

In connection with the three ranks, and in addition, we have the Uniform Rank and the Endowment Rank.

The Uniform Rank is the military rank, and is sometimes called the higher rank.

The Endowment Rank is the insurance rank, in which the members may be insured for the benefit of their families, in amounts from \$1,000 to \$3,000 for a nominal amount. It is not compulsory that a member should join either of these ranks, unless he so elects. The Endowment Rank has a membership of over 60,000, and has paid out to beneficiaries the munificent sum of \$14,250,000, since it has been in existence. It now carries an endowment fund of \$108,000,000, and had a cash balance on hand on December 31st, 1899, of \$488,000.

Can you blame us for loving an Order that has done so much for suffering humanity, whose teachings inspire and elevate, and whose principles are founded on Friendship, Charity and Benevolence?

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ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS.

How British Columbia Knights Entertain Their Friends.

The thirty-sixth anniversary of the Pythian Order was celebrated with becoming dignity and fitness by the Knights and lodges throughout the length and breadth of our fair Province, as will be seen by the following reports from various cities and towns.

Vancouver Knights were by no means behind their brethren of other sections of the Dominion and on Wednesday, February 21st, the united lodges, Granville, No. 3. Rathbone, No. 7, and Crusader, No. 19, gave a most delightful and successful musical and social evening in their Castle Hall. The usually ample accommodation of the spacious and cosy hall was taxed to its utmost and so excellently was the whole of the event carried out that the "News-Advertiser" referred to it as follows: "The social given in the Castle Hall excelled, in almost every respect, any prior event of a similar nature given in this City by the Knights. The programme was varied and unique, the talent excellent, the refreshments recherche and the attendance a record one. Brother H. J. Anstie presided over the pleasing function and was supported by half-a-dozen able lieutenants, whose executive ability, as demonstrated by the success of the evening was evident. They were Bros. McAllister, W. D. Morice, M. J. Conroy, McBride, G. Thomas, Jr., Garvin and Hoffmaster and to Mr. Conroy, the able Secretary, belongs a large share of the credit. The ball was set rolling at 8:30 p. m. by an inspiring instrumental selection by Messrs. Freimuth and Tyson, followed by a few apt words of welcome, to the lady friends and visiting Knights, from the Chairman. Then the audience revelled in the full enjoyment of a programme of such excellence as is seldom the pleasure of any lodge to entertain its friends with."

Grand Chancellor Mearns was unfortunately absent, but he had not forgotten either the function nor the occasion it was organised to celebrate, and Bro. J. Garvin read an able address from the Grand Chancellor's pen which is reproduced in full elsewhere.

Songs, Highland pipes, orchestral music and the dizzy waltz were all included in the programme, while Bro. Alderman Neelands interested all with his clever stump speech. Bro. H. J. De Forrest was a host in himself, with his stories and recitations, and Bro. C. Mitchell figured brilliantly in the latter, also Mr. G. F. Kilby, in Kipling's "Gunga Din." Bros. D. E. and W. A. Aubin delighted everyone with their excellent performance on violin and piano. The Scottish element was introduced by Bro. Mackie's pipes, and the Highland flings and reels of the Misses Rose Dobie, Nunamaker and Macklin while the veteran Dan McKinnon put vigor and life into every step he lightly trot. Samuel Johnson was a favorite with his whistling comic songs. Mrs. McAllister contributed "The Last Milestone," and Miss Parks a pretty lullaby song. Master Branasaka performed cleverly on the violin as a rival to Herr Freimuth, who gave a violin solo early in the programme. The quartette, composed of Bros. F. Armstrong, Kerfoot, Harris and Brehant, were among the chief favorites of the evening.

At the conclusion of the musical programme, Bro. Strange of the Royal Cafe served an excellent lunch, after which the younger folk stepped the floor to dance-music for several hours.

AT NEW WESTMINSTER.

The New Westminster brethren also marked the 36th anniversary by proceedings of unusual interest. On Thursday, February 22nd, Granite Lodge, No. 16, presented an address and gold headed walking stick to the efficient and popular Keeper of Records and Seals of that Lodge, Bro. J. M. Murray, who has held this important position for six years. The members of Granite Lodge, No. 16, K. of P., thought it only fitting that Bro. Murray's services, given so faithfully and so long, should be recognised in some manner and could not have chosen a more appropriate time than the 36th anniversary week to consummate their thoughts by an action of this kind. Chancellor Commander, Bro. John Forrester made the presentation in a few well-chosen words, which Bro. Murray feelingly replied to.

NANAIMO'S SHARE.

The 36th anniversary of Pythianism was celebrated in Nanaimo on Saturday, February 17th, by an "At Home," under the auspices of Lodge No. 4, Knights of Pythias. About 250 members and invited guests were present and spent a very pleasant evening listening to songs and music and indulging in cards and other games. The evening's enjoyment ended by the guests sitting down to a tasty repast, to which ample justice was done. A committee of ladies was appointed for the purpose of securing names looking towards the formation of a lodge of Rathbone Sisters.