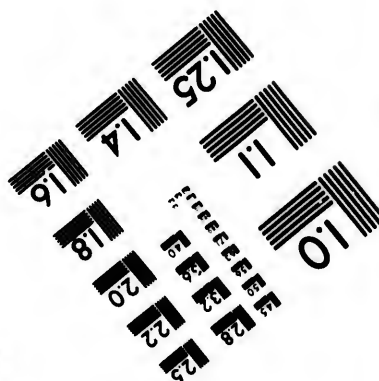
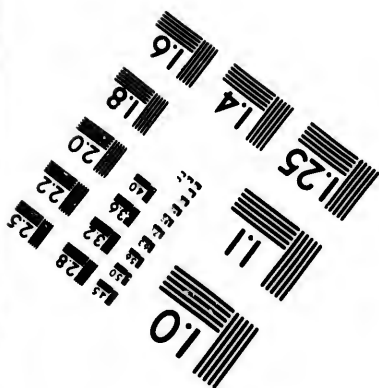
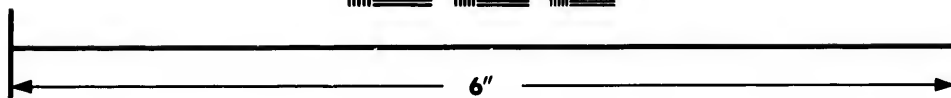


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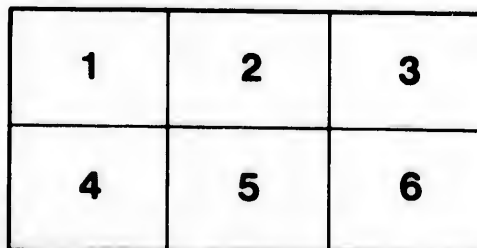
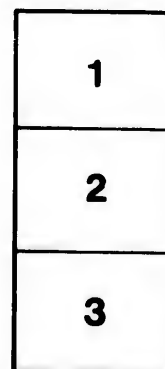
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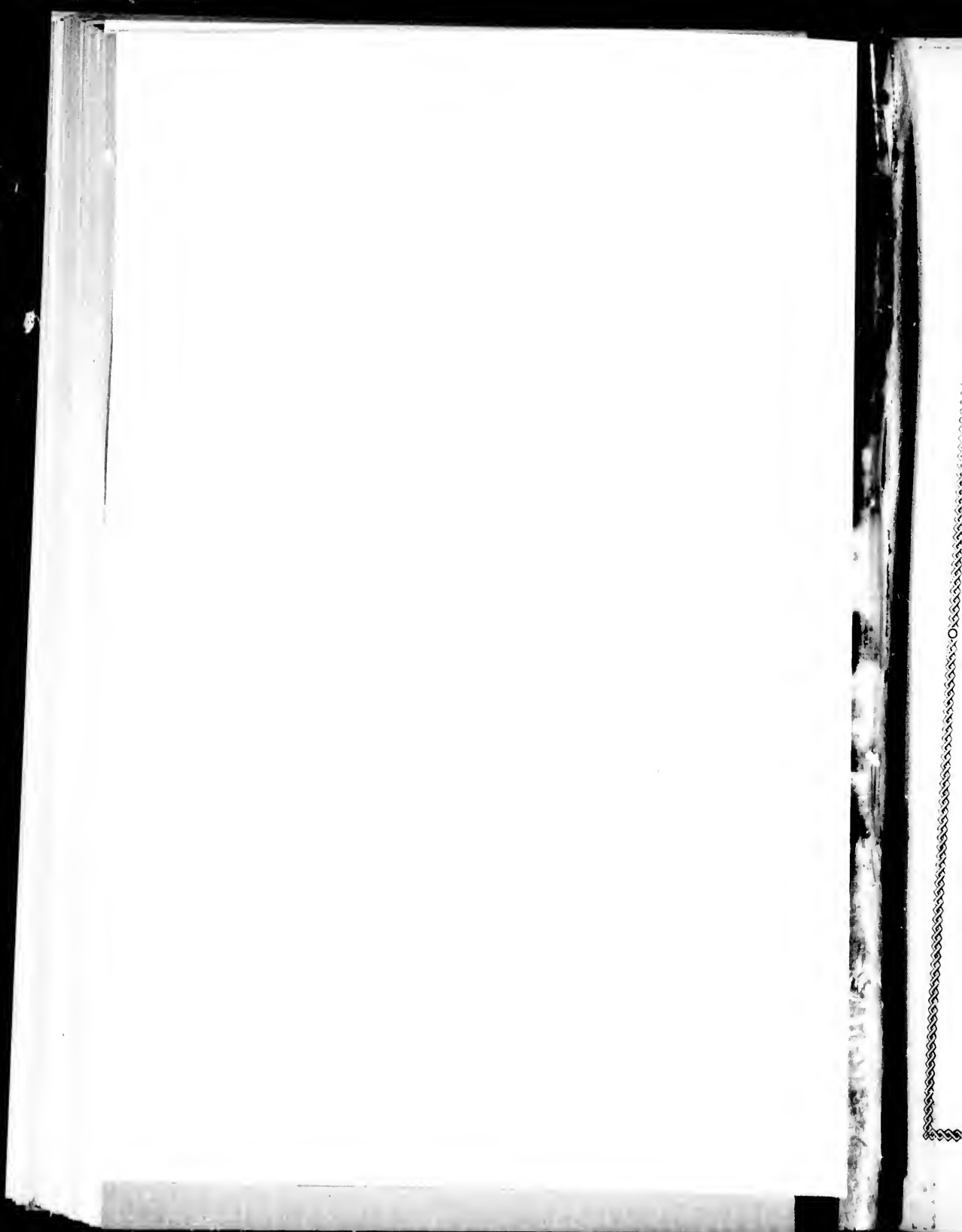
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Proceedings

—OF THE—

Twenty-Fifth Annual Session

..OF THE..

Grand Lodge

...of British Columbia.

..OF THE..

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS

..HELD AT

Vancouver, B. C., June 14th, 15th and 16th.

1899.



VICTORIA, B. C.

T. R. CUSACK, PRINTER, 26 BROAD STREET,
1899.

PAST GRAND MASTERS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF B. C., I.O.O.F.

*J. S. DRUMMOND	1874.....	Victoria Lodge, No. 1.
JOHN WEILER.....	1875.....	Victoria Lodge, No. 1.
†J. P. DAVIES.....	1876.....	Columbia Lodge, No. 2.
×R. ROBERTS.....	1877.....	Victoria Lodge, No. 1.
‡W. J. JEFFREE	1878.....	Columbia Lodge, No. 2.
§CHARLES GOWAN.....	1879	Victoria Lodge, No. 1.
J. WRIGLESWORTH .	1880.....	Dominion Lodge, No. 4.
B. W. SHILES. . .	1881	New Westminster Lodge, No. 3.
HENRY WALLER	1882.....	Columbia Lodge, No. 2.
ALEXANDER PHILLIPS .	1883.....	Victoria Lodge, No. 1.
W. D. MCKILLICAN.....	1884.....	Dominion Lodge, No. 4.
WM. MCCOLL.....	1885	New Westminster Lodge, No. 3.
FRED'K CARNE	1886.....	Victoria Lodge, No. 1.
||JOSHUA DAVIES.....	1887.....	Victoria Lodge, No. 1.
JOSHUA DAVIES, re-elected	1898.....	Victoria Lodge, No. 1.
J. H. MELDRAM.....	1889.....	Columbia Lodge, No. 2.
E. QUENNEL.....	1890.....	Black Diamond Lodge, No. 5.
J. E. PHILLIPS.....	1891.....	Dominion Lodge, No. 4.
J. E. PHILLIPS	1892.....	New Westminster Lodge, No. 3.
JAMES CROSSAN.....	1893.....	Black Diamond Lodge, No. 5.
T. C. GRAY	1894.....	Western Star Lodge, No. 10.
W. E. HOLMES.....	1895.....	Victoria Lodge, No. 1.
H. B. GILMOUR .	1896	Western Star Lodge, No. 10.
W. H. MORTON	1897.....	Black Diamond Lodge, No. 5.
A. HENDERSON	1898.....	Columbia Lodge, No. 2.

* Died 6th February, 1884. † Died 20th September, 1879.

‡ Died 18th March, 1885. § Died 8th December, 1892.

× Died 24th December, 1897. || Ceased membership.

PROCEEDINGS

- OF THE -

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

- OF THE -

GRAND LODGE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,

- OF THE -

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS

- HELD AT -

VANCOUVER, B. C.

June 14th, 15th, and 16th.

1899.



VICTORIA, B. C.

T. R. CUSACK, TIMES BUILDING.

1899.

PROCEEDINGS
- OF THE -
GRAND LODGE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, I.O.O.F.

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION.

VANCOUVER, B. C.,
14th June, 1899.

The Grand Lodge convened at 2:15 p. m., this day
pursuant to notice.

Present:—

A. Henderson.....	Grand Master.
W. H. Morton, P. G. M. (<i>pro. tem.</i>)	Deputy Grand Master.
W. E. Johnstone	Grand Warden.
Fred Davey.....	" Secretary.
W. Hogg.....	" Treasurer.
T. F. Neelands.....	" Representative.
J. E. Phillips, P. G. M	" Representative.
S. Clarke, M. D	" Chaplain.
J. Newton	" Marshal.
J. Palmer.....	" Guardian.
P. W. Dempster.....	" Conductor.
J. Peers.....	" Herald.

All present were examined and reported duly qualified.

The Grand Chaplain offered prayer and the Grand Lodge was declared open for business.

The Grand Secretary presented the credentials of the Representatives elect and the certificates of the Past Grands entitled to the Grand Lodge Degree, which were referred to the following Committee:—H. J. Raymer, P. G. M., No. 36; J. Pottinger, No. 2; J. E. Phillips, P.G.M., No. 4.

The Committee on Credentials presented the following Report which was adopted:—

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.:

Your Committee on Credentials beg to report that they have examined the Credentials of the Representatives to this Session and find the following accredited:—

LODGE.	REPRESENTATIVES.	ALTERNATES.
Victoria, No. 1	C. W. Ross A. Graham.	J. York E. Schafer.
Columbia, No. 2	G. T. Fox. A. Edwards. J. Pottinger.	J. S. Smith. F. Taylor. J. Phillips.
New Westminster, No. 3	J. Campbell.	D. E. McKenzie.
Domine, No. 4	A. Sheret. E. Bragg.	W. Walker. W. H. Cullin.
Black Diamond, No. 5	J. B. Nicholson. R. Rivers.	J. Crossan, P. G. M. R. Booth.
Harmony, No. 6	R. Gregson. M. Dunsmuir.	D. R. Haggart. A. Robertson.
Excelsior, No. 7	J. H. Ashwell.	T. Pyvis.
Vancouver, No. 8	J. McPherson. G. Walker.	S. Hollander. T. Wheeling.
Tatnai, No. 9	H. McLean.	T. E. Marshall.
Western Star, No. 10	G. Moscrop. D. M. O'Dwyer. J. Armstrong.	E. P. Dennis. J. R. Webster. A. McAllister.
Union, No. 11	F. A. Anley.	R. Cessford.
Selkirk, No. 12	R. Gordon.	J. Mathie.
Cloverdale, No. 15	W. H. Frampton.	R. D. McKenzie.
Kootenay, No. 16	A. H. Clements.	O. M. Rosendale.
Duncan, No. 17	A. C. Aitkin.	J. C. McLay.
Vernon Valley, No. 18	J. E. Matheson	J. A. McKelvie.
Mount Pleasant, No. 19	G. A. Miller.	I. G. Johnstone.
Centennial, No. 20	J. Neen, G. McKinnell,	W. Crossan. J. Handlen.

LODGE.	REPRESENTATIVES.	ALTERNATES.
Delta, No. 21	A. Davie.	R. Shirley.
Gold Range, No. 22	P. Wade.	J. Webb.
Ashcroft, No. 23	J. B. Bryson.	J. C. Smith.
Island, No. 24	R. H. Abercrombie.	H. Trotter.
Revelstoke, No. 25	R. S. Wilson.	J. A. Stone.
Pacific, No. 26	J. Stark.	J. Ramsay.
	F. Cockburn.	G. L. Center.
	G. R. Gordon.	T. S. Brown.
	H. J. Rickard.	
Amity, No. 27	R. May.	W. H. Gardiner.
	D. McPherson.	E. L. Webber.
Cheam, No. 28	P. Ward.	H. L. Culvert.
Banner, No. 31	T. Bryant.	D. D. Griffiths.
Peerless, No. 33	H. Siddall.	G. B. Harrison.
	D. Lindsay.	W. J. Hanna.
Rocky Mountain, No. 31	D. McRae.	M. Dainard.
Cedar, No. 35	H. N. McDonald.	G. Woolbank.
Roseland, No. 36	H. G. Raymer P.G.M.J.	E. Cummings.
Carson, No. 37	W. M. Clark.	J. McLaren.
Boundary Valley, No. 38	R. Smailes.	W. M. Law.
Silver City, No. 39	H. C. Holden.	F. C. Sewell.
Slocan, No. 40	A. E. Teeter.	P. Hauck.

Also that the following Past Grands are entitled to the Grand Lodge Degree:—

Columbia, No. 2	Jos. Phillips.
New Westminster, No. 3	Thos. Furniss, R. Sample.
Dominion, No. 4	G. D. Christie, J. M. Malcolm.
Black Diamond, No. 5	W. B. McLennan, G. Thompson.
Harmony, No. 6	M. Dugsmuir, R. Gregson.
Tatnai, No. 9	H. McLean, T. E. Marshall.
Western Star, No. 10	J. L. McTaggart, J. W. Armstrong.
	C. Mulherin.
Union, No. 11	F. A. Anley, R. Cessford.
Kootenay, No. 16	O. M. Rosendale, A. H. Clements.
Duncan, No. 17	D. R. Hattie, S. J. Hagan.
Vernon Valley, No. 18	J. E. Matheson.
Mount Pleasant, No. 19	F. J. Hart, R. B. Hoar.
Centennial, No. 20	W. Crossan, J. Handlen.
Delta, No. 21	A. Davie.
Gold Range, No. 22	Jno. Webb.
Ashcroft, No. 23	J. B. Bryson.
Island, No. 24	R. H. Abercrombie, H. Trotter.
Pacific, No. 26	Jas. Ramsay, T. S. Brown.

Amity, No. 27 D. McPherson, E. L. Webber.
 Cheam, No. 28 H. L. Calvert, P. Ward.
 Banner, No. 31 J. McNabb, W. Maxwell.
 Peerless, No. 33 D. Lindsay.
 Rocky Mountain, No. 34 ... D. McRae, M. Duinard.
 Carson, No. 37 ... W. M. Clark.
 Boundary Valley, No. 38 ... R. Smailes, W. M. Law.
 Silver City, No. 30 ... F. C. Sewell, H. C. Holden.

Your Committee wish to draw attention to the peculiar condition of the representation of New Westminster Lodge, No. 3. Royal City Lodge, No. 13, amalgamated with this Lodge on the 14th of April, 1890 and the latter Lodge is therefore not entitled to representation. The Constitution of Subordinate Lodges provides that all lodges shall be entitled to representation in accordance with the Semi Annual Reports rendered on the preceeding 31st December, on that date New Westminster Lodge, No. 3, had 93 members and were entitled to one representative, Royal City Lodge, No. 13, had 67 members and was also entitled to one representative.

By the above law New Westminster Lodge, No. 3 is only entitled to one representative and the membership of late Royal City Lodge, No. 13 is disfranchised, which we consider an injustice. We therefore recommend that New Westminster Lodge, No. 3, be allowed representation at this Session on the same conditions as existed on 31st December last, viz: Two representatives and that Bro. T. A. Muir, P. G. who was elected by New Westminster Lodge, No. 3 in error, be granted the rights and privileges of a representative at this Session.

H. J. RAYMER,
 JAMES POTTINGER,
 JOS. E. PHILLIPS.

The Grand Marshal retired and introduced the Past Grands in waiting and the Grand Lodge Degree was conferred on the following:—G. T. Fox, No. 2; C. S. Campbell, No. 3; J. B. Nicholson, No. 5; M. Dunsmuir, No. 6; J. H. Ashwell, No. 7; G. Walker, J. McPherson, No. 8; H. McLean, No. 9; C. Mulherin, J. W. Armstrong, J. L. McTaggart, No. 10; A. H. Clements, No. 16; J. E. Matheson, No. 18; A. Davie, No. 21; J. B. Bryson, No. 23; H. Trotter, No. 24; R. S. Wilson, No. 25; J. Ramsay,

No. 26; P. Ward, No. 28; D. Lindsay, No. 33; M. Dainard, No. 34; R. Smailes, No. 38; F. C. Sewell, No. 39.

The Roll of Officers and Representatives was called.

The Grand Secretary commenced the reading of the Minutes of last Session when it was moved, seconded and carried, that the reading of the minutes of last session be dispensed with and that the minutes as printed be adopted.

The Grand Master made the requisite appointments to fill the standing Committees, which when completed consisted as follows:

FINANCE.—G. R. Gordon, No. 26; A. Graham No. 1; H. Siddall, No. 33; J. McPherson, No. 8; J. B. Nicholson, No. 5; P. Ward, No. 28

APPEALS.—F. Cockburn, No. 26; M. Dainard, No. 34; G. Walker, No. 8; J. Neen, No. 20; A. Robertson, No. 6; J. Campbell, No. 3.

LEGISLATION.—S. Clarke, M. D., No. 9; H. McDonald, No. 35; H. J. Rickard, No. 26; D. McPherson, No. 27; W. Frampton, No. 15; D. Lindsay, No. 33.

LAWS OF SUBORDINATES.—P. W. Dempster, No. 2; A. Sheret, No. 4; E. Bragg, No. 4; R. May, No. 27; A. E. Teeter, No. 40; H. Trotter, No. 24.

PETITIONS.—R. Gordon, No. 12; T. A. Muir, No. 3; H. McLean, No. 9; J. Palmer, No. 12; J. H. Ashwell, No. 7; F. A. Anley, No. 11.

STATE OF THE ORDER.—T. F. Neelands, No. 8; G. T. Fox, No. 2; G. A. Miller, No. 19; A. H. Clements, No. 16; A. Davie, No. 21; D. D. Griffiths, No. 31.

JUDICIARY.—J. Stark, No. 26; R. Wilson, No. 25; J. E. Phillips, P. G. M., No. 3; G. Moscrop, No. 10; H. J. Raymer, P.G.M. No. 36; J. B. Bryson, No. 23.

MILEAGE AND PER DIEM.—R. Smailes, No. 38; R. Rivers, No. 5; A. Edwards, No. 2; D. M. O'Dwyer, No. 10; P. Wade, No. 22; G. McKinnell, No. 20.

PRINTING.—Grand Secretary; A. C. Aitken, No. 17; M. Duns-muir, No. 6; J. Pottinger, No. 2; F. C. Sewell, No. 39.

The Grand Master read his Report of the past year, which was on motion ordered to be received and handed to a Committee to distribute same to the several Committees.

GRAND MASTER'S REPORT.

*To the Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia,
I. O. O. F. :*

BRETHREN. —Another year has been added to the past, and for the twenty-fifth time the Grand Lodge of British Columbia has been called together to review the work of the past twelve months and legislate for the future.

In beginning our labors at this time, we cannot but feel grateful for our present condition and satisfied with the great progress our Order has made within the quarter century just closing since the institution of this Grand body, and we must be strongly reminded that this prosperity is mainly due to the wisdom and devotion of good and true men within our Order, many of whom have passed beyond to their reward; and that it is left to us to carry on the good work begun by them. Let us hope that we shall be able to continue advancing the spirit of Oddfellowship in our glorious province, and let us direct our best energies in that direction on this occasion, remembering that our Order is progressive in its character and that our legislation must be of a nature fully abreast of the times. Let us not fail to work harmoniously in our deliberations and in all our acts to strengthen the bond of unity between the scattered Brotherhood in our jurisdiction. With this fixed purpose before us, and ever acting on the grand principles of our Order, we need have no fear for the future, but may safely look forward to a time when the influence of Friendship, Love and Truth shall unite all mankind into one great Brotherhood.

CONDITION OF THE ORDER.

During my visits through the jurisdiction I found that general prosperity prevailed. In most places Lodges own their halls, and their enterprise in some instances in this direction may possibly lead to embarrassment and loss, especially in the less solid mining towns in the interior, and the Lodges should be very careful how they invest their funds.

I am pleased to be able to report an increase of forty-four members in the Subordinate Lodges to 31st. December, 1898, and accord-

ing to reports and information I have received, with new lodges added since that date, there is reason to believe a much larger increase will be shown at the end of this term.

The financial standing of the Order will be fully reported upon by the Grand Secretary, and I will simply state here that the gain in the assets of the lodges for the year has been \$2,919.12, and the total assets on the 31st. December, 1898, were the enormous sum of \$198,880.58, which is held in trust for 2,815 members.

Two Lodges have surrendered their Charters and merged with other Lodges to the advantage of all concerned, and two new Subordinate Lodges have been added to our list, viz.: One at Trout Lake City and one at Cranbrook. Encouragement has also been extended to Brothers at Fernie to organize a Lodge, and their application is expected.

Selkirk Lodge, No. 12, has been compelled to cease holding its meetings at Donald on account of its membership having nearly all removed to Revelstoke, where I have granted them permission to meet temporarily. They will suffer the loss of their fine hall at Donald, but they are not dismayed, and hope to be able to continue their Lodge at Revelstoke.

With the phenomenal growth of the towns in the interior of the Province as well as on Vancouver Island, a large field is opened for the institution of new lodges, but care should be exercised in granting Charters to avoid if possible the failure of any to continue after having been started.

The great calamity that befel the City of New Westminster affected our Order there and caused the mergerment of two of the Lodges, but of that I shall make special report.

REBEKAH BRANCH.

The Rebekah branch has not increased its membership in the jurisdiction during last year, but the D. D. G. M's. reports are encouraging.

Two new Lodges have been instituted—one at Carson City and one at Rossland—and in the near future applications may be expected from Ashcroft and from Sandon.

The Charter and effects of Esther Rebekah Lodge, No. 11, at Union have been returned to the Grand Lodge, the Lodge having been practically defunct for two years.

Bethel Rebekah Lodge, No. 7, of Mt. Pleasant, has also handed over its Charter and effects to the Grand Lodge.

This Branch of our Order is new in our midst and has not reached that period at which it is sufficiently independent to prosper. The benefit of the Rebekah branch to our Order is well recognized, and with more experience and encouragement from the Brothers will continue to advance.

APPOINTMENTS OF DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

Appointed Sister Mrs. Maud Welsh, D. D. G. M. for Rebekah District, No. 4, July 11, 1898, in place of Sister Mrs. Cunningham, resigned.

Appointed Brother John Edgren, P. G., D. D. G. M. for District No. 21, July 15, 1898, in place of Brother H.J. Raymer, P.G.M., resigned.

Appointed Sister Nina Buchanan, D. D. G. M. for Rebekah District, No. 5, Nov. 18, 1898, in place of Sister Minerva Casad, resigned.

Appointed Brother A. E. Lott, P. G., D. D. G. M. for District No. 11, December 16, 1898, in place of Brother J. Neelands, resigned.

Appointed Brother R. E. Beattie, P. G., D. D. G. M. for District, No. 26.

The Lodge at Trout Lake was added to District No. 19, but would recommend that it be made a separate District, with a local D. D. G. M.

INSTITUTION OF NEW LODGES.

Aug. 11, 1898: Issued commission to Brother Thos. Hardy, P.G., of Boundary Valley Lodge, No. 38, to act as special Deputy Grand Master to institute "Harmony" Rebekah Lodge, No. 12, at Carson City. This Lodge was duly instituted on the 28th September, 1898, with the following officers:

Sister Jaskulek, N.G.; Sisters Mole, V.G.; Sister Bell McLaren, Secretary; Sister Kelly, Treasurer.

Nov. 26, 1898: Issued Commission to Brother Robt. Gordon, of Selkirk Lodge, No. 12, to act as a Special Deputy Grand Master to institute Trout Lake Lodge, No. 41, at Trout Lake City. This Lodge was duly instituted by him, assisted by Brother Stone, P. G., on the 12th December, 1898, with the following officers:

Thos. Taylor, N. G.; A. Craig, V. G.; D. R. McLennan, Rec. Secretary; A. Abrahamson, Treasurer; J. N. Currie, Financial Secretary.

March 25th, 1899: Issued commission to Brother H. J. Raymer, P. G. M., of Rossland Lodge, No. 36, to act as Special Deputy Grand Master to institute Deborah Rebekah Lodge, No. 13, at Rossland. This Lodge was duly instituted on 12th April, 1899, with the following officers:

Sister Nana A. Martin, N. G.; Sister Edith Eatough, V. G.; Brother R. E. French, Recording and Financial Secretary; Sister A. S. Shirley, Treasurer.

Issued commission to Brother A. E. Lott, P. G., of Kootenay Lodge, No. 16, to act as Special Deputy Grand Master to institute Key City Lodge, No. 42, at Cranbrook. This Lodge was duly instituted by him, assisted by Brothers Clements, Neelands, and others, on the 9th May, 1899, with the following officers.

R. E. Beattie, N. G.; F. E. Simpson, V. G.; F. Hazen, Recording Secretary; H. McMillan, Financial Secretary; J. Mitchell, Treasurer.

MERGEMENT OF LODGES.

July 28, 1898: Granted petition of Acme Lodge, No. 14, Victoria, to merge with Dominion Lodge, No. 4, of the same place.

The mergement was duly consummated under my supervision on the 14th day of August, when 58 members (total membership) of Acme Lodge, No. 14, were enrolled on the books of Dominion Lodge, No. 4. Their books, regalia, etc., together with \$783.75 (their total assets), were handed over to the said Dominion Lodge and accounted for on the books of the same. The charter and rituals of Acme Lodge were duly returned to the Grand Lodge.

March 28, 1899: Granted Petition of Royal City Lodge, No. 13, New Westminster, to merge with New Westminster Lodge, No. 3, of the same place. The mergement was duly carried out on the 14th of April, 1899, when the names of 65 members (total membership) were entered on the books of New Westminster Lodge, No. 3. The total assets of the Lodge, amounting to \$2,915.73, were handed over to New Westminster Lodge No. 3, all under the supervision of Brother R. May, D.D.G.M., who took charge of the Charter and Rituals of the defunct Lodge.

At the end of my predecessor's term of office, or at the beginning of mine, a mergement took place of Friendship Lodge, No. 30, into Black Diamond Lodge, No. 5, at Nanaimo. No report of the proceedings has come to me as yet, and I am unable to give any details. Brother Neen, D.D.G.M., of District No. 3, has been instructed to report upon it and will probably do so in a supplementary. The permission to merge was granted by Brother Morton, P.G.M.

PETITIONS.

I received a petition to the Grand Lodge from New Westminster Lodge, No. 3, to be allowed to change its name to Royal City Lodge, No. 3, which is hereby submitted for your consideration.

APPEAL FOR FINANCIAL AID.

In consequence of the disastrous fire at New Westminster on 19th September last, and after having communicated with the brethren of that City as to their needs, I felt that it was a case where the jurisdiction should be asked to promptly render assistance, and accordingly, on the 22nd of September, I issued the following appeal:

GRAND LODGE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, F. O. O. F.

OFFICE OF GRAND MASTER.

VICTORIA, B. C., September, 22nd, 1899.

*To the Lodges subordinate to the Grand Lodge of British Columbia,
F. O. O. F.;*

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS:—You are doubtless aware of the great disaster which befel the City of New Westminster on the 19th inst., by which it was almost destroyed by fire. As might be expected in such a general calamity, the Lodges and individual members of our Order have been heavy losers.

The imposing Odd Fellows' Hall and the Records, Regalia, Furniture and other effects of the Grand Encampment, the three Subordinate Lodges, the Rebekah Lodge and the Subordinate Encampment were, with trifling exceptions, completely consumed.

It is estimated that at least one-half of the members of the Lodges, residing in the City, have to some extent, been personal sufferers, and in many cases, I am sorry to state, have lost all they possessed.

In such a time of widespread distress, it appears, to me to be fit and proper that the Lodges of this jurisdiction should be appealed to for fraternal aid and assistance on behalf of these unfortunate brothers, and I do therefore confidently ask that you will both cheerfully and liberally respond for their relief.

A Relief Committee, composed of representatives of the Lodges and Encampment, has been formed at New Westminster for the purpose of receiving and distributing amongst the necessitous members of the Order any funds that may be donated, and you are earnestly requested to forward such sums as you may feel disposed to contribute to Bro. W. C. Cotham, P. G., Secretary of the Committee, with as little delay as possible.

Attest:

Yours fraternally,

FRED DAVEY,

GRAND SECRETARY.

A. HENDERSON,

GRAND MASTER.

The result was a noble example of Oddfellowship, as the following donations from the various Lodges will show:

Vancouver Lodges and Members	\$ 163 85
Vancouver Bro., donation Sewing Machine	25 00
Centennial Lodge, No. 20, Nanaimo	50 00
Harmony Lodge, No. 6, Wellington	50 00
Columbia Lodge, No. 2, Victoria	100 00
Delta Lodge, No. 21, Ladners	15 00
Colfax Rebekah Lodge, No. 1, Victoria	25 00
Tatnai Lodge, No. 9, Kamloops	100 00
Ashcroft Lodge, No. 23, Ashcroft	25 00
Peerless Lodge, No. 33, Victoria	50 00
Excelsior Lodge, No. 7, Chilliwack	50 00
Black Diamond Lodge, No. 5 Nanaimo	100 00
Slocan Lodge, No. 10, Slocan City	8 00
Kootenay Lodge, No. 16, Nelson	25 00
Vernon Valley Lodge, No. 18, Vernon	10 00
Miriam Rebekah Lodge, No. 3, Nanaimo	25 00
Silver City Lodge, No. 39, Sandon	100 00
Dominion Lodge No. 4, Victoria	25 00
Laurel Rebekah Lodge, No. 9, Wellington	10 00
Cedar Lodge No. 35, Cedar District	25 00
Golden Link Lodge, No. 150, Seattle	10 00
Rocky Mountain Lodge, No. 34, Golden	10 00
Boundary Valley Lodge, No. 38, Greenwood	50 00
Royal City Lodge, No. 13, New Westminster	25 00
Carson Lodge, No. 37, Carson	28 00
Gold Range Lodge, No. 22, North Bend	40 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,444 85

This amount was distributed by a committee of ten, formed from members of the New Westminster Lodges as follows:

Two from No. 3; two from No. 13; two from No. 27; two from the Encampment, and two from Beulah Rebekah Lodge, No. 5.

This Committee elected Bro. D. Welsh, D.G.M., Chairman; Bro. W. C. Cotham, Secretary, and Bro. R. L. Reid, Treasurer.

A canvass was made by the Committee to ascertain the losses and pressing needs of each individual Oddfellow. The funds were divided into shares of \$10.00 each and a distribution was made of one or more shares to each individual, according to loss and actual need; then a second distribution, a third, and so on until the fund was exhausted. In this manner 67 members were relieved, receiving from \$5.00 to to \$10.00 each, an average of \$21.00 per member, or nearly 2% of the actual loss sustained, omitting those covered by insurance.

Certified statements have been received by me from the Secretary, which are accessible to the members of this Grand Lodge, giving in the most minute form details of the work of the Committee, with a condensed table of names, losses, amounts received, etc.

In concluding my Report of this transaction, I feel that I owe a debt of gratitude to the Committee who so wisely, economically and equitably administered this fund without any compensation for their arduous labours, and I would suggest that this Grand body place on record its appreciation of the services of this Committee by a unanimous vote of thanks.

I also beg to suggest that all the records of the manner of distribution be kept on file by the Grand Secretary for future reference should misfortune ever again demand our united assistance.

At the request of Amity Lodge, No. 27, and New Westminster Brethren generally, I inserted a card of thanks on their behalf to all the Lodges who had contributed to their relief, in the B. C. Oddfellow, over my signature as Grand Master.

On Nov. 14th, 1898, I refused permission to Pulaski Lodge No. 20, S. C., to appeal to the Lodges in this Jurisdiction for financial aid for the purpose of building a new hall.

APPEALS AND DECISIONS.

From Bro. F. Williams, Victoria Lodge, No. 1, against the action of the Lodge in refusing to pay him benefits.

Statement: On the 31st December, 1897, Bro. Williams was indebted to the Lodge for dues and assessments in the sum of \$3.50, of which fact he was notified according to the By-Laws. This amount

was paid to the Secretary on the 7th of January, 1898, directly after receiving notice. Bro. Williams met with an accident on the 5th of January, and claimed benefits, which the Lodge refused on the grounds that he was out of standing when taken sick.

Finding that the Lodge had complied with the Constitution and By-Laws, and that assessments are counted as dues on the 31st December; that Brother Williams when taken sick was out of standing, and only paid up after he was taken sick, I dismissed the appeal.

From Bro. J. Wriglesworth, P. G. M., against the action of Dominion Lodge, No. 4, in the mergerment with Acme Lodge, No. 14, on the grounds:

1st: That only fifteen members were present at the meeting, July 14th, 1898, when the question of mergerment was brought up, and that four voted against.

2nd: That at a very small meeting in July the Lodge appointed a committee of investigation on the members of Acme Lodge, which without leaving the lodge reported favorably on the said members, and ballotted for them at the same meeting, contrary to Section 8 of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge.

3rd: That Dominion Lodge at a regular meeting, July 28, voted \$20.00 out of the funds of said Lodge to defray the expenses of a banquet, to take place at the time of the mergerment of the Lodges.

I found that the proceedings of the Lodge in the matter had been carried on in a justifiable manner, and dismissed the appeal on that account, but decided that it was illegal to vote the \$20.00 for the banquet.

Re: Brother W. M. Ross, of Selkirk Lodge, No. 12, against the action of the Lodge in refusing to pay him benefits:

This case had been appealed to my predecessor Bro. Morton, during his term as Grand Master, and decided on such evidence as had been produced. Brother Ross not being satisfied procured further evidence of his sickness by certificates from doctors and his own sworn affidavit.

After perusing the whole correspondence thoroughly, I decided that Bro. Ross was entitled to benefits.

From Columbia Lodge, No. 2, against the decision of the D. D. G. M. for District No. 1, on the following question:

Statement: Brother Croft ceased membership for non-payment of dues last year, and now petitions for reinstatement, sends a doctor's certificate, and pays dues. The Lodge declines to receive

petition on the ground that he is a saloon keeper and sells liquor. The Brother objects and the D. D. G. M. decides as follow:

As Bro. Croft was in the saloon business before the enactment of said Sovereign Grand Lodge, and has been in it continuously, therefore Brother Croft has certain vested rights that his Lodge cannot interfere with, and Brother Croft is eligible for reinstatement.

I sustained the decision of the D. D. G. M., but decided further that if the Brother had given up the saloon business and engaged in any other pursuit, he could not again enter into that business without forfeiting his rights to reinstatement.

From Victoria Lodge, No. 1, against the decision of the D. D. G. M. for District No. 1. The question submitted to the D. D. G. M. was as follows:

Can the Noble Grand of a Lodge permit the admission of the members of a visiting Lodge when paying a fraternal visit in a body, without each member giving the regular password at the inner door, or should the Inside Guardian obtain the password from each individual separately before admitting him?

The D. D. G. M. decided that the password must be given by each individual member, and I sustained his decision, referring the Lodge to Installation Charges to the Noble Grand and Inside Guardian.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

1. *Ques.*—Can a D. D. G. M. grant a Dispensation to confer the three Degrees on a Brother at one meeting?

Ans.—The duties of the D. D. G. M. are laid down in Sec. 7, Art. IV, Constitution of the Grand Lodge. For power to confer three Degrees on a member at one regular meeting, see Con., Sub. Art. V, Sec. 1.

2. *Ques.*—1st. Can a Brother decline nomination for office? 2nd: In case all nominees decline, what then?

Ans.—1st: Yes. 2nd: Failure to elect officers would result in the Lodge forfeiting its Charter.

3. *Ques.*—Is a Noble Grand who served eleven nights of the term in the chair and had to leave the town to attend to his work, entitled to Past Grand honours?

Ans.—No.

4. *Ques.*—a. Is the Warden eligible for the office of Noble Grand, not having served a term as Vice Grand?

Ans.—No.

b. *Ques.*—Is he eligible under above conditions if there are Past Grands who will accept?

Ans.—No.

c. *Ques.*—Will you grant a dispensation to allow the Warden to act as Noble Grand if elected and a Past Grand nominated?

Ans.—No.

d. *Ques.*—Does Clause 98, Page 238, White's Digest, mean qualified Brothers in the Lodge room at the time of nomination or both the Lodge room and District?

Ans.—It is legal to nominate a Scarlet Degree member for the office of Noble Grand if all qualified Brothers present refuse to accept.

e. *Ques.*—Was I as D. D. G. M. compelled to give a decision irrespective of receiving your reply to my questions?

Ans.—You have power to decide such questions without consulting the Grand Master, and there is no compulsion as to doing so immediately.

f. *Ques.*—The Past Grand who was nominated with the Warden for the office of Noble Grand having withdrawn, there being other Past Grands who will accept the office, have I power as D. D. G. M. to grant Dispensation to allow the Warden to act as Noble Grand?

Ans.—If the nominations have been regularly held and declared closed, and none but Scarlet Degree members willing to accept, then the Grand Master can grant a Dispensation to allow the Lodge to elect such.

g. *Ques.*—Is it constitutional and admissable for each and all Past Grands to refuse nomination, to allow our Warden to qualify?

Ans.—Your question may be construed in two ways, and I will answer them both:

1st. All Past Grands have the privilege of refusing to accept nomination for Noble Grand.

2nd. No. If all Past Grands present refuse, the Warden is eligible.

5. *Ques.*—Does the office of Banner Bearer in a Rebekah Lodge qualify for the office of Vice Grand?

Ans.—No. Banner Bearer is not an officer of a Rebekah Lodge in that sense. See Art. V of Constitution of Rebekah Lodges, Sections 1 and 2.

6. *Ques.*—Can minutes adopted three or four weeks ago be reconsidered?

Ans.—Yes, if a mistake has been made.

7. *Ques.*—A brother joins a Lodge and meets with an accident before the first six months expire, and continues sick for three weeks after the three months are up, is he entitled to three weeks benefits?

Ans.—I will refer you to a similar decision, which was sustained, on page 1213 of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, 1895.

8. *Ques.*—A Brother wishes to withdraw from his Lodge and affiliate with this Lodge; Can we take him in as a non-beneficiary member with a lower rate of dues than \$1.00 per month, or will he only be taken as an honorary member. The Brother could not pass a medical examination?

Ans.—If the Brother is a non-affiliate and over fifty years of age, and your By-Laws do not provide to the contrary you can take him in at a less rate than \$1.00 per month. I will refer you to Art. II, Sec. 4 of Constitution of Subordinates, by which you must be guided. For further information respecting your communication, I will refer you to Sections 613-619, White's Digest, 1895.

9. *Ques.*—What constitutes a bartender?

Ans.—This Question is too general. I can only give my opinion on specific conditions or instances.

10. *Ques.*—If a Brother is a carpenter, leaves his trade and goes behind the bar for two months and sells intoxicating liquors, and other work around the hotel or saloon, and is compensated for same, can he be termed a bartender?

Ans.—Yes, if it is part of his duty to attend at the bar and sell liquor, he becomes a bartender.

11. *Ques.*—If a Brother engages in the hotel business, goes behind the bar at any time and sells liquor, has he violated the law?

Ans.—If he has a regular bartender, but on certain occasions as proprietor of the hotel serves a customer but does not take his regular shift as bartender, I hold he has not violated the law.

12. *Ques.*—If a Brother engages in the hotel business, but does not go behind the bar to sell liquor himself, but employs a bartender, has he violated the law?

Ans.—No. See Grand Sire's Decision, 111 and 183, on pages 11,082 and 11,087, Journal of Proceedings, Sovereign Grand Lodge, 1896.

13. *Ques.*—If a resolution is moved to expel a member, which takes two-thirds majority of members present to carry same, and the vote stands 22 for, 11 against, and one blank, has the resolution carried? Does the blank count for either side? If so, which?

Ans.—No, the resolution has not been carried. The blank must be counted with the negative vote. See Section 1070, White's Digest, 1895.

14. *Ques.*—A person whose duty it is, besides that of steward, to attend to the bar on a steamer when not in port, makes application for membership; can the Lodge accept him?

Ans.—No.

15. *Ques.*—Can an application for membership be received, Committee appointed, Candidate elected and initiated on the same night?

Ans.—The Constitution does not permit it to be done, though somewhat loosely worded, but the Grand Master can grant a Dispensation to authorize a Lodge to do so.

16. *Ques.*—A Brother makes application for reinstatement, sends a proper certificate of health, is ballotted for and elected, and pays the necessary fee. Is it necessary for him to appear in open Lodge and sign the Constitution to entitle him to the privileges of membership?

Ans.—No, it is not necessary, he becomes a member in such standing as your By-Laws may direct upon receiving a legal receipt for the payment of the required fee.

SPECIAL PERMISSIONS.

On a Petition from Selkirk Lodge, No. 12, of Donald, I granted permission on May 12th, 1899, to remove the Charter to Revelstoke and there hold its meetings until dealt with by this Grand Lodge.

On a Petition from Trout Lake Lodge, No. 41, I granted permission to accept applications for membership from certain three or four good, healthy, robust men whom they had in view, without the doctor's certificate, for the reason as stated—that the nearest physician was fifty miles away and it was unsafe and almost impossible to travel at that season of the year. This privilege was conditional, and extended only to April 1st, at which time, on asking for a re-

port upon it, I was informed that no members had been accepted under these conditions.

On a request from the D. D. G. M. of Rebekah District No. 6, I granted permission for the D. D. G. M. of Rebekah District No. 4, to install the officers of Fidelity Rebekah Lodge, No. 10, Ladner. The sickness of Mrs. Stainton, the D. D. G. M., was the reason for her inability to do the work.

PERMISSIONS GRANTED.

1. June 10, 1898, to Island Lodge, No. 24, to hold a strawberry festival on June 18th, 1898.
2. To Vancouver Lodge, No. 8, to hold an excursion to Victoria on or about 13th August, 1898.
3. To Kootenay Lodge, No. 16, to hold a moonlight excursion on or about 1st September, 1898.
4. To Cloverdale Lodge, No. 15, to hold a ball on the 16th September, 1898.
5. To Mizpah Rebekah Lodge, No. 2, to hold an assembly dance on October 4th, 1898.
6. To Slocan City Lodge, No. 40, to hold its annual Ball, October 28th, 1898.
7. To Kootenay Lodge, No. 16, to initiate G. W. Hale, in less time than allowed by law.
8. To Island Lodge, No. 24, to hold its annual ball and supper on December 21st, 1898.
9. To Pacific Lodge, No. 26, to hold a social dance on December 12th, 1898.
10. To Duncans Lodge, No. 17, to hold a public installation of officers on 7th January, 1899.
11. To Delta Lodge, No. 21, to hold a masquerade ball on December 30th, 1898.
12. To Mizpah Rebekah Lodge, No. 2, to hold a ball on January 2nd, 1899.
13. To Laurel Rebekah Lodge, No. 9, to hold a ball on December 30th, 1898.
14. To Vancouver Lodge, No. 8, to hold a social dance on March 24th, 1899.
15. To Cedar Lodge, No. 35, to hold a concert and dance on April 15th, 1899.

16. To Rossland Lodge, No. 39, to hold a ball on April 27th, 1890.

17. To Kootenay Lodge, No. 10, to hold dedicatory ceremonies in their new hall on May 2nd, 1890.

18. To Victoria Lodges to hold an excursion to Vancouver on June 17th, 1890.

DISPENSATIONS FOR LODGES TO WORK.

Aug. 11. Issued a Dispensation to institute Harmony Rebekah Lodge, No. 12, I. O. O. F., Carson, B. C.

Sept. 17, 1898. Issued a Dispensation to Amity Lodge, No. 27, New Westminster, to continue working, their Charter having been destroyed by fire.

Sept. 28, 1898. Issued Dispensation to New Westminster Lodge, No. 3, to continue working, their Charter having been destroyed by fire.

Nov. 20, 1898. Issued a Dispensation to institute Trout Lake Lodge, No. 41, Trout Lake City, B. C.

Mar. 25, 1899. Issued a Dispensation to institute Deborah Rebekah Lodge, No. 13, at Rossland, B. C.

Issued a Dispensation to institute Key City Lodge, No. 42, Cranbrook, B. C.

In connection with the foregoing, I beg to recommend that Charters be granted to all those Lodges now working under Dispensations, and that the Charters destroyed by fire be replaced free of charge.

INSTALLATIONS.

Installed the officers of the following Lodges:

Columbia Lodge, No. 2, July 6th, 1898.

Dominion Lodge, No. 4, July 7th, 1898.

Peerless Lodge, No. 33, July 15th, 1898.

Victoria Lodge, No. 1, July 25th, 1898.

Columbia Lodge, No. 2, January 4, 1899.

Dominion Lodge, No. 4, January 5th, 1899.

Peerless Lodge, No. 33, January 6th, 1899.

Duncan Lodge, No. 17, January 7th, 1899. Public.

Victoria Lodge, No. 1, January 9th, 1899.

Colfax Rebekah Lodge, No. 1, January 10th, 1899. Public.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

- Vancouver Lodges, in joint session, Oct. 7th 1898.
 Cloverdale Lodge, No. 15, October 8th, 1898.
 Executive Relief Committee, New Westminster, October 9th, 1898.
 New Westminster Lodges, in joint session, October, 10th, 1898.
 Mount Pleasant Lodge, No. 19, October 11th, 1898.
 Cheam Lodge, No. 28, October 12th, 1898.
 Gold Range Lodge, No. 22, October 13th, 1898.
 Ashcroft Lodge, No. 23, October 15th, 1898.
 Tatnai Lodge, No. 9, October 17th, 1898.
 Vernon Valley Lodge, No. 18, October 18th, 1898.
 Revelstoke Lodge, No. 25, October 20th, 1898.
 Selkirk Lodge, No. 12, October 21st, 1898.
 Rocky Mountain Lodge, No. 31, October 22nd, 1898.
 Silver City Lodge, No. 30, October 24th, 1898.
 Slocan Lodge, No. 10, October 25th, 1898.
 Kootenay Lodge, No. 16, October 26th, 1898.
 Rossland Lodge, No. 36, October 28th, 1898.
 Victoria Lodge, No. 1, July 25th, January 9th, and May 8th.
 Columbia Lodge, No. 2, July 6th, January 4th, and May 10th.
 Dominion Lodge No. 1, August 4th, January 5th and June 1st.
 Acme Lodge, No. 14, July 7th, July 25th.
 Peebles Lodge, No. 33, July 15th, January 6th, and June 2nd.
 Duncan Lodge, No. 17, January 7th, 1899.
 Harmony and Banner Lodges, Wellington, in joint meeting, May 15th.
 Black Diamond and Centennial Lodges, Nanaimo, in joint meeting, May 17th.
 Colfax Rebekah Lodge, No. 1, Jan. 10th.
 Laurel Rebekah Lodge, No. 9, in open meeting, May 15th, 1899.
 Miriam Rebekah Lodge, No. 3, in open meeting, May 17th, 1899.

PROCLAMATIONS.

I received from the Grand Sire the usual Proclamations relative to the observance of the Anniversary of the Order and Memorial Day, in obedience to which I issued the following Proclamations to all Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge:

VICTORIA, B. C., 23rd March, 1899.

ANNIVERSARY PROCLAMATION. 1819-1899.

To the Lodges subordinate to the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.

In accordance with time honoured custom, and in obedience to the Proclamation of the Grand Sire, I. Anton Henderson, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F., by virtue of the authority vested in me do hereby request you to take appropriate action for the due commemoration of the 26th day of April, 1899, it being the Eightieth Anniversary of the Order, by suitable exercises in observance of the day and by Public Thanksgiving to Almighty God for his manifold mercies to us as individuals and as an Order.

And inasmuch as some Lodges may wish to appear in public in Regalia on this occasion, a Dispensation is hereby granted to all Lodges of this Jurisdiction to do so.

A. HENDERSON,

GRAND MASTER.

Attest:

FRED DAVEY,

GRAND SECRETARY.

VICTORIA, B. C., April 24th, 1899.

To the Lodges subordinate to the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.

In accordance with a Proclamation received from the Grand Sire, I. Anton Henderson, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F., do hereby request all the Subordinate Lodges of this Jurisdiction who have suffered loss of membership by death to assemble on the 2nd Tuesday of June next, being the 13th day of June, 1899 (or such other day as may be more convenient), and engage in proper and suitable exercises in memory of their deceased members. And as some Lodges may desire to appear in Regalia on that occasion a Dispensation is hereby granted them to do so.

A. HENDERSON,

GRAND MASTER.

Attest:

FRED DAVEY,

GRAND SECRETARY.

I regret to report that the B. C. Oddfellow, our official organ, for several years so ably edited by Brother Rickard, P. G., has ceased publication; but it is to be hoped Brother Rickard will still continue to advance the interests of our Order in this Province through the columns of the Independent Oddfellow—into which the B. C. Oddfellow has been merged.

CORRESPONDENCE.

All letters and communications of an official nature have been filed, and copies of answers, Decisions, etc., in detail, have been kept, and will be at the pleasure of the Grand Lodge.

MILES TRAVELLED.

In the execution of my official duties, I have travelled the following distances:

	MILES
Victoria to Vancouver and return	168
Vancouver to Cloverdale	50
Vancouver to Agassiz	71
Agassiz to North Bend	58
North Bend to Ashcroft	75
Ashcroft to Kamloops	47
Kamloops to Vernon	130
Vernon to Revelstoke	89
Revelstoke to Golden and return	194
Revelstoke to Sandon	104
Sandon to Slocan City	37
Slocan City to Nelson	63
Nelson to Rossland, via Northport	87
Rossland to Spokane	147
Spokane to Vancouver	450
Victoria to Nanaimo and Wellington and return	170
Victoria to Duncans and return	74
Total number of miles travelled	2014
Total number of days	386

EXPENSES.

The following expenditures were incurred during my official visits:

Victoria to Vancouver, fare and berth	\$ 4 50
Vancouver to New West'r and return, fare and meals ..	2 00
Vancouver to Cloverdale and return	5 10

Westminster and fare to Vancouver.....	4 25
Vancouver to Agassiz fare and hotel.....	5 15
Agassiz to North Bend, fare and hotel.....	4 95
North Bend to Ashcroft, fare.....	3 75
Meals on the road.....	1 00
Ashcroft to Kamloops, fare.....	2 35
Hotel, Kamloops.....	4 00
Kamloops to Vernon, fare.....	6 55
Vernon to Revelstoke, fare.....	4 50
Hotel expenses at Sicamous.....	2 50
Revelstoke to Donald, fare.....	3 95
Meals, Glacier House.....	75
Donald to Golden, fare.....	85
Golden to Revelstoke, fare.....	4 80
Meals at Glacier and Revelstoke.....	3 00
Revelstoke to Sandon, fare and hotel.....	7 50
Sandon to Slocan, fare and hotel.....	5 00
Slocan to Nelson, fare.....	2 35
Nelson to North Bend and Rossland, fare.....	5 00
Omnibus.....	50
Rossland to Victoria, fare.....	26 80
Hotel expenses.....	6 50
Victoria to Duncan and return.....	3 00
Victoria to Nanaimo and return.....	4 95
Nanaimo to Wellington and return.....	2 00
————\$127 55	

Attached to this are the reports of my D. D. G. M's. as far as they have been received to date. I have examined these and find myself in accord with them.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

During my life as an Oddfellow, and more particularly during my term as Grand Master, it has been impressed upon my mind that our Order does not take full advantage of its own power for good. It has appeared strange to me that with the immense wealth and large membership, and, in consequence, the great guarantee we are in a position to give, our members individually are only secured by the Lodge to which they belong—the assets of which are in many cases almost nothing. Why can not every member who joins our ranks be secured their benefits and their standing in our Order by the whole Jurisdiction, and—if need be—by the whole Order? The great stability it would add to our Institution, and the inducement it would be for men to join our ranks, must be plain to all thinking men. Legislation can accomplish this, and it behoves our Order to

work in that direction in the near future. It need not affect the individuality of the Subordinate Lodges. It need not make them less perfect units of Oddfellowship than at present. Indeed, I have no doubt it would strengthen them, and made them pay greater attention to the fraternal side of our organization.

The benefit-paying portion of our Order is purely an insurance; then why not place it on a business basis as such? I would suggest that each Lodge be allowed to retain a certain sum in hand at the beginning of each term, be allowed to take in members only on proper doctor's certificates, pay certain stated benefits only on legal advice, use only a certain percentage for management, a certain percentage for benefits, and the balance, if any, to be paid into a Grand Lodge fund. If a Lodge pays out more in benefits than a certain percentage, it will be repaid annually from the Grand Lodge fund, which should be held in trust for the Lodges and invested only on good security by a Board of Directors, elected. The assets of the Order in the Province would thus become a guarantee for each Lodge. Again, if a Jurisdiction should be called upon to pay more than a certain percentage of its dues during any year, it would in turn be refunded from the Sovereign Grand Lodge, thus making the entire assets of the Order a guarantee for each individual member. If Lodges become extinct for want of membership, the remaining members should be taken into any Lodge to which they might apply. There would be no injustice done to members of defunct Lodges, and there would be no occasion for Government interference with our Institution; neither would an injustice be done to members of wealthy Lodges, as at present they do not profit by being members of such Lodges, except by having a better security for the fulfillment of the Lodge's obligations; but the security would be far better under the suggested system.

An Insurance Branch, paying, say, \$1,000.00 at death, should be provided on the same basis, and it could be made optional with members whether they would belong to that or not.

As so great a change as this would require time to accomplish, and no doubt meet with opposition from some quarters, and as I believe the wishes of the Subordinates should be the foundation for all legislation, I would suggest that this matter be brought before the Lodges in this Jurisdiction, and dealt with at the next meeting of this Grand Lodge.

Another change which I would recommend for the consideration of this Grand body is, that the business of the Grand Lodge be conducted in the Scarlet Degree, and all the Third Degree members in good standing be allowed admission as spectators during the session, without any voice in the business of the meeting.

CONCLUSION.

I have during my term endeavoured to the best of my ability to fulfill the duties of the responsible and honourable office of Grand Master, which year by year are becoming more arduous as our Order spreads in this Province. The continual changing of conditions, incident to the rapid progress of development of our new country, necessitates the watchful care of the superior officers of our Order. My whole ambition has been in the interest of the Order, and, if any errors have been committed, I assure you they were unintentional.

The many pleasant meetings with Brethren and kind letters of appreciation I have received have done much to spur me on and make my duties agreeable, and I shall always look back with pleasure and pride to this period of my life as an Oddfellow.

Brethren, I will conclude by extending thanks to all who have kindly assisted me, and to the Representatives of the Jurisdiction for the high position with which they have honoured me; to my District Deputies for the careful performance of their duties, and most particularly to the Grand Secretary, Bro. F. Davey, whose ability, experience, and untiring efforts constitute a great factor in the progress of our beloved Order in this Province.

A. HENDERSON,
GRAND MASTER.

The Grand Secretary read his report which was ordered to be received and handed to the Committee on Distribution.

VANCOUVER, B. C., June 14th, 1899.

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.

I have the honor and the pleasure of presenting for the fifteenth time a report of the transactions of the Grand Secretary's Office and of submitting a synopsis of the condition of the Order in this Jurisdiction on the 31st of December last and of the work of the Subordinate Lodges for the year ending on that date.

NEW LODGES.

"Trout Lake" Lodge, No. 41, was instituted at Trout Lake City, on 12th December last by Bro. R. Gordon, Special Deputy Grand Master, and "Key City" Lodge, No. 42, at Cranbrook by Bro. A. E. Lott, Special Deputy Grand Master, on 9th May, 1899.

"Harmony" Rebekah Lodge, No. 12, was also instituted at Carson, by Special Deputy Grand Master, T. Hardy, on 28th September, 1898, and Bro. H. J. Raymer, P. G. M., Spécial Deputy Grand Master, instituted "Deborah" Rebekah Lodge, No. 13, at Rossland, on 12th April, 1899.

All these Lodges are reported to have been organized under most favorable auspices.

Correspondence has taken place with members at Fernie and Trail who are anxious to have Lodges of our Order at these places and it is expected that petitions will be received shortly.

MERGEMENT OF LODGES.

On 15th June, 1898, "Friendship" Lodge, No. 30, of Nanaimo, merged with "Black Diamond" Lodge, No. 5, of the same City.

"Aeme" Lodge, No. 14, and "Dominion" Lodge, No. 4, of Victoria, were consolidated under the latter name on 4th August, 1898.

On 14th April last, "Royal City" Lodge, No. 13, merged with "New Westminster" Lodge, No. 3.

These consolidations, it is believed, have proved beneficial to the Lodges immediately concerned and has conserved the best interests of the Order, it has also demonstrated the propriety of the legislation enacted two years ago making provisions for such contingencies which although deemed by some intricate and cumbersome, could not safely be simplified, in my opinion, without endangering the protection that should be afforded to the rights and interests of all the members affected.

DEFUNCT REBEKAH LODGES.

I regret to state that it has been found necessary to recover the Charter and effects of "Esther" Rebekah Lodge, No. 11, Union, and of "Bethel" Rebekah Lodge, No. 7, Mount Pleasant, Vancouver. In the former case the members express a hope to be in a position to apply for a restitution of the Charter and effects and to resuscitate the Lodge next winter and have been assured that every facility will be rendered them to do so.

LOSSES BY FIRE.

On the 11th September last, a most disastrous fire occurred at New Westminster which almost entirely destroyed the City. In this deplorable calamity our Lodges and individual members were heavy sufferers; and it appeared to the Executive Officers that it was an occasion on which the sympathy and fraternal aid of the

brotherhood of this Jurisdiction should be invoked. Accordingly an appeal was circulated amongst our Lodges which was most generously responded to. This fraternal feeling was not confined to our own Jurisdiction but from the neighboring State of Washington messages of sympathy and substantial and welcome assistance were received, showing the universality of the bond that binds us. The Special Committee formed by the New Westminster brethren to receive and distribute the funds donated, conducted their duties in such a methodical and business-like manner as to merit the warmest praise. A detailed statement of the amounts received and disbursed will be furnished in the Grand Master's report.

On the 10th inst. a telegram was received from Bro. Edgren, D. D. G. M., at Rosslund containing the unwelcome news that the Hall of Rosslund Lodge, No. 36, was destroyed by fire on that date and the Charter and part of the Regalia were saved.

ODDFELLOWS HOME FUND.

I am pleased to report the slow but steady progress of this fund; as will be seen by the statement attached, it has been increased during the year by \$189.44, the contribution of 5 cents per capita, a donation of \$2.00 by two worthy members of Harmony Lodge, No. 6, Wellington, and \$41.00 proceeds of the offertory at the Anniversary Service of the Victoria Lodges at St. Saviour's Church, Victoria West, on 30th April, 1899. This fund now amounts to \$490.42.

Strenuous efforts are being put forth in other Canadian Jurisdictions on behalf of the establishment of Odd Fellows Homes, a matter in which we on this side of the line are very backward when compared with what has been accomplished by our brethren to the south of us. This object cannot fail to commend itself to our approval and support, and there are many ways in which it could be assisted by our Lodges, it is suggested that it would be advisable to appoint a special committee to take this matter under their consideration and to take steps to bring it more prominently than hitherto to the attention of our lodges and the membership generally.

It is recommended that an appropriation of 5 cents per capita be made to this fund for the ensuing year.

AGED ODD FELLOWS FUND.

This fund which was created last Session, has been benefited to the extent of \$100., amount realized by the sale of Trout Lake Lodge, No. 41, of the Regalia etc., formerly belonging to Perseverance Lodge, No. 29, and \$7.00 from other sources, and now aggregates \$133.88, as shown by the attached statement.

NATIONAL SANITARIUMS.

A circular letter has been received from the officers of the Sovereign Grand Lodge, relating to the action of that Grand body at its last Session, respecting the establishment and maintenance of National Sanitariums for the reception and care of sick and enfeebled members of the Order and recommending that the several Grand Lodges contribute a sum to this object not exceeding 25 cents per capita.

The letter in question is submitted herewith for such action as you may deem advisable.

MAXIMUM BENEFITS.

In order to ensure a full and complete expression of the wishes of the members on the proposed legislation respecting maximum benefits, I addressed a communication to all the Subordinate Lodges calling their attention to the Resolution adopted last Session and likewise wrote to the D. D. G. M's, reminding them of the duty imposed on them in this connection. As a result replies have been received from all but six Lodges and have been placed in the hands of the Special Committee having charge of this important subject.

STATISTICAL.

As customary I beg to submit in tabulated form, statistics of the work of the Subordinate Lodges during the year ended on the 31st December last, showing the increase or decrease under each item as compared with the preceding year, also abstracts of the Semi Annual and Annual Reports of the Lodges for publication in the printed Proceedings of this Session. It is gratifying to note that there was a gain of 41 members during the year 1898.

FINANCIAL.

I also submit a detailed statement of the moneys received and disbursed on Grand Lodge account during the past year, observing that both receipts and expenditure very closely approximate the estimates made last Session.

It is respectfully submitted that it is unnecessary to have such a large balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer at the end of the year; all that is needed is sufficient to meet the expenses of the next Session of the Grand Lodge, and in view of this, the Per Capita Tax for next year might with safety be reduced, say ten cents per member, which would, I am sure, be appreciated by the Subordinate Lodges.

The following statement of the work of the Lodges during the year ended 31st December, 1893, is compiled from the Reports to that date and a comparison is made between the result and that of the previous year:

		Increase.	Decrease.
No. of Lodges, 31st December, 1893	37		1
" " instituted since ..	1		
" " merged with other			
Lodges	3		
" Rebekah Lodges, 31st Dec. 98	7		1
" " " instituted			
since	1		
" of Members Subordinate Lodges	2815	11	
" " initiated during			
the year	226	6	
" of Members admitted by Card	120	87	
" " admitted as A. O.	3		2
" " reinstated	17		10
" " withdrawn	18		1
" " expelled	1	1	
" " deceased	26	3	
" " resigned			8
" " ceased member-			
ship by non-payment of dues	185		33
" rejected	3		5
" Degrees conferred	682	215	
" Past Grands	100	35	
Total Revenue Subordinate Lodges	\$53,208 98	\$6,121 61	
No. of Brothers relieved	351	27	
" weeks sick benefits paid ..	2608	272	
" Brothers buried	23	3	
" widowed families relieved ..	9	1	
Amount paid for relief of Brothers	20,727 35	3,276 15	
" " " widowed			
families	112 50	160 25	
Amount paid for relief of Orphans			119 50
" " burying the dead	1,002 00		210 35
" " special relief ..	2,111 75	1,363 35	
Total amount paid for relief	21,916 60	4,410 20	
" " " current expenses	15,106 30	502 11	
" " of assets	108,880 58	2,919 12	
Average amount of benefits paid to			
each sick member	58 55	6 77	
Average amount expended for re-			
lief per member	8 75	1 43	

Average duration of sickness per member.....	6 dys 10 hrs.	14 hrs.	....
Average duration of sickness per sick member.....	7wks 2 dys 14 hrs.	3dys 2 hrs.	....
Average cost per member for current expenses.....	5 41	9	..
Average cost per member for all Lodge expenditure.....	14 16	1 52	..
Average amount of assets per member	60 85	....	15
Total amount expended for relief since institution of Grand Lodge in 1874	228,004 56	....	....

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

CASH RECEIVED AND PAID TO THE GRAND TREASURER.

FROM WHOM RECEIVED.	Tax term ended 30th June 1898.	Tax term ended 31st Dec. 1898.	Supplies.	Charter Fees, etc	Total
Victoria Lodge, No. 1	\$ 53 10	\$ 52 20	\$ 4 00		\$ 100 30
Columbia..... "	2 63 00	67 50	12 00		143 40
New Westminster. "	3 45 00	41 85	4 20		91 05
Dominion. "	4 40 05	60 15	75		100 95
Black Diamond. "	5 68 85	60 15			135 00
Harmony. "	6 50 85	58 05	1 00		118 00
Excelsior. "	7 15 30	12 00	70		28 00
Vancouver. "	8 54 00	51 45	4 55		113 00
Tatnai "	9 27 00	28 80			56 70
Western Star. "	10 80 55	80 10	10 00		170 65
Union "	11 25 20	27 00	1 00		53 20
Selkirk "	12 35 55	35 10			70 65
Royal City "	13 20 25	30 15	3 70		63 10
Acme. "	14 26 55				26 55
Cloverdale. "	15 15 75	15 30	2 50		33 55
Kootenay. "	16 24 30	24 75	8 45		57 50
Duncan. "	17 17 55	17 10	2 00		36 65
Vernon Valley. "	18 13 50	13 50			27 00
Mt. Pleasant. "	19 10 10	16 20	1 50		27 80
Centennial. "	20 44 55	47 25	2 25		94 05
Delta "	21 16 65	18 45	50		35 00
Gold Range. "	22 15 75	15 75	2 00		33 50
Ashcroft. "	23 13 50	13 95	1 50		28 95
Island "	24 13 50	13 95	1 55		29 00
Revelstoke. "	25 20 70	24 30	2 30		47 30
Pacific. "	26 100 35	99 00	1 50		200 85
Amity. "	27 68 40	63 00	28 75		160 15
Cheam. "	28 20 25	20 25	25		40 75
Baumer. "	31 38 70	41 05	30		80 05
Peerless "	33 55 35	55 35	4 10		114 80
Rocky Mountain. "	34 20 70	19 35	1 50		41 55
Cedar. "	35 25 65	24 30	2 00		51 95
Rossland. "	36 28 40	20 70	5 50		63 00
Carson. "	37 13 05	13 95	1 50		28 50
Boundary Valley. "	38 17 10	18 00			36 00
Silver City. "	39 30 00	31 50	40		62 50
Slocan. "	40 13 50	15 30			28 80
Trout Lake. "	41		30 00	30 00	60 00
Key City. "	42		30 00	30 00	60 00
Colfax Rebekah. "	1		5 00		5 00
Mizpah. "	2		50		50
Beulah. "	5		17 35		17 35
Esther. "	11		4 45		4 45
Harmony. "	12		35		35
Deborah. "	13		18 35	10 00	28 35
Members of defunct Lodges				6 00	6 00
Grand Lodge Cards.			50		50
Sundry Persons.			75		75
Carried forward	\$1273 75	\$1272 25	\$ 219 50	\$ 76 00	\$2526 45

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

CASH RECEIVED AND PAID TO THE GRAND TREASURER.

FROM WHOM RECEIVED.	Tax term ended 30th June 1898.	Tax term ended 31st Dec, 1898.	Supplies	Charter Fees, etc	Total
Brought forward	\$1273 75	\$1272 25	\$ 219 50	\$ 76 00	\$2526 45
Sale of Regalia, defunct L's	.....	.....	.....	\$101 00	\$ 101 00
Odd Fellows Home acct. . .	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Donations, Bros. Bailey and Cowan, Harmony L.	.....	.....	.....	2 00	2 00
Offertory, St. Saviour's Church, Victoria West..	.....	.....	.....	41 00	41 00
	\$1273 75	\$1272 25	\$ 219 50	\$220 00	\$2086 10

ORDERS DRAWN ON GRAND TREASURER.

Date.	No. of Order	In Whose Favor.	Description.	Amount.
1898,				
June 10	1	Grand Treasurer.....	Mileage & Per Diem '98	\$951 00
" 10	2	W. H. Huxtable.....	Janr G.S. Office, 12 m..	20 00
" 10	3	E. C. Davison.....	Exp. vis. Lodges in Intr	25 00
" 10	4	W. E. Townsend.....	Janr & Light, Ses. '98..	10 00
" 15	5	R. S. Day.....	Premium G. Sec. Bond..	10 00
" 22	6	H. J. Rickard.....	G. L. Card, B.C. Odd F.	10 00
July 5	7	S. W. Edwards.....	Drafts, Postage, &c. G. T	3 00
" 21	8	F. Davey, G. Sec.	Trans'n to Sov. G. L. .	7 77
Aug. 13	9	" " " " " " " " " "	Dep.D.S.B.O.F.Home F	2 00
Sept. 16	10	T. R. Cusack.....	Ptg Proceedings, Ses. '98	140 98
" 21	11	F. Davey, G. Sec.	Salary 3 months.....	150 00
" 21	12	" " " " " " " " " "	Postage and Sundries..	20 00
" 24	13	A. A. Boak & Co.....	Premium G. T. Bond...	10 00
Oct. 11	14	F. Davey, G. Sec.	Trans'n to Sov. G. L. .	30 00
Nov. 30	15	A. Henderson, G. M. ...	On acct of Travel'g Exp	100 00
Dec. 7	16	F. Davey, G. Sec.	Salary, 2 months.....	150 00
" 7	17	" " " " " " " " " "	Postage and Sundries..	11 15
1899,				
Jan. 24	18	T. R. Cusack.....	Ptg Circulars, etc.....	6 00
" 27	19	F. Davey, G. Sec.	Trans'n to Sov. G. L. .	26 50
Mar. 10	20	" " " " " " " " " "	" " " " " " " " " "	16 00
" 10	21	" " " " " " " " " "	Salary, 3 months.....	150 00
" 10	22	Odd Fellows' Union....	Rent G.S. Office, 12 mo.	100 00
" 10	23	Colonist Ptg & Pub. Co	Black Books.....	19 20
" 10	24	F. Davey, G. Sec.	Postage and Sundries..	17 80
" 24	25	" " " " " " " " " "	Dep D.S.B. Aged Odd F	128 00
Apr. 6	26	" " " " " " " " " "	do Odd F. Home Ac.	142 00
" 28	27	" " " " " " " " " "	Sov. G. L. for Supplies.	68 30
May 1	28	" " " " " " " " " "	Dep D.S.B.O.F.Home A	41 00
" 6	29	" " " " " " " " " "	Sov.G.L., Repest Tax..	150 00
" 31	30	" " " " " " " " " "	Salary, 3 months.....	150 00
" 31	31	" " " " " " " " " "	Postage, Expressage &c	20 75
June 1	32	" " " " " " " " " "	Dep D.S.B. Aged O.F.Fd	6 00
" 1	33	A. Henderson, G. M. ...	Bal. of Allow'e for Exp	150 00
" 1	34	" " " " " " " " " "	Postage, &c.....	11 50
" 1	35	F. Davey, G. Sec.	Hibben & Co. Station'y	4 45
" 1	36	T. R. Cusack.....	Printing.....	8 25
				2867 55

SUMMARY.

Balance in hands of Grand Treasurer per last report.....	\$2,072 47
Cash received and paid to Grand Treasurer	2,986 10
	\$5,058 57
Less Orders drawn on Grand Treasurer.....	2,867 55
Balance in hands of Grand Treasurer	\$2,191 02

STOCK ACCOUNT.

	Dr.	Cr.
Balance from last year.....	\$206 56	
Goods brought during the year.....	174 90	
Allowed Lodges for return of old Rituals.....	12 00	
Freight on supplies from Sovereign Grand Lodge.....	18 27	
Gain during the year.....	47 92	
Goods sold during the year.....		\$ 252 87
Allowed by Sov. G. Lge for old Rituals destroyed.....		4 00
Value of Stock on hand.....		202 78
	\$459 65	\$ 459 65

ODD FELLOW'S HOME ACCOUNT.

June 2, '98—Amount on hand per last Report	\$ 300 98
Aug. 13, '98—Donation from Bros. Bailey and Cowan, Harmony Lodge, No. 6.....	2 00
June 30, '98—Interest Dom. Gov't Savings Bank	3 74
April 1, '99—Contribution G. Lodge of B. C., 5c per capita	142 10
May 1, '99—Wardens St. Saviour's Church, Victoria West Offertory at Anniversary Service, I.O.O.F.	41 60
	\$ 490 42
June 1, '99—Deposited in Dom. Gov't Savings Bank.....	189 67

Balance in hands of Grand Treasurer \$ 75

AGED ODD FELLOW'S FUND.

June 2, '98—In hands of Grand Treasurer per last Report	\$ 26 88
Sept. 6, '98—Received for sale of effects, Mission City Lodge, No. 32.....	1 90
Dec. 12, '98—Received for sale of Regalia, etc., Perseverance Lodge, No. 29.....	100 00
May 16, '99—Received from member of defunct Lodge for Dues.....	6 00
	\$ 133 88
June 1, '99—Deposited in Dom. Gov't Savings Bank.....	134 00

Overpaid by Grand Treasurer \$ 12

BALANCE SHEET.

GRAND LODGE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, I.O.O.F. 1st. JUNE, 1899.

Folio of Ledgr	ACCOUNT.	DR.	CR.
44	Furniture and Regalia	\$ 496 65	
68	Tatnai Lodge, No. 9	50	
71	Black Diamond Lodge, No. 5	37	
94	Miriam Rebekah Lodge, No. 3		4 00
103	Cloverdale Lodge, No. 15	40	
105	Kootenay Lodge, No. 16		60
115	Delta Lodge, No. 21		15
128	Stock	202 78	
136	Island Lodge, No. 24	35	
144	Sovereign Grand Lodge	4 95	
153	Grand Treasurer	2191 02	
162	Profit and Loss		2891 39
166	Vancouver Lodge, No. 8		2 55
169	Pacific Lodge, No. 26	1 00	
180	Banner Lodge, No. 31		1 00
188	Rocky Mountain Lodge, No. 34	45	
190	Cedar Lodge, No. 35		1 60
194	Odd Fellows Home		490 42
196	Dom. Gov't Savings Bank (Home acct.) ..	489 67	
200	Laurel Rebekah Lodge, No. 9	1 00	
206	Esther Rebekah Lodge, No. 11		1 95
208	Carson Lodge, No. 37	1 25	
214	New Westminster Lodge, No. 3	35	
220	Silver City Lodge, No. 39	35	
232	Slocan Lodge, No. 40	2 15	
234	Aged Odd Fellows Fund		133 88
242	Trout Lake Lodge, No. 41		1 35
246	Dom. Gov't Svgs. Bk. (Aged O. Fellows acct)	134 90	
248	Key City Lodge, No. 42	1 65	
		\$3528 89	\$ 3528 89

CONCLUSION.

I cannot close this report without expressing my deep appreciation of the unflinching kindness which has been shown to me during the 15 years that I have had the honor to hold this office, and of the cheering words of commendation and encouragement that have invariably fallen from the officers and members with whom I have had the pleasure to be associated during that long period.

It has been a source of gratification and pride to me to watch the growth and prosperity of the Order in this Province during these years of development and I most sincerely hope that it will go on extending and prospering and that its foundations may be laid strong and enduring.

We are met now for the third time in this young and energetic City of Vancouver, which is in itself a marvel of pluck and enterprise; may we be able to catch some of these essential qualities that have made this City so successful, and incorporate them in our efforts to build up our noble Order in this Province.

Important and weighty matters will be submitted for your consideration at this meeting and it is to be hoped that they will be approached in an unselfish and impartial spirit, and with a deep sense of the responsibility resting on us as the representatives of the three thousand members of this Jurisdiction. May our deliberations be characterized by a desire to promote the welfare of the greatest number, and by loyalty to the Institution that we all so much admire, and may the result prove advantageous to the whole Jurisdiction.

Fraternally submitted,
FRED DAVEY,
 GRAND SECRETARY.

The Grand Treasurer presented his report which was read, ordered to be received and handed to the Committee on Finance.

VANCOUVER, B. C.,
 June 14th, 1899.

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.:

W. HOGG, GRAND TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH THE
 GRAND LODGE OF B. C., I. O. O. F.

DR.

1898		To Balance from last Grand Treasurer...	\$2,072 47
July 12.		Received from Mt. Pleasant Lodge, No. 19	10 10
"	"	" Pacific	26 100 35
" 14.	"	" Western Star	10 80 55
" 15.	"	" Vancouver..	8 54 90
Oct. 12.	"	" Grand Secretary	843 75
1899			
Jan. 9.	"	" Pacific	Lodge, No. 26 99 00
" 12.	"	" Western Star	10 80 10
" 13.	"	" Vancouver..	8 54 00
" 18.	"	" Mt. Pleasant	19 16 20
June 5.	"	" Grand Secretary...	1,638 15
			<hr/>
			\$5,058 57

CR.

1890

June 10. By paid Orders Nos. 1 to 36 inclusive \$2,867 55

Balance. \$2,191 02

Fraternally submitted,

WILLIAM HOGG,

GRAND TREASURER.

The Grand Master appointed the following Committee on Distribution;—W. H. Morton, P. G. M., No. 5; J. Stark, No. 26; J. E. Phillips, P. G. M., No. 3.

T. F. Neelands, No. 8, presented and read the Report of the Grand Representatives which was on motion ordered to be received and printed in the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of B.C., I.O.O.F.

Your Representatives beg to submit a synopsis of the proceedings of the Seventy-Fourth Session of the Sovereign Grand Lodge held in Boston, Mass., September 19-24, 1898.

A formal reception was held on Monday, September 19th, at which addresses of welcome were given on behalf of the City by Mayor Quincy, and for the State by General Appleton; and by the Grand Master, Grand Patriarch and the President of the Rebekah Assembly of the State of Massachusetts. To us the address of the Grand Master was somewhat marred by reference to ancient history, which, while of interest to some of the Representatives, was distasteful to Canadians.

At the conclusion of this meeting an adjournment was made to Copley Hall where the Session was held. All Grand bodies were represented, and seven Past Grand Sires were in attendance. Very little legislation of benefit to the Order was enacted, and no changes in the unwritten work were made.

Extract from Grand Sire's Report:

GENERAL CONDITION OF THE ORDER.

While the membership of the Order has not increased during the period covered by this report to the extent that was desired, yet there is much to encourage us, for the country where the great bulk

of our membership is to be found has not entirely recovered from the financial and business depression of the last few years, which accounts, to a large extent, for our increase, not being larger than it is, the membership of the Subordinate Lodges shows a very substantial increase, as does also that of the Degree of Rebekah, while the Patriarchal branch, notwithstanding the remedial legislation of the last two sessions of your body, shows a small decrease.

The condition of our Order in Europe and other lands not on the continent of North America is good, and will be more fully discussed under the head of International Affairs.

The following shows, in a condensed shape, the statistics and conditions as to membership, revenues, and expenditures of the various branches of the Order, save of the Patriarchs Militant, of which I have not the figures, on the dates indicated, and was prepared from the last annual reports made to Grand Secretary Grant.

RETURNS FOR YEARS 1896 AND 1897.

	Dec. 31st. 1896	Dec. 31st. 1897	Increase.	Decrease
Grand Lodges.....	56	55		1
Subordinate Lodges....	11,145	11,229	84	
Rebekah Lodges.....	4,567	4,796	229	
Grand Encampments...	51	51		
Subordinate Encamp....	2,648	2,633		15
Lodge initiations.	60,146	59,536		610
Lodge Members	806,055	814,776	8284	
Encampment members.	130,732	127,917		2856
Rebekah Members	281,041	297,691	16650	
Relief by Lodges.....	\$3,067,965 81	\$3,047,285 15		\$20,680 66
Relief by Encampments	274,209 99	265,965 52		8,244 47
Relief by Rebekah Lod.	51,059 83	51,387 74	\$318 91	
Total Relief.....	3,393,235 63	3,364,629 41		28,606 22
Revenue of Lodges.	7,570,025 98	7,810,175 82	240,149 84	
Revenue of Encampmts	602,418 55	603,176 14	757 59	
Revenue Rebekah Lod.	886,202 20	432,907 94		453,294 32
Total Revenue	9,058,646 79	8,846,259 90		212,386 89

Extract from Grand Secretary's Report:

This table comparing the returns for 1897 with those for 1896 is an interesting study. While the gain in the Subordinate Lodge membership is a slight improvement over that of the previous year, the slackening in the growth of the Rebekah wing of our peaceful army is phenomenal, the gain there being but little more than one-half that reported for 1896. Another disappointing fact is noted in the loss of nearly three thousand in Encamp-

ment membership. This somewhat depressing state of affairs is accounted for in a general way, by repeating what was said a year ago of the enforced idleness in some sections, and unremunerative employment in many others, by the financial stringency so universally complained of among the laboring people and those of moderate means.

The great Order of Odd Fellows seems to be composed of two classes of men and women: those (deplorably in the minority), who are moved and controlled by unselfish philanthropy; and those who are Odd Fellows for revenue only. Our teaching and our practice are founded upon love for the neighbor, and in our lessons we teach much of good to mankind, that is far above the love of money. If in selecting candidates for initiation, they can be persuaded to join us from a desire to help in a noble work, unimpelled by lustful longing for the funds dispensed as benefits, we will enjoy the present satisfaction of seeing our new members begin right, and they, as well as the whole Order, will be blessed in the dawn of a better future when selfishness and fault-finding are banished from the hearts and minds of all.

STATISTICS OF THE ORDER FROM 1830 TO DECEMBER, 31ST, 1897,
INCLUDING AUSTRALASIA, GERMANY, DENMARK, SWITZERLAND
AND SWEDEN.

Initiations in Subordinate Lodges.	2,197,196
Members relieved	2,166,104
Widowed Families relieved.....	234,103
Members deceased.....	211,309
Total relief	\$ 77,480,656.11
Total receipts.....	201,067,165.57

CONDITION OF THE ORDER DECEMBER 31ST, 1897.

Sovereign Grand Lodge.....	1
Independent Grand Lodges (German Empire, Australasia Denmark, Switzerland and Sweden.	5
Subordinate Grand Encampments	54
Subordinate Grand Lodges.....	65
Subordinate Encampments	2,656
Subordinate Lodges	11,579
Encampment Members	128,930
Lodge Members.	839,608
Rebekah Lodges	4,808
Members of Rebekah Lodges ..	298,263

COMPARISON OF THE RETURNS FOR THE YEARS 1806 AND 1807.

	Dec. 31st, 1806	Dec. 31st, 1807	Increase.	Decrease
Grand Lodges.	50	55	.....	1
Grand Encampments ...	51	51	.....	.....
Subordinate Lodges. ...	11,145	11,220	84	.....
Subordinate Encamp. ...	2,048	2,033	.....	15
Rebekah Lodges.	4,507	4,700	220	.....
Lodge Initiations.	60,146	50,536	.....	610
Encampment Initiations	20,033	9,243	.....	20,300
Rebekah Initiations				
Brothers.	22,027	20,500	.....	2,421
Sisters.	37,161	32,140	.....	5,021
Lodge members.	800,055	811,339	8,281	.....
Encampment members.	130,732	127,776	.....	2,956
Rebekah members.	281,011	207,091	16,050	.....
Relief by Lodges.	\$3,067,765 81	\$3,017,285 15	.....	\$20,680 06
Relief by Encampments	274,200 00	265,965 52	.....	8,244 47
Relief of Rebekah Lod.	51,050 83	51,378 74	\$318 91	.....
Total relief.	3,393,235 63	3,304,620 41	.....	28,600 22
Revenue of Sub. Lodges	7,570,025 98	7,810,175 82	240,149 84	.....
Revenue of Sub. Enc. ...	602,418 55	603,176 44	757 59	.....
Revenue of Rebekah L.	886,202 26	432,907 91	.....	153,294 32
Total revenue.	9,058,646 79	8,846,259 90	.....	212,386 89
Invested Funds, Sub. L.	24,824,387 17	24,416,000 32	.....	10,7786 85
Invested Funds, Sub. E.	1,529,131 59	1,450,677 07	.....	78,453 92
Invested Funds, Reb. L.	496,430 00	521,417 75	24,987 09	.....
Total invested funds. ...	26,849,949 42	26,388,095 74	.....	161,253 08
Expenses of Sub. Lod. ...	3,427,195 22	3,309,340 07	.....	117,855 15
Expenses of Sub. Enc. ...	256,286 77	209,005 24	42,718 47	.....
Expenses of Rebekah L.	338,409 02	350,808 39	18,399 37	.....
Total expenses.	4,021,891 01	3,965,153 70	.....	56,737 31
Brothers relieved.	83,724	90,050	6,335	.....
Patriarchs relieved.	10,073	12,132	2,059	.....
Weeks' ben paid by S. L.	581,534	508,451	16,917	.....
Weeks' ben paid by En. ...	80,282	91,805	2,613	.....
Wid fam relieved by S. L.	6,206	6,145	.....	61
Wid fam relieved by S. E.	209	197	.....	12
Brothers buried.	8,498	8,033	435	.....
Patriarchs buried.	1,395	1,482	87	.....

SUBORDINATE LODGE DECISIONS.

1. *Ques.*—What is the status of lodge property on the dissolution of the lodge? Does it belong to the Grand Lodge? If so, in what way could the Lodge possess itself of the real estate in case of opposition on the part of any member of the defunct Lodge or otherwise? Is there anything to prevent a Lodge, while in existence, selling its real estate if it choose so to do? Must it have authority from the Grand Lodge under which it works?

Ans.—On a dissolution of a Subordinate Lodge, its property becomes at once the property of the Grand Lodge of the jurisdiction, and the Grand Lodge, if such Subordinate Lodge owned real estate, could proceed to take possession of it, as a private individual could; if, however, any member of such defunct Lodge was in actual possession of it, a suit to recover it would become necessary. It is usual for lodges, both Subordinate and Grand, to be incorporated under the civil laws of their several states, and such Grand Lodge should sue in the corporate name. Not being familiar with the laws and procedure of the civil courts of Vermont, cannot further advise you as to the method of procedure, but any good lawyer of your state could point out the remedy of the Grand Lodge. Subordinate Lodges, while in existence, have a right to dispose of any real estate they may own without asking or obtaining permission of the Grand Lodge to do so.

2. *Ques.*—On what terms can one who in 1866 was initiated and received the first and second Degrees, be received now into membership?

Ans.—If an Ancient Odd Fellow, by depositing his card, or making other satisfactory proof of his former connection with the Order, and by paying the sum fixed by the by-laws of the Lodge for the admission of an Ancient Odd Fellow, and by being admitted by a ball ballot as prescribed for an initiate.

3. *Ques.*—Does the official receipt entitle a brother to admittance into a lodge within his own Jurisdiction without the semi-annual pass-word, or is it necessary for a brother holding an official receipt to have the semi-annual pass-word in order to be entitled to admission?

Ans.—A brother seeking admission into a Lodge within his own Jurisdiction, must give the semi-annual pass-word given out by the Grand Master of the Jurisdiction; or, if he produces an official certificate or receipt, the A.T.P.W. No Brother can be admitted to a Lodge, whether or not he has a visiting card or an official certificate, unless he has one or the other of these words. Only his own Lodge can admit him without one or the other word; and no Lodge except his own should so admit him.

4. *Ques.*—Has a Jurisdiction that licenses one insurance company, formed from members in its own state, any right to say that a company from another state shall not do business in that state?

Ans.—It has not, provided always that the company so refused has complied with the laws of the Sovereign Grand Lodge, and obtained authority from its officers to do business.

5. *Ques.*—Can a Jurisdiction make any discrimination as to the companies it will license, provided it license any, and the company produces a license from the Sovereign Grand Lodge? In other words, has the Subordinate Grand Jurisdiction any discretion as to the companies it will license, provided the company has the Sovereign Grand Lodge license?

Ans.—It has not.

[Questions 4 and 5 were approved with the following qualification and modification: If the "insurance company formed from members in its own state," referred to in said decisions, belonged to the class of "voluntary associations or small corporations" and "confining their operations to towns, cities or jurisdictions in which they are located and not seeking to do general insurance business," then and in that case the Grand Lodge of such Jurisdiction is not required to grant a license or permit to a company from another state or jurisdiction. See Digest of 1895, Sec. 591. Also Vol. 18, Journal of 1895, pages 14,435 to 14,438, and 14,470, 14,571.

6. *Ques.*—If a Brother steps up to the Secretary to pay his dues and assessments and says nothing about a receipt, has the Secretary a right to give him any other than the official certificate?

Ans.—He has not; if any acknowledgement is given in writing or on any printed form, it must be given on the form of the official certificate.

7. *Ques.*—If a Lodge agrees to transact business between the Lodge and its members, relative to their dues and assessments, without the use of the official certificate, and the Brother does not care for a receipt, has the Lodge a right to evade the law by so doing?

Ans.—When a member pays any money to his Lodge for dues or assessments and does not desire any written acknowledgement for such payment, he need not be given such acknowledgement; but if he does ask for such an acknowledgement, the Financial Secretary must issue to him an official certificate, showing the amount he has paid. When such evidence is demanded, no other form can be used than that what is known as the official certificate. The third resolution of the report of the committee on legislation, as amended and adopted by the Sovereign Grand Lodge, shows plainly what the laws on the subject are, said resolution reading as follows: "That hereafter the official receipt (certificate) shall be designated as the 'official certificate,' and shall be issued in all cases where members pay dues and assessments to subordinate bodies, and shall request a receipt, and that such change be made in the form and matter as to make it plain and distinct, with ample space for necessary signatures, and a line for the location of the body issuing it, and the date."

8. *Ques.*—Is a member who is one month, or even one day, in arrears for dues or assessments, in good standing, so as to be entitled to sick benefits?

Ans.—No; but the length of time and the amount of dues to constitute a Brother in arrears is a matter of local legislation.

9. *Ques.*—A vacancy having occurred in the office of Degree Master of a Degree Lodge during the term, is the Deputy Degree Master eligible to fill the vacancy? Both Degree Master and Deputy Degree Master are installed into office with the same ceremony as the Noble Grand and Vice Grand of a Subordinate Lodge.

Ans.—If the Deputy Degree Master would have been eligible to fill the position of Degree Master, had he not been Deputy Degree Master, the fact that he was already Deputy Degree Master would not have disqualified him from being elected to fill such office, the vacancy occurring during the term.

10. *Ques.*—The question you propounded is in regard to the apparent conflict between the Constitution for Subordinate Lodges of your Jurisdiction (Lower Provinces) and the By-Laws of a Subordinate Lodge of such Jurisdiction, the constitution providing that application for membership shall be referred to a committee of three, "who shall report upon the application upon the next succeeding regular meeting (unless unavoidable circumstances prevent), when the candidate shall be balloted for with ball ballots, etc." The By-Laws of the Subordinate Lodge, which have been legally approved, provide, "When the report shall have been submitted to the Lodge, action shall be deferred until the next regular session, or from time to time, until any doubt as to the fitness of the candidate may be determined."

Ans.—In my judgment there is no conflict between the Constitution and the by-laws quoted; in many instances the word may is construed to mean shall, owing to the nature of the context, and in the same manner, where the word shall is used it may not always be mandatory, but the remainder of the sentence may be looked to to interpret the true meaning. In my judgment, therefore, the language of the Constitution does not mean to inhibit a Lodge from postponing action on a report of an investigating committee on an application for membership, for the language used by it in brackets, showing that it being (unless unforeseen circumstances prevent), and of course such unforeseen circumstances must be judged of by the Lodge itself, and certainly a Lodge would have the inherent right, as shown by the law as quoted in White's Digest, Art. 649, to postpone consideration of any committee report where they may deem it advisable or proper. The Lodge having then the right, even under the language of the Constitution, to postpone action on the re-

port of a committee on application for "unavoidable circumstances," of which it is the sole judge, it can provide in its by-laws, that all committee reports on applications shall not be considered until another session, and if these by-laws, as in this case, are approved by the Grand Lodge or its authority, it amounts to an interpretation of the meaning of the apparent mandatory language of the constitution. I therefore decide that there is no conflict between the constitutional provision quoted and the article of the by-laws.

11. *Ques.*—Is it optional or obligatory with a Lodge to indicate in a withdrawal card the rank of the member withdrawing?

Ans.—It is imperative with a lodge granting a withdrawal card, to state in it the highest rank the Brother has attained in the Lodge; especially is this the case when such a Brother demands such statement. The law as contained in Sec. 157, White's Digest, clearly settles this question.

12. *Ques.*—Have the Past Grands of any prescribed territory the right to organize themselves into an Association, taking the name or any similar one, of a "Past Grand's Association of—?"

Ans.—The question is one of considerable doubt, as there seems to be some discrepancy between the law as written and strictly construed, and the usage and practice; although I think the discrepancy is more apparent than real. The law prohibits conventions of members of the Order to influence legislation, as well as the organization of any body not authorized by the law of the Sovereign Grand Lodge, which shall require as a requisite for membership, good standing in the Order. The Sovereign Grand Lodge, however, has rather encouraged the formation of Odd Fellows organizations for social purposes, as witness the Past Grand Representatives' Union, composed of those who have been Representatives to the Sovereign Grand Lodge, and of which organization the Junior Past Grand Sire is always the President; also, the organization of associations of Past Grand Masters, which exist in many Jurisdictions, one such being, I understand, in Ohio. These social organizations already being in existence, I can see no very good reason, nor, indeed do I find any positive enactment, prohibiting Past Grands within any designated territory from forming themselves into a social organization, provided they do not attempt to usurp any legislative functions which must belong to recognized bodies of the Order. I therefore come to the conclusion that it is permissible for Past Grands of any prescribed territory to form a Past Grand's Association, unless such is positively forbidden expressly by the Subordinate Grand Jurisdiction, and certainly they should be allowed to do so, with the assent of such Jurisdiction.

13. *Ques.*—Does continuous good standing as applied to qualifications for a veteran jewel demand that a Brother to be entitled to a veteran jewel shall not be at any time during the twenty-five years' period, in arrears for dues to his subordinate Lodge; or if a member failed once only during the twenty-five years to pay his dues as required by the by-laws of his lodge, and thereby became in bad standing, and not entitled to benefits for any sickness, would this fact disqualify him from receiving the veteran jewel?

Ans.—It is my opinion, that a fair and reasonable construction of the law relating to the veteran jewel is, that when a member of the Order has been continuously a member of a Subordinate Lodge and carried on its rolls, not having been suspended for any cause, that the fact that he may have been one or more years in arrears for his dues, thereby being temporarily deprived of the right to draw benefits during sickness, does not deprive him of the right to receive and wear the veteran jewel. If he has been a member of a Subordinate Lodge, or Lodges, for twenty-five years without having been suspended, he has a right to the jewel. It is further my decision, that where a Brother has taken a withdrawal card from his Lodge and has within twelve months thereafter, deposited the same and has been admitted to membership in another Subordinate Lodge, that the fact of such intermission in his active membership in a Lodge does not break his continuous membership in the Order so as to preclude him from claiming the veteran jewel. If, however, he permits more than twelve months to elapse from the date of taking his withdrawal card, and depositing it in another Lodge, he then becomes an Ancient Odd Fellow, and breaks his continuous membership, and is not entitled to wear the jewel. Of course, if after his second admission to a Lodge a period of twenty-five years of continuous membership intervenes he is entitled to the jewel.

14. *Ques.*—Can a Lodge legally grant relief from its general fund to the widow of a member who died in bad standing, resulting from non-payment of dues?

Ans.—Yes, when not prohibited by the state Grand body,

15. *Ques.*—Can a Lodge legally grant relief from its general fund to persons in distress outside of the Order?

Ans.—It can not.

16. *Ques.*—The Secretary of a Lodge retains moneys paid in as dues and uses them for his own purposes. After the Lodge learns the facts it takes a note from the defaulting officer in settlement for the money. Can the Lodge after such settlement punish the Brother for retaining said monies?

Ans.—Yes.

17. *Ques.*—A Brother sues the Lodge because of reduction in sick benefits; he loses his case. Has the Lodge the right to retain accruing benefits as a set-off for the cost in the case allowed the Lodge by the court?

Ans.—As a general proposition the Lodge has such a right, though this may not be the case in some Jurisdictions where the municipal law may otherwise provide.

18. *Ques.*—Under the uniform constitution for Subordinate Lodges of Colorado, it is provided that where there is but one candidate for an office "he may be declared elected by acclamation." Is such provision in conflict with general law?

Ans.—It is not; the Grand Lodge of Colorado had a right to make such a provision in its constitution for the government of Subordinate Lodges.

19. *Ques.*—Is it legal to ballot on the application of a candidate for the first Degree, the second Degree, or the third Degree, at a special meeting called for that purpose?

Ans.—It is not, unless the Grand Lodge of the Jurisdiction has provided for such special meetings. In the absence of such authority it would not be proper to ballot for any Degree at a special meeting.

20. *Ques.*—Can a Subordinate Lodge hold Memorial Services accordance with proclamation of the Grand Sire, which proclamation designates the second Tuesday in June, or on such other day as may be practicable, on a Sunday?

Ans.—While our laws forbid the holding of Lodge meetings on Sundays for general or regular Lodge business, and such meetings are illegal, yet it is legal and proper for Subordinate Lodges to meet on Sunday to attend the funeral of a Brother. I therefore think that the members of a Lodge, meeting to hold Memorial Services in honor of the worthy dead of the Order, and decorate their graves, is not only not illegal to be held on a Sunday, but that for many reasons is the most appropriate time. Of course each Lodge must be the judge of which day is practicable for it to hold such services.

21. *Ques.*—Can a Subordinate Lodge pass a resolution providing that if any of its members enlist in the present war between the United States and Spain, that their dues and assessments will be paid by the Lodge, out of the treasury, so that said members may be kept in good standing until their return home?

Ans.—Under our laws a Lodge cannot remit dues nor can it draw money from its treasury to pay dues for any class of members, no matter how meritorious such members may be. Therefore I decide the question asked in the negative, with this qualification however,

that a Lodge may, out of the 5 per cent. fund which it is authorized to set apart for any purpose it may see proper, pay the dues of any class of its members.

22. *Ques.*—Statement: The Constitution of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, Art. X, Sec. 1, reads as follows: "This Constitution shall not be altered, amended or annulled, unless a proposition to that effect be made in writing at a regular communication, and laid over until the next annual communication, and adopted by a majority of three-fourths of the members present." At the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, I.O.O.F. of South Carolina in 1896, a committee was appointed to revise the constitution and by-laws of the Grand Lodge, and to report the next annual communication. The committee reported at the annual communication in 1897 and made various changes in our constitution and by-laws. Their report was adopted by the Grand Lodge. Is the adoption of the committee report legal or should it have lain over till the next annual communication?

Ans.—Its adoption at the time was illegal. It should have lain over for one year, or until the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge. See Sec. 428, White's Digest, edition of 1895.

23. *Ques.*—Has a Grand Master the right to grant a dispensation to one or more Lodges to solicit subscriptions from the members of the Order throughout its Jurisdiction for the purpose of erecting a monument to a worthy member of the Order?

Ans.—He has the right to give such permission, provided the Grand Lodge of the Jurisdiction has passed no law declaring that permission to solicit aid for any purpose, must be granted by the Grand Lodge only. That a Grand Lodge or a Grand Master, unless prohibited by such Grand Lodge, may grant permission to a Lodge to solicit aid even for an individual member, seems to have been decided by the Sovereign Grand Lodge. See Sections 1558, 1559, digest of 1895.

24. *Ques.*—When a Lodge elects a Brother to membership, who makes application upon a visiting card, and certifies his election to the lodge issuing the visiting card and asks for a withdrawal card should not the Noble Grand and Secretary immediately issue a card without action of the Lodge, all fees and dues being paid, unless charges are preferred? By analogy will not the law that requires a dismissal certificate to be issued without action of the Lodge govern in this case?

Ans.—Were this an original question, that is, one that had never been actually passed upon by Sovereign Grand Lodge, I would hold that under the fact stated, the Noble Grand and Secretary

should issue the withdrawal card without any action of the Lodge directing them so to do, were it not for the fact that the decision of Grand Sire Busbee, made in 1891, holds, "It is necessary that the Lodge to which a Brother applies for membership should notify the Lodge issuing the visiting card, of his election; and thereupon the Brother must apply for the necessary withdrawal card or dismissal certificate; but the Secretary of the Lodge may apply for such card or certificate, at the instance and by the authority of the Brother." See White's digest, Sec. 669, edition of 1895. This contemplates clearly that an application shall be made to the Lodge and not to an officer of the Lodge. The reason for compelling an application to be made to the Lodge probably was, that it was thought possible that a Brother after obtaining a visiting card might have been guilty of some improper conduct, and that the Lodge issuing such card should have the right to enquire into such matter before giving the withdrawal card. I therefore hold that a Lodge must by its action grant the card, and that without such authorization the Noble Grand and Secretary can not issue it.

25. *Ques.*—What action should be taken if a Lodge, on ballot being taken, refuse to grant a withdrawal card, when a Brother has been elected to membership in another Lodge upon application with a visiting card?

Ans.—If the visiting card was regularly and legally issued, and no charges had been filed against the Brother during the period between its issuance and the application for a withdrawal card, if the Lodge then refuses to issue it, it would be the duty of the Grand Master, if the facts were clear and undisputed, to direct the Lodge to issue such card.

REBEKAH DECISIONS.

33. *Ques.*—Can a Rebekah Lodge, instituted the last of April, elect and install officers in June, or should they hold over?

Ans.—Where a Rebekah Lodge is organized and instituted during the last half of a term, say in April, the officers elected at the institution hold over during the June term, and the term for which they hold will be styled a special term. See Sections 1507, 1510, digest of 1895.

34. *Ques.*—Can the Grand Lodge delegate the power to the President of the Rebekah assembly, to act ad interim, on appeals from Rebekah Lodges, with a proviso, that any lodge or individual feeling aggrieved by such decision, "shall appeal to the Grand Master, whose decisions must be final, until reversed by the Grand Lodge," or should the appeal be taken direct to the Grand Master for his decision?

Ans.—The Grand Lodge, in my judgment, can so delegate its powers, and if it so delegates them, the appeal lies in the first place to the President of the Rebekah Assembly, with the right of appeal from her decision to the Grand Master.

35. *Ques.*—Can the Grand Lodge delegate to the President of the Assembly, power to act, ad interim (without the approval of the Grand Master), and render decisions and answer all questions of law and usage, arising in Rebekah Lodges, and to stand as law until reviewed and passed upon by the Judiciary Committee at the succeeding Grand Lodge; or should all questions of law and usage of Rebekah Lodges be submitted to the Grand Master for his decision?

Ans.—It seems to me that the creating of Rebekah Assemblies, and formulating laws for them, clearly indicates that the design of the Sovereign Grand Lodge was to allow them full power to govern Subordinate Rebekah Lodges, if the Grand Lodges of the several jurisdictions choose to clothe them with such power. I therefore answer by saying that the Grand Lodge can delegate such authority as you have named to the President of the Rebekah Assembly. See Sections 30 and 32, Rebekah Code.

36. *Ques.*—Can the Grand Lodge delegate to the President of the Rebekah Assembly, the authority, ad interim, to approve by-laws of Subordinate Rebekah Lodges?

Ans.—It can.

37. *Ques.*—Can the President of the Rebekah Assembly, ad interim, grant dispensations to Rebekah Lodges, without the approval of the Grand Master?

Ans.—She can, provided such authority has been granted by the Grand Lodge of her Jurisdiction.

38. *Ques.*—Has the Grand Lodge the power to grant the Rebekah Assembly the right to make a law that an appeal from Rebekah Lodges shall be made to the Rebekah Assembly?

Ans.—That a Grand Lodge may grant such a right; the law as found in White's Digest, Article 1178, seems to have been repealed by necessary implication, by the adoption of the Rebekah Code, adopted after the law as found in said article, and by the terms of such Rebekah Code. See Sections 30 and 32 thereof. It seems to have been the intention to allow Grand Lodges to invest Rebekah Assemblies with a large amount of power to regulate the affairs of this branch of the Order. Section 32, providing that appeals from the "decision" or action of a Rebekah Assembly shall be made to the Grand Lodge of the Jurisdiction, etc.

39. *Ques.*—Can an expelled member of a Rebekah Lodge be reinstated without the permission of the Grand Master, or, in other words, will permission of the President of the Assembly be sufficient?

Ans.—Under the law, as found in White's Digest, Article 713, a Grand Lodge of a Jurisdiction may confer the power on a Grand Master during the recess to grant a petition from a Subordinate Lodge to restore an expelled member to said Lodge. I therefore have to hold, that under the idea that Grand Lodges have the power to clothe Rebekah assemblies with larger powers for the government of the Subordinate Rebekah Lodges, that if such general powers have been so conferred upon Rebekah assemblies, that such assemblies have the right to authorize and empower the President of such assemblies to grant permission to restore expelled members of subordinate Rebekah Lodges; but without such direct authority from the assembly no matter how undoubted may be the power of the assembly to act in such matters, the President cannot grant such authority, no more than a Grand Master could in the absence of authority of his Grand Lodge.

40. *Ques.*—Is there any rule of law to prevent a young Rebekah Lodge making up white robes for the team, as the sisters may elect to do, to be used in the work, pending the time the Lodge is able financially to buy something better?

Ans.—There is not. Any Rebekah Lodge may, if it deem it proper, make up for themselves any regalia or robes, only such regalia must be as prescribed by the law.

41. *Ques.*—Does the marriage of a Rebekah Sister to one not an Odd Fellow in any way affect her standing as a Rebekah member?

Ans.—It does not.

42. *Ques.*—Should the Recording Secretary of Rebekah Lodges or the Financial Secretary sign the official certificate showing payment of dues?

Ans.—When a Rebekah Lodge has a financial Secretary, that officer should sign; if a Rebekah Lodge has no financial Secretary, then the Secretary should sign.

43. *Ques.*—If a Degree of Rebekah Lodge meets every week and wishes to meet only once every two weeks, will it be necessary for them to ask for a special dispensation?

Ans.—Where the by-laws of a Rebekah Lodge, duly approved by the competent authority, provides for weekly meetings, the Lodge can legally change the number of meetings from weekly to twice a month, by changing the by-laws, and where there is no pro-

vision that the President of the Rebekah assembly shall have authority to approve amendments to by-laws, they can only be approved by action of the assembly. The regular time of meeting can not be altered or permitted by issuing a special dispensation, although a dispensation can be issued to such Lodge, and will be lawful to hold a special meeting at a time not provided for in the by-laws.

44. *Ques.*—Where the Grand Lodge of a Jurisdiction authorizes the President of a Rebekah assembly to appoint and commission Deputies for Rebekah Lodges, what should be the title of such Deputies?

Ans.—The title of such officer is District Deputy President.

45. *Ques.*—Statement: A woman joins a Rebekah Lodge; some months after she moves to another town in the same Jurisdiction, where she makes application to a Rebekah Lodge located there for admission by initiation. She is duly elected before it is learned by the last named Lodge that she held membership in another Lodge. She never applied for nor received a card from the Lodge she first joined. What is her status as a member? What law, if any, has she violated? What action or decree should the Grand Master make in this case?

Ans.—She is still a member of the first Lodge she joined, never having legally become a member of the last named Lodge. She is liable to have charges preferred against her in the first Lodge, and while she acted in possible ignorance of the law, of which the Lodge must be the judge on the trial, such ignorance, if proven, may be taken in mitigation of the offence, which is seeking to become a member of a Lodge by fraudulent misrepresentation. The Grand Master, after his attention has been called to the case, should direct the second Lodge to strike the name of the woman from the roll of membership and notify the Lodge to which she really belongs to prefer charges against her. I think in this case, if the woman erred through ignorance, it might be well, if she is otherwise worthy, for the first Lodge to ignore her offence, and ask her to apply for a withdrawal card, so that she can deposit it in the Lodge where she now resides. This would get the matter straight, and perhaps save a worthy woman to the Order. This last, however, is a mere suggestion, not official. My answer to the query is the law as I construe it.

46. *Ques.*—May a sister, a member of Rebekah Lodge, prefer charges against a brother in his Subordinate Lodge, and would the Lodge have jurisdiction of the brother in the matter, and could it proceed to trial upon charges so preferred?

Ans.—In the case you cite, the sister of a Rebekah Lodge can prefer charges against a brother of a Subordinate Lodge, but in the absence of local legislation upon the subject, should first present such charges in the usual form to the Rebekah Lodge of which she is a member. Such Rebekah Lodge shall forthwith forward to the Lodge of which the accused is a member, a certified copy of the charges, over the signature of the N. G. and Secretary, and attested by the seal of the Lodge, and the Lodge to whom such charges are made shall proceed to hear and determine the same in like manner as if preferred by a member of its own body. See Sec. 1,024, White's Digest, Edition of 1895. I hold that this Article 1,024, applies as well to members of Rebekah Lodges, as to other members of the Order, although they are not specifically mentioned in said article.

47. *Ques.*—The legal title of Rebekah Lodges having been fixed as "Rebekah Lodges" by legislation enacted in 1891, can such Lodges instituted previous to that date continue to use a seal with any other title, such as "D. of R" degree, etc.?

Ans.—Under the legislation referred to, the old designation of Rebekah Lodges was changed from Lodges of "Daughters of Rebekah," to "Rebekah Lodges," consequently the seals used by such Lodges should conform to their style as so fixed. Therefore I hold that it is not proper to use a seal with a designation of the name on it as it was before the name was changed. The Grand Master should call attention of Rebekah Lodges to this, and direct them to procure seals with the proper name and title. The use of a seal with the old name thereon, it seems to me, is improper, as it would be for a Lodge to use an old seal, after such Lodge has changed its name with assent of the Grand Lodge.

48. *Ques.*—As to the right of a President of an Assembly, to whom has been granted the right to appoint and commission district Deputy Presidents, to formulate and give out the term pass word?

Ans.—That where such authority is given by the Grand Lodge of a Jurisdiction, the President of the Assembly has such right. See Sec. 36, of the code of laws for the government of Lodges, to be found on page 349, White's Digest, edition of 1895.

49. *Ques.*—Has any jurisdiction the right to confer the Assembly degree upon Past Grands of Subordinate Lodges, who are not Past Noble Grands of Rebekah Lodges?

Ans.—It has.

50. *Ques.*—Must Rebekah Lodges go without representation in assembly until they have a P. N. G. in good standing?

Ans.—A Subordinate Grand Lodge has the right to authorize representation of Rebekah Lodges in the Rebekah assembly by Past Grands of Subordinate Lodges who are members of Rebekah Lodges in good standing, as well as by Past Noble Grands of Rebekah Lodges. In case such authority is given, a Rebekah Lodge having in its membership a Past Grand need not go without representation until it has a Past Noble Grand. In all cases a representative from a Rebekah Lodge to a Rebekah assembly must possess the qualifications required by the law of the Jurisdiction. If the Lodge has not among its members in good standing such qualified members, it may elect as its Representative a member of another Rebekah Lodge, who does possess the requisite qualifications, if the local law so provides.

51. *Ques.*—Statement: The S. G. L. of 1896 approved the following decision of Grand Sire Stebbins, it being as follows: "Brothers in a Rebekah Lodge, no matter what their position, official or otherwise, can only wear the Regalia of the Subordinate Lodge." At the session of 1897, the S. G. L. approved your decision, which is in direct contradiction to the one first voted, your decision being as follows: "When any one is elected to office in a Rebekah Lodge, whether male or female, they must wear the Regalia provided by law for such office." The first decision was incorporated as law in Sec. 25, of the Rebekah code, which remains the same to-day as in 1896. Which decision takes precedence, the one approved in 1896 or 1897? Which is law now?

Ans.—In answering the question which I now do, I must first correct the statement, which is quoted just as it is submitted by the representative, for it states as facts some things which are not so in a very important particular; *after* the decision of 1897 had been approved by the Sovereign Grand Lodge, see page 15,533, Journal of 1897, the Sovereign Grand Lodge adopted the report of the committee on the Degree of Rebekah, which materially changed Sec. 25 of the code for the government of Rebekah Lodges, striking out from the section the provision, "The Brethren shall wear the Regalia they are entitled to wear in a Subordinate Lodge. The Sisters shall wear Regalia and Jewels as follows," etc. The committee in the report, after specifying the Regalia to be worn by each elective and appointive officer, proceed as follows: "All of the foregoing shall apply to all officers and Past Noble Grands, irrespective of sex. Brethren who are not officers nor Past Noble Grands shall wear the Regalia they are entitled to wear in a Subordinate Lodge. Sisters who are not officers nor Past Noble Grands shall wear badges or collars of pink and green, not exceeding three inches in width." See Journal of 1897, page 15,643, et seq. Thus the statement as made by the Brother asking the decision is materially wrong as to the correct facts. To answer now the broad question I reply, that

the Sovereign Grand Lodge having approved a decision of the Grand Sire, which is, or appears to be, in conflict with a former decision of that officer, the last approved decision stands as existing law, until reversed by the Sovereign Grand Lodge.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS.

62. *Ques.*—In the new Subordinate ritual, a Rebekah sign is spoken of. Is this the same sign given in Rebekah work for recognizing brothers?

Ans.—It is.

63. *Ques.*—Does the decision, "It is a brother's right to vote a secret ballot" apply to a poll for the election of officers and representatives where written ballots are used?

Ans.—It does.

64. *Ques.*—Would a brother who endeavored to find out the names of those voting for the candidates be guilty of an offence under our laws?

Ans.—It would not; it being understood that this answer applies only to voting for officers of the body, and not for balloting for candidates for admission, either by initiation or affiliation, in which last named case the ballot must be secret, and no one has any right to endeavor to ascertain how any one other person voted.

65. *Ques.*—A committee being appointed to investigate charges against the "tellers or scrutineers" at an election for officers, can said committee order Brothers voting at said election to expose the character of their votes and tell for whom they voted?

Ans.—Where the election of an officer is contested, the body in which the election took place has a right, through such agencies as it may create, to find out and ascertain how and for whom each ballot was cast. In such case, if the written ballots were preserved, they would be the best evidence, but if not preserved, the several members voting could legally be examined as to how they voted.

66. *Ques.*—Statement: A Brother is granted a withdrawal card from his Subordinate Lodge on December 14, 1896; on September 10, 1897, he applies for admission by card and is rejected; on December 1, 1897, he applies for a withdrawal card from the Rebekah Lodge. Is he entitled to a withdrawal card from the Rebekah Lodge and to visit on same in Rebekah Lodges for one year thereafter?

Ans.—The Rebekah Lodge of which he is a member has the right to grant him a withdrawal card, and when it has been so granted he has a right to visit upon it for twelve months after its date.

67. *Ques.*—Can a Brother deposit the receipt in another Lodge for admission the same as a visiting card?

Ans.—Yes.

68. *Ques.*—Has the Lodge the right to appropriate the funds of the Lodge to pay railroad fare or carriage hire of any of its members or officers to attend the funeral or burial of a member of their own or any other Lodge?

Ans.—It has not the right to make such appropriation; see Decision No. 31, approved by the Sovereign Grand Lodge at its session of 1897, as found, with approval on pages 15,168, 15,551, 15,581, Journal of Proceedings. This decision does not, however, prohibit the Lodge from making the appropriation from the 5 per cent. authorized to be set apart by Lodges, with consent of Grand Lodge, for certain special purposes as provided for in the law as found in Art. 378, of White's Digest, last edition; but the inhibition applies fully to appropriations made out of the general fund.

69. *Ques.*—If an officer or Degree Staff enter from or retire to an ante-room through a door way other than the one in charge of the Inside Guardian, must they address the chair as directed on page 33 of the ritual?

Ans.—He or they need not. The team work contemplates the entrance of the team at certain points in their work, through some other entrance than the regular entrance to their Lodge room.

70. *Ques.*—Can the holder of an unexpired withdrawal card, be a petitioner for a new Lodge, and become a charter member, without either the A. T. P. W. (or A. P. W. if a Rebekah Lodge) or an order for it?

Ans.—He can; his card is the authority for becoming such petitioner; the possession or non-possession of such word does not affect his right.

71. *Ques.*—Statement: A member of the Order is charged with conduct unbecoming an Odd Fellow (using insulting language to the Noble Grand of his Rebekah Lodge). He is, on trial, found guilty. The Constitution provides a penalty of suspension or expulsion for the offence of which the member was convicted. The Lodge refused to enforce that penalty. The matter was appealed to the Grand Lodge. The committee of appeals reported that the evidence of the Brother's guilt was overwhelming, and ordered it back to the Lodge for the enforcement of the penalty, and the Grand Lodge approved the report. The Lodge suspended the member for twenty-four hours. The Lodge met Saturday night. Would you consider such

a suspension reasonable, a sufficient punishment and a compliance with the mandate of the Grand Lodge.

Ans.—Where there is a minimum and a maximum punishment prescribed by law, it is the province of the trial body to prescribe and fix the punishment. Unless the constitution of your jurisdiction fixes the minimum period of suspension, the Lodge had a right to fix any period it chose. The punishment adjudged by the Lodge, does not strike an impartial observer as being adequate, but it having the legal right to fix the punishment, and it being within the terms of the law, its decision must stand, as it has inflicted some punishment.

72. *Ques.*—Are printed ballots legal?

Ans.—They are. I know of no law which forbids their use in an election, although it may not be in good taste to have them prepared in advance of an election, as savoring too much of electioneering.

73. *Ques.*—Where a Lodge (Subordinate or Rebekah) or a Subordinate Encampment, has the office of Secretary or Scribe divided between two persons, one having charge of the records, etc., and the other of the accounts, what is the official title of each one?

Ans.—The officer of a subordinate Lodge or Rebekah Lodge and a Subordinate Encampment having charge of the records, is known and described officially in the case of a Lodge as "Secretary," and in the case of an Encampment as "Scribe;" where the Lodge has another officer to take charge of its finances and accounts, such officer is styled officially as the "Financial Secretary," and in a similar case in the Encampment is styled "Financial Scribe."

74. *Ques.*—Is it a violation of law of the Order to publish in an Odd Fellows' periodical notices of expulsion of members from the Order, after such notice of expulsion has been promulgated by the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge to the Subordinate Lodges by circular letters?

Ans.—It is not a violation of the laws of the Order so to do.

75. *Ques.*—Can an officer-elect be installed into office, he being twelve weeks in arrears for dues, the uniform constitution for Subordinate Lodges of the Jurisdiction requiring a member to be thirteen weeks in arrears for dues, before he becomes non-beneficial? In other words, a member of this Jurisdiction is in good standing, until he becomes thirteen weeks in arrears for dues.

Ans.—The officer-elect being in good standing, according to the Constitution, he is eligible for installation, into office, providing he has performed such previous service in other offices as is required by law.

77. *Ques.*—By the by-laws of a Lodge in Oregon, it is provided; "That in conducting the funeral of a Brother of this Lodge, in good standing who is to be buried in a cemetery beyond the city limits, the Noble Grand is hereby authorized to procure at the expense of the Lodge, a sufficient number of conveyances, of which he shall be sole judge, to accommodate such Brothers as he may appoint to assist him, and to proceed to such cemetery and perform the funeral ceremony of the Order, provided such expense shall not exceed the sum of fifteen dollars." Is such a by-law legal?

Ans.—It is not. The Sovereign Grand Lodge, at its session in Springfield in 1897, approved a decision of the Grand Sire, No. 31, to be found on page 15,168 of the proceedings of said session, by which it was declared, that a Lodge had not the right to appropriate the funds of the Lodge to pay railroad fare and carriage hire of its members to attend the funeral of a member who died and was buried several miles from the Lodge room. This decision stands, therefore, as one of the laws of the Order, and under it, no Lodge has a right to pass such a by-law as is quoted, but a Lodge may appropriate money from the five per cent fund, authorized to be set apart for such uses as it may deem proper, for the purpose of hiring conveyances to transport Brothers to the funeral of a deceased member.

78. *Ques.*—The constitution of the Grand Lodge (Oregon) prescribes no residence qualification. Under same, is it legal for one Lodge to prescribe by by-law, that no person can petition the Lodge who has not resided in the state three months, for another to require four months and another six months residence?

Ans.—The Sovereign Grand Lodge not having passed any general law specifying what length of residence in a Jurisdiction shall be required of persons applying for membership in a Lodge situated therein, it would be perfectly legal for the several Subordinate Grand bodies to fix such period, and where such period has not been so fixed, it seems to be within the powers of Subordinate Lodges, to fix such period by their by-laws, which by-laws, of course, must be approved by the Grand body to which such body is subordinate.

79. *Ques.*—Has any Jurisdiction the right to confer the assembly degree upon Past Grands of Subordinate Lodges, who are not Past Noble Grands of Rebekah Lodges?

Ans.—It has.

80. *Ques.*—The Rebekah ritual provides that Brothers should wear the regalia they are entitled to wear in the Subordinate Lodge, etc. Is it proper for a Brother who holds office, when sitting in a Subordinate Lodge, to wear the regalia and jewel of such office when sitting in a Rebekah Lodge?

Ans.—The law governing the Rebekah branch provides that officers of a Rebekah Lodge, whether Brothers or Sisters, shall wear the official regalia of the office. The code was amended to this effect at the session of the Sovereign grand Lodge held in Springfield, in 1897. A Brother, member of a Rebekah Lodge, not an officer of such Lodge, shall wear the regalia he is entitled to wear in a subordinate Lodge. For this law, see pages 15,611-2, Journal of Proceedings, S. G. L., session of 1897. The law being what it is, I decide that a Brother, not an officer of a Rebekah Lodge, can wear the regalia he is entitled to wear in a Subordinate Lodge.

81. *Ques.*—Is it a violation of Sec. 5 of Art. XVI., S. G. L. Constitution, for a Brother to open and conduct a saloon, he being at the time a bartender rightfully and legally so employed?

Ans.—It is.

The Grand Sire's decisions were all approved, with the exception of Nos. 12, 75 and 81.

We give those affecting the Subordinate and Rebekah portion of the Order.

LEGISLATION.

Hereafter the Grand Sire in making his decisions shall send a copy to the parties interested only, and the decisions shall not be printed until they have been submitted to the Sovereign Grand Lodge.

The persons who are the beneficiaries of the funeral benefits are the widow, orphans (under the age of twenty-one years) or the dependent relatives of the deceased, or relatives upon whom the deceased was dependent at the time of death. In the event of the death of a member in good standing not possessing any of the above named beneficiaries of a funeral benefit, and leaving no estate or insufficient assets to pay the expenses of funeral, the Lodge shall pay the bill of the undertaker and such other necessary expenses, not exceeding the amount of funeral benefit.

That the several Grand bodies be, and they are hereby, fully authorized to declare in the several Jurisdictions what length of time or what sum of dues a Brother shall owe for dues to constitute such Brother non-beneficial.

All official certificates printed in future shall have a line for date of payment.

The possession of an Official Certificate for dues paid to a later date than when it is presented, properly signed by the Secretary and Noble Grand with the seal affixed, be and is hereby declared sufficient authority for any Noble Grand to communicate to the holder thereof,

upon proper identification, the current travelling password of the Order.

All legislation heretofore enacted by the Sovereign Grand Lodge; in any way recognizing or authorizing life or accident insurance in the name of Odd Fellowship, be and the same is hereby repealed, and further, that all certificates heretofore issued to such life or accident Insurance Companies are hereby revoked.

Section 3, Article 9 of the Constitution was amended, making it necessary for a Grand Representative to be a member of a Rebekah Lodge in good standing.

It was decided that after the Session of 1898 the practice of presenting to new Representatives, without cost, copies of bound Journals of all the proceedings of this Grand body be discontinued, and all legislation in conflict with this resolution be, and the same is hereby repealed.

Section 531, White's Digest was repealed.

Section 18 of the Constitution was amended, so that in future each Grand Lodge will be allowed as many copies of the printed proceedings as it has Subordinate Lodges, and twenty copies for the use of the Grand Lodge—each Grand Representative shall be allowed five copies, and each Grand officer and Past Grand Sire one copy.

In all cases of appeal, the appellant at the time the appeal is filed, shall notify the appellee of such filing, and thereafter either party filing any argument or brief, shall serve a copy on the opposite party:—when a Grand Lodge is appellee such service shall be by sending the copy to the Grand Secretary of such Grand Lodge.

REBEKAH.

A resolution was introduced asking that Rebekah Assemblies be allowed representation in the Sovereign Grand Lodge. This was defeated.

The Sovereign Grand Lodge refused to authorize a National Rebekah Assembly.

No changes in the Rebekah Ritual were made.

The question of paying stipulated weekly benefits was decided in the negative.

A resolution providing for the admission of married daughters and sisters of Odd Fellows, whose husbands are not members of the Order, was also decided in the negative.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The following Officers were elected for the ensuing two years:—

A. S. PINKERTON of Massachusetts, Grand Sire.
 A. C. CABLE of Ohio, Deputy Grand Sire.
 J. FRANK GRANT, re-elected, Grand Secretary.
 M. RICHARDS MUCKLE, re-elected, Grand Treasurer.

In accordance with your instructions the following was moved:

Resolved, That Subordinate Grand bodies may enact legislation whereby members of defunct Lodges, who at the time their Lodge became defunct were in good standing, and unable through sickness or disability to earn a livelihood, or who have continuously been a member of the Order for twenty years, shall continue to be entitled to all the rights and privileges of the Order on payment of dues to their Grand Lodge.

The necessary power was not given by the Sovereign Grand Lodge.

All amendments relating to biennial sessions were defeated, but will be taken up again at the next session. An amendment was introduced adding to the qualification of Grand Representatives the provision that they must be members of a Grand Encampment and a Canton.

An amendment was also introduced providing for the admission of the five civilized tribes of Indians residing in Indian Territory, and forever excluding persons with negro blood.

INSTALLATION.

A public Installation was held on Saturday. A large number of visitors were present: the following were installed:—

Grand Sire, A. S. Pinkerton of Massachusetts.
 Deputy Grand Sire, A. C. Cable of Ohio.
 Grand Secretary, J. Frank Grant of Kentucky.
 Grand Treasurer, M. Richards Muckle of Pennsylvania.
 Grand Marshall, J. B. Cockburn of Indiana.
 Grand Guardian, J. W. Boulet of New Hampshire.
 Grand Messenger, C. F. Lumsden of North Carolina.
 Grand Chaplain, Rev. J. W. Venable of Kentucky.

The entertainment of the Representatives by the people of Boston left nothing to be desired, (unless it was that there was a little less of it.)

The parade was the largest that we have ever witnessed and left an impression on our minds that will not soon be effaced. We were particularly pleased with the reception accorded us as Representatives of British Columbia along the line of march, not on our

own account, but because honor was paid to the country we love so well; and for that reason we shall always have kind feelings towards the people of Boston.

In conclusion we beg to thank the members for the honor conferred on us by electing us to the Office of Grand Representatives.

We also wish to congratulate the members on the standing of the Order to-day, for at no time in its history has it been in so prosperous a condition as at the present time; this we have every reason to believe will continue, until the destiny of this Grand Order has been fulfilled.

Fraternally submitted,

T. F. NEELANDS,

J. Ed. PHILLIPS,

Grand Representatives.

The following Report was read from the Committee on Distribution which was adopted.

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.

Your Committee on Distribution to whom was referred the Report of the Grand Master, beg to recommend the allotment of the several matters referred to therein to the respective Committees as follows:

State of the Order:

Condition of the Order, Pages 3, 4 and 5; Appointments of D. D. G. M's., page 6; Institution of new Lodges, pages 7 and 8; Mergement of Lodges, etc., pages 9 and 10; Appeals for Financial Aid, pages 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15; Official visits, page 20b; B. C. Odd Fellow, etc., page 31, also the Reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters dealing with the state of the Order in their respective Districts.

Judiciary:

Appeals and Decisions, pages 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25; Permissions granted, pages 26, 27 and 28; Dispensations granted, page 29; Installations, page 29a; Proclamations, pages 29c, and 30; Reports of D. D. G. M's., respecting Decisions given and Dispensations issued.

Finance:

Miles Travelled and Expenses incurred, pages 31a and 32.

Legislation:

Recommendations, pages 33, 34 and 35.

Petitions:

Petitions, page 10a; Charters, &c., page 29.

W. H. MORTON,
JAMES STARK,
J. ED. PHILLIPS,

The Committee on Distribution submitted the following Report which was adopted.

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.

Your Committee on Distribution beg to recommend that the subject matter of Report of the Grand Secretary be referred to the various Committees as follows :

State of the Order:

New Lodges, Mergement of Lodges, Defunct Lodges, Losses by fire at pages 1, 2 and 3; Odd Fellows' Home Fund, 2nd clause, page 3; Statistical, pages 5, 6 and 7; Abstracts of the Reports of Lodges.

Finance:

Odd Fellows' Home Fund, 1st and 3rd clauses, at pages 3 and 4; Aged Odd Fellows' Fund, National Sanitariums and Financial, pages 5, 8, 9, 10, 11 12, 13 and 14.

W. H. MORTON,
JAMES STARK,
J. ED. PHILLIPS.

It was on motion *Resolved* that this Grand Lodge do now adjourn to 7:30 o'clock this evening.

The Grand Lodge adjourned accordingly.

EVENING SESSION.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment at 7:30 o'clock p. m. The Grand Officers and a quorum of Representatives present.

The Roll of Officers and Representatives was called.

The special Committee on Uniform System of Dues and Benefits presented the following Report which was on motion ordered to be received and its consideration made the first business to-morrow morning.

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.

Your Committee beg to report that the data collected by the Grand Secretary through the D. D. G. M.'s regarding the proposition submitted to the Subordinate Lodges to reduce the maximum amount of sick benefits from \$10 to \$8 per week for each dollar of monthly dues, have been placed in our hands and we have carefully considered the same.

We find the Lodges very divided, but gather from the difficulty experienced by them in obtaining information on the subject, that little study has been given the question.

Thirty-one Lodges reported—fourteen favorable to the proposition—and seventeen unfavorable thereto. Six Lodges failed to report.

The arguments used by those Lodges reporting unfavorably, seem to be:—

(a) At present able to save something out of dues and investments.

(b) Can continue paying the same amounts as heretofore for many years to come, but eventually the necessity of a reduction will be more apparent.

(c) Certain Lodges may be able to continue at the prevailing rates, but the Lodges generally cannot afford to unless the dues are increased, as one dollar per month is not sufficient to meet their liabilities according to the statistics of the best authorities.

(d) Two dollars, or other small amount paid for first two weeks, and assessments made for funeral and nurse expenses.

(e) That the full and absolute control of funds should be invested in each Lodge and that the Grand Lodge should have no authority to interfere.

(f) Quite satisfied to allow things to remain as they are at present.

(g) May have to reduce the benefits at some future time.

(h) Not in the best interests of the Order to make reductions in benefits compulsory by legislation.

In favor of the proposition we advance the experience of older jurisdictions and Lodges, and are anxious that the brethren of this Jurisdiction should not pass through their trying financial worries. We are of the opinion that the time has come for the Grand Lodge to go into this vital question in a comprehensive manner, such as will place the finances of the Lodges on a sound footing, and assure our members for all time to come the reasonable expectation that on joining the Order at 21 a Brother after paying dues for twenty or thirty years will have some assurance of receiving aid from his Lodge similar to that afforded to others during that long lapse of time.

The Grand Bodies of Odd Fellowship both in Great Britain and on this Continent, have through the wisdom and experience of over fifty years arrived at conclusions which are now inspiring confidence in the economic management of the funds of the Order. This was not always so.

At one time in the history of the older Manchester Unity, much confusion reigned as to the payment of proper benefits owing to the Lodges being permitted to regulate their own finances. The Grand Body had made no provision in its system of jurisdiction for obtaining any knowledge of or attempting to regulate the finances of the Lodges, or to restrict their use to the legitimate purposes of the Order. What funds the Lodges had, for what purposes used, were sealed volumes to that Grand Body, except as bankrupt Lodges surrendered their charters or suffering members made appeal.

In 1815 the following propositions were adopted, which it is claimed were the first systematic solidification of the basis of the government that has since given to that great arm of Odd Fellowship its existing great prosperity.

First—All Lodges shall have the power of fixing the amount of weekly contributions to be paid by their members.

Second—The whole amount of the initiation money and a fixed amount of contribution shall go to a fund to be called "the General Contribution Fund" which fund shall be appropriated exclusively to the payment of sick and funeral gifts.

Third—All Lodges shall establish a fund which shall be called "the Incidental Expense Fund," out of which all expenses incurred in conducting the affairs of the Lodge (over and above the payment of sick and funeral donations) shall be paid.

Fourth—For a fixed sum per week contribution Lodges shall be allowed to pay not more than a certain amount per week during sickness, which after twelve months receipt, shall be reduced one half, and they may pay so much on the death of a member, and half the amount paid on the death of a member, on the death of a member's wife.

Fifth—A scale of contributions, sick gifts, and funeral donations shall be drawn up by the Grand Master and a Board of Directors.

From time to time the foregoing basis has been modified to meet the changed conditions of things. Instructive experience tables have been obtained and dues and benefits graded in accordance with them.

The Sovereign Grand Lodge has discussed this question since 1853, and itself took definite action at the session of 1883, urging its consideration in these strong terms: "If this Order is to maintain its promises to its members in the matter of relief, in the way of sick and funeral benefits, and meet its other necessary expenses promptly and fully, it must see to it that Subordinate Lodges so regulate dues and benefits that there shall be no question of their ability to keep faith with their members, and pay all just liabilities in all time to come; in old age as in youth."

The experience of the past has shown this to be difficult of accomplishment, and we would ask, is it wise to continue in the same old unsatisfactory way for another forty or fifty years? Your Committee are of the opinion that it will not only be unwise, but disastrous.

The Sovereign Grand Lodge has enacted that the minimum rate of dues in all Lodges immediately subordinate to that Grand Body shall be ten cents per week, or \$5.20 per year, the sick benefits to be allowed in such Lodges per week shall not exceed one-half of one year's dues, and the funeral benefits shall not exceed five times one year's dues. Most of our Lodges are charging twelve dollars per year dues, and their benefits range from ten dollars per week for various periods, consequently, under the above legislation those Lodges paying ten dollars per week would have to drop to six dollars.

Your Committee have found that the opposition to the work of committees of this character has been encountered from two classes of members—"those who are anxious to have things remain as they are, and those who hold that subordinates are sovereign in all questions relating to finance," but we feel that this is lessening, and although the desire for more uniformity is by no means unanimous, we believe that much good may be accomplished by a full and free

discussion of the facts by the Representatives here assembled. Such discussion cannot help but guide you to a disposition to support the amendment to the Constitution of Subordinate Lodges your Committee propose.

In the large Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania the careful calculations of reliable statisticians show that during a period of twenty years the general average duration of sickness for every 100 members was at the commencement, 62.25 weeks, ten years later 97.60 weeks, and at the end of the time 111.53 weeks. The increase during the first ten years was 35.44 weeks, and at the end of the period, 49.28 weeks.

While at the present time we cannot compare these averages with those available from the able returns furnished by the Grand Secretary to the Grand Lodge of British Columbia for the reason that we have many young Lodges there is every reason to anticipate some striking changes in our averages, as the Jurisdiction grows older and becomes more populated.

Life insurance statistics also bear out the law of this increase in averages, as it has been determined that it costs three times as much to carry a life insurance risk at 60 as at 40, five times at 67 as at 40, and ten times at 76 as at 40.

But we should be influenced in reaching a decision by the agitation in this direction now taking place among the brethren of Ontario, who found that not a few of the older Lodges, in many of which sentiment took the place of wisdom, have discovered, after twenty-five years of experience, that now they have a membership of advanced age, with sickness and death benefits crowding on them thick and fast, every possible means of retrenchment must be resorted to so as to avoid disaster, when instead a full treasury should exist.

The special committees on Dues and Benefits appointed by the Grand Lodge of Ontario, early discovered it to be their unpleasant duty to report to that Grand Lodge that their investigations had convinced them that the lodges of that Jurisdiction before the reforms effected at the past session of their Grand Lodge had undertaken to pay more money than their income could warrant them in paying.

A few examples will illustrate the position many Lodges found themselves in, and it must be remembered that the claims upon them for benefits are steadily increasing, that the more liable members become to illness through age the less liable are they to become in arrears for dues and thus forfeit their claims to benefits.

One Lodge expended for a year's benefits, \$1,135.20, while its receipts for the same period were \$885.19. Six months later there

was a deficiency of \$180.63, or a total deficiency in 18 months of \$400.73. Another Lodge paid out for benefits in one year \$912.03, to which amount it had gradually risen from \$559.31 in ten years. Another Lodge paid out in six months \$230.04 more than its receipts, and during the year following, \$34.67, a loss of \$273.71 during eighteen months. In ten years its total funds had fallen from \$4,204.79 to \$3,268.17. One Lodge with a membership of 200 paid out in one year \$863.27 for relief, and ten years later, with a membership of 172, the relief amounted to \$1,740.63. In ten years the property and funds of another Lodge had dropped from \$3,045.32 to \$1,903.71.

In concluding this report your Committee would refer to the experience of Victoria Lodge, No. 1. The members pay \$12.00 per year dues, and there are assessments besides. The management expenses of the Lodge absorb about 40 per cent of the dues so that there remains \$7.20 per year to meet the claims for benefits. The average amount paid for sick benefits per member during the past sixteen years was \$16.13, so that had the Lodge been relying entirely on dues to meet this liability there would have been a deficiency of \$8.93 per member.

The cost per member for 1898 was \$21.38, almost three times as much as the net amount available for sick benefits.

Happily, however, the receipts from investments have helped to meet this drain, but the Lodge has had to trench on its capital to the extent of \$6,700 in the last seven years to do so.

We give below a statement of the number of members and amount of sick benefits paid by Victoria Lodge, No. 1, during the years 1883 to 1898.

Year.	No. of Members.	Paid for sick Benefits.	Average per Member.
1883	159	\$ 1,560 50	\$ 9 81
1884	160	2,072 50	12 95
1885	172	2,202 50	12 80
1886	178	2,775 50	15 59
1887	177	2,022 00	11 42
1888	172	2,489 00	14 47
1889	165	2,206 50	13 37
1890	166	2,816 50	16 96
1891	169	3,483 50	20 61
1892	162	3,000 00	18 52
1893	162	2,382 50	14 71
1894	159	3,266 00	20 54
1895	144	3,133 00	21 76
1896	135	2,306 00	17 10

1897	119	2,332 00	19 60
1898	116	2,480 00	21 38
	2,515	\$40,528 00	

Average number of members, 157.

Average amount paid per member per year, \$16.13.

The Constitution of Subordinate Lodges we would amend by stating in Article IV, Section 2, that sick benefits for six months shall not exceed per week two-thirds of the annual dues, nor exceed six dollars per week, for a further six months, nor after twelve months continuous sickness exceed four dollars per week for each dollar of monthly dues.

We would further recommend the appointment of a Special Committee to go into the subject of dues graded according to age, whose duty it shall be to draw up scales of dues and benefits adaptable to the Lodges of this Jurisdiction.

Fully believing that the proposed changes should be effected, your Committee beg respectfully to move the adoption of this report.

Fraternally submitted,
T. F. NEELANDS,
GEO. R. GORDON,
R. MILLS,
D. M. O'DWYER,
H. J. RICKARD.

The Committee on Laws of Subordinates presented the following Report which was adopted.

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.:

Your Committee on Laws of Subordinates beg to report that we have examined the following By-Laws of Subordinate and Rebekah Lodges and Amendments thereto submitted to us during the past year and have dealt with them as indicated:

Victoria Lodge, No. 1:—

Amendment to Sec. 1, Art. XIX, reducing sick benefits to \$2.00 per week after twelve months continuous sickness. Approved.

Dominion Lodge, No. 4:—

Amendment to Art. I, Sec. 2, altering hour of meeting. Approved.

Amendment to Art. XXI, Sec. 3, reducing sick benefits to \$3 per week after twelve months continuous sickness. Approved.

Union Lodge, No. 11:—

Amendment to Art. 1, Sec. 3, altering hour of meeting. Approved.

Kootenay Lodge, No. 16:—

Amended Code of By-Laws. Approved with the exception of Clause 2, Art. XXII.

Fee for admission as Ancient Odd Fellows, altered from \$9 to \$10 to conform to Constitution of Subordinate Lodges.

Duncan Lodge, No. 17:—

Amendment to Art. XX, reducing sick benefits for first two weeks sickness. Approved.

Vernon Valley Lodge, No. 18:—

Amendment to Clause 45, abolishing benefits for first week's sickness. Approved.

Pacific Lodge, No. 26:—

Amendment to Art. I, Sec. 1, altering night of meeting. Approved.

Amendment to Art. XXI, payment of sick benefits to 3rd Degree members as follows: \$5 per week for 1st two weeks; \$8 per week for next twenty-four weeks; \$6 per week for next six months; and \$3 per week after twelve months continuous sickness. Approved.

Art. XXV, amendment, altering contribution to Widow and Orphans' Fund from one-fifth to 5 per cent of all quarterly dues. Approved.

Banner Lodge, No. 31:—

Amendment to Art. I, altering night of meeting. Approved.

Silver City Lodge, No. 39:—

Amendment to Sec. 2, Art. XII, proposed to add the words "5 per cent of all general revenue," but altered to 5 per cent of the receipts from dues to conform to the Constitution.

Trout Lake Lodge, No. 41:—

Approve a complete Code of By-Laws.

Colfax Rebekah Lodge, No. 1:—

Approved a complete Code of By-Laws with a few slight amendments.

Mizpah Rebekah Lodge, No. 2:—

Amendment changing the night of meeting. Approved.

Laurel Rebekah Lodge, No. 9:—

Approved a complete set of By-Laws with a few minor amendments.

Esther Rebekah Lodge, No. 11:—

Approved a complete set of By-Laws with the following exceptions:

Quorum altered from 7 to 5 members.

Sec. 2 and 3, Art. VIII, provision to pay sick benefits to members struck out.

Date of operation altered to approval of Committee on Laws of Subordinates.

P. W. DEMPSTER,
A. SHERET,
ED. BRAGG.

Report read from Committee on Statistics re Dues and Benefits which was on motion ordered to be received and laid on the table for consideration in conjunction with the Report of the Special Committee on Uniform System of Dues and Benefits to-morrow morning.

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.:

Your Special Committee on Statistics re Dues and Benefits beg to submit herewith in tabulated form an Abstract of the Reports of the Subordinate Lodges of this Jurisdiction relating to these matters for the past ten years, also a summary of the Reports of the Special Committees on this subject for the past five years.

It is gratifying to note that there has been a continuous decrease in the average cost per member for all lodge expenditures since 1894 but there is still room for improvement in this direction especially under the head of expenses of management.

FRED DAVEY,
GEO. R. GORDON,
HUGH B. GILMOUR. } *Committee.*

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1806

ABSTRACT OF REPORTS OF

FOR TEN YEARS

AMOUNT PAID FOR											
Year.	No. of Members	No. Sick.	No. of weeks, Benefits Paid.		Deaths.	Sick Benefits	Funeral Expenses.	Widowed Families.	Relief and Education of Orphans.	Special Relief.	Total Relief.
1880	1017	128	823	12		\$7155 50	\$875 00	\$170 00	* 7 15	*	\$3512 65
1881	1202	132	959	6		8057 50	612 50	151 00			8821 00
1882	1130	171	1100	13		9525 70	881 50	120 00	70 00		10507 20
1883	1051	205	1101	13		9075 90	1100 00	300 00			11403 70
1884	2151	247	1279	13		10150 30	1110 00	307 00	115 00	771 00	12882 60
1885	3015	285	1600	14		13251 17	1093 00	285 00	00 00	511 00	15230 17
1886	2288	313	2053	26		17012 16	2255 50	301 30	170 65	825 55	20635 10
1887	2820	363	2301	26		20712 17	1911 49	712 45	181 50	1312 72	24800 63
1888	2201	337	2336	20		17450 00	1842 35	582 25	149 50	781 10	20500 10
1889	2217	351	2008	26		20727 35	1002 00	12 50		2111 75	24010 00

1807

SUBORDINATE LODGES.

ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1808.

AVERAGE.					RECEIPTS.				
Current or Working Expenses.	Sickness per Member.	Cost per Member for Total Relief.	Cost Memb. Current or Working exp.	Cost Memb. for all Lodge Expenditures.	Dues.	Initiation and Degrees.	Rent and other Investments.	Total.	
\$0377 10 0	5 1/2 dys	* 7 10	* 6 27	* 11 07	*	*	*	\$18808 58	
83037 71 5 1/2	"	7 31	6 06	11 30				21721 70	
12107 37 5 1/2	"	7 39	8 17	15 86				20591 26	
18000 11 1 1/2	"	5 81	9 55	15 30				11112 93	
10111 97 1 1/2	"	5 98	7 18	13 16				12180 02	
22077 36 3 1/2	"	5 05	7 32	12 37	27192 65	11900 50	10275 53	53798 70	
17919 01 1 1/2	"	6 00	6 00	12 00	31902 51	5085 50	7080 11	50191 98	
15541 20 6 5-12	"	8 80	5 50	11 30	30955 77	1610 00	9151 00	10255 88	
11903 95 5 5-6	"	7 32	5 32	12 61	29610 15	5703 51	8550 12	16787 37	
15100 39 6 5-12	"	8 75	5 41	11 16	31100 13	6810 51	10217 11	53208 98	

Average sickness per member during 10 years.	5 1/2 days.
" cost per member for total relief during 10 years	\$7 12
" " " " current expenses during 10 yrs	6 63
" " " " all Lodges expenditures during 10 years.	13 75

ABSTRACT OF THE REPORTS FOR THE
PAST FIVE YEARS.

	1804	1805	1806	1807	1808
Average sickness per member during preced'g 10 yrs. 5 1/2 days.	5 1-5 dys	5 1-10 ds.	5 1-10 ds.	5 1-10 ds.	5 1/2 days.
Average cost per member for total relief preced'g 10 yrs.	\$ 8 17	\$ 7 37	\$ 7 31	\$ 7 08	\$ 7 12
Average cost per member for current exp. preced'g 10 yrs	7 63	7 67	7 41	6 99	6 63
Average cost per member for all Lodge Expenditures preceding 10 years.	15 81	15 01	14 73	14 07	13 75

The Grand Marshal retired and introduced the following Past Grands on whom the Grand Lodge Degree was conferred:—T. Furness, No. 3; J. Rumble, and A. J. Mould, No. 8; R. Hoar, and I. Mills, No. 19; C. Porter, No. 33.

Report read from the Committee on Finance which was adopted.

VICTORIA, B. C., June, 8th 1899.

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.:

We your Finance Committee beg to report that we have examined the books, vouchers and financial statement of your Grand Secretary for the past term and find the same correct and in their usual commendable condition.

JAMES S. SMITH,
HINKSON SIDDALL,
S. W. EDWARDS.

Report read from the Committee on Appeals which was adopted.

NANAIMO, B. C., June 6th, 1899.

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.:

We your Committee on appeals to whom was referred the appeal of Bro. William Pomeroy of Pacific Lodge, No. 26, I. O. O. F. against the action of said Lodge in expelling him from the Order, beg to report that we have carefully considered the action of said Lodge and find that in appointing the Trial Committee, instead of electing it, the Lodge did that which was unconstitutional, see Sec. I, Rule III, Code of Procedure, Constitution of Subordinate Lodges. We would therefore recommend that the appeal of Bro. William Pomeroy be sustained.

JAMES CROSSAN,
EDWARD QUENNELL,
RALPH BELL,
W. J. HANNA.

It was on motion *Resolved*,—that permission be granted Bro. White to take a flashlight photograph of the members of the Grand Lodge after closing this evening.

At 9 o'clock, the hour fixed by the Constitution for the election of officers for the ensuing year, the following nominations were offered:

For Grand Master—D. Welsh, No. 3, nominated by R. May, No. 27; W. Walker, No. 4, nominated by E. Bragg, No. 4.

For Deputy Grand Master—W. E. Johnstone, No. 8, nominated by J. Palmer, No. 12.

For Grand Warden—D. D. Griffiths, No. 31, nominated by R. Rivers, No. 5; W. Hogg, No. 10, nominated by W. H. Gardiner, No. 27; H. J. Raymer, P. G. M., No. 36, nominated by A. E. Teeter, No. 40.

For Grand Secretary—F. Davey, No. 1, nominated by J. Stark, No. 26.

For Grand Treasurer—J. Stark, No. 26, nominated by F. Cockburn, No. 26.

For Grand Representative—P. W. Dempster, No. 2, nominated by A. H. Clements, No. 16; T. C. Gray, P. G. M., No. 10, nominated by R. Gordon, No. 12.

The Grand Master appointed W. McColl, P. G. M., No. 3, and J. E. Phillips, P. G. M., No. 4, as tellers.

The ballot was spread for Grand Master and the following result announced:

Number of votes cast, 93. Necessary to elect, 47. D. Welsh, No. 3, received 47 votes. W. Walker, No. 4, received 45 votes, Spoiled 1.

D. Welsh, No. 3, having received a majority of all votes cast was declared elected as Grand Master for the ensuing year.

There being but one nominee for Deputy Grand Master, it was on motion *Resolved*—that the G. and Secretary cast the vote of the Grand Lodge for W. E. Johnstone, No. 8, as Deputy Grand Master for the ensuing year, which was accordingly done and Bro. Johnstone declared duly elected.

The ballot was spread for Grand Warden, and the following result announced:

Number of votes cast, 93. Necessary to elect, 47. D. D. Griffiths, No. 31, received 31 votes; W. Hogg, No. 10, received 48 votes; H. J. Raymer, P. G. M., No. 36, received 14 votes.

W. Hogg, No. 10, having received a majority of all votes cast was duly declared elected.

F. Davey, No. 1, being the only nominee for the office of Grand Secretary, it was moved, seconded and carried, that the Grand Treasurer cast the vote of the Grand Lodge for his election, which was done and Bro. Davey declared duly elected.

There being but one nominee for the office of Grand Treasurer, it was moved, seconded and carried, that the Grand Secretary cast the ballot of the Grand Lodge for the

election of Bro. Stark, No. 26, as Grand Treasurer, which was done and Bro. Stark duly declared elected.

The ballot was spread for the election of Grand Representative with the following result.

No. of votes cast, 93. P. W. Dempster, No. 2, received 50 votes; and T. C. Gray, P. G. M., No. 10, received 43 votes.

Bro. P. W. Dempster having received a majority of votes cast was declared duly elected as Grand Representative for the ensuing two years.

It was on motion *Resolved*,—that this Grand Lodge do now adjourn to 9 o'clock A. M. to-morrow.

The Grand Lodge adjourned accordingly.

SECOND DAY.

VANCOUVER, B. C., July 15th, 1899.

The Grand Lodge re-assembled at 9 o'clock A. M., pursuant to adjournment, the Grand Lodge officers and a quorum of Representatives being present. After the examination of all present, the Grand Lodge was declared open for business.

The Roll of Officers and Representatives was called.

The minutes of yesterday's Session were read and adopted.

It was on motion *Resolved*,—that the Grand Warden retire and confer the Grand Lodge Degree on Bro. Brown, P. G., Pacific Lodge, No. 26, in the Ante Room which was accordingly done.

The Reports of the Special Committees on Uniform Dues and Benefits, and on Statistics re Dues and Benefits, laid over from yesterday, were taken from the table, and it was moved and seconded that the Reports of the Special Committee on Uniform System of Dues and Benefits be adopted.

It was moved as an amendment, that the Report be received and filed.

It was moved as an amendment to the amendment that the Report be received and its further consideration be laid over for one year.

The amendment having been withdrawn the amendment to the amendment became the amendment.

The question being put on the amendment the following result was announced: For: 25 votes. Against: 32 votes.

The Resolution was then submitted and the following result declared: For; 31. Against: 25.

The Resolution was declared carried.

It was on motion *Resolved*,—that the Grand Lodge do now adjourn to 2 o'clock to-day.

The Grand Lodge adjourned accordingly.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Grand Lodge re-assembled at 2 o'clock P. M., the Grand Officers and a quorum of Representatives present.

The Roll of Officers and Representatives was called.

Report read from the Committee on Petitions, which was adopted.

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.:

Your Committee on Petitions beg to report that we have examined the Petitions for the undermentioned Subordinate and Rebekah Lodges and find that the law has been complied with in each case and recommend that Charters be issued accordingly.

Trout Lake Lodge, No. 41, located at Trout Lake City.

Key City Lodge, No. 42, located at Cranbrook.

Deborah Rebekah Lodge, No. 13, located at Rossland.

Also that Duplicate Charters, to replace those destroyed by fire, be issued to "New Westminster" Lodge, No. 3; "Amity" Lodge, No. 27; and "Beulah" Rebekah Lodge, No. 5.

ROBT. GORDON,
HUGH McLEAN,
T. A. MUIR,
J. H. ASHWELL,
J. PALMER.

Report read from the Committee on Petitions.

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.:

Your Committee on Petitions beg to recommend that the Petition of "New Westminster" Lodge, No. 3, to change its name to "Royal City" Lodge, No. 3, be granted.

ROBT. GORDON,
J. H. ASHWELL,
J. PALMER,
HUGH McLEAN,
T. A. MUIR.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the Report be received and adopted, provided the sanction of the Grand Sire be obtained to the proposed change of name.

Moved by Representative James Pottinger, No. 2, seconded by Representative, A. C. Aitkin, No. 17, and carried, that it be an instruction to the Committee on Mileage and Per Diem to take into consideration the length of time the Representative from Union Lodge, No. 11, has to be away from his business while attending this Session of the Grand Lodge, and the advisability of granting him an additional amount for expenses.

Report read from the Committee on Judiciary which was adopted.

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.:

We your Committee on Judiciary to whom was referred certain portions of the Grand Master's report, beg leave to report as follows:

1st. That the matter re Bro. Ross, page 17, be referred to the Committee on Appeals, as in our opinion it is a subject for their consideration.

2nd. Re Columbia Lodge, No. 2, (page 18) refusing to receive Bro. Croft's petition for re-instatement. We commend the Lodge for its caution in this matter, but are of the opinion that the petitioner should have been received and balloted on in the usual way which action would have at once disposed of the matter.

3rd. Question 11, page 23, we are of the opinion the answer should be "Yes."

4th. We your Committee unanimously concur in the remaining portion of the report referred to us.

JAMES STARK,
R. S. WILSON,
J. ED. PHILLIPS,
GEO. MSCROP,
H. J. RAYMER,
J. B. BRYSON.

It was on motion *Resolved*,—that the Grand Warden be instructed to confer the Grand Lodge Degree on Bro. H. L. Calvert, P. G., No. 25, in the Ante Room, which was accordingly done.

Report read from the Committee on Legislation which was adopted.

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.:

Your Committee on Legislation, to whom was referred that part of the Grand Master's Report, dealing with greater security to members for payment of benefits, the establishment of an insurance system providing for the payment of \$1,000 at death, and the desirability of doing the business of the Grand Lodge in the Scarlet Degree, beg to report as follows:

We agree that the security for payment of all benefits that may accrue, should be as absolute as possible, but are not clear as to the best means of bringing about such a result. We suggest that the matter be thoroughly gone into, by Subordinate Lodges, after which the Sovereign Grand Lodge might be approached with a view to securing the necessary legislation. A long step in the right direction would be, to maintain a proper proportional adjustment of dues and benefits. A Lodge paying larger benefits than the revenue warrants, is on the road to bankruptcy.

We do not regard the establishment of an Insurance Branch as being, under the present circumstances, advisable.

With regard to Grand Lodge work being done in the Scarlet Degree, we are of the opinion that Legislation by this Grand Lodge would be *ultra vires*.

Fraternally submitted,

SIBREE CLARKE,
W. H. GARDINER,
W. H. FRAMPTON,
H. N. McDONALD,
H. J. RICKARD,

The following Questions, submitted by Representative H. J. Rickard, No. 26, were on motion referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

VANCOUVER, B. C., June 15th, 1800.

QUESTION.

When an appeal has been sustained on a clerical error in the minutes of a Lodge, what is the proper course to follow?

When an appeal has been sustained on a technicality, what is the proper course to follow?

H. J. RICKARD,

Pacific Lodge, No. 20.

Representatives Rickard, No. 26, and Palmer, No. 12, submitted the following amendment to the Constitution of Subordinate Lodges which was on motion referred to the Committee on Legislation:

VANCOUVER, B. C., June, 15th, 1800.

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.:

The undersigned representatives beg to move that the Constitution of Subordinate Lodges, Art. IV, Sec. 8, be amended by adding the following: Provided that the member is not a newly initiated charter member, when in that event he shall be entitled to benefits as directed by by-law in the case of members admitted by initiation.

The Section to read when amended:

Sec. 8. Lodges may by by-law fix the time after admission at which a member shall become entitled to benefits, but a member admitted on an unexpired withdrawal card shall be entitled to benefits upon his admission to membership after signing the Constitution and By-Laws, provided that the member is not a newly initiated charter member when in that event he shall be entitled to benefits as directed by by-law in the case of members admitted by initiation.

Respectfully submitted.

H. J. RICKARD, No. 26.

J. PALMER, No. 12.

Report read from the Special Committee on Obituary, which was adopted.

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.:

Your Special Committee on Obituary beg to recommend the insertion in the Proceedings of this Session of the Grand Lodge of the

accompanying references to the deaths which occurred in this Jurisdiction during the year ended 31st December, 1833:

H. J. RICKARD,

Moved by Representative Bragg, No. 4, and seconded by Representative Siddall, No. 33, and carried, that the Representatives of this Grand Lodge to the Sovereign Grand Lodge be instructed to introduce an amendment to the Constitution of that Grand Body, to permit the admission of members at 18 years of age.

Moved by Representative Bragg, No. 4, and seconded by Representative Sheret, No. 1, that the Representatives of this Grand Lodge to the Sovereign Grand Lodge, be instructed to use their influence and to vote to rescind the legislation of Last Session, adding to the qualifications for Grand Representative the necessity of being a member in good standing of a Rebekah Lodge, and furthermore that this Grand Lodge address the action of its Representatives in opposing this legislation at the last Session of the Sovereign Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Appeals presented the following Report which was adopted:

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.:

Your Committee on Appeals have duly considered the decision of the Grand Master in the matter of the appeal of Bro. W. M. Ross, of Selkirk Lodge, No. 12, against the action of that Lodge in refusing to pay him benefits, reversing the decision of Past Grand Master Morton.

Your Committee find that owing to the absence of important evidence—Doctors' certificates, etc., we are not in a position to recommend the adoption or a reversal of the Grand Master's decision, we therefore recommend that the appeal and Grand Master's decision be referred to the Committee on Appeals for next year.

M. DAINARD,
GEO. WALKER,
JOHN CAMPBELL,
FRED COCKBURN.

Moved by T. F. Neelands, Grand Representative and seconded by Representative G. R. Gordon, No. 26 :

That Sec. 2, Art. IV, of the Constitution of Subordinate Lodges, be amended as follows: Strike out the word "Ten" in line seven, and insert the word "Eight" in lieu. Strike out the words "seven dollars and fifty cents" in line ten, and insert the word "six" in lieu. Strike out the word "five" in line thirteen, and insert the word "four" in lieu thereof.

On motion the consideration of this matter was laid over until to-morrow morning.

Report read from the Committee on Mileage and Per Diem which was adopted.

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.:

Your Committee, on Mileage and Per Diem, to whom was entrusted the consideration of the advisability of allowing additional expenses to the Representative from Union Lodge, No. 11, beg to recommend that he be allowed for the number of days he is actually delayed on account of the absence of transportation facilities.

We find him delayed for the opening of Grand Lodge three days (Sunday, Monday and Tuesday,) after closing of Grand Lodge, until the leaving of the boat, three days, (Saturday, Sunday and Monday.) Total 6 days. 6 days delayed, 3 days attending Session, making a total of 9 days.

RALPH SMAILES,
P. WADE,
ROBERT RIVERS,
ADAMS EDWARDS,
D. M. O'DWYER.

Report read from Committee on Judiciary which was adopted.

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to whom was referred the Questions of Representative Rickard, No. 26, beg leave to reply to same as follows.

Ques. 1. When an appeal has been sustained on a clerical error in the minutes of a Lodge, what is the proper course to follow?

To which we answer, in our opinion the proper course to pursue would be to take the necessary steps to have the case re-opened.

Ques. 2. When an appeal has been sustained on a technicality, what is the proper course to follow?

To which we reply, the proper course to pursue would be to appeal to the next higher tribunal of the Order.

JAMES STARK,
R. S. WILSON,
GEO. MOSCROP,
J. E. PHILLIPS,
H. J. RAYMER,
J. B. BRYSON,

It was on motion *Resolved*,—that when this Grand Lodge adjourns to-day, it be until ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

It was moved, seconded and carried, that the action of this Grand Lodge in adopting the Report of the Committee on Appeals, *Pomeroy v. Pacific Lodge, No. 26*, be reconsidered.

It was moved, seconded and carried, that the Report of the Committee on Appeals, *Pomeroy v. Pacific Lodge, No. 26*, be referred back to the Committee on Appeals.

Report read from the Committee on the State of the Order, which was adopted.

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.:

Your Committee on the State of the Order, beg to report the following:

We have read with satisfaction the reports of the Grand Master and Grand Secretary.

The progress of the past year has been beyond our expectations and we quite endorse the recommendation of the Grand Secretary as to the reduction of 10 cents in the Per Capita Tax, and we as a committee are of the opinion that the amount thereby gained should be applied to the fund for the Odd Fellows' Home.

We beg to call attention to the action of Kootenay Lodge, No. 16, in keeping a record of the addresses of the relatives of visiting brethren, which in the case of accident or sudden death would be very useful for the purpose intended, and we respectfully recommend that all Lodges take like action.

We regret that the official organ of the Order in British Columbia, the B. C. Odd Fellow, has ceased to exist, and trust that at some future time it may once more spring into life and more successfully fulfill the purpose for which it was intended.

Regarding the merging of Lodges, it is to be regretted that it has become necessary, but it is better so, than that they should cease to exist. It makes it only too apparent, that the care to be exercised in instituting new Lodges, cannot be over estimated and we urge the strictest investigation on the part of the Grand Master, and D. D. Grand Masters, into the conditions surrounding the districts from which such applications are made.

The valuable financial assistance rendered the sufferers of the awful fire at New Westminster, is an illustration of the advantage our Order possesses in affording relief at a moments notice.

The splendid attendance at this Session is a subject of great satisfaction, as showing the lively interest taken in the work and we hope for a continuance of the same in the future.

In conclusion we beg to express our pleasure at the manner in which the Grand Master has conducted his tour over the Jurisdiction and trust that the precedent established will be followed by his successors.

Fraternally submitted,

GEORGE T. FOX,
T. F. NEELANDS,
ALEX. DAVIE,
A. H. CLEMENTS,
G. A. MILLER.

Representative R. Gordon, No. 12, submitted the following application which was on motion granted.

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.:

On behalf of Selkirk Lodge, No. 12, I. O. O. F., I hereby apply to have the words "Town of Donald" struck out of the charter of the Lodge and the words "City of Revelstoke" inserted instead.

Yours fraternally,

ROBT. GORDON,
Representative Selkirk Lodge, No. 12.

Report read from the Committee on Legislation which was adopted.

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.:

Your Committee on Legislation, to whom was referred the proposed amendment of Art. IV, Sec. 8, Constitution of Subordinate Lodges, beg leave to report that they have duly considered the same and cannot recommend its adoption.

SIBREE CLARKE,
W. H. GARDINER,
H. N. McDONALD.

It was moved and seconded, that the next session of this Grand Lodge be held at Victoria.

It was moved and seconded, as an amendment, that the word "Victoria" be struck out and the word "Nelson" inserted.

The amendment was lost, on being submitted to the vote; 19 votes being cast for it and 22 against, and the resolution was declared carried.

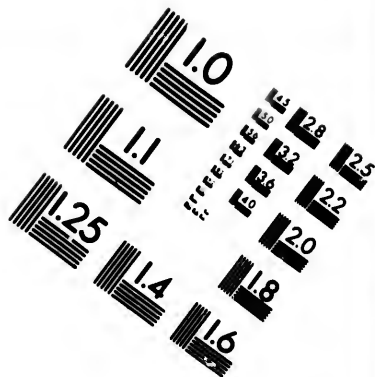
Moved by W. E. Johnstone, Grand Warden and seconded by T. F. Neelands, Grand Representative.

We hereby move that the Representatives of this Grand Lodge to the Sovereign Grand Lodge, be instructed to vote in favor of any motion that may be brought forward, tending to the substitution of badges for Regalia in Subordinate Lodges or in any way reducing the expense of said Regalia.

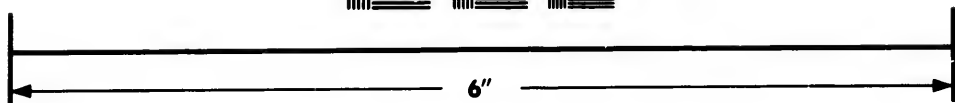
On being submitted to the vote, the resolution was declared lost, 19 votes for it, and 21 against.

Report read from the Committee on Appeals, which was adopted.





Resolution test chart showing patterns of horizontal and vertical lines of varying thicknesses and spacings, labeled with numbers from 1.0 to 4.0.



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To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.:

Your Committee on Appeals have reconsidered the report of the Committee sustaining the appeal of Bro. Pomeroy, against the action of Pacific Lodge, No. 26, in expelling him from membership, on the ground that the Committee on Trial was appointed instead of elected according to the Constitution, and have received further evidence on this point as follows:

Bro. Rickard, P. G. who was a member of the Trial Committee testifies that he was duly elected.

Bro. Gardiner, P. G. who acted as scrutineer at the election of the Trial Committee, testifies that the Committee was duly elected according to law.

The mistake was therefore a clerical one of the Secretary of Pacific Lodge, No. 26, in recording in the minutes of the Lodge of 30th January, 1899, that the Committee was appointed instead of elected.

We are therefore of the opinion that the grounds for sustaining the appeal given by the Committee is not substantiated, that the trial was conducted according to law and would recommend that the action of the Grand Lodge in adopting the report be repealed, that the appeal of Bro. Pomeroy be dismissed, and the action of the Lodge in expelling him be sustained.

M. DAINARD,
A. ROBERTSON,
JACOB NEEN,
FRED COCKBURN.

It was on motion *Resolved*,—that the Grand Lodge do now adjourn.

The Grand Lodge adjourned accordingly.

THIRD DAY.

The Grand Lodge re-assembled at 10 o'clock, A. M., the Grand Lodge Officers and a quorum of Representatives being present.

All present were examined, reported duly qualified and the Grand Lodge was declared open for business.

The Roll of Officers and Representatives was called.

The Grand Master presented a bill for Typewriting copies of his report which was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Finance.

The consideration of the motion of T. F. Neelands, Grand Representative, and Representative G. R. Gordon, No. 26, to amend Sec. 2, Art. IV, of the Constitution of Subordinate Lodges, laid over from yesterday's Session was resumed.

Moved by J. E. Phillips, P.G.M., No. 4, and seconded by Representative Siddall, No. 33, that the further consideration of this matter be deferred until the next Annual Session of this Grand Lodge.

The amendment was put to the vote with the following result: For, 25; Against, 33.

The resolution was then submitted and the following result announced: For, 33; Against, 25.

Not having received the necessary two-third vote as provided by the Constitution, the resolution was declared lost.

It was moved by Representative May, No. 27, and seconded by J. E. Phillips, P. G. M., No. 4, that a number of the Report of the Special Committee on Uniform System of Dues and Benefits, equal to twenty-five per cent of the membership be printed, and that the same be distributed in that proportion to the Lodges of this Jurisdiction, prior to the next Session of this Grand Lodge.

Report read from the Odd Fellows' Insurance Association of British Columbia which was ordered to be received and printed in the Proceedings of this Session.

VICTORIA, B. C., June 5th, 1880.

To the Officers and Members of the Odd Fellows' Insurance Association of British Columbia.

As Secretary-Treasurer of your Association, I beg to submit the following statement of its Financial operations during the past year:

ENDOWMENT FUND.

Receipts.

Assessments	\$2005 03
Interest—Dominion Government Savings Bank	9 20
“ Bank of British Columbia	2 20
	<hr/>
	\$2916 61

Expenditure.

Balance per last Report	\$ 96 30
Insurance on death of Bro. Porter, Victoria	1000 00
“ “ Bro. J. Stanners, Vancouver	1000 00
	<hr/>
	\$2096 30
Balance	<hr/>
	\$ 820 22

MANAGEMENT FUND.

Receipts.

Balance per last Report	\$ 263 00
Dues	182 45
Entrance Fees	2 50
	<hr/>
	\$ 448 94

Expenditure.

Secretary-Treasurer, Salary	\$ 100 00
Secretary-Treasurer, Postage and Sundries.....	10 95
" Premium on Guarantee Bond	10 00
Agents' commission.	87 70
Printing.....	60 40
Advertising in B. C. Odd Fellow.....	18 00
Medical Referee's Fee's.....	2 50
	<hr/>
	\$ 208 61
Balance.....	<hr/>
	\$ 150 30

SUMMARY.

<i>Balances.</i>		<i>How Invested.</i>	
Endowment Fund., ..	\$ 820 22	Dominion Government	
Management Fund. .	150 30	Savings Bank.....	\$ 753 61
		Bank of British Colum-	
		bia.....	8 00
		In hands of Secretary-	
		Treasurer.....	207 08
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	\$ 970 52		\$ 970 52

Fraternally submitted,

FRED DAVEY,

Sec.-Treas.

Examined and found correct,

WALTER WALKER, { *Auditors.*
W. H. HUXTABLE. }

Representative Atkin, No. 17, applied for and was granted leave from further attendance this Session.

Representative May, No. 27, submitted the following which was ordered to be received and filed:

We the Representatives of the New Westminster Lodges, have by our respective Lodges been instructed to express the hearty thanks

of said Lodges to the Grand Lodge for the loan of "Paraphernalia and Regalia" so kindly forwarded them after the fire.

Fraternally yours,

ROBT. MAY, Amity Lodge, No. 27.

W. H. GARDINER, Amity Lodge, No. 27.

JOHN CAMPBELL, New Westminster Lodge, No. 3.

T. A. MUIR, New Westminster Lodge, No. 3.

It was on motion *Resolved*,—that a Committee of three be appointed to act in conjunction with the Executive Officers of the Grand Lodge to make the best arrangements possible with the various Companies for the transportation of the Representatives and others attending the next Session of this Grand Lodge.

Report read from the Committee on Mileage and Per Diem which was adopted.

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.

Your Committee on Mileage and Per Diem beg to report that we have examined the Certificates presented by the Officers and Representatives in attendance at this Session and find them entitled to the amounts stated against their respective names:

NAMES.	No. of Lodges.	Location.	No. of Days.	Per Diem.	Miles Travel'd.	Mileage.	Total.
<i>Officers.</i>							
A. Henderson, G. M.	2	Victoria	3	6 00	84	8 40	\$ 14 40
D. Welsh, D. G. M.	3	New West'r	3	6 00	12	1 20	7 20
W. E. Johnstone, G. W.	8	Vancouver	3	6 00			6 00
Fred Davey, G. Sec.	1	Victoria	3	6 00	84	8 40	14 40
W. Hogg, G. Treas.	10	Vancouver	3	6 00			6 00
T. F. Neelands, G. R.	8	do	3	6 00			6 00
J. E. Phillips, G. R.	3	New West'r	3	6 00	12	1 20	7 20
S. Clarke, M. D., G. C.	9	Kamloops	3	6 00	251	25 10	31 10
J. Newton, G. Mar.	20	Nanaimo	3	6 00	36	3 60	9 60
J. Palmer, G. Guar.	12	Revelstoke	3	6 00	370	37 00	43 00
P. W. Dempster, G. C.	2	Victoria	3	6 00	84	8 40	14 40
J. Peers, G. Her.	7	Chilliwack	3	6 00	62	6 20	12 20
<i>Representatives</i>							
A. Graham.	1	Victoria	3	6 00	84	8 40	14 40
J. York	1	do	2	1 00	84	8 40	12 40
J. Pottinger.	2	do	3	6 00	84	8 40	14 40
A. Edwards	2	do	3	6 00	84	8 40	14 40
G. T. Fox	2	do	3	6 00	84	8 40	14 40
T. A. Muir	3	New West'r	3	6 00	12	1 20	7 20
J. Campbell	3	do	3	6 00	12	1 20	7 20
A. Sheret	1	Victoria	3	6 00	84	8 40	14 40
E. Bragg	1	do	3	6 00	84	8 40	14 40
R. Rivers	5	Nanaimo	3	6 00	36	3 60	9 60
J. B. Nicholson	5	do	3	6 00	36	3 60	9 60
A. Robertson	6	Wellington.	3	6 00	12	1 20	19 20
M. Dunsmuir	6	do	3	6 00	12	1 20	10 20
J. H. Ashwell	7	Chilliwack.	3	6 00	62	6 20	12 20
J. McPherson	8	Vancouver	3	6 00			6 00
G. Walker	8	do	3	6 00			6 00
H. McLean	9	Kamloops	3	6 00	251	25 10	31 10
G. Moscrop	10	Vancouver.	3	6 00			6 00
D. M. O'Dwyer	10	do	3	6 00			6 00
J. Armstrong	10	do	3	6 00			6 00
F. A. Anley	11	Union.	9	18 00	160	16 00	28 00
R. Gordon	12	Revelstoke	3	6 00	370	37 00	43 00
W. Frampton.	15	Cloverdale.	3	6 00	28	2 80	8 80
A. H. Clements	16	Nelson.	3	6 00	57	5 70	61 70
A. C. Aitkin.	17	Duncan	3	6 00	60	6 00	12 00

NAME	No. of Lodges.	Location.	No. of Days.	Per Diem.	Miles Travelled.	Meals.	Total
J. E. Matheson.	18	Vernon	3	\$0.00	394	\$38.10	\$ 41.10
G. A. Miller	19	Mt. Pleasant	3	0.00			0.00
G. McKinnell	20	Nanaimo	3	0.00	360	3.00	0.00
J. Neen	20	do	3	0.00	360	3.00	0.00
A. Davie	21	Ladsmers	3	0.00	334	3.30	0.30
P. Wade	22	North Bend	3	0.00	420	12.00	18.00
J. B. Bryson	23	Ashcroft	3	0.00	204	20.10	20.10
H. Trotter	24	Edmine	3	0.00	7	.70	0.70
R. S. Wilson	25	Roxelstoke	3	0.00	370	37.00	43.00
J. Stark	26	Vancouver	3	0.00			0.00
F. Cockburn	26	do	3	0.00			0.00
G. R. Gordon	26	do	3	0.00			0.00
H. J. Rickard	26	do	3	0.00			0.00
R. May	27	New West'n	3	0.00	12	4.20	7.20
W. H. Gardiner.	27	do	3	0.00	12	4.20	7.20
P. Ward	28	Agassiz.	3	0.00	74	7.10	13.10
D. D. Griffiths	31	Wellington.	3	0.00	12	4.20	10.20
H. Siddall	33	Victoria	3	0.00	84	8.10	11.10
D. Lindsay.	33	do	3	0.00	84	8.10	11.10
M. Dainard	34	Golden	3	0.00	175	17.50	53.50
H. McDonald	35	Cedar.	3	0.00	40	4.00	10.00
H. J. Raymer, P.G.M.	36	Rossland	3	0.00	558	55.80	61.80
R. Smiles	38	Greenwood	3	0.00	554	55.40	61.40
E. C. Sowell	39	Sanden.	3	0.00	184	18.30	54.30
A. E. Foster	40	Sheam.	3	0.00	100	10.00	55.50
Total				\$382.00		\$733.10	\$1115.10

RALPH SMITHES.

D. M. ODWYER.

P. WADE.

A. EDWARDS.

ROBERT RIVERS.

The Grand Master appointed G. R. Gordon, No. 26, T. E. Neelands, No. 8, and W. H. Gardiner, No. 27, to form the Special Committee on Transportation.

Rep. J. E. Matheson, No. 18, was on motion excused from further attendance this Session.

Representative H. J. Rickard, No. 26, submitted the

following which was on motion ordered to be received and filed.

VANCOUVER, B. C., June 10th, 1900

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.

DEAR BROTHERS: The Representatives have been given an opportunity to form some opinion as to the desirability of adopting an official organ in the stead of the late B. C. Odd Fellow which has been merged into the Independent Odd Fellow, a fraternal magazine which will now include the whole of the Dominion in its circulation. The Independent Odd Fellow is willing to devote considerable space to the affairs of the Order in this Province as well as to act as your official organ.

In addition we would ask to be allowed to offer the following terms for advertising:

Grand Lodge Card	\$ 10.00
Subordinate Lodge Directory	100.00
One Copy to each Lodge	10.00
	\$120.00

The Lodge Directory will be seen by more travelling brethren than ever on account of our wide circulation and prove invaluable besides in advertising the Order in this Jurisdiction all over Canada.

Faithfully submitted,

H. J. RICKARD,
Editor for B. C. Independent Odd Fellow.

Report read from the Committee on Finance which was adopted.

To the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, I. O. O. F.:

Your Committee on Finance beg to report that we have examined the books, vouchers, &c. of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer and find them correct and well kept.

The following is an estimate of the Revenue and Expenditure of the coming year.

1830

REVENUE.

Cash balance in Grand Treasurer's hands June 10th, 1890.	\$2101 02
Per Capita Tax, 2844 members, at 80 cents per member, (40c. on June 30th, and 40c. on Dec. 31st.)	2275 20
Total Revenue	\$4100 22

EXPENDITURE.

Grand Secretary's Salary	\$ 000 00
Grand Master's Expenses	250 00
Sovereign Grand Lodge Representative Tax	150 00
Rent Grand Secretary's office	100 00
Printing	100 00
Premium on Bonds	25 00
Postage, Grand Secretary.	30 00
Postage Grand Master	15 00
Caretaker, Grand Secretary's office	20 00
Grand Lodge Coal	10 00
Grant to Odd Fellows' Home Fund at 10c. per capita	284 40
Grant to Ancient Odd Fellows' Fund, at 5 cents	112 20
Janitor and Light, this Session	10 00
Mileage and Per Diem, this Session.	115 40
Printing Gr. Master's Report	12 00
	—\$2803 70
Balance	\$1002 52

Your Committee, to whom was referred Circular from Sovereign Grand Lodge re Sanitarium at Gainesville, Florida, and the advisability of aiding the establishment of other Sanitariums at different points, do not consider that this Grand Lodge is in a position to contribute towards the Sanitarium at Gainesville, as we consider the distance too great to be of practical use to us and we therefore recommend no action be taken by this Grand Lodge in connection therewith.

We recommend that the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to the Wardens of St. Saviour's Church, Victoria West, for their donation to the Odd Fellows' Home of the offertory received at the Anniversary Services held in their Church.

Fraternally submitted,

GEO. R. GORDON,
A. GRAHAM,
J. McPHERSON,
J. B. NICHOLSON,
P. WARD.

It was on motion *Resolved*--that the Card of this Grand Lodge be inserted in the "Independent Odd Fellow" of Toronto.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the Installation of Grand Lodge Officers be held this evening in the Third Degree.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the Grand Lodge do now adjourn to 7 o'clock this evening.

The Grand Lodge adjourned accordingly.

EVENING SESSION.

The Grand Lodge met at 7 o'clock, p. m., pursuant to adjournment, the Grand Lodge Officers and a quorum of Representatives present.

The Grand Marshal examined all present and reported them duly qualified.

It was on motion *Resolved*—that the calling of the Roll be dispensed with at this Session.

It was moved seconded and carried, that the incoming Grand Master be instructed to obtain a legal opinion as to the necessity of Lodges which are incorporated, having all amendments they may make to their By-Laws, registered, and inform all Lodges of the Jurisdiction of the result.

It was on motion *Resolved*—that a vote of thanks be tendered to the Relief Committee of New Westminster for the able manner in which they conducted the business of distributing the funds placed at their disposal for the relief of the sufferers by the late fire in that City.

It was moved, seconded and carried, that a vote of thanks be extended to the Reception Committee for the use of this Hall during the present Session.

It was on motion *Resolved*—that a vote of thanks be tendered Vancouver Lodge, No. 8, for its courtesy in postponing its meeting this evening so as to allow this Grand Lodge to meet.

The Grand Master appointed J. E. Phillips, P. G. M., No. 3, and J. E. Phillips, P. G. M., No. 4, to present the Officers elect for Installation.

The Grand Lodge was closed in the Grand Lodge Degree and re-opened in the Third Degree. The Third Degree members, in waiting, having been admitted.

D. Welsh, No. 3, was presented, duly obligated and installed as Grand Master for the ensuing year.

The Grand Master then installed the following Officers in their respective chairs: W. E. Johnstone, No. 8, Deputy Grand Master; W. Hogg, No. 10, Grand Warden; Fred Davey, No. 1, Grand Secretary; James Stark, No. 26, Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Master made the following appointments, and these brothers were installed in their respective chairs:

A. H. Clements, No. 16	G. Chaplain.
A. Graham, No. 1	G. Marshal.
J. Peers, No. 7	G. Guardian.
J. Newton, No. 20	G. Conductor.
H. Fooks, No. 28	G. Herald.

The Grand Master also appointed the following as District Deputy Grand Masters for the ensuing year:

E. Bragg, No. 1, for District No. 1, comprising Lodges Nos. 1, 2, 1, 33.

D. E. McKenzie, No. 3, for District No. 2, comprising Lodges Nos. 3, 27.

H. McDonald, No. 35, for District No. 3, comprising Lodges Nos. 5, 20, 35.

T. Bryant, No. 31, for District No. 4, comprising Lodges Nos. 6, 31.

J. H. Ashwell, No. 7, for District No. 5, comprising Lodge No. 7.

D. M. O'Dwyer, No. 10, for District No. 6, comprising Lodges Nos. 8, 10, 19, 26.

H. McLean, No. 9, for District No. 7, comprising Lodge No. 9.

E. A. Auley, No. 11, for District No. 8, comprising Lodge No. 11.

R. Gordon, No. 12, for District No. 9, comprising Lodges Nos. 12, 25.

W. H. Frampton, No. 15, for District No. 10, comprising Lodge No. 15.

E. C. Arthur, M. D., No. 16, for District No. 11, comprising Lodge No. 16.

A. C. Aitkin, No. 17, for District No. 12, comprising Lodge No. 17.

J. E. Matheson, No. 18, for District No. 13, comprising Lodge No. 18.

R. Shirley, No. 21, for District No. 14, comprising Lodge No. 21.

P. Wade, No. 22, for District No. 15, comprising Lodge No. 22.

J. W. Burr, No. 23, for District No. 16, comprising Lodge No. 23.

H. Trotter, No. 24, for District No. 17, comprising Lodge No. 24.

P. Ward, No. 28, for District No. 18, comprising Lodge No. 28.

M. Dainard, No. 34, for District No. 19, comprising Lodge No. 34.

H. J. Raymer, P. G. M., No. 36, for District No. 20, comprising Lodge No. 36.

W. M. Clark, No. 37, for District No. 21, comprising Lodge No. 37.

R. Smailes, No. 38, for District No. 22, comprising Lodge No. 38.

F. C. Sewell, No. 39, for District No. 23, comprising Lodge No. 39.

A. E. Teeter, No. 40, for District No. 24, comprising Lodge No. 40.

T. Taylor, No. 41, for District No. 25, comprising Lodge No. 41.

R. E. Beattie, No. 42, for District No. 26, comprising Lodge No. 42.

REBEKAH LODGES.

Sister Mrs. Sommerville, No. 1, for District No. 1, comprising Lodge No. 1.

Sister Aitkins, No. 2, for District No. 2, comprising Lodge No. 2.

Sister Meakin, No. 3, for District No. 3, comprising Lodge No. 3.

Sister Pearce, No. 5, for District No. 4, comprising Lodge No. 5.

Sister O'Dell, No. 9, for District No. 5, comprising Lodge No. 9.

Sister Stainton, No. 10, for District No. 6, comprising Lodge No. 10.

Also the following to form the Standing Committees:

FINANCE.—G. T. Fox, No. 2; A. Graham, No. 1; J. McPherson, No. 8; J. Pottinger, No. 2; J. B. Nicholson, No. 5; P. Ward, No. 28.

APPEALS.—G. R. Gordon, No. 26; A. Robertson, No. 6; J. Neen, No. 20; G. Walker, No. 8; J. Campbell, No. 3; F. Cockburn, No. 26.

LAWS OF SUBORDINATES.—P. W. Dempster, No. 2; A. Sheret, No. 4; E. Bragg, No. 4; R. May, No. 27; A. E. Teeter, No. 40; H. Trotter, No. 24.

PETITIONS.—T. A. Muir, No. 3; R. Gordon, No. 12; J. Palmer, No. 12; J. H. Ashwell, No. 7; F. A. Anley, No. 11.

STATE OF THE ORDER.—T. F. Neelands, No. 8; G. A. Miller, No. 19; A. H. Clements, No. 16; A. Davie, No. 21; D. D. Griffiths, No. 31; J. B. Bryson, No. 23.

LEGISLATION.—S. Clarke, M. D., No. 9; H. J. Rickard, No. 26; H. McDonald, No. 35; D. McPherson, No. 27; D. Lindsay, No. 33. W. H. Frampton, No. 15.

JUDICIARY.—J. Stark, No. 26; D. E. McKenzie, No. 3; J. E. Phillips, P. G. M., No. 3; G. Moscrop, No. 10; H. J. Raymer, P.G.M. No. 36.

MILEAGE AND PER DIEM.—R. Rivers, No. 5; R. Smailes, No. 38; A. Edwards, No. 2; D. M. O'Dwyer, No. 10; P. Wade, No. 22; J. R. Webster, No. 10.

PRINTING.—F. Davey, Grand Secretary; A. C. Aitkin, No. 17; M. Dunsmuir, No. 6; J. Pottinger, No. 2; F. C. Sewell, No. 30.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE RE DUES AND BENEFITS.—Grand Secretary; J. E. Phillips, P. G. M., No. 3; T. F. Neelands, No. 8.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON OBITUARY.—H. J. Rickard, No. 26; H. Siddall, No. 33; J. E. Phillips, P. G. M., No. 4.

The Third Degree members having retired, the Grand Lodge was closed in the Third Degree and re-opened in the Grand Lodge Degree.

Application was made by Representative, H. J. Rickard, No. 26, on behalf of the Lodges in Vancouver for a Dispensation to hold a Picnic, in the name of the Order, to-morrow in connection with the visit of members of the Victoria Lodges. It was on motion *Resolved*,—that the applications be referred to the Grand Master for compliance.

It was moved, seconded and carried, that the appointments of the Grand Master be confirmed.

It was on motion *Resolved*,—that the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to the retiring Grand Officers for the efficient manner in which the work of the Grand Lodge has been conducted during the past year.

The minutes of this day's Session were read and confirmed.

1836

It was on motion *Resolved*, —that this Grand Lodge do now adjourn *sine die*.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in due form.

FRED DAVEN,

Grand Secretary



Appendix.

REPORTS OF DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

VICTORIA, B. C. , May 29th, 1899.

A. Henderson, Grand Master, I. O. O. F. of B. C.:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—I have much pleasure in submitting to you my report as D. D. G. M. for District No. 1, for the past year.

The Order in Victoria is progressing very favorably at the present time and the indications are that it will continue to do so for some time to come. During the year, Acme Lodge, No. 14, amalgamated with Dominion Lodge, No. 4, that in my opinion was a very wise thing to do, and in the best interest of the Order.

As you have been resident in Victoria I have not installed any of the officers of the Lodges as you very kindly officiated yourself.

From Columbia Lodge, No. 2:

Statement:—A brother having ceased membership for non-payment of dues now petitions his Lodge for reinstatement, forwards the sum of \$12.00 also the usual Medical Certificate, the Lodge declines to accept the petition on the ground that the brother is engaged in the liquor business, (which is not denied by the brother.) The petitioner objects to the ruling of the Lodge and demands to be informed what section of the laws governing the Lodge they are acting.

Ques.—Can the Lodge legally refuse to receive the petition of a brother for reinstatement who is and has been in the liquor business for many years, such brother having ceased membership for non-payment of dues.

Ans.—The case as I understand it is that Bro. Croft was suspended for non-payment of dues, he now wishes to be reinstated and has tendered you one year's dues and a medical certificate that he is in good health and ask for reinstatement, and that Columbia Lodge, No. 2, refuses to receive his application on the ground that he is in the Liquor business contrary to the Sovereign Grand Lodge Law as Bro. Croft was in the liquor business before the commencement of the said Sovereign Grand Lodge Law, and has been in it continuously, he has certain vested rights which his Lodge cannot deprive him of.

I therefore rule that Bro. Croft is eligible for reinstatement.

From Columbia Lodge, No. 2:

That the D. D. G. M. be asked to give his decision in the case of a brother in the saloon business suspended from the Lodge for non-payment of dues, and ceases the occupation during his suspension, as to whether he is eligible for reinstatement also to give his authority for his ruling.

To this I replied as follows:—

I am duly in receipt of yours of the 7th inst, and in answer to it beg to ask you if this is a hypothetical case or has it actually occurred in your Lodge. It appears to me from the similarity of it and the one of recent date, that it is the same put in a different way, but has not actually occurred.

Now, while I am willing at all times to answer any question that may arise to the best of my ability as D. D. G. M., I am not expected to answer hypothetical questions and quote authorities unless I feel disposed to, this would take up quite a lot of my time and I have not got it to spare.

As I have already stated if it has occurred I will be pleased to answer it.

From Victoria Lodge, No. 1;

Ques.—Can a Noble Grand or Lodge permit the admission of the members of a visiting Lodge, when paying a fraternal visit, in a body, without each member giving the regular password at the inner door, or should the Inside Guardian obtain this password from each individual separately before admitting him.

Ans.—No, the Inside Guardian must obtain the password from each individual separately before admitting him. See White's Digest, page 459, decision 1776 which is as follows:

“The Noble Grand of a Lodge has not the right to admit a member belonging to another Lodge in his State Jurisdiction without the term password.

I would strongly recommend that in future, District Deputies when appointed be given a copy of White's Digest, and to be returned when their term of office expires, my reason for this recommendation is that when a question from the Lodges is submitted to them for a ruling, they have to borrow a Digest to enable them to give a ruling and this very often causes a good deal of delay and inconvenience.

All of which is respectfully submitted in F. L. T.

A. STEWART,

D. D. G. M. District No. 1.

NEW WESTMINSTER B. C., May 20th, 1890.

Anton Henderson, Esq., Grand Master, I. O. O. F.:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—I have the honor to present to you a report of my official acts during my term of office as your Deputy in it this District.

Installations:

Monday, July 11th 1898, installed the Officers of Amity Lodge, No. 27.

Thursday, July 14th, installed the Officers of Royal City Lodge, No. 13.

Friday, July 20th, installed the Officers of New Westminster Lodge, No. 3.

Monday, January 9th, 1899, installed the Officers of Amity Lodge, No. 27.

Friday, January 13th, installed the Officers of New Westminster Lodge, No. 3.

Thursday, January 19th, installed the Officers of Royal City Lodge, No. 13.

Mergement:

On Friday, April 14th, by your direction, Royal City Lodge, No. 13, was merged into New Westminster Lodge, No. 3.

I have pleasure in reporting that Odd Fellowship is progressing in this District, and the Lodges are in a flourishing condition, though working at great disadvantage since the loss of our hall and all its contents by fire on the 11th of September last, but our new hall is almost completed and we will soon be doing work in a more business like manner.

During the term I have been asked but one question, i. e.: When a brother has been suspended for non-payment of dues, and is reinstated according to the By-Laws, is it necessary for him to present himself in open Lodge and sign the Constitution?

Ans.—No.

I regret the death of one of the oldest Odd Fellows in the Province, Bro. W. C. Loye, P. G., Charter member of Royal City Lodge, No. 13, and formerly of Victoria.

The Odd Fellows of New Westminster extend their heartfelt thanks to the Lodges of the Jurisdiction and also distant Lodges who contributed so readily to the assistance of those brothers who suffered by the fire.

1841

I return my thanks to the Past Grands who have kindly and ably assisted me in performing my various duties.

Thanking you for the honor conferred upon me by appointing me your District Deputy.

I remain,

Yours fraternally,

ROBT. MAY,

D. D. G. M., District No. 2.

NANAIMO, B. C., May 7th, 1899.

To A. Henderson, Grand Master, I. O. O. F.:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—As your Deputy for District No. 3, I take pleasure in submitting a report of my official acts during my term of office, viz:

July 16th, 1898, Installed the Officers of Cedar Lodge, No. 35.

July 18th, 1898, Installed the Officers of Centennial Lodge, No. 20

July 20th, 1898, Installed the Officers of Black Diamond Lodge, No. 5.

January 11th, 1899, received an application from Black Diamond Lodge, No. 5, for a Dispensation to permit it to elect to the office of Noble Grand a Third Degree member, Bro. J. Carrol, all other qualified members declining.

I granted the dispensation after which I installed the officers to their respective offices.

January 21st, 1899, Installed the Officers of Cedar Lodge, No. 35.

January 23rd, 1899, Installed the Officers of Centennial Lodge, No. 20.

March 4th, 1899, at my request Past Grand Bro. H. N. McDonald Installed Bro. Chas. Fielding to the office of Secretary of Cedar Lodge, No. 35, in place of Bro. Hemer, resigned.

In accordance with the resolution adopted at the last Session of the Grand Lodge I visited the Lodges in my District and obtained from them copies of resolutions passed by the respective Lodges, re Dues and Benefits, and forwarded the same to Bro. Davey, Grand Secretary.

1842

Nothing further of importance happened in this District during my term of office.

I remain,

Yours fraternally,

JACOB NEEN,

D. D. G. M., District No. 3.

SUPPLEMENTARY.

A. Henderson, Esq., Grand Master, I. O. O. F.:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER: - I have to report that on June 15th, 1898, Friendship Lodge, No. 30, merged into Black Diamond, No. 5. All of the members, numbering thirty-six, together with all the property, consisting of six hundred dollars in cash, and regalia, etc., valued at four hundred dollars, being turned over on the above date, the Charter and Rituals being forwarded to the Grand Secretary.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

JACOB NEEN,

D. D. G. M., District No. 3.

WELLINGTON, May 15th, 1899.

A. Henderson, Esq., Grand Master, I. O. O. F. of B. C.:

I have much pleasure in submitting the following report as your Deputy for the past year for District No. 4.

July 4th, 1898, installed the officers of Harmony Lodge, No. 6.

July 6th, 1898, installed the officers of Banner Lodge, No. 31.

September 14th, 1898, Bro. Griffiths installed Bro. W. Gordon, V. G. for Banner Lodge. Bro. Cassad resigned.

January 3rd, 1899, installed the officers of Banner Lodge, No. 31.

January 9th, 1899, installed the officers of Harmony Lodge No. 6.

Yours fraternally,

RICHARD BAILEY,

D. D. G. M., District No. 6.

1843

CHILLIWACK, B. C., May 9th, 1899.

A. Henderson, Esq., Grand Master, I. O. O. F.:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—As your District Deputy for District No. 5, I beg to report that I duly installed the officers of Excelsior Lodge, No. 7, I. O. O. F., at the commencement of each term.

Our Lodge is working along harmoniously, our membership is steadily increasing, and to show we are prospering, our brethren hope soon to commence building a Hall which will be a credit to them, as well as an ornament to our Town.

Thanking you for appointing me your District Deputy.

I remain,

Yours fraternally,

S. MELLARD.

D. D. G. M., District, No. 5.

VANCOUVER, B. C., May 25th, 1899.

A. Henderson, Esq., Grand Master, I. O. O. F.:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER: I have the honor to present to you the following report of my official acts during the past year:

July 7th, 1898, installed officers of Western Star Lodge, No. 10.

July 11th, 1898, installed officers of Pacific Lodge, No. 25.

July 12th, 1898, installed officers of Mount Pleasant Lodge, No. 10.

July 15th, 1898, installed officers of Vancouver Lodge, No. 8.

January 9th, 1899, installed officers of Pacific Lodge, No. 25.

January 10th, 1899, installed officers of Mount Pleasant Lodge, No. 10.

January 12th, 1899, installed officers of Western Star Lodge, No. 10.

January 13th, 1899, installed officers of Vancouver Lodge, No. 8.

I am pleased to report that I have not been called upon to decide any questions, which shows that peace and harmony have reigned supreme among the several Lodges under my jurisdiction.

I have much pleasure to note that the increase to the membership to the several Lodges here has been very encouraging during the past year especially the present term.

On May 23rd, 1800, granted Dispensation to Mount Pleasant Lodge, No. 19, to wear badges at an "At Home," that being the anniversary of the Lodge.

In conclusion permit me to tender my warmest thanks to all those brothers who kindly gave me their assistance in the performance of my duties, especially so do I thank P. G. Brother W. H. Gardiner, of Amity Lodge, No. 27, and P. G. Brother H. J. Rickard of Pacific Lodge, No. 20, as by their able assistance the installation ceremonies were successfully carried through.

Thanking you for the honor conferred on me,

I remain,

Fraternally yours,

GEO. MIDDLEMISS,

D. D. G. M., District No. 6.

UNION, B. C., May 25th, 1800.

A. Henderson, Esq., Grand Master, I. O. O. F.:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—It affords me great pleasure to report to you my official acts during my term as D. D. G. M. for District No. 8.

July 15th, 1808, installed officers of Union Lodge, No. 11.

August 25th, 1808, granted Dispensation to confer Second and Third Degrees on Brother McNiven at a special meeting, as he was leaving the country.

January 13th, 1800, installed officers of Union Lodge, No. 11.

I have not been called upon to decide any questions of importance. I may say Union Lodge is in a flourishing condition as during my term of office we have initiated seven members and conferred twenty-one Degrees.

In conclusion I would thank you for the honor conferred upon me by appointing me as your Deputy for District No. 8, hoping that you may approve of my official actions.

Fraternally yours,

JOHN WHYTE,

D. D. G. M., District No. 8.

1845

CLOVERDALE, B. C., May 20th, 1890.

A. Henderson, Esq., Grand Master, I. O. O. F.:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—I have much pleasure in submitting my report as D. D. G. M. for District No. 10.

On 11th February, 1890, installed the officers of Cloverdale Lodge, No. 15, assisted by P. G. Brother R. D. MacKenzie and P. G. Brother W. H. Frampton.

I am pleased to report that Cloverdale Lodge, No. 15, is progressing favorably and is financially in a very satisfactory condition.

I remain,

Yours in F. L. T.,

J. C. MURPHY,

D. D. G. M.

DUNCANS, B. C., May 15th, 1890.

A. Henderson, Esq., Grand Master, I. O. O. F.:

As your Deputy for District No. 12, I beg to submit the following report.

On July 9th, 1898, I installed the officers of Duncan Lodge, No. 17, and on January 7th, 1899, yourself and other Grand Lodge Officers held a public installation here which was a great benefit to the Order as we have taken in five new members since with the promise of several others.

Financially we are doing well, and we have bright hopes for the future.

Yours fraternally, in F. L. T.,

A. C. AITKIN,

D. D. G. M., District No. 12.

A. Henderson, Esq., Grand Master, I. O. O. F.:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—I beg to submit my report as your District Deputy as follows:

I duly installed the officers of Vernon Valley Lodge, No. 18, on July 15th, 1898.

September 30th, 1898, installed Brother R. Wilson, in the office of V. G., to fill the vacancy caused by Brother R. Cuswell absent from the District.

No question of any importance has been submitted for my decision and I am pleased to state that the Lodge is in a satisfactory condition, financially.

Fraternally submitted,

H. C. COOPER,

D. D. G. M., District No. 13.

MOUNT PLEASANT, B. C., May 1st, 1899.

A. Henderson, Grand Master, I. O. O. F.:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER: I have much pleasure in submitting to you the following report of my official acts, as your District Deputy for District No. 11, for the year ending June 30th, 1899:

I installed the officers of Delta Lodge No. 21, in May, 1898, and January 1899. We initiated eight members during the year, but I am sorry to have to state, that we have not prospered very much financially, as we have had to pay out considerable for sick benefits.

Fraternally yours,

WM. B. SKINNER,

D. D. G. M., District No. 14.

NORTH BEND, B. C., May 13th, 1899.

A. Henderson, Esq., Grand Master, I. O. O. F.:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER: I have the honor to submit for your approval my official acts as your Deputy for District No. 15, for the past year.

July 6th, 1898, and January 14th, 1899, I installed the officers of Gold Range Lodge, No. 22.

I am pleased to state that this Lodge is in a very fair condition financially and still holding its own as to membership.

Yours in F. L. T.,

CHAS. BARRY,

D. D. G. M., District No. 15.

ASHEROFT, B. C., May 27th, 1899.

A. Henderson, Esq., Grand Master, I. O. O. F.:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER: As your Deputy for District No. 16, I take pleasure in submitting a report of my official acts during my term of office.

I installed the officers of Ashcroft Lodge, No. 23, at the commencement of each term, assisted by several Past Grands.

In accordance with the resolution passed at last Session of the Grand Lodge re Dues and Benefits, I met and submitted the question to Ashcroft Lodge, No. 23, at its last regular meeting in January and duly forwarded the resolution passed by the Lodge to the Grand Secretary.

I am pleased to report our Lodge in a prosperous condition with five new members for the year.

No legal questions were submitted for decision during my term.

I remain,

Yours fraternally,

J. C. SMITH,

D. D. G. M., District No. 16.

EMURNE, B. C., June 14th, 1899.

A. Henderson, Esq., Grand Master, I. O. O. F.:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER: In reporting on Island Lodge, No. 21, I. O. O. F., I might say that the Lodge is in good standing, financially, although our members are scattered. We have about thirty-two members in good standing, but have only about six living in reach of our Lodge. This makes it impossible for us to have meetings as regular as we should have.

We have paid out about \$175.00 sick benefits for the last six months.

I installed the officers in January for the term now near to a close.

We have now an application for membership in our Lodge, the first for some time, but hope we will have better luck in the coming year.

Yours in F. L. T.,

D. E. McKAY,

D. D. G. M., District No. 17.

AGASSIZ, B. C., May 31st, 1899.

A. Henderson, Esq., Grand Master, I. O. O. F.:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER: I beg to submit herewith, as your District Deputy for District No. 18, the report of my official acts during my term of office.

July 16th, 1898, installed the officers of Cheam Lodge, No. 28.

January 7th, 1899, installed the officers of Cheam Lodge, No. 28.

The following questions have been submitted for decision:

Ques. When is a brother liable for dues?

Ans. From the time of his initiation.

Ques. Is the Warden eligible to the office of Noble Grand, not having served a term as V. G., and all qualified brethren refusing election.

Ans. Yes.

It affords me much pleasure to state that the harmony which exists in Cheam Lodge has made my term of office one of great pleasure to me.

Yours fraternally,

H. FOOKS,

D. D. G. M., District No. 18.

REVELSTOCK, B. C., May 20th, 1899.

Anton Henderson, Esq., Grand Master, I. O. O. F.:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER: Your favor of 6th inst., duly to hand. I beg to state that I have not granted any Dispensations during my term of office, as D. D. G. M. of District No. 19.

I installed the officers of No. 25, in July last. I also assisted P. G. Gordon, of Selkirk Lodge, No. 12, to institute Trout Lake Lodge, No. 41, on December 12th, 1898.

I am glad to say that Revelstock Lodge, No. 25, has a very bright future before it. I think the time is not far distant when we will have one of the best, if not the best Lodge in the interior.

We have under construction a very handsome brick veneered hall 60 x 32 feet, two storeys high, which will be a credit to this Lodge and the whole Order.

Yours in F. L. T.,

J. A. STONE,

D. D. G. M., District No. 19.

ROSSLAND, B. C., May 18th, 1890.

To A. Henderson, Grand Master, I. O. O. F.:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—As your District Deputy for District No. 21, I beg to submit the following report:

July 25, 1898, assisted by Past Grands, I installed the officers of Rossland Lodge, No. 30, in their respective chairs.

January 2nd, 1899, I installed the officers of Rossland Lodge, No. 30, for present term.

I also take pleasure in recording your official visit to this Lodge last fall, which was the first visit of a Grand Lodge officer since Rossland Lodge was first instituted, something over four years.

In conclusion, I might state that though the various callings of life, especially in a mining camp, have scattered many of our members, yet a fair attendance is maintained and Rossland Lodge, No. 30, is in splendid condition financially.

Yours fraternally,

JOHN EDGREN,

D. D. G. M., District No. 21.

CARSON, B. C., May 20th, 1890.

A. Henderson, Grand Master, I. O. O. F. of B. C.:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—I beg to submit my annual report as D. D. G. M. for Carson Lodge, No. 37, I. O. O. F., as follows:

Total number of members, 30.

Total number of Past Grands, 6.

Total number of dispensations granted, 2, (and those to confer two Degrees at one meeting to the same member).

Average attendance of members to the meeting, 40

Financial condition of the Lodge is good.

Will say that considering the way members are scattered working in different places we have a fair attendance, and that every body tries his best to attend and take an interest in the work.

Some brothers are rather slow on paying their dues but they always manage to come to time by the end of the year.

It is with pleasure that I can say that very little sickness has befallen the members of Carson Lodge, No. 35, as only \$2.99 was paid out for sick benefits during the year ending December 31st, 1909, and none since then.

I hope in the near future for a stimulus in mining business and in consequence an increase in population that the membership will steadily increase and Carson Lodge, No. 35, I.O.O.F., rank among one of the best Lodges in the Jurisdiction of British Columbia.

Respectfully submitted, in F. L. T.,

JOHN McLAUREN,

D. D. G. M., District No. 22.

Stowen, CTRY, B. C., May 15th, 1900.

C. Henderson, Esq., Grand Master, I. O. O. F.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER: As your District Deputy for District No. 25, comprising Shocan Lodge, No. 40, I submit the following report:

I regularly installed the officers of Shocan Lodge for the term commencing July 1st, 1898, and also for term commencing January 1st, 1899. Also on April 6th, 1899, installed Brother D. Arnot, as Recording Secretary, Brother T. Linton having resigned and removed to Rossland and Brother D. Arnot being elected for remainder of the term.

Shocan Lodge is harmonious, and, in spite of hard times, is gaining in numbers. As a rule dues are paid promptly. There has been very little sickness among the brothers, and the Lodge is in a fairly good financial condition.

Fraternally submitted,

A. E. TIEFFER,

D. D. G. M., District, No. 25.

1851

VICTORIA, B. C., June 1st, 1900.

A. Henderson, Esq., Grand Master, I. O. O. F.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER: I have to report I installed the officers of Dallas Rebekah Lodge, No. 1, on the evening of the 19th day of July, 1900.

On January 19th, 1900, the officers of this same Lodge were installed in ample form, Grand Master Henderson being the installing officer.

I have nothing more of importance to call to your attention. Thinking you for the appointment as your Deputy.

Yours fraternally,

CHRISTINA HUTCHISON,

D. D. G. M., District No. 1.

VANCOUVER, B. C., May 20th, 1900.

A. Henderson, Esq., Grand Master, I. O. O. F. of B. C.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER: By request of D. D. G. M., Sister Beer, who is absent from the Province, I submit the following report of official acts during the past year.

On July 5th, 1900, and again January 17th, 1900, D. D. G. M., Sister Beer assisted by several Past Grands installed the officers of Alzaph Rebekah Lodge, No. 2.

This Lodge is working along harmoniously, and is in a prosperous condition both socially and financially.

I regret having to report that Bethel Lodge, No. 1, Mount Pleasant, has surrendered its charter.

Respectfully submitted,

Yours fraternally,

MRS. F. H. ATKINS,

D. D. G. M., District No. 2.

WELLINGTON, B. C., May 26th, 1900.

A. Henderson, Esq., Grand Master, I. O. O. F.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER: Having been appointed by you to fill the vacancy caused by the departure of the D. D. G. M. of Laurel Rebekah Lodge, No. 9.

I have much pleasure in submitting my report.

On January the 12th, 1899, I had the pleasure of installing the officers of Laurel Rebekah Lodge, No. 9, for the term ending June 30th, 1899.

Yours in F. L. T.,

NINA, RUCHANAN,

D. D. G. M., District No. 5.

LADNER, B. C., June 1st, 1899.

A. Henderson, Esq., Grand Master, I. O. O. F.:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—I have the honor to submit for your approval the following report of my official acts as your Deputy for District No. 6.

July 7th, 1898, with the assistance of P. G., Bro. Davie and P. G., Bro. Skinner, I installed the officers of Fidelity Rebekah Lodge, No. 10.

January, 1899, acting on your advice, I invited D. D. G. M., Mrs. Maude Welsh to install the officers of our Lodge, being unable to attend to it myself.

I am pleased to state that Fidelity Lodge is in a prosperous condition and from the careful and attentive manner in which they have transacted Lodge work, it certainly is a credit to the Order.

I am, dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

MARGARET CALHOUN STANTON,

D. D. G. M., District No. 6.

1853

In Memoriam.

J. GOSNELL, PAST GRAND.

VICTORIA LODGE, No. 1.

VICTORIA.

JOHN PARTRIDGE, P. G.

COLUMBIA LODGE, No. 2.

VICTORIA.

H. F. CLINTON, PAST GRAND.

ROYAL CITY LODGE, No. 13.

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.

In Memoriam.

SCARLET DEGREE MEMBERS.

VICTORIA LODGE, NO. 1.

J. ROBERTSON. J. RAMSAY.

COLUMBIA LODGE, NO. 2.

J. PORTER. W. J. TIPPINS. D. SHEELAN.
GEO. W. A. LANGE.

BLACK DIAMOND, NO. 5.

D. THOMAS. G. LEE. W. J. WORK. J. WORK.
E. DUNSTAN.

HARMONY, NO. 6.

D. McLEOD.

WESTERN STAR, NO. 10.

A. McCURDIE.

UNION, NO. 11.

A. WALKER.

ACME, NO. 14.

T. COLLINS.

CENTENNIAL NO. 20.

F. G. VOWELS. J. LANGHAM. C. D. MAINES.

GOLD RANGE, NO. 22.

F. DYER.

PACIFIC, NO. 26.

J. STANNERS. R. FISHER.

AMITY, NO. 27.

A. GUNN. J. ODDY.

PEERLESS, NO. 23.

J. BRENNAN.

Our brethren are dead. The message came and they have had to leave us. One short year ago they were in health and participants with us in the pleasures of this world. In a little while the ever-burning furnace of time has consumed to ashes that which had life in this terrestrial sphere. How important therefore that we improve the fleeting hours so that we may meet our end with peace.

While we toil on, they sleep,

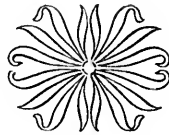
“Peace to the just man’s memory; let it grow
Greener with years, and blossom through the flight

Of ages; let the mimic canvas show
His calm, benevolent features; let the light

Stream on his deeds of love, that shunned the sight
Of all Heaven, and in the book of fame

The glorious record of his virtues write,
And hold it up to men, and bid them claim

A palm like his, and catch from him the hallowed flame.”



ABSTRACT OF REPORTS OF
 UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF BRITISH

NAME AND NUMBER OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	NIGHT OF MEETING	Initiated.	Admitted by Card	Reinstated.	Error last Report	Withdrawn.
Victoria Lodge, No. 1	Victoria.....	Monday ..	.	.	.	.	.
Columbia..... "	do	Wednes'y	.	.	.	.	1
New Westminster. "	3 New West'r...	Friday...	.	.	.	.	.
Dominion..... "	4 Victoria.....	Thursday	.	.	1	.	.
Black Diamond.... "	5 Nanaimo....	Wednes'y	39	.	.	.	.
Harmony..... "	6 Wellington...	Monday ..	4	1	.	.	.
Excelsior..... "	7 Chilliwack...	Tuesday ..	4	.	.	7	.
Vancouver..... "	8 Vancouver....	Friday....	7	1	1	.	1
Tatnai..... "	9 Kamloops....	Monday ..	.	.	.	.	.
Western Star..... "	10 Vancouver....	Thursday	6	1	.	.	.
Union..... "	11 Union.....	Friday....	3	.	.	.	.
Selkirk..... "	12 Donald.....	Thursday	2	.	.	.	.
Royal City..... "	13 New West'r...	do	2	.	1	.	.
Acme..... "	14 Victoria.....	Monday ..	2	.	.	.	.
Cloverdale..... "	15 Cloverdale...	Saturday ..	.	.	.	.	.
Kootenay..... "	16 Nelson.....	Monday ..	9	4	1	.	.
Duncan..... "	17 Duncan.....	Saturday ..	.	.	.	.	.
Vernon Valley.... "	18 Vernon.....	Friday....	1	.	.	.	2
Mt. Pleasant..... "	19 Mt. Pleasant.	Tuesday ..	1	.	.	.	.
Centennial..... "	20 Nanaimo....	Monday ..	1	.	.	.	.
Delta..... "	21 Ladner's Lnd'g	do	3	1	.	.	.
Gold Range..... "	22 North Bend...	Saturday ..	.	.	.	.	.
Ashcroft..... "	23 Ashcroft....	Monday ..	1	.	.	.	.
Island..... "	24 Eburne.....	Tuesday ..	.	.	.	.	.
Revelstoke..... "	25 Revelstoke...	Thursday ..	6	.	1	.	.
Pacific..... "	26 Vancouver....	Monday ..	7	2	.	.	1
Amity..... "	27 Vew West'r...	do	8	1	1	.	.
Cheam..... "	28 Agassiz.....	Saturday ..	2	.	.	.	.
Banner..... "	31 Wellington...	Wednes'y	15	.	.	.	1
Peerless..... "	33 Victoria.....	Friday....	.	.	.	.	.
Rocky Mountain... "	34 Golden.....	Wednes'y	2	1	.	1	.
Cedar..... "	35 Cedar District.	Saturday ..	8	.	.	.	.
Rossland..... "	36 Rossland.....	Monday ..	7	4	.	.	1
Carson..... "	37 Carson.....	Saturday ..	5	.	.	.	1
Boundary Valley.. "	38 Greenwood...	Tuesday ..	6	1	.	.	.
Silver City..... "	39 Sandon.....	Friday....	1	1	.	.	.
Slocan..... "	40 Slocan City...	Thursday	5	.	.	1	2
			118	57	6	9	10

SUBORDINATE LODGES.

COLUMBIA, I.O.O.F., FOR THE HALF-YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1898.

Deceased.	Ceased Members- by N. P. D.	Error last Report.	Total Number of Members.	Rejected.	Degrees Confer'd	No. of P. Grands.	RECEIPTS.				
							Dues.	Admis's and Degre's	Rents and Inves'd Funds.	From all Other Sources	Total.
1			118		2	35	\$ 685 25	\$ 7 00	\$ 822 70	\$ 168 50	\$1683 45
3	4		142			37	958 45		623 48	104 00	1685 93
			102			29	476 00				476 00
			89			27	506 00		510 00		1016 00
1			153			26	599 00		948 05	621 30	2168 35
1	6		133		12	21	861 90	136 00	416 05	286 44	1700 39
			34			15	170 20	80 00		23 00	273 20
			122		25	18	710 50	183 00	138 90	1 00	1033 40
			62		2	13	334 00	20 00	238 00	220 00	812 60
	7		179		31	25	908 00	149 00		25	1057 25
	5		57		7	13	350 65	65 00	100 00	67 50	583 15
			79		6	16	495 00	74 00	105 00	2 50	676 50
1	8		65		7	14	426 00	42 00	72 00	20 00	560 00
1	5		59		6	15	340 00	46 00			386 00
		1	35			13	191 60		20 20		211 80
	3		54		29	11	267 05	306 25	279 00	283 50	1135 80
	4		39			10	227 00		48 00	1 50	270 50
	1		30		6	9	187 50	34 00	52 00	13 00	286 50
			33		2	10	176 00	16 00	73 30	234 80	500 10
1			104		3	12	589 85	25 00	47 92		662 77
			37		9	11	207 75	90 00	24 00	91 70	413 45
1			35			8	153 00				153 00
			30		3	9	146 00	30 00	126 50		302 50
	1		30			9	122 00		47 50		169 50
	4		46			5	333 00	180 00	20 00		533 00
			243	1	24	9	1291 60	184 00		4 50	1480 10
1	5		152		28	8	796 55	184 00		70 00	1050 55
	1		45		3	7	241 00	26 00	63 90		330 90
	4		86		51	6	459 50	340 00		2 75	802 25
1			123		1	8	641 00	3 00		33 00	677 00
	7		46		10	5	232 50	100 00	98 00		430 50
			57		30	5	319 00	150 00			469 00
1			72			6	275 00	182 00		90 50	547 50
			29	1	20	4	97 00	100 00		2 50	199 50
			38		13	3	121 00	161 00			282 00
			68		3	4	429 25	47 00			476 25
			30		18	2	115 50	175 00	90 50	20 00	401 00
13	65	1	2856	2	351	478	\$15440 60	\$3135 25	\$4965 00	\$2362 24	\$25903 09

ABSTRACT OF REPORTS OF
 UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF BRITISH

NAME AND NUMBER OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	NIGHT OF MEETING	Initiated.	Admitted by Card	Adm as Anc. O. F.	Reinstated.	Error last Report	Withdrawn.	Expelled.
Victoria Lodge, No. 1	Victoria.	Monday . .							
Columbia " 2	do	Wednes'y	7	2		1			
New Westminster. " 3	New West'r. . .	Friday . .	2			2			
Dominion. " 4	Victoria.	Thursday .	5	57		1			
Black Diamond. . . " 5	Nanaimo.	Wednes'y	4						
Harmony. " 6	Wellington . . .	Monday . .	2			1			
Excelsior. " 7	Chilliwack . . .	Tuesday . .							
Vancouver. " 8	Vancouver. . . .	Friday . .	2				1	1	
Tatnai " 9	Kamloops. . . .	Monday . .	2						
Western Star. . . . " 10	Vancouver. . . .	Thursday .	3	1					
Union " 11	Union.	Friday . .	4						
Selkirk " 12	Donald.	Thursday .							
Royal City " 13	New West'r. . .	do				2			
Cloverdale. " 15	Cloverdale . . .	Saturday .	4						
Kootenay. " 16	Nelson	Monday . .	4		1			2	
Duncan. " 17	Duncan	Saturday .						1	
Vernon Valley. . . . " 18	Vernon	Friday . .	2						
Mt. Pleasant. . . . " 19	Mt. Pleasant. .	Tuesday . .	3	2	1				
Centennial. " 20	Nanaimo.	Monday . .	3				2	2	
Delta " 21	Ladner's Lind'g	do	3			1			
Gold Range. " 22	North Bend. . .	Saturday .							
Ashcroft. " 23	Ashcroft	Monday . .	2						
Island " 24	Eburne.	Tuesday . .		1					
Revelstoke. " 25	Revelstoke. . .	Thursday .	5			1	3	1	
Pacific. " 26	Vancouver. . . .	Monday . .	7				1	1	
Amity. " 27	New West'r. . .	do	5						
Cheam. " 28	Agassiz	Saturday .							
Banner " 31	Wellington . . .	Tuesday . .	7	1					
Peerless " 33	Victoria.	Friday . .	1						
Rocky Mountain. . . " 34	Golden.	Wednes'y							
Cedar. " 35	Cedar District.	Saturday .							1
Rossland. " 36	Rossland	Monday . .	4	3					
Carson. " 37	Carson	Saturday .	1				1		
Boundary Valley. . . " 38	Greenwood. . . .	Tuesday . .	5						
Silver City. " 39	Sandon	Friday . .	2						
Slocan. " 40	Slocan City . . .	Thursday .	5						
Trout Lake. " 41	Trout Lake C..	Tuesday . .	14	5	1				
			108	72	3	11	6	8	1

SUBORDINATE LODGES.

COLUMBIA, I.O.O.F., FOR THE HALF-YEAR ENDED DEC. 31, 1898.

Deceased.	Ceased Members- by N. P. D.	Error last Report.	Total Number of Members.	Rejected.	Degrees Confer'd	No. of P. Grands.	RECEIPTS.				Total.
							Dues.	Admis's and Degre's	Rents and Inves'd Funds.	From all Other Sources	
2	..	..	116	..	34	598 25	..	..	\$ 900 00	\$ 128 75	\$1027 00
2	..	..	150	..	15	797 70	..	..	823 21	50 25	1888 16
13	..	..	93	..	8	1137 40	..	..	..	..	1181 40
4	1	..	147	..	3	708 65	857 25	194 00	35 00	..	1794 90
1	9	..	147	..	12	754 50	105 00	839 00	600 00	..	2298 50
3	4	..	129	..	10	682 50	75 00	506 30	209 50	..	1473 30
2	4	..	28	..	15	132 50	..	..	..	..	132 50
3	..	..	121	..	6	564 50	40 00	..	213 00	..	817 50
..	..	..	64	..	9	361 50	65 00	154 50	..	..	581 00
1	4	..	178	..	15	958 25	72 00	125 00	1 50	..	1156 75
1	..	..	60	..	10	296 00	105 00	167 00	70 95	..	638 95
..	..	1	78	..	3	413 00	30 00	71 00	..	..	514 00
..	..	..	67	..	17	347 50	..	..	500 00	..	847 50
5	..	..	34	..	12	149 00	78 00	49 00	..	..	276 00
2	..	..	55	..	11	336 10	114 00	..	..	..	450 10
..	..	..	38	..	12	231 00	..	83 50	289 80	..	604 30
2	..	..	30	..	4	165 00	28 00	148 33	15 80	..	357 13
3	..	..	36	..	9	163 00	59 00	358 00	20 00	..	600 00
2	..	..	105	..	6	666 50	115 00	465 00	76 85	..	1323 35
..	..	..	41	..	7	160 25	65 00	3 75	12 00	..	241 00
..	..	..	35	..	9	146 00	..	..	..	..	146 00
1	..	..	31	..	6	144 25	60 00	76 00	75	..	281 00
..	..	..	31	..	10	113 00	5 00	44 82	..	..	162 82
..	..	..	54	..	13	200 00	140 00	43 00	36 35	..	419 35
2	28	..	220	..	26	1180 00	134 00	..	8 00	..	1322 00
1	15	1	140	..	28	719 09	157 00	..	301 50	..	1177 59
..	..	..	45	..	4	247 50	..	103 00	..	..	350 50
4	1	..	89	..	25	551 50	231 00	..	29 50	..	812 00
..	1	123	..	..	4	663 50	22 00	37 70	..	..	723 20
3	..	..	43	..	3	288 25	15 00	70 00	..	..	373 25
2	..	..	54	..	5	324 70	..	..	..	..	324 70
13	..	..	66	..	10	711 14	119 00	..	4 00	..	834 14
..	..	..	31	..	4	72 50	20 00	..	22 50	..	115 00
1	..	..	42	..	11	203 50	120 00	..	33 00	..	356 50
..	..	..	70	..	6	363 00	80 00	..	..	..	443 00
..	1	..	34	..	9	98 00	148 00	20 00	..	..	266 00
..	..	..	20	1	42	10 50	385 00	..	..	..	395 50
13	120	10	2845	1	331	499	\$15659 53	\$3705 25	\$5282 11	\$2650 00	\$27305 89

ABSTRACT OF THE

OF SUBORDINATE LODGES—GRAND LODGE OF BRITISH

NAME AND NO. OF LODGE,	No. of Brothers Relieved.	No. of Widowed Families Relieved	No. of Brothers Buried.	No. of Weeks for which Sick Bene-fits were paid.	Relief of Brothers	Relief of Widwd Families
Victoria. Lodge, No. 1...	30	1	3	430	\$2480 00	\$ 92 50
Columbia " " 2...	34	1	5	321	2513 00	50 00
New Westminster " " 3...	6	2	..	86	522 50	60 00
Dominion " " 4...	23	1	1	136	840 00	15 00
Black Diamond " " 5...	15	3	1	75	1310 00	103 50
Harmony " " 6...	24	..	4	110	1240 00	.....
Excelsior " " 7...	2	..	..	4	28 00	.....
Vancouver " " 8...	12	..	..	98	646 00	.....
Tatnai " " 9...	5	..	..	74	517 50	.....
Western Star " " 10...	14	..	..	51	403 00	.....
Union " " 11...	6	..	1	109	650 00	.....
Selkirk " " 12...	7	..	..	98	613 00	.....
Royal City " " 13...	4	..	1	7	247 50	.....
Cloverdale " " 15...	5	..	..	74	434 50	.....
Kootenay " " 16...	2	..	..	28	210 00	.....
Duncan " " 17...	3	..	..	24	215 00	.....
Vernon Valley " " 18...	4	..	..	34	340 00	.....
Mt. Pleasant " " 19...	7	..	..	25	225 00	.....
Centennial " " 20...	10	..	1	91	786 50	.....
Delta " " 21...	6	..	..	27	202 00	.....
Gold Range " " 22...	5	..	1	24	204 00	.....
Ashcroft " " 23...	..	..	..	..	.....	.....
Island " " 24...	2	..	..	7	60 00	.....
Revelstoke " " 25...	9	..	..	52	520 00	.....
Pacific " " 26...	33	1	2	218	2205 50	121 50
Amity " " 27...	22	..	1	93	769 00	.....
Cheam " " 28...	10	..	..	21	135 00	.....
Banner " " 31...	9	..	..	46	405 00	.....
Peerless " " 33...	17	..	1	85	780 50	.....
Rocky Mountain " " 34...	2	..	..	16	267 70	.....
Cedar " " 35...	5	..	..	48	205 00	.....
Rossland " " 36...	5	..	..	23	126 50	.....
Carson " " 37...	2	..	..	7	28 00	.....
Boundary Valley " " 38...	2	..	..	5	50 00	.....
Silver City " " 39...	9	..	1	27	452 65	.....
Slocan " " 40...	3	..	..	14	35 00	.....
Trout Lake " " 41...	..	..	..	..	.....	.....
	354	9	23	2608	\$20727 35	\$ 442 50

ANNUAL REPORTS.

COLUMBIA, I.O.O.F., FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DEC., 1898.

AMOUNT PAID FOR.				Total Assets.
Burying. the Dead	Special Relief.	Total Amt. Expended for Relief.	Current Expenses.	
\$ 185 00	\$ 452 75	\$ 3210 25	\$ 533 05	\$ 34301 59
200 00	112 00	2935 00	630 59	35000 00
.....	.....	582 50	513 57	585 33
95 00	87 00	1037 00	1327 20	10000 00
152 50	203 50	1700 50	000 45	28702 00
200 00	07 50	1507 50	748 55	11501 84
.....	60 00	88 00	25 00	2050 00
.....	100 00	746 00	170 50	7830 80
.....	100 00	617 50	502 55	4800 00
.....	200 00	603 00	850 75	6833 79
.....	.....	650 00	571 10	1557 00
.....	.....	013 00	279 10	4189 92
75 00	25 00	347 50	203 25	2070 19
.....	.....	434 50	100 60	2811 75
.....	25 00	235 00	373 19	4506 09
.....	.....	215 00	441 25	2000 00
.....	.....	340 00	271 30	1526 00
.....	25 00	250 00	275 30	1000 00
75 00	50 00	911 50	424 15	4544 17
50 00	15 00	267 00	274 41	1310 03
75 00	40 00	319 00	00 10	1672 35
.....	25 00	25 00	703 69	1979 12
.....	70 00	70 00	232 40	1500 00
35 00	.....	555 00	230 00	1470 00
90 00	100 00	2517 00	914 53	3027 75
115 00	.....	884 00	580 50	3721 21
.....	.....	135 00	132 00	2875 00
.....	140 00	545 00	301 10	2341 48
75 00	75 00	930 50	410 05	1724 40
.....	33 00	300 70	189 10	1994 57
.....	25 00	200 00	194 40	700 00
.....	.....	126 50	305 95	1326 53
.....	.....	28 00	175 00	585 00
.....	50 00	100 00	383 88	1428 62
50 50	124 00	636 15	482 05	1694 25
.....	.....	35 00	649 08	500 00
.....	.....	.....	25 70	369 80
\$ 1602 00	\$ 2144 75	\$ 24916 60	\$ 15406 39	\$ 198880 53

ABSTRACT OF THE REPORTS OF REBEKAH LODGES.

GRAND LODGE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, I. O. O. F., FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1898.

Name and No. of Lodge.	Location	Night of Meeting.	Members, during the year		Total Number of Members.		Receipts		Payments.		Assets.
			Brothers.	Sisters.	Brothers.	Sisters.	Brothers.	Sisters.	Relief Lodge and Expenses.		
Golfax, No. 1	Victoria.	2nd and 4th Tuesdays	2	1	25	15	\$ 173	20	\$212	\$0	\$ 148 05
Mizpah, " 2	Vancouver	1st and 2nd Tuesdays	12	2	35	34	164	50	220	50	506 85
Miriam, " 3	Nanaimo.	Alternate Tuesdays		10	14	25	117	7	20	00	144 08
Peulah, " 5	New West r.	2nd and 4th Tuesdays	9	11	16	34	123	15			344 02
Laurel, " 9	Wellingt'n	2nd and 4th Thursdays	13	12	51	73	196	35	10	00	152 15
Fidelity, " 10	Ladners	1st and 3rd Saturdays	1	1	5	6	26	25			26 05
Harmony, " 11	Carson.										
			37	43	146	287	8811	90	850	50	\$ 1134 26

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ADDRESSES OF THE OFFICERS.

OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, I. O. O. F.,

D. WELSH, Grand Master.....	New Westminster.
W. E. JOHNSTONE, Deputy Grand Master.....	Vancouver.
WM. HOGG, Grand Warden.....	Vancouver.
FRED DAVEY, Grand Secretary.....	Burnside Road, Victoria.
JAMES STARK, Grand Treasurer.....	Vancouver.
J. E. PHILLIPS, Grand Representative ...	New Westminster.
P. W. DEMPSTER, Grand Representative ..	Victoria.
A. H. CLEMENTS, Grand Chaplain.....	Nelson.
A. GRAHAM, Grand Master.....	Victoria.
J. PEERS, Grand Guardian.....	Chilliwack.
J. NEWTON, Grand Conductor.....	Nanaimo.
H. FOOKS, Grand Herald.....	Agassiz.

The next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia will be held at Victoria, commencing Wednesday, the 13th of June, 1900,

SUPPLIES.

The following rates will be charged for Supplies, all orders for which must be signed by the Secretary, bear the Seal of the Lodge, and be accompanied by the necessary amount to pay the same:

Subordinate Lodge Rituals.....	\$ 3 00
Ritual for Rebekah Lodges <i>only</i>	3 00
Visiting and Withdrawal Cards and Dismissal Certificates....	25
Visiting and Withdrawal Cards for Rebekah Lodges	25
Book of Forms.....	1 25
Book of Odes with music	1 00
White's Digest Edition 1895.....	3 50
Lodge Odes (Subordinate and Rebekah).....	5
Odes with music Subordinate and Rebekah Lodges	15
Anniversary Odes	5
Funeral Hymns, with responses.....	5
Funeral Ceremony.....	30
Anniversary Ceremony.....	30
Memorial and Decoration Ceremony	25
Burial Ceremony, Daughters of Rebekah ...	20
Certificate of Membership, on plate paper ..	75
Rebekah Certificates, on plate paper.....	30
Officer's Roll Book.....	1 25
Question Book.....	1 50
Order on Treasurer's Book, 250 orders	1 50
Initiation Petitions, form recommended by S. G. L. per 100	1 50
Subordinate Lodge Degree Chart.....each	3 00
Bound Proceedings, Grand Lodge of B. C., 1874 to 1885	2 00
Subordinate Lodge Floor Work	50
Rebekah Floor Work.....	50
Black Book	2 00
Code for government of Rebekah Lodges ...	10
Official Certificates and Receipt for dues, in books of 100.....	1 00



