

intention to introduce legislation during the coming session affecting Friendly Societies, I would recommend that any further action be deferred until after the next meeting of Parliament.

QUEBEC REGISTRATION.

(8) The rejection of our application for a Dominion Charter necessitated immediate action to be taken to obtain from the Quebec Government a certificate of registration to enable us to carry on our business in that Province. The time left for us to make application was only a few days. I requested P. S. G. P. Bro. Cumberland to proceed at once to Quebec and use all possible haste in the matter. Bro. Cumberland very kindly consented to go, and I am pleased to report that he was successful in obtaining the necessary certificate, after complying with the conditions of the Act, viz., depositing with the Provincial Treasurer a deposit receipt of \$5,000.

I am pleased further to report that the Quebec Government has generously arranged with our Bankers, that the Interest on the \$5,000 shall be placed to our credit every year, so that we are not losing any interest by the transaction. In this connection I would venture to hope that, as this legislation was procured solely for the benefit of our members in the Province of Quebec, they will appreciate this action by redoubling their efforts in the interest of the Society.

FINANCIAL STANDING.

(9) For a detailed statement of the standing of the Subordinate lodges also the Supreme Lodge I refer you to report of the Supreme Grand Secretary, which report given in detail, contains the financial standing of each Department of our Society work, also the numerical status of our Subordinate lodges. From these reports you will find that we have over twelve thousand members in good standing. The financial standing of the Subordinate lodges has somewhat improved over last year, and while stating that the health of our general membership, as shown by the amounts paid for sick benefits is gratifying, I cannot refrain from expressing my belief that some change, whereby a more equitable system of payment should be made so as to strengthen the sick funds of the lodges. I am strongly of the opinion that every protection should be given to the sick funds. The management funds most certainly should be kept separate from the sick funds.

(10) The Funeral Fund, owing to the death rate being higher than last year, is reduced, but I have every reason to believe that during the coming year the increased per capita will place this fund in a very much improved condition.

(11) I am assured by the Auditors, who have been most attentive to their duties, and spent every available opportunity in supervising the books