

same time, provided the Candidates are conducted in lots of three, and in no other manner.

(b) Is it permissible for the chief Presiding Officer, in any of the three degrees, to dispense with the opening and closing ceremonies by ruling that the body assembled will open or close "without ceremony," in order to avoid detaining the Brethren to a very late hour when the evening's work is particularly heavy?

Ans.—It is not permissible for any Presiding Officer, except the Grand Z. to close any Lodge or Chapter without the full ceremony.

(c) How often during his term of office must a Second or Third Principal occupy his seat of office in the Royal Arch degree to entitle him to promotion at the Annual Elections?

Ans.—Every officer in a Chapter occupies his position until his successor has been elected and installed or invested. No Companion is entitled to promotion, but given such by the votes of his Companions.

7. The question was asked whether demits could be issued while a Chapter was closed for four or five months.

A Chapter, I ruled, must meet every three months, and that no demits could be issued unless passed upon in open Chapter. That is, if a Chapter did not meet, then demits could not be issued, and if the Chapter became dormant only the Grand Scribe E. was qualified to issue demits.

8. A Chapter in British Columbia having become dormant, the question was asked as to the standing of the members whose names appeared upon the books of that Chapter.

After reading Section 248, page 64, of the Constitution (1918), I decided that the Companions of a dormant Chapter whose books had been returned to the office of the Grand Scribe E., and who are found clear on the books, or who subsequently made good all