAM STEVENS.

Report received and adopted

OFFICERS FOR 1897-98
ELECTED.

H.C.R., J. C. Calvert, Elizabeth, Court Columbus; H.V.C.R., L. T. Tittsworth, Dunellen; H. Secy., J. H. Dravis, Washington; H. Treas., W. T. Cox, Court Hancock; H. Phys., W. S. Lockwood, Bloomfield Center; H. Councillor, Clarence D. Ward, Daily; H. Auditors, Irving Wagner, Port Richmond; T. Gallagher, Somerset; and also the following appointed officers: H. Chaplain, F. J. Alderson, Court Summit; H. J. Sec., R. P. DeGroot, Jr., Elizabeth; H.S.W., F. Weller, South End; H.J.W., P. F. Nash, Palisade; H.S.B., W. H. Thorp, Jersey City; H.J.B., Wm. Lawrence, Monmouth; H. Marshall, Joseph Phillips, Lafayette; H. Conductor, F. L. Severs, Columbus; H. Mess, W. H. DeHart, Port Richmond.

The above officers were duly installed by Bro. P.H.C.R. Stevens.

REPRESENTATIVES TO SUPREME COURT.

Bros. Bingham, Febrey, Heywood and Wenzel. Good and welfare addresses were given by the H.C.R., P.H.C.R., H. Secy. and H. Treas.

It was moved and seconded that a badge be procured for P.H.C.R. Febrey, at a cost not to exceed \$25.00. Carried.

It was moved and seconded that any member bringing in six members before the first of February be presented with a gold badge. Carried.

It was moved and seconded that the representatives from the High Court to the Supreme Court be instructed to endeavor to have some of the surplus funds deposited in this State. Carried.

It was moved and seconded that the High Court pay its representatives to the Supreme Court the sum of \$40.00. Carried.

On motion a hearty vote of thanks was tendered the Supreme Secretary for his presence and assistance.

On motion the High Court adjourned at 9.20 p.m.

R. P. DEGROOT, JAMES C. CALVERT.
H. Journal Secretary. High Secretary.

The membership looks for progress in the State where the Order had its birth.

For September the showing is creditable—48 applications. Let us see how easily the number can be doubled.

Indiana.

Prosperity is coming; why not meet it half way?

The membership in Indiana ought to be 2,000 on Jan. 1st, 1898. Are you doing anything to advance your court? If not, why not?

Dr. T. F. Memough, of Court Shattuck, has departed for the Klondyke, and hopes to become rich enough to divide with the court.

Courts Anderson and White River, of Anderson, are still doing good work and expect to each represent a membership of 100 at the next High Court meeting in February.

Thirty-one applications for September. Indiana can and will do better than this. Will every member in the State lend a hand? The I.O.F. expects every member to do his duty.

Court Miami, No. 661, still leads the State with 162 members. As soon as the members of this court recover from the excitement of the discovery of oil in their city, they will change these figures to 200.

Court Noble, of Logansport, has recently moved into new quarters, and now has one of the finest halls in the city. Visiting Foresters are always welcome. Hall on Pearl Street, between Broadway and Market.

Court Manhattan, of Evansville, is now preparing for the winter campaign. The members of this court have determined to have the name "Manhattan" substituted for that of "Maine" in the list of "leading courts in each jurisdiction." This will require some "tall hustling," but the boys are capable of it.

Court Elwood, No. 1097, is gradually taking possession of the city government. It now has on its roll of members the names of the leading members of the council, police force, fire department, constabulary, board of health, and will initiate the city treasurer at its next meeting. As soon as they get the treasury they will be in position to run the town.

The H. Secretary visited Court Alexandria on the 27th instant, and assisted in the initiation of three of the leading citizens. The good condition of the "Court Goat" is assured by this accession. With a real estate man to furnish pasture, a dentist to fix his teeth, and a doctor to supply him with tonic, he certainly ought to thrive. The above refers to the goat and not to the H. Secretary.