

FROM RATHBONE.

To the Editor of the "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother.—Now, that the long nights are drawing near, and those dreary evenings are upon us; and when man's spirit is like the weather, inclined to be dull, and one gives way to the "blues," it requires something out of the ordinary to cheer him up, and this is what the different lodges of the City have been trying to do. Those who were at Rathbone Lodge, on Friday evening, the 27th, went away with the feeling that the knights of Vancouver are jolly good fellows. We will tell you all about it before we finish.

We are pleased to inform our brothers that our worthy Editor and P. C. of Rathbone Lodge, Bro. G. R. Maxwell is on the road to recovery, after a very serious illness.

Our Grand Chancellor, after his return from the Upper Country, spoke with much enthusiasm in regard to the lodges through that district, and gave special mention of Trail and Nelson, but Revelstoke, he thought, tried to out-do them all. He gave much praise to the organisers of the new and baby lodge of British Columbia, and if its members are all like the brother who visited us the other evening we can back him up in his statement.

It is much regretted that our G. C. is in such poor health, and we hope that his trip to the South will be both of benefit to health as also a financial success. He is much missed from the lodge room, and we hope to hear from him as often as possible.

We also regret that one of our most regular attendants and Charter members has left our City for pastures new, Bro. Allan, who has accepted a position down in New Mexico. Most of our brothers have had the experience of parting from some very dear friend, and when Brother Allan informed us of his departure, a gloom seemed to be cast over the proceedings of the evening. Though much we will miss him and the regrets are many, we hope that his venture will in every way be successful.

We have been honored during the month by visits from several knights, one from Chicago, who proved to us that he was a musician that

Vancouver would be proud of, also brothers from Granville and Crusader Lodges and from the new Lodge of Revelstoke.

We received one application for membership and he was duly put through the first rank on Friday, the 27th, and we have every indication that he will make a good member as well as a worker.

We will now relate a little of what took place on that evening. Although the night was a stormy one, we had a large attendance and after the Degree work was over, the lodge was thrown open to all for a general good time. Speaking of the degree work, the officers went through their parts without the use of the Ritual, and we think that our acting C. C., Bro. Simpson, should be highly complimented on the way he went through his part, considering the very short time he had to study it up, and also his being new at the work.

Bros. Sample and Ackerman, who represented the New Westminster brothers, gave us interesting remarks, and, referring to a song that had been sung, gave a short reminiscence of their boyhood days "down on the farm." We also had spicy and witty remarks from Bros. Behnsen, Clarke, Anderson, Brooke and others. Cigars were passed round, then coffee and cake and a lanjo solo and several songs given by our friend Mr. Herbert, who was encored time and time again. We should like to hear more of him.

Bro. De Forrest, who is leaving shortly for Toronto, gave us a number of interesting recitations and short songs.

Bro. S. R. Robb was also with us, and, as an entertainer, he ranks among the first. The "News-Advertiser" representative, Mr. E. Sands, was with us, and after complimenting the knights on their entertaining qualities, informed us that it would not be his fault if he was not a knight before the end of the year. Rathbone Lodge is looking for new members and we extend a hearty invitation to him. It was about midnight, when, after singing "Auld Lang Syne," in the old way, and God Save the Queen, we all dispersed to our various homes.

Yours in F. C. and B.,

ARTHUR CROOK.

Vancouver, October 30th, 1899.

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