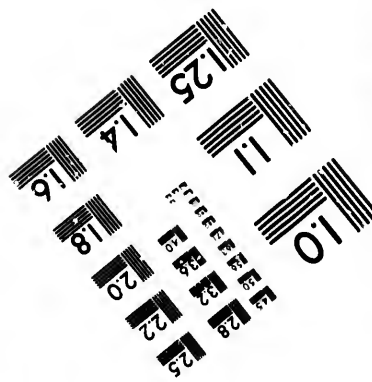
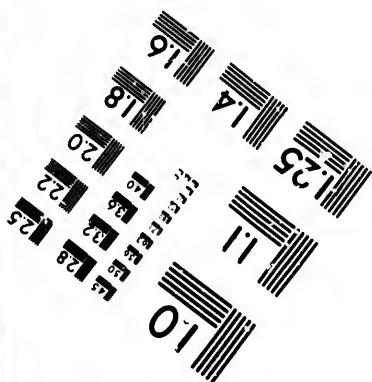
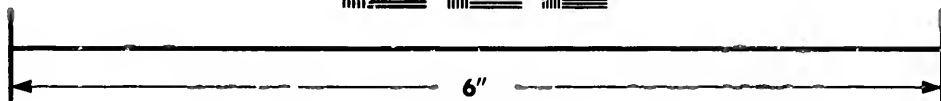
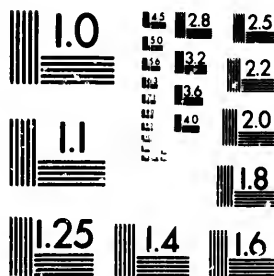


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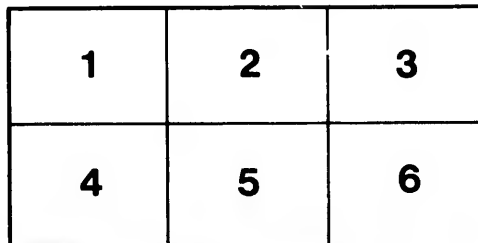
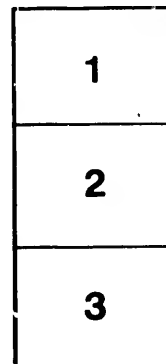
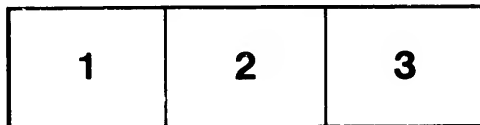
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..WORTH'S.. BURLESQUE RITUAL

INCLUDES

INITIATION OF A CANDIDATE, OPENING AND CLOSING
CEREMONY, MINUTES, ORDERS OF BUSINESS,
ETC., WITH GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS,

WRITTEN FOR THE PURPOSE OF

**Creating Amusement at Anniversaries of
Secret Societies**

AND FOR PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENTS, MATERIAL
FOR OVER TWO HOURS' SOLID FUN.

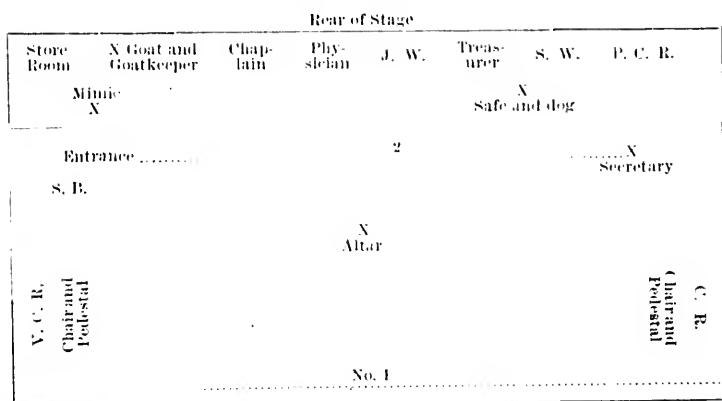
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DIAGRAM AND INSTRUCTIONS.



Orchestra

NOTE.—Dotted line No. 1 is stage curtain. Dotted line No. 2 is wire for curtain, to be used during “street scene” only.

“Store room” is to keep the ballot box, empty-barrels, boxes, etc., in when not in use.

The larger the stage the better. Should be decorated nicely.

WORTH'S BURLESQUE RITUAL.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

P. C. R.	Past Chief Ranger
C. R.	Chief Ranger
V. C. R.	Vice Chief Ranger
Chap	Chaplain
Phys	Physician
Treas.	Treasurer
Secy.	Secretary
J. W.	Junior Woodward
S. W.	Senior Woodward
S. B.	Senior Beadle
G. K.	Goat Keeper
Mimic	Mimic (called "Jimmy")
Goat	
Cand.	Candidate
W. W.	Woodwards

Two curtain men, and for street scene three others. Two to act as robbers and one as policeman.

Other titles may be used than above, if so desired, by other Societies. Change characters accordingly.

PARAPHERNALIA.

P. C. R.—Gown, white, trimmed with red, and sash.

C. R.—Gown, red, trimmed with white canton flannel. Sash red, white and green. Flashy hat.

V. C. R.—Gown, green, trimmed with white canton flannel. Sash red.

Chap.—Gown, black, trimmed with white collar and double tibbit.

Treasurer—Military or frock coat. Belt, leggings. Revolvers in belt, and an old musket, should be a good long

one with bayonet. Have a stock of blank cartridges for revolvers.

Phys.—Sack coat; flashy belt, to hold large lance and her instruments.

Secy.—Gown, dark. Huge pen.

J. W.	}	Red Jackets trimmed with white canton flannel,
S. W.		white belts, collars and cuffs.
	}	Leggings, made of tea matting; wooden axes or spears.

S. B.—Same as Woodwards. Horse pistol in belt and club.

G. K.—Jacket and leggings. Have jacket with tails cut to above knees.

Mimic—Red jacket about length of frock coat, trimmed with white and green. Belt; leggings.

Goat—Trimmed up to suit.

Candidate—Dude. Latest cut. Collar 5 in. deep. Eye glass. But when coat removed later, reveals vest with ragged back. Torn shirt (as a giveaway.)

If used by other than Foresters, above costumes may be changed if so desired, and costumes in keeping with the order substituted.

OTHER REQUISITES.

Ballot Box—Large biscuit case, 4 ft. long by 2 ft. by 2 ft., with two receptacles made on top to receive ballots; one half of box painted white, other black.

Baby carriage or wheelbarrow.

Safe, wooden, or soda keg would do; paint black.

Bull dog chained to safe.

Two empty sugar barrels, no heading in either end. Prepare one barrel so as to go to pieces under the weight of a candidate.

Two cow chains to shackle candidate.

Few large paper bags.

Cracking instrument for Mimic, made of two thin strips of hard wood, flat, 2 in. wide, 3 ft. long, with handle constructed so as to make loud report when used.

Have pail water handy.

An old gripsack. Couple black bottles, large.

Two tea chests.

Two mallets for C. R. and V. C. R., also two large beadsles which are only to be used when C. R. and V. C. R. come together at close of act.

Large fan. Few old cans and bottles for physician.
Stretcher.

SIGNS, GRIP, ETC.

The lodge room sign is made by raising the left hand. Support it with the right, poke forward twice. It is used when addressing C. R., etc.

Grip: Clapping each other by right hand, at the same time take hold of each other by the ear with left hand, and shake and pull twice.

Any brother addressed by the Chief will rise instantly and salute with the sign which will be acknowledged.

All officers should be dignified and talk in deep toned voice, so as to be distinctly heard by audience.

Officers will memorize their respective parts.

OPENING CEREMONY.

Orchestra will play ten or fifteen minutes before opening. Curtains are then drawn and the officers file into the lodge room single file, headed by Chief, taking respective chairs. When all are seated Mimic trots in and after hurrying around the room twice, halts in front of C. R. and says: "Chief are we all here?" Goat Keeper pokes his head in at entrance and exclaims: "Hold on a minute, can't you?" and enters with all dignity followed by his charge, the goat.

(All are seated and will either give a song of greeting, or Chief will address audience humorously.)

C. R.—(Rap.)

V. C. R.—(Rap.)

C. R.—Brethren, let us proceed to open the court.

C. R.—Bro. S. B., is the door securely fastened and protected outside?

S. B.—It is well guarded, Worthy Chief.

(Mimic arises and says, "Chief, the door is well guarded but" --- (give some well known name) "is peeping in the window.")

C. R.—Bro. S. B. attend to this report.

C. R.—Bro. V. C. R., are you satisfied that all present are qualified to sit in this court?

V. C. R.—Bro. Woodwards (they rise instantly) are you satisfied that all present are eligible to sit in this court room?

(Woodwards deliberate and say, "Vice Chief, we have our doubts about two.")

V. C. R.—Proceed to test them.

(Woodwards advance and at altar salute, then each proceed to test one brother by the grip. Return and report, "All are perfect.")

V. C. R.—C. R., all are perfect.

C. R.—We are now in secret session. (Rap.) V. C. R. (Rap.)

C. R.—Bro. G. K., how is it with your charge?

G. K.—Chief, the pride of our lodge is in good fettle, he has consumed the shirt and pair of trousers which he secured from our last candidate, but is still a trifle hungry.

C. R.—Bro. G. K., what does your goat most resemble?

G. K.—An article that many of the ladies of—— excel in making.

C. R.—What is that article and why does he resemble it?

G. K.—Strong butter. Our last candidate was heard to remark that it was powerful enough to pull a street car.

C. R.—Bro. G. K., ~~to whom~~ do you refer, the butter or the goat?

G. K.—I think he meant the goat, Worthy Chief.

MIMIC—(Jumps up and after sniffing twice, exclaims, "I think so myself.")

C. R.—Bro. Treasurer, are you properly armed (Treas. fires revolver, pointing towards floor) and are your cash receptacles in good order?

TREAS.—They are, C. R. Our safe now has a capacity of sixteen thousand dollars.

(Mimic jumps up and says: "You means 16 cents," and sits down immediately.)

C. R.—Bro. Treasurer, how do you hope to obtain so large a surplus?

TREAS.—By strict economy. Paying our dues regularly and holding an entertainment at —— at least once per year, when it will be our aim to entertain the people.

C. R.—Success, Bro. Treasurer.

C. R.—Bro. Physician, your greatest surgical operation recorded, please.

PHYS.—Lancing Michigan, Worthy Chief.

C. R. (Raps.) I mean your greatest professional attempt.

PHYS.—To keep Bro. ——— awake in church.

(Orchestra for a few minutes. Curtains *not* to be closed).

GENERAL BUSINESS.

C. R. —Bro. Secy, roll call of officers, please.

(Secy proceeds and several answer. Then names some well known citizen and one of the brethren will rise and report, giving reasons for absence. This should be repeated several times. Is most amusing. The excuses offered in each case being a gag on party called. It matters not whether names called are members or not.)

C. R.—Bro. Secy, you will read the minutes of our last meeting.

(Here is an opening for local hits and should be written up in a comical manner, for instance :)

Minutes (Sec'y reads) Bro. ——— was fined one dollar and costs, in all amounting to \$12.60, for smoking Canada green in the court room.

A communication was received from an Eastern (or Western) firm, enquiring if Bro. ——— could supply a carload of dogs. Also enquiring if we had any dead candidates for sale. When this communication was read our respected goat became wrathful. He charged and gave the S Beadle a ride around the room, kicked the stove pipes down, upset a lamp, and delivered "Bunting" to the brethren in large quantities free of charge. During the excitement our goat took possession of the safe and ate three packages of ten dollar bills, amounting in all over four hundred and fifty dollars, and also Bro. ———'s marriage license which had been deposited in the safe for safe keeping.

A communication was received from ———, requesting the privilege of addressing our next meeting. But as he had occupied four hours and fifteen minutes in delivering his last address, we decided not to place the communication on file.

C. R.—How stand the minutes, brethren?

V. C. R.—Chief, I notice in the minutes that Bro. ——— is fined \$1 and \$1160 are added as costs. Would you please elucidate?

C. R.—Bro. ——— of that committee will kindly expound Bro. ———.—C. R., allow me to report that we found it

necessary to send for Mr. ---- (some o'ld toper) to prove that it was Canada green.

V. C. R. Chief, I am satisfied the committee should be exonerated from blame in the matter, I know it costs money to talk to Mr. ----.

G. K. Chief, I move we purchase four bundles of tacks for our goat.

C. R. (Rap) You are out of order, sir.

C. R. Any further objections to the minutes, brethren?

C. R.—Approved.

NEW BUSINESS.

PHYS.—C. R., I move that we purchase 48 yards of poor man's plaster. (Seconded and carried.)

CHAP.—Chief, I move we grant Bro. ---- 4 yards of P. M. plaster for his injured foot.

TREAS. I suggest we make it 12 yards, as 4 yards would hardly cover Bro. ---- foot.

(Here ensues a perfect jangle. Mimic suggests he be granted enough to do up his whole carcass. Bro G. K. moves the purchase of 4 bundles of tacks. The motion having been seconded it is put and carried.)

G. K.— Chief, I again move that we purchase 4 bundles tacks for our goat. I notice he appears a trifle bilious.

V. C. R.—Perhaps Bro. G. K. can explain the cause of the goat's illness.

G. K.—It was likely the garments secured from our last candidate.

MIMIC.—Not so, Worthy Chief; it was that marriage license.

Motion seconded, put and carried.

(Add few local hits and lengthen the order of business to suit.)

PROPOSITIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP.

Several hits may be worked in here by proposing well known parties. (Propose one tall man.)

BALLOTING FOR CANDIDATES.

C. R. — Bro. V. C. R. prepare the ballot box.

V. C. R. — Bro. W. W's. prepare the ballot box.

(Placed in centre of stage and brethren proceed to ballot, C. R. having named candidate. Each salute C. R. as ballot is dropped. When all have balloted C. R. orders V. C. R. to attend to the ballot, and Mimie jumps up.)

MIMIE — C. R., am I to be shelved in this ballot?

C. R. — Come, come, be quick then.

(Mimie walks all around stage at a good clip, carrying grip and finally squares away at ballot box, opens grip and deposits ballot. Again walks smartly around stage before seating. When ballot is passed for the tall applicant, Mimie goes through same performance, and taking an empty bottle from grip, exclaims: "So long," and drops it.)

Ballot should not be prepared more than twice.

C. R. — Bro. W. W. attend to the ballot.

(Convey it to V. C. R.)

C. R. — Bro. V. C. R. report on the ballot.

V. C. R. — C. R., I declare the ballot favorable.

C. R. — Bro. Secy. you will record the acceptance by ballot of these candidates for admission in our honorable order.

(Just before balloting is concluded Mr. Mashley, the candidate, walks up from rear of hall to stage, walks slowly, and gazing about, using eye-glass. When near stage curtains are closed, Mr. Mashley proceeds to ante-room.)

ORCHESTRA.

INITIATION.

(All are seated. One empty barrel is placed near V. C. R. (the firmer barrel of the two.) Barrel is laid on side.) Curtain opened.

C. R. — Bro. V. C. R., our next order of business being Initiation of Candidates, you will ascertain if there are any candidates for initiation this evening and report.

V. C. R. — Bro. S. B. if any candidates for initiation please report.

S. B. — Bro. V. C. R., Mr. Mashley desires to be admitted into our fold, this evening. He is a stranger in this part of the country and desires the protection which our order affords.

MIMIC—(Looks down at goat and laughingly remarks) He'll need it before we get through with him.

(V. C. R. reports to C. R.)

C. R.—Bro. Messenger (Mimic) you will retire and question Mr. Mashley according to custom.

(Retires and propounds questions thick and fast, returns and says: C. R., this candidate has never had anything)

G. K.—He must be pretty dry.

C. R.—Bro. W. Wds., please retire and prepare Mr. Mashley for initiation.

C. R.—Bro. Treasurer, retire and collect the usual fee.

(Takes large sack out and returns, dumps contents into safe)

TREAS.—C. R., I have collected the customary amount.

S. W.—(Loud voice) Mr. Mashley, the way to enter our court room is by taking five steps backwards, just inside room.

(Cand. trips over an obstruction and when down is set upon by Mimic and G. K., who shackle and blindfold him; then stand him on feet again; remove coat; tie hands in front; Mimic makes a considerable fuss, and when candidate is being assisted to his feet Mimic uses his cracking stick)

C. R. rises and approaches candidate, takes hold of him roughly with right hand and exclaims in loud voice:

C. R.—Mr. Mashley, have you anything to communicate to the outside world? If so, give it to me. For there is a great possibility that you will never leave this lodge room alive to tell the tale.

CAND.—Horrors, no.

(C. R. turns.)

MIMIC—Bobs up and says: And if you do tell the tale there is a possibility that you will not live to return to the lodge room.

C. R.—Bro. V. C. R., you will conduct the examination in the usual way.

V. C. R.—Brethren, you will conduct the usual examination.

Slow music. (Woodwards proceed slowly around the room with Cand., G. K. and Mimic in rear; each brother taking part, such as slapping Cand. on back or chest, opening his mouth and examining teeth, etc. When near the C. R. Cand. drops a handkerchief which he has had in hand, and Mimic cracks him and exclaims: C. R., I find the candidate sound as far as the examination has gone.)

C. R.—Very good.

C. R.—Mr. Mashley, in order to test your willingness to obey this court, you will raise the heavy weight at your feet and deposit it before me.

(Cand. stoops and goat gets in his work. If goat has not been properly trained, let G. K. and Mimic use him as a lattering ram on Cand. It will prove highly amusing. C. R. then addresses Mr. Mashley. While so doing G. K. and Mimic proceed to other end of the stage and go through considerable motioning and finally Mimic condescends (by motions) to allow G. K. to blindfold him, and they proceed to imitate C. R. and Cand., although uttering no sound. Mimic stoops slowly and G. K. holds pail of water, and with one hand forces Mimic's head into pail. Mimic makes a lunge at G. K., and C. R. calls them to order.)

C. R.—Mr. Mashley, why do you desire to become a Forester?

CAND.—Because I admire your institution, want to insure my life and enjoy the protection which your order provides.

C. R.—Then do you still desire to be made one amongst us?

CAND.—I do.

C. R.—Very good.

C. R.—Bro. Woodward, you will conduct Mr. Mashley to our Worthy V. C. R. for a further acquaintance with our mysteries.

(G. K. and Mimic follow. Orchestra play slow music. W. W., Cand., G. K. and Mimic halt in front of V. C. R.)

V. C. R.—Mr. Mashley, you have made satisfactory progress. Many tests of courage and fortitude will, however, be required of you before you can become a Forester.

V. C. R.—Bro. W. Wds., you will seat the candidate.

(Force him into chair, on which lies large paper bag inflated. As bag bursts Treasurer can fire a blank shot so that it will not be noticed. Cand. jumps up badly scared, falls forward on hands and knees. Mimic cracks him, Cand. jumps up and starts to run and falls, or is forced into the empty barrel (no heads in either end of barrel). Prof. rolls barrel toward C. R. to slow music, jumps or sits heavily on barrel, which goes to pieces. Curtains closed and are almost immediately opened, exposing G. K. and Mimic carrying Cand. on a stretcher, followed by Physician sharpening a huge knife or lance. Curtain again closes.)

ORCHESTRA.

(Curtain.)

(Still blindfolded the Candidate is brought into room in old baby carriage or wheelbarrow. Goat hitched to same, assisted by G. K. and Mimic, parade around room once to music.)

MIMIC—W. Chief, Mr. Mashley has sufficiently recovered to take a drive; Bro. —— has kindly placed his family carriage at our disposal. May I address Mr. Mashley on behalf of the court?

C. R.—Certainly, but be brief, please.

MIMIC—Mr. Mashley, allow me to congratulate you upon your rapid recovery. (Remove blindfold.) It is my duty also to present you on behalf of the court with an allowance of poor man's plaster, as there is a possibility that you may be severely wounded, perhaps maimed for life, before you depart hence. I will allow you a few feet extra. (Commences to enroll paper, roll of toilet paper will do, unrolls about 50 or 60 yards)

MIMIC—Mr. Mashley, I will now permit you to alight from Bro. —— family carriage, and should you encounter a cyclone or fall down a well in the course of your journey, just call for your humble friend. (Dumps Cand. out in a heap in front of V. C. R.)

NOTE.—While V. C. R. is addressing Cand., Mimic and G. K. go through another performance on the quiet, this time Mimic gets G. K. into the rig and with considerable ado presents G. K. with a rag baby, which he draws from folds of his jacket; puts goat in rig also and dumps lot out on top of Treasurer's dog; meanwhile C. R. and Sec'y are in quiet converse. When racket takes place C. R. calls them to order and they scatter to their respective seats.

V. C. R.—Mr. Mashley, as none are admitted to the bosom of our beloved and honorable order out men of fortitude, it is necessary that you be tested accordingly, and also to prove your willingness to obey your superior officers. Our secrets must be strictly guarded and preserved from the uninitiated. They are only imparted to such as we deem worthy candidates. I trust, therefore, that you will display such fortitude in times of trial and danger as will entitle you to receive these secrets at the proper time.

V. C. R.—Chief, is it your pleasure that anything be communicated to the candidate.

C. R.—It is. You may now impart that well known word, without which, at this stage of the ceremony, it would be impossible for the candidate to approach the dais.

V. C. R.—Mr. Mashley that word is Charity. Bro. W. Wds. you will conduct Mr. Mashley to the C. R. for further instructions.

NOTE.—While candidate is being conducted to Physician after being taken to C. R., Mimie and G. K. will place a loose barrel, so that it will be immediately behind candidate while being addressed by Phys., lay it on side, also place two tea chests on right, and one on left, also a soda keg or bushel basket.

(W. Wds. are conducting candidate to C. R. to time of music, in passing P. C. R., the latter, who has been interested in some correspondence, jumps up, takes hold of candidate roughly and exclaims in rough voice :)

P. C. R.—Halt! Brethren, I demand to know by what authority this stranger advances to the dais to receive the secrets of our order.

S. W.—By command of our Worthy C. R. and with the assistance of our well known word.

P. C. R.—Let him prove to me that he is in possession of that word

CAND.—Charity.

P. C. R.—Ah, correct, and may this virtue, Charity, ever be practised by you towards all mankind, especially towards all Foresters, through the journey of life. Proceed.

(Candidate is then conducted to C. R.)

W. Wds.—Your pleasure, Worthy Chief.

C. R.—Well done, brethren. But before proceeding further I must expostulate with our Worthy Physician. I perceive you have omitted to state in your examination papers the condition of the candidate's respiratory organs.

C. R.—Bro. W. W. conduct Mr. Mashley to our Worthy Phys. that he may conduct the examination at once.

NOTE.—After the examination ensues one of the most exciting scenes in the piece. Each Bro. must act promptly so that there will be no lagging.

PHYS.—Mr. Mashley, have you ever been troubled with sicological irrefragibility connected with the concutent adempion of the illcoluminent chronical contraction and etherialized contention of subsetorial concretion?

CAND.—I don't think so.

PHYS.—Have you ever been troubled with the nervicurial diabolical, systematical part of your system sagaciating.

CAND.—No.

(Phys. then hands candidate large paper bag with rubber tube attached and says :)

PHYS.—Mr. Mashley you will inflate this bag, please

(Candidate inflates it well after considerable puffing. Mimie then

dodge up and bursts the bag; Treasurer shoots at same moment; candidate falls backward on barrel, which goes to pieces; Phys. glances at candidate and exclaims: "He has fainted." Everybody gets excited; C. R. shouts, "Assist, assist; brethren rush forward to assist"; W. Wds. shout, "Stand back," and try to push brethren back. Phys. throws some water on candidate and uses a large fan. Two of the brethren are forced backward and fall or sit in tea chests which break asunder, other two into basket and soda keg; Mimic does considerable hustling and yelling.)

C. R. — V. C. R., why don't you assist to restore order?

(Both whack away on pedestals, and C. R. repeats in a loud voice: "V. C. R., why don't you keep order?")

V. C. R.—I am doing my utmost.

C. R.—You are not, sir.

V. C. R.—I am.

NOTE.—(Both appear very angry.) The two large heddles or mauls are brought into requisition in the effort to restore order, and after V. C. R. exclaims, "I am, C. R. and V. C. R. rush at each other with uplifted mauls and meet in centre, and curtain goes down amid much excitement just as it is closing Chaplain rushes between C. R. and V. C. R. and says "Charity.")

(Curtain again opens showing C. R. and Vice clasping hands, G. K. and Mimic ditto, and everybody perfectly motionless. Curtain closes at once.)

ORCHESTRA.

NOTE.—Debris is cleared away, candidate kneels at altar facing audience; W. Wds. strike an attitude as though about to strike candidate with axes. Mimic stands behind W. Wds. with an ordinary axe, as though about to strike W. Wds. All remain motionless; curtain rises.

C. R.—Mr. Mashley, an oath of allegiance is required of you before you can receive these secrets. Bro. Chaplain you will obligate the candidate.

(Chaplain advances to altar with large scroll)

CHAP.—Mr. Mashley, you will repeat after me, word for word, commencing with your name.

CHAP.—I.

CAND.—I.

CHAP.—Your name.

CAND.—Your name.

CHAP.—Repeat your name in full.

CAND.—Repeat your name in full.

CHAP.—Repeat your name in full after me.

CAND.—Repeat your name in full after me.

CHAP.—(I.oud voice) Hang it, man, repeat your name.

CAND.—Hang it, man, repeat your name.

CHAP.—If you don't follow instructions we will have to eject you.

CAND.—If you don't follow instructions we will have to eject you.

CHAP.—C. R., this man is as stupid as a mule.

CAND.—C. R., this man is as stupid as a mule.

CHAP.—Bro. W. Wds., take this man to the ante room and instruct him.

CAND.—Bro. W. Wds., take this man to the ante-room and instruct him.

(Candidate is conducted to ante-room and asks W. W. in loud voice, (If that is all of the obligation.) W. W. instruct him; is then conducted to altar and repeats the following obligation (W. W. and Mimic assume attitude as before obligation.)

I, John Benjamin Christopher Mashley, in the presence of my brother Foresters, and my friend, the goat, do most solemnly declare that I will strictly anchor the Foresters' secrets in the bosom of my mind (if I have one), and will keep a tight upper lip in the presence of the uninitiated. I sincerely promise that I will refrain from eating garlic onions just before coming to lodge, and should I ever have the misfortune to get drunk and drive home in the small hours of the morning that I will not give my wife our password to persuade her to admit me through the door, and should she drop a chair upon me from the upper storey window that I will refrain from using profane language. That I will assist all brothers I meet in hard luck, and allow my wife to split the wood, and prohibit her adopting bloomers. If in my power to do so I will contribute at least four tons of chop and seventeen newspapers per annum for the maintenance of our beloved goat. To all of which I pledge my honor, the Foresters present being my witnesses.

BRETHREN—(In unison) It's done.

CHAP.—C. R., that duty is performed.

C. R.—Bro. W. W. you will conduct our newly obligated brother to the ante-room and there prepare him to receive the secrets of a Forester.

NOTE.—Goat is now brought forward fore feet placed on altar and held by G. K.

MIMIC—Now repeat your name after 'ne and say (pause.) (Loud voice) Repeat your name after ine (pause.) Just like

— (give name of stubborn individual.) Now then repeat after me, I —, (give name of party with goatee)

MIMIC—G. K., take this fellow to the ante-room, he is as obstinate as — (some well known character.)

(Orchestra or song by one of the brethren.)

(W. W. re-enter and conduct (candidate to altar, he having assumed his proper clothing, eye-glass, etc.)

W. W. —At your pleasure, C. R.

C. R.—Very good, Bro. W. W., I will now proceed to acquaint Mr. Mashley with our signs, grip, etc.

SIGNS, GRIP, ETC.

(1) To gain admittance to a Foresters' Court you will kick the door once with a loud foot and exclaim: A member good and true.

MIMIC—You mean a member good and full.

C. R.—(Rap.)

C. R.—Give the password and you will be admitted.

The sign of recognition thus: Thrust the right hand into pants pocket, left hand place over stomach, and although you should be in Russia, China, or even —, it is always given in the same manner.

The lodge room sign is made in this manner: Elevate the left arm, poke it forward twice, supported by the right arm.

The sign of distress is given by placing the right hand over stomach, your left hand on your head. It is symbolical of a vacancy under your vest. It will be the duty of any brother who should behold your distress to supply you with at least four fried cakes; if the cakes are not available it will be his privilege to substitute not less than four cents worth of cucumbers or nine cents worth of pickled pork. *

Grip: I will now proceed to give you our grip.

NOTE.—Steps down and approaches altar; Mimic gets there first with an old grip or valise, says, "This is our grip;" (opens it and extracts bottle and says:) "This is what our C. R. uses for colic. Think I will sample it." (V. C. R. raps him down.)

(C. R. gives grip, clasping right hand and pulling ear with left hand. It is only to be given with the strictest caution and only for the purpose of distinguishing the true brother from the imposter.)

C. R. goes back to dais.

C. R.—Mr. Mashley, I trust that throughout your Foresteric career you will reciprocate the confidence which has

*
The words of distress are
" God liver oil "

been reposed in you to-night, and that by acts of loyalty, philanthropy and brotherly love you will demonstrate the fact that as a Forester you will prove to be a desirable acquisition to our order. May sunshine and happiness encompass you through the journey of life. I assure you that it is with a feeling of pleasure and admiration that I welcome you amongst us.

Candida'e is escorted to a seat. All are seated. (*Music*)

C. R.—Brethren, we will proceed to close the lodge. We will resume again when Mr. Mashley will be on hand to receive his final degree.

C. R.—Can any brother offer anything for the good of the order?

NOTE.—A few songs, local hits, gags, instrumentals, etc., by the members, may be introduced here if so desired. They form a very interesting feature, particularly the hits.

C. R.—Bro. V. C. R., you will declare the court closed, and upon resuming, Mr. Mashley will receive his final degree.

V. C. R.—Brethren, I now declare the court closed, upon resuming. Mr. Mashley will receive his final degree.

V. C. R.—(Rap.)

C. R.—(Rap.)

(Curtain closes.)

ORCHESTRA.

STREET SCENE —

Curtain No. 2 is now brought into requisition. It is drawn and forms background, behind it the brethren remain. The words "Main street" may be placed on corner of curtain No. 2 Stage clear. Curtain No. 1 opens; policeman saunters along on beat and is met by two rough looking fellows; policeman demands to know what they are doing out so late, etc; they finally offer him a drink which he accepts, and in return sings a song and pronounces the pair jolly good fellows after all, and they separate, policeman one way and pair another and disappear. Presently Mr. Mashley appears, walking along, stops and says: Perhaps I had better transfer this package of currency from my coat to my trousers pocket (acts accordingly); pulls out watch and says: Well, I must hurry to the Foresters hall to receive my final degree; it's a hard row to hoe, but I'll try it. Starts off. Is met by the two chaps mentioned above who present guns and one says, Your money, other Or your life. Try to grab Mr. M., he turns and dashes away at a great rate, with villains after him, Mr. Mashley yelling, Cod liver oil! Cod liver oil! After they have disappeared, along comes C. R. and Treasurer and couple of others. Hears signal of distress in the distance.

C. R.—Boys, did you hear that? A brother in distress! Sure let us away to the rescue. (Scamper away. Presently Mr. M. dashes along with the pair at his heels (they come in from the opposite side from which they departed.) Mr. M. is captured when in centre of stage and they proceed to rob him, while Mr. M. yells words of distress lustily. One robber secures package and holding it up yells: (I have it, Bill, we're strictly in it, eh?) Rescue party now dashes up (coming in same side as Mr. M. and pair.) C. R. exclaims: (So are we.) They fall upon the robbers, and Treasurer and they exchange shots, and all is confusion and scuffle. C. R. finally secures package and pulls Mr. M. out of the heap. The pair are secured. G. K. and Mimic now appear on way to lodge and ask leave to take pair in tow, promising to introduce them to their goat, etc. In a comical way all leave stage but C. R. and M. M.)

C. R.—Mr. Mashley, you have certainly had a most thrilling experience. We were on our way to lodge when, hearing those well known and familiar words of distress, we started off in the direction from which the sound came. Right well pleased are we at being instrumental in rendering such a service.

Mr. M.—Oh, how thankful I am that I ever joined the Canadian Order of Foresters. This package contains a large sum of money and should I have been relieved of it I would have been a ruined man.

C. R.—Let us proceed, Brother Mashley, and should you ever be placed in a similar predicament don't forget those words (cod liver oil.) Now for the lodge room.

Curtain No. 1 closes as they start away.

ORCHESTRA.

Curtain No. 2 is drawn. Brethren get into same position as before, in costume, and when ready Curtain No. 1 opens.

(NOTE.—C. R. may, in opening court, ask the officers several questions, composed of local hits.)

C. R.—I now declare the court duly opened.

C. R.—Bro. W. W., as Mr. Mashley is in waiting we shall proceed to confer the final degree, you will conduct him through the ceremony.

W. W., G. K. and Mimic retire. (Music.)

Mr. M. is blindfolded and goat removed.

(NOTE.—Goat is placed in wheelbarrow and Mr. M. is placed on its back and in this position is wheeled into the room and paraded around the room a couple of times, to music; halts front of C. R.

W. W.—At your pleasure, C. R.

C. R.—Very good, Bro. W. W. You will conduct Mr. Mashley to our Worthy P. C. R. to be invested with the badge of a Forester.

(NOTE.—Mr. M. may now be made to walk a steep plank and then to slide down and alight stern first on an inflated bag, or put through such other tests as may be agreed upon by the lodge.)

W. W.—At your pleasure, Past Chief. (Remove hood-wink.)

P. C. R.—Very good, Bro. W. W.

P. C. R.—(Putting on badge.) It is indeed a pleasant duty for me to invest you with the badge of a Forester. Long may you live to wear it. To-night you have not only displayed great courage, but a confidence in the brethren present through whose hands you have passed, that I am sure has been admired by all.

P. C. R.—C. R., that duty is performed.

C. R.—Bro. W. W., conduct Mr. M. to the V. C. R. for the traveling password.

V. C. R.—The traveling password is "Come on boys."

(Now conduct Mr. M. to altar.)

C. R. raps twice and brethren all rise; C. R. approaches altar with a flashy gown on arm.

C. R.—Mr. Mashley, I will now clothe you with the robe of a full-fledged Forester. (Commences putting it on and continues :) You have to-night been admitted to one of the greatest fraternal societies that has ever existed. A society of which each and every member is truly proud. And, finally, Mr. Mashley, you have my assurance that if you continue to act with confidence and brotherly love toward your brother Foresters,

They will ever so act toward you.

NATIONAL ANTHEM.

