

High Court of Ohio.

The ninth communication of the High Court of Ohio, was held at Mansfield on the 8th and 9th Oct. There was a full attendance of Officers, Past Officers and delegates present. The Supreme Officers were represented by Bro. G. A. Harper, Assistant Supreme Chief Ranger and a P.H.C. R. of Ohio.

We give brief synopsis of the various reports:—

HIGH CHIEF RANGER'S REPORT.

To the Officers and Members of the High Court of Ohio, Greeting:

It is with a deep sense of gratitude to every one that the High Chief Ranger begs leave to file his report of the events of the past year.

At the commencement of the year we had about 2,300 members in this jurisdiction, and about \$350 in money, with an indebtedness to the Supreme Court of about \$500. During the past year the membership has been increased to about 3,500, the indebtedness to the Supreme Court has been paid and we have a balance in our treasury of about \$1,100.

The courts in this State have been increased in number by 28, with good prospects of at least two more before the High Court meets. The name of the courts and the parties to whom we are indebted for their institution appears in the report of the High Secretary.

The High Standing Committee has met but once; the business having been transacted through the mails, which has resulted in a great saving of our funds.

On account of the increase in our membership, it was found necessary to elect another representative to the Supreme Court, and Bro. J. D. Clark of Dayton was selected for the place.

Bro. K. V. Haymaker resigned his position as representative to the Supreme Court, and the High Standing Committee elected Bro. W. G. Philip as his successor.

There is a suggestion to which we desire to call the attention of the High Court, and we sincerely hope that it will be given proper consideration. The increase of the Order in this jurisdiction necessarily involves great labor, more time and a large mass of correspondence upon the part of those officers whose duty it is to supervise, counsel and direct the affairs in this State; and, speaking from experience, we do not see how those officers can afford to accept the positions without some remuneration. While Ohio, perhaps, cannot afford to pay its highest officers the salary that is paid by some of her sister States, I am sure that the time has come when she can afford to pay them something to compensate them for their time and labor expended. The honor is great, and is, I know, fully appreciated, but that alone is not sufficient to warrant them in spending a greater portion of each day without any remuneration whatsoever. Those who are about to take charge of the affairs here, will find the duties arduous, perplexing and multiplying, and it is for them that I have made this suggestion.

Bro. H. O. Sonntag is so well acquainted in this State, and his work so well known that it is, perhaps, needless for me to make any mention of him whatsoever, but it would seem that this report would be incomplete without doing so. It can be said of him what has been said of another, with a slight change. "None know him but to love him none name him but in praise."

A. J. Messenger is another of whom I wish to speak. He has performed splendid work during the time he has been engaged. It is with deep regret that I announce that during his work he had the misfortune to lose nearly all that he has made. I trust that the High Court can see some way to show him its appreciation of his endeavors in its behalf. All have done well. All have worked in harmony, and it has been a great pleasure to have met and worked with them; and now, in conclusion, I desire to express my thanks to the members of the High Standing Committee, for their hearty co-operation and assistance during the past year, and especially is my thanks due to Bro. E. P. Hawley, H.S., for his kindness and assistance in my hours of need.

Respectfully submitted in L. E. & C.,

L. Z. TANNEY,

H.C.R.

HIGH SECRETARY'S REPORT.

To the High Chief Ranger and the High Court of Ohio, I.O.F., Greeting:

In presenting the Eighth Annual Report of the High Secretary for the past year, I am fully aware of the many omissions and commissions which have been committed, but these are unintentional on my part, I assure you. I wish to thank the Supreme Ruler of the Universe for the care which He has had over our Order, and the prosperity which he has given us, and to Him all praise should be given. I wish to thank each member of the H. S. Committee, individually and collectively, for the many acts of kindness which they have tendered me. Our work during the past year has been one of harmony, entirely so, and I can assure you all our endeavors have been, not of a personal nature, but only for the good that may come to the members of the Order, and to cause the enlargement of its usefulness. The past year has been one of great prosperity of the entire Order, and especially so in this jurisdiction, *Our Ohio*.

I recommend that some suitable brother be employed as organizer to be guided and directed in the work by the H.C.R. or H.S., especially so in the work of assisting the lesser courts and to be given the power, if not the title of "Auditor of State," to examine both the books of Rec. Sec., Fin. Sec., and Treas. of any court at any time directed by the H.C.R. or High Sec. and report the same to the H. Sec.

I further recommend that blank forms be prepared for the Deputies or Auditors to report in full to the H. Sec. every three months the work and action of said Deputy or Auditor.

The total number of courts in the jurisdiction on 4th Sept. is 88; and the total membership on July first was 3,446. The number