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The True Knight of British Columbia.

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VOL. I. No. 3.

VANCOUVER, B.C., October, 1898.

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Address all communications to P. O. Box 313.

J. E. EVANS,

Secretary,

Vancouver, B. C.

G. R. MAXWELL,

Editor.

VANCOUVER, OCTOBER, 1898.

THE VALUE OF PYTHIANISM.

What is the value or worth of Pythianism? That is a fair question to ask, and it is one which every true Knight should be able to answer. To those who have been active and zealous in their efforts to increase the membership of our beloved Order, this is a question which must be asked again and again of them by those whom they desire to join us, and it is one which I am afraid a great many in our ranks can hardly answer with that intelligence which might reasonably be expected of them. Perhaps this is what might be expected, for the patent reason that a great many join our Order, as many join other societies, without any due realization of what they are doing, or of what is expected of them, or of what they are becoming, and thus their whole Pythian life is either of much good to themselves or to others.

To put the point more pithily, they are Pythians only in name. They move on from step to step from the lowest to the highest rank, but they really never enter into the sacred vestibule of Pythian teaching, whence the inspiration comes which enthuses a man to know all that he should know. Such are sources of weakness, and not of strength, and as we write with the image of the "True Knight" before us, we must keep before the eyes and the minds of our readers, not the worst, but the best Pythian example. Now with regard to this question, many know in a dreamy, hazy way that Pythianism must have some value, or else it would never have grown to the dimensions reached to-day, but what that value is, well that's the stickler. Let us briefly try to answer this question for the benefit of us all. First, let us look at the value of Pythianism to the individual. Taking man as he is, neither making him better nor worse, there is a bit of selfishness in him, and in a sense the very instincts of his being, and the conditions of his existence make it imperative that he should think of self. We are often reminded that "man mind thyself" is the Eleventh Commandment, and while perhaps we don't admire it, and teachers condemn it, yet there are many true voices whispering in his ear, man mind thyself. God has given him so many things, and has put the care of these things upon him, that as he hears and feels their imperative demands, and demands which, if not satisfied, will make him so much the poorer, he must at times devote his energies towards looking after this mysterious and wonderful thing called self. A man that fails here becomes a wreck, a good for nothing, and every man, even though he may detest and abhor the very appearance of selfishness, yet he feels he must in every way be true to himself. A man, therefore, wants to know from this selfish standpoint, what Pythianism can do for him, and it is right here that Pythianism has its benefits to confer, for it is intensely practical. Pythianism takes the world as it is. It is in a sense neither pessimistic nor optimistic. It has no theory of life. It does not bother itself about the struggle for existence, nor about the survival of the fittest, as these things are discussed by men who live more or less apart from humanity, but it sees certain things which are common to our common humanity, and seeks to enable a man to meet these as bravely and as successfully as possible. There is sickness. Every man is vulnerable. There is a weak spot about him which sooner or later disease gets hold of. So much so, we are able to prognosticate, that we are liable to get sick. Further, we are exposed to dangers seen and unseen. Accidents are the common happenings of daily life. Wherever we work for our daily bread, our body is more or less in danger. Every wise man knows these things. No one but a fool, would, like the ostrich, bury his head so as to be oblivious of these heritages. The wise man reasons with himself. I

may get sick or I may get hurt, and wisdom demands that I should make provision for them. Either the one or the other is bad enough, but to have nothing where with to meet them will make my misfortune worse. I cannot expect to have such a charmed life as to be exempt from these. I will, therefore, save up for a rainy day, Pythianism comes to this man, be he the father of a family or a young man, as so many are in British Columbia, and away from home also, and says; I know what you are exposed to, come join my ranks, pass into my Castle Hall, and once in there, you will be enabled to face the future, and whatever ills may betide you you can meet them without fear and perfect confidence. The value of Pythianism right here is unmistakable, for the brother who counts up what is given out in sick benefits in a single year in one Castle Hall must realize how much our Order does for the benefit of the individual. He is saved from running into debt, he is saved from depending upon the fickle charity of others, and who can tell how much he is saved from gloomy fears, forebodings, anxieties, worries and corroding cares. I know no place where Pythianism is of more value than in British Columbia. Living is higher than in most places, doctors bills are higher, drugs are dearer, attendance more costly, and a man needs just what Pythianism can do, has done, and is always willing to do for him. To the father of a family—who knows not the day when he may be laid upon a bed of sickness, each child is an eloquent appeal for him to take advantage of the benefits of Pythianism, and to the young man, away perhaps thousands of miles from home, sweet, sweet, home, and the loving hearts in it, we know no place where he will meet with more loving hearts and hands than in our Castle Hall. Further, Pythianism has a distinct value in what it can do for us, when our last great foe, death, has overcome us. Death is as certain as sickness. The good old book tells us, "it is appointed unto men once to die," and that grave fact our Order impresses upon us in the most solemn way. As sure as we live, so sure will we die. We may have as Wordsworth teaches, intimations of immortality, but to reach it, we must all pass through the gate of death. The air is full of farewells of the dying. James Montgomery's poem on the Common Lot fully voices our sentiments:

Once in the flight of ages past,
There lived a man:—and who was he?
—Mortal! how'er thy lot be cast,
That man resembles thee.

Unknown the regions of his birth,
The land in which he died unknown:
His name has perished from the earth,
This truth survives alone:—

That joy and grief, and hope and fear
Alternate triumph'd in his breast;
His bliss and wo,—a smile, a tear!
—Oblivion hides the rest.

He suffer'd,—but his pangs are o'er;
Enjoy'd,—but his delights are fled;
Had friends,—his friends are now no more;
And foes,—his foes are dead.

He saw whatever thou hast seen;
Encounter'd all that troubles thee;
He was—whatever thou hast been,
He is—what thou shalt be.

The annals of the human race,
Their ruins, since the world began
Of Him afford no other trace
Than this,—there lived a man.

All this is absolutely true. It is not necessary, however, at this point to notice what Pythianism teaches with regard to the "vast forever," but simply to enforce, that as death is sure, we as wise men should prepare to meet it. One class of men say—let us live—and spend, in death somebody will have to take care of us. These are not wise men, but the reverse. Every man who has a spark of true manhood in him, and who loves to be independent where independence is possible, will joyfully make due provisions for his final exit from the stage of life. Pythianism in the simplest and easiest way possible helps him to lay by from month to month, that which will decently commit him to mother earth, and so leaves those last hours on earth free from all bitterness and care, and thus free to think on such things as will help his soul to soar away triumphantly to mansions in the skies.

But the value of Pythianism to the individual ends not here. In this world as things exist, we are terribly conscious of the bitter struggle between man and man. Men call it the struggle for existence. Our industrial system makes every man not only fight, but makes him fight with his brother man. We talk about the Fatherhood of God, and the Brotherhood of man, but God's Fatherhood never can be truth fully realized, and there can never be a true brotherhood so long as man has to struggle with his brother for the possession of the lower things. Man feels a desire

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for a spot on earth into which he can fly to escape for a brief season from the bitterness of life, and for a union with men of noble purpose. Times there are when a man feels as if he was utterly insufficient for the strain of life, and when he feels the need of comradeship. Man is social, and has social needs. Pythianism comes right to the assistance of all who think this way. It makes a man a member of an Association of men—as true as ever was brought together, of a band as noble as ever was formed, and of a brotherhood as brotherly as any human being could desire. He becomes thus a link in a great chain, a member, a brother. In the Castle Hall he may have all that can be reasonably expected. As he looks round he sees a body of men—all devoted to him in sickness and in death. He can count upon them in any emergency, and even in the direst and saddest of all—when death will remove him—he can pass away without a tear, knowing as he knows, that his wife and children become the especial care of his brethren, while his own name will be kept in living loving remembrance. Surely such inestimable benefits and privileges appeal to the self in man, and surely for his own sake and those dependent upon him, Pythianism just supplies those necessaries—which experience abundantly reveals we all need. We are dwelling on one point, but when we ask a man to join us, and we can lay before him what our Order is willing to do for him, we are placing before him, even from the selfish point of view, just the very things which if he is a true man, he will be willing to possess and enjoy. By doing so we are not pandering to selfishness, but we are trying to make men see what Wordsworth forcibly declares

That Heaven's best aid is wasted upon men
Who to themselves are false.

The old Greeks tell us about Prometheus, and Epimetheus. The one means forethought, the other afterwit. A complete man has the first, an incomplete man the second. The one saves man from a sorrow and many a tear, the other is continually making us wail—would that I had been wise—these misfortunes and troubles would not have been mine. There is a wisdom which enables a man to see his duty before; there is another which

comes after. As the phrase runs always wise behind the hand. Pythianism develops forethought by bringing us face to face with things which though seemingly distant are yet sure to come, and rouses us up to prepare wisely for them. Pythianism has no sympathy with afterwit, for then while we see what we ought to have done, we realize that now as sickness and death are on us, it is too late to do anything, and must struggle with them helpless and alone. Forethought enables a man to confidently await the disclosures of the future, afterwit makes a man mourn with an indescribable anguish gnawing at his heart, at what might have been if—if only I had been wise.

VISITING THE BRETHEREN.

Without wasting words, let me briefly state, that I found myself the other day in Rossland, called by its many admirers, the Golden City, and without doubt there is a veritable Klondike in these hills which lie up against it. My duties up there were various—but what concerns the readers of the "True Knight" most is the progress of Pythianism, and to that I shall confine myself. My first objective point was Trail—said by some to be seven miles from Rossland, but I think the mile up there is like the Irish one, a mile and bittock. I walked down—a pretty nice stretch for a constitutional—and soon found myself among friends. The time flew quickly, and soon found myself in a neat, clean, commodious Castle Hall. There was one aspirant for the degree of Esquire, and as he did not do what he was told to do, there was fun all round. The visitor was called upon to defend the culprit, and after some gentle words peace and harmony were restored. After the lodge was closed, the brethren invited me to partake of their generous hospitality. The good things being rapidly disposed of, I addressed the brethren on what was common to us all. Trail is prospering. Since the C. P. R. got hold of the smelter, business has been steadily getting better. Money is being spent freely in vast additions to the works. As I stood on the hill—a commanding site—I could not but feel that in the near future thousands of busy energetic people will yet have

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their homes and stores there. Our Order is strongly entrenched. We have a good strong Lodge, composed of splendid fellows, and in the near future I expect that with the growth of the town or city—which (?)—there will be large additions. Bros. Binns, Clark and Abbot are just such men as will lead the brethren on and on to higher heights of usefulness. Next morning after a good sleep, I tackled the hills again, but as my journey this time was up, and not down, the ascent was much slower, and made greater havoc with my porridge. However I got there, and in the evening met the brethren of Rossland in the Masonic Hall. There was a good attendance, and as there was no degree work on which is unusual here—I soon had the floor to myself. I don't know how long I spoke, but every man kept his seat and patiently bore with me till the end. Among other things, expatiated on the virtues of the "True Knight," and impressed upon them the necessity of supporting it in a tangible way. When I sat down Bro. Graham, in his business way, got the floor, and said that they had better settle this right away. He praised the paper as eloquently as if he had been its responsible editor, and wound up by moving that the Lodge subscribe for fifty copies monthly and a Lodge Card for the year. This was promptly seconded, and after a cart load of pleasant things had been showered upon the paper, the motion was carried without a dissenting voice. The brethren at Rossland are like their gold—all right. The membership is strong, though a great many are out on the hills—good luck to them—and the members whom I saw are all bright and wide awake Knights. Let me sum up.

First—I learned from this visit that the efforts of the promoters of the "True Knight" are being appreciated. In both places the paper is welcomed with Pythian enthusiasm, and its contents are doing much to stir up the brethren to greater usefulness. All had a good word for all the brethren connected with it. So far so good, but what of Nelson, what of Victoria, what of Nanaimo, and what of Wellington? We need you all, and the help of you all. What are you doing? The up country

boys want to hear from you, and about you, and why hide your lights under a bushel. Pythianism in British Columbia cannot do without its paper, and we call upon the leaders on both Island and Mainland—we know no distinction—to put their shoulders to the wheel, get their lodges to subscribe generously, and work for the "True Knight," knowing as they do, that they are working in the best interests of the Order so dear to all our hearts.

Second—I found a great need for lecture work explanatory of the aims and objects of our Order. I feel I am touching upon a weak spot in our Pythian organism. My duty here is not to state how this is to be done, but I think the Grand Lodge ought to face this question, and solve it in a satisfactory way. Lodges require to be refreshed, encouraged and stirred up. We should have a man going round the lodges, lecturing, commending the "True Knight" and looking out for new ground. I heard several say that there ought to be lodges now at Revelstoke, Greenwood and Grand Forks. Possibly there are other places along the Crow's Nest Railway where Pythianism would thrive if established. We must extend our borders, and should cover every place available. To do this successfully, however, a good man is necessary, and for the man material inducements should be offered. I believe that if we had one thoroughly in sympathy with the work of our Order, that we would treble our membership in quick time. I hope the brethren will discuss this, and try to have some effective work done.

Third—I heard good reports about Nelson—not the city, but our Lodge. I am told every thing there is almost ideal. Good for Nelson. My best wishes are with you, and I was very sorry that I could not see you all face to face. But I have something against you all—or rather in spite of your many excellencies of which we are all proud—one thing thou lackest. What is it? do you ask? Well, you have not yet subscribed for the "True Knight." Try and beat Rossland if you can.

THE EDITOR.

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REPORT OF THE SUPREME REPRESENTATIVES.

THE SUPREME LODGE.

The Twentieth Convention of the Supreme Lodge just concluded, will remain in Pythian history as the most interesting and exciting ever held. The results attained we feel justified in saying, will be of lasting benefit to the Order. Whatever may have been the temporary disposition or utterances of the members of the Supreme Lodge, there can be no doubt that the general desire was to work for and attain the best possible legislation for the Order.

On the morning of August 22nd, the members of the Supreme Lodge, and the citizens of Indianapolis generally, were confronted with a most scurrilous sensational and untruthful article appearing in the Indianapolis "Sentinel," reflecting upon the integrity of the Supreme Lodge officers and members of the Finance Committee, charging misappropriation of funds, and a general mismanagement of our affairs. We do not desire, nor is it necessary for us to go further into this subject than to state that the entire article was entirely void of truth, and in our humble opinion the work of some dissatisfied or disappointed member of the Order unworthy the name of a Knight of Pythias. We leave to our readers the judgment of the editorial management of this so-called prominent journal, that would seek to bring dishonor upon the members of the Supreme Lodge while the invited guests of their city.

At the request of the officers, who had been so unwantonly attacked, a committee of investigation was appointed, and after a full investigation the report of the committee completely exonerated all officers and committees of the charge of extravagances and dishonesty, and further reported that while every effort had been made to discover the person who had given the information to the paper, they had failed to do so, though it was stated to have been a Supreme Representative. We desire here to state, along with (we believe) the entire body of Supreme Representatives, our

utmost confidence in the ability and integrity of our Supreme Lodge officers.

Below will be found the

REPORT OF THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.

Representative Bangs, of North Dakota, presented the following report of the Investigating Committee:

DOCUMENT 301.

To the Supreme Lodge, Knights of Pythias:

Your Special Committee appointed to inquire as to the authorship of a certain article appearing in the Indianapolis "Sentinel" of August 22nd, 1893, entitled "Lodge is Bankrupt," and to investigate the allegations and insinuations therein contained against certain officers and members of this body, respectfully report:

First. That since the appointment of said committee it has held daily and nightly sessions, and had before it many witnesses; that every person, whether a member a member of this body or not, whose name was connected in any manner with the said article, or who was reported to your committee as knowing or likely to know anything regarding the same, was subpoenaed before the committee to testify in relation thereto; that to the best of the committee's ability every rumor of which it had knowledge was carefully traced to its source; that no stone has been left unturned in the effort not only to discover the authorship of the article, or the source of information, but also to discover as to the truth or falsity of the charges and insinuations.

Second. That among the witnesses examined were Samuel D. Morse, editor of the Indianapolis "Sentinel," and Harry Brown, assistant city editor and reporter on said paper; that these gentlemen, while admitting full knowledge as to the authorship of the article, positively refused to disclose it, Mr. Brown, the reporter and the person who prepared the article for publication, stating to your committee that the particular matters in said article complained of were furnished him under the seal of secrecy. Each of these gentlemen claimed to know that the person furnishing the information was a member of this



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Supreme Lodge, and, upon there being exhibited to them a list of the officers and members of this body, they each testified that the name of their informant appeared upon the rolls as a Supreme Representative. Further than this no information as to the authorship of said article could be obtained.

Third. As to the direct charges in the article reflecting or tending to reflect upon Supreme Keeper of Records and Seal White, we find from the testimony submitted that Brother White is not a stockholder or director in a bank, trust company or other financial institution; that he is not a stockholder in the Brandon Printing Company nor interested therein in any manner and never was; that he is not and has not been directly or indirectly interested in any contracts of any character made by or in the interests of the Supreme Lodge; that since becoming Supreme Keeper of Records and Seal he has not been engaged in any business, devoting his entire time and energies to the discharge of the duties of that office, and that the allegations, direct and implied, as to those or similar matters in said article are absolutely false and without foundation. We further find from the records of the Supreme Lodge that \$2,400 was appropriated of the moneys of the Supreme Lodge to defray office rent and incidental office expenses of the Supreme Keeper of Records and Seal for two years. We find that this appropriation was a direct and specific grant of that sum to the Supreme Keeper of Records and Seal, differing from the appropriations for expenses of other offices in this that in the other appropriations there was a stated sum appropriated, "or so much thereof as necessary," while in the case of the Supreme Keeper of Records and Seal it was the stated sum of \$2,400. We find that out of this sum the Supreme Keeper of Records and Seal has paid his office rent, heat, light, and incidental expenses, and while we have been unable by reason of all receipts and other papers being in the office of the Supreme Keeper of Records and Seal at Nashville to investigate personally each item of expense, we find from the testimony submitted to us that practically the entire sum has been so expended, the testimony showing that in some months the expenditure would

be greater than \$100 and in others less, but the whole approximating \$2,400.

Fourth. As to the charge of extravagance and waste, we find from such investigation as we have been able to make that the officers and members of this Supreme Lodge, including, of course, those mentioned in the article referred to, have in all things conducted the business of the Supreme Lodge honestly, fairly and for the interests of the Order universal, and that all insinuations in said article contained are absolutely false and without foundation. We further find that there has been large sums of money expended in what might seem to some a useless manner, but we also find that all such expenditures are the result of direct legislation on the part of this body and authorized by it, and that the officers in making the expenditures were acting simply as the instruments of this body in carrying out its dictates.

Fifth. In the opinion of your committee the data before the Finance Committee and this Supreme Lodge should include a detailed statement of all expenditures for the preceding term to form a proper basis for intelligent action by either the committee or this body in the matter of appropriations for salaries and expenses. In this connection we would suggest that it is impossible for this committee, the Finance Committee or this Supreme Lodge to make such a critical examination regarding the matters of salaries and expenses as is desirable, because of the absence from the city of all the books, records, receipts and other documents which would disclose all items for which expenditures of money have been made. We are of opinion that it is impracticable to carry all such books, records, receipts and other documents which would disclose all items for which expenditures of money have been made. We are of opinion that it is impracticable to carry all such books, records, etc., about with the Supreme Lodge, and would therefore suggest that the Supreme Keeper of Records and Seal be requested to prepare before each session of the Supreme Lodge a detailed statement showing the amount of work as near as may be performed by each officer during the preceding two fiscal years and the expense of each officer during the same time, and what the different items of expense were, so

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that in estimating the amount of appropriation required for salaries and expenses the committee of this body may have an opportunity to judge and say whether the salaries and expense accounts are too high or too low, and in what particular.

Sixth. Your committee finds from its investigations that there is a feeling among the members of the Order that the Supreme Lodge has not acted in all things relating to the financial management of the affairs of the Order with sound judgment; and a very general desire on the part of the membership to know more of the conduct of affairs. This feeling and this desire for information exists not only as to Supreme Lodge, but as to the different branches of the Order under the control of the Supreme Lodge. We are of opinion that this Order and its different branches should, like any great business concern, be checked up and one year's business compared with another, the system employed in the discharge of the business compared with others, a general examination made that improvement in the conduct of its affairs, if possible, may be had. No business, even with the best of management, can be successful without such checking. We would, therefore, in view of the foregoing, recommend that a special committee of three be appointed by the Supreme Chancellor, with power to investigate generally into all the financial and business affairs of this Supreme Lodge or any branch or rank thereof under its control; that all officers of this Supreme Lodge and others in the employ of this Supreme Lodge or any branch or rank thereof be instructed to exhibit to such committee all books, records, vouchers, receipts and other documents in their possession; that such committee be given power to summon before it any officer or member of the Supreme Lodge or of the Order to testify regarding any of the matters under investigation by this committee. Further, in view of the changed form of government of the Order of Knights of Pythias, such change having taken place in 1894, and in view of the fact that it has been claimed by some that the present form of government is more expensive and cumbersome than the one in vogue prior to 1894, your committee recommends that such special committee, if raised, be instructed to extend its investigations back over a period of six years, and that such committee after such investigation make a full and detailed report of the result of its investigations to the Supreme Chancellor, setting forth therein a detailed statement of receipts and expenditures each year for the past six years; that such reports be printed in the reports of officers of the Supreme Lodge, that the same may be properly submitted to this body at its next session; that such committee be given authority to meet at such time and such places as shall be found necessary to fully and properly carry on such investigation; that there be appropriated of the funds of the Supreme Lodge a sufficient amount to pay the expenses of such committee.

We make this recommendation in the firm belief that the interests of the Order universal demand such action.

Respectfully submitted,

TRACY R. BANGS,
D. C. RICHARDSON,
JAMES E. WATSON,
GEO. M. HANSON,
JNO. W. DANIELS.

The report was read and a division of the subject matter was called for, and it was so divided. Action was then taken on Paragraphs 3 and 4, which were adopted on roll call—ayes, 121; noes, none.

Action now recurred on the rest of the report. Representative Manning, of Arkansas, moved to strike out of the report all in reference to the creating of a special committee, and the motion was seconded by Representative Lightcap, of Montana.

The question was discussed by Representative Bangs, of North Dakota; P. S. C. Woodruff and Supreme Prelate Steinhart.

Representative Kline called for the previous question, and the call was sustained. The main question was put, and the proposition of Representative Manning was adopted—81 to 22.

On motion of Representative Barnes, of Illinois, the report as amended was adopted.

The Supreme Lodge assembled at 10 a. m. on Tuesday, August 23rd, in the Chamber of Representatives of the State Capitol building. Governor Mount, of Indiana, gave an address of welcome on behalf of the State. Mayor Taggart followed with a hearty welcome from Indianapolis, and Grand Chancellor Hunt spoke for the Pythian brothers of Indiana. Supreme Chancellor Colgrove responded in his usual able and pleasing manner.

After the Report of the Committee on Credentials, the Supreme Lodge Rank was conferred upon those in waiting. The reports of officers were submitted, and referred to Committee on Distribution. The report of the Supreme Chancellor is lengthy and full of good advice, and worth the consideration of all. As a copy of this report is sent to each subordinate lodge we deem it inadvisable to burden your paper with the contents of same further than to call the attention of your readers to the kindly words of the Supreme Chancellor for the Knights of this Province, and of Canada in general. Speaking of his visit during the convention of the Grand Lodge in New Westminster, he says: The Convention was not only attended with success but great strides were taken towards the reduction of the

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deficit which for several years had existed. All conceded it to be one of the most enthusiastic and profitable conventions ever held in that Domain. I was Royally received, and everything was done to make my visit pleasant and enjoyable. I was repeatedly assured that they would take hold of the situation with renewed vigor, and endeavor to improve their condition financially and otherwise. No better, no more enthusiastic Pythians can be found anywhere than in British Columbia. My stay was a continual round of pleasure. Speaking of the membership in Canada generally, the Supreme Chancellor says: My heart has been touched not alone by the earnest labor of these brethren for the good of the Order, but by their patriotic devotion to our republic in the trying days through which we, as a nation, are passing. The flag of Great Britain is dipped to the Stars and Stripes of our glorious Union—floating side by side in Lodge rooms, on parades and on the public buildings. Political divisions there are, but the Anglo-Saxon people to-day are one in heart in the war that is being waged for God and humanity. The Mother Country and her child stand side by side. It augurs well for the hope we have ever cherished that this Order should become the first and foremost fraternal society on the North American Continent.

In regard to the Pythian press he says:

During the past two years, I have been a subscriber to all the journals published in the interests of Pythianism. So large a number of our brethren have entered into this field of Pythian labor that I have been solicitous for their future, and have watched with no little interest their zeal in disseminating the principles of Pythianism and giving to the membership information and knowledge of the grand onward march of our Order. I have been amply repaid for both the time and expense. The progressive American push and enthusiasm that is characteristic of the Order itself has found expression through the Pythian press. The editors of many of these journals have received but small compensation for their labor of love, and many times have continued their publication at a loss. Indeed, I think we will look in vain through the whole field of journalistic enterprise to find a paper that declares a very large dividend to its owners.

Every subordinate lodge should become interested in the Pythian journal of its Domain. If there is but one published, the Lodge should see to it that the members' attention is called to the necessity of maintaining a publication and solicited to encourage, aid and support it. The lodges can well afford to subscribe for many copies, and see to it that on each convention night a goodly number are on the desk of the Keeper of Records and Seal for distribution to the brethren who do not feel able to subscribe or have not become interested in the Pythian press. The more of these journals that find their way into the homes and fire-sides of the land, the more knowledge will be received and greater interest manifested by those not members of our Order in its grand onward march. All honor to our brethren who have been undaunted by failures and want of interest and support by our membership, and without hope of reward, have gone on in their labor of love, trusting in the future to receive that support and encouragement to which their sacrifice and industry entitled them. That the Pythian press is a power-

ful factor in disseminating the principles of our Order, no one will deny; that it has accomplished much and has before it a vast field of usefulness, we all admit.

No civic organization in this or any other country is represented by so able a corps of editors or more publications than our own. They are entitled to our grateful remembrance and loyal support. I am under lasting obligations to many of these papers. Often have they brought sunshine into my office after the long and weary journey. The ideal Pythian paper is the one that sees ever before it the divinity of brotherly love, and gives to its readers an exemplification in every page, sentence and thought of the principles we inculcate. With such a standard ever before them and a field of labor without bounds, with proper assistance and encouragement, their usefulness cannot be measured. Here's to the success of the Pythian press!

The Supreme Keeper of Records and Seal's report was confined (as it should be) to facts and figures, presented in such a manner that all may obtain any information that might be desired from that office. Touching on the state of the Order, he reports:

The total number of subordinate lodges, Dec. 31st, 1897, was 6,683; total number of members thereof on same date, 468,269, a net gain during the calendar year of 46 lodges, and a net loss of 1,022 members, and a net gain during the years 1896 and 1897 of 179 lodges, and 3,730 members. It will be noted that we sustained a net loss of membership during the past year, the first since 1878, but when we take into consideration the depressed financial condition of the country we should congratulate ourselves that the loss is not larger. We have done as well as any of the fraternity organizations and better than most of them.

- 1 Minnesota.
- 2 Maine and New Hampshire.
- 4 West Virginia.
- 5 Georgia and North Dakota.
- 7 Massachusetts and Vermont.
- 9 Colorado.
- 10 Ohio and Oklahoma.
- 12 Michigan.

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- 23 Iowa.
- 24 Oregon.
- 25 Kentucky.
- 26 Connecticut and Texas.
- 28 Wyoming.
- 29 British Columbia.
- 30 Tennessee.
- 31 New Jersey.
- 32 Utah.
- 33 Nevada.
- 34 Indian Territory.
- 35 Arkansas.
- 36 Ontario.
- 37 Maryland.
- 38 Montana.
- 39 Manitoba.
- 40 Washington.
- 41 Illinois.
- 42 Delaware.
- 43 Mississippi.
- 44 New Mexico.
- 45 District of Columbia.
- 46 South Dakota.
- 47 Nebraska and New York.
- 49 Virginia.
- 50 Kansas.
- 51 Pennsylvania.
- 52 Rhode Island.
- 53 Missouri.
- 54 Louisiana.

SUPREME LODGE FINANCES.

There has been much discussion, during the past biennial term, of the important subject of the finances of the Supreme Lodge. Some of this has been temperate and just, and manifestly inspired by an honest desire to discover the cause of our present financial condition and to apply the needed remedy: much of it, unfortunately, has been neither just nor temperate. To all criticism of the conduct of Supreme Lodge officers—to all aspersion by innuendo of their personal integrity in the handling of Supreme Lodge funds—the incumbent of this office desires, as sole reply, to submit the figures which follow. They present a succinct and intelligible resume of the fluctuations of our finances during the last six fiscal years, embracing three biennial terms.

Following is a statement of the cash account for the period named:

Balance on hand, March 31, 1892.....	\$ 58,191 00
Interest on deposits (Wiley).....	720 00
Receipts, year ending March 31, 1893..	93,389 60
Receipts, year ending March 31, 1894..	101,136 96
Receipts, year ending March 31, 1895..	88,330 50
Receipts, year ending March 31, 1896..	66,210 72
Receipts, year ending March 31, 1897..	42,859 82
Receipts, year ending March 31, 1898..	37,716 17
	\$488,554 86
Disbursements, year ending March 31, 1893.....	\$100,796 00
Wiley deficit.....	60,166 64
Disbursements, year ending March 31, 1894.....	63,415 46
Disbursements, year ending March 31, 1895.....	96,936 55
Disbursements, year ending March 31, 1896.....	50,766 93
Disbursements, year ending March 31, 1897.....	68,630 78
Disbursements, year ending March 31, 1898.....	38,736 47
Balance on hand, March 31, 1898.....	9,106 03
	\$488,554 86

Owing to the fact that the conventions of the Supreme Lodge are held biennially, the disbursements in alternate years are inevitably much larger. In order, therefore, that the comparison of annual disbursements with annual receipts may be perfectly fair, it is necessary that the expenditures caused directly by holding a convention of the Supreme Lodge—the pay-roll, incidental expenses of the convention (such as the daily journal, postage, etc.) and the printing of the official record—should be eliminated from the amounts given above as gross disbursements. We thus obtain the appended comparative statement of receipts and disbursements for ordinary purposes for the fiscal year named:

1893—Receipts	\$ 94,109 60
1894—Receipts	101,136 96
1895—Receipts	88,330 50
1896—Receipts	66,210 72
1897—Receipts	42,859 82
1898—Receipts	37,716 17
1893—Disbursements	\$ 58,690 00
1894—Disbursements	63,415 46
1895—Disbursements	61,874 43
1896—Disbursements	50,766 93

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1897—Disbursements 39,964 43
 1898—Disbursements 38,736 47

From the above tables the conclusion to be drawn is inescapable—it is that, while our receipts has been steadily decreasing, our disbursements have not, as has been persistently asserted, been increasing. On the contrary, as compared with the total disbursements for all purposes for the two fiscal years ending March 31, 1894, the total disbursements for all purposes for the two fiscal years ending March 31st, 1898, were thirty-four per cent. less; or, to compare single years in which no convention of the Supreme Lodge was held, the total disbursements for the year ending March 31st, 1898, were forty and a half per cent. less than the total disbursements for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 1894. Notwithstanding these facts, unscrupulous persons have continued to declaim against the "extravagance of the Supreme Lodge," and vehemently to assist that, while our revenues are decreasing, our expenditures are growing larger from year to year; and there are doubtless many honest and well-meaning members of the rank and file who actually believe these assertions to be true.

The question naturally suggests itself, what is the cause of the continuous and rapid decrease of our cash receipts. Those of you who are familiar with our system of revenue know that the bulk of our receipts comes from the sale of supplies. In proportion as our sales fall off, our revenue must inevitably decrease. With what alarming rapidity this has taken place, the appended table discloses:

SALES OF SUPPLIES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 31—

Grand Domain.	1893.	1894.
Alabama	\$1,992 55	\$1,476 06
Arizona	184 40	208 65
Arkansas	318 70	948 85
British Columbia..	587 90	215 15
California.....	3,836 10	1,703 95
Colorado.....	2,836 35	1,355 85
Connecticut	441 00	987 80
Delaware	154 40	62 25
Dist. of Columbia..	118 65	288 90
Florida.....	580 40	650 60
Georgia.....	1,166 25	730 55
Idaho.....	693 75	411 85
Illinois.....	7,350 95	5,626 75
Indiana.....	5,394 05	3,944 55
Indian Territory ..	129 05	394 45
Iowa.....	3,564 45	3,675 39
Kansas.....	3,186 30	1,779 29
Kentucky.....	941 00	876 49
Louisiana.....	1,280 25	1,124 85
Maine.....	829 95	1,282 50
Manitoba	191 50	96 05
Maritime Provinces..	276 45	128 53
Maryland.....	591 60	605 90
Massachusetts.....	2,414 95	3,257 19
Michigan.....	1,257 10	1,196 59
Minnesota.....	2,245 30	1,210 70
Mississippi.....	1,084 95	912 40
Missouri.....	5,963 50	3,389 69
Montana.....	541 65	430 50
Nebraska.....	714 20	1,587 75
Nevada.....	149 90	211 65
New Hampshire.....	687 85	401 13
New Jersey.....	1,722 60	1,680 09
New Mexico.....	223 55	107 55
New York.....	2,352 06	4,030 60
North Carolina.....	376 30	649 88
North Dakota.....	228 60	418 53
Ohio.....	7,430 55	5,081 25
Oklahoma.....	114 15	202 95

Ontario.....	268 80	194 85
Oregon.....	482 43	654 20
Pennsylvania.....	3,501 71	4,211 29
Rhode Island.....	1,833 70	610 05
South Carolina.....	808 60	713 50
South Dakota.....	980 15	385 60
Tennessee.....	2,926 05	1,729 89
Texas.....	3,311 85	2,170 05
Utah.....	230 50	93 03
Vermont.....	137 05	124 15
Virginia.....	636 65	683 25
Washington.....	1,760 25	1,867 95
West Virginia.....	863 45	1,775 69
Wisconsin.....	1,039 50	973 15
Wyoming.....	211 10	229 75

\$83,675 42 \$69,849 98

Grand Domain.	1897.	1898.
Alabama.....	\$1,071 00	\$1,071 00
Arizona.....	325 00	278 45
Arkansas.....	638 40	369 47
British Columbia..	223 20	39 20
California.....	1,350 49	922 50
Colorado.....	1,227 77	1,019 63
Connecticut.....	870 37	463 06
Delaware.....	187 77	140 85
District of Columbia	207 42	63 15
Florida.....	588 82	597 71
Georgia.....	7 19 90	838 20
Idaho.....	21 33	290 31
Illinois.....	6,373 40	4,441 21
Indiana.....	4,826 50	3,771 19
Indian Territory ..	523 88	455 68
Iowa.....	4,140 70	3,555 37
Kansas.....	1,478 35	953 41
Kentucky.....	1,669 21	851 42
Louisiana.....	1,438 10	829 09
Maine.....	1,706 25	1,223 65
Manitoba.....	154 56	157 55
Maritime Provinces..	143 50	28 90
Maryland.....	877 20	482 15
Massachusetts.....	2,714 89	2,549 61
Michigan.....	1,930 22	1,147 20
Minnesota.....	1,033 35	783 70
Mississippi.....	912 45	453 92
Missouri.....	2,407 55	1,472 50
Montana.....	841 15	576 28
Nebraska.....	973 13	389 05
Nevada.....	195 91	81 26
New Hampshire.....	769 25	825 15
New Jersey.....	1,665 75	1,432 15
New Mexico.....	165 70	29 58
New York.....	3,531 68	2,021 80
North Carolina.....	983 02	610 62
North Dakota.....	515 70	323 46
Ohio.....	11,554 40	4,037 15
Oklahoma.....	302 55	204 97
Ontario.....	364 80	407 45
Oregon.....	492 35	354 70
Pennsylvania.....	4,607 51	3,975 94
Rhode Island.....	612 75	367 85
South Carolina.....	748 36	676 40
South Dakota.....	344 90	212 30
Tennessee.....	1,273 63	962 67
Texas.....	2,055 30	1,660 54
Utah.....	246 50	283 90
Vermont.....	357 20	361 29
Virginia.....	397 14	460 12
Washington.....	509 86	314 12
West Virginia.....	986 47	824 35
Wisconsin.....	1,413 22	803 55
Wyoming.....	156 33	41 59

\$75,569 19 \$51,234 96

Grand Domain.	1895.	1896.
Alabama.....	\$1,057 75	\$ 908 44
Arizona.....	141 25	103 10
Arkansas.....	352 61	187 05
British Columbia..	201 40	207 65
California.....	1,073 98	1,012 33

Colorado	982 65	616 22
Connecticut	441 03	497 19
Delaware	56 95	58 20
District of Columbia	102 48	273 35
Florida	319 00	388 98
Georgia	558 21	687 36
Idaho	128 67	163 02
Illinois	2,986 11	2,308 69
Indiana	2,318 16	1,931 59
Indian Territory	52 52	48 35
Iowa	1,421 65	1,124 66
Kansas	455 31	599 42
Kentucky	693 87	556 65
Louisiana	595 35	472 20
Maine	591 62	968 11
Manitoba	250 42	115 42
Maritime Provinces	144 18	123 53
Maryland	676 85	162 10
Massachusetts	1,524 31	1,562 09
Michigan	821 16	771 39
Minnesota	459 45	337 56
Mississippi	181 85	436 52
Missouri	1,056 82	1,137 42
Montana	318 99	262 00
Nebraska	292 15	342 99
Nevada	58 35	36 51
New Hampshire	525 23	381 63
New Jersey	688 19	447 81
New Mexico	163 65	133 58
New York	1,497 05	958 00
North Carolina	493 60	693 13
North Dakota	421 10	288 30
Ohio	3,00 90	2,683 71
Oklahoma	187 41	229 80
Ontario	105 01	14 89
Oregon	199 07	353 20
Pennsylvania	1,895 78	1,466 70
Rhode Island	373 81	275 76
South Carolina	740 20	347 75
South Dakota	131 99	185 16
Tennessee	947 96	594 35
Texas	1,525 53	1,110 42
Utah	182 85	116 46
Vermont	173 95	153 73
Virginia	293 50	136 74
Washington	236 21	362 19
West Virginia	707 30	843 95
Wisconsin	661 88	462 13
Wyoming	51 45	69 16

\$35,406 76 \$30,394 73

The figures given above make manifest the stupendous fact that, within six years, our total sales of supplies have decreased sixty-three and a half per cent. Of the fifty-four grand domains, only two—and they are comparatively small—bought as much in 1898 as they bought in 1893. In the larger grand domains—those which have been our best customers heretofore—the decrease

has been enormous. Fifteen of these, who purchases in 1893 aggregated \$58,309.74—considerably more than half of the total amount sold—bought in 1898 an aggregate of \$18,294.57. The decrease in each of these, in five years, has been as follows: Minnesota, 85 per cent.; Kansas, 84; Missouri, 81; Tennessee, 80; Colorado, 78 1-2; California, 73; Iowa, 68 3-4; Illinois, 68 1-2; Texas, 66 1-2; Indiana, 65 1-2; Ohio, 64; New York, 59 1-2; Pennsylvania, 58 1-2; Alabama, 54 1-4; Massachusetts, 35 1-2.

The foregoing figures are submitted for careful, intelligent and unprejudiced scrutiny and criticism. When this shall have been applied, it is confidently believed that every member of this body who really wishes to know the truth, and who sincerely desires to be just, not only to the Supreme Lodge, but to those to whom it has confided the management of its finances, will necessarily reach the conclusion that these officers have not been unfaithful to their trust. Your revenue has not been wasted: the source from which the greater portion of it has been wont to flow has simply begun to go dry.

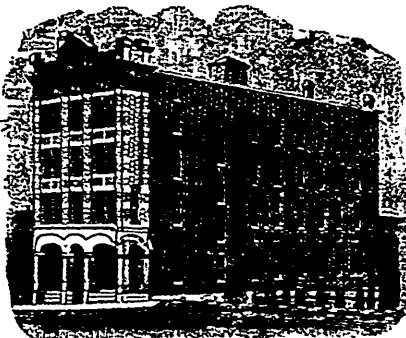
The report of Bro. White clearly demonstrates the fact that the present low condition of the Supreme Lodge Exchequer is due to the immense falling off of the receipts from the sale of supplies.

The report of the Supreme Master of the Exchequer, Thos. D. Mears, is complete, showing aggregate receipts from April 1st, 1896 to 1898, \$116,473.28, and disbursements for the same period \$107,367.25, leaving a cash balance of \$9,106.03.

Bro. Mears recommends that the law in force prior to 1894, requiring the S. M. of E. to furnish to each member of the Supreme Lodge quarterly statements of the receipts and disbursements of his office, become again in full effect. In this we heartily agree with him.

UNIFORM RANK.

The report of Maj.-Gen. Carnahan is a very lengthy document, and as it is printed under separate cover and distributed to each division, we deem it unnecessary to make any comment on same. We are pleased, however, to report the adoption of the New Ritual for that Rank. We have personally witnessed the work performed, and have no hesitation in pronouncing it a decided improvement, and as there will be no extra cost in connection with the compliance of the same, we trust that it will be instrumental in renewing interest and largely increasing the membership of this important Rank of the Order.



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ENDOWMENT RANK.

The report of the Board of Control, a voluminous work embracing all the business transactions of this great insurance organization for the past two years, is entirely too heavy to attempt to publish in full in your valuable paper. We believe that in all their acts, the members of the Board have been actuated from worthy motives, and have acted as they thought best for the interests of the members of the Endowment Rank, and we trust that the statements made in their report as to the investments made will be fully realized. We are not in favor, however, of investments by the Board other than National State or Municipal bonds, and in this matter we are able to report that in future only investments of the above nature can be made. Below will be found the statement of the Board with reference to loans made, to which so much dissatisfaction and difference of opinion has existed:

In connection with this subject, there have been two important matters, regarding which you no doubt desire to have some information. The first of these grew out of the failure of the City National Bank of Fort Worth, Texas. At first many thought that this claim would be a loss, but the Board is pleased to be able to report that, as it has always maintained, the Rank will not lose a dollar of either the principal or interest of this claim. Though according to the rule with reference to the failure of a National Bank, interest on all claims ceases from the time of the failure, yet the Board recovered judgment against the bondsmen for an amount greatly in excess of what they will be required to pay after the final dividend is paid by the Receiver of the bank. The amount due from the bondsmen is drawing interest at the rate of six per cent. No transfer of real estate can be made by the bondsmen since the suit was brought, except subject to this indebtedness. We believe the bondsmen good for the amount of the judgment. No execution has yet been issued against the bondsmen on the judgment obtained, as we were advised by our attorneys to delay such action until the amount that they are liable for on their bond is definitely determined—which cannot be done until final action is taken by the Comptroller of the Currency in settlement of the bank's affairs.

The second matter consists of the investment made by the Board of Control in first mortgage gold bonds of the Lexington Hotel Building Company of Chicago, bearing interest at six per cent. These bonds are secured by property worth more than three times their face value. There has never been any question in the minds of the members of the Board as to the unqualified safety of these securities. Public attention was called to them simply because of litigation regarding the hotel property, which in no wise jeopardized our security, but at the time proved annoying. As soon as the equity of redemption expires, so that final and unassailable title can be given in the property, the full amount of principal and interest upon

these bonds will be paid to the Board. Meantime the interest on the bonds continues to run.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Resources of the Endowment Rank on July 1st, 1898:

Cash on hand, First National Bank, Chicago...	\$ 30,365 92
Bonds (purchase value)...	236,127 39
Collateral notes (secured by deposit of bonds)...	5,321 72
First mortgage loans.....	105,847 36
Interest accrued on bonds and securities.....	24,516 97
Case of Dr. Geo. W. Fraker, amount to be refunded to the Endowment Rank	451 00
City National Bank, Fort Worth, Texas, claim....	91,798 16
Due from Sections, in process of collection.....	25,348 10
Office furniture, fixtures, etc	3,500 00
Total.....	\$523,276 62

The death claims, of whatsoever nature, occurring prior to July 1st, 1898, and remaining unadjusted on that date, are classified as follows:

Those in litigation, where payment has been decided upon conclusive evidence of suicide, \$36,219.88.


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have been the result of habitual excessive use of alcoholics, opiates, etc., also in litigation, \$32,414.50.

Claims arising out of deaths from suicide, excessive use of alcoholics, narcotics, etc., occurring since the enactment by your body of the present law, providing for partial payments, also including those in which the evidence shows misrepresentation in the application for membership, or non-good standing in the Subordinate Lodge or Rank at time of death, all of which remain unsettled at this time, \$32,000.

Claims in which settlement is pending, awaiting receipt of proper evidence showing appointment of guardian for minor beneficiaries, or other legal requirements, \$46,000.

Claims under consideration by the Medical Examiner-in-Chief, in which the usual proofs of death have been received, \$66,000.

The matter of desired changes in the laws of the Endowment Rank relative to the failure of remittances in reaching the Board of Control within the time specified owing to delay in mail or railway facilities, and the question of secretaries of sections being made the agents of the Board of Control. We desire to say that we used every means at our disposal to bring about the desired changes. However, the Supreme Lodge in its wisdom did not agree to the propositions relative to the first proposition, we feel satisfied that no harm or injustice can happen to the members of this Rank if they comply with the law, and we have the promise from the Board of Control that sufficient evidence will be supplied the sections interested, showing to the membership why such change is not advisable, and giving them every assurance of ample protection regarding the second change with reference to the Secretary being made the agent of the Board of Control. This change has been rendered practically impossible owing to the laws in a large number of the different states requiring a very heavy government deposit on all agents appointed and doing business as agents of a fraternal insurance company.

We trust that this explanation, together with the further information the members will receive from the Board, will be satisfactory, and that this very important Rank will met with a large patronage in this Domain.

The following circular letter has been issued by the Board of Control, and was received by H. J. Anstie, S. R., Sept. 25th, 1898:

Chicago, September 15th, 1898.

To Officers and Members of the Endowment Rank, Knights of Pythias, and the Order Universal:

In view of the many misleading and untruthful reports relative to the Endowment Rank, which were sent over the wires during the meeting of the Supreme Lodge at Indianapolis, and in order that the membership of the Rank may be truthfully informed, and further, that they may be fully assured as to the solvency of the Rank and its ability to meet all of its obligations, the Board of Control at this time deem it both proper and just to the membership to make the following statement:

But one single question was raised at the Supreme Lodge relative to the management of the Endowment Rank, and that was as to the nature of certain of its securities, the character of which has been fully explained in a previous circular, embodying a statement of the absolute facts in the case.

At the request of the Supreme Lodge, the President of the Board of Control furnished to that body a full and comprehensive list of all of the securities held, accompanied by letters from several recognized authorities as to their value. The explanation was of such a satisfactory character that the Board's report was adopted practically by a unanimous vote of the Supreme Lodge, and, as a vindication of the management, and as an expression of absolute confidence the old Board was re-elected.

As to the character of all of the investments of the Endowment Rank, the Board of Control say, without hesitation, that they are of the very best, amply and properly secured.

Some of the securities, purchased at the same time as those that were questioned, have since been sold at a premium of 8 5-8 per cent., and there is absolutely no reason to believe that there will be any loss on the securities now held by the Rank. On the whole, the investments representing the surplus funds of the Endowment Rank are deemed first-class in every respect, and equally as good in quality and character as those held by any other kindred organization or insurance company.

But, irrespective entirely of the investments, the Rank is more than self sustaining. That such is the case must be evident from the fact that during the quarter ending July 1st, 1898, death claims to the amount of \$283,000.00 were paid, and so far during the present quarter, \$268,000.00. Of this amount, \$90,000.00 was paid during the last ten days, and all uncontested claims against the Endowment Rank, as soon as they are approved, will be promptly paid. Can a more forcible argument be used as to the solvency of the Rank, and can any life institution point to a more honorable record?

The Board earnestly trusts that the brethren will not allow the enemies of the Rank to sow the seeds of distrust and lack of confidence in their minds, but that they will show their appreciation of the protection afforded by the Rank, by giving to the Board of Control their loyal support in its efforts to make the Rank a continued success—not contenting themselves with being members only of the Rank, but doing everything to increase the scope and usefulness of this most important co-ordinate branch of our Order.

Fraternally,

J. A. HINSEY,

President, Board of Control.

Attest:

H. B. STOLTE,

Secretary, Board of Control.

THE SUPREME TRIBUNAL.

This important branch of our Government was the cause of considerable discussion, and a general feeling prevailed that their number should be reduced from that of five to three. Many were of the opinion that the Tribunal should be entirely abolished, principally on the ground of the great expense attached to that particular branch. However valuable the Tribunal may be to the Order, we cannot disguise the fact that it is exceedingly costly, as the following figures show. During the period of its existence this branch of the Supreme Lodge has cost \$8,740.25. It has held ten sittings at an average expense of \$874 per sitting. Twenty-five decisions have been arrived at a cost of \$349.61 for each decision. This will give our reader a fair idea of the expense in connection with the Supreme Court of the Order, and place him in

a position to better judge the wisdom of continuing the Tribunal.

The expenses of the Supreme Lodge for the coming two years have been very considerably reduced. It is estimated that a saving of over twenty thousand dollars a year will be effected by the reforms introduced. The following is a detailed list adopted after each item had been carefully considered:

Salary Supreme Chancellor, two years...	\$ 6,000
Clerk hire for Supreme Chancellor, actual cost and not to exceed, for two years..	1,800
Office rent at actual cost and not to exceed	1,000
Postage, telephone, telegrams, expressage, removal of furniture, actual cost, and not to exceed, for two years.....	400
Travelling expenses of Supreme Chancellor at actual cost, and not to exceed, for two years	1,000
Salary Supreme Keeper of Records and Seal, for two years.....	7,200
Clerk hire for S. K. R. S. at actual cost, and not to exceed, for two years.....	2,000
Office rent, heating, telephone, postage, packing boxes, wrapping paper and other incidentals, at actual cost, and not to exceed	2,000
Travelling expenses S. K. R. S. at actual cost, and not to exceed, for two years..	300
Salary Supreme Master of Exchequer, for two years.....	1,500
Travelling expenses S. M. E. at actual cost and not to exceed, for two years.....	400
Expenses Supreme Tribunal, for two years	3,000
Official Record, actual cost, not to exceed	3,000
Stationery, printing and supplies for Supreme Lodge officers, actual cost, not to exceed	500
Travelling expenses of Finance Committee, at actual cost, not to exceed, two years..	1,200
Travelling expenses Printing and Supply Committee, actual cost, not to exceed..	300
Interest on mortgages, two years.....	1,350
Allowance to Daughters of Founder.....	1,440
Past Supreme Chancellor jewel.....	150
To defray expenses of this Convention....	25,000
Contingent fund to pay expenses of Supreme Lodge officers and Supreme Lodge committees, not otherwise provided for, and not to exceed, for two years.....	3,000
Printing Uniform Rank Ritual.....	1,000
For the purchase of supplies for two years and not to exceed.....	30,000

The revenues for the expenses of the Supreme Government for the next two years will be raised by a direct per capita tax of four cents per member, semi-annually, or sixteen cents per member per two years. By this means it is expected that the Supreme Lodge will not only be relieved of its difficulties, but the subordinate lodges will be actually benefited, as the profit on supplies will be materially reduced.

The officers of the Supreme Lodge are gentlemen of the highest standing and ability, and in their hands we believe that your interests will be well looked after. Many of the old and tried officers remain at their respective posts. The spirited contest for the office of Supreme Vice-Chancellor clearly showed the great admiration the members had for the different candidates, and after the ballot was finally declared in favor of the Hon. Ogden H. Fethers for that office, the remarks that fell from the lips of Bros. Carter, Shrivley and

Bangs, honoring their successful opponent, will long be remembered by the members of the Supreme Lodge.

The parade by the Uniform Rank and subordinate lodge members, was indeed a pleasing spectacle. Thousands of brave Sir Knights, with waving plumes and glittering swords, marching past the reviewing stand, saluting the Commander in Chief of this Grand Pythian army, followed by gaily and neatly dressed members of subordinate lodges, whose uniform appearance called forth continuous applause along the line. For over one hour and a half this delightful scene greeted the eye associated with it. The beautiful music from the many military and civic bands was enough to waken our hearts and make us all feel proud that we could claim a membership in this great Order of Knights of Pythias.

Referring to your valuable paper, we desire to say that we had the pleasure of receiving many favorable comments and kindly wishes for its success from many of the officers and members of the Supreme Lodge whom you had favored with a copy, and if the good wishes of that body will help you on your mission, you cannot fail to have abundant success.

For your next issue we will endeavor to give to your readers a true account of the many changes and important legislation transacted, believing that we have already trespassed to much upon the columns of your paper.

In conclusion we desire to say that we have endeavored to act for the best interests of the Order while in attendance at the Supreme Lodge, and we trust our beloved Order in this Domain will meet with every measure of success.

Fraternally yours,

H. J. ANSTIE, S. R.

T. ACKERMAN, S. R.

FIRE ! FIRE !

Fire ! Fire !! Ding—ding, ding—ding, when we hear the bell toll the number denoting the district, and see the fire engine go dashing down the street, our whole being is thrilled, mayhap merely from excitement or from thoughts of the grave and serious consequences caused therefrom. When as boys we used to follow the hose cart and think it great fun to see a large fire, but when once men, we think of the more serious side of it, we at once wonder whose home is possibly being destroyed, and whose mill or factory is being reduced to ashes, and the number of hands that will be thrown out of employment, the privation and suffering it may cause. Fire, a blessing and comfort to mankind when under control in the furnace or stove, but when once let loose it becomes a regular demon, having regard for no man, serving rich and poor alike, men who for years have sometimes denied themselves the necessities of life to save enough wherewith to buy a home, or mayhap to lay by for old age, have had all swept away in a few moments.

When we think of the uncertainty of wealth and the foolishness of man in striving to possess it, it causes us to think more seriously of our home beyond the skies and the measures that can never be destroyed. To those who have never witnessed a large fire it would be hard to realize it in all its seriousness, in the City of New Westminster, but a few days ago stood many fine, dwelling and business houses, in a few short hours were reduced to

blackened ruins, a few walls, etc., only left to mark the place of what they formerly consisted, men and women in the excitement rush madly to and fro, rescuing articles that are almost valueless, at times leaving the more valuable article to be destroyed, others whom you would hardly credit for their coolness of mind oftentimes rendering valuable assistance. The most heart-rending scenes are sometimes seen the morning after a fire. Old women crouching over some partially destroyed assure, mothers wringing their hands in the agonizing uncertainty of the welfare of husband and children, men cursing their luck, others looking among the ruins for some lost treasure. Fire, the great purifier and refiner.

We hope that our sister city will spring with leaps and bounds from her smouldering ashes to a beautiful and busy Metropolis.

A. T. C.

:"TIS TRUE, 'TIS PITY: AND PITY 'TIS,
'TIS TRUE."

We are sorry to record that we are not receiving the support and encouragement from the members of the Order living on the Island that we expected. Why this is so we are at a loss to say. We cannot believe that sectionalism has anything to do with it.

We hope that our brothers living on the Island are not ashamed of our efforts, and are withholding their support on that score. The "True Knight" is a Pythian enterprise, conducted wholly by the lodges in Vancouver, through its committee, which should be a sufficient guarantee that the paper will be devoted entirely in the interest of the Order throughout this Domain, and not for the benefit of any one individual or section. We are anxious that we should have Pythian news throughout the entire Domain. We believe that this paper was needed to arouse and awaken the interest that our Noble Order deserves, and we depended upon our Brother Knights in this Domain to assist us in making it a success, so that each and every Knight in British Columbia would equally share the credit.

We hope our Brother Knights will accept our assurance in the same Knightly spirit in which it is given, and aid us in carrying out an enterprise which cannot help but be an important factor in building up our Order, and increasing its membership in this Domain.

Since the first issue of the "True Knight" we have mailed copies of the paper to every lodge in this Domain, whether they had subscribed or not. This we will continue to do with the October edition, but after that date we will only mail copies to the lodges and members that have subscribed. We hope that those lodges that are able, and who have not already ordered the "True Knight" may see their way clear to have copies of the paper come to them regularly. We would be pleased to have every lodge (Knights of Pythias) in this Domain to consider itself agents for the "True Knight" and to secure advertisements and subscriptions. Surely we may expect from each lodge a letter of interest for each monthly edition. Let us all work in the spirit of fraternity.

COMMITTEE.

The City lodges beg to thank the Tram Company for their kindness and courtesy to the Relief Committee.

LACK OF INTEREST.

Editor "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother.—On page 12 of your No. 2 issue of the "True Knight." I note a letter from the correspondent of Far West Lodge, No. 1. Grieved as we all are at the lack of interest shown by the facts as stated in Bro. Pferdner's letter, we still must congratulate ourselves on having a brother in our midst who has the good of the Order so much at heart as not to be afraid to speak out. Would there were more like him. This lack of interest, apathy or whatever you like to call it, does more harm to our Order than anything else. Be in earnest, be either hot or cold. Don't dream good deeds all day long, do them. If the Lodge is not what you like, come and say what you think it ought to be, we are all human and can and ought to learn something even from a stay-away.

We generally do, or let things alone according as we like: we do as we like: we please ourselves: we look after No. 1: we are fools enough to believe in that theory of "Look after No. 1." when in truth we best serve ourselves by aiding others, because in so doing we use the greatest force-power in Earth or Heaven.

Let us try to learn the grand object our Order has in view at all times: "The Betterment of Mankind." How can we learn this work? By idly staying at home and taking things easy? Such a question seems foolish I know, but far more foolish is it to let your actions answer yes to such a foolish question. You are judged by your deeds are you not? Many years ago someone asked a foolish question: "Do we gather grapes of thorns or figs of thistles?" People have not forgotten the saying. Let me call it by its true name: "Neglect of duty." That sounds harsh I know, yet many a true saying sounds harsh. Are not Knights, men different from people in general in that they have assumed certain obligations? Are we carrying out those obligations when we neglect what is manifestly our duty? If we live to ourselves regardless of everything, we are but rotten trees—good for nothing. Useless, nay dangerous, for dead trees can and often do work harm: even so we, when we grow thus listless, work evil in many ways, unknowingly perhaps, yet is that an excuse?

Look at it in another light! Don't you think it's mean to get all the benefits and not do any work? "You pay your dues and are therefore entitled to certain rights!" Quite true! But don't forget the workers pay theirs too, and if they did not work, if they let things slide like you do there would not be any lodge at all for you to draw benefits from. Remember if a man work not he has not any right to eat. It would be far more manly to draw out than to continue standing idly by while others work, or to belong to an order for what you can get out of it.

Yours in F., C. & B.

ROBT. BROOKE.

On Wednesday, October 19th next, the first of a series of joint sessions of the three Vancouver lodges will be held, when, it is hoped all members will be present. Brothers from outside parts are to be with us and business of the highest importance will be under discussion. We look for an exceptionally good attendance.

FROM VICTORIA.

Editor "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother.—Events during the past month in Lodge matters have gone their usual way. The Lodge has appointed a committee to make arrangements to give a series of entertainments during the coming winter months. These entertainments, or socials, have heretofore been very popular, not only among the members but to the public at large as well. We expect that through these social gatherings we may be able to bring our members in closer touch with each other, and their families, and also be the means of gaining new membership.

P. C. F. Hinds has just returned from the Klondike country where he has seen a great many of our brothers. He reports all being well except Bro. T. Townsend, who is ill with fever. He also reports that many of the boys will return here next summer, being determined to exploit the far north country for wealth if such a thing is to be gotten by perseverance and hard work. May they all succeed.

The Knights of this city hearing of the severe misfortune that had befallen our sister city, New Westminster, at once insisted of extending not only sympathy, but practical aid, and it being apparent that all were of one mind, one of our brothers wired at once \$50 to the brethren at New Westminster. A special meeting was called for Monday evening and was very largely attended by members of both lodges. At that convention it was stated what had been done, and as usual the Lodge kicker was not satisfied, he insisted that \$50 was not enough, and he carried his point, the lodges doubling the amount by unanimous vote. Good for the kicker. The lodges also pledged themselves to donate more help if such will be needed, and are anxiously awaiting reports of our despoiled and afflicted brethren at New Westminster. All of which shows that the lessons learned in the Lodge room have been heeded, and the seed sown has not fallen on barren ground.

Fraternally yours,

EMIL PFERDNER,

Correspondent.

FROM CALGARY.

Calgary, Alberta, Sept. 21st, 1898.

Editor "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother.—Though perhaps a little late, allow me now to congratulate yourself and the committee upon its creditable appearance.

Although at present absent from my home and Lodge, I am still personally interested in the "True Knight" and wish you every success.

And now a word with regard to "Grand Lodge Sessions" as introduced by "Past Chancellor" last month.

I am pleased to see that some one is taking this matter up in "True Knight" as I feel convinced that thereby will more of our membership be induced to think a little on this subject.

As a member of the Special Committee referred to by "Past Chancellor," I felt the situation rather a little embarrassing, inasmuch as that while wishing the report to favor our Rossland brethren (and all our Kootenay lodges in so doing) I had to agree with the other members of the committee in deciding against them.

I agree with "Past Chancellor" in that the finances of our Grand Lodge should be put in such a position that a repetition of our action at that time should not need to occur again.

To do so, I believe that we must raise the per capita tax, and I also believe that when each and every subordinate lodge in the Domain gives this question fair consideration it will not be looked upon as a burden, but rather as a pleasure, in that it would first put the Grand Lodge on a solid financial basis, and secondly would give all parts of the Domain equal chances.

Our Kamloops correspondent could tell us perhaps whether the visit of the Grand Lodge made any improvement there, and I for one would like to hear from them on the subject.

Trusting to see more in the "True Knight" relative to this question,

I remain,

Yours fraternally in F., C. & B.,

C. F. NELSON, G. R.,

New Denver Lodge, No. 22.

FROM VERNON.

Cold Stream Lodge, No. 18.

Editor "True Knight."

The True Knight has been welcomed by every member of Cold Stream Lodge, and the excellent articles perused with interest by the members. This publication will no doubt be of great benefit to the Order.

With much regret we chronicle the death of one of our worthy members, Bro. H. F. Huff, who joined Cold Stream Lodge in 1895. At the time of his demise he was engaged in a contract on Lord Aberdeen's estate, the poor fellow being found dead near his tent, death having been caused by heart failure. Bro. Huff was an industrious, unassuming person, and a worthy brother in every respect. The Knights buried him.

We are pleased to say new members are coming in, and prospects are very bright for additional creditable members.

I notice in the second issue of the "True Knight" from "Enquirer," what is to be done with Past Grand Chancellors. It is really too bad that this question should be kept alive when the lodge representatives have decided what is to be done with them. I have the greatest respect for every Grand Chancellor of every Domain, but let us for a moment consider other organizations, societies, or political agencies. What is being done with the ex-Governors-Generals; what is being done with the ex-Presidents. These men have been given the highest rank that is in the power of human being to give. If when their term has expired, if they are still in youth and willing workers, there is no reason why, notwithstanding they are Past Grand or Supreme, why their experience cannot be used for the advantage and advancement of the society which placed them there. The question of expense or other matters cannot be used, as everyone of us will readily admit these matters can be successfully arranged. There is not a Past Grand Chancellor but what will readily be elected a representative if he has continued to work for the best interest of the Order in his own lodge, unless he declines to allow a younger aspirant. In that case means can be devised to allow the Past Grand Chancellor to attend the convention at no great expense to himself, and of great benefit to

the Order. Let us work harmoniously and abide by the decision of the majority of the representatives. You will find all will be well.

With best wishes and success for the "True Knight."

ED. GOULET,
Correspondent.

FROM TRAIL.

Trail, B. C., Sept. 18th, 1898.

Editor "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother,—Once more the activity of Trail Lodge compels me to pen an epistle of happenings that have transpired during the past month. Each meeting has given us more and more encouragement, and we soon expect to become one of the most prosperous lodges in this Grand Domain. The revival of business, after a depression lasting nearly eight months, has brought back many familiar faces among us, which has tended to create the impression that a very bright future confronts us, and I need not admit we that we are in the right.

During the past month we have had very little time to transact regular Lodge business, owing to an entertainment given in honor of a departed brother; a pleasant visit from the editor of this bright and breezy journal, and degree work nearly every meeting. Therefore I am unable to give the readers of "True Knight" any important "food for thought" that would have been brought forward for the good of the Order at large.

The first two meetings in the month we had the pleasure of conferring the first and second degrees upon candidate Ralph S. C. Clark. Esquire Clark will become a great addition to our Lodge, being a splendid vocalist and an all-round entertainer.

We are all grieved to chronicle the departure from our midst of Knight J. J. Inkster, who has so splendidly performed the duties of Keeper of Records and Seal for nearly three terms. Bro. Inkster left on the 4th inst. for Davenport, Wash., to embark in a more lucrative business, and with him went love, esteem and best wishes beyond expression. Following is the resolution of respect beautifully engrossed, drafted up by the committee, which was read in Lodge, and then handed to Brother Inkster.

"Whereas, it hath pleased the brethren of Trail Lodge, No. 23, Knights of Pythias, to present this address to you, our beloved Brother Knight, J. J. Inkster, as a token of our love for you, and our deepest appreciation for the extraordinary manner in which you have filled your position as Keeper of Records and Seal for more than a year. We regret beyond measure that your departure from us is so near, and that we may not be able to enjoy the extreme pleasure of being in your presence any more. It will be remembered that Brother Inkster has always been attentive and true to his duty as Keeper of Records and Seal, and that he has won the deepest love of every brother here, and we feel that he deserves even more praise and appreciation than we are able to bestow upon him. Our prayer is: 'That the All Wise God of all that is good and great to man, and whose commandments you obey, may forever be your perpetual defence. That your heart and mind may always thirst after the knowledge of God, and that when you are called to leave this, our earthly

scene, that you forever rest in perfect peace and harmony in the glories of the eternal dawn.' Now tendering again our love, esteem and well wishes, we are as forever.

"Signed in behalf of the Lodge by the committee,

"S. F. PETERSON,
"BRUCE CRADDOCK."

After the reading of the resolution. Brother Inkster responded in a few but bearing words, after which the Lodge adjourned. While this business was being transacted in the Lodge room, a number of invited guests congregated in the hall and ante-room. The visitors were invited into the hall and introduced to the "fraters" of Trail Lodge. A short time was given to cordially greet the guests and make everyone feel at home. A programme consisting of music, singing and recitations was rendered in an admirable way, during which refreshments were served, together with Havana cigars, from which smoke issued so dense that for a time we imagined that we were camped among the smoking weapons of Santiago. Speeches were made in behalf of Bro. Inkster as a Knight of Pythias, and devoted citizen. Amid songs, cheers and hand-shaking, the merry party retired.

At a meeting held on Thursday evening, September 8th, we were greeted by a visit in the person of Brother G. R. Maxwell, M. P., editor of this life-to-the-Order-giving journal, in which he ably and thankfully assisted us in patching up a candidate's burnt fingers, which accident occurred during the progress of the second degree. An adjournment was taken, and Bro. Maxwell spoke a few, but effective words on the value of his new paper, and pointed out the good results it is bound to accomplish if the Knights of this Grand Domain stand more closely together by assisting the paper in making it as newsworthy and interesting as can possibly be done, thereby making it more sought for, and that a little "add" would not bluish its pages in the least. Bro. Maxwell then gave us a most interesting and educating lecture on Pythianism, and was applauded and reapplauded on several splendid points. Refreshments were served and short return speeches were made by several members, after which Lodge was brought

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to a close, bidding Bro. Maxwell farewell, and a wish that we wish soon again be able to hear his pleasing strains.

Upon the departure of Brother J. J. Inkster, Bro. Jas. Reith was unanimously appointed to resume the duties of Keeper of Records and Seal. As Bro. Reith possesses in the neighborhood of 250 pounds of natural growth, we all feel assured that he will experience little or no difficulty in holding down his records and seal. Thereby wearing fittingly the title for the position placed.

Bro. Fred. Kommer, who one time so intelligently manipulated the long carving knife, in other words, Master of Arms, was a Trail visitor last week. Bro. Kommer's stay was probably somewhat limited, as we did not have the pleasure of greeting him in the Lodge room, much to the regret of us all.

Vice-Chancellor, Bro. J. M. Worth has somewhat broadened his field of business operations, having acquired a half interest in the home paper, one of the most complete newspaper plants in the Province. We bespeak of his success in the highest terms, he being possessed of splendid business capabilities and a hard worker.

The most surprising feature of the past month was the able manner in which our new officers performed their duties in degree work. To speak, our boys have had practically no time to study their respective offices, and the initiation work was exemplified in a very effective manner. Pre-late, Bro. Widmer, surprised the boys beyond comparison for the splendid manner in which he propounded the "Midnight" obligations. Other officers fared equally as well, but are of an altogether different and unequal character.

Trail Lodge was pained to learn of the calamity which befel our brothers at New Westminster, in which they lost nearly all their paraphernalia by the terrible conflagration which devastated that beautiful city some two weeks since. We extend our greatest sympathy and hope to see our New Westminster boys spring up in a Herculean and Phoenix-like way, that will make themselves feel as though the occurrence never occurred.

Queer, as it is a fact, it seems that so far our several lodges throughout the province are not taking the proper interest in our new journal. We have noted that the pages of the last two issues of "True Knight" contain very little correspondence, at least not enough to show that appreciative interest was being taken toward its publication. Now brethren, take your pens and write a few lines of the happenings that have transpired and what is in store the coming month, and let us all know what you are doing. We cannot expect to keep our paper floating without the necessary support, that is, by keeping its pages continually dotted with local Lodge items, which are bound to make it interesting and educating to all members of the Order, thereby placing material and activity among us, which is one of the foundations to our success.

For this issue of "True Knight," I believe I have done my share in assisting this journal to make it for which it was partially intended. Possibly I am occupying a little too much space for a single issue, but the actions of our Lodge prompts it. So if the writer's name fails to materialize for the next issue, it will not tend to show that Trail Lodge lacks any appreciation toward its appearance.

No doubt some of our brethren's minds will

soon be imbued with the idea that I am a little bit "stuck-up" in having my name appear in every issue of "True Knight," but as anonymous correspondence will not be accepted, I am obliged to sign myself,

Yours in F., C. and B.,

THOMAS E. ABBOTT.

Trail, B. C.

Trail, B. C., August 26th, 1898.

J. E. Evans, Vancouver, B. C. :-

Dear Sir and Brother,—I inclose you herewith express order for \$8.50 in payment of subscription to Pythian monthly for 17 members. The Lodge has not taken action regarding the insertion of the Lodge card. This may be done later. Times have been so quiet here that we have not been doing much, but the prospect is improving, and we have a victim to put through at our next meeting. I regret to say that I am going to leave Trail in a few days to reside at Davenport, Wash. I shall still retain my membership here, where I have many friends, and with whom I have taken an active part in our Lodge work. My successor has not yet been appointed. In closing this, my last letter to you as an officer of Trail Lodge, No. 23, I can but say that our relations have been of the pleasantest through our correspondence, and I wish you every success in the future.

Yours in F., C. & B.,

J. J. INKSTER,

K. of R. & S.

:o:

Don't forget that Bro. Clark, of Clark & Stuart, is at the same old stand and is always glad to welcome his many friends.

The Vancouver lodges have been well attended during September. Considerable interest has been manifested by members who have been more conspicuous for their absence than their attendance. A new dawn is breaking and Pythianism is bound to make a record for itself the coming winter months.

A REMINDER

WHITE

Takes the Best

Photos...

ADDRESS—Entrance K. of P. Hall,

Cordova Street,
Vancouver, B.C.

EDIFY YOUR MEMBERS.

The complaint is constantly made of poor attendance at our lodges. Can we wonder why? The members are not edified. They go to lodge only to see and to hear a formal opening, a formal attention to business, a formal conferring of ranks, and a formal closing. With the exception of a "few remarks" from a visitor, no actual information is gained, nothing interesting or edifying transpires, and disappointed and unrefreshed the brethren depart. No wonder is it, that quorums are hard to get, and that new members are not brought in. Now, it seems to me the remedy for this is to open the great storehouse of Pythian symbolism and unfold the philosophy of Pythian ethics. Then Pythian F. C. & B. will be seen at each meeting, and the effulgent rays of Pythian light will gleam on all, as all will receive what they are entitled to, and none will go away dissatisfied, as all will be truly edified and benefitted. Then Pythian right and privileges will be esteemed inestimable and our castle halls will possess unrivalled attraction. Do you doubt this, or deem it a flight of imagination? Be not deceived. Pythianism is as sublime as the universe, and as far reaching, it embraces all from the point to the infinite and eternal. One man stands upon the ground and sees nothing but earth, while another by his side sees infallible signs of untold wealth beneath. The first departs no wiser than he came, while the other grasps his treasure with a firm hand. One man looks up at the firmament by night and sees only the thousands of stars, while another sees an infinite series of solar systems, constellation after constellation rolling on in music and harmony all created by the wisdom and power of the Supreme Chancellor on High, and adorned by His skill, and so reasons up from himself, the creature, to God, the Creator, and grasps the idea of what it is to erect the Castle Hall of the Soul, in accordance with Pythian laws and precepts and symbols.

Let us then, realize, the importance of Pythian edification, and do our best to secure its inestimable benefit.

Fraternally Yours,
J. IRVINE.

FROM GRANVILLE.

Vancouver, B. C., Sept. 24th, 1898.

Editor "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother.—Granville Lodge, No. 3, held its regular meetings during September with a good average attendance of its members as well as visiting knights. In the beginning of the month Bro. Robt. Brooks attended as a committee from Rathbone Lodge, with the proposition the three city lodges hold a joint session once a month with the object in view to bring all the members of the three city lodges, as well as sojourning Knights, together to spend a pleasant and profitable evening, acquainting themselves better with each other and renew the interest in the Order, especially of those brothers who have become lukewarm and never, or but seldom, attend the Lodge meeting. The proposition was taken up with the greatest enthusiasm, and a committee appointed from our Lodge consisting of Brothers L. V. Evans and Palmer Fraser, to make the necessary arrangements with like committees from the other lodges for such joint meetings. On the 14th, the

question of the sad calamity which has befallen our neighboring city, New Westminster, through that awful fire of the 10th and 11th, and by which many Knights have lost their all or a goodly part, of their worldly possessions, was brought up, and upon the request, and with the approval of several members from both Rathbone and Crusader lodges, the sum of \$150 was set aside by the three city lodges, an order drawn on the M. of E. for the same and placed at the disposal of the following committee: C. L. Behnson, Granville Lodge; J. Grady, Rathbone Lodge, and J. E. Evans, Crusader Lodge, which committee was instructed to go over to New Westminster on Thursday, Sept. 15th to ascertain and decide as to how to dispose of this money.

The attention of our C. C. being called to the fact that his good looks would be still further enhanced by a handsome mustache, he promised and offered to lay a wager that within the next 5 years he would grow a heavier mustache than that which adorns the upper lip of our K. of R. & S., Brother G. Thomas, Jr. It is also whispered around that during the month of October one of our youngest members will pay a short visit to Victoria for what object can easily be surmised, as he is eagerly in search of a vacant house in Vancouver, but finds it a rather hard task, vacant houses being scarce and at a premium. However, I will tell you more about it in my next letter. In conclusion I desire to say that the second issue of the "True Knight" surpassed the first, and I can not close without expressing my admiration for the article named "Friendship" written by the scholarly pen of Bro. G. R. Maxwell, Editor, it was a beautiful article, expressing sublime and noble thoughts.

Yours fraternally,
C. L. BEHNSEN,
Granville Lodge, No. 3.

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Vancouver, B.C.

FROM RATHBONE.

Very little beyond the usual routine business of the Lodge occurred until our indefatigable M. of F. suggested that the three lodges hold joint meetings, and that they were to be of a social nature. No sooner said than steps were taken to start the ball rolling, and at a preliminary meeting of the committee, it was partly decided to hold a joint meeting in the early part of next month. We hope every brother will want to say something short and interesting. Songs and recitations will be fully appreciated.

Bro. Bob is getting to be quite an orator.

Granville's C. C. has made us several visits during the month.

Encouraging reports from our brothers across the line, also from the Victoria boys offering assistance to our Westminster brothers. Vancouver brothers were also to the front with offers of assistance, the money being raised. Bro. McAllister, of Granville Lodge, and Past Grand Chancellor Evans, of Crusader, were deputised to go over to our sister city, and make the necessary inquiries and offers.

Grand Vice-Chan., Bro. W. D. Mearns, in a speech requested any brother if they had any good suggestions or articles, to write them for the paper. No matter how crude, the right meaning would be adjusted.

Bro. J. E. Evans, of Crusader, and Bro. McAllister, of Granville, after returning from New Westminster, visited us, and in eloquent words spoke of our afflicted brothers in the Royal City, and also stated that the city lodges had voted \$150 for their benefit, but informed us that they were in no immediate need of assistance.

Good suggestions are like good seed thrown on fertile soil, generally bring forth good fruit. Bro. Maynard will no doubt remember this when he thinks of the "True Knight."

Bro. Hoffmaster, of Crusader Lodge, visited us last week, and in speaking of winter entertainments offered the use of his drawing room for rehearsals. A more enthusiastic Knight than he it would be hard to find.

Only one brother was reported sick during the month, that was Bro. Layfield, and his sickness was of short duration.

Our worthy Prelate, Bro. Maxwell, M. P., and Editor of the "True Knight," has been on a tour through the Kootenay. He brings very encouraging reports of that country, and was successful in obtaining subscriptions for the paper. He informs us that there is an opening for several good lodges throughout that district, mentioning Greenwood City, Grand Forks and Revelstoke, and a likelihood of them getting one at the latter place.

Your humble servant is of the opinion that the Grand Lodge would be wise in appointing such a personage as our M. P. to visit the upper country once or twice a year to institute lodges and lecture on what True Pythianism is.

ARTHUR T. CROOK,

Correspondent of Rathbone, No. 7.

:o:

A GOOD MOVE IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

A movement is on foot among the local lodges for a series of entertainments and joint sessions during the fall and winter months. There is much to be commended in this movement.

The following named brethren have been appointed a committee to formulate the mode of procedure and report to the lodges at an early date. Any one having an intimate acquaintance with the brethren named cannot doubt that their effort will bring forth good results:

Granville Lodge, No. 3, Bro. L. E. Evans.

Granville Lodge, No. 3, Bro. E. Fraser.

Rathbone Lodge, No. 7, Bro. Robt. Brooke.

Rathbone Lodge, No. 7, Bro. Arthur Crook.

Crusader Lodge, No. 19, Bro. Harry Hufmeister.

Crusader Lodge, No. 19, Bro. J. H. Simpson.

The brethren in the city need wakening up to a certain extent, and the efforts of the committee will have that end in view.

:o:

THE GATHERING OF THE CLANS.

This is how the Rossland "Leader" describes the exit of your editor from Rossland:

There was quite a gathering of the clans at the C. P. R. station yesterday evening to see the Rev. G. R. Maxwell, M. P., off to Vancouver.

There were representatives of nearly all parts of "Bonnie Scotland." Mr. Maxwell, during his short stay at Rossland, has made many friends who were sorry to part with him. It is expected he will pay Rossland another visit at no distant date. As the train steamed out of the station amid the good-byes of those on the platform, the distinct parting salute was "Will ye no' come back again?"—Rossland "Leader."

:o:

Upon our table lie several copies of the Florida Fraternal Record. This paper is devoted to the interests of the Masonic, Oddfellows, and Pythians organizations. I. W. White is Editor and proprietor, and is published in Jacksonville, Florida. The paper is beautifully set-up, the pictures of living workers are works of art, and the articles are short, pithy and clean cut. We can assure our brother that we have read them all, and have enjoyed their delicious contents. We shall be most happy to exchange.

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DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.

Pythian Knighthood had its conception in the exemplification of the life test of true friendship existing between Damos and Pythias.

Friendship, or mutual confidence, being the strongest bond of union between man and man, and only existing where honor has an abiding place, is adopted as a foundation principle.

As the ideal Knight of olden time was the personification of all the higher and nobler attributes of man's nature, the candidate for Knighthood had to prove himself worthy of acceptance by those who valued friendship, bravery, honor, justice and loyalty.

The Order of Knights of Pythias—founded in Friendship, Charity and Benevolence, which it proclaims as its cardinal principles—strives to gather into one mighty fraternity worthy men who appreciate the true meaning of friendship; who are cautious in word and act; who love truth; who are brave in defending right; whose honor is untarnished; whose sense of justice will prevent, to the best of their ability, a personal act or word injurious to the worthy; whose loyalty to principle, to family, to friends, to their country and to the constituted authority under which they enjoy citizenship is undoubted; and who, at all times, are prepared to do unto others as they would that others should do unto them.

:o:

A WORD OF PRAISE FROM THE KEYSTONE PYTHIAN.

A new visitor to our table is the "True Knight," of British Columbia, published at Vancouver. B. C. It is of magazine form, contains sixteen pages and is bright and newsy. We hope it many not become one of the wrecks on the vexed sea of fraternal journalism, but meet a better fate and become a power for good in the Order of Knights of Pythias, to the interests of which it is devoted. If the initial number is a fair index of what is to follow, it will deserve the success the Keystone Pythian wishes it.

Thanks brother.—We intend to succeed and hope to sail successfully over the vexed sea of fraternal journalism, but what may happen no one knows. We hope that both the Keystone Pythians and "True Knight" will sail together for many many years to come.

:o:

The "True Knight" is in receipt of a communication from Bro. Jno. T. Stuphpen, S. R., from Ohio, in connection with the action taken by himself and Bro. Jackson in introducing resolution in report of chairman of the Board of Control. We wish to say that we believe the motive which prompted the introduction of that resolution was for the best interest of the Order, and we also believe that the Representatives of the Supreme Lodge at the session just ended, in all their actions, were actuated by the purest motives.

—————

Subscribers who do not receive the paper regularly are requested to communicate with us, without delay, when the matter will be rectified.

FRATERNAL POINTERS.

It is unfraternal to plead poverty when you are asked to subscribe for a fraternal paper, and then spend a dollar for drinks and cigars.

Never recommend an applicant for membership unless you know him to be worthy, one who will conform to the precepts of the Order and worthy as a guest in your home circle.

In voting by secret ballot never disclose how you voted.

Don't prate brotherly love when you want an office and forget all about it after the election.

Every Lodge should have a lodge reporter and inform the official organ of the doings in the Lodge.

A copy of this journal should be on file in every lodge and in every fraternal home in British Columbia.

Never cast your ballot in favor of a candidate unless you know him to be free from reproach.—Stolen.

:o:

We have failed to receive the usual spicy report from the correspondent of Crusader Lodge, No. 19. The reason is not far to seek. Bro. A. J. has been joined in matrimony to Miss Millie, daughter of Bro. Malcolm Mateson of Rathbone, No. 7. Crusader and Rathbone shake hands. The happy couple are spending their honeymoon in San Francisco. It is rumored that the Golden City Lodges intend to meet P. C. Scott on the wharf with a brass band.

Shoes for Early Fall!



...SUMMER is not gone. It still lingers. But our Shoe stock is replete with attractions in Fall Styles. We have received many cases of shoes that will be leaders for early Fall; but we have opened a few for your inspection. Our Rubber Soled Goods are the best that the market can produce. They are thoroughly waterproof, yet flexible and comfortable to the feet. Every pair guaranteed to give satisfaction or money refunded. If you will call in we will take pleasure in acquainting you with their meritorious history. Mail orders solicited.

R. MILLS
18 Cordova St., Vancouver, B.C.

NEW WESTMINSTER FIRE.

On the night of 10th day of September, the beautiful City of New Westminster was visited with an awful calamity. In the stillness of night the alarm of fire was heard, and before the Fire Department had reached the scene the fire had gained such headway by the wind, which was blowing a gale at the time, which soon spread, consuming the entire business portion of the city, together with a part of the residential portion. To appreciate the vast destruction wrought by the fire it would be necessary for one to visit the scene of the disaster. By the fire hundreds have been made homeless and destitute. All the fraternal societies are sufferers.

We learn, however, that Royal Lodge and Granite Lodge carried insurance on their Lodge furniture and paraphernalia, so that to some extent the loss is not so severe as at first supposed. Individual members of the Order, however, have suffered, in some cases their all being swept away by the conflagration. Generous aid and relief have been spontaneous and ample. The lodges and members of the Order in the Domain contributed liberally when the news of the disaster reached them. The Knights of Victoria donated and sent immediately a check for \$100. The City lodges of Vancouver sent a committee consisting of P. S. R., Bro. C. L. Behnson; P. G. C., Bro. J. E. Evans; P. C., Bro. J. H. Grady, and Brothers Jno. McAllister and A. M. Tyson, placing in their hands \$150 to be used by them as their judgment dictated in the relief of those brothers who had suffered through the fire. This is as it should be, and we are glad to record that the Knights outvied each other as to who could do the most good. Our Order in this Domain are under lasting obligations to the Brother Knights of the Domain of Washington, who by their generous offer of aid and letters of tender sympathy prove themselves true Knights.

The Grand Keeper of Records and Seal, Bro. Pferdner, received a communication from the Grand Chancellor, of Washington, tendering his sympathy and service in no uncertain terms.

Below will be found a copy of a letter from the Grand Chancellor, of Washington, to our Brother:

Seattle, Wash. Sept. 13th, 1898.

Emil Pferdner, G. K. R. & S., Victoria, B. C.:—
Knightly Sir and Brother.—I have heard with profound regret of the terrible disaster by fire that has come to our British Columbia brethren, and it has just occurred to me that it may be possible that the Knights of Washington may be able to do something for their brothers in trouble.

I know full well that your lodges there will take the matter up, and of course our members are giving freely to the general fund being sent north, but if it should appear that there is need of special assistance to members of our Order at New Westminster I should be glad to have you advise me, and I will take steps to enlist the active interest of the Washington brothers in their relief.

In the meantime will you not accept through me the most cordial assurances of sympathy from the membership of this Grand Domain to the homeless and houseless brothers of New Westminster.

Fraternally yours in F., C. & B.,

(Signed), E. WELDON YOUNG,
Grand Chancellor,

Grand Domain of Washington.

The Committee having in charge the distribution of the funds so generously donated by the different lodges in the Domain, have not made their report, so that we are not able to say at this date just what funds are required, but we think that from the evidence already to hand, that sufficient funds are available to meet all requirements.

The names of the committee appointed in New Westminster on the fire relief, are as follows:

From Royal Lodge, No. 6—M. W. Minthorn, John Peck, Geo. Blakeley.

From Granite Lodge, No. 16—W. N. Draper, J. M. Murray, F. P. Maxwell, (Secretary).

:o:

"With gates of silver and bars of gold
Ye have fenced my sheep from their Father's fold ;

I have heard the dropping of their tears
In heaven these eighteen hundred years."

"Oh Lord and Master, not ours the guilt,
We build but as our fathers built ;
Behold thine images, how they stand,
Sovereign and sole, through all our land."

Then Christ sought out an artisan,
A low-bowed, stunted, haggard man,
And a motherless girl, whose fingers thin
Pushed from her faintly want and sin.

These set he in the midst of them,
And as they drew back their garment hem
For fear of defilement, "Lo, here," said he,
"The images ye have made of me!"
—James Russell Lowell.

:o:

Rathbone Lodge, No. 7, was glad to welcome back to the city and Lodge, Bro. Harry J. Austie, S. R. to the Supreme Lodge, and M. of E. of Rathbone. Harry is always missed when not in attendance at the regular sessions of Rathbone. His letter of interest in the proceedings of the Supreme Lodge will be appreciated by the Knights throughout the Domain.

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PERSONALS.

Bro. Blakeley has been paying Vancouver a flying visit.

Bro. Nunamaker, C. C., of Crusader Lodge, is fast recovering from his painful accident.

Bro. Henley, another Knight from the Royal City, has been paying us a visit. He takes his loss well. He is also rebuilding.

Bro. Ackerman accompanied by his estimable wife, has returned to New Westminster from Indianapolis, where he attended the Supreme Lodge session.

Bro. George H. St. Denis, of Granville Lodge, No. 3, has just returned to St. Michael after six months' absence. He will remain in town this winter.

Supreme Representative H. J. Anstie has arrived back from Indianapolis. On Friday, 13rd last, he met Rathbone Lodge, No. 7, and gave a most interesting report of the Supreme session.

Bro. Peck, of New Westminster, was in town recently. He is one of the heavy losers in the recent fire. We are, however, glad to state that the Brother with his usual energy and enterprise has started to rebuild.

Bro. Ovens, the popular Mayor of New Westminster, is a hustler and no mistake. While the recent calamity which befel the Queen City has added to his many duties, he seems to be able to carry the responsibility without any apparent extra effort.

The Bureau of Relief, as re-organized, consists of the following named brethren: E. Lipsett, President; T. Balkwell, Secretary-Treasurer; Granville Lodge, No. 3, E. Lipsett and G. Thomas, Jr.; Rathbone Lodge, No. 7, A. T. Crook and J. A. Mitchell; Crusader Lodge, No. 19, T. Balkwell and B. Nunamaker.

We have a very interesting letter in this issue from Trail Lodge. The Lodge is to be congratulated upon its choice of Bro. Theo. Abbott for Lodge Correspondent. He is the right brother in the right place. Bright, newsy and interesting letters is what we want, and what every Lodge is capable of doing if they will only start the wheels going the right way.

P. G. C. J. E. Evans, Secretary-Treasurer of the "True Knight," has been confined to his house for the past week and has been a very sick man. Gritty people like this brother worry their way back to health twice as quickly as everyday people, and we are glad to state that Brother Evans is up again. Get well quick! Brother, we cannot spare hustlers such as you are.

The heartfelt sympathies of his brother Knights are with Bro. Alexander Gibson, of Rathbone Lodge, No. 7, Vancouver, in the loss of his eleven year-old daughter, Lily. The sad occurrence took place on Wednesday, Sept. 28th, and was due to lung trouble culminating in a fatal hemorrhage. The funeral took place on Friday.

We are mailing copies of the "True Knight" to many prominent members of the Order outside of British Columbia, whose names we would like to see on our regular mailing list.

A WARNING FROM HONOLULU.

Honolulu, H. I., August 25th, 1898.

To all Pythian Brethren, Greetings:—

The annexation of these Islands by the United States has caused many brethren to project attempts to better their condition or to find employment in what they consider a new country.

Such we consider it our duty to warn and to speak to in plain terms.

The social and business communities of these Islands were old and well established before the rush to California.

This is in no sense a new country.

The only opportunity here is for the man of large capital.

There is no employment here for mechanics of any kind or for unskilled labor. Many men of ability, of good habits and firstclass recommendations are now here practically stranded. There were idle men in Honolulu before the American flag replaced the Hawaiian flag.

All lines of small business are fully filled and in most cases over-crowded.

Do not come here unless you have the assurance in advance of steady employment or have the capital to engage in land development enterprises requiring large means.

We spread this positive advice because we wish to save brethren disappointment and distress. We state the facts, as in more than honor bound and trust sincerely that this circular will accomplish its mission.

F. WALDRON, P. C.,

ED. TOWSE, P. C.,

J. NEILL, P. C.,

G. ERICKSON,

Joint Committee of Oahu Lodge,
No. 1 and Mystic Lodge,
No. 2.

:o:

DO NOT BE TOO HASTY.

Bro. Knights above all things avoid giving offense. Be not hasty in your actions. Take time to deliberate before acting. Do not lose your temper because others do not look at the subject in the same light as yourself. They may be right, you may be wrong. Do not carry your discussion outside of the Castle Hall. Settle all your debates in the Lodge room, and be ever ready to apologize should you inadvertently wound a Brother's feelings. Be manly. Be generous. Be just. Be a True Knight.

If you are WISE

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Dealer in.....

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A FEW OF THEM LEFT.

There is one class of members that are met occasionally that will not take a Pythian paper or buy a Pythian book or chart because the person selling them are making their living out of the Order, something he is decidedly opposed to. We have had occasion to look up the record of a few of this class, and usually find them to be men engaged in business, usually belonging to several prominent orders, regular in attendance at Lodge and always ready to serve on any committee, yet they think that no one should make their living off the Order, even by publishing a Pythian paper, which is admitted by all thinking members to be of incalculable benefit to the Order. Going further into investigation, we usually find that this enthusiastic brother has established his business and made his money through the patronage of the members of the various lodges of which he is a member, and while he may give value received, so do the others. There are not enough of this class to make any material difference in the subscription lists of Pythian papers, yet the talk of one of these good brothers may influence some of the younger members. "Pythian Journal."

A Scottish minister, who was indefatigable in looking up his folk, one day waited upon a parishioner and said to him: "Richard, I ha'e nae seen ye at the kirk for some time, and wad like to know the reason." "Weel, sir," answered Richard, "I ha'e three decided objections to goin'. Firstly, I dinna believe in being whar yin daes a' the talkin'; secondly, I dinna believe in sae muckle singin'; an', thirdly, an' in conclusion, 'twas there I got my wife." The minister asked no more questions.

It is said that the New York girls are so patriotic that they are wearing red, white and blue garters. This reminds us of the man who was so patriotic that he buried the star spangled banner in his backyard. - Rochester Union and Advertiser.

"What's up?" inquired a friend of a young man dressed in a cycling costume, who was walking slowly and sadly away from the shop with the sign of the three balls. "Oh, my bicycle." was the laconic reply.

OFFICERS OF THE SUPREME LODGE.

Thomas G. Sample, S. C. C., Allegheny, Pa.
Ogden H. Fethers, S. V. C., Wisconsin.
James Moulton, S. P., St. John, N. B.
R. L. C. White, S. K. of R. and S., Nashville, Tenn.
Thomas Mears, S. M. of E., Wilmington, N. C.
H. M. Bigelow, S. M. at A., Seattle, Wash.
William Simmons, S. I. G., Wilmington, Del.
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Frank H. Clarke, Cheyenne, Wyo.
W. D. Kennedy, Recorder, Chicago, Ill.

SUPREME REPRESENTATIVES.

H. J. Anstie, Rathbone Lodge, No. 7, Vancouver.
T. Ackerman, Royal Lodge, No. 6, New Westminster.

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF THE GRAND DOMAIN OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

James Haddow, Grand Chancellor, Northfield.
William D. Mearns, Grand Vice-Chancellor, Vancouver.
John W. Graham, Grand Prelate, Rossland.
Emil Pferdner, Grand Keeper of Records and Seals, Victoria.
Edward E. Leason, Grand Master of Exchequer, Victoria.
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Edward V. Goulet, Grand Inner Guard, Vernon.
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