

session to be held in Toronto on Wednesday the 20th day of March, 1912," sec. 63 (1) had read:

"63. (1) Each and every present member of this Order, from and after the 1st day of May, A.D., 1905, and each and every new member of this Order, without notice, commencing with the month following the receiving of the Workman Degree, shall pay to the financier of the Lodge a monthly assessment of the amount designated opposite the age of the member at the date of admission to the Order according to the following graded plan: (the ages and amounts were then set out, beginning with 16 and ending with "49 and over"). The circular said:—

"1. Amendment proposed by the Executive Committee. That the following be substituted for sub-sec. 1, sec. 63, p. 39 of the Constitution:

"Each and every present member of this Order, from and after the 1st day of May, A.D., 1912, and each and every new member of this Order without notice, commencing with the month following the receiving of the Workman Degree, shall pay to the Financier of the Lodge a monthly assessment of the amount designated opposite the age of the member as at May 1st, 1905, according to the following graded plan; but provided that no member shall be required to pay a higher assessment than is designated for age 49." And a table followed with the same ages and amounts as before.

I am not concerned in the interpretation of this curious amendment and do not enquire whether the effect would have been to make the member pay more or less than on the previous plan.

The Grand Lodge met on March 20th and 21st, 1912. At the afternoon session of the first day the Executive Committee submitted their Report, incorporating the proposed amendment, this was referred back to the Executive Committee for further inquiry, and that all proposed amendments . . . in any form affecting the assessment rates which are before . . . this Grand Lodge session shall, after full discussion, remain in abeyance as to voting thereon until the Executive Committee shall have presented their findings and recommendations tomorrow morning for the consideration of the Grand Lodge." The Executive Committee met that evening to formulate their report which they submitted the following morning. It read thus:—