

The order has made wonderful strides during the year, and will add to its membership many thousands during the next three months.

Its membership roll now contains a good deal over 200,000 of insured or beneficiary members. Its accumulated funds reach to almost \$6,000,000; and these funds are increasing at the rate of three-quarters of a million dollars a year, notwithstanding that the order pays out \$500 every working hour of the year to widows and orphans. A record of over \$12,000,000 already paid promptly on death claims stands to its credit. The I. O. F. is undoubtedly a great and progressive institution. The report upon its investments, made by a committee composed of able and independent brethren at the Supreme Court meeting in Los Angeles, stated that in all the investments of its funds the Supreme Executive had never lost a dollar. This is certainly a unique experience.

C. H. E. Rea, A.I.A., F.R.A.S., the attorney of the order, recently stated in regard to it: "After exhaustive tests I have failed to find a weak spot in its structure."

We congratulate the order and its Supreme Chief Ranger upon their work.—*Toronto Daily Star, October 28, 1902.*

#### A CIRCULATION BOOMER.

The Editor of the *Mystic Tie*, Elkins, West Virginia, announces that owing to the fact that a girl baby has arrived at his home, he desires to have about 10,000 more subscribers, and that delinquents are expected to pay up. If the scheme works, Bro. Weymouth, we don't know but that we will try it.—*Acacia.*

#### BEAUTIFUL IF CARRIED OUT.

At the regular session of Islam Temple, held April 9th, 1902, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That any Shriner, member of this Temple, seen wearing a Shrine Fez in a saloon, or other place where he would not take his wife, mother or sister, will have charges preferred against him for conduct unbecoming a Noble of the Mystic Shrine."

A copy of the above is enclosed to each member of Islam in accordance with instructions of the Temple. Take heed! Lest you be cast into El Hot-ame.—*The Freemason and Fez.*

#### MESSAGES BY THE NEW PACIFIC CABLE.

M W. Bro. John E. Harding, on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Canada, A. F. & A. M., has exchanged fraternal greetings with the brethren in Australia over the new Pacific cable. The Canadian Grand Master sent the following message:—

A. J. Peacock, Grand Lodge of Masons, Melbourne, Australia:

The Grand Lodge of Canada, representing 25,000 craftsmen and British subjects, sends greetings over the new cable to the Freemasons of Australia, to whom we are joined in the bonds of fraternal love and British citizenship.

Harding,  
Grand Master.

The Australian Grand Master replied:

Melbourne, Australia, Nov. 4, 1902.  
J. E. Harding, Lodge Masons, Toronto.

The Grand Lodge of Victoria accepts with great pleasure the greetings of the Grand Lodge of Canada sent over new cable, and welcomes the closer union of Masons and subjects of the British Empire and grasps the fraternal hand of Canadian brethren in love and unity.

Peacock,  
Grand Master.

#### THE COAL PROBLEM SOLVED.

"You say your father is becoming interested in social entertainment?" said one young woman.

"Yes," answered the other: "he says he will be glad to entertain all our friends two or three evenings a month. The other evenings we can let the fires go out and go to somebody's else house to keep warm. The plan seems a very economical one for all concerned."—*Washington Star.*

A case where a Masonic pin failed to have any influence in a court room is related in a New York paper as follows: