

fine lodge as well as a large, commodious and well-furnished castle hall. It would do the brothers of the Coast good to see with what spirit they enter into their work.

While it is not my purpose to mention individuals, I do not think the Grand Chancellor would object should I mention the names of Bros. J. J. Malone, D. G. C. and William Thompson, of the Grand Rep. Both were assiduous in their efforts to make the visit of the Grand Chancellor one not soon to be forgotten.

Leaving Nelson, the next visit was at Trail. There the Grand Chancellor received a surprise. The castle hall was full of enthusiastic Knights, who gave him a reception long to be remembered. What a grand thing it is to see the hall filled up with Knights. How it does one's heart good to see it. After the close of lodge, an hour or more was spent in social entertainment, each one separating well pleased with the result.

From Trail to Rossland was made by buggy, the Grand Chancellor having failed to catch the morning train. Arriving in Rossland the Grand Chancellor was taken in charge by G. V. C. Bro. J. W. Graham and P. G. R. Bro. Dan Thomas, who became sponsors for his good behavior. Unfortunately, the hall where the brethren had been meeting was destroyed by fire a short time ago, and the present quarters are not all that could be desired, but what they lack in hall they make up in good-fellowship. The reception tendered was most hearty, and the convention was far from being flat. There was just enough spice thrown in to season the proceedings to a dot. Talk of your hospitality; but Rossland can give pointers, and no mistake.

The next stopping place was at the mining town of Sandon, where the G. C. was received by Bros. D. G. C., G. W. Grannith and P. C. Joseph Culver, who escorted him to the Hotel Reco, where quarters had been provided. Promptly at 8 o'clock, in company with Bro. Culver, the G. C. visited Sandon Lodge, and was received with all honors. After an agreeable and pleasant session, in which the secret work was exemplified, the Lodge closed and what was one of the most pleasant evenings spent merged into a social where the members, accompanied by their wives and sweethearts outvied one another to entertain. Too much praise cannot be given to Bros. Grannith and Culver for their untiring zeal to make the visit of the G. C. a pleasing one.

At all lodges visited, the G. C. was received in a most loyal and royal manner. We will look for the letter of Bro. Mearns with interest in the next issue of the "True Knight."

#### THE ENDOWMENT RANK.

The following summary, giving full details as to the financial condition and business affairs of the Endowment Rank for the term ending June 30th, 1899, has just been furnished us by the Secretary of the Board of Control, Brother H. B. Stolte.

By this statement it will be seen that the Insurance Branch of the Order still continues its onward progress and success. The business of the last quarter shows a marked increase over its predecessor.

It is gratifying to note that the first quarter of the present fiscal year, April, May and June, shows a considerable gain over the previous quarter in the number of new members admitted and in the amount of certificates issued.

The applications for membership since April 1st, receiving favorable consideration, number 29,070, the endowment represented by the certificates of membership amounting to \$4,142,000.

Ninety new Sections, embracing 34 grand domains have been established.

One hundred and thirty-nine death claims were paid during the quarter, amounting to \$290,131.60.

The large decrease in the number of forfeitures during the three months ending June 30th, 1899, is evidence of an improved condition of the membership, the lapses numbering 912, compared with 1,395 or 483 less than during the previous quarter. The amount of certificates terminated by lapses during the past quarter shows a decrease of \$613,000.

Since the beginning of the year 5,484 members have been added and \$7,803,500 endowment issued—an increase of nearly 500 members and \$800,000 endowment over the corresponding period of last year.

The total sum paid for death claims to date amounts to \$13,611,000.

Compared with its status a year ago, the Endowment Rank evidences a healthy growth and a marked improvement in its general condition. The efforts of your Board to practically place before the Order the objects of the Insurance Branch have been productive of the establishment of many sections and have resulted in the increased membership from time to time recorded. We believe a continuance of these efforts and the constant active work of the general organizers and their assistants will produce equally good, if not better, results in the future.

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FROM VICTORIA.

To the Editor of the "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother,—It may be of interest to your readers to know the membership of this Grand Domain at this date. I have compiled such reports as are in hand and append the same herewith. I am pleased to be able to state that we have made a very large gain in the past term and the indications point very strongly to a further increase in membership. It is rather too soon to judge what consequences will follow the very liberal legislation had by our Grand Lodge at its last Convention, in giving subordinate lodges the right to reinstate their suspended members for such amount as the lodge may determine, but I am inclined to think that a goodly number will be brought back to the fold.

Bro. P. C. David Moffat, of Nanaimo Lodge No. 4, is very much interested in the formation of a new lodge on this Island, and has applied for application papers for that purpose, hoping to have a lodge started with at least 40 new members. If anyone will succeed in organizing a new lodge it is Bro. Moffat and I feel certain that in his hands the matter will be attended to.

I also enclose the newly-revised list of keep-