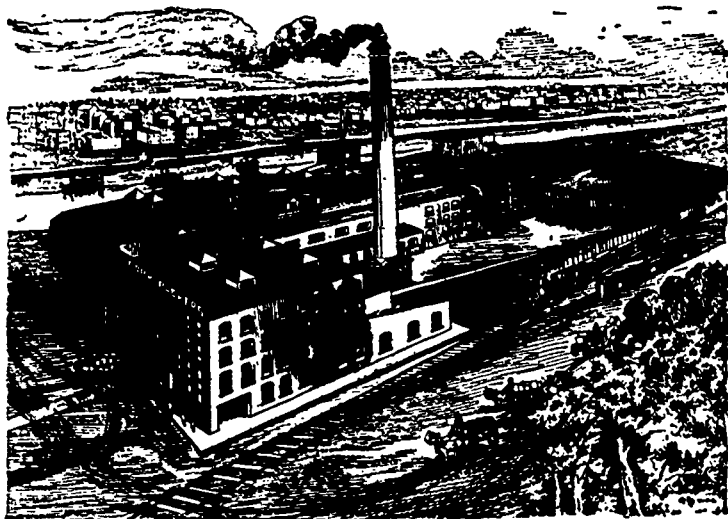


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Heavy Deficit.

Chicago, July 10.—The endowment rank of the Knights of Pythias has a deficit of \$25,267.

This announcement was made by Supreme Commander Ogden H. Fethers yesterday to the Supreme Lodge of the order, which has been assembled in this city for the purpose of looking into the affairs of the rank. Mr. Fethers' announcement was based on the official report of the insurance commissioners of Illinois, Connecticut and Kansas, who made an exhaustive examination of the financial condition of the order, and copies of these reports were placed in the hands of the representatives. Before the rank can legally continue doing business as an insurance institution, this deficit must be made good, and the question of how this is to be done, and the greater one of the funds of the organization are to be safeguarded in the future, occupied the attention of the supreme lodge officers and representatives all day yesterday and far into the night.

That there has been misappropriation of the funds of the organization by past officers of the endowment was freely charged in the reports as well as in the meetings yesterday, and there was said to be little doubt that after the supreme lodge had financial dealing with those who are thought to be responsible, the evidence will be laid before the states attorney with a request that it be submitted to the grand jury.

Chicago, July 11.—The Supreme Lodge of the Knights of Pythias, now in session in Chicago investigating the affairs of the endowment bank of the order, late last night accepted the resignation of John H. Hinsey, ex-president of the endowment rank, as a member of the board of control.

Following this the Supreme Lodge adopted a resolution which instructed the supreme chancellor and board of control to prosecute civilly and criminally all persons liable for offences committed against the endowment rank.

This resolution passed by a unanimous vote, as did another which instructed the chancellor commander and board of control to proceed with a view toward expulsion against members of the order in their respective lodges who might be found guilty of violating their obligations in the handling of funds.

After the adjournment of the session it was said that if criminal prosecutions are instituted, which now seems to be almost certain, that a number of men who were formerly connected with the endowment rank and whom the Supreme Lodge members consider responsible for the present financial condition, will be involved.

As to how to replenish the funds, the Supreme Lodge has not as yet decided. There is a proposition before it materially to increase the monthly payments on insurance policies. It seemed to be the opinion of the representatives that this would be adopted.

Dairy Trade Notes.

The extremely hot weather which has prevailed lately in the east has had a detrimental effect upon the butter trade as dealers have had great difficulty in securing the butter in good condition. Prices fell off about 1c at Montreal.

The better element of citizenship in Chicago is trying hard to rid the city of its reputation as the most wicked spot in the universe, but with the city administration hand in glove with the criminal classes, as it appears to be, the task seems an almost hopeless one.

The French river improvement may be begun sooner than was expected, according to a report from Ottawa. Engineers were sent up by the public works department to see how much money it would cost to render the French river navigable, and the reply is that it can be accomplished for between \$3,000,000 and \$4,000,000.

All monthly records in the history of lake commerce passing the ship canals at Sault Ste. Marie were broken during June, when the enormous total of 4,519,075 tons of freight passed through. It exceeded the next largest month's traffic a year ago the same month by over 400,000 tons. The largest items were: Iron ore, 3,161,982 tons; wheat, 3,421,902 bushels and other grain, 1,637,757 bushels. The vessel passages numbered 3,197 and the registered tonnage was 3,975,392.