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The True Knight of British Columbia.

"The true Knight does no Man wrong."

Entered at the Vancouver Post Office as Second-class Mail Matter.

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VANCOUVER, B.C., June, 1899.

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The True Knight.

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

Address all communications to P. O. Box 313.
J. E. EVANS,

Secretary,
Vancouver, B. C.

G. R. MAXWELL,
Editor.

VANCOUVER, JUNE, 1899.

LOVE THE BROTHERHOOD.

(Continued from our last number.)

Again, in our brotherhood, we are bound to each other by the holy and endearing ties of Love. There is no need to arouse one over this thing called "Love." It is with us, in us, for us. We are an earnest body of men, engaged in a work demanding the full play of earnestness. As a brotherhood, we seek to face the stern, unbending facts of life—as revealed in human frailty, human weakness, human sorrows—and we seek to proclaim that, only as the brethren are moved, inspired, controlled, and thrilled by love, can we hope to nobly fulfil our duties. The lesson requires to be enforced again and again, that love is the only power that can or will assuage the sorrows, lift the loads and dry the tears of our suffering humanity. Our work is what may be called social Christianity, and may be regarded as

revealing to the Church what may be termed a neglected talent. There is a vast difference between theoretical and practical Christianity, and the trouble has been for long and weary that they who professed to follow Him who is Love, thought they were everything and doing everything that was right, if they had only in their heads certain dogmas. The great weakness in the armour of Christianity has been that the greatest commandment—"Love one another as I have loved you"—has been practically forgotten, and become a dead letter. To a casual observer, the Christianity manifested in many churches, seems to consist in saving oneself. With many that is the be all and end all of their hopes, progress, and labors. All is centred on that wonderful being called Myself. Consequently, we have had a great deal of gush and sentiment about our brother; we have had a lot of fine words and beautiful ideas. We have sung about him until we have grown hoarse, in order to incite us to do something for him; we have read again and again one of the most charming of all the lessons which our Master taught us, that, at the Judgment, it will not be party cries nor shibboleths, nor creeds, nor professions, that will save us, but what we have done in the way of visiting the sick, providing garments for the needy, giving drink to the thirsty, and entering into human prisons with cheer and comfort; and we have so misread and misinterpreted His words, that the practical is swallowed up and lost sight of in what is merely theoretical. We have all followed the man on his way to Jericho: we have seen him robbed and wounded; we have all had our sling at the priest and Levite for their inhumanity and unbrotherly conduct, and we have all praised and commended the good Samaritan, but, somehow or somehow, our modern brother, who is being robbed and wounded to-day, does not inspire us to do much for him. That is what ought not to be, and by a true brotherhood, that is ever under the regal dominance of the noblest and greatest of all passions, such heartless and unsympathetic conduct will be held in complete abhorrence. True love is not selfish. It does not try to catch all for the self in which it dwells, and it does not dam up the channels, so that others may not share its holy and benignant ministries. It is Tennyson who writes:

"Were there nothing else
For which to praise the heavens, but only love,
That only love were cause enough for praise."

That is beautifully true. After nineteen hundred years of its benign sway, we do not yet realise the munificence and magnificence of its powers, because we have never given it that free and unfettered scope, either in the individual or in the many, which it claims. It is fine to think about love, for the more one

thinks about her, the more lovely, desirable, and beatific she becomes. But when you see love sitting by the sick-bed, caring for the poor, bringing in her precious gifts to homes of want and woe, soothing the fevered brow, and the disconsolate heart, taking the lone widow by the hand and bidding her be of good cheer, drawing the orphan to her warm and devoted heart, and at last lowering in the grave one well watched, tended, and loved, with a tear glistening in her luminous eyes, then she appears to be, what she has always claimed to be, a radiant, divine, ministering angel. Will you tell us of her trophies and triumphs? Then tell us of the tears dried, the hearts comforted, the hopes restored, the faith strengthened, the homes gladdened, the faces brightened, and the helpless ones lifted up and consoled beyond measure, and while you think of these things which she has done, and is doing, go, follow in her blessed train. Praise God, for the temples, the castle halls of love, for the sacrifices of love, and for the followers, the servants and the defenders of love. Praise God for every inch of this dear Earth which has been consecrated to the ministers of love. Praise God for the hands, the feet, the eyes, the lips and the heart of love, for as Heaven gave its revelation of love in and through the Son of Man, its brightest and best, so man can reveal or give to brother man, nothing half so sweet or so great as his love for him.

Again, in our brotherhood, we are bound to each other by the enduring ties of Truth. Where friendship and love delight to abide, truth will ever be a pleasant companion, and will be hailed at all times as the best of cronies. Friendship will have the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, and love—what else can she like but truth? For every error, falsehood, and lie are the enemies of love. It is then, requisite, for every one in this brotherhood, that he should be at all times a lover of the truth. He must love it for its own sake alone. He must wed it, and that, too, without any dowry, and at the altar must swear to love, cherish and obey the truth. To the lover of truth a lie will ever be the mean-

est and basest of things, and no one need ever ask him at any time to play at lying. To him falsehood will ever be a poisonous exhalation of the Pit, and truth a gleam of Heaven. A man of truth, one free from the chicanery, the deceptions, and the fraudulent ways and manners of modern society, is a man after God's own heart. In the circle of friends, where love cements heart to heart, truth is an essential virtue. A true brotherhood is impossible without it, and even if we could imagine one, in whose inner and outer circles truth would be conspicuous by its absence, no man could join such a brotherhood without losing his self-respect and honor. A true friend will delight to speak only the truth, and a true friend, unpalatable though it may be, will delight to hear the truth from the lips of a friend, for as Montagu says, "the plain-dealing remonstrances of a friend differ as widely from the rancour of an enemy, as the friendly probe of a surgeon from the dagger of an assassin." When Wellington was asked to do a certain thing, which, if he had done, would have been dissembling with the truth, he nobly said, "I can't do that, for that would be a lie." And least of all will a friend lie, either to or about a friend. He then can be a friend if he loves the truth as he loves his own honor. No man is reliable who is untruthful, and no man is trustworthy, or worthy of trust, in any brotherhood, who loves a lie more than he loves the truth, or who will speak the one either as often or oftener than he will speak the other. Put no dependence upon the man who is ever equivocating, and who is ever looking for backdoors in order to escape facing the truth. Put no trust in the man who is always dodging, twisting and wriggling with the truth. Beware of him whose sole rule in life is expediency, and whose chief gift is the gift of reservation, a species of lying, which a Frenchman calls walking round about the truth. Shun as you would a viper the man who is known as Mister Facing-Both-Ways, for the friendship of such a man will be a sore disappointment. We want friends, but men of such principles can never become worthy of the name. They are

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We guarantee every WHITE to give PERFECT SATISFACTION. The WHITE Bicycle won four of the eight prizes offered for the championship of the world at the great Six Day International Race at San Francisco, in February, 1899, and every rider of the WHITE who was in the race finished without a single accident to a WHITE wheel, and the WHITE won as many prizes as all the other wheels combined.

THAT'S A SOLID FACT, and don't lose sight of it. COTTER rides a WHITE. Did you see him on the 24th of May?

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ALL KINDS OF REPAIRING DONE.

but skim-milk friends, and well-skimmed at that. Friendship with such would prove a mockery, a delusion and a snare. Give us the man, however, who is loyal to the truth, and who speaks it out manfully and bravely, as he knows it and loves it, and you give us the only man in all creation who is worth having as a friend. Truth, then, must be a tie binding the units in any brotherhood worth joining, for a brotherhood of liars would be like a rope of sand. Sir Thomas Browne once asked the question, "Do the devils lie?" No," was the answer, "for then even Hell could not subsist," and a brotherhood without truth, in all and through all parts, would be like a heaven without a sun, and a man without a soul. Truth is a grand bond of union, and no man need fear either the man or the society whose character and principles are founded on Truth. This is the summit of being. When Lord Chesterfield defined a gentleman, he declared that truth made his success, and what truth makes the one, it can make the many. Wellington once wrote these lines to a correspondent: "If there is one thing more than another which an English officer prided himself in, it was his truthfulness. Believe me, trust to their word, for the word of an English officer is a surer guarantee than the vigilance of sentinels." Men like that are worth something. These are the men we need—men who will never sell the truth, and who will, by the truth, shame the devil in man and in the world. Now, we can imagine that a brotherhood so united and inspired will be mighty for good; that a society with such principles will be honorable, true and helpful, and that, in such, a man will be safe from dog-hounds of slander, scandal, envy and malice, and that, surrounded as he will be by such loyal brethren, he can and will afford to smile at the base, the false, and the bad. Love, then, my reader, this brotherhood, by joining it, by filling your mind, heart and soul with its heroic and divine principles, and by consecrating all your talents to the holy services of friendship, love and truth.

"There shall arise from this confused sound of voices

A firmer faith than that our fathers knew,
A deep religion, which alone rejoices
In worship of the Infinitely True;
Not built on rite or portent, but a finer
And purer reverence for a Lord Diviner.

There shall come from out the noise of strife
and groaning

A broader and a juster brotherhood,
A deep equality of aim, postponing
All selfish seeking to the general good.

There shall come a time when each shall to
another

Be as Christ would have him, brother unto
brother."

—LEWIS MORRIS.

—:o:—

The "True Knight" presents in this issue a very complete and concise statement of the condition of the Endowment Rank, the figures being taken from the quarterly report of the Board of Control for the term ending March 31st, 1899. They also cover the work done during the fiscal year just ended. The showing should convince every eligible Knight of Pythias that nowhere else can he secure better or more assured indemnity than in our own Insurance branch, and that he need not and ought not to go into other fraternal insurance organisations for his protection. The Endowment Rank is furnishing the best and most secure life insurance that can be obtained; its rates are reasonable and right, and its management is by men of known integrity and wide experience. Such being so, this department of the Order should have universal Pythian support.

—:o:—

Owing to crowded columns, the "True Knight" has been compelled to hold over valuable matter re the newly-elected Grand Lodge officers for our next issue. We hope to be in a position to give a complete sketch of all the honored brothers, and a complete account of the Grand Lodge proceedings.

It is said that one of Rathbone's members rides a Whyte Wheel from the C. C. C. Cycle Livery, Granville street.

Knights, Attention!

ROBERT CLARK'S CLOTHING STORE

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In the latest up-to-date goods. He is showing Serge Suits at \$4.00; Canadian Tweeds at \$5.00; Scotch Tweeds at \$12.00; Black Worsted at \$10.00; Meltons at \$9.50. He has pants for the long-slim, long-stout, short-slim and short-stout men IN ALL PATTERNS.

At ROBT. CLARK'S Cor. Carrall and Cordova Sts.

GRAND LODGE SESSION.

The tenth annual session of the Grand Lodge met at Victoria on Tuesday, May 9th, at 9 o'clock, a. m., as prescribed. All the officers were present, except Grand Outer Guard Bro. Sample, of New Westminster. On the roll-call of lodges all were represented except Sandon, No. 24. A more harmonious convention has never been held in this Domain. Much business of importance was enacted, and the work of the Grand Lodge was done in a most creditable manner.

Wednesday's session was devoted to the election and installation of Grand Lodge officers, the installing officer being that veteran in Pythianism, Past Supreme Representative, Bro. C. L. Behnson, who also had the honor of being the first Grand Chancellor in British Columbia.

This paper received the hearty endorsement of the Grand Lodge, and, by resolution, was made the official organ of this Grand Domain.

The unwritten work was exemplified in an able manner by Supreme Representative H. J. Anstie and Bro. Ackerman.

After the adjournment of the Grand Lodge, the members attending Grand Lodge session were loyally entertained by their Victoria brothers at a banquet given in their honor at the Castle Hall. No pains were spared to make this feature enjoyable, and judging from the way that the refreshments disappeared from the lavishly laden festive board, the efforts of the Committee having the same in charge were duly appreciated.

The next meeting of the Grand Lodge will be held at Rossland.

:o:

SUPREME CHANCELLOR'S REPORT.

We are in receipt of the Supreme Chancellor's report, and it is very commendable. We are pleased to note the large increase in the membership and, under the able leadership of Bro. Sample, we look for large gains all over the Dominion. We note by his report that a number of lodges have been violating the laws of the Order. We trust that the Domain of British Columbia will not be amongst them.

We are pleased to note the growth of the Erdowment Rank, and we hope that every lodge in British Columbia will take steps towards forming a section of this important branch.

:o:

AN ACT OF JUSTICE.

"In the issue of this paper of Monday morning, August 22nd, 1898, there appeared an article headed "Lodge is Bankrupt," in which the name of Dr. R. L. C. White, Supreme Keeper of Records and Seal of the Knights of Pythias, was mentioned. In that publication the "Sentinel" did not intend to reflect, maliciously or discreditably, on Dr. White. Such, however, was the construction given to the article by members of the Order generally. Upon the best authority that can be gathered, "The Sentinel"

now believes that it was imposed upon and that the article was a misstatement of the facts, made by designing men for the purpose of exploiting their own grievances and promoting their own ambitions. "The Sentinel" deeply regrets the publication alluded to, and makes this public avowal of its disbelief of any of the charges contained in the article reflecting upon the official integrity or the private character of Dr. R. L. C. White."

It is with pleasure and considerable satisfaction that we publish the above article. Our Supreme Representatives, on their return from Indianapolis last Summer, favored us with a report dealing on this matter, and this, the final ending of a very unpleasant matter, but bears out their report, where they desired to show to our readers the confidence they had in the honor and integrity of Bro. White and the other officers and members of the Supreme Lodge, who had been so wantonly and maliciously attacked by an Indianapolis paper.

:o:

REPORT OF THE SUPREME REPRESENTATIVES.

To the Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge:—

Brethren,—Your representatives to the Supreme Lodge herewith beg leave to submit for your consideration a brief report of the more important legislation and other business transacted at the late Convention of the Supreme Lodge, held in the City of Indianapolis, August 23rd to September 1st, 1898.

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

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

Lodge officers and members of Committees so charged.

For a full report of Investigating Committee see Document 301, Journal of Proceedings, Supreme Lodge, 1899.

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

After the report of the Committee on Credentials, the Supreme Lodge Rank was conferred upon those in waiting. The reports of officers were submitted and referred to Committee on Distribution. The report of the Supreme Chancellor is lengthy and full of good advice, and worth the consideration of all. As a copy of this report is sent to each subordinate lodge we deem it inadvisable to burden you with the contents of same, further than to call your attention to the kindly words of the Supreme Chancellor for the Knights of this Province, and of Canada in general. Speaking of his visit during the convention of the Grand Lodge in New Westminster, he says: "The Convention was not only attended with success, but great strides were taken towards the reduction of the deficit, which for several years had existed. All conceded it to be one of the most enthusiastic and profitable conventions ever held in that Domain. I was royally received, and everything was done to make my visit pleasant and enjoyable. I was repeatedly assured that they would take hold of the situation with renewed vigor, and endeavor to improve their condition financially and otherwise. No better, no more enthusiastic Pythians can be found anywhere than in British Columbia. My stay was a continual round of pleasure." Speaking of the membership in Canada generally, the Supreme Chancellor says: "My heart has been touched, not only by the earnest labor of these brethren for the good of the Order, but but by their patriotic devotion to our Republic in the trying days through which we, as a nation, are passing. The flag of Great Britain is dipped to the Stars and Stripes of our glorious Union—floating side by side in lodge rooms, on parades, and on the public buildings. Political divisions there are, but the Anglo-Saxon people to-day are one in heart in the war that is being waged for God and humanity. The Mother Country and her child stand side by side. It augurs well for the hope we have ever cherished that this Order should become the first and foremost fraternal society on the North American Continent."

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

The total number of subordinate lodges, Dec 31st, 1897, was 6,683; total number of members thereof on same date, 468,269, a net gain during the calendar year of 46 lodges, and a net loss of 1,022 members, and a net gain during the years

1896 and 1897 of 179 lodges, and 3,730 members. It will be noted that we sustained a net loss of membership during the past year, the first since 1878, but when we take into consideration the depressed financial condition of the country we should congratulate ourselves that the loss is not larger. We have done as well as any of the fraternity organisations and better than most of them.

SUPREME LODGE FINANCES.

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

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

Balance on hand, March 31, 1892.....	\$ 58,191 00
Interest on deposits (Willey).....	720 00
Receipts, year ending March 31, 1893..	93,389 69
Receipts, year ending March 31, 1894..	101,136 96
Receipts, year ending March 31, 1895..	88,330 50
Receipts, year ending March 31, 1896..	66,210 72
Receipts, year ending March 31, 1897..	42,859 82
Receipts, year ending March 31, 1898..	37,716 17
	\$488,554 86
Disbursements, year ending March 31,	
1893.....	\$100,796 00
Willey deficit.....	60,166 64
Disbursements, year ending March 31,	
1894.....	63,415 46
Disbursements, year ending March 31,	
1895.....	96,936 55
Disbursements, year ending March 31,	
1896.....	50,766 93
Disbursements, year ending March 31,	
1897.....	68,630 78
Disbursements, year ending March 31,	
1898.....	38,736 47
Balance on hand, March 31, 1898.....	9,106 03
	\$488,554 86

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

and disbursements for ordinary purposes for the fiscal year named:

1893—Receipts	\$ 94,109 69
1894—Receipts	101,136 96
1895—Receipts	88,330 50
1896—Receipts	66,210 72
1897—Receipts	42,859 82
1898—Receipts	37,716 17
1893—Disbursements	\$ 58,690 00
1894—Disbursements	63,415 46
1895—Disbursements	61,874 43
1896—Disbursements	50,766 93
1897—Disbursements	39,964 43
1898—Disbursements	38,736 47

From the above tables the conclusion to be drawn is inescapable—it is that, while our receipts have been steadily decreasing, our disbursements have not, as has been persistently asserted, been increasing. On the contrary, as compared with the total disbursements for all purposes for the two fiscal years ending March 31, 1894, the total disbursements for all purposes for the two fiscal years ending March 31, 1898, were 30 per cent. less; or to compare single years in which no convention of the Supreme Lodge was held, the total disbursements for the year ending March 31, 1898, were forty and a half per cent. less than the total disbursements for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1894. Notwithstanding these facts, unscrupulous persons have continued to declaim against the "extravagance of the Supreme Lodge," and vehemently to assert that, while our revenues are decreasing, our expenditures are growing larger from year to year; and there are doubtless many honest and well-meaning members of the rank and file who actually believe these assertions to be true.

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

SALE OF SUPPLIES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 31—

1893	\$83,675 42
1894	69,849 98
1895	75,569 19
1896	51,234 96
1897	35,406 76
1898	30,594 73

The figures given above make manifest the stupendous fact that, within six years, our total sales of supplies have decreased sixty-three and a half per cent. Of the fifty-four grand domains, only two—and they are comparatively small—bought as much in 1898 as they bought in 1893. In the larger grand domains—those which have been our best customers heretofore—the decrease has been enormous. Fifteen of these, whose purchases in 1893 aggregated \$58,302.74—considerably more than half the total amount sold—bought in 1898 an aggregate of \$18,294.57. The decrease in each of these in five years has been as follows: Minnesota, 85 per cent.; Kansas, 84; Missouri, 81; Tennessee, 80;

Colorado, 78 1-2; California, 73; Iowa, 68 8-4; Illinois, 68 1-2; Texas, 66 1-2; Indiana, 65 1-2; Ohio, 64; New York, 59 1-2; Pennsylvania, 58 1-2; Alabama, 54 1-4; Massachusetts, 35 1-2.

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

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

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

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

UNIFORM RANK.

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

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

ENDOWMENT RANK.

The report of the Board of Control, a voluminous work, embracing all the business transactions of this great insurance organization for the past two years, is entirely too heavy to at-

tempt to publish in full in this report. We believe that in all their acts, the members of the Board have been actuated from worthy motives, and have acted as they thought best for the interests of the members of the Endowment Rank, and we trust that the statements made in their report as to the investments made will be fully realised. We are not in favor, however, of investments by the Board in other than National, State or Municipal bonds, and in this matter we are able to report that in future only investments of the above nature can be made. Below will be found the statement of the Board with reference to loans made, as to which so much dissatisfaction and difference of opinion has existed:

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

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

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

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

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

THE SUPREME TRIBUNAL.

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

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

Salary Supreme Chancellor, two years....	\$ 6,000
Clerk hire for Supreme Chancellor, actual cost, and not to exceed, for two years..	1,800
Office rent at actual cost, and not to exceed	1,000
Postage, telephone, telegrams, expressage, removal of furniture, actual cost, and not to exceed, for two years.....	400
Travelling expenses of Supreme Chancellor, at actual cost, and not to exceed, for two years.....	1,000

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

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

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

The following amendments to the Supreme Constitution and Statutes, of interest to each Grand Domain, were adopted:—

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED.
Supreme Constitution.

Article VII., Section 6.—A Supreme Representative, at the time of his election or appointment must be a Past Grand Chancellor in good standing in his Grand Lodge, and in a subordinate lodge within its domain, not the holder at any time during his term of any office

in his Grand Lodge, and during all of such term an actual and bona fide resident of the domain of such Grand Lodge; and should a Supreme Representative become not in good standing in or cease to be a member of his Grand Lodge and of a subordinate lodge within its domain, or should he accept and hold any office in his Grand Lodge, or should he become other than an actual and bona fide resident of the domain of his Grand Lodge, then, or in either of such cases, his rights as a Supreme Representative shall cease and determine, and a vacancy shall be held to exist in such position.
In effect September 1st, 1898.

SUPREME STATUTES.

26. The revenue of the Supreme Government shall be derived from a per capita tax, fees for warrants and the sale of supplies.—In effect December 31st, 1898.

27. Each Grand Lodge shall pay to the Supreme Lodge, semi-annually, on the first days of April and October, each year, such per capita tax as may be determined by resolution at each biennial convention of the Supreme Lodge, for

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each member in good standing on the 31st day of December next preceding; and the first semi-annual payment of the per capita tax herein provided shall be due and payable on or before the first day for every day that shall elapse until the same shall be paid; provided, also, that until the said per capita tax and the penalty, if any, shall be paid, the Grand Domain so delinquent shall not be entitled to representation in the Supreme Lodge, and the Supreme Chancellor shall in his discretion arrest its charter.—In effect December 31st, 1898.

31. All official jewels and the following printed supplies may be obtained only from the Supreme Keeper of Records and Seal, the Supreme Lodge reserving the exclusive right to provide the same, to-wit: Charters, rituals, installation books, ceremonials, question books, official receipts, transfer cards, withdrawal cards, grand lodge cards, travelling shields, second rank blanks, orders for S. A. P. W., Supreme constitution and statutes, credentials of honor, decisions of the Supreme Tribunal and official record.—In effect October 31st, 1898.

37. On and after January 1st, 1899, the supplies and printed matter referred to in Section 31 shall be sold to grand lodges at prices to be fixed by the committee on printing and supplies; provided, that the price for jewels and official receipts shall not exceed twenty-five per cent. profit upon their actual cost.—In effect October 31st, 1898.

39. The Supreme Keeper of Records and Seal shall enter upon the duties of his office immediately after his installation. He shall attend all conventions of the Supreme Lodge, and every session of each convention, and keep true and comprehensive record of all the proceedings thereof, which, when printed, shall be styled and cited as the "Official Record of the Proceedings of the Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias," and he shall cause the same to be printed and shall transmit to each Grand Lodge as many copies thereof as the Grand Lodge has Past Grand Chancellors, ritualistic officers and subordinate lodges, one copy to each subordinate lodge not within the domain of a Grand Lodge, and two copies to the office or the Recorder of the Supreme Tribunal. He shall have charge of the archives, seal books, papers and similar property of the Supreme Lodge, and of

the sale of all supplies; conduct the official correspondence of the Supreme Lodge; prepare all warrants and charters for grand lodges, and all warrants for subordinate lodges not within the domain of a grand lodge; keep a roster of all Past Grand Chancellors entitled to admission to the Supreme Lodge, and perform all other services which may from time to time be required of him by the Supreme Lodge.—In effect October 31st, 1898.

110. All jewels of the Order, except those for the Uniform Rank, shall be supplied by the Supreme Keeper of Records and Seal, at such prices as may be fixed by the Committee on Printing, and supplied from time to time, to persons legally entitled to procure them; and it shall not be lawful for any lodge, body or member of the Order to procure, wear, or be in possession of any jewel, or any imitation thereof, except such as shall have been obtained from the Supreme Keeper of Records and Seal, either directly or through the proper Grand Lodge; provided, that this section shall not apply to jewels of the approved design, heretofore presented to or in possession of any member of the Order, which have been properly attested by the impression of the Great Seal of the Supreme Lodge.—In effect October 31st, 1898.

265. A Page, Esquire or Knight shall be considered to be in good standing in the subordinate lodge of which he is a member:

Par. 1. If he is not under suspension from membership for the non-payment of arrearages or for other causes.

Par. 2. If he has not renounced the Order. In effect October 26th, 1898.

266. A Past Chancellor, upon whom has been conferred the Grand Lodge Rank shall be considered to be in good standing in the Grand Lodge of which he is a member:

Par. 1. If he is in good standing in the subordinate lodge of which he is a member.

Par. 2. If he is not under suspension from membership in such Grand Lodge; and

Par. 3. If the subordinate lodge of which he is a member shall not be under suspension for any cause.

In effect October 26th, 1898.

267. A Past Grand Chancellor, upon whom has been conferred the Supreme Lodge Rank, shall be considered to be in good standing in the Supreme Lodge:

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We are showing all the new shapes in Fedora and Stiff Hats this season in slate, fawn, brown and black, also a large range of light weight straw goods with fancy bands. Linnen hats will be greatly worn this summer. We have a great variety to select from.

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Par. 1. If he is in good standing in a subordinate and a grand lodge.

Par. 2. If he is not under suspension in the Supreme Lodge.

Par. 3. If the Grand Lodge of which he is a member is not under suspension for any cause, or its charter is not revoked.

In effect October 26th, 1898.

4. A subordinate lodge, subject to the legislation of its Grand Lodge, may establish the fee to accompany an application for affiliation by the deposit of a transfer card. A subordinate lodge, not within the domain of a Grand Lodge, may fix such fee, provided that no affiliation fee in such lodge shall exceed one-half the fee required by it for the three ranks of knighthood. The fee for the issuance of a transfer card shall be one dollar.—In effect October 29th, 1898.

295. A former member of the Order, who was suspended from membership in his subordinate lodge and in the Order for the non-payment of arrearages, who desires to be restored to such membership, may make application therefor to the subordinate lodge by which he was so suspended. Such application shall be accompanied by such sum as the by-laws of such lodge may prescribe for reinstatement, which amount shall not exceed one year's dues.—In effect October 31st, 1898.

326. The fee to be charged by a subordinate lodge for reinstatement to membership therein of a member suspended for non-payment of arrearages shall be as prescribed by the Grand Lodge having jurisdiction. The total amount of the reinstatement fee must be paid into the exchequer of the lodge before an applicant for reinstatement can be legally restored to membership, which amount shall not exceed one year's dues.—In effect October 31st, 1898.

TITLE IV., CHAPTER XXI.

Relating to the Reinstatement of Expelled Members.

354a. If a member who has been expelled shall desire reinstatement, he may petition the Grand Chancellor of the Grand Domain in which the lodge by which he was expelled is located, for permission to apply to such lodge for reinstatement. He shall accompany such petition with a full statement of the facts upon which he relies to justify his application, and by proof that he

has notified the lodge of his intention to make such petition. If such petition be granted by the Grand Chancellor, the petitioner may thereupon make application to the lodge by which he was expelled for reinstatement, and such lodge may, after hearing, grant the application for reinstatement; provided at least one week's notice has been given to every member of such lodge of the meeting at which action thereon will be taken, and provided, also, that not less than two-thirds of the members present at such meeting, and entitled to vote, shall be in favor thereof.—In effect August 27th, 1898.

354b. When a lodge by whose action a member has been expelled becomes defunct, he may petition the Grand Chancellor of the domain in which such defunct lodge was located for reinstatement to membership in the Order. He shall accompany such petition with a full statement of the facts upon which he relies to justify his application; whereupon, the Grand Chancellor shall make such investigation as he may deem advisable and necessary as to the propriety of granting the petition, and shall submit the petition, together with the results of his investigation, to the Grand Lodge at its next convention. Should the Grand Lodge grant the petition by a two-thirds vote of the members present, the Grand Chancellor shall direct the Grand Keeper of Records and Seal to issue to the applicant a Grand Lodge card, and shall cause to be endorsed on back of same a brief statement of facts in the case. The fee for the issuance of the Grand Lodge card shall be governed by the statutes of the domain providing for the issuance of Grand Lodge cards.—In effect August 27th, 1898.

410. Repealed.—In effect October 31st, 1898.

ENDOWMENT RANK.

The Supreme Lodge, Knights of Pythias, at its Twelfth Convention, held in the city of Indianapolis, Ind., August 23rd to September 1st, 1898, inclusive, adopted amendments to the Constitution and the General Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Endowment Rank as follows:

Article II., Section 7 of the Constitution was amended by adding the following:

"From and after the dates of the certificates held by such members, less 10 per cent. for ex-



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penses incurred in carrying the endowment to date of cancellation."

Also the following, to be known as the second paragraph of said Section 7, Article II. of the Constitution:

"The Board of Control is hereby authorized to pay or refund an amount as may by them be deemed just and equitable to any member of the Endowment Rank in good standing, upon sufficient evidence that such member, by reason of old age or physical disability, is pecuniarily unable to continue such certificate in force, and upon the surrender of the same and all claims thereunder; provided, his membership in the Rank has continued for a period of ten consecutive years."

Also the following, to be known as Section 9 of said Article II. of the Constitution of the Endowment Rank:

"In times of epidemic, or upon information of a threatened epidemic, the Board shall have authority to prohibit the admission of members in any Section of the Endowment Rank."

Article III., Section 5 of the Constitution was amended to read as follows:

"The Board shall have power to direct the investment in ready convertible securities of such parts of the endowment fund as it may deem wise and proper, when the amount in said fund will justify; provided, such investment shall be limited to government, state and municipal bonds and first mortgages constituting a first or prior lien on first-class improved real estate, not exceeding 50 per cent. (fifty per cent.) of its market value."

This act to take effect immediately.

Article IV., Section 6 of the General Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Endowment Rank was amended by adding thereto the following:

"If any member of the Endowment Rank shall engage in a hazardous undertaking other than that now provided for under the hazardous or extra hazardous grades, or sojourn or reside in a country or locality where he shall be exposed to physical or climatic dangers, rendering his risk extra hazardous, the Board of Control may annul the certificate of such member or reduce the amount of his endowment to the minimum. Such member shall immediately notify the Board of Control upon engaging in such hazardous undertaking or making such change of residence as above specified, and a failure to give such notice shall forfeit such certificate."

Article VI., Section 1 of the General Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Endowment Rank was amended by adding to the second paragraph of said Section the following:

"Provided that in the case of members transferred to the Fourth Class (present system), from either of the former classes, the date of such transfer shall be taken as the date of admission to the Endowment Rank in computing the amount to be paid as aforesaid."

Article XII., Section 1 of the General Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Endowment Rank was amended by striking out all of the first paragraph and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"When a member of the Endowment Rank is suspended from his Lodge for non-payment of dues, or for any other cause, his membership

in the Section and Rank shall be forfeited and his certificate become void."

A revised edition of the Constitution of the Endowment Rank and General Laws, Rules and Regulations for the government of same will be printed and will be furnished all sections.

With reference to the matter of Secretaries of Endowment Rank Sections, we beg to state that every effort was made to have the desired changes, and while we were unsuccessful, we have received every assurance that the local sections or members thereof can in no way suffer if the laws are complied with, as they now stand; furthermore, it was shown that were the laws of the Endowment Rank amended as you desired, it would have caused considerable trouble and entailed a very great expense upon the Rank, owing to the laws governing fraternal insurance companies in the majority of the States, requiring a very heavy bond in the case of Secretaries becoming the agents of the Board of Control. We trust that this explanation will be satisfactory to the membership of the Endowment Rank, desiring at the same time to express our confidence in the stability of the Rank, and the hope that our membership will give it the support it deserves, for upon the membership principally will depend the future solvency and success of this important branch.

The report of the S. K. of R. S. gives British Columbia the 29th place out of the 54 Grand Domains, in combining numerical gain and the gain per cent., and while we regret that we cannot report our Grand Domain at the top of the list, as regards the relative rank, we feel a considerable pride in representing this young Domain that has such an excellent showing amongst many of those so much our seniors.

In conclusion we desire to say that we have endeavored to act in the best interests of the Order, whilst serving this honorable body, in the Supreme Lodge, and while the last convention of the Supreme Lodge was not one of the most pleasant, we believe that the ultimate results will be for the good of the Order throughout the entire Supreme Domain. Trusting that this Grand Lodge and its Subordinate Lodges throughout the Domain of British Columbia will realize, this coming year, a year of unprecedented prosperity, and that our fair Province will ever be found in the foremost ranks in the good cause of Pythianism, we remain,

Faternally yours,

H. J. ANSTIE.

T. ACKERMAN.

Supreme Representatives.

:o:

The other day a Whyte Flyer was in a collision and came out on top. The C.C.C. Cycle Company straightened the spokes. It had to straighten the whole of the other wheel.

Wm. Ralph...

Dealer in.....

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GRAND LODGE OFFICERS.

The following officers were elected at the late session of the Grand Lodge:—

- W. D. Mearns, Grand Chancellor, Vancouver.
 J. W. Graham, Grand Vice-Chancellor, Rossland.
 J. L. Brown, Grand Prelate, Kamloops.
 Emil Pferdner, Grand Keeper of Records & Seal, Victoria.
 E. P. Nathan, Grand Master Exchequer, Victoria.
 N. Binns, Grand Master at Arms, Trail.
 D. D. Griffiths, Grand Inner Guard, Wellington.
 A. Ferguson, G. and Outer Guard, Westminster.

—:o:—

LETTER FROM GRAND CHANCELLOR: MEARNS.

The following letter has been sent to all the lodges by the Grand Chancellor, W. D. Mearns, on his return from Victoria:—

Vancouver, May 18th, 1899.

To the Chancellor, Commander, Officers and Members:

Greeting:—

Dear Sirs and Brother Knights.—By the time this letter reaches you, you will have selected your officers for the coming term. It is my wish and desire that the work of the lodge be done without the use of the ritual, so far as it lies in your power; that the different officers commit to memory the ritualistic work of their respective offices, so that at least in the opening and closing of the lodges the ritual will be entirely done away with.

Our noble Order in this domain is to be congratulated upon the progress it has made in the past, but we must not rest upon our laurels. We must buckle on our armour and work with renewed vigor for the cause of right and humanity. Therefore, I would urge upon every knight in this Grand Domain the importance of his carrying in person, both in spirit and deed, the cardinal principles of our Order, viz., Friendship, Charity and Benevolence; that we do our part one towards the other in our daily intercourse with one another, so that we will excite the curiosity and admiration of an observing public, and they will learn that Pythianism is more than a name.

Avoid dissensions: work together in the spirit of fraternity. Above all, avoid petty bickerings and back-biting, and give to each brother the credit of good intentions; even if his opinions do not agree with your own. He may be right; you may be wrong. Let us all work for the interests of the Order, and make this the banner year of Pythianism in British Columbia.

While I would be proud to know that the lodges were adding new names to their rosters, I would be more gratified to learn that means had been discovered to bring back to our castle hails delinquent and suspended members, and that the suspension of members for non-payment of dues has ceased. I hope some good knight may formulate some wise plan that will interest and entertain, so that the old story of non-attendance at lodge convocations and

suspensions of members will be a thing of the past.

I commend to your favorable consideration the Pythian journal now being published in the City of Vancouver, named "The True Knight." The Grand Lodge, at its last session, endorsed this paper, and by resolution made it the official organ for this Grand Domain. I therefore take great pleasure in calling your attention to this journal. No other one thing has added more to the material interest of our Order in this Domain than this paper. Conducted wholly by the Knights of Pythias lodges of Vancouver, and entirely in the interests of the Order, its influence for good has already been felt. This journal is not conducted as a business enterprise or proposition, but purely for the propagation of Pythian principles, and to bring the Knights of British Columbia in closer touch, one with the other. Every lodge should see to it that it has a regular correspondent who will contribute monthly matters of interest affecting his lodge, so that the members of this Grand Domain may know what progress is being made outside of their own lodges. This paper should be in the hands of every Knight of Pythias in British Columbia, and all lodges financially able to do so should give it support by the insertion of lodge cards and subscriptions.

I hope to visit your lodge during the year, and I look forward to the pleasure of meeting you in person in your castle halls, and making the acquaintance of the brother knights of this Domain.

If at any time I can be of assistance to your lodge, don't fail to command me, for I will cheerfully respond to any summons I may receive, looking to the advancement of our Order. You will always find me willing to assist you at any time to the best of my ability. I wish to keep in touch with the membership, and hope no brother will hesitate to approach me at any time on any subject affecting the welfare of the Order in general and this Grand Domain in particular.

Wishing your Lodge a prosperous year, I am, with best wishes, sincerely and fraternally

Yours in F. C. and B.,

W. D. MEARNS, G. C.

—:o:—

MEMORIAL DAY.

Victoria, B. C., May 27th, 1899.

To the Officers and Members of Subordinate Lodges of the Grand Domain of British Columbia:—

Knightly Sirs and Brothers.—Section 444 of the Supreme Statutes designates the first Tuesday after the second Sunday in June of each year as "Memorial Day" of the Order, Knights of Pythias, but provides that subordinate lodges may select a different day for such services when the circumstances render it desirable. Therefore it is my request that all subordinate lodges in this Grand Domain meet in their respective localities on the day designated, or as soon after as practicable for the purpose of engaging in such services and exercises as may be appropriate to the occasion.

I sincerely hope and trust that all lodges will observe this day, as it is a duty we owe to the dead not to forget.

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

W. D. MEARNS, G. C.

Attest—Emil Pferdner, G. K. R. S.

:o:

FROM GRANVILLE LODGE.

To the Editor of the "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother.—Another month has passed, and once more it devolves upon me to let you know what we have been doing in Granville Lodge during the last month, but as I attended the Grand Lodge in Victoria on one of our meeting nights, and yesterday being the Queen's Birthday, and therefore no meeting of Granville Lodge (for we are good and loyal subjects to our noble Queen) I had the pleasure of attending only two meetings the past month. But these two were enjoyable ones, especially the one on the 17th, when we were honored by a visit from our honored and beloved G. C., Brother W. D. Mearns; Supreme Representative, H. J. Anstie; P. G. C., J. E. Evans; P. C., H. Hoffmeister, of Crusader Lodge, and Brother P. C. Mains, of Chicago, Ills., all of whom delivered interesting speeches, but especially so, Brother W. D. Mearns, G. C., who made a lengthy and very enthusiastic speech upon the duties we owed to the Order in return for the many blessings that the Order of K. of P. showered upon us, one and all, and he urged us to put our shoulders to the wheel and help him in his efforts to push our beloved Order to the very top during the coming year, and show the outside world that our mottoes were not meaningless words, but that the principles of them were deeply inrooted in our hearts. At the conclusion of his speech, we all felt that we had got the right man in the right place when the G. L. representatives elected Brother Mearns as our G. C. and we all promised to do our very best to aid him in his efforts to make the Order in British Columbia all that it should be. During the evening, Brother Mearns most generously treated the boys to a box of the fragrant Kurtz's Pioneer cigars, and the Lodge tendered him a vote of thanks at the conclusion of the meeting, for honoring us with his presence, as well as for the cigars. Our newly-re-elected S. R., Brother H. J. Anstie, also favored us with a very impressive and interesting speech, as did also Brother J. E. Evans, P. G. C., and Brothers Past Chancellors Hoffmeister and Mains, but time and space will not permit me to go into the same in detail. I only wish to add, that the members of Granville Lodge were greatly pleased to have the brothers with them, and hope that they will be honored very often with similar visits by the above-mentioned brothers, as well as all others who feel inclined to honor old Granville with a visit. I am pleased to be able to report that Doctor R. Mathison is coming back into our fold, and we shall make a strong effort to get the most of our suspended members for N. P. D. back into our Lodge. But I am afraid I am taking up too much of your valuable space; therefore, I will close for this time, and, wishing the newly-elected Grand

Lodge officers success in their endeavors to make this a banner year for Pythianism in B. C., I remain,

Fraternally yours,

C. L. BEHNSEN.

Vancouver, B. C., May 25th, 1899.

:o:

FROM RATHBONE LODGE.

To the Editor of the "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother.—This has been an eventful month for Rathbone Lodge. Our G. L. Representative and officers of the Grand Lodge have returned with flying colors and smiling faces. Brother W. D. Mearns has been elected Grand Chancellor for this Domain, and Brother H. J. Anstie, the Supreme Representative, has been re-elected. Brother Grand Chancellor Mearns has been one of Rathbone's most ardent and persevering members, and when he returned, congratulations were bestowed on him from all quarters. He and Brother H. J. Anstie, S. R., spoke in glowing terms of the kindly and entertaining spirit with which they were received by the Victoria knights. After the speeches delivered by many of the members, all of whom spoke in praiseworthy and congratulatory terms, Grand Chancellor W. D. Mearns delivered an oration on the work which lay before him, requesting each brother to put his shoulder to the wheel and so help to make the year '99 one of the most prosperous ones in the history of Pythianism in British Columbia. Speaking to the brothers of his own lodge he desired them to still regard him as they did before he was Grand Chancellor.

Bro. H. J. Anstie, S. R., again spoke upon the welfare of the Order. Referring to our American cousins, he noted how the late war between America and Spain was drawing us together in mutual fellowship, and especially so with regard to the Knights of Pythias.

G. C., W. D. Mearns, was not slow in showing his appreciation of his high and honorable position. We think, had a stranger entered our precincts during the Good of the Order he would have declared that a smoker was being held, as cigars were being passed around in unlimited quantities.

Brother Past G. C., J. E. Evans, of Crusader Lodge, was with us, and in an address made mention that it mattered little what lodge we were members of, as long as we were Knights of Pythias, and as such we should work together.

We were favored with a visit from Brother Mains, of Chicago, last Friday. He expected to locate in Vancouver, provided he obtains suitable employment. We wish him luck.

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The first nomination of officers took place last Friday evening, but the names will not be given until the final election.

Our Prelate, Brother Simpson, reported a brother from California, who was ill, and, he thought, in distress. One of the Relief Bureau members called and ascertained all particulars.

As space was wanted for Grand Lodge news, we have postponed giving the history of Rathbone Lodge until next month.

Yours fraternally,

ARTHUR J. CROOK.

Rathbone Lodge.

Vancouver, B. C. May 20th, 1899.

:o:

FROM LANGLEY.

To the Editor of the "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother.—The last regular meeting of our Lodge was held in the Castle on Saturday, 20th inst. It was the largest and best meeting of this term, so far, and from the interest manifested in everything, calculated to advance the Order, and the Lodge in particular. We have as grand a body of men in our Lodge as is to be found in the Domain. Among those present were Brothers Holmes and Richison, who came all the way from Ladner, a distance of 35 or 40 miles. They deserve our highest commendation, and no better example could be given of the interest these brothers are taking in the Lodge.

A feature of the evening was a long talk by Brother McDonald, in which he dealt at some length on matters which had occupied the Grand Lodge members at their recent session in Victoria. We were pleased at the satisfactory results of the business of the Grand Lodge and commended the brother on the course he had pursued. One thing drawn to my attention in our copy of the Grand Lodge report was the large amount of benefits paid out during the year by the several subordinate lodges in the Domain. No estimate can be given of the good done by these benefits to unfortunate members. A point we now pride ourselves on, and one we would like to congratulate the Order at large on, is our good fortune in having at our

head such a staunch veteran of Pythianism as Bro. W. D. Mearns. A better choice could not have been made.

Brother Stanley Towle is a brick. His ready humor affords us no small amount of pleasure, and lightens to no small extent our work.

Trusting I have not taken up too much room, I am

Yours in F. C. & B.,

N. P. OGILVIE.

Langley, B. C. May 20th, 1899.

:o:

FROM NEW DENVER.

To the Editor of the "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother,—I feel so thoroughly overcome by the castigation I received in your last issue from our newly-elected and worthy Grand Chancellor, Bro. Mearns, that little heart is left me to pen the usual monthly budget from No. 22. It apparently was the use of the word "shuffle" that brought me into disgrace, but I trust Brother Mearns will overlook my grave error, as I am but a child in Pythian experience compared to the honorable and lengthened experience of himself in the ranks. Some seven years ago, Bro. Mearns assisted in conducting your humble servant through the bewildering chaos of uncertainty into the bright reality of Knighthood, in Rathbone, No. 7, an experience that has since been of material profit in many an emergency. But an error has been made and is freely admitted with sincere apologies, which are given with the hope of their proving a balm to wounded and ruffled feelings. However, apart from this, it is pleasing to know the spirit of the resolution in discussion was not denied, and that there did, and does, exist a contingency that should be provided for. The resolution came before the Grand Lodge and was negatived, but the various delegates were recommended to have the several lodges provide for the said contingency in their by-laws. This is on the principle of "Not guilty, but don't do it again." With this sort of a negative acceptance—if you will permit such an Irishism to pass muster—New Denver Lodge is content to rest for the time be-

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ing. A little thought on the subject, however, will convince your readers that the subject, bearing as it does, directly on the benefit system, has a deep import and far-reaching influence.

No. 22 is proud of its Grand Representative, Brother Nelson, and confidently looks forward to the time when he shall rise to the higher honors before him. As one of the Kootenay contingent, he assisted in making the upper country influence felt at the Victoria session. Kootenay ought to be well satisfied with the result of the election of Grand Officers. To have secured two important offices, with a good show at the G. C. for next year, and the meeting place of the next Grand Lodge sitting, is a tangible testimony to the growth of the Order in this section. The Coast delegates will get a genuine western reception next year, and all the Kootenay lodges will contribute their quota to the success of the event.

Brother Van Dorn is just recovering from the painful effects of an ulcerated leg, due to rheumatism locating on an old fracture of the bone. He is heartily welcomed back to the Castle Hall.

Brother W. P. Evans has removed to Kaslo, to occupy an important position in that city. As one of the most constant and oldest members of the lodge he will be missed. Your humble servant succeeds him as K. of R. & S. of No. 22, and Brother Nelson as Grand Lodge Deputy.

Congratulations are extended to the Uniformed Rank just installed at Nelson. They have a fine set of officers and a strapping body of recruits for the "goose-step."

Brother H. Brady has left this section and taken up his residence in the Atlin country. May good fortune attend him!

Now that the "True Knight" has been officially proclaimed, it is sincerely trusted its field of influence will be enlarged by the hearty cooperation of every knight in the Grand Domain. One does not often complain of having too much of a good thing, and our official organ is worthy of every support.

Our lodge meetings keep well attended, and the interest therein is maintained.

Rev. Brother Cleland, of London, was a recent visitor to the lodge, congratulating the members upon their work under the ritual. Brother Cleland has a large fund of the milk of human kindness. He makes an ideal knight, and we wish we had him.

At this time of the year, the members get widely scattered through the hills, attending to their various mining interests. This will follow throughout the Summer, making it hard for the faithful few to keep things rolling. In the Fall we look for a grand revival in our favor, for we need members.

C. E. SMITHERINGALE.

New Denver, B. C., May 17th, 1899.

DEATH.

For many years has it been borne in on me to write on the above subject, because with me, as with you, Death, at some time or other, must come. Do not for one moment imagine

that it is my wish to speak of anything gruesome, horrible, or even sad. Nay, rather, in all I may say let my one wish be to make the inevitable a little less fearsome, even if but by a small degree.

Are we cowards that we should fear death? or are we only fools? Come death must; the thought is disagreeable, so disagreeable, in fact, that we decide to think about it "to-morrow," but "to-morrow" never comes. Our fathers did the same before us, and are we wiser than they? Well—eh—in most ways—yes: but not in this. But enough. Let us be in earnest. What is death? Is there such a thing as death? Let us see. First, what is death? Destruction? Annihilation? What is it? It seems to me "Death is life," and "Life is death," upon this plane. Yes. Your seed of grain dies, disappears, has rotted, yet it lives, springs upward and lovingly embraces the warm sunlight, clad anew in life for the helping of man. When this is so with the vegetable kingdom, is it not reasonable to suppose that the same death may hold something better for mankind, seeing he is of more account than grain. Again—we all know there is not any such thing as destruction. Even matter cannot be destroyed; it can but pass from state to state. Even so our bodies disappear as bodies, but live again as a different kind of matter. We fear death because of sin; yes, we dread it because we cannot understand it. Shall we ever understand it? Perhaps no here, but hereafter, yes. But this, I say, we can and we should learn not to fear death. It has been given us to know that herein in some way, not now appearing, lies the solution of our very existence. Let me go further, and state this, that we human beings are so taken up with things mortal that we render ourselves incapable of comprehending the immortal. We talk of death. We look on the dead body, may be, of some dear one; we see a corpse and weep because it is but lifeless clay. Oh, fool! 'tis but the house wherein dwelt thy friend. He has gone where thou shalt follow soon. My brothers, pause here and dwell upon this thought: "The house wherein dwelt thy friend." Just think, that the body is but the abiding place for a short while; a sort of house wherein one dwells whilst a better home is preparing. We die not; we but pass from here to another house, not made with hands. Death is but the door whereby we enter a better place.

REGINALD RIVERS.

FROM VANCOUVER CITY COMPANY, NO. 4, U. R.

To the Editor of the "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother,—As the official correspondent of the Uniform Rank in Vancouver, I regret that there is so little to write about in connection with that body at present. At our last meeting, nothing outside of the routine business was done. However, as I promised not to neglect your next issue, I must fulfil my pledge and take some subject affecting the Order at large. At the Grand Lodge Convention held in Victoria on the 9th and 10th of this month, amendments to the constitution deal-

ing with suspended members, were brought up, to the effect that the matter be left entirely to the lodges to deal with. A suspended brother may now be reinstated for half his indebtedness to the lodge at the time of his suspension, if the lodge so direct. This law may be beneficial in some ways and to some members, but there is the danger of some taking advantage of this, and others, perhaps, of being kept out of the Order, when once suspended. It is to be earnestly hoped that from all the efforts which have been made in recent years to get members to do their duty, some good results may follow in causing members to pay up their dues promptly. It occurs to me that if the subordinate lodges would appropriate a certain percentage of each fee received from the several candidates and create a sinking fund, upon which to draw in favor of indigent members, the difficulty would be overcome in some measure. The plan is simple enough, but I suppose full of difficulties, like all the rest dealing with this vexed question. From experience, it is, I think, well known that not more than about 20 per cent. of the membership in any of our lodges are delinquent in this matter of payment of dues; in some of these a matter of pure neglect, in a few inability, and it is these we want to help. If, therefore, a fund could be raised, and the interest on it be made to meet the deficiency yearly for worthy members only, the others could be dropped out, as they deserve to be. Many a good and true Pythian drops out, from inability to keep up his payments, who for years, it may be, has paid into the Order in good faith. He dies, and because he is not in good standing, he is buried as a pauper, and is forgotten; or, in old age, as in the case of an old brother of another order to which I belong, when he cannot take care of himself, he is sent to the poorhouse, or "Old Men's Home," and we parade the streets with flashing jewels and expensive regalia, boasting of Friendship, Charity and Benevolence. Where is our consistency? Pythianism teaches us, if it teaches anything at all,

that all obligations under the fraternity are mutual. Nevertheless, as charity is one of the cardinal virtues, are we not taught that it extends to all who may require the exercise of its principles; and should not we grant in charity that which we are under no other obligation to give?

In a mutual beneficial institution, each member of it can demand his right. In the Pythian Order every member in good standing has certain rights, and granting these to him is not an act of charity, as charity can only be exercised when there is no social right to demand the benefit or relief. Are we technically right in withholding benefit from a brother not in good standing, or charitable in passing him by, a worthy man? I know no law of Pythianism which forbids an act of charity towards an object requiring relief, yet we practically do so to our members and strangers among us, if in a case of destitution, or in a case of death, we stretch not out a helping hand because a brother is not in good standing. I do not for a moment insinuate that we have done so as yet, but a case may present itself to us at any time, and from what I know of the Knights of Pythias in Vancouver, I have no fear of their failing in their duty to any worthy brother. But, all the same, the warning will not be out of place.

Fraternally yours,

J. IRVINE.

Vancouver, B. C., May 26th, 1899.

Brother Knights—Assist Grand Chancellor Mearns in making this the banner year of Pythianism in British Columbia. He is a worker, and "Progress" is his motto.

The Committee in charge of the "True Knight" request from the Grand Lodge officers biographical sketches, together with a photograph cut. The "True Knight" has made arrangements to secure these cuts at a reasonable cost, and will be pleased to execute any orders entrusted to its care.

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FROM KAMLOOPS.

McCRUM—On May 21st, 1899, the wife of Jos. McCrum of a daughter.

MALLERY—On May 30th, 1899, the wife of G. T. Mallery, of a son.

C. T. Godfrey, of Primrose Lodge, No. 20, has been a visitor to Vancouver during the past week.

Walter Wilkinson, of Primrose Lodge, No. 20, left on May 24th for Pennsylvania, having received word of the serious illness of his mother.

J. L. and E. D. Brown attended Grand Lodge meeting at Victoria last month. While on the coast they renewed acquaintance with a large number of citizens.

Several members of Primrose Lodge, No. 20, expect to make a "stake" out of mining claims this summer.

:o:

THE HEARTS OF MEN.

"Don't talk to me about that fellow. If there is anybody on the face of this earth for whom I have less use than for him, I will tell you of it."

Hot words, were they not? And coming as they did from such a quiet chap as my chum, Hugh, they surprised me. I did not think Hugh could be roused. He seemed so easy-going and good tempered, I used to think; to such an extent, indeed, that people used to take advantage of him. Ah, well, I thought I knew a lot in those days. I have changed my opinion since.

There were some five or six of us in the same department, and one girl, quiet, kind, and thoughtful for others; kept a good deal to herself. But she appears only sub rosa, just this en passant; a sort of introduction, as it were for you, you know. Women must be in everything, even in a jumbled-up story.

How this sort of time comes back to one, when, after years, one imagines all forgotten. The hustle and the hubbub of that busy office in a growing town; the new faces being constantly replaced by other new faces; everybody coming and going; eagerly talking of the Far North, rich to overflowing with gold; talking of business prospects and God knows how much of anything else, but of how rich they were to be; some of them the friends of a day; an introduction, a handshake, a meal together and good-bye—forever. So we used to live in those days. Thus we young people were learning to know the world; thus were we all hardening and setting; just run out from the furnace of "home life," with all its good influences of one kind and another. And we lived our little daily life, and all of us, with one exception, were down on one of the staff, the one of whom Hugh ejaculated the above hot words. This chap (for of course it is not necessary to say it was not the girl) whom the rest of us disliked, was not a bad sort in a way; just hasty, cranky, and a good deal smarter than the rest of us; gruff to the border of impoliteness. He had a very sharp tongue, too, and used it sarcastically you know; seemed to delight in that, yet he was not a bad sort, as you will see later

on. Still, just at that time he hated Hugh, I think because he thought Hugh was going to quit, and in this way leave a much better position than his own vacant, for him to step into, but Hugh did not quit. How very human. Just like what you and I would do now-a-days, a while. I was beginning to wonder how we were ever to restore the even balance; doubting sometimes even if such a thing were possible. I always did hate a fuss. A higher Power than ours shapes our course, somebody once said, and how truly.

'Twas early summer, glorious sunshine, roads not yet dusty, wheeling all the go, and many and many a ride we had together, but the "Bear" would never go, and under the circumstances we were glad.

Hugh and I were riding one evening along a well-known road. We had climbed the long hill without dismounting, and were on the Things had been going on this way for quite down-grade again, when just ahead of us we saw our "Bear," coasting, both feet up. He was the best rider of us all, but Hugh was a good second to him, and rode a better wheel. Suddenly we saw that something had gone wrong ahead. He had hit a rock, but kept his balance. Something in his wheel was smashed, and—oh horror!—it was beyond control. The bars were loose and he, going like the wind, heading for the divide and the wrong road. That meant nearly death, so sharp was the descent. Hugh saw the danger, and so could and did spurt forward to catch and stop him. What a race and what a prize! a man's life, or his own death, may be. Nearer and nearer the divide when—Oh, God! just as Hugh caught up, they were both onto it. Their impetus was so great that to stop was out of the question, and all my chum could do was to run the other man into the soft bank, which he did. The shock was frightful, and one fell clear of the wheels, but it was not Hugh. So strange. One escaped without a scratch, whilst my chum lay as if dead. How we got him home I don't know. All I remember is, he lay unconscious, for more than one day.

(To be continued.)

:o:

OPPORTUNITY.

Have you any idea of the number of opportunities that present themselves to you from day to day? Have you ever asked yourself this question. "Am I taking advantage of all the opportunities that present themselves to me?"

Be on the alert, make quick use of the moment.

Opportunity sooner or later comes to all who work and wish.

LORD STANLEY.

:o:

Supreme Representative, Brother Gallagher, of Butte, Montana, paid Crusader Lodge a visit last Thursday evening. He gave a very interesting account of the working of the Order throughout the United States, and spoke at length on the Endowment Rank. When our distinguished brother again visits us, we hope he will give us due warning, so that we may be in a position to allow him the privilege of witnessing our excellent team work.

THE PURE IN HEART.

Blest is the pure in heart!
 For to him is this rich promise given:
 He, daily having striven,
 At last has learnt the art
 And seeks his God.

Pure of purpose as of mind,
 His heart is filled with love;
 He sees his home's above;
 Within him God's own word's enshrined;
 He seeks his God.

Peace, perfect peace, the calm
 That over his tired spirit reigns;
 Though he fast bound in chains,
 Fears not and dreads no harm,
 For he shall see his God.

Love, perfect Love,
 Which seeing not, yet knows
 As in its daily life it shows
 Its very life's above:
 He sees at last his God.
 —R. R. S. H. B.

:o:

OUR HEALTH.

There's that more precious than the diamond's
 flame,
 And beautiful as is the ruby's glow,
 Or bloom of pears, which gold indeed may maim,
 And yet not easily again bestow;
 Which giveth beauty grace, like scent to flow-
 ers;
 Without which beauty is a rootless bloom,
 Which raiseth bright dressed thoughts, like ver-
 nal showers
 The beaded grass, and gildeth sorrow's gloom.
 It makes a beggar happy as a king;

'Tis manhood's very sceptre; it may bring
 Hope to the hero, courage to the brave!—
 "Come, tell us, pray, what is this priceless
 wealth?"
 What we are spendthrifts with my friends—
 our health!
 —G. G. Somerville, in Chamber's Journal.

SHE WAS LISTENING.

A certain minister, who is not always so careful
 as he ought to be in making his preaching and
 his practice correspond, was lately telling some
 friends a story of adventure. It was a pretty
 "tall" story, and the minister's ten-year-old little
 girl was observed to be listening to it very in-
 tently. When he finished she fastened her wide-
 open eyes upon her father's face, and said, very
 gravely—"Is that true, or are you preaching now,
 papa?"

:o:

Brother Godfrey, of Primrose Lodge, Kam-
 loops, paid a visit to the office of the "True
 Knight" last week. We found him hale and
 hearty and well pleased with our City.

Brother Robert Morton, of Whatcom, is in
 the City, renewing old acquaintances. Brother
 Morton is one of the Charter members of Cru-
 sader Lodge, No. 19. The boys gave him a
 warm reception.

Past Chancellor Mains, of Chicago, Ills., paid
 our City lodges a visit last week. We are al-
 ways glad to welcome our brothers from across
 the line, and trust we may meet with many of
 our visiting brothers in the future.

J. M. Murray, K. of R. & S., Granite Lodge,
 New Westminster, was in the City last week,
 on business connected with the furnishing of
 their Castle Hall, which it is expected will be
 completed in a few weeks.

Spring, Beautiful Spring!

Everything should be beautiful at this time of the
 year. Our *Celery Nervine* builds up the system,
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