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The True Knight of British Columbia.

"The true Knight does no Man wrong."

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

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VANCOUVER, B.C., February, 1899.

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

Vancouver, B. C.

G. R. MAXWELL,
Editor.

VANCOUVER, FEBRUARY, 1899.

A NEW TERM.

When this number of the True Knight reaches all the lodges, new officers will have been installed, and a new term will be in active operation. Let us endeavor to improve the occasion. One of the main features associated with the old and the new term is that we have certain reports presented bearing on our numerical and financial strength, which no lover of Pythianism should let pass without weighing carefully their significance. The business man through his books knows whether he is prospering or not prospering—knows whether he is going forward or backwards, and so the reports presented to us by your officers indicate to such lodge whether it is in a healthy or unhealthy condition. The duty of each member then is to see or to know just how matters stand, and to do whatever he can to improve things all round. Let us look at the question of finance. We say a man is prospering when he is adding

to his bank account, and we think also that a lodge is in good condition if it has a large surplus on hand. With lodges as with men, some no doubt will have added, and some will have an empty exchequer. To the last we say do not be discouraged. To have nothing left after paying all just accounts is no sign of weakness or lack of vitality. In fact an empty treasury may be one of the best signs which any body of men can have, that they have nobly performed their duty. While it is no doubt pleasing to the members of a lodge to know that they have several hundred of dollars laid by, yet that simply means fewer services rendered, and fewer brethren helped. A lodge that has given out all that it has taken in can point with pride to those whom it has comforted, blessed and helped in sickness and in weakness. We say again, be not discouraged. Money with us is only a means to an end. We get it, not that we may keep or hoard it, but that we may dedicate it to the services of friendship, charity and benevolence. Our honor lies not in the amount of money we possess, but in the amount of good deeds that we can do, and the lodge that can and does perform the greatest number of these, is the richest lodge we have in our domain.

Again at the beginning of a new term we are brought face to face with the state of our membership. In a general way, we may say, some lodges will have increased their membership, others will have decreased. That is a matter of grave importance, and should demand the best attention we can give it. While it is true that a lodge may be really stronger with fifty good members than with seventy-five luke-warm ones, yet numbers have a magnetic influence. The danger is that if we begin to decrease, it may continue. If a lodge is not continually adding good men and true, it is not growing, it is not extending its sphere of influence, and the likelihood is that a sort of dry rot may get in among the few, the end of which is not hard to divine. Our duty is to grow—to go on increasing. That means continued interest and continued work. Nothing so much conduces to keep things humming as initiations. Such bring members out and give them something to do. Team work enthruses, and drives away the spirit of indifference. Whereas, if your lodge is not initiating, the life wanes and flickers on night of meeting, members say there is nothing on, we'll go somewhere else, and so the interest grows gradually less and less, until the brother who in normal conditions would have proved an energetic brother finds himself in arrears, and out of touch with Pythian life and work. Let a new term mean new work, new efforts to increase our membership. Pythianism is not as strong in B. C. as it ought to be. There is a splendid field everywhere for the energetic followers of Pythias. Let us see to it that this term will chronicle a Pythian revival in all

our lodges, and that we shall have in every lodge large gains in membership. Let each brother bring one, and then the problem of how to increase the interest of our members will have been solved, at least for the next six months.

These thoughts remind us that a new term means in most cases new officers. Of course we expect our officers to do their duty, but if we are to have good officers we must have good members, but it takes a good member to make a good officer. A great many members elect certain men whom they call officers, to do the whole work of a lodge. They say we have elected them, we have given them all the honors; now let them run the whole show. A minister once had a dream, that he was yoked to a carriage. He was drawing for all he was worth. In a little while after his strength was exhausted, he gave it up, and on going round to the door of the coach found all the members of his church sitting comfortably inside. For a miserable pittance these good, good people expected their minister to pull the chouch along all by himself. No institution can be run that way, and no Pythian lodge can get on successfully when the officers are left to do the whole thing. Now what is the duty of each member this term?

First, it is the duty of each member to attend regularly. That is a debt which every member owes to a lodge—regular attendance. A Knight of the olden times was always on duty, and a Knight to-day is never on duty unless he musters with his brethren in his castle hall every meeting. It is a good sign that a lodge is alive when you see its members coming in week after week ready to take their share of any good work to be done; but remember that it is the men who compose a lodge who make it either a living or a dead lodge, and one of the chief things which saps the life out of a lodge is irregular attendance on the part of its members. We go to a castle hall, not to meet empty seats, but to meet with our brethren, to shake hands with them, to greet them, and to be greeted by them, to give them a smile, and get a smile from them, and it does one ever so much good to have this intercourse with his brethren. But if we go night after night, and many seats are vacant, a cold chill passes over all present, the cheer is less cheery, the interest drags, and the chances are that next night the number of absentees will be greater. This is one of these lit-

tle foxes which spoil a lodge, and it is one which the members can cast out very easily if they be so minded. Brethren, help your officers by being with them every night if possible.

It is the duty of every Knight to be punctual, that is to say on time. Want of punctuality is a bothersome, annoying and disgraceful vice. In British Columbia we are strong in hope, but we are terribly unpunctual. By all wise men punctuality is regarded as a virtue. A well-known writer, says the proper consideration of the value of time will also inspire habits of punctuality. "Punctuality," said Louis XIV, "is the politeness of kings." It is also the duty of gentlemen, and the necessity of men of business. Nothing begets confidence in a man sooner than the practice of this virtue, and nothing shakes confidence sooner the want of it. He who holds to his appointment and does not keep you waiting for him, shows that he has regard for your time as well as for his own. It is also conscientiousness in a measure. When Washington's secretary excused himself for the lateness of his attendance and laid the blame on his watch, his master quietly said: "Then you must get another watch, or I another secretary." That is how practical men view the vice of unpunctuality. Whatever it may be outside, it is the same inside of a castle hall, and whatever evil it does in business, it does the same in a lodge. When a lodge has to wait for fifteen or thirty minutes on a quorum, the meeting is spoiled that evening. It has begun wrong, and nothing seems to be right afterwards. But when all or nearly all are there in good time, the lodge begins right, and there is a sort of influence pervading all said and done that makes one feel good. Again many are kept from attending because of the late hours which the lack of punctuality makes generally a part of lodge life. We don't know why men delight to keep a lodge running on to eleven o'clock, when by beginning on time, and a proper despatch of business it could easily be closed at ten. We do not believe in late hours. They do harm instead of good. They are injurious to the best interests of the home, and are not helpful to the brother who has to go early to work next morning. This term, then, be on time. Make it a matter conscience to be there, and there at the right time. Make both the night and the hour sacred to Pythian interests, and you will find that another stumbling block has been removed, which has been preventing Pythian progress in most of our lodges.

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In the third place it is the duty of every member to take an interest in the work which we have got to do. The trouble to-day is that we have a large number who, while they are proud to be called Knights of Pythias, don't work much at it. Many don't attend, though they think that by sending their dues along they are fulfilling their obligations. Many irregularly attend. Many take no interest in the good of the order, shirk committee work, team work, and thus in the bee hive we have many drones. Workers, not drones, make a lodge successful, and no brother is true either to the spirit of Pythias, or to the obligations which he has taken upon himself, who does not take an active interest in all that concerns the welfare of our beloved order. If we are fighting a battle, and a battle we are fighting, then only as officers and privates do their duty can we hope to win. If we are engaged in a noble and holy work, and such is our work, then it is incumbent upon every man to be in his place, and to do his best to make that work successful. If but our members realized the beauty, the nobility, the sacredness of our work, methinks every man would be more eager than another to do his level best, so that he might receive the encomiums of "well done" from the loyal and true. Brethren, our new term practically begins at a New Year. Many of us, if we are true to ourselves, as we look back, can see wherein we have failed to do our duty; we can see many things we might have done for Pythianism, that we have left undone. The new year suggests new hopes, new aims, new aspirations, and new resolutions. We need these in our castle halls as much as anywhere else. Let each member then get a new view of what Pythias did for Damon, let him get a new view of what Pythianism claims to do for humanity, let him get a new view of his duty to his brother, to his lodge, to his Grand Lodge, and to the Supreme Lodge; then let him with new vigor prove or try to prove himself the noblest Knight of us all.

Who is God's best beloved servant? He who plows
 All day the stubborn field, and then at eve
 Returning, bathes his heated limbs and brows
 And rests where balmy airs the arbour heave?

No so! but he who ceases not alway
 To be a-doing; who, when in the sod
 He leaves the well worn plow, at close of day,
 Still girds himself to serve the world.

O, for the self purged helper, large of heart—
 The man who counts not ease, nor need, nor
 due,

Who asks not if he has performed his part
 But, one task done, takes up a service new.

Why rest? There is no rest from doing good—
 No way side seats for sympathy; each deed
 Of love, but adds to love's own plentitude
 Its deep desire to meet the deeper need.

JAMES BUCKMAN.

:o:

FROM CRUSADER.

To the Editor of the True Knight.

The year just closed was an eventful one in Pythian history in this Province, because in August of 1898 was witnessed the era of Pythian journalism in Vancouver by the issue of the first number of our magazine, of which, as true Knights of Pythias, we are so proud of—The True Knight of B. C.

And now, Mr. Editor, that the year 1898 has run the length of the sand glass of old Father Time, the brethren who have so unselfishly worked for its success will have the gratitude of all our noble order; and, further still, they will have that which is prized by all good, true men the world over, namely, the approval of their own consciences.

The journal shows for itself how persistent and devoted have been the labors of the brethren to ensure its success.

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During the year just passed, many obstacles have been placed before the members of the Pythian Order in this Province. For instance, the absence of so many brother Knights in the golden north; and more notably still, that sad disaster, the Westminster, fire, which proved such a heavy blow to our brethren of the Royal City. These have been in themselves difficulties not easily surmounted. But, withal, Pythian loyalty and determined courage have proudly conquered all difficulties. And with the ushering in of the year of grace 1899, proudly marching under our tri-colored banner, let the grand army of Pythian Knights of B. C. enter their Castle Hall to consider the events of the past year, and to formulate and determine upon plans for the advancement of our beloved Order. Thus, Mr. Editor, do I feel called upon to add my few feeble words of praise to the noble band of knights who have in the past so untiringly labored for the propagation of Pythian principles in this Province. Mr. Editor, no lines that I can pen at this time will, or can, increase the glory, or add laurels to the wreath of honor of those brothers. In no part of the Supreme Lodge jurisdiction has loyal, chivalric Knighthood more zealously sustained their leaders, or more persistently worked for the advancement of the Order of the Knights of Pythias as in this Province. Again, Mr. Editor, 1898, in many instances, is noted, for our Supreme Lodge met at Indianapolis, Ind., during August last. And we must, as true members of our Order, feel that the Supreme Lodge legislated most ardently and untiringly for the advancement of our Order throughout the Supreme Domain, and it would seem like a duty not performed were I to pass this opportunity by without congratulating our Supreme Representatives, Bros. H. J. Anstie and T. Ackerman for the able and efficient manner in which they discharged their duties as the representatives of our Grand Domain. And we can come to no other conclusion than that the efforts of the last Convocation of the Supreme Lodge must be answered with success all along the line, and that our noble fraternity will go ahead and reach a position second to none in the world.

In Pythianism we have the grandest institution the world has ever known. It exemplifies the words of a great philosopher over and over again, namely: "The soul of the truly benevo-

lent does not seem to reside much in this outer body. Its life, to a great extent, is a mere reflection of the lives of others. It migrates into other bodies and identifies its existence with their existence, and finds its own happiness in increasing and prolonging their pleasures, and extinguishing and solacing their pains." Thus, in my own feeble way, I have tried to enunciate what a true Knight of Pythias should be.

I have heard with much pleasure of the institution of Sandon Company, No. 5, of the Uniform Rank, by Bro. C. L. Behnsen, P. S. R.

I hope, Mr. Editor, that I shall not trespass upon your time and space to give this beautiful rank of our beloved Order the praise and commendation it so richly deserves, but still I feel that I have not sufficient power at my command to perform the task I have undertaken.

The Uniform Rank, to my mind, is one of the most potent powers for good in our Order. To those who doubt my assertion I simply say, go into any city or town in the Supreme Domain that has a company of the Uniform Rank and you will quickly find that the members most constant in attendance at the conventions of their respective subordinate lodges and the most ready to respond to the call of Pythian duty are members of the Uniform Rank. No effort of mine can add lustre to the fidelity and devotion to the Order of the brethren of the White Lily. Their interest in the lodge is what the lodge interest is in them. In other words, it is a united interest. Ever since the institution of the Uniform Rank its relation to the subordinate lodge, to use the language of a poet, is

Our two selves grew like two buds that kiss
At lightest thrill from the bees. The chime;
Because the one so near the other is.

Nelson and Rosland will soon have companies of the Uniform Rank, and I hope to see a full regiment in British Columbia before the close of the century.

I will, Mr. Editor, dwell upon the next, but

Chas. Kendall

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still a very important factor of our Order. That is the Endowment Rank. My brother, you repeatedly say you want protection for your family in the way of life insurance. What better could you desire in this line than the Endowment Rank? Has it not, since its institution, paid to widows and orphans the sum of thirteen millions of dollars or more? What better guarantee, Mr. Editor, can the members of this Order desire for provision for their loved ones than the Endowment Rank? Yes, brother Knights, the Order has left nothing undone to provide for all you may desire in this respect.

A word of explanation may not be amiss. Suppose, my brother Knights, the Supreme Chancellor on High—and you know not the day the hour and the moment—should summon you to quit this vale of tears, how sweet the satisfaction in your last moments to know that the loved ones are not left dependent. I say, my brothers, you who have families depending upon you, have a sacred duty to perform. Do it immediately by taking out a policy in the Endowment Rank of our Order.

Thus, Mr. Editor, does this somewhat rambling epistle dwell upon the relations of the year just closed. To our Order in general, and let me add, as Knights of Pythias, let us give our leaders in the future our hearty support and co-operation, as we have in the past. We have brothers at the head of our ranks here in British Columbia, who are second to none in Pythian circles. They have stood the test in the past, and will, I am sure, do so in the future. With such loyal leaders, I am sure it would be trespassing on the rights of the whole for me to call attention to any particular brother. This, brethren, is a poor tribute, as I am perfectly aware of my lack of ability to perform the task as eloquently and fluently as I would desire to do. For my mistakes, if any, I ask your kind and charitable consideration.

And now, brother Knights, I come to the farewell. There come a time in every one's life where language cannot express the emotions of the heart, and where speech cannot contain our

love. But, oh, the grandeur of our beloved Order, the purity of its lessons, and the Godliness of its exemplifications. Let me, brothers, in my parting sentences urge you one and all to renewed strength and vigor in the exemplifications of its teachings, by the practice of the cardinal principles of Friendship, Charity, and Benevolence. Together march onward under our tri-colored banner, and

What's brave, what's noble,
Let's do it after the high Roman fashion,
And make Death proud to claim us.

Wishing every Pythian brother and the True Knight a happy and prosperous New Year, and now for the present farewell.

Yours in F. C. and B.,
GEORGE NOONAN,
K. of R. and S.

Vancouver.

To the Editor of the True Knight.

There was a good turn-out at Crusader on the twelfth for the installation ceremonies. These were ably conducted by Deputy Grand Chancellor Hoffmeister and D. G. Master at Arms R. Brooks, of Rathbone, assisted by Bro. Geo. Hodgins and R. C. A. J. Scott. The material selected augurs well for the term, as the following names will show: P. C., Byron Nunamaker; C. C., Thos. Balkwill; V. C. J. Simpson; Prel., H. J., De Forrest; M. W., J. F. Miller; K. R. & S., George Noonan; M. of E., R. T. Robinson; M. of F., Fred. Tubbs; M. at A., Jas. Burke; S. G., A. McBride; O. G., Ansell.

The unanimous selection of Bro. Hoffmeister as G. L. Representative, was one of the events.

Crusader's voice should be heard above the roar at the next session of the Grand Lodge, as Bro. "Hoff" has a reputation of being a debater who is not easily "flooded," and can generally establish his point or know the reason why.

The financial standing of the Lodge is encouraging. Allowing for some \$75 charity—this must not be confused with sick benefits—the books show a gain during the past six months.

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Crusader is a healthy Lodge, and the members scarcely know what an "M. D." is. And then we are to have an army of new members, if promises count for anything! Where are these men? The quill of the Scribe is dust laden, and the ink becomes thick in its well. The Senate deliberates not, and their dignity is seen no more. The accumulating dust on the fine upholstered seats greets not the fabrics of the mills other than the old "stand-bys." This should not be. We have members enough to fill every seat in the Castle Hall, but why do they not attend? They are in good standing generally, and those who are not is the result of negligence rather than pecuniary circumstances. Can it be that these worthy Knights ease their consciences perched up on an easy chair at home with their feet to the glow and with a copy of the "True Knight" before them they extract from its columns the fine sentiments therein expressed, and repeat "Them's my sentiments?" Let us hope such is not the case. Make it your first resolve, one and all, that the present term shall win the banner. This can be accomplished only by your attendance and support, and your vigorous efforts to convince your friends that a sitting in Crusader will never have occasion for regret.

A. J. SCOTT.

FROM NEW DENVER.

To the Editor of the True Knight.

New Denver Lodge, No. 22, has every reason to feel proud of its record since its institution two years ago. It has steadily gained in membership, and that, too, in spite of unsuitable meeting places at the outset. It is now domiciled in a capacious apartment, and its fittings, while not gaudy, are neat and attractive. The Lodge has a credit balance of upwards of \$300, though it has spent close to \$500 in sick benefits

and assistance to needy brethren. This, in a young Lodge of two years, is brilliant testimony to its vitality and energy.

By the last term's report it is seen that No. 22 has slightly increased its membership, with no expulsions or suspensions for non-payment of dues, the roster showing 54 members. The expenditures were somewhat in excess of the receipts, due to a number of calls for sick benefits.

The year commences in a most hopeful manner for Pythianism in this vicinity. Our Lodge has advanced three candidates to full Knighthood, and another candidate is waiting to be balloted upon. There are a number of other applications in sight. The goat is in excellent fettle.

The new officers of No. 22 for the current term are: C. C., G. Sutherland; V. C., J. C. Bolander; M. W., J. Goettsche; Prel., A. McGillivray; M. E., T. Avison; M. F., W. Callanan; K. R. & S., W. P. Evans; M. A., E. Shannon; I. G., A. McLeod; O. G., P. A. Munro.

In a mining camp, particularly a silver district, it is an exceedingly hard matter to hold the membership of a lodge together, and this is the case with New Denver. The boys get scattered around here and there, and the burden of the business falls upon the town members, who are doing their duty nobly. Were times brighter and more helpful, our membership would increase rapidly.

New Denver Lodge is looking forward to the official visit of Bro. Haddow, our Grand Chancellor, and a good time is promised him. Any person in this town can tell you that the Knights never do anything by halves.

One of the greatest difficulties new lodges experience is the lack of knowledge of the statutes and precepts of the Order. Often it is, those who have been reared in Pythianism in



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other places, join a new organization to help things along; but they also run against rocks. In their zeal to steer by the statutes, they incur the enmity of those whom they seek to set right. In every lodge are to be found those who are ignorant of the statutes, and when they find a negative to their proposition then dissatisfaction follows. You cannot always enforce the law without hurting someone's feelings, and the statement is sometimes heard that it were better not to have such laws. But they are there for a specific purpose, and, as they are studied, instead of being arbitrary, they will be found to be liberal in their construction. Because the statutes do not say "Thou shalt not" for every possible contingency, it is no reason why any brother should feel hurt if his views are not covered by legal sanction. "Pity 'tis, 'tis true," but he who seeks to work the ritual and laws by the letter, generally finds himself most unpopular with his fellows. Better for to have fewer members and have them live up to their obligation to observe the statutes, than to have a host who move as fancy dictates. Don't you think, Mr. Editor, that a small book, of pocket size, containing the constitution of the Order, and the Grand Statutes, to be given each candidate upon initiation, would tend to lessen the friction?

There is another question which suggests itself here, and that is: The making of lodge meetings more interesting. In seeking new membership nine times out of ten, the beneficial side of the Order is advanced to the exclusion of the fraternal aspect of the case. This is a great mistake, for the result goes to show that conventions become very perfunctory and tiresome in their routine, little if any heed being paid to "Good of the Order" items. In time members become weary and their enthusiasm wanes, and dry rot sets in. Too much attention cannot be paid to the fraternal part of the proceedings. It benefits the members intellectually, gives them more zest to attend the meetings, and lends an air of cheerfulness to everything.

Bro. E. Shanon has just made a raise of \$1,000 cash in selling mining interests. Good boy, Ed.

It is a source of satisfaction to the Knights here to learn of the great prosperity attending the workings of the Trail Lodge. New Denver wishes them every success, as well as the prospective Lodge for Revelstoke.

1899 seems to promise great things for Pythianism in British Columbia. May it be so.

New Denver wishes her sister lodges a bright and prosperous New Year.

Bro. C. McNicholl, of this Lodge, and Bro. G. Spencer, of Sandon, have just disposed of a property they are interested in on the Galena Farm, for a bond of \$35,000. May good luck always follow them; they deserve it.

Bro. Walt. Spaul, P. C., of New Denver Lodge, now living in Robson, committed matrimony on January 2nd. Miss A. Purviance, sister-in-law of Bro. Stege, was the fortunate lady. The bride is one of the best known and respected ladies in this district. The best wishes of the Lodge boys go with them.

C. E. SMITHERINGALE,
New Denver Lodge, No. 22.

FROM GRANVILLE.

To the Editor of the True Knight.

Bro. John N. Evans, of Duncan, B. C., in his letter to the True Knight in the December issue, states that he favors the abolishment of the sick benefit in our Order, and advocates that the members of this grand domain move in this matter and instruct our S. R. to move in the next session of the Supreme Lodge that the sick benefit be made a side rank in the subordinate lodge, or, in other words, that such laws be enacted by the Supreme Lodge as to make it optional with individual members as to whether they will be sick-beneficiary members or not. Now, Mr. Editor, it seems to me that Bro. John N. Evans labors under a misapprehension as regarding any laws re sick benefit and believing that there are other brothers who may believe that the subordinate lodges are compelled to pay a sick benefit, I desire to state that there is no law, either in the Supreme Statutes or in our Grand Statutes, that compels a subordinate lodge to pay any sick benefit; but it leaves it optional with the subordinate lodges to pay sick benefits or not as they see fit. So it seems to me that the laws that Bro. John N. Evans would urge upon the Supreme Lodge to enforce are, and have been, the laws of our Order since the Supreme Lodge session in Washington, D. C., in 1894, and any lodge of our Order is at liberty to adopt a by-law to suit the particular case as advocated by Bro. John N. Evans. It was not my intention to reply to Bro. Evans' letter, but not seeing any reply by any of our Grand Lodge officers to said letter in your January issue, I have taken the liberty of making above statements.

Granville Lodge is doing nicely in every respect, and on Jan. 4th, 1899, the officers for the current term were installed and are as follows: C. C., Chas. Rummel; V. C., L. V. Evans; P., John Jeffers; M. of W., Geo. Williams; K. R. & S., G. Thomas, Jr.; M. of F., Rev. Jas. Irvine; M. of E., C. L. Behnsen; M. at A., E. Palmer

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The newly installed officers being of the best material, they ought to push Granville Lodge, No. 3, ahead at such a pace as to surprise the natives, and I do believe that they will give a good account of their stewardship at the end of their term.

Fraternally yours,
C. L. BEHNSEN.

_____:o:_____
FROM KAMLOOPS.

To the Editor of the True Knight.

Dear Sir and Bro.,—We have had quite a series of interesting meetings since last I wrote you. First, was installation of officers, at which our C. C., Bro. Guest, and V. C., Bro. Mallery, did the right thing. After the ceremony of installation they arranged the chairs in a semi-circle, seating all the brothers, with your correspondent as chairman. It was then the surprise came in the way of candies, nuts, oranges, &c. Last, but not least, came a clay pipe for each one, with a goodly supply of Willis nerve tonic. After a long toast list, interspersed with songs, one of the most pleasant and profitable meetings we have had for a long time came to a close. The next night J. L. Brown offered a box of cigars to the brother who could guess nearest to the amount of money in his pocket, and G. D. Brown presented a box of cigars to the brother guessing nearest to the number of shot in a small bottle, and lucky Joe McCrum won both of them. But Joe did the right thing. He did not smoke all of them himself.

There have been several very interesting debates lately. We find this a very good way of creating interest in the lodge meetings. We have had more than double the attendance since we started this than at any other time since the first excitement wore off.

Our annual ball will be held on February 10th. We intend to beat all previous records. All Knights that can come will receive a royal welcome.

Revelstoke Lodge has had its first meeting, named its officers, applied for charter, and ordered its paraphernalia, so we expect it won't be long now till it is organized. They are starting out with fifty-one members.

Yours fraternally,
J. L. BROWN,
Correspondent.

Kamloops, Jan. 20th, 1899.

_____:o:_____
FROM VERNON.

To the Editor of the True Knight.

Owing to the cold wave which struck the Okanagan Valley, the boys got frozen in, and the installation of new officers had to be postponed for another week. The following are the new officers elected: C. C., M. C. Davidson; V. C., A. Leishman; Prelate, W. H. Lawrence; M. of W., Thos. Riley; K. of R. and S., Ed. Gould; M. of L., P. Marks; M. of F., W. B. Cochrane; M. at A., A. Weeks; I. G., J. Weeks; O. G., R. Neil. Bro. Cochrane is now at the Coast—having been called to the Bar—to receive the wig and gown as a full fledged barrister. Congratulations.

Coldstream Lodge have sent out their invita-

tions for the fifth annual ball, which takes place on the 26th of this month, net proceeds going to the Vernon Jubilee Hospital. Last year \$85 was netted for this institution, which was creditable to the Knights, and showed that we are not only banded together to assist the members, but that we also lend a helping hand to public institutions that require aid.

Bro. Miller left to-day on a business trip to New Denver.

I am afraid I am not as good a correspondent as Coldstream Lodge might have, and I will try and get another one appointed, that he may write an essay on Pythianism in the beautiful valley of the Okanagan.

ED. GOULET,
Correspondent.

Jan. 11th, 1899.

_____:o:_____
FROM REVELSTOKE.

The temporary organisation of a local lodge of the Knights of Pythias has been effected and officers elected as follows: C. C., James Gil; V. C., Dr. Cross; Prelate, B. R. Campbell; M. of E., J. G. Allen; M. of F., J. Savage; K. of R. and S., William Murray; M. at A., William Winsor; I. G., A. Edgar; O. G., C. H. Walker; M. of W., C. J. Aman. The Lodge, which has been christened Gold Range Lodge, starts out with bright prospects of permanency and success, beginning as it does with a membership of fifty-one.

_____:o:_____
FROM RATHBONE.

To the Editor of the True Knight.

We have now entered upon our respective duties for the year 1899 with our new officers. It has promise of being one of the most prosperous years in the history of Rathbone Lodge.

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Horseshoeing, &c.**

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Those who were present at our first meeting of the newly-elected officers went to their homes with a feeling of good-will for everyone, although the attendance was not as large as we shall expect and ought to have during the coming term. I wish to here state that it is the duty of every brother to attend his lodge, unless sickness or some very important business detains him therefrom. Don't leave the business for just the officers to attend; don't come around only once during the term, just to pay your dues; don't stay away and then then come around just as nomination or election of officers is taking place, and then state some petty grievance because you are not elected; but be with us always when it is at all possible.

During the past month we have been honored by visits from several of the brothers from our sister lodges, among whom was Brother De Forrest, who gave us some very choice selections on the organ. One of the selections was an impressive one. Its title, I think, was "Never push a man when he's going down the hill."

The installation of officers was one of the chief features during the month, in which Bro. Hoffmeister, of Crusader Lodge, kindly assisted us.

The financial standing of our Lodge, we are informed, is much better this year than it has been for some years past. The Lodge has had considerable sickness to contend with during its history, but better health seems to have prevailed among its members during the past year, and we hope that it will continue to be so.

Kindness, a pleasant smile, a hand shake and cordiality, go a long way in making a brother feel welcome, and drive away many a little care. They also induce the brother to be a regular attendant. These should be our first thoughts.

A little merriment was caused the other evening at Lodge between two prominent members of the Order over a lodge jewel, the one wearing too many and the other being allowed to sit in Lodge without any. An amusing discussion followed, which finally ended by the brother who possessed the two being charitably inclined, and presenting the brother with his surplus one.

We are all in duty bound to aid our Order. You may say, "how?" Well, firstly, in having a

good word for it and its members. Secondly, in studying the interest and welfare of your brothers. Thirdly, in looking to right and self.

Be up and doing brothers, and let each of us be able to say when this year '99 ends that we may have something to our credit in kindly deeds, in friendship, in benevolence and charity.

ARTHUR T. CROOK,
Rathbone Lodge No. 7.

—:—
VISIT FROM GRANITE LODGE.

The members of Granite Lodge, No. 17, came over in large numbers on Friday, January 27th, and conferred the ranks of Page and Esquire on three candidates who had been previously elected to receive the same. The Knights of Vancouver had tendered to Granite Lodge the use of their Castle Hall to confer the ranks and to give them every possible assistance in the work.

P. C. Bro. Tubbs, of Crusader Lodge, presided as C. C., Bro. Maxwell, of Granite Lodge, as V. C., and Bro. George Noonan, also of Crusader Lodge, in a very able manner filled the station of Prelate.

The work was done in a very painstaking manner, and the delivery of the different offices was most excellent. We commend these joint sessions of the rank work by the members of the several lodges.

The services of the regular team of Vancouver have been requested to confer the ranks of Knighthood on four Esquires of the Royal City. The members of this noted team will now have an opportunity to display their efficiency in the work. It is to be hoped that no member will be absent, and that the Knights of Vancouver will turn out in large numbers and assist this team in rendering the work.

—:—
DAMON OF THE K. OF P. ORDER.

Col. S. R. James, of Schenectady, one of that city's most prominent citizens, has been honored by an appointment on the staff of Major General James R. Carnahan, of the Uniform Rank, Knights of Pythias. Colonel James is an enthusiastic Knight, and his fellow Knights, as well as a large circle of friends will be pleased to learn of the honor and distinction that have come to him.

New Clothing

THE largest range in the Province to select from in Children's Norfolk Fancy three-piece Suits and Sailor Suits. Also for Boys, Louths, Slender Men, Fat Men—old and young, at

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Colonel James is a Past Chancellor of Loyal Lodge, No. 384, of Mt. Pleasant. He is a regular attendant at the Grand Lodge services each year. At the last services he was appointed a member of the committee on Founder Rathbone's grave. A fine monument is to be erected at the grave of the founder of the Order, in Utica next summer, when a grand display of Pythianism will be made.

Colonel James was particularly identified with the birth of the Order of Knights of Pythias, and may justly be styled the Damon of the Order, while Justus H. Rathbone, its founder, takes the place of Pythias. Thirty-five years ago, a few clerks of the War Department united in forming a dramatic club, of which Justus H. Rathbone was made president. It was not a very successful affair, as it proved difficult to bring the few members, of which it was composed, together on the evenings appointed for assembling.

On the evening agreed upon for the reading of the play of Damon and Pythias, only three persons were present. These were Justus H. Rathbone, Samuel R. James, and one other. The play was read, Rathbone taking the part of Pythias, Col. James that of Damon, and dividing the other characters among the three. Mr. Rathbone is dead, so that Col. James, as Damon, is the survivor of the two friends, who were instrumental in establishing a beneficiary order, which has become the third most important order of its kind in the world, which really had its origin on the evening that the play was read.

Grand Lodge Recognition.—The following is a copy of some proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York referring to this matter, and as it contains Col. James' account of the affair, it is here quoted.

On motion, the report of the special committee on the case of Bro. James, of Schenectady, was adopted and ordered to be placed in the Journal, as follows:

Utica, N. Y., July 29th, 1897.

To the Grand Lodge, Knights of Pythias, State of New York:

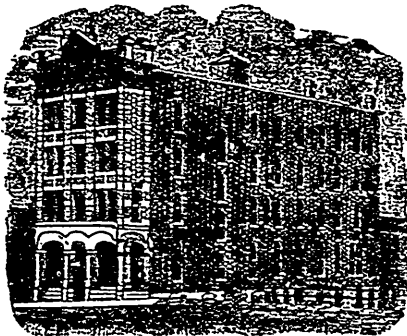
Your committee, to whom was referred the memorialising of the part taken by Past Chancellor Samuel R. James, of Loyal Lodge, No. 384, a member of this body, in giving encourage-

ment and support to the founder of our Order, Justus H. Rathbone, in the preparation of the original ritual and the establishment of this grand fraternity, would most respectfully submit the following statement as a portion of its report.

"In the winter of '63, whilst located at Washington, and then connected with the Quartermaster General's office, some seven or eight men, officials in the various departments, met together in a room at the corner of Ninth and E. streets, I think, to form a little society for dramatic reading. Among those was Justus H. Rathbone. I remember we elected him president. Rathbone and I had been intimate friends for a long time. He held an important position in the war department. I remember distinctly the night we met for a social time, the particular reading for that night being the historic story of Damon and Pythias. The recital of the story affected Rathbone so much that he re-read the play before leaving his seat. Silence reigned in our little assemblage, and one by one our members left until but three of us remained—Rathbone, myself, and a companion named George Richards. I can picture now, that room.

"There was Rathbone sitting at a long literary table and I sitting at his right, Richards being at the extreme end on the opposite side. I perceived that Rathbone was very deeply interested in the story of Pythias' love for Damon, for he turned to me and remarked what a magnificent foundation for a benevolent society. I quite agreed with him, and we discussed the question for some time. A few days afterward Rathbone handed me a draft of a Pythian ritual, with the request that I go over and express my opinion. I thought the scheme a very ingenious one, neither of us ever dreaming that it would take root, and some day become so far-reaching in its effect, for in those days our minds were absorbed with deep interest in battles taking place almost at the very gates of our city—yet what success it has since achieved all Pythians are, of course, acquainted.

"Shortly after Rathbone and I went over the rough draft together. I was ordered by the department to report at New York, and in consequence I was not present at the formation of the first lodge, in April, '64, and this is the reason why I did not identify myself with the Or-



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der, in whose birth I was in a measure instrumental, as shortly after the close of the war I went to Richmond, Va., to assist my father, who was appointed as collector of internal revenue in that city.

"I have always felt since that time that incidentally I was the means of benefitting mankind, and naturally felt a strong interest in the welfare of the Order, but a country residence prevented my becoming an active member of the Knights until I was agreeably surprised to learn that a lodge was to be located near to where I lived, and I availed myself of the opportunity by becoming a charter member.

"My impression of the Order since I became a brother Knight is, that while I could appreciate its motives in its crude condition, I now recognise it as the outcome of that beautiful inspiration of the long ago, in its more perfected condition of to-day."

"SAMUEL R. JAMES."

-----:o:-----

THE ENDOWMENT RANK.

The Secretary of the Section the Agent of the Board of Control.

In the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit, before Judges Pardee and McCormick, and District Judge Parlange, an appeal came up of the case of the Board of Control vs. Withers, from the Circuit Court of the United States from the Middle District of Alabama. Briefly stated, this is a case where R. H. Withers, a member of Section No. 432, at Greensboro, Ala., paid his assessment for the month of October, 1895, at the proper time, and the dues of the section for that month were forwarded to the Board of Control on the 31st of the month, but did not reach there until the 4th of November. On the 1st of November Withers died, and the Board of Control refused payment on the ground that at the time of his death the Section was under suspension. In the District Court the Judge directed a verdict for the plaintiff, Mrs. Josephine Withers, and from this verdict the Board of Control appealed the case to the Circuit Court of Appeals. The case is fully reported in No. 2, Vol. 89, Federal Reporter. The following is from the decision rendered by the Court, which was unanimous:

Notwithstanding the provisions in Section 10, of the General Laws, that the officers of the Section are the agents of the members, and shall in no wise be considered as the agents or the representatives of the Board of Control of the Endowment Rank, we are of the opinion that the Secretary of the Section was, in fact, the agent of the Board of Control to receive and forward the dues paid by the individual members (Whiteside vs. Supreme Conclave, 32 Federal 275; Knights of Pythias vs. Bridges [Tex. Cir. Appeal] 39 S. W.; and see Insurance Co., V. Wilkinson, 13 Wall, 222, 234), and that when payment has been made by the insured, under Section 4 of the General Laws, to the Secretary of the Section, the money so paid belongs to the Board of Control. Under a fair construction of Section 6 and of Section 10 of the General Laws, when the Secretary of the Section deposited in the post office at Greenboro the moneys collected, as the monthly payments and

dues of the individual members of the Section, and in this followed a long course of business, the said payments were then and there received by the Board of Control (Buell vs. Chapin, 99 Mass., 594; Gurney vs. Howe, 9 Gray, 404), and as in this case the admitted facts show that the payments and dues were deposited by Chadwick, the secretary of the Section, at the post office at Greensboro, on the 31st day of October, 1895, there was no forfeiture under Section 6 of the General Laws. Campbell vs. Supreme Lodge, 168 Mass, 397, 47 N. E., 109, does not conflict with this view of the case. Other questions argued need not be considered. The judgment of the circuit court is affirmed.

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SUPREME LODGE KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

Office of the Supreme Keeper of Records and Seal, Nashville, Dec. 17th, 1898.

Brother,—As a matter of justice to myself, I desire to explain the cause of the delay in the issuance of the Official Record of Proceedings for 1898.

Prior to the Indianapolis convention, the statutes devolved on the committee of printing the duty of making a contract for printing the Official Record; and it was practicable to make such contract immediately after the close of the biennial convention. That committee, however, was abolished by legislation of the recent convention, and in its stead was created the committee on printing and supplies, one of whose duties is to make the contract named; but the amendment creating this committee was enacted in such form that it did not go into effect until October 31st. The committee on printing and supplies, having no legal existence before that date, could not of course perform any of its functions. A further delay was caused by allowing additional time to the publisher of one of the Pythian journals, to submit a bid in lieu of one which he had already submitted, but which was not in such shape that it could be intelligently considered by the committee. For the reasons named, it was impracticable to close the contract until November 20th.

You may rest assured that there will be no unnecessary delay in issuing the Official Record.

Fraternally,

S. K. R. S.

Wm. Ralph...

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SUPREME LODGE.

Thos. D. Meares, S. M. E.

Office of Supreme Master of Exchequer.

Wilmington, N. C., January 14th, 1899.

Dear Sir and Bro.:—I have the honor to submit the following statement of the receipts and disbursements of this office for the quarter ending December 31st, 1898. As compared with the same quarter of 1897, it may be interesting to note that there is a decrease in the receipts of \$570.99, and a decrease in disbursements of \$1,221.80.

RECEIPTS.

1898.				
DATE.	TO WHOM PAID.	FOR WHAT PURPOSE.	No.	Am't.
October 1st	—To balance on hand..			\$2,179 61
October 29th	—To R. L. C. White, S. K. R. S..		September receipts..	1,413 02
November 23rd	—To R. L. C. White, S. K. R. S..		October receipts..	1,175 85
December 22nd	—To R. L. C. White, S. K. R. S..		November receipts..	1,872 63
				\$6,641 11
October 4th	A. W. Wills, P. M..	Postage on supplies	2092	\$ 50 00
October 5th	T. B. Matthews..	Meeting—Finance Committee	2093	44 60
	John C. Burns..	Meeting—Finance Committee..	2094	77 10
	Thos. D. Meares..	Meeting—Finance Committee..	2095	55 65
October 20th	Thos. G. Sample..	Salary—September..	2096	250 00
	Thos. G. Sample..	Clerk—September...	2097	75 00
	Thos. G. Sample..	Office Rent—September..	2098	41 67
	Thos. G. Sample..	Office Expense—September..	2199	127 18
	R. L. C. White..	Salary—September..	2100	300 00
	R. L. C. White..	Clerk—September...	2101	83 33
	R. L. C. White..	Office Expense—September..	2099	127 18
	Thos. D. Meares..	Salary—September..	2103	62 50
	L. S. S. Rathbone..	Annuity, Self and Sister—Sept...	2104	60 00
	Brandon Printing Co..	Suplies—September....	2105	217 75
	The M. C. Lilley & Co..	Jewels—September....	2106	202 24
November 20th	R. L. C. White..	Meeting—Committee on Printing	2107	64 40
	Thos. D. Meares..	Salary—October....	2108	62 50
	Thos. G. Sample..	Salary—October..	2109	250 00
	Thos. G. Sample..	Clerk—October..	2110	75 00
	Thos. G. Sample..	Office Rent—October..	2111	41 67
	Thos. G. Sample..	Office Expenses—October...	2112	8 70
	R. L. C. White..	Salary—October..	2113	300 00
	R. L. C. White..	Clerk—October....	2114	83 33
	R. L. C. White..	Office Expenses—October..	2115	71 93
	L. S. S. Rathbone..	Annuity, Self and Sister—October	2116	60 00
	Brandon Printing Co..	Supplies—October..	2117	496 53
	The M. C. Lilley & Co..	Jewels—October..	2118	284 83
December 20th	Thos. G. Sample..	Salary—November..	2119	250 00
	Thos. G. Sample..	Clerk—November...	2120	75 00
	Thos. G. Sample..	Office Rent—November..	2121	41 66
	Thos. G. Sample..	Office Expense—November..	2122	6 52
	R. L. C. White..	Salary—November..	2123	300 00
	R. L. C. White..	Clerk—November...	2124	83 34
	R. L. C. White..	Office Expenses—November..	2125	57 52
	Thos. D. Meares..	Salary—November..	2126	62 50
	L. S. Rathbone....	Annuity, Self and Sister—Nov'r..	2127	60 00
	Brandon Printing Co..	Supplies—November....	2128	253 35
	The M. C. Lilley & Co..	Jewels—November..	2129	431 50
	A. W. Wills, P. M..	Postage on Supplies..	2130	50 00
	Ogden H. Fethers..	Meeting, Comittee on Printing....	2131	5 00
	Spruance & Bird..	Interest on Mortgage..	2132	100 00
	W. B. Burford..	U. R. Rituals..	2133	239 05
				\$5,541 78
January 1st		Total Disbursements..	\$1,099 33
			Balance on Hand..	

I have also on han the sum of \$1,361.80 belonging to the Hines Memorial Fund.

Fraternally yours,

THOS. D. MEARS,
Supreme Master Exchequer.

SUPREME LODGE KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

Office of the Supreme Chancellor,
Allegheny, Pa., Dec. 29, 1898.

To the Order Universal, Greeting:

Within the past two months the attention of the Supreme Chancellor has been called to the fact that, in certain portions of the supreme domain, a studied and determined effort has been made and is being made to interfere with the organizers of the Endowment Rank. This action on the part of officers or members of the Supreme Lodge, officers or members of the various grand lodges, or officers or members of any subordinate lodge, is in direct conflict with the spirit and language of the supreme constitution and supreme statutes, and must at once cease.

At the recent convention of the Supreme Lodge in Indianapolis, the Board of Control submitted the following, which is found on pages 28 and 29 of their report:

OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS.

We now approach a subject that has become of grave import to the interest of the Endowment Rank. We refer to the large number of prominent members of the Knights of Pythias who are working for and endorsing different fraternal orders and old-line companies that make a specialty of life insurance. The right of members of this order to engage in any occupation for a livelihood, not positively interdicted by our law, is undoubted; but the right of such members to use the honors that you have bestowed upon them, to the injury and detriment of the Endowment Rank, is emphatically disputed and denied. When the stationery of this order is used, and its official titles are printed on literature which is distributed among Pythians, in the interest of these outside fraternal insurance associations and companies, it is time that you should speak out. Frequently, as soon as some of our members are honored with an official title, there service is sought by some other organization in the business of fraternal life insurance—they are sought because of the standing, force and influence which their honors bring, enabling them not only to cross the threshold of Pythian knighthood, but there to undermine the interests of the Endowment Rank. We desire to make no harsh comments, nor do we wish to appear in anywise severe—we speak only as the great and important trust, in which we take a profound interest—what we say is only for the benefit and perpetuity of the Endowment Rank, and we believe that we would fail in our duty to you, our duty to the nearly fifty-four thousand members of the Insurance Branch, and our duty to the order, did we shirk the responsibility of bringing to your notice at this time that which has gradually become a great and growing evil. At this convention the Supreme Lodge should declare that the business of any other association, of which life insurance is the special purpose, must not, directly or indirectly, be transacted in an office used for the business of the order, nor the stationery of the Knights of Pythias be used for the purpose of advertising any of these fraternities above referred to; and further, that the question of life insurance shall not be discussed on the floor

of any subordinate or grand lodge of this order, except from the standpoint of the Endowment Rank.

We earnestly hope, therefore, that you will direct that such an edict shall be issued on this question as will be plain, emphatic and mandatory. Let it correct as well as warn. Let it tell the membership, in no uncertain tones, that Pythians, as such, may not lawfully represent insurance organizations other than the Endowment Rank.

The above subject was referred to the committee on Endowment Rank, which reported:

We heartily approve the recommendation of the Board of Control, found on pages 28 and 29 of the report, relating to the discussion of insurance matters on the floor of grand and subordinate lodges, other than of the Endowment Rank.

The Supreme Lodge adopted the report of this committee, and while it simply confirms the laws already in force, the duty devolves upon the Supreme Chancellor of directly calling the attention of the membership to this very important subject. As members of the Knights of Pythias, we must be loyal to all departments of the order. If, however, any Pythian believes that another fraternity has a better system of life insurance than the Endowment Rank offers, and he cannot fully endorse all departments of this order as an honorable man he should surrender his membership with the Knights of Pythias, and cast his lot with that fraternity; but because he has been honored by his brethren in this order with official position, that fact does not carry with it the divine right to stifle and destroy the Endowment Rank, which has added and is adding so much to the glory, strength and influence of our fraternity.

All Supreme Lodge officers and representatives, grand lodge officers and representatives, and subordinate lodge officers and members will therefore understand that in the future organizers for the Endowment Rank must be extended every courtesy and assistance possible in the

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discharge of their official duties, and under no circumstances must they be interfered with in setting forth the claims of the Endowment Rank to the membership—said claims at all times to be presented by said organizers in a proper fraternal spirit and manner.

The Endowment Rank is carrying practically \$100,000,000 life insurance, with a membership of 54,000, scattered throughout all portions of the supreme domain, and it is deserving of and should receive the earnest support and hearty endorsement of every member of the Knights of Pythias. We should remember the good that it has done in the past, and we have every right to expect that the good it should do in the future will add to the glory and good name of Pythianism.

Grand Chancellors and grand lodge officers are especially charged with the duty of having the supreme statutes relative to the Endowment Rank as well as all other subjects strictly obeyed in their respective grand domains. The Supreme Chancellor believes that all that is necessary is to call the attention of the fraternity to what is expected of each member to ensure a ready, cheerful and loyal obedience to the laws which govern us all.

Given under my hand and seal, this twentieth day of December, A. D. 1898. P. P. XXXV.
THOS. G. SAMPLE.

Supreme Chancellor.

—:0:—
VISITATIONS.

The following article, copied from that able exponent of Pythian law, The Pythian Tribune, of Chicago, edited by Bro. W. D. Kennedy, P. S. R., commends itself to every lodge, and every member of the order, in this domain. Welcome the day when the suggestions so ably advanced are carried into effect. Among the Pythian news that appeared in the columns of the Sunday Telegram, of Providence, Rhode Island, November 6th, 1898, was the following item:

"As the result of the official visitation of the Grand officers to Redwood Lodge at Newport, the Lodge has received five applications for membership, and more interest is being manifested by the members than there has been for several years past."

This is the Lodge to which belongs that good veteran Pythian, James B. Brayton, whose name is honored by all who know him.

But it was not about Bro. Brayton that we started out to write—it was to the significance of the quoted item that we desired to call the attention of our readers, believing as we do that to the isolation of lodges that generally prevails, is due much of the apathy so often and so justly complained of.

Frequent and well-timed visitations either by Grand officers or neighboring lodges, will do more to keep up the life and success of individual lodge communities than any other one thing. Visitations revive, strengthen and invigorate the visitor as well as the visited, add pith and vim to Pythian life, strengthen and draw more closely the bonds of fellowship, and make us feel the more akin.

Down in the New England States particularly, where visiting is part of the lodge creed and

practice, we find a broader condition of fraternity and fellowship than in any portion of the Supreme Domain—of this we have a personal knowledge not only from the records and the press, but through personal experience. Down in that portion of the Pythian vineyard there is a cohesion among the membership and lodges that nowhere else exists to the same extent—there is a unity of purpose and aim, all hands joined, and hearts bound together in a common purpose—the good of the Order. Down there they have their "outings" together, their evening assemblies together, and they are always neighbors. And they seem to understand how to do it so as to produce the right effect—they get there.

By all this we do not desire it to be understood that we think our eastern brethren better men or Pythians than we in the great, broad and generous west—by no means—but we do mean to say that if Pythians in our cities here and in adjacent lodges in the rural districts were to visit each other in bodies and cultivate a more close relation and acquaintance, they would be better, broader men and Pythians, the Order would grow stronger, increase and fructify, and become a greater factor in the affairs of every community.

Let there be an awakening time—let the old habits and customs of isolation be broken up, and let the brethren, with the coming year start a crusade of good fellowship. To those who read this article let it be a suggestion—let them take it to their lodge and read it to their brethren; then, let an evening be set and a place of assembly be arranged, and all agree to be there and go, unannounced, and visit their Pythian neighbor—it will warm both hearts, it will cure lethargy and dispel sloth—it will put new life into all, and prove indeed a season of refreshing—try it.



PERSONAL.

Bro. Sprogue, of Friendship, No. 16, Windsor, Ont., paid a visit to Crusader Lodge.

P. G. C. Bro. J. E. Evans paid a visit to the Island, and reports Pythianism flourishing.

Nanaimo Lodge K. O. P. had a public installation of officers, Grand Chancellor Haddow presiding.

Crusader Lodge is to be congratulated upon the selection of D. G. C. Bro. Hoffmeister as G. L. representative.

Bro. Hazell, charter member of a newly instituted lodge at Medicine Hat, is sojourning at present in Vancouver, and paid Rathbone Lodge, No. 7, a visit.

G. R. Bro. R. Sample, owing to ill health, has left for Southern California, accompanied by his wife. We trust that Bro. Sample will soon return fully recuperated.

The committee in charge of the True Knight are very much indebted to Bro. G. O. Ross, K. of R. & S., of Nelson Lodge, No. 25, for the interest that he has taken in securing subscribers for our journal. Many thanks, Bro. Ross.

Bro. George Middleton, of Primrose Lodge, No. 20, Kamloops, is at present visiting his friends in Vancouver. We are all glad to learn of the good health of our whole souled brother, and gladly welcome him to our Terminal City. Those of us who had the pleasure of meeting Bro. Middleton during the recent Grand Lodge session at Kamloops can testify to our brother's ability to entertain.

Some of the brothers of the Vancouver city lodges are under a wrong impression regarding their subscription to this paper, and we have learned that some have refused to accept the same, thinking they will be liable for the subscription price. We wish to correct this misunderstanding, and state that beginning with our first issue, August, 1898, the three city lodges subscribed for their entire membership in good standing for one year from that date. Therefore no brother need have any doubts in the matter. Read the paper and pass it to a worthy friend, with whom you desire companionship.

The brethren should always remember that the Order has provided the best, safest and most secure system for the insurance of the lives of its members, and that too at a cost of less than half the price charged by life insurance companies.

It is the duty of every man to insure his life so as to provide against the contingencies that may arise. Especially is this so where he has others dependent on him for support. Pythians should certainly make such provision—they can have no excuse—the Endowment Rank furnishes them the means and at a cost that certainly can be no bar—every eligible member of the Order should be a member of the Insurance Branch.

"One Million of Dollars"—that is a good deal of money—and yet that is the amount that was paid out last year by the Endowment Rank, to

beneficiaries of deceased members of the Order, and it was paid promptly.

The Endowment Rank continues to prosper and increase—its progress is undiminished and its success phenomenal.

The following testimony as to the promptness of the Endowment Rank in settling claims for losses against it, comes from Macomb, Illinois: Macomb, Ill., Dec. 3, 1898.

Board of Control Endowment Rank, K. P.

Dear Sir and Bro.,—Please find enclosed Certificate No. 28,914, on life of K. A. Wallingford, properly released. In behalf of the widow, I desire to thank you for the promptness in adjusting the claim. Bro. Abe. Pollock is in our city and is doing some good work for the Endowment Rank, and I shall render him all the assistance possible.

Wishing you success, I remain fraternally,

P. T. QUINN, Sec'y,
Section 1265, E. R. K. of P.

The following is taken from the local paper at Greensboro, N. C.:

QUICK SETTLEMENT.

"George H. Royster this morning received a check for \$2,000, payable to Monroe Whittington, the same being the insurance on the life of Charles Whittington in the Endowment Rank of the Knights of Pythias. Payment is made within twelve days after proof of death. Deceased had carried the policy thirteen years, paying into the Rank \$280.

Mr. Royster has paid out about \$20,000 in Greensboro in the past twelve years."

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derwear, Pyjamas, Neckwear,
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HOW LITTLE IT COSTS.

How little it costs, if we give it a thought
 To make happy some heart each day—
 Just one kind word or a tender smile
 As we go on our daily way.
 Perchance a look will suffice to clear
 The cloud from a neighbor's face,
 And the press of a hand in sympathy
 A sorrowful tear efface.

One walks in sunlight, another goes
 All wearily in the shade;
 One treads a path that is fair and smooth,
 Another must pray for aid.
 It costs so little I wonder why
 We give it so little thought—
 A smile, kind words, a glance, a touch—
 What magic with them is wrought!

—Trestle Board.

OUR CANADIAN BROTHERS.

We have at different times mailed copies of this journal to many of our brother Knights throughout the Dominion of Canada. From some we have received words of encouragement. As yet we have failed to receive that support we believe we are entitled to. The True Knight is the only paper published wholly in the interests of Pythianism in Canada, and while we do not expect a very liberal financial patronage from our brothers in the sister provinces, we very much desire their assistance towards making this paper a journal to be sought after by the Knights in general from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Now, brother Knights of the older provinces, when you receive copies of our paper in the future hand them around. We have many of your friends with us here, helping us in the good work, and your enthusiasm will give a continuance of energy to all.

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF "TRUE KNIGHT."

Vancouver, January 31st, 1899.

To H. J. Anstie, Chairman, and members of the Committee of the "True Knight":—

Dear Sir and Brothers,—Herewith I beg to submit my quarterly statement of the "True Knight" for the quarter ending January 31st, 1899, and trust you may find it satisfactory and correct.

I am sure you will be pleased, and as will every supporter of the publication, to note that a gain has been made over the previous quarter ending October 31st, 1898.

Fraternally submitted, in F. C. & B.,
 J. E. EVANS,

Secretary-Treasurer.

Quarter Ending January 31st, 1899.

1898.	RECEIPTS.	
Nov. 1.	Cash balance brot forward from quarter ending October 31, 1898....	\$109 90
Nov. 30.	Subscriptions for November....	39 55
Nov. 30.	Advertising for November....	54 25
Dec. 30.	Subscriptions for December....	11.65
Dec. 30.	Advertising for December....	75 25
Jan. 31.	Subscriptions for January....	9 75
Jan. 31.	Advertising for January....	35 75

Total receipts for quarter 31st January, including balance forwarded.. .. \$337 09

Quarter ending January 31st, 1899.

1898.	EXPENDITURES.	
Nov. 30.	Expenditure for Nov..	\$ 73 38....
Dec. 30.	Expenditure for Dec..	70 59
Jan. 31.	Expenditure for Jan.	71 40

Total expenditures for quarter Balance.. .. \$215 37
 \$121 72

Feb. 1, 1899, Cash balance.. .. \$337 09
 \$121 72

Quarter ending January 31st, 1899—Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

ASSETS.		
Cash on hand....		\$121 72
Outstanding accounts....		40 75
		\$162 47

LIABILITIES.		
Loan from Granville Lodge, No. 3....		\$ 21 00
Loan from Rathbone Lodge, No. 7....		21 61
Loan from Crusader Lodge, No. 19....		21 00
Assets above liabilities..		98 96
		\$162 47

February 1st, 1899—Amount of Assets over liabilities.... \$ 98 86

THE LOST WILL.

They had grown old together, this brother and sister. I say had advisedly, for now they are dead and only their memory lives. Yes, they had grown old more from the hardness of their lot than from anything else; wealth, honor, position might have been theirs, but with them duty came first, and right nobly did they do it. Neither of them had married, they had just lived from day to day that quiet life that true contentment brings. Such then my readers were they at this your first glance of them, Henry Seldome and his sister Mary.

"Of all the letters we have ever received, this is the most unexpected and the most strange, Harry. Who would have thought that the very fortune we refused, years ago, should now be left us, and under such strange conditions, too! I think we cannot hesitate in our decision for one moment. Humanity itself would demand our taking this child, fortune or misfortune!"

"Your thoughts are mine. Mary. You are always right.

And thus was I taken into the home of these two dear old people; an orphan, still young in years, and I learned to love them better than many a father and mother are loved.

So the days passed by, making weeks and months and years, until I had become a man, and these dear, kind friends had nigh lived their allotted span. Many times had they told me my future was provided for, that the estate and all they possessed was willed to me, but I thought not much of that then.

I well remember—nay, shall I ever forget—the terrible suddenness of their taking off. It was after a mild yet trying winter, in a spring time which seemed to have changed places with the season just gone.

Let me not linger on this part of my tale; it seems to me that these times that occur to all of us, are best enshrined in our hearts. I will therefore proceed to relate what may be of more interest to any who may peruse these lines.

After all was over and when the time to read the will had come, what was the surprise of everybody to find that will missing. Everything went to a distant relative of Henry Seldome, a man whom I had not even seen. What legal right had I to the property? It had been left to Henry Seldome by a friend of father's, who had tacked me on as a condition, wishing to provide me with a home.

Thus at the age of twenty-one was I thrown a second time on the mercies of this world. Years afterwards, when by hard fighting I had won my way to a position and a comfortable income, I happened to drop into Christie's auction rooms, where I found them bidding on a writing table, old fashioned, yet strangely familiar to me; there was something about that table that recalled bygone years, and on that account I bought it. Shall I tell you more? Cannot you guess the rest? That little table had belonged to Henry Seldome—he used to write at it, and I began to do the same. One day I accidentally upset it, and the fall somehow released some secret spring and opened an unsuspected drawer, and in that drawer among other things I found that lost will. How strangely some things happen; that same day's mail brought me the news of decease without is-

sue of the man who for all these years of my toiling had held my old home twenty years—just twenty years after Seldome's death did I succeed to this property, a better, a wiser, a more contented man, thanking God for the years of hardship that had shown me how to be a man, the years that had taught me sympathy for those in need.

REGINALD RIVERS.

—:0:—

MY WORST ENEMY.

Most people have enemies, and I am not an exception to this rule by any means. I have many enemies, I know, and a few friends, but there is one enemy I hate and yet love, I despise and yet serve; nay more, an enemy whom it seems I worship; one who ousts even God Almighty, or, to speak more correctly and a little more reverently, whom I allow to take the place of God to me. Who is this enemy? Need you ask? He is your enemy and mine; the enemy of mankind.

My brothers! I am my worst enemy, and you, you are your worst enemy. I am a God to myself and you are the same to yourself. The god of this world is "self." Others have told you the same thing time and time again. They have told you this far better than I ever can.

Such assertions seem sweeping, cruel, untrue. Yet stop and consider, have patience, think! think long and deeply, cultivate that perhaps dormant quality in your nature, learn to know yourself as you are and not as you would have others fancy you are.

Watch this enemy, ask the reason, the motive of his every action, his every word. Forever is he saying: "All glory be to me! See how good I am! how brave I am! how rich I am! how generous I am. What is the wished-for outcome of each and every deed but the advancement of himself, the uplifting of himself for others to fall down to worship.

Many years ago one who was counted clever, good and true; whilst speaking of mankind, compared him to the seed sown in the ground, which, as you so well know, must die to live and grow. Well and truly did he speak. Let me repeat, perhaps not in his very words, still somewhat to the same purpose: Is God to live for you and me, then self must die. We must all die some day, true, but to live as he has meant us to live, means to die many days and every day. Were this not so, then why did God come to earth, or when he came, why was his life a living death?

And man lives on and angels weep! Oh man, perverse and foolish, reckless, selfish, base—toiling, longing for and winning but, to lose and leave behind, on this side death's portals, all of this world thou hast won! Were God but such an one as you and I, how he must laugh us to very scorn. But he is our Father still. He just lives on and waits, seeing the end from the beginning and rejoicing in the time to come, when all things are accomplished, when the battle is o'er and the victory won. My brothers, you profess to love the beautiful, you profess to be trying to better mankind, but are you doing so? Nay are you not rather blindly sacrificing God's future for the attainment of that which should you attain it you will find will crumble in your

hand. Do you become rich, powerful, wise; do you begin to rejoice therein, and death steps in and God demands your soul—what then? Only this, you have written yourself down fool! You whom men called smart, business-like, energetic, exchanged a life for—trash. Just think of it. Man whom God made a little lower than the angels!

Yours in F. C. & B.,
ROBERT BROOKE.

:o:
GOOD DEEDS AND ACTS.

What good does our Order do? What acts of kindness do our members perform? Oh, I have seen many. I have seen brothers in this domain from the far West, who have come here to secure positions in the government departments, who have failed in their object, grown sick, destitute and penniless, lying on that bed of sickness, waiting for God to take their souls, their tired souls to Christ. What have we done through our sick committee, consisting of five or six strong hearty men? Destitute brothers are removed to more comfortable quarters, physicians are at once sent for, and the five brothers take turns in watching day and night until our brother, a stranger to us, is brought back to life and happiness. His expenses are paid, letters written to loved ones, and the care and attention of a mother are given to him. For what? Because of the teachings of our Order; because of love to mankind. This is Pythianism.

I have seen another case, in which on the cruel railroad, the giant steam engine knocked down and ran over a man. He was picked up piece by piece, and that emblem of morality—that watch charm, with F. C. and B., was found attached to his chain. In consequence the Knights of Pythias were called by one of their members. Piece by piece this precious human being was cared for, and he was given an honorable burial in a lot purchased by the Pythians. He was not buried in the potter's field. He was a tramp, homeless, and wandering about the country. Oh! this is Pythianism. Even the humblest are cared for. When prosperity shines upon our banner, we salute, we protect and honor it. We are his friends also when adversity sits heavily upon his brow, we are indeed at this time his friends still. We have no deserters. In whatever condition, when

once our friendship is given, our brother and his family are ours. We protect, defend and serve them as best we can. When a brother is lying ill at home, expecting the Angel of Death to alight and call him to his last resting place. Our place is at his bedside, to give him succor and comfort; to talk to him of morality, of Christianity, of Christ, of God, and his beautiful home, where he is going when death shall release him from his suffering. After death our duty is to comfort and protect his loved ones, his widow, to follow him to the grave, to say the last prayer, put the last flower and a spray of evergreen upon his tomb, and honor him dead whom we honored living. Our care does not cease then; we come to the financial aid of the widow. We pay his funeral expenses; we take the care of her upon our shoulders until she is able to do so herself.

What can the future be for an organisation founded upon such noble principles, such high and moral rules, formed in an atmosphere, living in an atmosphere, and continuing in an atmosphere of morality and Christianity. God cannot help but bless it, increase it and augment it into millions. God be praised that we have such an Order. We humbly give him our thanks for having suggested to "Our Founder," Rathbone, the beautiful principles of our Order. We thank him for the inspiration, for the divine origin of our Order.—"Pythian World."

:o:
Grand Chancellor Brown, of Texas, in his report to the Grand Lodge, gives the reasons for suspensions for n. p. d. and the remedy in "a nutshell." He says:

"It is difficult to assign the cause of so many suspensions for non-payment of dues. In fact, I do not believe suspensions result from any one cause, but from a variety of causes. Carelessness in the use of the black ball, and in the material which we allow to gain admission into the Order, misfortunes in business, depression in the financial world, inefficient officers in the subordinate lodges, and especially an incompetent Master of Finance, the failure to make the lodge meetings attractive, combined with indifferent ritualistic work, a neglect to cultivate the social amenities of the Order, inattention to the sick, and the omission to practically exemplify the teachings of Pythianism, all combine to cause a lack of interest in the subordinate lodge and result in members being

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Bob Johnson, Vancouver's hero of the scull and Clasper, believes in keeping in training, even through this dismal weather, when oar and shell must be carefully packed away. His friends may drop in at any time of day, at his "Aquatic Cigar Store" (happy name), on Hastings street, and he can supply them with cigars of the choicest, seasoned with an exciting episode or two on the shifting arena where he has made his name. Cigars and yarns are not the only things he keeps in stock, either, for the lover of the meerschmum and briar and the devotee of the dainty cigarette may worship their divinities at ease, in every design and brand, the while cosily lolling in the cheerful little reading room at the back of the store. All his friends should pay Bob a visit, and those who aren't his friends yet should hasten to become so.

suspended. The remedy for this evil, which so seriously threatens the strength and perpetuity of the Order, is to remove the causes."

IF YOU WANT TO BE LOVED.

- Don't find fault.
- Don't believe all the evil you hear.
- Don't jeer at everybody's religious beliefs.
- Don't be rude to your inferiors in social position.
- Don't go untidy on the plea that everybody knows you.
- Don't repeat gossip, even if it does interest a crowd.
- Don't undererate anything because you don't possess it.
- Don't contradict people, even if you are sure you are right.
- Don't believe that every one else in the world is happier than you.
- Don't conclude that you have never had any opportunities in life.
- Don't be inquisitive about the affairs of even your most intimate friends.
- Don't get into the habit of vulgarising life by making light of the sentiment of it.
- Don't express a positive opinion unless you perfectly understand what you are talking about.—Ex.

IN MEMORY.

A green little boy in a green little way
 A green little apple devoured one day,
 And the green little grasses now tenderly wave
 O'er the green little apple boy's green little grave.

Is your lodge sleepy, is your membership inactive? Then place in their hands some papers of the Order that will let them know what others are doing in the Pythian world. None more sorely need Pythian literature than those who stay from the lodge.—Keystone Pythian.

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UGLY HANDS.

The roughened hands that never shirked,
 The plain brown hands that planned and worked,
 Are folded now in peace and rest
 Upon the wayworn, weary breast.
 O'er ivory keys they never strayed;
 Embroidery, lace, they never made—
 Poor tired hands! On one of them
 Flashed never brilliant, shining gem.
 They cooked and washed, they scrubbed and mended,
 Unto the children fondly tended;
 They soothed the head that ached and beat
 And gently bathed the fevered feet.
 They gladly toiled from morn till night
 That they might other hands keep white
 And tried so hard to roses spread
 Adown the path for loved ones' tread!
 They were so tender, quiet, we
 Ne'er noticed how unselfishly
 They clasped each across with trust and prayer
 And burdens bore more than their share.
 Aye, ugly, coarse, unlovely quite,
 They look to our defective sight;
 But, to their mission dutiful,
 In God's eyes they are beautiful.
 —From the New Orleans Picayune.

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All the latest improvements will be found in our policies. There is a style in Life Insurance as everything else, and we have the newest forms, the brightest features. Premium rates reasonable; policy contracts reliable

After three years the UNION MUTUAL policies do not become void by failure to pay premiums, the **Maine Non-Forfeiture Law**, without action of the policy-holder, continuing the insurance for a specified length of time.

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