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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.

VOL. II. No. 5.

VANCOUVER, B.C., December, 1899.

[PUBLISHED MONTHLY.]



## The True Knight.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

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We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our correspondents.

Correspondents will please take notice that all communications intended for publication must be mailed so as to reach the Editor not later than the 20th of the month, otherwise they will not be published until the following issue.

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, DECEMBER, 1899.

### THOUGHTS ABOUT CHRISTMAS.

Before this number may be in the hands of our readers, the real or imaginary Christmas bells will have rung once more, but as I through the aid of my imagination, hear them sweetly pealing, I realise that these tones are ushering in one of the most blessed of all the seasons of the year. I can remember the time, when in Scotland there was no special regard for or observance of Christmas. Our Scottish fathers made grave mistake when they blotted out this season as a National holiday, and I rejoice that British Columbia much is made of the day which is fraught with memories one would not willingly let die. Now let me tender a bit of advice to aid my readers to justly appreciate that God in His mercy has enabled us to see, like Christmas a joyful day. Christmas is synonymous with joyfulness. It is no time for gloomy faces, nor for growling and grumbling about this thing and that thing, for it is meant

to be and should be a day of real rejoicing. The first Christmas Day that came to the world was a day of gladness, and those who heard the angels sing the "Gloria in Excelsis," and the oration of the other white-winged messenger of God, rejoiced with exceeding great joy. Christmas Day should be a happy day in our lives. It directs us to look away from our own petty cares and troubles, and to fix our mind's eye on the great mercy and love of the Almighty Father, so that the joy of the One above may fill the heart and the life of the one below. Don't be afraid to be happy. Some people think it is almost a crime to be happy. Realize that it is almost a crime to be sad at Christmas. Be joyful. It will do you good, and it will do others good. On this day robe your face with your sweetest smile, sing your joyfullest song, speak your kindest words, and be as merry as ever you possibly can be. Again let it be an unselfish day. I need not remind my readers that selfishness is with us, and clings to us most tenaciously. We all recognise that it is a great curse—perhaps the greatest that we know. It is repulsive and repugnant. It wears a horrible face, and blasts and withers whatever and whomever it touches. The most unsightly and inhuman creature walking this earth to-day is the man of selfishness, who is eating, thinking, scheming, working and struggling for self. May God deliver us all from this vicious monster of iniquity. If we understand the meaning of Christmas aright we shall realise that there should be no room in our hearts for this debasing passion, for as one has truly said, it is a day of unselfishness, and it is pleasing to note how deeply the spirit of this day enters unto all hearts.

Explain it how we will, Christ's Day exerts almost a magical influence over men and women. Perhaps there is no season of the year that business men buy more for, than what is called the Christmas trade. Stores as a rule are crowded by young and old, and if one were to move among them one would find, that the buying is not for self, but for others. It would seem as if some blessed angel had touched them and that in obedience to the touch, selfishness had been throttled, and that their chief desire was to make others happy. Be unselfish on that day. Think of others, and if you can, with a gift, or a kind word, or a warm shake of the hand, or with a loving greeting, make some one to realise that after all there are unselfish hearts in the world, you will do much to banish a pessimism from the heart, which often steals in through the heartless cruelties and tyrannies of the times.

Again remember why we have the day at all. God gave us this day when His Son was born to us. It celebrates the Truth of Christ. We as Knights of Pythias, do not think less of Christ, because we try to emulate Pythias. Our hero

was Christ-like in becoming a true friend in offering up his life, and in being charitable in his thoughts and words. What he did Christ would have done, nay more, what Christ did for the one, we know Christ did for us all, but the one love inspired both. The birthday of our great men is a great day, but how much greater should that day be in our thoughts, that brought us the Friend that sticketh closer than any brother, that brought us the Man Who went about continually doing good, and that brought us the Saviour Who died upon the Cross to save us from our worst enemy. His birthday ought therefore to be to us a great day, and we should try and celebrate it in the worthiest manner possible.

With these thoughts we bid you adieu for the month. We cannot take you all by the hand, much as we would like to do so, but metaphorically we stretch out both hands to all the brethren, and wish you one and all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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TO THE BRETHERN.

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It is a great pleasure to me to be able once more to contribute my quota to the pages of the "True Knight." Though unable during the past two months to do anything, yet when able to do a little reading, among the first things read were copies of our journal, and I cannot help saying that we have got a paper of which every Knight should be proud. Among the things which touched me tenderly were the kind words of sympathy of the brethren with regard to my serious illness, and the fervent solicitations for my recovery. As these loving expressions came to me from almost every part of our domain, I felt as I have never done before the beauty of these lines:

"We share our mutual joys  
Our mutual burdens bear,  
And often for each other flows  
The sympathizing tear."

I felt I had friends—nay not only friends, but brethren in the truest sense of the word. For all your kindness expressed in words and in deeds, allow me to return my sincere thanks, both on behalf of myself and family. I cannot go over all that the brethren have done, but I have risen from a sick bed thanking God again and again for making it possible that I should associate with such a body of men, and praying that he would prosper our Castle Halls, and fill them with Knights, devoted to the service of Friendship, Love and Benevolence. May God bless you all in the earnest wish of the Editor.

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"HOW LONG?"

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If the torch of battle still flares lurid across South Africa, tinging the veldt a blood-red hue premonitory of the coming change of color in the map of the future new Dominion, no blame

can be thrown on British arms for lack of our in the field and onward sweeping. The resistance that has been met has been unexpected as vigorous, but neither unexpectantly brilliant musketry fire on the part of enemy, nor his ubiquitous mobility of formation and march, has daunted the strong heart and Soldier of the Queen—serve he as a hun Tommy Atkins in the ranks, or as aide or officer, a surer billet for the Boer bullet, with his decorations, gold-lace and trappings.

In our last utterance, we had hoped it before the next issue of the "True Knight" itself the speaking symbol of Charity, Fraternity and Benevolence, peace would once more be paramount, with British sovereignty, over that vast domain that stretches from the Zambesi to Table Bay, girt east and west with Indian and Atlantic oceans. If our statesmen in their administrative wisdom, our soldiers their executive capability, have failed as to achieve the much longed-for desideratum, a cause may be found in a foeman at least worthy of their steel of brain and hand. Stubborn it may be dubbed by the ultra-patriotic, but us remember that these farmer-soldiers believe—as devoutly as you and I believe them to be taken—that they are fighting in a cause as noble as that of the Israelites of old and blessed the same Jehovah that led the captains of hosts on to victory. The freedom of its country is dear to every people, and that is what the bucolic Boer thinks is now at stake. He looks through the abbreviated end of a telescope the selfish, egoistic point of view—the broader fuller application of which shows us Britain that no greater boon has yet fallen or will ever fall on South Africa, than the consolidation of those trouble-tossed states as one harmonious member of the British Empire. Trade and commerce will flow to and from their ports, as has to those of far less rich and likely lands taken under the kindly aegis of the Great Mother Land; development and industry will build and advance great cities along their inland water-ways; their countless hidden, untapped riches of field and forest and mine will present themselves to the golden eye of capital, rightly and intelligently applied; their peoples, now a people, will live the lives of men in place of beasts; will cultivate to themselves the arts and sciences which are the glory and the crown of civilized life; will enact their own laws, administer their own territories, guided only—impeccably and gently, as with a mother's hand—by the time-given skill and experience-taught intuition of the Home Government.

All this will the Transvaaler and the Free Stater see in the allotted time, and if the way to that Mecca is strewn, as is the dreary desert with blood and tears, the means will surely in this case, justify the end. The road to Calcutta was sown with blood more precious than rubies with tears beyond the price of diamonds, with sweat of anguish priceless beyond pearls, but the uplifted Cross with its aureole of light, blotted out with heavenly brilliance the dark Via Dolorosa, and with arms outstretched, cried, "Lift up and cheer up, away from the sadness of earth and the sin of the world, up to the Perfect Peace."

A CHRISTMAS HYMN.

By Alfred Dommett.

It was the calm and silent night!  
 Seven hundred years and fifty-three  
 Had Rome been growing up to might,  
 And now was queen of land and sea.  
 No sound was heard of clashing wars—  
 Peace brooded o'er the hushed domain;  
 Apollo, Pallas, Jove and Mars  
 Held undisturbed their ancient reign,  
 In the solemn midnight,  
 Centuries ago.

'Twas in the calm and silent night!  
 The senator of haughty Rome  
 Impatient urged his chariot's flight,  
 From lordly revel rolling home.  
 Triumphal arches, gleaming, swell  
 His breast with thoughts of boundless sway:  
 What reeked the Roman what befell  
 A paltry province far away,  
 In the solemn midnight,  
 Centuries ago?

Within that province far away  
 Went plodding home a weary boor;  
 A streak of light before him lay,  
 Fallen through a half-shut stable-door  
 Across his path. He passed—for nought  
 Told him what was going on within;  
 How keen the stars, his only thought,—  
 The air how calm, and cold, and thin,  
 In the solemn midnight,  
 Centuries ago.

Oh, strange indifference! low and high  
 Drowsed over common joys and cares;  
 The earth was still,—but knew not why;  
 The world was listening, unawares.  
 How calm a moment may precede  
 One that shall thrill the world forever!  
 To that still moment none would heed  
 Man's doom was linked, no more to sever,—  
 In the solemn midnight,  
 Centuries ago.

In the calm and silent night!  
 A thousand bells ring out, and throw  
 Their joyous peals abroad, and smite  
 The darkness,—charmed and holy now!  
 The night that erst no name had worn  
 To it a happy name is given;  
 For in that stable lay, new-born,  
 The peaceful Prince of earth and heaven,  
 In the solemn midnight,  
 Centuries ago.

ENDOWMENT RANK.

From the last quarterly report of the Board of Control of the Endowment Rank, covering the three months ending September 30th, 1899, we take the following summary of the business of that department of the Order:—

Reviewing the results of the work accomplished during the second quarter of the present fiscal year, it will be seen that the Insurance Branch of the Order is making steady and satisfactory progress. A considerable increase over the corresponding period last year is shown in

the new sections organized and in the membership admitted, while the forfeitures for non-payment have perceptibly decreased.

Since July 1st, 1899, seventy-five new Sections have been established, twenty-four hundred and forty-three members admitted, and certificates issued amounting to three million five hundred and sixty-three thousand dollars.

During the quarter one hundred and forty-three death claims were paid, three hundred and six thousand three hundred and six dollars being disbursed to the beneficiaries.

At the close of the quarter September 30th, 1899, the Endowment Rank has thirty-seven hundred and ninety-four sections in active operation, a membership of fifty-eight thousand four hundred and eighty-two and insurance in force amounting to one hundred and five million six hundred and ninety-six thousand dollars.

The cash on hand and investments aggregate four hundred and eighty-six thousand five hundred dollars.

The total paid for death claims to date amounts to thirteen million nine hundred and seventeen thousand two hundred and fifteen dollars.

Considering the Summer months embraced in the last quarter, a period of vacations and general inactivity among lodges and sections, the organizers for the Rank, most of whom continued actively in the field, are deserving of much credit for results obtained.

The quarter upon which we are now entering is promising of largely exceeding in new work that of the last. Your Board will, as heretofore, put forth every effort in that direction and ask of the membership generally, the continued aid and assistance so cheerfully rendered in the past.

"THE TRUE KNIGHT."

We have to apologise to the readers of "The True Knight," for the late appearance of this issue. Our reasons for delaying the issue were two-fold, first our worthy Editor was regaining his health so rapidly we wished his article to appear in this number; secondly, as the holidays were so near we intended to make this issue a souvenir number, but unfortunately our plans did not materialise in this respect.

REV. G. R. MAXWELL, M. P.

It is with pleasure that the Committee are able to announce to their Brother Knights, the convalescence of our worthy Brother and Editor, G. R. Maxwell. It will cheer the hearts of many to read once more the editorial from the able pen of our beloved brother, and it is with feeling of gratitude that our Brother has been spared to us to continue the good work of his life in the aid of fallen humanity.

The Endowment Rank has already paid, during the few years that it has been in existence, \$14,000,000. This money has all gone for the benefit of the widows and orphans of deceased Pythians, solely and wholly for their benefit.

## "THE HEARTS OF MEN."

(Concluded.)

Never had quotation so gone home, never before had I seen the truth contained in Hugh's words. To what height did it not raise man's future as proposed by the Master Mind that reigns through all His Universe, bringing one into touch with a world before unknown. In silence we wended our way hence, wrapt in thought profound.

The world from that day has always borne a new aspect for me; life a terrible meaning. Twenty long years have come and gone since then and through them all has been with me the memory of that sunny morning, when Hugh and I looked on God's world and traced therein the Mind Divine.

And in these twenty years, changes have taken place. Some friends have died, some have married, some grown rich in Northern gold, some rich in wisdom's wealth—the best of all—and Hugh, what of him? Through this time, during which this City of the West has grown till it counts its people by the millions, what of Hugh? I know, and yet I know not, that is, not definitely, for within the week of that morning talk Hugh dropped from my life, telling me but little of his plans and that little under pledge of secrecy. We all know he went to Europe, but there further trace was lost. He and I parted alone. Hand grasped hand as with an effort he said "Farewell, good-bye my friend. Look up and on; after many years we meet again. As Hugh, you look your last on me. With you and you alone it rests whether you know me when I come again."

And I have waited patiently for long, wondering often the meaning of those words; wondered how to find my friend. I have not sought him knowing he will look for me. I have just tried to understand, just tried to learn to do my duty

and in the calm course of a contented life, I grown the inner power to know. My old friend Hugh draws nearer, just when I cannot see; but our minds are more atune and by so subtle force we hold communion, and he I learnt much more than I, and as I look into the future I seem to see my old-time friend help others on to learn, telling his fellows old truths freshly gleaned, such simple truths, so grand and yet so noble. He was as my brother—was my brother; and in the future seems to be one of a great family, the one looked up to, the one who loves and is loved. Old Hugh, you have a work to do. You left us to learn your truth and now you soon return. Again Winter reigns and nature wears her garb of white, spreading out her arms to welcome the coming of the King, and with Him comes the new life, growing from Spring to glorious Summer. And so the King of Kings sends for another servant, his True Knight. Aye, Hugh, you return not too soon.

Wisdom and its servant knowledge come but slowly to the many and when my friend comes back, what a meeting it will be, what new what learning will he bring, what power to plan to work to win. On and up, from ridge to ridge. Ah Hugh! The influence of your life can never die; what good can die, it must ever live.

The world has changed. This 1900 has grown up, a crisis in all time has come, a change has to be made. There is the mystery of a Nation's life to solve; a leader of men is wanted and Hugh will come. Who better knows, for he will say what all may know? Social problems were solved long ago. Let men learn to love. Are they not brothers?

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There should be a section of the Endowment Rank organized in every Lodge of the Order, no matter what the size of the membership is. It is a branch of the Order, and one that deserves

# Fraser River Supply Store

IN THE EVANS, COLEMAN & EVANS BLOCK,  
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THE LEADING GENTS' FURNISHER.

and should command the attention and support of the general membership more than it does.

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**"THE PYTHIAN RECORD."**

"The True Knight" is in receipt of the October number of "The Pythian Record." This being a souvenir edition it reflects great credit upon the management. It is replete with Pythian news, having a short history of the Order accompanying the same with a cut of the Hon. Henry Clay Berry, the oldest living P. S. C. of the Order, as well as a prominent member connected with the Uniform Rank and Endowment Rank. It also gives a full and complete sketch of the personnel of the Grand Lodge, holding its sessions at East St. Louis, October, 1899, together with cuts of the officers-elect and short sketches of their Pythian career. We also notice among the cuts of prominent Pythians the familiar face of Bro. Frederick M. Blomquist, P. S. R. Bro. Blomquist, while a resident of British Columbia, had the confidence and respect of the entire community. No more loyal or enthusiastic Knight could be found in this Domain, as witness the active part he took in organising Granville Lodge, No. 3, Vancouver, B. C. We are glad to know that Bro. Blomquist has not lost any of his old-time enthusiasm, and is still to be found a working member in the Rank. Our loss has been Illinois' gain.

:o:

**FROM RATHBONE LODGE.**

To the Editor of the "True Knight."  
Dear Sir and Brother.—November has nearly passed by, and very few, even of Vancouver's oldest inhabitants, can recall a month in the city's history when so much rain has fallen. But the weather has had very little effect on Rathbone Lodge, as in the precincts of that castle home of the brothers, everything was warm and cheering. A brother shakes the hand of his brother and is made for the time being to forget that on the morrow he is battling with life's struggle for existence, fortune or fame, as the case may be. Let me just for a moment bring to your mind a few perhaps realistic pictures. Just think, brothers, that while you may be enjoying health and strength, a brother may be lying sick and in pain. Again perhaps in another home there may be those who are suffering for the necessities of life. The breadwinner may be out of employment. Put yourself in his place for just a moment. His last dollar perhaps gone, think of the untold agonies that are passing through his brain; imagine him perhaps driven even to the brink of desperation. Does it not even melt the coldest heart? Then again we might draw you another picture of man's speculative nature. He invests his earnings in some one of the world's games of chance called legitimate business, and perhaps is a winner. He soon has a host of friends at his command. Again take the same man a few years later, when he places his all on another legitimate wheel of fortune and is a loser. His friends, or so-called friends are also gone. Think then, brother, what we are bound together for; not just for the social meeting which we now attend again attend, but think of those who are in distress.

The declaration of principles lately adopted by the Supreme Lodge, and beautifully worded, we do not think have the same depth of feeling as the old. Those few words, "Help raise the fallen," are conspicuous by their absence. In the book of law, which is opened on our altar, we find that it says that there is more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner that repenteth than over ninety and nine just persons that need no repentance. Is that not surely carrying out one of the important principles of our Order, that of charity.

I might go on in this strain for a page or two, but time at present is a limited luxury or whatever you may call it, with your correspondent. So we will proceed with the news.

We now have two candidates on the road to Knighthood. To one we extended an invitation to be with us in our last issue. The attendance during the month has been fair. On Thursday, the 23rd inst., about sixty Knights from the three different lodges went over to New Westminster and were received and entertained by the brethren there in a royal manner. After Vancouver's Drill Team had knighted their candidate, refreshments were served and after cheering handshaking, the return car was boarded about twelve o'clock, reaching home about one o'clock. Those who had the affair in hand are to be congratulated on the orderly way everything passed.

We are pleased to inform our brothers that our worthy Editor, Bro. Maxwell, is on the road to recovery, and at last reports he was at his own home, doing well.

Our youngest member just knighted is Bro. Morris, and he is already taking an active part in the work of the lodge. We are sure he will make his presence known.

The following officers were duly nominated, and elected at our last regular meeting: C. C. Bro. G. R. Simpson; V. C., S. Shepard; Prelate, J. A. Mitchell; K. of R. & S., M. Conroy; M. of F., R. Brooke; M. of E., H. J. Anstie; M. at A., Bro. Morris; I. G., J. Eligh; O. G., Bro. Anderson.

Everything points to a prosperous term with such an efficient staff of officers.

Yours in F. C. and B.

ARTHUR CROOK.

Vancouver, B. C., November 29th, 1899.

:o:

**FROM GRANVILLE LODGE.**

To the Editor of the "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother.—Pythianism has indeed been lively in Vancouver of late, and Granville Lodge, No. 3, has had its share of it. First we celebrated the 13th anniversary of the institution of Granville Lodge, and with it the introduction of Pythianism on the Mainland of British Columbia, on November 1st, with an entertainment interspersed with refreshments of excellent quality, furnished by Strange & Newton, of the Royal Cafe. The entertainment was a very enjoyable one, consisting of selections from a phonograph, kindly furnished and manipulated by Mr. C. S. Ross, Manager of the Wintemute Cyclery, and other vocal and instrumental music consisting of violin solo by Bro. Kaufmann; song by Mr. Jenkinson; male quar-

tette "The Watermill"; duet by Messrs. Collister and Scott; recitation by Mr. Chapman; piano solo by Miss Fraser; recitation by Bro. S. Robb, and the applause which resounded through the hall after each selection testified to the excellence with which the various pieces were rendered, and showed also how highly they were appreciated by all present. Time and space in your valuable paper forbids me going more into detail, so suffice it to say that the whole affair was a huge success, and reflected great credit on the Committee of Arrangements.

During the month the ranks of Page and Esquire were conferred upon Bros. J. W. Palmer and James, who were finally proven in the Rank of Knight on the 6th of December, when the Amplified Rank was conferred upon both by the renowned Vancouver Drill Team, in their customary excellent style.

On Wednesday, the 29th of November, the officers for the ensuing term were elected as follows: C. C., George St. Dennis (re-elected); V. C., E. P. Fraser; P., E. Lipsett; M. of W., H. C. Clarke; K. of R. and S., G. Thomas, jr. (re-elected); M. of F., Jas. Irvine (re-elected); M. of E., C. L. Behnson (re-elected); M. at A., J. G. Garvin; I. G., John Crow; O. G., A. M. Tyson.

All these are old and active Knights and the welfare of Granville Lodge is therefore in good hands for the next six months at least.

The trip to New Westminster was a very enjoyable affair, for all that were fortunate enough to be able to go, but as no doubt you will yourself have an editorial on this, I will not say any more about it. I desire to thank the Westminster Knights on behalf of Granville Lodge, for the generous manner with which they entertained us.

I think my letter is long enough, so I will close, and as Christmas and New Year will be past before the "True Knight" makes its next appearance, I wish all Brother Knights and readers of the "True Knight" a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and hoping that the future will have many blessings in store for you all, I remain

Yours in F. C. and B.,  
C. L. BEHNSEN.

Vancouver, B. C., December 3rd, 1899.

#### FROM CRUSADER LODGE.

To the Editor of the "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother.—I once more have the pleasure to communicate to you, as its official correspondent, the monthly quota of news from Crusader Lodge, No. 19.

At our convention on Thursday, November 9th, Bro. J. F. Miller, our esteemed V. C., was compelled through pressure of business to resign his office. The Lodge, after due consideration, accepted the same with much regret and on November 17th, Brother G. H. Hodgson, our esteemed Prelate, was elected to fill the vacancy for the balance of the term.

It is a source of much gratification for us all to know that all three of the City lodges are steadily adding to their membership.

On Thursday, November 23rd, we had the pleasure, in company with the members of the other two lodges, Granville, No. 3 and Rathbone, No. 7, of visiting the Westminster Lodges, for the purpose of conferring the rank of Knight in the Amplified Form upon an Esquire. A special car was placed at our disposal by our Westminster brethren, and it is impossible for my pen to do full justice to the brethren of Royal Lodge, No. 6, and Granite Lodge No. 16, for the hospitality they extended to the visiting brethren from the Vancouver Lodges. It is needless for me to say that at no distant day we look forward to the pleasure of entertaining our brethren of the Royal City.

We are also pleased to compliment the Captain, Bro. H. J. Anstie, S. R., of Rathbone Lodge, No. 7, and Bro. G. Thomas, of Granville Lodge, No. 3, Secretary of the Rank Team, on the able and efficient manner in which the work was rendered, as it called forth the praise and commendation of all present.

I am sure that every member of our Order will be pleased to learn that Bro. G. R. Maxwell, M. P., Editor of the "True Knight," is now on the high road to recovery, after his long and painful illness.

Another year is almost closed, and we will, please God, behold the dawn of the Twentieth Century, and soon our beloved Order will enter

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upon the thirty-sixth year of its existence. How it has prospered and grown, its half-a-million members can best testify. It would be only asking needless space to go further into its history at present.

I cannot close this epistle, Mr. Editor, without saying a few words upon a subject so often dwelt upon by so many of our Grand and Supreme Lodge officials, namely, the Pythian press. My brother, in my humble opinion, who takes an interest in the Order, no matter where he may be, should put his shoulder to the wheel and work for the success of the Pythian publication nearest his locality. I might here quote the words of the late famous Irish divine, Archbishop McHale, who once remarked: "If you wish to have an honorable press you ought honorably to support it." My meaning in quoting this saying is to say to the members of our Order, if you wish for a Pythian press, why, get in and work for its success in a Pythian manner, and strive for the accomplishment of the aims and objects of our Order as Pythians. In speaking of this subject I wish to bring to the notice of our British Columbia brethren this plain fact—Remember that at the last session of our Grand Lodge, the "True Knight" was made the official organ of the Grand Domain of British Columbia: remember our Order is universal and let us throughout the Province, in all its length and breadth, co-operate with the Committee who have so zealously and unceasingly labored for the success of our journal by supporting it wherever we can, both morally and financially, so that the "True Knight" may continue in its work for the interest of our cardinal principles, of Friendship, Charity and Benevolence, and attain the highest place in fraternal journalism. Then will the best beneficial results to our Order accrue thereupon.

I am sure that throughout the entire length and breadth of this Domain, there is not one

Pythian who will not agree with me in saying that the Committee in charge of the "True Knight" spared neither time nor labor upon the paper to ensure its success.

In conclusion of this matter, brothers, might I not add it is the wish of our esteemed Grand Chancellor, Bro. W. D. Mearns, that the "True Knight" should be the most able exponent of Pythian journalism, west of the Rockies? Will you not assist our Grand Chancellor in the attainment of that object?

And now, Mr. Editor, the time has come for me to close. With December, 1899, I address you as the Lodge Correspondent of Crusader Lodge, No. 19, for the last time. In accepting the position from the members of Crusader Lodge, I have tried to fully realize the words of Mazzini, the Italian patriot:—"Every mission constitutes a pledge of duty, every man is bound to consecrate his every faculty to its fulfilment." With this motto before me, I have tried to discharge my duties of the position to the fullest extent of my ability. In surrendering the place to one who will doubtless fill it more energetically than I have done, I feel that in passing it over to the hands of my successor he will give to the Committee all the co-operation in his power, so that the change will be only for the better, and the "True Knight" will gain thereby.

In conclusion, Mr. Editor, for any mistakes I have made in my letters to the "True Knight" I say to every brother, using the words of Longfellow, "You will forgive me, I hope, for the sake of the friendship between us, which is too true and too sacred to be so easily broken." If you have found in my correspondence aught that did not meet with your approval, if there has seemed to you to be anything selfish or unbrotherly or unkind, I pray you forget it, and think not so much of what I have done, as what I have tried to do, and now, Mr. Editor, for every kindness and every courtesy I have re-

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ceived at the hands of yourself and the Committee of the "True Knight," I thank you one and all.

"Here's my hand  
And mine with my heart in it,  
And now farewell."

Yours in F. C. and B.

GEORGE NOONAN.

Vancouver, B. C., December 1st, 1899.

FROM PRIMROSE LODGE.

PRESENTATION.

D. C. McKenzie is leaving Kamloops. He going down to the Coast, and from there v proceed to New York, where he intends taking a course in cutting. At Wednesday's (Dec. 6th) meeting of Primrose Lodge, No. 20, K. of P., M McKenzie was presented with an address at R. Mackay made the presentation. Mr. M Kenzie, though taken by surprise, made a suitable reply. The address read as follows: Primrose Lodge, No. 20, K. of P., Kamloop B. C.

D. C. McKenzie, Esq.:—

Dear Sir and Brother,—We the officers and members of Primrose Lodge, No. 20, K. of P learning with regret of your intended departure from Kamloops, desire to express our heart appreciation of the work you have done as member and officer of Primrose Lodge, especially your services of K. of R. & S. As a slight token of esteem by which you are held by us, we ask you to accept the accompanying pin. That you may succeed in any venture you may undertake is the hearty wish of your fellow Knights.

We hope you will enjoy the best of health, and that you will some day return to Kamloops and again take an active part in the affairs of Primrose Lodge.

Signed on behalf of Primrose Lodge,  
GEORGE T. MALLERY, C. C.  
Dated, December 6th, 1899.

SHOOTING MATCH.

An interesting shooting match took place outside town on Tuesday, November 28th. The participants on either side were Knights of Pythias. The match was for an oyster supper, at the Station Restaurant, to be paid for by the losing team. The results were as follows:—

G. E. Welsh's Team.

J. N. Moore.....	24
G. E. Welsh.....	19
T. Guest.....	17
G. D. Brown.....	16
E. Fletcher.....	13
A. F. Lauder.....	8

To the Editor of the "True Knight."  
Dear Sir and Brother.—Primrose Lodge, No. 20 is now having what some of our churches call a veritable "old time revival," and applications are being received by the handful every lodge night. At times our K. of R. and S. is almost buried in them. We have already received about twenty, and fully another dozen are in sight, all of the best material in town. Those members whose presence we are always glad to have with us but who for some reason very rarely get out to lodge, are having their old-time Pythian spirit renewed since Rank work has become a regular occurrence here, and they are not only assisting by their presence, but are taking hold and helping push the work along.

Next Tuesday, the 28th of November, we celebrate Pythian Day by having a "shoot" for the oysters, between teams chosen by Bros. J. L. Brown and George E. Welsh. At the time of writing, both captains are drilling their men and each is confident of victory. The advantage, perhaps, lies with the Colonel, he being a military man and having the advantage of military training. It is proposed by our lodge to make this "shoot" an annual affair, something which shall be looked forward to by the boys as an event which will furnish unlimited amusement at a moderate cost.

As this will probably be my last letter before Christmas, I beg to extend to yourself and co-workers on the "True Knight," in the name of Primrose Lodge, hearty Christmas greetings.

Fraternally yours,

GEO. T. MALLERY.

Kamloops, B. C., Nov. 25th, 1899.

# Useful Xmas Goods

Such as the following can be seen in our Display Windows.

Gentlemen's Ties .....	25c. to 75c.	Gentlemen's Suits from .....	\$4.00 to \$15.00
Gentlemen's White Shirts. ....	75c. to \$2 00	Youths' Suits from .....	3.75 to 10.00
Gentlemen's Soft Hats. ....	75c. to \$5.00	Boys' Suits from.....	2.00 to 5.50
Gentlemen's Derby Hats.....	\$1.50 to \$3.00	Childs' Suits . . . . .	1.00 to 5.00

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E. Goulet.....	8
C. T. Godfrey.....	7
D. C. McKenzie.....	0

signs of an early settlement of the difficulty in evidence, and ere another month passes away, it is hoped that harmony and goodwill will once more prevail.

Total ..... 122

So many of the members are away from town, that the Lodge attendance has fallen away a good deal. However, the membership looks forward with courage and hope for the Winter, as several aspiring candidates have signified their intention of casting in their lots with us.

**J. L. Brown's Team.**

F. Burns.....	21
R. McKay.....	20
J. McGee.....	15
W. Murray.....	8
J. Wilkinson.....	7
J. L. Brown.....	4
J. Mundorf.....	1
G. T. Mallery.....	0
J. Ladner.....	0

Ere another month makes its round, new officers will have been selected for the ensuing term, a list of which will be sent you.

Of our third annual ball, held on the second inst., no better or fuller description can be given than that contained in "The Ledge" of this town, of the following week. It is appreciated and will serve to show the high place No. 22 holds in the opinion of the general public:

Total ..... 77

**The following bulls' eyes were scored:**

J. N. Moore.....	3
R. McKay.....	2
J. McGee.....	1
F. Burns.....	1
E. Goulet.....	1

"It's just a way they have. They can't help it. Couldn't do otherwise. There is something in the make-up of each individual member of the local Lodge K. of P. that somehow in some way makes him a capital entertainer. What they are individually they are, only more so, collectively, and when an entertainment of any kind is advertised to be given by the Knights of Pythias, the public know what to expect. Success has greeted all their public entertainments, and to make each succeeding event more successful than the previous one has been the controlling influence that has spurred each member on. There may be others, but the prime secret of their success is in the vim, the life, the fire with which they do things, and their ever ready thoughtfulness of the comfort and pleasure of their guests.

In the evening a splendid oyster supper was laid before the teams and other guests and a most enjoyable evening was spent in singing, speechmaking or reciting. No one present was let off without some contribution to the evening's entertainment.

The third annual ball given last Thursday night in Clever's Hall, was no exception to the rule. It was by long odds the dressiest, happiest and most generally enjoyed affair of the kind that the society has given, and when this is said it means very much more than the mere words convey. The hall was profusely decorated with boughs and colors and freshly-cut firs lined the entrance from the street. The floor was in excellent condition, the music by the New Denver orchestra good, and the floor management highly commendable to those in charge. The ladies were particularly well dressed, many in full evening costume, and many of the gentlemen were in full dress. A sumptuous supper was served in the Newmarket dining room. In

The advantage that the Endowment Rank presents to members of the Order, is that it furnishes them with insurance to the amount of \$500, \$1,000, \$2,000 or \$3,000, as their means will permit, and at about one-third the cost of old line life insurance—and it is just as safe and secure.

**FROM NEW DENVER LODGE.**

To the Editor of the "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother.—There is very little to be reported from No. 22 this month. Our district is still in the throes of the labor trouble, with all its direct effects upon business, and the well-being of the Order; but there are potential

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the neighborhood of forty couple were on the floor, visitors being present from Kaslo, Nelson and neighboring points. The only unfortunate occurrence in connection with the affair was the misunderstanding in connection with the pleasure-boat Alert, which failed to make the trip to Silverton, thus depriving a party of fifteen of the pleasure of participating."

Fraternally yours,

C. E. SMITHERINGALE.

New Denver, B. C., November 20th, 1899.

:o:

The lodge, as well as individual members should carefully consider the fact, and keep it well in mind, that the Endowment Rank has, directly, saved the Subordinate Lodges of the Order hundreds of thousands of dollars, that the latter would have had to expend for the aid and support of the widows and orphans of deceased members, who, through the Endowment Rank have been saved from being dependent upon the Lodge—this is a fact that none can gainsay, and should be placed to the credit of that important department of Pythian knight-hood.

:o:

FROM TRAIL LODGE.

To the Editor of the "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother,—Although business in our little town is extremely quiet, we are advancing ahead, step by step, and will soon claim the proud distinction of being entitled to two representatives in the Grand Lodge. During the past six weeks we have had six candidates, the rank work being completed last week. Now comes another application and more expected.

After eight months of continual "rag chewing" over the purchase of an Amplified outfit, the climax was reached two weeks ago, and now No. 23 is in possession of the most elaborate paraphernalia ever seen in these parts. There are no two gowns alike. Each "Senator" is represented in different color, and the scene presented by our "Invincible" (they have named themselves "invincibles") team, is brilliant to behold. The grandeur which confronts a candidate is best told by himself. They are now ready to visit nearby lodges at their solicitation.

A little incident which (almost) happened during the conferring of ranks was the many pleasant (?) remarks by members regarding what they were going to do during the "Second" to a distinguished candidate, now Rev. Bro. John Munro. Well, they didn't do a thing to him, just because he wouldn't take the bait, and a more sorrowful and downcast looking lodge of Knights would have been hard to find. The others by name were J. W. Slack, W. Isley, Thomas Cox, Edward Hayward and J. R. Randall. They were less on the alert, and took everything from "burnt fingers to sore feet."

Another election of officers is rapidly approaching, and ere the appearance of the "True Knight" again, nominations will have been completed and new officers will be further qualifying themselves for their respective offices.

Our esteemed and worthy brother, Fred. Kummer, paid Trail a visit last month, after an absence of nearly half-a-year, and he did not hesitate to call on several Knights who extended

heart and hand in greeting him, and expressing joy in hearing that he is smoothly sailing on the waves of prosperity. He is now engaged in business with Bro. Honold at Nelson.

The estimable wife (and don't let us forget to mention that "sweetest-of-all" little baby) of Bro. John Fluhrer, who has been recuperating in Spokane for two months, returned in the latter part of October, much improved in health and much to the comfort and delightment of Bro. Fluhrer.

Last month we had the pleasure of seeing that most beautiful of all plays, "Damon and Pythias," which was produced by the R. E. French Theatre Company, at the solicitation of Trail Lodge, and a more enthusiastic gathering never assembled in the Opera House. The exemplification was portrayed in elegant style. Tears mingled with occasional cheers, by Bro. Knights, brought to memory the true meaning of Pythianism, to which we are all bound. Several members were asked, and responded, to represent the "Senate" on the stage, their presence adding much to the appearance and beauty of the act.

We see by the papers that our Rossland brethren have consolidated with another fraternity in constructing a new lodge hall, and that it is to be one of the most elaborate edifices in Kootenay. Success, to you, brothers, and may we ask the pleasure of being present upon its dedication.

We have him now! Bro. A. G. Creelman, of Rossland. We are glad to hear that he, together with his partner, have the contract to construct several railroads building for the Canadian Pacific Railway here, so his presence in our Castle Hall is a foregone conclusion.

Somehow or other, a majority of our dear brethren constitute a peculiarly shy lot of mortals. Nearly every meeting we hear of new arrivals, in the form of the younger generation. Only last week a little nine-pound "lootsy-wootsy" came into and brightened the home of Bro. Morin. Talk about smiles! Why, our Keeper of Records and Seal takes a back seat.

Secretary Bro. Lewis, of the Endowment Rank has tendered his resignation of that department, but as yet no worthy brother seems to wish to handle the work. Bro. Widmer is considering the matter.

Grand Master-at-Arms, Bro. Binns, together with P. C., Bro. J. A. Clark, now have their furniture store in operation at Phoenix, and, if reports are true, they have "struck it rich."

Bro. George Gilmore leaves for the United States in a couple of weeks on a recreation and visiting trip. We wish him a most enjoyable time.

Bro. Clay Mauntell, together with his family, has suddenly dropped from our midst, and is

## MAGAZINES BOUND

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VANCOUVER, B.C.

now located at Grand Forks. Best wishes went with him and his.

Bro. Herbert Lewis, who has been acting in the capacity of Assistant Postmaster here for the past year, has resigned that important position, and has purchased the name and good-will of a Trail insurance and brokerage firm. May success crown his efforts, is the unanimous wish of us all.

Last week a brother Knight handed the writer the following, which he clipped from "Scribner's Magazine," and which he thought would be of interest to those who are not connected, some way or other with a beneficial society:

"The poor man can be as independent as to the future welfare of his family as the rich man. This condition of things exists through the protection afforded by the fraternal orders, wherein such protection can be secured at a cost within his reach. The accumulation of a competence is not prerequisite. A young man without capital, but with a wife and loved ones dependent upon his success in life, can be assured by a very small outlay in securing and maintaining beneficial order protection, that he stands in the same position as regards a provision for his dependents, as the retired merchant who is gray in the service of money-making. If this is a revelation to the young man, he should not be slow in being benefited thereby."

The writer hopes the article will reach those for whom it was intended, especially those who have ever given the extraordinarily splendid benefits derived from Pythianism, any consideration.

Has our wish come true? Last month we expressed sympathy for our dear Editor, Bro. Maxwell, and sure enough the Almighty has realized our predicament in losing such a noble brother, and now we are extending thanks to Him for His gracious act in sparing one in whom we place so much love and confidence.

For the good of the Order, dear Editor, I would like to suggest that every reader of this paper try and see how many subscribers he can get for the "True Knight." Our paper, by having a large circulation will do wonders in building up the Order, and will enthuse life and love of the principles it teaches, as well as strengthen loose principles and want of interest—a rut into which many fall. Everyone making an earnest effort in this line, would cause our Order to number thousands instead of hundreds. I believe it would be a good and practical plan for every lodge to subscribe for a number of copies (paying for them from the fund), and distribute them among their members. Would it not be a good investment?

As the "True Knight" does not arrive here till near the middle of each month, its next appearance will be about December 15th. So the members of No. 23 wish to gratuitously extend to one and all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and hope to see and hear of Pythianism flourishing in British Columbia as never before. "Let us be up and off."

Yours in F. C. & B.,

THOMAS F. ABBOTT.

Trail, B. C., November 16th, 1899.

FROM ROSSLAND LODGE.

To the Editor of the "True Knight."

Dear Sir and Brother.—It may create no little surprise to the readers of the "True Knight" to be able to read a few encouraging items regarding the doings of No. 21. Though they have never been written up for the columns of "True Knight," never seen their names in print, or been announced with a flourish of triumphs, the members have kept the even tenor of their way. Though comparatively young, Rossland Lodge No. 21, through the untiring zeal of as competent

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a set of officers as ever handled the affairs of a lodge, supported as they have been by the individual assistance of every member, now claims the proud distinction of being one of the foremost lodges of the Order. Beginning with a limited membership and under the most adverse circumstances, their roster now bears a goodly number of the best names of Rossland, and their affairs generally are in a flourishing condition. In point of candidates, they are also somewhat in line, and their "invincible Billy Goat" is occasionally finding enjoyable exercise in "scanting" the anatomy of new members.

Since the fire of last Spring, which destroyed their meeting quarters, they have been domiciled in Bro. Beatty's little "attic in the alley," but next week they will remove to a more commodious hall in the Odd Fellows' building, pending the completion of their own beautiful home, which will be ready for occupancy about Spring.

The Rossland boys are overjoyed with enthusiasm over the decision of the Grand Lodge, granting Rossland their next meeting point, and which convenes next May. Judging by the way the Rossland boys have entertained distinguished visitors in the past, the Grand Officers may expect hospitality that is seldom if ever surpassed, during their short stay here.

I also find the members here pleased beyond words of expression, over the rapid progress toward recovery Bro. Maxwell is making, and hope that his pleasing articles will soon be resumed in the "True Knight," though first of all, they want to hear of his ultimate recovery.

A Uniform Rank is under consideration among several members here and steps are about formulated for mustering in. This excellent plan will prove a wonderful drawing card for the Lodge and Order.

The production of "Damon and Pythias" was given here last month by the R. E. French Company, under the auspices of the Rossland Lodge, and although the elements were rather boisterous, supplying Rossland with quite a severe rain-storm, the attendance was far beyond expectations. The play was an excellent exemplification of the Order, and its repetition is looked for at an early date.

I had the pleasure of meeting Grand Vice-Chancellor Bro. J. W. Graham last week. He is one of those whole-souled, faithful members who always greet a visiting brother with all the welcome they can bestow, and I am informed that it is largely due to his indefatigable efforts and loyal devotion to the Lodge's interest that it has attained such rapid and complete success.

Whew! but it's chilly up here in Rossland. They say it's only five miles above the sea, and judging from the already large amount of ice and snow on the mountain peaks below, I would aver that I was just that many more miles above the Polar region. Talk about the health-giving properties derived from the atmosphere. Why a brother knight told me that a few months ago a friend of his had encircled the globe in search of health for "liver" complaint, but found none until he happened into Rossland. He was so well pleased that he remained here for a long time steadily improving in health. A few days ago, this man died and his liver had become so strong it had to be taken out and killed with a club before they could inter him. This is a true

(?) "story." Any brother not believing it ju come up here and the Rossland boys will show you what high "livers" they are.

The boys here intend to enjoy themselves an entertain friends at least once a month during the cold weather, and from now on will give social entertainment on the last meeting night in each month.

I would like to give a brief description of every officer's work in the Lodge, but such occupation of space may seem wearisome to many. Run along this line, I want to say that too high praise cannot be accorded the officers of the Lodge. They realize more and more that the destiny of any lodge rests with the member selected to handle its affairs. At the helm they want broad-gauged, fair-minded, liberal men who cannot be swayed from the path of duty by petty strifes, but whose hearts and hands are given to the work before them. They want progressive, energetic men, who will not be content with allowing affairs to jog along in the old well-worn grooves, but seek to elevate the Lodge that has honored them with positions of trust, and establish it on so firm a basis that its foundation can never be shaken. Be it said to their credit: Rossland Lodge has just such men in office. May their shadows never grow less!

The writer having removed from Trail to Rossland, has had the pleasure of visiting No. 21, and as regards correspondence, I find each brother waiting for the other to take up the labor, so I am just stepping between the situation and taking chances of surprising the members here, and if they think well of my "ungranted" actions, the "True Knight" may be assured of a lengthy letter from this Lodge next month.

Yours in F. C. and B.,

THOMAS E. ABBOTT.

Rossland, B. C., November 16th, 1899.

—:o:—

Every eligible Pythian should carry life insurance. No man should be without some indemnity for his family. Pythians have no excuse for leaving their families unprotected—they have what is admitted and considered by even its opponents as the best and safest of fraternal insurance, right within their own ranks. While it is not compulsory upon the membership to join, yet every Pythian should be a member of the Endowment Rank, since it furnishes indemnity at the lowest possible price, and safe, sure and secure.

—:o:—

#### GREETING FROM THE BOUNDARY.

To the Editor of the "True Knight," Vancouver. Dear Sir and Brother,—I have just received the November number of the "True Knight," the second one, I believe, that has been mailed to me. Somebody evidently recognized a good thing in the first one, and "swiped it."

I have been requested to "come again," with a letter to our newsy little journal, but as I have been tied down in camp for the past month or so, I could not see anything to write about. I have, however, just returned from a flying trip over the Columbia & Western, having been as far as Greenwood. The last nine or ten miles was made on a railroad velocipede, which is a

very nice way of riding down hill, but, oh! so hard on the back, going up hill.

I want first, in all kindness, to warn all brother knights seeking employment, to keep away from the Boundary for the present. There is undoubtedly a great boom on there, but the labor market is glutted. Now that the railway is nearing completion, hundreds of men are being turned loose to look for work. Some are finding it, many are not, and living is very high. Anyone with a little capital lying idle might find splendid opportunities for investment, but they should beware of wild-cats.

I gathered while in that vicinity, that a lodge had been successfully organized at Grand Forks, and that application for a charter had been sent in, but of this, I am not sure, as I did not call at Grand Forks. Phoenix, the new mining town, is going to make an effort to organize a Lodge. There are a large number of our brethren scattered through the Boundary, and are all a good class of men. I met Brother Knox, our late D. G. C., (of New Denver, No. 22) at Eholt. He is rusting away, trying to make a living, and if things turn out as promised, he will make a success.

I see my worthy friend and Bro. Knight, C. E. Smitheringale, has been giving me a "bouquet" about my daughter. Thanks, Charlie! She's a bouncer from all accounts, although I have not seen her yet, but expect to do so in the course of a month or so. How do you like being a papa, Charlie?

We are having the first snow of the season here now, and camp life is pretty chilly. The Columbia and Western Railway will be completed about the middle of January, including the long tunnel, near Brooklyn. We boys will then be at liberty for awhile, and some of us that are members will have a chance to look into a lodge once in a while.

Greenwood may be my own future home, although there is some possibility of my going to the "other side."

I have not succeeded in saying much this time, for or about the Order, but will try and do better next time.

Wishing all the Fraternity a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,

Sincerely yours in F. C. & B.,  
WALTER J. SPAUL.

Robson, B. C., December 5th, 1899.

TO MEMBERS.

We would earnestly request all members of the Order when making purchases not to forget to patronize those who are assisting the publication of the "True Knight" by advertising in the same. The Committee in charge of this publication appreciate the kindness extended to them by the different merchants who have seen fit to insert their ads in the publication, and the Brother Knights should see to it that they get the benefit of their patronage.

DR. WELDON E. YOUNG.

In the November issue of "The Senator," it is noted that P. G. C., Dr. Weldon E. Young, of Washington, has gone to Europe, on a visit, and on his return will stop over in New York and take a post-graduate's course. Our Brother is held in high esteem among the Pythians in British Columbia, who cannot forget his kind offer of assistance to our brothers of New Westminster in the time of their distress and need, caused by the fire that devastated the entire business portion of the city during the month of September, 1898. We hope that the brother will be successful in all he may seek.

Just think of it, for less than \$10 a year, a Pythian, who is thirty years of age, or under, can insure his life, and secure to his wife and family \$1,000 at death—this amounts to 20 cents a week—just think of it.

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## ORGANISING A K. OF P. LODGE.

On a recent evening those interested in the Knights of Pythias met at Miners' Union Hall, and arranged to organise a lodge of the Order in a Phoenix. A committee was appointed, consisting of C. S. Thompson, S. A. Clark and Mr. Crane to secure a charter and arrange for renting a suitable hall for lodge use. It will probably take a month to get in working order and the lodge promises to be a strong organisation.

## CLIQUEES.

The power of discrimination between right and wrong should nowhere find greater opportunities to be displayed than in a lodge-room, where all are united in that brotherly love that stands as the corner-stone of our Order.

In the election of men for offices, men who will uphold the honorable traditions of our Order, we must be careful to select men consistent with the high ideal that every brother who loves the Order should have.

In this selection every brother should exercise his right, uninfluenced by anyone. Every knight in our Order is capable of thinking for himself and putting his deductions into practice, when balloting either for officer or candidate.

The meanest and most contemptible action on the part of those meetings in a Castle Hall is the forming of cliques, and members seemingly with all their mental faculties unimpaired, are led to act in a way that otherwise they would despise if uninfluenced, or not surrounded by those who, it would seem, have not always the best interests of the lodge at heart, but who have only a petty grievance against an individual. Again, it is a direct insult to ask a man to vote in a certain way. It is tantamount to saying that he is not capable of using his own brains, and a man who cannot do that should be deprived of the franchise.

These are strong words, but not too strong, for there are in our midst those foolish enough to be parties to any cliques, that in other societies have made discord and strife enough to send in twain the strongest society that ever existed.

Think for yourself; act as your thoughts dictate, and every brother Knight should remember the words of the immortal bard, that seem especially applicable:—

Thine above all,  
Thine own self be true, and it must follow  
As the night the day  
Thou can'st not then be false to any man."

The best system of fraternal insurance that exists to-day, is the Endowment Rank of the Order of Knights of Pythias. This is freely acknowledged by the best authorities on life insurance, and all admit that this department of the Order is better and more prudently managed than any kindred Society. It is now patterned after by others of its kind, and universally noted as a standard by which to go.

## BENEFITS OR FRATERNITY?

On no question of Pythian policy does our Order require the calm and wise judgment of its best and truest men, more than on that of the proper adjustment of the so called "benefit" feature. It has several relations to the Order and its interests and can only be dealt with or approached by those who can do so fairly, and at the same time justly—it must not be taken up rashly or inconsiderately, nor should any prejudice enter into the disposal of any measure leading up to a positive change. At the same time, there should be no faltering—if there is any danger to the Order by a continuance of any feature in its system that leads to the brink, no honest Pythian should fear to raise the note of warning—it is in this spirit that we have always lifted our voice against the dangerous system that we have of compulsory benefits—we have studied the plan out—we know it to be unjust, unfair and ruinous, and, knowing this, we have advocated a change—we have done so in good conscience, earnestly hoping that a halt would soon be called to the continuance of a system that has drained the treasuries of our funds, worked unevenly toward our membership, and sapped the Order of its fraternity.

Feeling this latter especially, we asked a good brother in the Palmetto State to write on this theme—we knew of his large heart and broad views—we knew that the Order and its interests were very dear to him—we knew that he was honest of purpose yet courageous enough to speak his mind. He understood our sentiments thoroughly, and, knowing our views, he has kindly sent us the following able and excellent contribution—it presents many new thoughts—good ones—and it suggests a solution not only feasible, but well worthy of working out. Here is what Brother Past Grand Chancellor D. C. Heyward of Waltersboro, South Carolina, has to say:

Editor "Pythian Tribune."

We read a great deal in the Pythian Press about "suspensions" and "non attendance of conventions," and while these questions are of great importance there is another problem which is even more important than either of these, which, if properly solved, will aid very much in the solution both of "suspension" and of "non-attendance," one which has become so engrafted into the life of the Order that it may be said to have caused it to bear a fruit which was not expected to be grown from the seed which Rathbone planted thirty-six years ago—I refer to the payment of benefits.

If one will carefully examine the laws of the Order, he can not fail to be struck by the fact that some of them are extremely rigid, imposing many and severe penalties. He will observe that in recent years, after creating a state of "good-standing" in the Order, they have gone so far as to deny members in that state admittance to their lodge rooms, in case their dues are not paid to a certain period. That this is going very far for a fraternal organisation, no one can deny, and were the Order as at present conducted strictly a fraternal organisation no such severe measure would be necessary. Friendship and brotherhood do not depend upon dollars and cents, but friendship and brotherhood are not the all in all with the Order to-day.



Another feature has not only crept in, but has come rapidly to the front—one which was only secondary in the minds of the founders; a feature which for its maintenance depends wholly upon dollars and cents, requiring that what is due should be promptly paid or the debtor punished, and which, if we will only stop to think, is to a large extent the *raison d'être* of every refusal to communicate the Semi-Annual Password, and of every suspension and the beneficiary feature.

A large majority of the rank and file of the Order, and many, too, in high places, have become so accustomed to the system of benefits that they are shocked and horrified at any suggestion that this system be stopped. They predict a large decrease in membership. They contend that benefits have been held out to many as an inducement to join the Order, point to the Order's wonderful growth as proof that this inducement has taken well, and argue that it would be bad policy to destroy a bridge which has carried us across so many dangerous places in the past.

These members are sincere in what they say, and hence it is very important that we approach this question in the right spirit, and with a great deal of care. They should be made to understand at the very outset that those who view this matter differently from themselves, are not opposed to these benefits per se, but are opposed to their being made the most prominent feature of the Order, and so having the laws of the Order so shaped that a lodge may pay them and still remain financially solvent. They hold that the Order of Knights of Pythias is first and foremost a fraternal organisation—that friendship and goodfellowship are its corner-stones, and that to them everything of a beneficial nature should be subordinate.

Whenever this question comes up for discussion the mistake is generally made of arguing it from a subordinate lodge standpoint—members discuss whether or not to pay benefits will

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help them to build up their lodges, leaving entirely out of consideration the general system of laws which the payment of benefits renders necessary, as long as they are paid as they are to-day. If they decide that it is best they should pay them, they immediately jump to a broader conclusion; namely, that it is best for Grand Lodges to make payment compulsory. This, Grand Lodges would not undertake to do, unless they knew a way by which the Subordinate Lodge could force the payment of dues, other than simply depriving the members of benefits, and the result is that the Supreme Lodge is called upon and is forced to make laws which virtually make it become a collector of benefit premiums, and whose enforcement change the nature of the Order from that of a fraternal to that of a beneficiary society.

The Subordinate Lodges say to the Supreme Lodge, that inasmuch as they have entered into a health insurance arrangement with their membership, and inasmuch as it is absolutely necessary in order to conduct this business successfully, that the members be made to pay their dues promptly, the Supreme Lodge must come to their rescue by punishing those who fail to pay, regardless of the fact that in so doing the first great principle upon which the Order is founded, is violated for the sake of by-law benevolence.

No one will deny that the payment of dues is a necessity, for without money lodges could not assist those really in need, and meet other expenses which are unavoidable, but the day has now come when the members of the Order should look deeply into this matter and should ask themselves the question whether it is best to make their Order both fraternal and beneficial—whether laws which apply to one will apply to the other—whether one is not purely business and the other sentiment, and whether in their experience they have ever known business and sentiment to get along very well together.

Barring what we find in our Ritual, there can be no doubt but that the trend of Pythian law is nowadays more towards making the Order financially strong, than it is towards cultivating those high attributes of the heart which actuated the founders, and now that for the first time in the Order's history a slight decrease in membership is reported, it is exceedingly important that this matter of the payment of benefits be fully discussed—and, if it is found that in the way we arrange to pay them, we are jeopardising the best interests of the Order, another way should be found.

The question to be discussed is not so much whether we shall continue to pay benefits, but how we shall pay them—how we shall conduct this properly speaking, money department of the Order. No one advocates the Supreme Lodge wiping away the whole benefit system by one enactment—it has been a feature of the Order too long, has done too much good and too many members believe in it, for any such action. A way can be found to continue the payment of benefits, and still adhere to the original purpose of the Order. The Knights of Pythias can still be both a fraternal and a beneficial society, but, in order to succeed, those features must be entirely separated, and the latter must

be subordinate to the former. Benefits of all kinds should be handed over wholly to the Subordinate Lodges, and the Supreme Lodge in its legislation should leave them entirely out of consideration. Not receiving the benefit should be the penalty imposed for not paying the premium. Their payment should be treated by both the Supreme and Grand Lodges as a purely business transaction between the Subordinate Lodge and its members, and one which the Subordinate Lodge could manage without any assistance from either of them. And the Subordinate Lodge should no more compel a member to ensure his health in this benefit arrangement than it should compel him to insure his life. Why regard the benefit system any more a part and parcel of the Order than the Endowment Rank, and as that Rank has certain rules and regulations governing it, so let the benefit branch of the lodge have its own rules and regulations.

This would not allow those not in the benefit branch of the lodge to escape the payment of dues—their dues would not be as much as would be paid by those expecting to receive more in a pecuniary way, but they would still have to contribute towards the support of the Order. If they failed to pay and their lodges thought that they were able to pay, they could be punished by being denied, after the debt had been standing a year, the privilege of attending all conventions, until they place themselves in "good standing" again.

Dues could be receivable quarterly as they are now, so as to be lighter upon the members, and if at the end of a year a member had paid nothing and had not been excused by his lodge, he should be compelled to suspend himself, but not from the Order of Knights of Pythias—he should, until he committed some act necessitating his expulsion from the Order, still be a Pythian, but one who by his own act had suspended himself from every Pythian privilege, including the Endowment Rank. He should be known as an unaffiliating Knight of Pythias, and should have the right to take up again at any time those bonds of Friendship broken by himself.

Once let the Order cease severing fraternal ties as rapidly as it binds them—let it cease official "suspensions for non-payment of dues," and the result will be that there will be fewer heart burnings, and consequently more applications for re-affiliation:—let it cease providing that the amount of dues necessary for the support of the Order, exclusive of those for the payment of benefits, be demandable at shorter periods than one year, and the result will be that Lodge Conventions will be better attended. Fraternity and not balances will be the most prominent thought in the minds of members, and visiting brothers will not so often be turned away, because a Master of Finance has been careless enough to send a "receipt" without an "order!"

The Supreme Lodge in adding the last clause in Section XV, Article X of their Constitution, has given a hint to Grand Lodges that in the judgment of the Supreme Lodge weekly benefits should be under the control of the Subordinate, and this hint Grand Lodges should not be slow to take. It would be the first step towards

making benefits of all kinds separate and distinct from the fraternal part of the Order. Another step which could be taken without being considered too great and sudden an innovation, would be for the Supreme Lodge to re-enact the law adopted in 1894, and amended in 1896, in regard to the communication of the Semi-Annual Password, and allow all members in "good standing" to receive it.

If once these steps are taken others will follow and within a few years Pythian Castle Halls will become those Temples of Friendship that they were originally intended to be.

D. C. HEYWARD.  
"The Pythian Tribune."

:o:

The following communication fully explains itself. It was, unsolicited, forwarded to the office of the Endowment Rank. It testifies to the value of the Endowment Rank, and should impress every eligible Pythian with the necessity and advisability of associating himself with that most important part of Pythian Knighthood:—

Merced, California, September 21st, 1899.

H. B. Stolte, Esq., Secretary Board of Control, Chicago, Illinois:—

Dear Sir,—I extend my sincere thanks to the Endowment Rank, Knights of Pythias, for their kindness and prompt attention for the check of two thousand dollars, which I received through Yosemite Lodge, No. 30, on the 18th day of September.

This has lost me my husband, and I accept it as a last loving gift. I shall always speak a word of praise for the Order of Knights of Pythias, of which my husband, Thomas F. Carrigan, was a member.

Yours, respectfully,  
MRS. TENA CARRIGAN.

:o:

**K. OF P. LODGE ENJOINED**

From Suspending or Expelling a Member Who is a Saloon Keeper.

(From the "Kentucky Knight".)

A peculiar injunction suit was filed in the District Court here, in which J. E. Ballard, a saloon keeper, seeks to prevent the Knights of Pythias Lodge from suspending or expelling him on account of his business. Mr. Ballard alleges that he was initiated into the Order in 1890 and in 1893 took out a policy in the Endowment Rank of the Order for \$2,000, and that on the 17th day of April, 1895, a purported rule, regulation, or rather what is called a statute of the Grand Lodge, went into effect when plaintiff was a member in good standing and holding the aforesaid insurance in defendant lodge, said purported statute providing that any member of the Order engaged in the occupation known as saloon keeper or bar tender should be deemed guilty of an offense against the Order, and on conviction thereof should be suspended or expelled as the Subordinate Lodge of which he is a member may determine. That on the 5th day of February, 1898, this plaintiff entered into and engaged in the saloon business in the City of Hillsboro, Hill County, Texas, and has so continued in said business to the present time. On

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the 8th of May, 1898, he was tried in said defendant Lodge upon the charge of engaging in such saloon business, and was duly acquitted by said lodge, whereupon the case against him was appealed by the persons conducting the prosecution against him, to wit: Walter Lang and Walter Philips, members of said lodge; but that he nor his attorney, R. W. Hunt, have any notice of copy of the brief of said prosecutors of plaintiffs in error, as same are designated in the rules as what is known by the Grand Tribunal, Knights of Pythias of Texas, as required by said rules, before his case could be passed on by what is known as such Grand Tribunal; such briefs are by said rules required to contain an orderly and concise statement of the facts as understood by the parties filing the same, a statement of the contention between the parties and a concise argument of the points presented with the citation of authorities as such party may think proper, wherefore this plaintiff was prevented from knowing what arguments there were to be made against him, and what facts were to be relied on against him, and what authorities were to be used against him, and deprived of his rights of being properly and fairly tried before said Grand Tribunal, and its judgment should therefore be and is void; but said Tribunal rendered a judgment to the effect that plaintiff was guilty and instructed the defendant lodge to proceed to either expel or suspend him from said defendant lodge, and said defendant lodge had heretofore failed and refused to do so on said trial before said defendant lodge. This plaintiff further says he is informed and believes that said purported statute of the Grand Lodge is unreasonable and void; that same is also contrary to the laws of Texas providing against trusts and conspiracies, against trade, and in so far as defendant lodge recognises same and consents to same and proposes to act upon same, same is a combination of acts of two persons and more than two persons associated together in said defendant lodge to create and carry out restrictions in the free and full pursuit of a business authorised and permitted by laws of this State and is therefore void, that plaintiff is now and has been during the time of said trial aforesaid engaged in the saloon business as a retail liquor dealer in the City of Hillsboro, Hill County, Texas, paying all taxes, Federal, State, County and City therefor. That said purported statute of said Grand Lodge also deprives plaintiff of his right as aforesaid in said defendant lodge, if said defendant lodge undertakes to carry out said order, that some of the members of said lodge, and he believes and avers a majority of members of said lodge, acting as a lodge now threaten and are about to proceed to either suspend or expel plaintiff from said lodge in obedience to the aforesaid judgment of said Grand Tribunal, and thereby deprive plaintiff of his rights of membership, his insurance as aforesaid, and threaten to carry out said restriction in and upon plaintiff's right to fully and freely pursue his occupation and business as such saloon keeper and retail liquor dealer; that the damages resulting from such action would be irreparable. Plaintiff has no other business, and all his means are invested in said business, and to quit such business would be a great sacrifice of property and money on the part of plaintiff, and there is no legal remedy

adequate in the premises, he prays that citation issue in terms of the law and served upon defendant lodge; that upon hearing here of your honor grant him a permanent writ of injunction restraining from so suspending or expelling plaintiff from said lodge, and depriving him of his rights of membership and insurance therein, and that your honor grant him a temporary writ of injunction restraining said defendant lodge as aforesaid.

:o:

### THE TIE THAT BINDS.

In all this world there is nothing which can take the place of a genuine feeling of Brotherhood and sympathy; nothing which gives strength to tired hands and brings hope to despairing hearts like the consciousness that somewhere there are friends, true and tried, ever loyal, ever faithful, who rejoice at our prosperity and grieve at our adversity. If we could look into the inmost soul of every man, computing not merely the little good that he accomplishes, but likewise the temptations he constantly combats, surely we would feel that a spirit of forgiveness, charity, mercy, and Brotherhood is the only true spirit in which we should meet our fellow-man.

Nothing is truer than the words of the familiar poem:

"A little word in kindness spoken,  
A motion, or a tear  
Has often healed a heart that's broken  
And made a friend sincere."

The man who feels that he has not a friend on earth, that no one would mourn for him if he were dead, that no eye would be dimmed with tears and no heart bowed with sorrow,—that man must be "of all men most miserable." Not alone to the aged and infirm, the destitute and the needy, the fatherless and the widow, but to all who know what it is to want a friend's sympathy and a friend's encouragement, the words of Burns appeal with a peculiar force and a personal realisation of their awful truth:

"The great, the wealthy fear death's blow,  
From pomp and pleasures torn;  
But oh! a blessed relief to those  
That weary laden mourn."

A feeling of universal sympathy is the very tie that binds our members in one mighty Brotherhood—sympathy not merely in times of trial, but sympathy alike in success and in failure; a sympathy and an interest in the welfare of our brother which destroys all envy and causes us to seek the good of a brother, even as we would seek our own, and to assist and encourage him in his every effort. From the point of view of the Knight of Pythias, I am my brother's keeper, and I owe it to my lodge, to my brother, and to myself to warn him of any impending disaster and to aid him in life's battles, feeling an ever-fresh interest in all his undertakings.—"Kentucky Knight."

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