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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. I. No. 8.

VANCOUVER, B.C., March, 1899.

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MONTHLY.]



The True Knight.

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Address all communications to P. O. Box 313.

J. E. EVANS,

Secretary,

Vancouver, B. C.

G. R. MAXWELL,

Editor.

VANCOUVER, MARCH, 1899.

HONOR.

It is not often that we have this virtue brought before our notice, and yet no man can be a true man; no man can live worthily and usefully; no man can be towards his brother what he would like his brother to be towards himself—in short, no man in any relationship of life, is, or can be, worthy of trust, dignity, and respect, who is lacking in honor. What is honor? A word has often various meanings, and this word is used in various ways. We speak often of an honored man, as a man of honor. For various services he is honored, and stands before all as a man of honor. For this honor there are many aspirants, but this is not what we wish to commend at this time; for it would not be difficult to prove that many of those who have been specially honored were not the highest type of men; were not the noblest citizens, and were not honorable men in the truest sense of the word. Honors are not always indicative of those virtues which are ever

the crowning excellencies of a truly great and noble life. True honor is not a thing others can give us, but it is what we can alone make for ourselves. It is our character, our oneness in thought, word, and deed with the eternal verities. One of Shakespeare's comical characters asks the question: "What is honor?" and answers, "A word." What, then, is that word, "honor?" Air? No; that thing called honor is more than a word; it is more than air; and though it may be true that it cannot set a leg, or an arm, or take away the grief of a wound, and therefore has no skill in surgery, it is yet a principle, a vital principle, which this nonentity has not. Where this principle is, it seizes hold of human thoughts and feelings; permeates them all with its own purity and life, and at the last transmits them into a noble deed, prophetic of a noble character.

Another poet says: "What is honor?" and then tells us that it is: "Not to be captious, nor unjustly right; 'tis to confess what's wrong, and do what's right." That gives us a better view of what a man of honor is, and to extend it—as one puts it—a man of honor is a man who rises above selfish fear, interest, and corruption; who is governed at all times by the principles of rectitude and integrity; whom no bribe can seduce, or terror overawe. He is a man who cannot be melted into effeminacy by pleasure, or sunk into dejection by distress; he is a man who is never afraid to discharge his duty with firmness and constancy; who is affectionate towards his brethren; generous to his enemies; compassionate to the unfortunate; who is magnanimous without being proud; humble without being mean; simple in his manners, but manly in his feelings, and who is a man on whose word you can rely. Such a man is a man of honor, and his life is honorable, and such is the kind of man that Pythianism is ever striving to develop—and we are proud to say with a great deal of success.

Let us now look at some of those virtues which together produce honor—for honor is not one thing, but a combination of things. The word stands for a great many excellent qualities, and the more full we are of these, the more complete we are as men of honor. The mountain is one—but it takes a great many elements to make the mountain. Severally speaking, the fuller the mountain of these different elements, the greater will be the mountain. It is the same with what we call honor. We should say, then, that a man of honor is and must be an honest man. There can be no honor about a man who is dishonest; and where you have dishonesty you have dishonor. A man of honor is absolutely honest, and therefore what is dishonest will be repugnant and offensive to him. Highland honor would not permit a Highlander to do anything hurtful to a man who was enjoying his hospitality, and a man of honor dare not do what is dis-

honorable. Pope said long ago—"An honest man is the noblest work of God." A great many applaud that beautiful thought, and yet, as things often go, it is the dishonest man that is applauded most. In law, we are to regard a man as innocent until he is proved to be guilty, but very often we pronounce men to be guilty before they are tried. The Worldly Wiseman tells you, "Believe every man a rogue until proved to be honest." You are almost called a fool if you act otherwise, and yet the maxim is unjust, dishonorable, and demonish. If men were really to carry out that horrible principle, the world would only be fit for savages to live in. Our Order has no sympathy with such maxims. Our teaching is in touch with the proverbial lore of the past, which tells us, "that an honest man's word is as good as his bond"; that he "swearth to his own hurt, and changeth not"; that "short reckonings make long friends"; that "a good name is rather to be chosen than great riches"; that "he that will cheat at play will not be honest in earnest," and, under the inspiration of such, we say "fair play is a jewel." The world is calling loudly to-day for men who are honest to the backbone, and where you have a man of honor, there you will ever have a man who will fill the bill.

No man is a man of honor who is devoid of truth. It is sad to see how careless men are about what is called character. Everything in life that is good, useful and beautiful tells us that such perfected things are the product of hard, thoughtful labor, and yet the grandest, the most beautiful thing on earth—a true character—which can only be obtained through struggle—men somehow are perfectly callous and indifferent about. Men do not gather grapes from thorns, nor thistles from fig-trees; and the laws of nature ought to teach us that honor cannot come from dishonorable associations, transactions, practices, thoughts, and actions; that if we are to become the men which our Order is trying to make, we must have right things in us before they can come out in action, and that our conduct must be the natural result of unseen, but of all potent forces. There can be no honor about the untruthful man, for when falsehood would come in through the door of a man's heart, honor would fly out of the window. The two cannot possibly live together. On the tomb of the great Baron Steir—a man of noble services—there are inserted these lines:—

"His nay was nay, without recall;

His yea was yea, and powerful all;
He gave his yea with careful heed;
His thoughts and words were well agreed;
His word, his bond and seal."

With such a man you could trust your life. Eulwer Lytton, in describing the origin of the roots of honor, tells us that the savages discovered that they could not live in safety among themselves unless they agreed among themselves to speak the truth to each other. This truth becomes valued and grows into a principle of honor. Very true, and we can no more live a life that is worth living, without agreeing to speak and act the truth to one another. Truth and honor are therefore inseparably intertwined. The truth demands heroes, but it is the love of truth in a man that ultimately makes the hero, and a man of honor. A Spanish historian tells us about a Spanish cavalier who, in a hasty quarrel, slew a Moorish gentleman. He fled, and in despair jumped over a garden wall. The owner, a Moor, happening to be in his garden, was addressed by the Spaniard on his knees. He implored protection. "Eat," said the Moor, giving him a peach, "you now know that you may depend upon me to protect you." The Moor went away, and soon discovered that the man whom he had promised to protect was the man who had murdered his own son. Did he break his word? No! Going out to him, he said, "Christian, the person whom you have killed is my son; you ought to suffer, but I have given you my word, and that cannot be broken." He was only an infidel, as the Spaniards called the Moors in those days, but he was a man of honor, because he was a man of truth. We need more infidels of this class everywhere, for if we had them the wheels of life would go more smoothly round, and what a heap of rubbish in the shape of prevarication, pretence, shamming, and hypocrisy would be swept away. The world needs what the Scotch call a "reddin' up," and if our lying habits and practices could be cleared away, life would be sweeter, truer, and grander. Archibald Lampman, a sweet Canadian singer, who has lately gone to rest, says:—

"Even one little deed of weak untruth
Is like a drop of quenchless venom cast,
A liquid thread, into life's feeding stream,
Woven forever with its crystal gleam,
Bearing the seed of death and woe at last."
On the other hand, we are reminded by the same forceful writer:—

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Like drops of heavenly elixir, fraught
With the clear essence of eternal youth."

Brother Knights, where we are tested and proved, is not so much in our Castle halls, as in the world. Wherever we may be, and whatever we may do—the place and work—both give us opportunities many for the display of those virtues which are ever associated with honor. May we not be found wanting! But may our lives be beautiful lives, giving into each life those inspirational drops of heavenly elixir that will enthuse them to be men of honor at all times, and in all places!

THE DEATH OF THE POET LAMPMAN.

(By the Editor.)

"In the midst of life we are in death." Times there are when we hardly realize how true these words are, but there are occasions when, with a startling suddenness, we realize how near we have been walking with Death. We have hardly ever had this realization more vividly than in connection with the death of Canada's sweetest singer. We spent the evening of Tuesday with him, having been introduced two days before to him by a mutual friend. He looked fragile; with a sort of appearance that made you feel that he was in that mood when he prayed:

"Breathe on us
Something of all Thy beauty and Thy might;
Us, that are part of day, but most of night;
Not strong like Thee, but ever burdened thus
With glooms and cares; things pale and dolorous,
Whose gladdest moments are not wholly bright."

Yet at times he brightened up, and his eyes at times glistened bright and clear. He was fascinatingly quiet—mild and gentle, and as he

leapt like a bird from poet to poet, from thought to thought, I was made captive, and never enjoyed captivity in a more charming manner. I think I may truthfully say that he opened his inner life to me—so much so, that I saw what a rich soul God had once more sent to this earth to sing of His manifold works, with the usual scant appreciation and reward. He did not grumble, but one could easily see that this man was out of place, caged as he was in post office work, when his soul was on the wing, soaring here and there in God's beautiful universe. It may be hard to say whether he sang us all that was given him to sing, but I could not help saying to myself: "If but that man had had the chance of speaking face to face with the youth of our universities, what an inspiration he would have been to them!" Having roamed through the field of poetry, we next turned the conversation on to his own work. Here he was more reticent, as if he preferred in this case rather to hear what I thought about it, than to say what he thought about it. He spoke cheerfully, however, of his forthcoming volume, and when I assured him that he had a great many enthusiastic admirers in British Columbia, he was delightfully pleased. "I should like," he said, "to see your mountains, your hills, your flowers, and your streams," and I could only say: "I wish you would, for I think they would be an inspiration to your Muse." At last, however, we had to say good-night, and I left his side feeling that I had been in the presence of a true son of God and son of man. That was on Tuesday night, and the next tidings were that early on Friday morning the soul of Archibald Lampman had gone home to rest. He was dead.

How sudden! And yet never was one more ready for the Kingdom than he was. Like so many others of the band to which he belonged, he died young, in the hey-day of promise, and while we mourn that the more has been denied us, we cannot but rejoice that God sent this singer to our land to remind us of the higher treasures and pleasures which may be abundantly enjoyed and possessed by the pure in

KNIGHTS, ATTENTION!

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heart. This is not the place to dwell at any length upon his contributions to the poetic wealth of the world; but to sharpen the appetite of my readers, let me bring them into close sympathy with him—then get his soul for yourself. Nature is his great theme, and you might say his heart was ever overflowing with his love towards the object that ever gave to him, and to whom he ever gave in return.

"And here among the scented swathes that gleam,

Mixed with dead daisies, it is said to lie
And watch the grass and few-clouded sky,
Nor think but only dream."

He was at home here:

"And those high moods of mine that sometimes made

My heart a heaven, opening like a flower
A sweeter world where I, in wonder, strayed,
Bégirt with shapes of beauty and the power
Of dreams, that moved through that enchanted
clime,

With changing breaths of rhyme."

Again:

"The world is bright with beauty, and its days
Are filled with music; could we only know
True ends from false, and lofty things from
low;

Could we but tear away the walls that graze
Our very elbows in life's frosty ways;
Behold the width beyond us with its flow,
Its knowledge and its murmur and its glow,
Where doubt itself is but a golden haze.
Ah, brothers, still upon our pathway lies
The shadow of dim weariness and fear,
Yet if we could lift our earthward eyes
To see, and open our dull ears to hear,
Then should the wonder of this world draw
near
And life's innumerable harmonies!"

As Enoch walked with God, so in another
way, meaning the same thing, Lampman walk-
ed with Nature, saw Nature, and heard her in-
numerable harmonies, singing in his finely at-
tuned ears. With him Nature is not merely
something to look at, but is a great teacher.

"Oh, light, I cried, and heaven, with all your
blue,

Oh, earth, with all your sunny fruitfulness,
And ye, tall lilies, of the wind-vexed field,
What power and beauty life indeed might
yield,

Could we but cast away its conscious stress,

Simple in heart, becoming e'en as you."

The stormy night produces an exquisite ode,
and he says:

"Darkling and strange art thou, thus vexed and
chidden;

More dark and strange thy veiled agony,
City of storms, in whose grey heart are hidden
What stormier woes, what lives that groan and
beat?

Stern and thin-cheeked, against time's heavier
sleet,

Rude fates, hard hearts, and prisoning pov-
erty."

So we might go on showing how related and
inter-related the things of sense and time are
in his ethereal moods, and in his beautiful
songs. Many of his expressions will, I think,
become popular in speech. For example:

"The shining field of heaven."

"I saw the haggard dreadfulness
Of dim old age and death."

"Dead in the depths of the struggle for gold."
"Impetuous deeds that woke the God within
us."

"A miracle of color and of beauty."

"But youth is blind, and wisdom comes too
late."

"Happy is he
Who fronts them without fear, and like the
gods,

Looks out unanxiously on each day's gift
With calmly curious eye."

But we must conclude this brief and neces-
sarily imperfect sketch of our departed friend.
Like all good men, he will live, tho' dead, far
more truly in Canadian life now. In a deep,
true sense his presence abides with us, and will,
more and more as the tides of life roll on. He
was a Canadian, and a Canadian singer. It is
of Canadian skies, flowers, birds, and streams
that he sings, and he has taught us, as few
could do, how to see the beauty of the earth
on which we live. I hope that my Canadian
readers—who are all lovers of Canada—will
procure his volumes, will read them, will study
them, until his clean, pure thoughts, or soul,
will pass into theirs, and that then they will
realize, as he did, what a grand heritage God
has given us, in what is now called Canada.

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THE ENDOWMENT RANK.

There is no field of Pythian endeavor where more good can be done than in that occupied by the Endowment Rank. Hence, it is a source of deep gratification when we notice, from time to time, the remarkable progress which is being made by the Endowment Rank, and the great practical work it is performing. When one realizes that this department is paying the beneficiaries of our deceased brethren over one million of dollars every year, and doing this surely and promptly, he cannot but commend the wisdom and foresight of those who inaugurated so grand a feature. Some dark and unseen hand, at the last convention of the Supreme Lodge, attempted the injury of this department of our Order, but it was foiled—it was paralyzed before its grasp had injured, or its influence affected the welfare of the Rank. Notwithstanding that attempt, the Endowment Rank has gone straight along, increasing as it goes, and doing good everywhere. It deserves to do well—it is the best institution of its kind: is managed by Pythian stalwarts, and presided over by one who knows no such word as "fail."

The following comes to us from the Secretary of the Board of Control, and tells a very flattering tale:

The progress of the Endowment Rank during the closing quarter of the year 1898, compared with the preceding quarter, shows a marked and healthy increase in the membership and endowment.

Since October 1st, 1898, eight, four local branches of the Rank have been established—a gain of eighteen over the preceding quarter, the domains leading in the number of new sections being Iowa, Maine, Pennsylvania, Illinois and Michigan.

Two thousand and sixty-five applicants have been added to the membership, the endowment issued amounting to two million eight hundred and ninety-seven thousand dollars—a gain over the quarter ending September 30th, 1898, of four hundred and thirty-seven in new members and

five hundred and fifty-seven thousand dollars in amount of endowment.

During the same period there has been a decrease of one hundred and thirty-three in the number of forfeitures and one hundred and twenty-three thousand dollars in the amount of endowment lapsed, indicating a decidedly improved condition.

While many fraternal societies during the past year have suffered actual decline, both in number of membership and amount of insurance, the Endowment Rank has from month to month made satisfactory gains in both factors, with most gratifying results at the close of the year.

As an evidence of the labors accomplished, since January 1st, 1898, to the close of December, 1898, three hundred and forty seven new sections were organized, eight thousand four hundred and twenty members admitted and twelve million, forty-one thousand dollars endowment written.

The death claims adjusted and paid during the year aggregate one million one hundred and fifty-one thousand dollars, and the total sum paid beneficiaries to date has reached thirteen million twenty-four thousand dollars.

At the beginning of the year three thousand six hundred sections are in active operation, covering every state and territory in the Union, the Canadian Provinces and Hawaiian Islands.

The membership approximates fifty-five thousand, the total insurance in force one hundred million one hundred and eighty thousand dollars, and the investments and cash on hand four hundred and eighty-three thousand five hundred and twenty dollars.

With an efficient corps of organizers in the field and the unqualified endorsement given the Endowment Rank in many domains by Grand Lodge officers, district deputies and others, together with the able assistance rendered by these brethren, the Board of Control believe that the year 1899 will prove for the insurance branch of the Order one of unusual interest and activity, the result of which it is hoped will surpass by far that of the year 1898.

LOOKING OUT FOR NEW THINGS

Is something we all do now and again, but the lovers and good judges of the fragrant weed all agree that there are no Cigars in the market that can compare with

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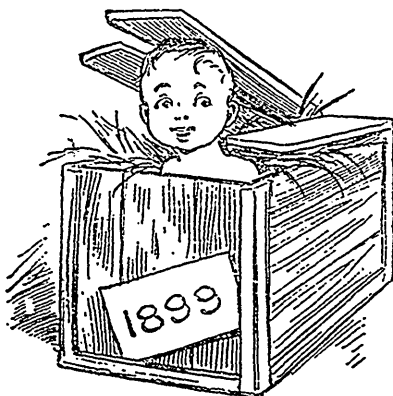
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THOMAS GLEASON SAMPLE, SUPREME
CHANCELLOR.

The True Knight is deeply indebted to our honored brother, T. G. Sample, for the enclosed letter, which we commend to every member of the Order in this Domain. We trust that the desire expressed in the letter of Bro. Sample, for a large increase in membership, may be fully realised; that the Order may add to its roster the best material available, and that the administration of Bro. Sample may be pleasant to himself and, as we are fully satisfied, of great benefit to the Order. We regret that we are unable, with this issue, to give our readers a complete biographical sketch of his Pythian career. By the way, the January number of the "Senator," just received, states that the S. C., accompanied by Major-General Carnahan will visit the Grand Lodge of Washington next May, in session in the City of Seattle. Such being the case, we see no reason why the Knights of this Domain should not extend an invitation to the distinguished Pythians to be with us at the Session of our Grand Lodge, to be held in Victoria during the same month. This is a matter that the members of our Grand Lodge might consider.

We want a million of men in this Order; men who are men; men who can walk the streets of the community in which they live with their head erect; looking their fellowmen in the eyes; declaring by their carriage and actions, "I am a man." There is not one of us in this Order who does not number among his friends men who fill this requirement in every particular. These are the men we desire.

On February 15th I shall visit the Grand Lodge of Maryland; the 16th the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, and on the 28th the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and from there I go to Charlotte and Wilmington, N. C., to talk to my brethren of the Tar Heel State. Almost every evening my time is taken up visiting subordinate lodges, wherever I may be temporarily located.

Early in the month of March the circular will be issued containing all necessary information relative to the dedication of the Rathbone Monument at Utica, N. Y., July next.

I have just received information that the new lodge at Hilo, Hawaiian Islands, has been instituted, and starts with a membership, aside from the card members, of nineteen, with strong promise of rapid increase.

Yours fraternally,
THOMAS G. SAMPLE,
Supreme Chancellor.

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

James Haddow, Grand Chancellor, Northfield.
William D. Mearns, Grand Vice-Chancellor,
Vancouver.

John W. Graham, Grand Prelate, Rossland.
Emil Pferdner, Grand Keeper of Records and
Seals, Victoria.

Edward E. Leason, Grand Master of Exchequer,
Victoria.

James L. Brown, Grand Master at Arms, Kam-
loops.

Edward V. Goulet, Grand Inner Guard, Vernon.
Robert Sample, Grand Outer Guard, New West-
minster.

FROM RATHBONE LODGE.

To the Editor of the True Knight.

Dear Sir and Brother—Before this number of our paper is in the hands of our readers, old Father Time will jot down another year to the credit of Pythianism, and Rathbone members expect to participate in commemorating the anniversary of our noble Order; but we will have to postpone telling about it until our next issue, as we are supposed to have our copy in before such celebration takes place.

We have another candidate now on the road to Knighthood, one of those genial fellows we are pleased to have in our ranks, and we guarantee he will "undertake" to look after our last wants on mother earth, should all others desert us.

Granite Lodge, of New Westminster, made us



To the Editor of the True Knight.

Dear Sir and Brother,—Since January 1st, 1899, there seems to have been a re-awakening in the ranks of the Order throughout the Supreme Domain, and on all sides we notice the greatest activity in the subordinate lodges of the Order, which, to every Pythian, should be a matter of profound congratulation.

We have an institution in which we can all take an honest pride. Its ritualistic work, being sublime in character; instructive and elevating in its teachings, and possessing the feature of the Endowment and Uniform Rank, should commend itself to all thinking people.

another call during the month, bringing their victims with them. We expect a little more assistance from our sister lodges here, but think the brothers are excused, as there were many amusements on that night.

Our worthy M. of F. has returned from Kamloops, where he spent a few days to recuperate his health. We are pleased to see our brother looking so much better.

Our Grand Vice-Chancellor has been considerably under the weather the past few weeks. I think I can speak for the Lodge in wishing him a quick recovery to health, as he is one of those hearty fellows who are much missed when absent.

Brother Grady is one of those gritty fellows who would not let you know he was sick as long as he could pull one leg after the other, but we are very glad to see his jovial face again.

We are pleased to see our brother, Sidney King, with us again. He was duly installed to the office of Prelate upon his return, which office he was elected to the first of the term. Bro. King was also reported ill, but we all hope he will soon be himself again.

We were favored with a call from Bro. Palmer, of No. 120, Eastman Lodge, of Maine, the other evening.

When Bro. De Forrest gives us a call we usually look for a musical treat and we always get it too.

Bro. Anstie and Bro. Captain Crowe were talking Uniform Rank very strongly the other evening. Bro. Captain Crowe expects to double the membership of that body shortly.

The True Knight Auditing Committee have postponed their meeting until the recovery of the worthy Secretary, Bro. J. E. Evans.

I would like very much to see our members start a debating club, and challenge some of

the members of the other lodges. It will stir up new interest in the Order and make a possibility of a much better attendance.

ARTHUR T. CROOK,
Rathbone Lodge, No. 7.

Vancouver, Feb. 20th, 1898.

—:o:—
FROM VICTORIA.

To the Editor of the True Knight.


Dear Sir and Bro.,—Having a few moments to spare, they could not be better occupied than penning a few lines to the True Knight, to let you and its readers know how matters Pythian are progressing in Victoria Lodge, No. 17. I must admit attendance at Lodge has been rather slim lately. There seems to be a lack of interest somewhere, unaccounted for, but those that do attend find enough matter to keep them interestedly talking for a couple of hours.

A goodly number of our members are in the Atlin and Klondike districts, seeking their fortunes, and I sincerely hope they may succeed, for they deserve every penny they make, especially considering the hardships they have to undergo to attain their end. We contemplate quite a radical change in our by-laws, which we hope will be the means of bringing out our members. I enclose you a letter which was sent to each of our members by a committee, specially appointed, and which, I am proud to say, has had a flattering reception, and was the means of bringing up a good attendance at our last session. This, we hope, will continue, and increase. If you think it worth publishing in the True Knight, you may do so. This being my first correspondence to you, I will not make it any longer, but promise, if acceptable, to be a regular correspondent.

Fraternally yours,

E. P. NATHAN.

Victoria Lodge, No. 17, February 17th, 1898.



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We are more than pleased to receive correspondence from Victoria Lodge, No. 17, of Victoria, and are gratified to know that efforts are being made by the members of that Lodge to bring out the membership, as witness the following circular issued by the Committee (mentioned) chosen from the Lodge:

VICTORIA LODGE, No. 17, K. of P.

Victoria, B. C., February 10th, 1899.

Dear Sir and Brother,—At a rather small out enthusiastic meeting of Victoria Lodge, No. 17, Knights of Pythias, held on the evening of January 26th, 1899, the old question came up of, "How and what to do to induce the non-attending members to come up to Lodge meetings, and the irregular attendants to come oftener." After thrashing the question out in every conceivable manner we came to the conclusion that the best way would be a letter from the Lodge, hence the following:

In the first place we would call your attention to the motto on which our beloved Order is founded, namely: Friendship, Charity and Benevolence. "Friendship," which teaches "the state of minds united for mutual benevolence," personal kindness, assistance and help; "Charity," kindness, love, good will and liberality to the poor, and "Benevolence," the disposition to do good, a voluntary tax or obligation, which once taken we should put forth our best efforts to carry out. Such, brother, are the teachings and principles of the Order of Knights of Pythias, but how many of us are truly inculcated with and carry out these teachings? We almost think they could be counted by the number of fingers on your hands, but a more frequent intercourse and larger gatherings of our members would surely help to assimilate and carry out these principles.

Now what we want, brother, is your presence at Lodge meetings once a month, but oftener if possible; if you cannot come that often come once in three months, but come! show that you take an interest in the Order of which you are an honored member, make yourself known in person as well as by name to the other members of the Lodge, and try and induce other members to come up to Lodge meetings.

The present officers of our Lodge, we are sure, are entitled to some relief in their official positions. They have filled almost every station from Outer Guard to Chancellor Commander, and for want of others not being found, or desirous, to fill these positions have willingly accepted re-election, working, if possible, with greater vigor, zeal and interest. Since organization, on August 23rd, 1893, we have paid out in relief, sick and funeral benefits the sum of \$3,398.00, and have at present assets of \$3,000.00. Your individual interest in this amount is considerable. Do you not think you ought to attend Lodge and see how this fund is being managed?

In the event of you and others taking little or no interest in the financial management of the Lodge, and you should unfortunately require sick benefits, you might find that the funds had been invested in worthless securities, and you be minus your benefits to which you are entitled if in good standing. And are you also aware that in the event of lack of

members to fill offices and provide legal quorums the charter of this lodge can be revoked and the funds of the Lodge—be they great or small—would revert to the Grand Lodge? After thinking these matters over, do you not think it is your duty to yourself and those depending on you to try and attend Lodge meetings to look after your interest in the Lodge? You will surely say "It is."

But after a little further reflection you may possibly say to yourself: "Well, the Lodge is getting along very nicely without me!" but it would get along much nicer with your presence, your suggestions and your advice. Several times during the last year we have had to adjourn without holding any session, on account of "No quorum." Now, does that speak well for a Lodge of 106 members in good standing? We should say not! You have it partly in your power to prevent such adjournments by coming up and helping swell the attendance, so that at no future time shall the minute book be defaced by the words: "Adjourned on account of no quorum."

In conclusion, brother, we would once more say, "Come up" for the good of the Order, for the good of Victoria Lodge, No. 17, and for the good of yourself, come up once in a while.

Yours most fraternally, in Friendship, Charity and Benevolence.

E. E. LEASON.

E. J. WALL.

E. P. NATHAN.

Committee.

—:O:—
FROM ROSSLAND.

To the Editor of the True Knight.

Dear Sir and Brother,—It has not been the fault of the members of Rossland Lodge, No. 21, that no communication from this Lodge has ever appeared in your good paper, but simply that the Lodge Reporter has been very derelict in his duty, and certainly the members have treated your correspondent very leniently in this matter. But enough of apologies; let me tell you something of our doings.

Financially, Rossland Lodge was never in a better condition. Although we have lost quite a number during the past term, still our roster shows a membership of seventy-seven, in good standing, and now that our city has got down

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to a steady growth our members will be more inclined to stay with us.

Some weeks ago your correspondent, with several members of the Lodge, went down to our sister city, Trail, and helped her initiate quite a number into the mysteries of Pythianism. Grand Prelate, J. W. Graham, certainly "did himself proud" on that occasion, both in dignity and despatch.

I notice in your last paper that the correspondent from New Denver brings up the question of making the meetings more interesting. In small towns like we have up here in the Kootenay it seems almost impossible to get the members to take the required interest in the proceedings. You on the coast will not experience such lack of interest, and then there are always more attractions in the way of music, etc., in larger places. We talk the matter over in our Lodge, but no good solution of the problem has as yet presented itself. Perhaps, through your good paper we might be given some pointers that would be useful.

We are going to celebrate the anniversary of the founding of the Order of Knights of Pythias by giving a grand ball on Monday evening, February 20th.

D. G. Chancellor E. J. McDonald, assisted by D. G. Prelate J. W. Graham and D. G. Master-at-Arms D. Thomas, installed the following officers on January 6th, for the ensuing term:

C. C., W. R. Beatty; V. C., Proctor Joiner; Prel., D. McCormick; M. of W., C. A. Coffin; K. R. & S., A. G. Creelman; M. of Fin., J. W. Graham; M. of Ex., D. Thomas; I. G., John Hicks; O. G., John Michealy.

After the ceremony a sumptuous lunch was served, and the pipe of peace was passed round.

Wishing you every success with your good paper,

Yours in F. C. & B.

A. G. CREELMAN,

Rossland Lodge, No. 21, February 11th, 1899.

:o:

FROM VERNON.

To the Editor of the True Knight.

Dear Sir and Brother,—Our fifth annual ball was another splendid success, financially and otherwise. Many came from Enderby, Arm-

strong and Lumby. All were delighted and pronounced it the best ball and supper ever given in the valley. Over \$50 of the net proceeds was given to the Vernon Jubilee Hospital.

The cold spell has made the attendance somewhat small lately, our brothers on the Aberdeen being partly frozen in, but to-day we hear the sound of gentle Chinook rustling among the trees, making snow and ice tremble with fear of extermination by the spring-like, balmy atmosphere, but welcomed by all of us as a stimulant for new vigor and hope in the accomplishment of the work we have undertaken, as followers of those two noble men, Damon and Pythias.

Our Castle Hall is undergoing many changes; fresh paint, new carpet, &c., will make our place of meeting one of the most pleasant abodes in our little city, and it will be with pride that we will escort our new candidate through its portals. I have good reason to believe that our numbers will be increased ere the Grand Lodge meets.

Our people were really pleased to see our Mayor, Bro. Shatford, out yesterday, after a protracted illness. It is his intention to take a trip to California as soon as he is strong enough. Our postmaster, Bro. Costerton, has also been laid up, but is now progressing very satisfactorily.

Yours in F. C. & B.,

ED. GOULET,

Correspondent.

Vernon, February 19th, 1899.

:o:

FROM TRAIL.

To the Editor of the True Knight.

Dear Sir and Bro.,—Since writing to you last December, nothing of any importance has transpired that would cause a sensation among other lodges, except the fact that we have about completed our initiation work, handling some fifty new applicants. The boys are slowly but surely assuming metropolitan airs, and are now devising ways and means of holding high carnival. The Lodge was never in such a prosperous condition. We have over \$800 in the treasury, and no debts, in fact there is considerable "dough" due the Lodge, which we are in hope of getting in sight of at an early date. We have more projects in view than all the

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other lodges in the Domain combined—so we think—and several of them are now under way, as an experiment. Just listen to a few of these many schemes of members, acquired while locked in the embrace of Morpheus:

A castle hall, to be erected on a mountain peak with a tramway to convey us either way; new uniforms for the Amplified Team; new uniforms for the Lodge officers; an emblematic carpet for the hall floor; yes, and I heard of one member dreaming of purchasing the smelter and moving it to the ante-room, so that members who are employed there could always be in attendance. All of which goes to show that our members dream well, but their efforts do not pan out well, even to the extent that no brother has so far had the audacity to put the motion for these luxuries.

Pardon the writer, dear Mr. Editor, for this is an exceptional case. Our Lodge possesses a "smiling Benedict," and our worthy brother, John R. Widmer, is the object of congratulation. Bro. Widmer is employed at the smelter, and for that particular reason the story broadens. These smelter boys are considered a most peculiar lot; and are so notoriously shy. Marriage is entirely out of the question with them: they become "razzle-dazzled" at the sight of a woman, and when an introduction to a pretty girl is offered, many have been known to remain out over-night in order to avoid it. But occasionally—and only occasionally—one of these peculiarly shy mortals will so far forget himself as to become rash, then look out. Such has been the case with one here. Bro. John Widmer, a bright young man, full of heart, spunk and integrity, with friends everywhere, was once a resident of the largest city in Oregon, and it was there he met a charming maid. Last Christmas he hid himself to that city, and the ceremony on January 2nd was the culmination of that meeting, and Miss Clara W. Brown, one of Portland's well-known young ladies, was the happy bride. They were quietly joined in wedlock in the presence of a few chosen friends, immediately after which they left for their future home in Trail. Arriving here, they were banqueted, and were the recipients of several beautiful and costly presents. We extend to Bro. Widmer and his charming bride the heartiest and kindest wishes for their future prosperity and happiness.

A little late in the season, but still fresh in our minds: I move that Bro. Widmer unfold a little of the history surrounding the application of that "mustard plaster," at that time so much commented on. Who seconds the motion?

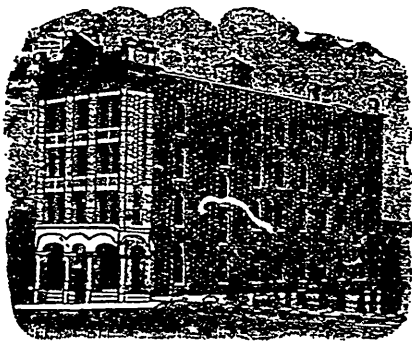
At a meeting held on January 19th, the newly elected officers were installed in their respective stations. Bro. Noble Binns acted as Deputy-Grand Installing Officer, and Past Chancellors Bros. Hayes and Corsan assisted. The new officers start out with a bright field, and hope to accomplish much during their term.

During the early part of January we received an invitation from our Rossland brethren, requesting us to participate in an evening's enjoyment, at which time they would install their new officers. It was very much regretted that we could not send even a single member on that occasion, so cold was the weather, it being right in the midst of the cold snap, when it was roasting in Kootenay. We sincerely hope our Rossland brethren do not think the invitation was received in bad faith, for had it not been so intensely chilly, and the conveyance facilities so slow, they would not have had room enough to accommodate us all.

The members who compose the leading stars in "The Mock Exposure" have occasioned considerable anxiety as to whether they will perfect arrangements by the time set. The work is extremely arduous and incessant, and it has been deemed advisable not to present the play until it can be produced in proper style. It is believed that it will eclipse anything in comedy ever witnessed in Kootenay, and if expectations are met, the players will arrange with the Rossland and Nelson brethren to present the play in their respective cities.

One of the events of the near future is a social, and it is proposed to make it one of the most enjoyable occasions for many a day. A lengthy programme will be arranged, consisting of songs, recitations, duets, solos, and general merry-making, after which an elegant spread will be served.

After considerable discussion as to the points of merit the Endowment Rank presents, some ten members have signified their willingness to join, and Bro. Morin was chosen as President; Bro. Gilmore, Vice-President, and Bro. Lewis, Secretary. It is expected that after the charter arrives, and everything is in smooth



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running order, many more members will take advantage of the exceptionally pleasing features derived from this form of insurance. Every Pythian who is eligible should be insured, and we cannot too strongly commend the Endowment Rank to our brethren. It is unquestionably the best system of fraternal insurance in existence; is safe, secure and stable, and, like our Order, is established on a broad foundation, so as to give every security necessary to those who wish to become members.

Quite a number of our members have not allowed Bro. Emil Pferdner's letter on "Non-Attendance and Non-Interest," in the January issue, to escape their optics, and I, myself, must admit that it is a most elaborate and fitting article, and that it should be read and committed to memory by every member of the Order, and more so by us, because we have had a case or two right in our midst that deserved the severest condemnation. Let us hope and pray that such a disgraceful case will never have an opportunity to present itself in Castle Hall again, and that the members may not have the unpleasantness of taking the floor and speaking right out.

At the last two meetings our Lodge wound up its eight weeks of incessant labor, in initiating W. G. Almos, H. N. Ross, S. H. Lowes, D. E. Shields, George Rothwell, W. J. Hartman, J. L. Elsenotin, Evan Williams, J. G. Robertson, Robert Board, D. B. Stevens, Robert Leitch, Thomas Dawkins, Hugh McCurdy, S. D. Weaver, J. D. McDougall, Joseph Schott, Robert Lowery, and Frank Isley. The officers and members are now enjoying a long-sought for rest, though the work was more than appreciated. During the eight weeks fifty new members have signed our roster, so our sister lodges can derive an idea of the enormous amount of degree work it required, there being an average of six candidates for each degree every meeting. We seldom found a resting place for our frail bodies until 4 a. m. There is as yet but one Page, and as he assumes the Esquire Rank soon, we do not intend to do a thing to him (?). Upon the completion of this work, the Lodge will once more settle down to business and engage in the manufacture of "food for thought."

A new Pythian Knight made his bow at the home of Bro. Dr. Corsan last month. The youngster is said to be a modern Sampson, stretching the scales to the twelve pound mark. Bro. Corsan has been all smiles since, and paces the thoroughfares humming that familiar tune, "Rock-a-bye baby," etc.

A few of our new members have realized the beauty of, and the immense amount of knowledge to be derived from the columns of the True Knight, and have not hesitated in becoming subscribers. Every member should become acquainted with the foundation of our Order, as well as with the progress it has made and is making up to each successive issue. Pythian literature is an education in itself, and we all should acquaint ourselves so that we can immediately act within and without the walls of Pythian Castle.

Enclosed please find our check for \$8, for which please send eight extra copies of the True Knight for one year; also insert our lodge card

for the same length of time. Next month we will try and give our readers some new ideas, originated by our new members, who are already "bucking the tiger," especially when looking for revenge during the Second Degree.

Yours in F. C. & B.

THOMAS E. ABBOTT.

Lodge No. 23, Trail, B. C., February 14th, 1899.

—:—

FROM NEW DENVER.

To the Editor of the True Knight.

Dear Sir and Brother,—No. 22 gave its masquerade ball on St. Valentine's night, February 14th, and, as usual, the affair turned out a genuine success in every way. The Knights of New Denver have the reputation of being the best entertainers in the Slovan and they have again made good that assertion. The ball was held in the Bosun Opera House, and the costumes exhibited were alike gorgeous and handsome. Several parties were present from Nakusp and Silverton. Bro. J. H. Millward's orchestra provided the music, which was of the usual high order. The supper was provided by Bro. Stege, at the Newmarket hotel, and it was tempting enough for a queen. One special feature of the affair was the prominent display by the members of the badges of the Order, giving to outsiders the impression of our strength and the pride the boys take in helping out a good thing. Dancing was kept up till 3 a. m., and everybody went away tired but happy.

Since last writing, No. 22 has advanced one candidate to the Rank of Page and another to that of Esquire. The goat was in particularly fine fettle for the occasion. Promises of several other candidates have been given, so that the membership should greatly expand this term.

The boom now on in the Boundary country has taken two of our members, Bro. Knox, D. G. C., and Bro. LeCasto, who was one of the Lodge Trustees.

New Denver Lodge is busy revising and improving its by-laws. Several important amendments have been introduced.

An amendment affecting the Grand Statutes

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has been introduced and will be in the hands of the G. K. R. & S. in due time. It deals with a crucial question.

Every success to the baby Lodge at Revelstoke, and may it wax strong in numbers and influence, and in the furtherance of the principles of our noble Order!

The advisability of establishing an employment bureau in connection with the Lodge, for the benefit of the members, is being considered. By this means, brethren in need of employment can be assisted in securing a position. The scheme can be inaugurated and carried out with but little difficulty. In the furtherance of the idea of the relief bureau, outlined in the Grand Statutes, could you not, Bro. Editor, see your way clear to publish a "Situations Wanted" and a "Situations Vacant" column in the True Knight? By doing this and making it easy of access for the members of the Order generally, you would not only be enlarging the sphere of your excellent paper, but would render inestimable benefit to many a needy brother. Were brethren in need of laborers to think first of those in their own lodge who might need help, good results would ensue to all concerned.

Times are not likely to be very brisk in this neighborhood this coming season, and it would not be well for any brother to come here for work without first making inquiries of possible openings.

That demon, "La Grippe," is claiming quite a number of victims here, though none are serious as yet.

Bros. J. H. Millward, H. J. Robie and C. F. Nelson have been duly elected Trustees of the Lodge, made necessary by removals and other appointments.

The attendance at the Lodge meetings has greatly improved of late, and the interest in the proceedings has kept equal pace. "Good of the Order" has not had an innings for several weeks, as general routine has simply monopolized everything.

C. E. SMITHERINGALE.

New Denver Lodge, No. 22, February 16th, 1899.

—:o:—
FROM LANGLEY.

To the Editor of the True Knight.

Dear Sir and Brother,—“Gin we see ourselves as others see us, how changed this world would be.”

There are a number of our members who forget that they are in duty bound to construe all words and actions of a brother in its most favorable light.

“Then gently scan your brother man.”

It is apparently only too true that this forgetfulness or rather thoughtlessness is not only to be seen in the subordinate lodges, but also to a certain extent in the Grand and Supreme lodges. We are expected to set a good example. Now, Mr. Editor, it is only too true that a large number of our members are too ready to find fault with a brother, without taking the trouble to enquire into the case. It is too often the old phrase, “Hang to-day and judge to-morrow.” A late celebrated divine wrote that his first real prayer was, “Lord, show me myself.” Perhaps I am not taking the popular view of this question, but at least it may set some a-thinking,

and it is often the cause of some of the non-attendance. I believe that honest criticism is necessary for good legislation.

Langley Lodge, No. 13, is still in the ring and the officers for the current term are: C. C., W. P. Ogilvie; V. C., P. S. Brown; Prel., G. A. Towle; M. of W., Wm. Holmes; K. of R. & S., John McDonald; M. of E., George Allen; M. of F., S. C. Towle; M. A. H. Edge; I. G., R. M. Towle; O. G., James Allen; Grand Lodge Representative, John McDonald.

Fraternally yours,

IAIN DOMHNULLACH.

Langley, B. C., February 17th, 1899.

—:o:—
FROM DUNCANS.

To the Editor of the True Knight.

Dear Sir and Bro.,—In regard to correspondence from myself and Bro. Behnsen in the December number of the True Knight, and in the February number, I would say that I am not under any misapprehension in regard to sub-lodges having full control of the sick benefits; I think that they can pay as much or as little benefit as they please, if their by-laws so provide. But that does not cover the case, as I look at it. In nearly every number of the True Knight, some of your correspondents are deploring the fact that the beneficial side of the Order is advanced at the expense of the fraternal. From my standpoint the Supreme Statutes do place a bar in Section 240, Par. 5. An applicant for the rank of Knighthood must be in good health and sound in mind and body. Now this Par. 5 presupposes that sub-lodges will be beneficial lodges, or why else does it put in this as a safe-guard, which is very necessary if we are to be a beneficial Order? My contention is that there are many good and true men who would make the very best of fraternal brothers, but who are debarred by that paragraph from making application for membership, and I plead for the fraternal side of our Order, that it by all means be kept to the front, and not altogether at the expense of the beneficial system. Under the plan I am urging, I am quite sure, after an existence of nearly a quarter of a century, that the beneficial side will also be benefited by the change of making the beneficial a side rank, such as the Uniform Rank. After a brother has been a member of the fraternal or subordinate Lodge, a certain stated time, we would certainly be in a better position to judge of his fitness to become a member of the Beneficial Rank.

I have no doubt Brother Behnsen, like myself and other brother Knights, has heard remarks something in these words: “Bro. A. is a very nice fellow, but it was a great mistake to ever have taken him into the Lodge; he is a very heavy burden on the funds.” Yet Bro. A. is possibly one of the very best of fraternal members in his Subordinate Lodge.

The fraternal or subordinate would have to pay their fees for ranks and monthly dues as at present, only on a lower scale. Their duties in visiting the sick, burying the dead, &c., would remain as at present, except that in paying sick benefits there would be a larger field to work in, to get recruits for our ever-increasing membership.

Under present laws and ritual, I cannot see any way in which the two systems can be worked together in a Subordinate Lodge, except as at present. I am certainly not in favor of doing away with sick benefits in any subordinate lodge, as I consider them of inestimable benefit to a very great many of the brothers.

I fear I have trespassed on your space and time in what I have written. My only excuse is a desire to benefit our Order, and cause a discussion on questions affecting its welfare. My only wish is that it should become a power for good in this, our country, and every other country where the blue, gold and red is unfurled to the breeze.

The new officers of Maple Lodge were duly installed by D. G. C. Bro. Henderson. Bro. Henderson is our Grand Representative elect. He has, since his election, passed through one of the bitterest pangs of life, by the loss of his wife, who died on January 26th. The sympathy of his brother Knights is with him and his family in this their loss.

We have received a stranger into our Castle Hall during the last month. He expects to reach the summit of Pythian Knighthood at our next convention.

Yours fraternally in F. C. & B.,

JOHN N. EVANS.

Duncans, February 16th, 1899.

o:

FROM SANDON.

To the Editor of the True Knight.

Dear Sir and Bro.,—As your Sandon correspondent, I desire to write you a few lines, giving you some little account of the progress which is being made in the Silver City, in connection with the work of our beloved Order. In the first place, on behalf of all the members of our Lodge, I desire to place on record their high sense of appreciation of the True Knight, and the admirable way in which its pages are

conducted. Its advent every month is eagerly and joyfully welcomed by all.

In the pages of this, the provincial organ of the Knights, we have not, I think, made ourselves unduly prominent in the past, although the opportunity was always present to tell a little about ourselves. For this reason, a short account of ourselves may not be out of place.

During the past few months steady progress has been made. In the loyalty and zeal of the members; in the manner in which the work inside the lodge room is performed; in the growth of the spirit represented by F. B. and C., and in the gains which are continually accruing to our membership; in all these, I may truthfully say, the progress has been, and continues to be, most satisfactory. We believe too that the Order is perceptibly growing in the appreciation of the public around us. The organization of the Uniform Rank, which took place in December, marked a decided advance, and the interest which is already being taken in the work of this Rank, augurs well for the future of the Company. A number of brother Knights, whose names are not yet on the roll, are looking in the direction of enlistment, and it is hardly too much to expect that almost all those now belonging to the subordinate Lodge, will in the near future take upon them the uniform and the oath of the Knight Loyal. In Captain Spencer we have an officer who has long been a member of this Rank, and to whose diligence and enthusiasm are owing in a large measure the success with which the organization of our Company was effected.

Let me say a word in appreciation of the visit of Captain Behansen. During his short stay in Sandon, he endeared himself to all the brethren. His work was admirably performed, being marked with thoroughness, and conducted with patience, and it is not too much to say that those who were brought into close contact with him during those few days that he spent among us, saw in his conduct and demeanour the features of the perfect Knight.

One of our number at the last assembly of the division reported that our brethren in Nelson were becoming eager to enter into the knowledge of the mysteries and the enjoyment of the privileges of Knights Royal. This information was most gratifying to all of us, and we shall, with growing expectancy, await tidings from Nelson of decisive steps in this direction.

The work of the Subordinate Lodge proceeds smoothly. The officers recently elected seem to possess the wish to vie with those of last term, in their attention to their respective duties. To mention only one of these, our C. C., Bro. Oscar V. White. In him we have one who, both as an officer and a man, by reason of his sterling character and his unwavering devotion to all the interests of the Lodge, has won the confidence and esteem of every individual member.

Of past C. C.'s, we mourn the loss of Brother Culver, a Knight most noble and true, whose recent departure to Seattle makes a perceptible blank in our ranks; while another, Bro. G. W. Grimmert, is still with us, his interest in everything Pythian never flagging; ready always to give his time and labor for the welfare of the

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Order. He is, indeed, a real inspiration and help at all times to the work of the Lodge.

Our anniversary service will take place on Sunday evening, the 26th inst. Sandon's resident clergymen, Bro. Rev. A. M. Sanford and myself, both enjoy the privilege of being Knights of the Uniform Rank, and we have been asked to make arrangements for this special service.

I fear that I have already transgressed too much upon your space and I shall therefore close, hoping to have the opportunity at some future time of giving you further details of our progress in Sandon.

With the best wishes of all the brethren,

I remain, dear sir and brother, yours in F. B. & C.

JOHN A. CLELAND.

Sandon, B. C., February 15th, 1899.

—:o:—

FROM NEW DENVER.

To the Editor of the True Knight.

Dear Sir and Bro.—A greater success could not have been than the masquerade ball given on Tuesday night, February 14th, in Bosun Hall by the local K. of P. Lodge. The costuming was unusually fine, and the dancers one and all had a merry, merry time. In the gallery a large number of spectators assembled and witnessed the gaily attired dancers below.

The ladies present were costumed as follows: Mrs. Hugh Nelson, "Chess;" Miss Bessie Gillis, "Highland Lassie;" Mrs. Shannon, "Red Cross Nurse;" Miss Gillis, "June;" Miss Todd, "Lady of the Tudor Period;" Mrs. Kennedy, "Lady of the English Court;" Mrs. McMillan, "Liberty;" Miss Mollie Millward, "St. Valentine;" Mrs. Cook, "Highland Lassie;" Miss Sheckett, "Japanese Lady;" Mrs. Evans and H. Strickland, "Twins;" Mrs. Nesbitt, "Domino;" Miss Kate McDougald, "Folly;" Miss E. Williamson, "Sailor Girl."

The gentlemen masked were natively attired: A. P. McDonald, "Joker;" Fred Ritchie, "Gentleman of the Polish Court;" George Currie, "Cavalier;" J. W. Tait, "Clown;" C. N. Nesbitt, "Clown;" F. E. Shook, "Moor;" J. E. McDonald, "Darkey;" Major Allen, "Uncle Sam;" George Crawford, "Spanish Cavalier;" F. B. Jeffery, "No. 1 Stoker;" Ed. Angrignon, "English Court Gentleman;" Jack Aylwin, "Indian Chief;" Geo. Dougherty, "Base Ball Artist;" Mr. McMillan, "King of Hearts;" Harry Macdonald, "Man o' War Sailor;" P. A. Munro, "K. of P. Master-at-Arms;" J. M. Lind, "Cavalier;" M. McLean, "Highlander;" T. Avison, "Clown;" C. D. McRae, "Nurse;" C. F. Nelson, "Sir Walter Raleigh;" Mr. Griffiths, "Cavalier."

Owing to the sloppy weather a large delegation from Silverton failed to materialize, and there were few visitors from sister towns, although Nakusp people were much in evidence. Supper was served at the Newmarket.

—:o:—

FROM NEW WESTMINSTER.

To the Editor of the True Knight.

Dear Sir and Brother,—I am instructed by Royal Lodge, No. 6, K. of P., to send you a

Lodge card for the True Knight, which you will find below. Royal Lodge has not been as progressive as we would like, since the fire, but as our new Lodge room is now well under way, and we hope to occupy it not later than April, we shall then be in a position to work, and we hope to report substantial progress. We have an efficient staff of officers, numbering among them two P. E. C. C., Bros. Ackerman and Kennedy, who are both thorough Knights in every sense of the word, men of sterling worth, and such as not only make lodges, but whose character and ability make nations and empires, and not only we, but all posterity, delight to honor their memories. I must not forget Bro. Blakely, who is one of our stalwarts.

The following are the officers for the current term: C. C., Bro. T. Ackerman; V. C., N. McL. Woods; Prelate, J. B. Kennedy; K. of R. and S., M. W. Minthorne; M. at A., Eddy; M. of F., G. S. Blakely; M. of E., W. E. Fales; M. of W., Joseph Henly; I. G., E. Brooks; O. G., D. Cameron.

Fraternally yours in F. C. and B.,

M. W. MINTHORNE.

New Westminster, February 24th, 1899.

—:o:—

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FROM KAMLOOPS.

To the Editor of the True Knight.

Dear Sir and Brother,—I am instructed by Primrose Lodge, No. 20, to send you the enclosed letter for publication in the True Knight. Thanking you in advance for your kindness, and with every good wish, I remain, yours faithfully in F. C. & B.

D. C. MACKENZIE.

Kamloops, February 17th, 1899.

BROTHERHOOD SYMPATHY.

WELSH—At Kamloops, on January 31st, 1899, Evelyn Adile, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George E. Welsh, aged nearly 5 months.

WELSH—At Kamloops, on February 10th, Ada Welsh, wife of Mr. George E. Welsh, aged 23 years.

At the regular meeting of Primrose Lodge, No. 20, K. of P., held on Wednesday, February 1st, 1899, the following resolution of condolence was unanimously passed:

To Bro. G. E. Welsh:

Dear Sir Knight and Brother,—Whereas it has pleased Almighty God, Supreme Chancellor of the Universe, in his all-wise and divine providence to afflict you by removing from your home circle your beloved child, and whereas, by the death of your dear little one, the hearts of yourself and your dear wife are saddened, and the light of your home is dimmed, therefore, be it resolved that Primrose Lodge, No. 20, K. of P., tender to you our heartfelt sympathy in your sad bereavement, and would beg you to remember that whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and now in your hour of sorrow, we would humbly pray our Great Supreme Chancellor in His infinite love and mercy to help you and your dear wife to bear up under the heavy burden laid upon you, and to spare you to each other for long years to come. May He lift up the light of His countenance upon you and give you peace.

Signed on behalf of Primrose Lodge, No. 20, K. of P.

D. C. MACKENZIE.

G. D. BROWN.

C. T. GODFREY.

Committee.

At the regular meeting of Primrose Lodge, No. 20, Knights of Pythias, on February 15th, the following resolution of condolence was passed:

Kamloops, B. C., Feb. 15th, 1899.

Whereas, Almighty God, Supreme Ruler of the Universe, in His all-wise power has seen fit to remove by the hand of death, the beloved wife of Brother George E. Welsh, and

Whereas, by the decease of his wife Brother Welsh has lost a faithful companion and his child a kind and loving mother,

Therefore, be it resolved by Primrose Lodge, No. 20, Knights of Pythias, that the sincere sympathy of each member of this Lodge be extended to Brother Welsh and his motherless child in this their hour of trial, and that we devoutly commend them to the keeping of the Most High, and be it further resolved that

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VANCOUVER, B.C.

while we deeply sympathize with those who are bound to the deceased by ties of kin and friendship, we share with them the hope of a re-union at the last great day.

And be it further resolved that a copy of these resolutions be spread on the minutes of this Lodge, and a copy sent to Brother Welsh; also to the True Knight, Vancouver, "Inland Sentinel" and "Standard," Kamloops, for publication.

D. C. MACKENZIE.
G. F. MALLERY.
G. D. BROWN,
Committee.

To the Editor of the True Knight.

Dear Sir and Brother,—The sympathy of the community will be extended to G. E. Welsh for the loss he has sustained in the death of his wife, who died on Friday, February 10th, 1899, at 9.30 o'clock, after being confined to bed for the past three months. The body was interred on Sunday afternoon, February 12th, at 3 p. m. from the Methodist church.

Miss Maxwell, sister of Mr. G. R. Maxwell, M. R., has arrived in Kamloops and will spend some time there for the benefit of her health.

Neil McCallum, of Primrose Lodge, formerly Manager of J. Genelle's lumber yard, was married in Eden Prairie, Minnesota, on Jan. 11th, to Miss Maggie Sloughten, of that town. Mr. and Mrs. McCallum will return to Robson, B. C., where they will in future reside. Mr. McCallum's many friends in Kamloops wish them both happiness and prosperity.

The Knights of Pythias gave their fourth annual ball on Friday evening, February 10th. The ball room had been tastefully decorated with flags, bunting, and evergreens by the Knights, and looked exceedingly pretty. Dancing commenced about nine o'clock and was kept up without intermission till 3.45 a.m. Supper was served about 1 a.m., several ladies kindly playing extra dances while supper was in progress. The music was all that could be desired, and that combined with an excellent floor, went a long way towards helping to make it the most enjoyable dance of the season. That the Knights intend keeping up their reputation was plainly to be seen. Everything was done in good style, and we venture to say that everyone spent a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

Sir Knights J. L. Brown, Robert McKay, J. Ladner, W. R. Hume, C. J. Robinson, and G. T. Mallery left here on Wednesday evening, February 22nd, for Revelstoke, where they instituted a Knights of Pythias Lodge.

W. Frisken expects to be transferred from Kamloops to the North Bend and Vancouver run.

Dear Sir and Bro.—I am a little late this month, but there has been so little of interest since last I wrote that I concluded to wait till I went to Revelstoke to institute the lodge there. I have got lots of news now, but I must not forget my obligation.

The event of the week in secret society circles was the institution of Gold Range Lodge, No. 26, of Knights of Pythias, Revelstoke, and the installation of its first staff of officers on Thursday, February 2nd, 1899. The prelimin-

ary steps towards forming this new lodge having been taken some time ago, and a working warrant having been issued, the instituting officer, Grand Master-at-Arms, J. L. Brown, of Kamloops, who was commissioned as Grand Chancellor, assisted by Bros. Mallery, Ladner, MacKay, Meyers, Hume, Clark, Herchmer, Powers, McCrum, Boyd, Davies, McKaracher, and Bongard, of Primrose Lodge, Kamloops, attended on the day named to put the new lodge on a working footing. The proceedings commenced in the afternoon at Tapping's old hall and were adjourned for an hour at 5.30 to allow for dinner. In the evening it re-assembled, and the interesting initiatory proceedings which required till early in the morning to complete, were only broken by an adjournment at midnight to the popular parlors of the C. P. R. Dining Hall, where Bro. Savage spread an excellent repast, which was done full justice to by the assembled Knights.

The officers of the Revelstoke Lodge installed on Thursday are: D. D. G. C. C., J. G. Allen. P. C. C.'s. Bros. Allan, Savage, Murray and Thompson; C. C., J. Gill; V. C., Dr. Cross; Prelate, B. R. Campbell; M. of E., J. G. Allan, M. of F., J. Savage; K. of R. and S., W. Murray; M. at A., A. C. Thompson; M. of W., E. Waterson; I. G., A. Edgar; O. G., J. Sullivan; Grand Lodge Representative, Bro. J. G. Allan, with alternative, A. C. Thompson.

Four visiting brothers were also in attendance. Knights F. Soames, Darling, Haller and Crewdson.

The Kamloops contingent were voted by the lodge "a splendid team," as jolly as they were posted in their work, and the prospect of meeting them again is looked forward to with interest. The new lodge starts out with a most encouraging prospect of success in membership and in officers, and as the field for its labors is a promising one its prospects should soon become realisation and permanent prosperity.

To say we had good time would be putting it mildly, for a more hospitable lot of people than dwell in Revelstoke would be hard to find, and Gold Range Lodge, No. 26, has reason to feel proud of its set of officers. I do not wish to make special mention of any, as I think they will all fill their stations worthily.

J. L. BROWN,
February 25th, 1899. Correspondent.

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LIFE AND ITS OBJECT.

Who is there among men who has been able to say what life is? Who is there who has otherwise described it than as the time we spend on earth? The mind of man shrinks back, terrified and confounded, unable to understand the real meaning of it all. Thus far in this direction and no further. My reason for mentioning this subject is not that I dare propose to even attempt an answer to the questions I have asked. They were but written to call attention and demand thought for something simpler, more practical, and easier of attainment. In this busy, bustling world of ours, there is more need than ever has been that man should have a definite goal, a self-set object of attainment, and it is of such things I would more especially make mention.

Who is there who will deny that the most useless individual is the man without a purpose? To what can he be better likened than a ship without a rudder, drifting hither and thither, bound nowhere in particular, floating so long as she continues to be lighter than the water she displaces. She is only a derelict, useless, and, what is of more importance, a menace to other vessels, yet indifferent, neither hot nor cold. So it has ever been and will be. It is not necessary to go further. You, who are hustlers, quite agree with me, I know.

Most of us, thank God! are not men of the above stamp. To some greater or less extent we are striving to attain something or other; sometimes happy, sometimes cast down, according as we are successful or the reverse. With most of us, I must confess, the ruling passion is the attainment of Wealth; with others, Ambition; with others again, Fame. To speak plainly, the moving power is Self. Man is not yet perfect; not even you or I; so we must not complain, nor be discouraged; just fight along to win at last. Here we come to that question, so difficult of answer, a question which, as it were, shrouds one of the greatest truths of God; of a new being. What nobler purpose, what loftier ambition, can man have than that of trying to help those around him (and, through them, himself) to a happier, purer, and more God-like sphere. Some things last forever, but we do not see those objects. We are busy, yes, so busy, grasping dust and ashes. Believe what you may, be you Christian or unbeliever, you cannot get away from the fact of death, whatever that may be, or whatever secret that Angel holds within his grasp. Naked you came into the world, and stripped of this world you go forth. Will you live to be cursed or blest? Shall men think of you as one who "lived to bless mankind?"

My brothers, let our lives be the answer. Live, yes, live, that answer. Don't dream it. Let us worship in spirit and in truth. Use form and ceremony, but in their true place; used, by, but below our inner life.

REGINALD RIVERS.

PROMINENT INDUSTRIES.

Your Secretary is always pleased to see and report signs of progress among the business houses of the City. This week he visited the Pioneer Steam Laundry (whose advertisement

appears in another column), and to say that he was surprised and pleased with what he saw is expressing it mildly. In all the various departments the most improved and up-to-date machinery is used, and the most experienced class of help employed. From the time that the soiled linen enters the building; through the various processes of washing, extraction, starching, drying, ironing, and sorting, the most perfect order and system prevail. Bro. D. M. Stewart, the proprietor, is an energetic business man, and deserves the success he has achieved, in placing his establishment at the top of the tree in his line of business. Visitors are always welcomed and cheerfully shown through the establishment.

CONGRATULATIONS.

Once more we welcome to our table the Texas "Pythian Knight," and we note with pleasure that the number before us is full of good solid Pythian meat. We congratulate the able Editor that his youngster is now eleven years old, an age—for a newspaper—that predicts solidity and usefulness. Perhaps there is no newspaper so hard to bring up as a society one, and the fact that our brother has been able to hold the fort so long is an evidence of the great success which has attended our brother's arduous labors in the service of Pythianism. In spirit we shake hands with you, and with all our heart wish you God speed. Long life to the Texas "Pythian Knight," and as he rides forth from month to month, may thousands of subscribers rise up to greet him and encourage him in his holy crusade in defence of friendship, charity and benevolence.

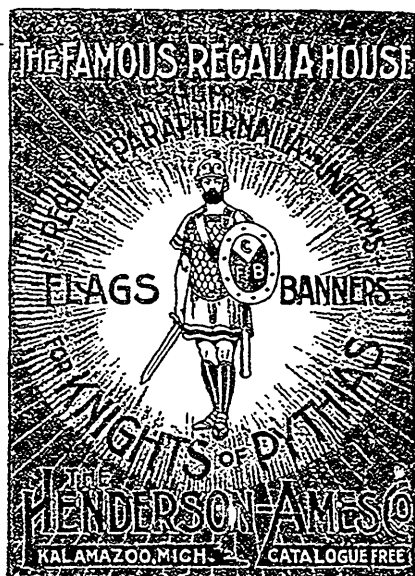
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XXXV. ANNIVERSARY.

Granville Lodge, No. 3, had no reason to complain of the attendance at the regular meeting held on the 22nd day of February last. The members of Rathbone Lodge, No. 7, and Crusader Lodge, No. 19, turned out in good force and paid a fraternal visit to the Mother Lodge of Pythianism in Vancouver.

A very pleasant evening was spent. Songs and recitations, speeches and an enjoyable chat and smoke were the order of the evening, and we believe that all went away thoroughly satisfied that the XXXV. Anniversary of Pythianism, although informally, had been loyally observed. If these fraternal visits were more frequently practiced, we believe the Order would be greatly benefited.

After the adjournment of Lodge a flash-light photograph was taken.

VANCOUVER UNIFORM RANK.

To the Editor of the True Knight.

Dear Sir and Bro.—I owe you and No. 4 Company of the Uniform Rank an apology for neglecting to send in my contribution for the last issue of the True Knight. There is very little to write about in connection with the Uniform Rank in this Domain. I hope those Kootenay Knights recently mustered in will be the means of rousing up some of the martial spirit that is lying dormant in so many Knights in this city. From all that I hear Sandon Company is forging ahead with rapid strides. All success to them.

No. 4 Company held their election of officers in January. Nearly all the officers were re-elected, but I am sorry to say the attendance was very poor.

Our new ritual has arrived, and is now in use—beautiful in its way, but not much of an improvement on the old one. But, after all, what are these changes and amendments? They are but a small part, and not the essential part of Pythianism. The lives, characters, and work of the individual members is, apart from rituals and ceremonies, the propelling force that must raise and complete this gigantic structure of the Nineteenth Century from its magnificent base to a place in the heart

of humanity for all time to come as Pythianism. This Grand Brotherhood of our love and heart is not alone. We are only one of the many institutions originating in this Century, and we are all competing for the supremacy of influence in directing human welfare and progress. Our honest, natural and legitimate mission is the cultivation of the best, truest, and noblest manhood. To accomplish this work the character of our members must be without shadow or defect. Whether we appear in public parade, in lodge meeting, or intercourse with the world, we must, by what we show, be able to convince the world what we really are. For this purpose, noble, grand and far-reaching as it is, the obligations of Pythianism call for self-denial, self-sacrifice, and obedience to duty in the highest sense of those terms. Pythianism is a sublime life, not a ritual or ceremony, or a parade. It is a high and noble duty, and wherever and whenever her innate forces shall prove unequal to the preservation of her organic life up to this high standard, and of her individual life to the rank of unsuspected rectitude, then it must fall behind in the great contest for human good, and our hitherto unsoiled banner raised by the immortal Rathbone, trail in the dust, and, as a powerful brotherhood, to forward the welfare of humanity and enthrone the millenium of fraternal love and peace in the hearts of all men, unless these high principles are lived, not paraded, we must fail.

But, Brother Knights, failure is a word not yet found in the vocabulary of any true Pythian Knight. There is that in every Pythian heart that will and must respond to the call of duty, and we shall live gloriously in times to come in the hearts of those who come after us, as Rathbone now lives in our hearts.

Yours in F. C. and B.,

J. IRVINE,

1st Lieutenant No. 4 Company.

FROM GRANVILLE.

To the Editor of the True Knight.

Dear Sir and Bro.—On February 8th our Castle Hall was filled to its capacity by the Knights from this city and New Westminster, to witness the conferring of the Third Ampli-

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fied Rank on two esquires from Granite Lodge, the work being done by our Amplified Team in excellent style—a style that could not help making a lasting impression upon candidates.

On February 22nd Granville Lodge was honored by the visit of a number of brother Knights from our sister lodges and sojourning Knights, and after the regular business of the Lodge had been disposed of we celebrated the thirty-fifth anniversary of our Order with a smoker and an impromptu programme of songs, recitations, speeches, etc., and wound up by having a flash-light photo taken in the Castle Hall of those present. All seemed to enjoy themselves greatly, and all look for a bright and prosperous future for our beloved Order throughout the Supreme Domain, but especially in British Columbia.

The other two meetings during the month were ordinary business meetings, without any special features of interest to record.

Yours in F. C. and B.,

C. L. BEHNSEN.

Vancouver, February 25th, 1899.

:o:

SEATTLE-TACOMA KNIGHTS.

One of the most notable and pleasant gatherings in secret society circles was the meeting the other night in Castle Hall, Seattle, in the Stevens Hotel building, which was participated in by over fifty members of the Knights of Pythias from Tacoma and the six different lodges of Seattle. The Tacoma members chartered the steamer Typhoon for the occasion, and when they arrived at Yesler wharf were received by representatives from the Seattle lodges. At Castle Hall, Seattle Lodge, No. 51, held a brief business session, and then the meeting was turned into an open session. Dr. E. Waldon Young, Grand Chancellor, made the address of welcome, to which Col. Albert E. Joab, of Tacoma, responded.

An impromptu programme given by several of the members followed. In the centre of the hall, two long tables were laden with eatables, and after the programme those present gathered around them. R. B. Albertson, Chancellor Commander of No. 5, acted as Toastmaster, and toasts were given and responded to until early next morning. L. K. Rightmier had charge of the banquet. Among the most prominent members from Tacoma were Albert E. Joab, J. M. Hayes, J. J. Neff, Gilbert Smith, and Dr. Warren Brown.

The idea of the fraternal meeting originated with Grand Chancellor Young, who proposed it on his last visit to Tacoma in December. The Seattle lodges expect to visit Tacoma in a body within a few weeks.

:o:

Robert Bunt, C. P. R. engineer, and a member of Primrose Lodge, Kamloops, was spending a few days in Vancouver. He returned home on Wednesday, March 1st.

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The two only really necessary ingredients for concocting a delicate and appetising cup of tea may be obtained at the City Grocery Company's store, at the corner of Westminster Avenue and Princess street, and they are—Empire Ceylon Tea and Empire Baking Powder. Of course, you need a little flour, sugar, milk, etc., but there is not much difference between one jug of milk and another jug of milk; but what a difference between Empire Tea and Baking Powder and other brands!

Bro. W. E. Foran, of Dakota Lodge, No. 2, has succeeded Mr. Costello as proprietor of the Commercial Hotel, at the corner of Hastings and Cambie streets. Mr. Foran brings to the hotel an experience of years in hotel management in the United States, and visitors to Vancouver will find the Commercial the best first-class hotel in the City, at moderate rates.

Do you use flower or garden seeds? If you do, note Nelsons' "ad." on page six and accept their invitation by asking for a catalogue. We have received one. I can only say it is well worth having by all who use even five cents' worth of seeds. They are the largest dealers in garden and flower seeds in the Province.

The True Knight is greatly indebted to Bro. Ogden H. Fethers, Supreme Vice-Chancellor, for a copy of Bulletin No. 12 of the proceedings of the Farmers' Institute, a very important institution in the State of Wisconsin, of the Board of Regents of which he is a member. We regret to learn by recent advices that Bro. Fethers has been seriously ill, but are pleased to announce that he is on a fair way to recovery.

The editor of the True Knight, through press of business, has been compelled to forego the pleasure of presenting to our readers, with this number, a very valuable article on the XXXV. Anniversary of the institution of the Order of Knights of Pythias. For our April number you may expect a goodly article on the above subject.—Committee.

To the many members of the Order who have so cheerfully assisted this paper, by their valuable contributions, etc., we desire, on behalf of the lodges of Vancouver, to express our warmest thanks. We trust that our brother Knights throughout this Domain will favor us with all news of interest to the Order.—Committee.

We are pleased to note that Trail Lodge, No. 23, appreciates the efforts of those in charge of the True Knight. While it has not subscribed as a whole, it has instructed us that the Lodge Card has been published, and that many of the members have entered their names and are receiving the paper regularly.

Bro. J. McDonald, Grand Representative of Langley Lodge, No. 13, has our sympathy in his recent illness, occasioned by an accident to his leg. We trust the worthy brother will soon be himself again, doing his best, as in the past, for the welfare of the Order.

Bro. Whiteway, a member of one of the Maritime Province Lodges, and a former Grand Lodge officer there, has taken up his residence in Vancouver, and is engaged in the practice of his profession as architect. We wish him every success, and hope soon to have him on the roster of one of our city lodges.

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