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REPORT
OF
G. A. VINCENT
GRAND MASTER
OF THE
GRAND LODGE
I. O. O. F.
OF
WEST VIRGINIA

1903

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Grand Master's Report.

*To the Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of the State
of West Virginia, Independent Order of Odd Fellows :*

BRETHREN:—In accordance to the laws and usages of the Order, I, Geo. A. Vincent, as Grand Master, submit for your consideration a report of my official acts as Grand Master for the year which is about to close.

It affords me great pleasure to inform you that the membership of the Order has generally increased in numbers as well as in numbers of lodges during the year.

This increase of lodges and membership has caused increased work for the Grand Master, Grand Secretary and other Grand Officers. My part, I have at all times endeavored to perform with as little delay and as much promptness as possible, and to the best of my ability and judgment.

I owe a great deal to my Brethren, who have so liberally and generously assisted me in the performance of the pleasant duties of my office during the past year, and I desire to make special mention of the faithful assistance and worthy service rendered me as the Grand Master by the various District Deputy Grand Masters, whose names will more correctly appear under the head of District Deputy Grand Masters.

Also, to Brother Ellis A. Billingslea, Grand Secretary, as well as my Board of By-Laws and Appeals, and to the above named as well as to all other Brothers who have so kindly assisted me in the discharge of my duties, I desire to extend to them and each of them, my heartfelt thanks, and hope that we may all live many years to enjoy each other's brotherly and fraternal association.

I desire to say further, that this has been one of the most pleasant as well as one of the most profitable years of my life, and I hope that such pleasure and prosperity has been the reward of the Brotherhood generally.

And now, as to the correctness and promptness of the discharge of my duties as Grand Master, I respectfully submit this, my Official Report, for your consideration.

(SEAL.)

I. O. O. F.

Office of G. A. VINCENT, Grand Master,
GRAND LODGE OF WEST VIRGINIA.

Fairmont, W. Va., December 15, 1902.

District Deputy Grand Masters.

TO THE SUBORDINATE LODGES, GREETING:—

You will please take notice that I, G. A. Vincent, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of West Virginia, I. O. O. F., have appointed and commissioned the following District Deputy Grand Masters for the several Districts of this jurisdiction, to-wit:

- No. 1. James C. Mansbarger, P. G., No. 9, Wheeling, W. Va.
- No. 2. R. B. Ash, P. G., No. 149, Burton, W. Va.
- No. 3. W. H. Cecil, P. G., No. 7, Parkersburg, W. Va.
- No. 4. Adam Young, P. G., No. 57, Mason City, W. Va.
- No. 5. S. M. Musgrove, P. G., No. 98, Grafton, W. Va.
- No. 6. Wirt Chenoweth, P. C., No. 59, Philippi, W. Va.
- No. 7. F. Randall, P. G., No. 16, Shinnston, W. Va.
- No. 8. John F. Thompson, P. G., No. 103, Davis, W. Va.
- No. 9. John W. Dean, P. G., No. 24, Martinsburg, W. Va.
- No. 10. A. M. Wooldredge, P. G., No. 140, Coalburg, W. Va.
- No. 11. F. M. Vanhorn, P. G., No. 171, Cedarville, W. Va.
- No. 12. E. H. Isenhardt, P. G., No. 176, Cowen, W. Va.
- No. 13. P. McCoy, P. G., No. 133, Ansted, W. Va.
- No. 14. M. B. Postelewaite, P. G., No. 144, Bluefield, W. Va.
- No. 15. E. Byrne, P. G., No. 64, Huntington, W. Va.

The above appointed District Deputy Grand Masters will please become familiar with their duties as such, and make this one of the most successful years in Odd Fellowship West Virginia has ever had, as I fully realize much depends upon them to make this a successful year for our Order.

Please avoid any unnecessary confusion, discord or strife,

and thereby make the office of District Deputy Grand Master what it should be in West Virginia.

G. A. VINCENT,
Grand Master.

Attest:

E. A. BILLINGSLEA,
Grand Secretary.

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ANNIVERSARY PROCLAMATION.

Sovereign Grand Lodge of the
Independent Order of Odd Fellows.
Office of the Grand Sire.

*To the Officers and Members of Grand and Subordinate Bodies
of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and to all Whom
it May Concern:*

In accordance with usage and the resolution of the Sovereign Grand Lodge, I

JOHN B. GOODWIN, Grand Sire,

by virtue of authority vested in me, do hereby enjoin upon all Grand and Subordinate Bodies of the Order, to take appropriate action for the due commemoration of the twenty-sixth day of April, 1903 (or, it being Sunday, the 25th or 27th day of April, as may be selected), it being the

EIGHTY-FOURTH ANNIVERSARY

of our Order, by suitable exercises in observance of the day and by public thanksgiving to Almighty God for His manifold mercies to us as individuals and as an Order.

Done at the City of Atlanta, Georgia,
this, the nineteenth day of February,
Anno Domini nineteen hundred and
three, and of the Order the eighty-fourth
year.

[SEAL OF S. G. L.]

JOHN B. GOODWIN,
Grand Sire.

Attest:

J. FRANK GRANT,
Grand Secretary.

Office of Grand Master,
Grand Lodge of West Virginia,
Fairmont, West Virginia.

FAIRMONT, W. VA., FEBRUARY 28TH, 1903.

To the Officers and Members of Subordinate Lodges, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of the Jurisdiction of West Virginia:

BRETHREN:—The above proclamation of the Grand Sire of the Sovereign Grand Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, being in compliance with the law and in accordance with established custom and usages of the Order, I, George A. Vincent, Grand Master of the Order in the State of West Virginia, do most earnestly enjoin the Subordinate Lodges of this Jurisdiction to set apart the twenty-sixth day of April, 1903 (or, it being Sunday, the 25th or 27th day of April, as may be selected), in general observance of the Eighty-fourth Anniversary of the Order by suitable and appropriate exercises in commemoration of the day so dear to the heart of every Odd Fellow.

Permission to appear in public in regalia for the purpose of such celebration is hereby granted to each and every Lodge in this Jurisdiction.

Done at Fairmont, West Virginia, this the 28th day of February, 1903.

GEORGE A. VINCENT,
Grand Master.

(SEAL.)

Attest:

E. A. BILLINGSLEA,
Grand Secretary.

NOTE.—The ceremony authorized to be observed at the celebration of the Anniversary of the Order may be obtained from the Grand Secretary, and at the office of the Grand Secretary of the Sovereign Grand Lodge, Baltimore, Maryland.

MEMORIAL DAY PROCLAMATION.

Sovereign Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Office of the Grand Sire.

To all to Whom these Presents Shall Come, Greeting:

In accordance with the requirements of the standing resolution of the Sovereign Grand Lodge, I, JOHN B. GOODWIN, GRAND SIRE, do hereby request all Subordinate Lodges under the various jurisdictions of the Order that have suffered loss of membership by death, to assemble on the *Second Tuesday of June next, being the 9th day of June, 1903*, and engage in appropriate services respecting their dead members, such services to be conducted in an appropriate manner; *provided*, that if a different day be more convenient for any jurisdiction to hold such memorial services, the Grand Master thereof may select such day, and the Grand Master may issue his proclamation in accordance therewith.

Information of the decease of the following prominent and representative members of the Order has been received since our last Memorial Day, viz.:

1. *Arkansas*—July 29th, 1902, P. O. HOOPER, Past Grand Representative; aged 70 years.
2. *Delaware*—July 27th, 1902, EDWIN HIRST, Past Grand Representative; aged 72 years.
3. *Florida*—November 29th, 1902, R. L. ROBB, Grand Representative; aged 62 years.
4. *Illinois*—April 17th, 1903, JAMES R. MILLER, Past Grand Representative; aged 70 years.
5. *Indiana*—November 18th, 1902, CHARLES C. BINKLEY, Past Grand Representative.
6. January 9th, 1903, PLATT J. WISE, Past Grand Representative.
7. January 9th, 1903, JOHN W. SMITH, Past Grand Representative.

8. *Iowa*—October 25th, 1902, E. H. HIBBEN, Grand Representative; aged 54 years.
9. *Kansas*—June 27th, 1902, SAML. H. GLENN, Past Grand Representative; aged 62 years.
10. July 7th, 1902, CHAS. CARROLL FURLEY, Past Grand Representative; aged 64 years.
11. *Maine*—May 12th, 1902, EDWARD PAYSON BURNHAM, Past Grand Representative; aged 74 years.
12. June 2d, 1902, OSCAR GARDNER DOUGLASS, Past Grand Representative; aged 66 years.
13. January 31st, 1903, ENOS CUSHING CHAMBERLAIN, Past Grand Representative; 65 years.
14. *Maritime Provinces*—April 29th, 1902, THOMAS ROBERTSON, Past Grand Representative; aged 49.
15. *Massachusetts*—June 4th, 1902, JOHN P. LORING, Past Grand Representative; aged 68 years.
16. March 19, 1903, GEORGE H. STICKNEY, Past Grand Representative; aged 70 years.
17. *Nebraska*—August 12th, 1902, ARTHUR GIBSON, Past Grand Representative; aged 58 years.
18. February 15th, 1902, HENRY J. HUDSON, Past Grand Representative; aged 83 years.
19. *New Hampshire*—October 29th, 1902, JOSEPH KIDDER, Past Grand Representative; aged 83 years.
20. January 4th, 1903, JOSEPH H. GARDINER, Past Grand Representative; aged 70 years.
21. *New Jersey*—June 10th, 1902, THEO. A. ROSS, Past Grand Secretary; aged 77 years.
22. *North Dakota*—July 9th, 1902, M. L. ADAMS, Past Grand Representative; aged 56 years.
23. *Ontario*—November 3d, 1902, S. S. MERICK, Past Grand Representative; aged 48 years.
24. *Rhode Island*—September 4, 1902, DANIEL N. PAINE, Past Grand Representative; aged 91 years.
25. *South Dakota*—November 5th, 1902, BENJAMIN F. TEALL, Grand Representative; aged 60 years.

26. *Wisconsin*—April 7th, 1902, LEWIS SILBER, Past Grand Representative; aged 57 years.
27. April 25th, 1902, H. E. HUXLEY, Past Grand Representative; aged 70 years.

Done at the City of Atlanta, State of Georgia, this tenth day of April, 1903, and of our Order the eighty-fourth year.

(Seal S. G. L.)

JOHN B. GOODWIN,

Grand Sire.

Attest:

J. FRANK GRANT,

Grand Secretary.

Office of Grand Master,
Grand Lodge of West Virginia.

FAIRMONT, W. Va., May 25, 1903.

To the Officers and Members of the Subordinate Lodges of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of the State of West Virginia, Greeting:

BRETHREN:—Your attention is especially directed to the above proclamation.

I hope and trust that "Memorial Day" will be appropriately observed by our Order throughout this jurisdiction. Upon the death roll of many (if not all our Lodges) are found the names of our deceased brethren whose lives were useful (some of whom by their faithfulness and zeal were elevated to and filled the highest offices of honor and trust in our jurisdiction), and many of them, by the practice of the principles of our Order, have left a good name behind them, "which is better than many riches." Therefore in obedience to the mandate of John B. Goodwin, Grand Sire, I, G. A. Vincent, Grand Master of the State of West Virginia, urgently request all our brothers throughout the jurisdiction to meet in their respective halls, on the second Tuesday of June next, being the 9th day of June, 1903, (or upon such other day as may be more

convenient), and there engage in appropriate memorial services in tribute to the memory of our deceased brothers.

Let us recall their virtues and labors of love, that we may be encouraged to emulate and practice their example, and ever be found faithful in the discharge of every duty imposed by Odd Fellowship, and to make men more sociable and humane, in the discharge of every duty calculated to make life honorable and Fraternal, among men.

Fraternally,

G. A. VINCENT,

Grand Master.

(SEAL.)

Attest:

E. A. BILLINGSLEA,

Grand Secretary.

The Ceremony for Memorial Day and Ceremony for Decorating Graves of deceased members (the two in one book) can be obtained from the Grand Secretaries. Price 25 cents per copy.

DECISIONS.

Dec. 27, 1902.

No. 1 Question—Is the wife of an initiated Odd Fellow eligible to membership in a Rebekah Lodge?

Answer—Yes; with citations.

RISING SUN LODGE No. 104.

Jan. 14, 1903.

No. 2 Question—Can a brother be dropped for non-payment of dues unless he owes for twelve months time; or in other words, if he is even January 1st, 1900, can he be dropped for non-payment of dues before January 1st, 1901, no matter how many assessments may be made between those two dates?

Answer—Constitution, Article 10, Sec. 2 and 3.

RISING SUN LODGE No. 164.

Jan. 14, 1903.

No. 3 Question—Some Brothers here assert that "White's Di-

gest" has no place, or should not be referred to, in a Subordinate Lodge, either as a supplement to Constitution or otherwise. What is its sphere or when referred to?

Answer—White's Digest is the Code of General Laws, and should be referred to when found necessary so to do, and should be in every lodge room in the State, and used and consulted when necessary.

CENTER POINT LODGE No. 174.

No. 4 Question—If a member of the I. O. O. F. has not attained the third degree, has he any right to be assessed, upon the death of a Brother in good standing?

Answer—Yes.

HIAWATHA LODGE No. 83.

No. 5 Question—Can a Lodge legally make a rule requiring candidates to learn the unwritten work of the initiatory degree?

Answer—Yes.

FAIR PLAIN LODGE No. 211.

No. 6 Question—Has a Past Grand the right to open the Lodge in the absence of the Noble Grand and Vice Grand?

Answer—He has not only the right, but it is his duty to do so.

GOOD INTENT LODGE No. 52.

No. 7 Question—Is a Brother violating the Constitution who hands over the counter intoxicating liquors for an hour or so, two or three times each week, at the same time he receives no compensation for his services?

Answer—Yes.

GOOD INTENT LODGE No. 52.

No. 8 Question—Should non-beneficial members be taxed the 50 cents for the Odd Fellows Home? Is it right to tax them?

Answer—Yes.

GREENBRIER LODGE No. 146.

No. 9 Question—By order of this Lodge I write to you for information. We have a member who is sick and is in ar-

years of his dues to the amount of \$3.45, to the 1st of Jan., 1903. Have we a right to keep him, out of the general funds of the Lodge? We have already given him to the amount of \$20.00 out of the treasury, and our funds are getting low. We have already contracted debts to about the amount we have on hands.

Answer—Yes. Constitution, Art. 12, Sec. 1.

RIPLEY LODGE No. 30.

No. 10 Question—Has a Subordinate Lodge in this jurisdiction, the right to pay benefits to a sick brother for a fractional part of a week?

Answer—The payment of sick benefits is one of the fundamental principals of the Order, and no other rule is recognized than that “benefits are payable weekly,” that is, every member entitled to benefits, is entitled to the same at the end of each lodge week, and not at the end of the month or quarter; and when local legislation provides for the payment of benefits, for a fraction of a week, after the first week, the right to enjoy the benefits accrue at the end of the week of which the fraction is a part. The fact that a brother recovers from a spell of sickness four days prior to the end of the lodge week, does not warrant him in demanding immediately upon the date of his recovery, the amount due him for the fractional part of the week he was ill. To-wit: 3-7. To this extent only “fractional parts of a week are considered” in the payment of benefits.

See White’s Digest, Sec. 6, page 49, and citations therein mentioned.

RIPLEY LODGE No. 30.

No. 11 Question—When a motion is pending before the lodge to pay a sick brother’s benefits, for a fractional part of a week, the lodge having sustained the N. G. in his ruling that said motion was in order, and a brother gives notice that he will appeal from the decision of the lodge to the Grand Master, has the lodge the right to at once take up and dispose of said motion before the appeal is decided?

Answer—Yes. Because the motion should be made and disposed of before there is anything stable from which to take an appeal. See Constitution, Art. 17, Sec. 1, 2 and 3.

ELIZABETH LODGE No. 151.

No. 12 Question—Can we receive dues from a member for an unlimited period of time?

Answer—Yes. If the brother desires to so pay and have the same passed to his credit.

WYATT LODGE No. 184.

No. 13 Question—A brother is adjudged insane, and is in good standing at the time; he is so adjudged insane, but before the expiration of one week, and before any benefits is due him, he is in arrears: would his wife be entitled to benefits on said sickness or disability?

Answer—Yes; because he was in good standing and beneficial at the time he was reported to the lodge. See White's Digest, Sec. 24, page 58.

MINERAL LODGE No. 102.

No. 14 Question—Must a brother who has been dropped for non-payment of dues, pay all dues and assessments against him before he is reinstated, within one year after he has been dropped?

Answer—Yes. See Constitution, Art. 5, Sec. 2.

GRATITUDE LODGE No. 26.

No. 15 Question—Can we reinstate an expelled brother for \$5.00?

Answer—No. This must come before the Grand Lodge. See Constitution, Art. 5, Sec. 1, page 11.

PERMITS GRANTED.

Dec. 22, 1902. Permission granted Oak Hill Lodge, No. 226, to hold public installation of officers on New Year's Day, 1903. *Provided* they secure the service of J. W. Gilmore, P. G., No. 206, and conduct the same according to the law governing the same.

Dec. 22, 1902. Permission granted Foster Valley Lodge,

No. 214, to hold public installation of their officers, they to conform to the law governing the same and in nowise depart therefrom.

Dec. 24, 1902. Permission granted Flat Top Lodge, No. 106, to elect and install a third degree member to the office of Vice Grand, all past officers and others eligible refusing to serve as such.

Dec. 24, 1902. Permission granted Centerville Lodge, No. 198, to elect and install a third degree member Noble Grand, all qualified brothers refusing to serve.

Dec. 31, 1902. Permission granted Kingwood Lodge, No. 107, to move their effects over the hardware store on Main street, Kingwood, W. Va.

Dec. 31, 1902. Permission granted Morning Star Lodge, No. 63, to have a public installation, on Saturday night (at a regular meeting) January 10, 1903. *Provided* they get A. M. Wooldredge, D. D. G. M., to do the work, and to conform to the law in such matters.

Jan. 3d, 1903. Permission granted by telegram, Unison Lodge, No. 152, to turn out in regalia to attend a brother's funeral.

Jan. 14, 1903. Permission granted Center Point Lodge, No. 174, I. O. O. F., to move their lodge and outfit to another hall in the town of Center Point, W. Va.

Jan. 20, 1903. Permission granted Sharon Lodge, No. 28, to turn out in regalia to attend a banquet on January 23d, 1903, a regular meeting night, said banquet given by said Sharon Lodge, No. 28.

Jan. 26, 1903. Permission granted Mayflower Lodge, Degree of Rebekah, No. 61, to elect and install a sister of the Rebekah Degree, to the office of Noble Grand; all qualified sisters having declined to serve.

March 10, 1903. Permission granted by telegram Paw Paw Lodge, No. 79, to turn out in regalia to attend a brother's funeral.

March 16, 1903. Permission granted Lone Star Lodge,

No. 224, to elect and install V. G. on account of the resignation of the regularly elected N. G. *Provided* all brothers eligible refuse to serve as N. G.

March 23, 1903. Permission granted West Alexander Lodge, No. 966, of the Grand Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, to initiate Harry Button, of Wheeling, West Virginia, by occupation a painter; through Hon. Edwin L. Ritter, Grand Master of Pennsylvania. Same having been asked for by him.

March 25, 1903. Permission granted Welch Lodge, No. 159, to move location of new hall.

April 6th, 1903. Permission granted Orient Lodge, No. 177, to move into their new hall.

April 6th, 1903. Permission granted Oak Hill Lodge, No. 206, to move their lodge room on account of the old lodge room being blown down by a violent storm.

April 20, 1903. Permission granted Wise Lodge, No. 230, to turn out in regalia April 26th, 1903, to attend Anniversary Service at the M. E. Church, in Wise, W. Va.

April 20, 1903. Permission granted Oak Hill Lodge, No. 206, to solicit funds, they having suffered loss of their lodge room by the wind and are in debt \$800.00.

April 22, 1903. Permission granted Jeager Lodge, No. 228 to turn out in regalia April 26th, 1903, to celebrate 84th Anniversary.

April 23, 1903. Permission granted Grafton Lodge, No. 36, to hold its Anniversary on the 28th day of April, 1903.

April 24, 1903. Permission granted Middlebourne Lodge, No. 69, to confer 1st, 2d and 3d degrees upon Brother C. H. Watson at special meeting, he not being able to attend regular meeting, but not more than one degree on the same night.

May 11, 1903. Permission granted Meadville Lodge, No. 213, to turn out in regalia, May 30th, 1903, and to observe the laws governing such matters.

May 15, 1903. Permission granted Chimney Knob Lodge, No. 212, to dedicate their hall on July 4th, 1903, and turn out in regalia on that occasion.

May 25, 1903. Permission granted Kate Barklay Lodge, No. 51, to turn out in regalia May 30, 1903. They to observe the law governing such occasions.

May 27, 1903. Permission granted Rising Sun Lodge, No. 164, to turn out in regalia on Memorial Day.

May 8, 1903. Permission granted St. Mary's Lodge, No. 22, to turn out in regalia, June 10th, 1903, to assist in the laying of the corner stone of the M. E. Church South, of St. Mary's, on that date.

May 8, 1903. Permission granted Fairplay Lodge, No. 126, to turn out in regalia on Memorial Day.

May 8, 1903. Permission granted by telephone to West Milford Lodge, No. 150, to turn out in regalia on Memorial Day.

May 10, 1903. Permission granted Coal Center Lodge, No. 215, of Tunnelton, W. Va., to turn out in regalia for Memorial Services, June 14th, 1903.

June 15, 1903. Permission granted East Liverpool Lodge, No. 379, to elect and confer degrees on applicants from the Jurisdiction of W. Va.

June 21, 1903. Permission granted Fairplay Lodge, No. 126, to turn out June 28th, 1903, in regalia, for the purpose of observing Memorial services.

June 25, 1903. Permission granted Oak Hill Lodge, No. 206, to turn out in regalia on July 4, 1903.

June 30, 1903. Permission granted Foster Valley Lodge, No. 214, to turn out in regalia on July 25, 1903.

June 30, 1903. Permission granted Fern Lodge, No. 203, to move into their new hall.

July 1, 1903. Permission granted Green Valley Lodge, No. 232, Blaine, W. Va., after obtaining permission from the G. M. of Maryland to elect and confer degrees on members from the Jurisdiction of Maryland, as the Potomac River is the line.

July 1, 1903. Permission granted Potomac Lodge, No. 108, at Dobbin, W. Va., after first obtaining permission from

the G. M. of Maryland, to elect and confer degrees upon one T. W. Gordon, of the Jurisdiction of Maryland.

July 1, 1903. Permission granted Enterprise Lodge, No. 209, to move into their new hall.

July 9, 1903. Permission granted _____, No. 238, to turn out in regalia to lay corner stone of Sam McClung Memorial Church.

July 9, 1903. Permission granted No. 198, to take their paraphernalia to Meadeville to confer Initiatory Degree upon a class; they to be very careful.

Sept. 29, 1903. Permission granted Jefferson Lodge, No. 6, of Jurisdiction of Ohio, to receive, elect and confer degrees upon one C. E. Campbell, of the Jurisdiction of West Virginia.

October 12, 1903. Permission granted Huttonsville Lodge, No. 168, to move into their new hall at Huttonsville, W. Va.

October 14, 1903. Permission granted Sandyville Lodge, No. 196, to move into their new hall, in the town of Sandyville.

Oct. 21, 1903. Permission granted Kernes Lodge, No. 183, to turn out in regalia, Oct. 28, 1903, to assist in the dedicatory ceremony of the hall of Huttonsville Lodge, No. 168.

Oct. 28, 1903. Permission granted Tygart's Valley Lodge, No. 66, of Beverly, to turn out and assist at the dedication of the new hall, of Huttonsville Lodge, No. 168.

Nov. 10, 1903. Permission granted Barboursville Lodge, No. 80, to turn out in regalia, Nov. 18, 1903, to lay corner stone of church.

PERMITS REFUSED.

FERN LODGE No. 203, I. O. O. F.

Lansing, W. Va.

December 5, 1902.

Question—To solicit funds from sister lodges to build them a hall.

Permit refused upon the grounds, "they having suffered no loss."

WILLIAM HENRY LODGE No. 227.

February 20, 1903.

Question—To confer more than one degree on the same brother at one and the same meeting.

See Section 3, Art. 4, Constitution.

March 6, 1903. Permission refused Glen Elk Lodge, No. 95, to reduce fees for degrees to \$2.50, as this must be done by amendment to the By-Laws.

ENTERPRISE LODGE No. 209.

March 16, 1903.

Question—To solicit funds for a brother to recompense him for the loss of dwelling by fire; it was shown that he was in reasonably good financial condition, he having a bank account.

GREENBRIER LODGE No. 146.

March 16, 1903.

Permission refused them to solicit funds from other lodges for the purpose of building them a lodge room; for the reason they have sustained no loss either by fire or in no other way.

NEW RIVER LODGE No. 172.

April 13, 1903.

Question—To reduce the price for the degrees to \$2.50; for the reason that the Grand Master has no such power delegated to him. Must be done by amendment to By-Laws.

MIDDLEBOURNE LODGE No. 62.

April 13, 1903.

Question—To confer the 1st, 2nd and 3d degrees upon a brother who has been regularly initiated in all of said degrees on the same night and that night not a regular meeting night of said lodge.

June 16, 1903. Permission refused Spencer Lodge No. 101, to circulate letters to run down one of their members because he has done something wrong, they having already circulated said circular letters in a great many of the States without asking permission or being sanctioned by the Grand Mas-

ter. They are further instructed to recall all letters already sent, and not to send out anything more.

July 1, 1903. Permission refused Clendening Lodge, No. 142, to solicit aid for Brother Townsend, of said lodge, for the reason that I cannot see that it is deserving as the brother is able to work, and is not in a needy condition.

August 10, 1903. Permission refused Newton Lodge, No. 113, to grant permission to Brother B. N. Rogers to solicit aid from sister lodges, because his house burned down, as I cannot see in this a deserving case for assistance.

September 10, 1903. Permission refused Jewell Lodge, No. 114, to confer more than one degree upon J. P. Young, because G. M. has no such authority vested in him.

September 18, 1903. Permission refused Lone Star Lodge, No. 244, to solicit funds to build a lodge room, as I do not think this to be the proper way to build a lodge room.

October 12, 1903. Permission refused Cutlippsville Lodge, No. 166, to solicit aid from other lodges of this jurisdiction for Brother J. M. Cutlips because no special reason was shown why he should be entitled to have this privilege, except he was sick.

October 12, 1903. Permission refused Pennsboro Lodge, No. 175, to elect and confer degrees on one David Lynch, of Tyler county, he living near to Meadowville Lodge, No. 218; because he did not show that some injustice was done. Art. 3, Sec. 2, Constitution.

Said Meadowville Lodge, No. 218, refused said permission.

BOARD OF BY-LAWS AND APPEALS.

November 24, 1903. Amendment to Article 12, Sec. 2.

The fees for degrees shall be \$3.50 each.

Endorsement approved.

Dingess Lodge, No. 221, Dingess, W. Va., approved Nov. 29, 1902. Endowment By-Laws approved as a whole by Grand Master and his Board of By-Laws and Appeals.

Leewood Lodge, No. 220, I. O. O. F., December 5th. Approved December 12, 1902, as amended by Grand Master and Committee, by striking out words "and be released from payment of yearly dues," Art. 10, Sec. 1.

Harrison Lodge, No. 233, of Reynoldsville, W. Va. Received Dec. 11, 1902. Returned Dec. 12, 1902; did not send copy for this office, neither did said By-Laws contain the seal of said lodge.

Foster Valley Lodge, No. 214, Odell, W. Va. By-Laws approved Dec. 12, 1902.

Lone Star Lodge, No. 224, Belva, W. Va. By-Laws approved December 24, 1902.

Philippi Lodge, No. 59. Amendments to By-Laws approved Dec. 26, 1902.

Mt. Lookout Lodge, No. 188. Amendments to By-Laws approved Dec. 31, 1902.

Chimney Knob Lodge, No. 212. By-Laws approved Jan. 28, 1903.

Harrison Lodge No. 223, Wolf Summit, W. Va. By-Laws approved Jan. 30, 1903.

Unison Lodge, No. 128, Cottageville, W. Va. By-Laws approved February 17, 1903.

Marion Lodge, No. 11, Fairmont, W. Va.. Amendment to By-Laws, Sec. 1, of Art. 12, of their By-Laws, by striking out the words "fifty cents" and inserting the words "one dollar." Approved February 18, 1903.

Volcano Lodge, No. 2. Amendment to Art. 1, Sec. 2. Approved March 4, 1903.

Magnolia Lodge, No. 42. Amendment to Art. 8, Sec. 1, so as to read "The degrees in this lodge shall be conferred at the rate of two dollars and fifty cents each." Approved March 1, 1903.

Magnolia Lodge, No. 42. Amendment to Sec. 4, Art. 8, to

read as follows: "He shall receive for his services thirteen dollars a quarter." Approved March 16th.

Glen Elk Lodge, No. 95. Amendment to Art. 4, Sec. 2, be amended so as to read the "1st, 2d and 3d degrees, will be conferred at \$2.50 each." Approved March 23, 1903.

Gauley Mountain Lodge, No. 133. By-Laws as amended. Approved by striking out "sixteen" and inserting "fifty-two consecutive weeks," also by striking out "thirty-six" and inserting "fifty-two consecutive weeks." Approved March 30, 1903.

Falling Spring Lodge, No. 226. By-Laws approved March 31, 1903.

Wyatt Lodge, No. 184. Amendments to By-Laws approved May 2, 1903.

Harmer Lodge, No. 122, of Edmond, W. Va. Permission granted to turn out in regalia May 30, 1903, they to observe the law governing such cases. Approved May 5, 1903.

Pennsboro Lodge No. 175. Amendments to By-Laws approved May 5, 1903.

Permission granted Tecumseh Lodge No. 200, at Hundred, to turn out in regalia May 24, 1903, to attend a sermon, provided they adhere to the law governing such matters. Approved May 7, 1903.

Permission granted Nightingale Lodge, No. 18, of Sand Hill, W. Va., to turn out in regalia May 30, 1903, they to observe the law governing such matters. Approved May 12, 1903.

Amendment to By-Laws of Kingwood Lodge, No. 107, to change their meeting night from Saturday night to Wednesday night. Approved May 12, 1903.

Amendments to By-Laws of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 38, as amended. Approved May 25, 1903.

New River Valley Lodge, No. 172. Approved as amended, May 25, 1903.

By-Laws of William Henry Lodge, No. 227, Gauley Bridge, W. Va. Approved June 15, 1903.

By-Laws Iaeger Lodge, No. 288. Approved, May 25, 1903.

By-Laws of Gay Lodge, No. 205. Approved June 15, 1903.

Amendment to Glen Elk Lodge, No. 95, By-Laws, Sec. 1, Art. 13. Approved July 15, 1903.

By-Laws of Laurel Rebekah Lodge, No. 85, of Moundsville, W. Va. Approved Aug. 14, 1903.

By-Laws of Green Valley Lodge, No. 232. Approved as amended, Aug. 31, 1903.

By-Laws of Fort Lodge, No. 236. Approved as amended, Aug. 31, 1903.

By-Laws of Augusta, No. 231. Approved, Aug. 31, 1903.

Amendment Sec. 1, of Art. 4, and re-amended so as to read: "Fifty-two weeks" instead of "twenty weeks," such benefits of By-Laws of Mt. Hope-Lodge, No. 185. Approved as re-amended, Sept. 5, 1903.

Amendment to By-Laws Golden Lodge, No. 139, as to benefits and re-amended by G. M., so as to read, "fifty-two weeks" instead of "thirteen weeks." Approved as amended, Sept. 5, 1903.

Amendment Greenbrier Lodge, No. 146, Art. 3, Sec. 1. Approved September 5, 1903.

Amendments Art. 1, and Art. 2, of Cowen, No. 176. Approved September 7, 1903.

By-Laws of Meadow Bluff Lodge, No. 233. Approved Sept. 18, 1903.

Amendments to By-Laws of Fairview Lodge, No. 115, of Wayne, W. Va. Approved as amended, striking out "13 weeks" and inserting "52 weeks" in two places.

Amendment, Art. 5, Sec. 1, of Golden Lodge, No. 139. Approved Oct. 12, 1903.

Amendment By-Laws of Fairplain, No. 211. Approved Nov. 4, 1903.

Amendment to By-Laws of Monongalia Lodge, No. 10. Approved Nov. 5, 1903.

Amendments to By-Laws of Harrison Lodge, No. 223, Sec. 2, 3 and 4, of Art. 7. Approved Nov. 12, 1903.

LODGES INSTITUTED.—1902-1903..

No.	Name	Place	Date of Dispensation	Instituting Officer.
230	Wise	Wise	Nov. 24, 1902	O. J. Fleming, P. G.
231	Augusta	Metz	Feb. 28, 1903	L. C. Jones, P. G.
232	Green Valley	Blaine	March 17, 1903	J. F. Thompson, D. D. C. M.
233	Meadow Bluff	Meadow Bluff	April 17, 1903	S. F. Sampson, P. G.
234	Pioneer	Barn	July 13, 1903	M. B. Postlethwaite, D. D. G. M.
235	Mt. Clare	Mt. Clare	May 7, 1903	J. F. Randall, D. D. G. M.
236	Fort	Gormanian	May 25, 1903	J. F. Thompson, D. D. G. M.
237	Howard	Wilsonburg	July 13, 1903	Jno. A. Currence, P. G.
238	Red Jacket	Matewan	July 29, 1903	S. T. Lambert, P. G.
239	Racine	Racine	July 29, 1903	S. E. Bradley, D. D. G. M.
240	Highland	Vaughan	Aug. 28, 1903	W. R. Cummings, P. G. R.
80	Barboursville	Barboursville	Aug. 13, 1903	E. Byrne, D. D. G. M.
241	Mt. Zion	Mt. Zion	Sept. 17, 1903	S. P. Bell, P. G.
242	Mammoth	Mammoth	Oct. 14, 1903	A. M. Woodredge, D. D. G. M.

All the above instituting officers have made their reports of the institution of all of the above lodges, and state that they were starting off very encouragingly.

The following dispensation granted to institute Rebekah Lodges April 18, 1903, dispensation granted Lambert Rebekah Lodge, No. 91, at Beckley, McDowell county, appointed Mrs.

Sallie E. McGinnis as instituting officer May 5, 1903, she reported as having instituted a lodge, and installed the following officers, who were duly elected:

Miss Fannie Rader, Noble Grand.

Mrs. J. R. Hill, Vice-Grand.

Mrs. J. K. Lambert, Secretary.

Mrs. German Walker, Treasurer.

September 29th, directed and commissioned Mrs. May Cur-
rence, Past Noble Grand, of Clarksburg, to visit the Rebekah

Lodge at Buckhannon, and resuscitate the same if possible, and if not to take up and turn into this office their effects.

On October 4th, she reports that she has visited said lodge, and resuscitated said lodge, and that they will pay up their tax and send a representative to the Grand Assembly.

Washington Lodge No. 1, I. O. O. F.
Baltimore, Md.

The Mother Lodge of the Order.

Instituted April 26th, 1819, by Thos. Wildey.

Meets Every Monday at 8 p. m., at Odd Fellows Temple.

BALTIMORE, MD., OCT. 9, 1903.

G. A. Vincent, Esq., Grand Master,
Fairmont, W. Va.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—At the last session of the Sovereign Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F., held in Baltimore, Md., that body heartily endorsed the plan to establish a Memorial Building for the Mother Lodge of Odd Fellowship, in which this grand old landmark of our Order might have a permanent home, and where the names of Thomas Wildey, James L. Ridgely, and other Fathers in Odd Fellowship might be honored and perpetuated.

The Sovereign body not only endorsed the proposition, but gave Washington Lodge, No. 1, the privilege of asking the consent of the various Grand Jurisdictions to solicit subscriptions for this commendable object from the various subordinates throughout the country. (See Report 103, page 121, Daily Journal.)

The plan also includes the purpose of securing the Seven Stars Tavern, the birthplace of our beloved Order, and to preserve and perpetuate it.

We are sending out these requests for the privilege of soliciting from all the subordinates in the country with the hope and prayer that no Grand Officer refuse to grant the same, also that each one who receives such a request will state that he heartily endorses the scheme.

With thanks in advance from every member of the Mother Lodge, we are

Yours fraternally,
 WILLIAM W. VARNEY,
Noble Grand.

Attest:

WM. E. HAMMAR,
Recording Secretary.

In answer to the above letter from Washington Lodge, No. 1, I. O. O. F., I replied as follows:

Office of G. A. Vincent, Grand Master,
 Grand Lodge of West Virginia,
 I. O. O. F.

FAIRMONT, W. VA., Nov. 12, 1903.

William W. Varney, N. G.,
 Washington Lodge, No. 1, I. O. O. F.,
 Baltimore, Md.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—I heartily endorse the above, and therefore, I most willingly and fraternally grant your lodge the privilege of soliciting funds from the subordinate lodges of the State of West Virginia, hoping that they will respond liberally to the noble purpose set forth in your kind letter.

I am,

Fraternally,
 G. A. VINCENT,
Grand Master.

The matter referred to me as incoming Grand Master by the Grand Lodge at its last session concerning a controversy between Huntington Lodge, No. 64, and some of its members was referred by me to W. E. Ruttencutter, P. G. R., immediately after the adjournment of the Grand Lodge, to take this matter up with Huntington Lodge, No. 64, and adjust the same,

if possible. He informed me by letter dated Mason, W. Va., Feb. 25, 1903, that he had performed the duties assigned him, and that the differences was properly adjusted, and all concerned were satisfied with the result, that Huntington Lodge was getting along nicely. And I feel that the same is settled forever, and agreeable to all whom were concerned.

CONCLUSION.

Thus briefly, as it would permit me, though consciously at unusual length, have I briefly outlined the work of the year, as it has come to my official notice, and have followed it by suggestions of such changes as seem to me to be needed for the greater efficiency and prosperity of the order, the end toward which all our efforts should be directed.

Upon you, Representatives and Brethren, as custodians of the destiny of this great Brotherhood, so rapidly devolving, rests the responsibility of framing such wise measures as shall increase harmony, and give added strength, efficiency and usefulness to it, as the greatest humanitarian institution of the age.

To this end all your labors, the best thought and wisest counsel of every member should be earnestly devoted. Let no time be wasted, so that when we shall close this year's work we may look back upon our work with satisfaction, under a full consciousness that we each "have done the very best we could."

Doing so with the ability of the Brotherhood at large, I am satisfied that from the work of this year results will flow, that shall give to our Order an impetus forward in usefulness, to which it has not hitherto attained.

Most sincerely do I thank the Grand Secretary for the valuable aid he has rendered, and the promptness with which every call has been met, many times when conscious that he was sore

oppressed with accumulated labor. Especially again do I thank those who are my District Deputy Grand Masters, who have at so great labor and sacrifice, furnished such complete reports, of their labors in their respective Districts.

Such members are worthy of all honors from their respective Districts and of continuance in their respective positions, so worthily filled.

A loss of such laborers from our ranks is a great loss to the Order at large, and the lasting gratitude of the Grand Master, and his best wishes shall follow them through all their future.

Fraternally,

GEO. A. VINCENT,
Grand Master.

