

Munro, G. E. Pratt, W. R. Guile, W. E. Sterling, Smith B. Hall, Wm. Weston, Max Cohn, J. P. Gorman, F. E. Temple, Albert Schock, Neil Downey, Herbert Folsom, W. H. McCague, W. W. Brown, H. L. Wiard, J. D. Hannon, P. W. Herzog, James E. Flannigan. Three other signers to the application for a charter, Emil Ferrant, Edwin A. Taylor and G. J. Heinrick were initiated subsequently.

The election and installation of the following officers then followed: Exalted Ruler, A. A. Ames; Esteemed Leading Knight, James R. Freeman; Esteemed Loyal Knight, W. B. Wheeler; Esteemed Lecturing Knight, E. P. Hilton; Secretary, Louis A. Merrick; Treasurer, Lac Stafford; Tyler, O. M. Barcheller; Trustees, A. N. Jordan, H. E. Sholes, J. N. Gannon. Exalted Ruler Ames then appointed N. F. Warner, Esquire Smith B. Hall, Inner Guard, and Weed Monro, Chaplain.

Dr. Quinlan, on behalf of Chicago Lodge No. 4 presented Minneapolis Lodge with a set of silver jewels for the officers and it was late in the afternoon when adjournment was taken to a banquet at the West hotel to be held at eight o'clock in the evening. The banquet occurred in the ladies ordinary of the same hotel in which we meet tonight. Plates were laid for seventy-five and music was furnished by Danz' orchestra. The menu was certainly a credit to the West hotel, then under the management of Col. John T. West. The responses to toasts included one to "Our City" by Mayor Ames, "Our Officers Elect" by Brother A. N. Jordan and there were impromptu responses to other toasts, recitations, etc. The committees in charge of the day's proceedings were E. P. Hilton, A. N. Jordan, James Wheeler, on reception; W. B. Wheeler, F. H. Anson, H. E. Sholes, transportation; N. F. Warner, Lac Stafford, H. E. Sholes, arrangements; J. N. Gannon, J. R. Freeman, J. H. Shibley, banquet.

Of the forty-six charter members who were initiated twenty-five years ago this day, but nine remain who are living in Minneapolis. A. A. Ames, Lac Stafford, O. M. Batcheller, W. H. Lawler, Michael Breslauer, L. H. Lucker, Smith B. Hall, Herbert Folsom, James E. Flannigan and Phil W. Herzog, living in St. Paul. As far as can be ascertained, the others living and in good standing as Elks are: F. W. Ames, San Francisco; W. W. Dunn, New York; L. A. Merrick, Everett, Wash.; John N. Gannon, Boston; W. B. Wheeler, Chicago. The following members of our lodge and the order, in good standing, died:

James R. Freeman, E. P. Hilton, J. R. Shibley, J. G. Skaro, N. F. Warner, A. N. Fordan, Thomas Moore, W. H. Brown, Weed Monro, W. R. Guile, W. E. Sterling, Wm. Weston, Neil Downey.

While this sketch is confined to the event the anniversary of which we have met to commemorate, that of the institution of our lodge, it is apropos to add some few particulars.

The first meeting of the lodge was held at Society Norden

hall Sunday, May 5, 1886, when the charter members paid \$10 each and the first report of the treasurer made May 23, showed receipts from initiation, \$530; from dues, \$99; total, \$629. Disbursements, including the banquet and the entertaining of guests, charter, hall rent, etc., amounted to \$612.42, leaving a balance in the treasury of \$16.58. The first social session of the lodge was held June 6. Another was held July 4. The first regular election of officers was held November 7, with this result: Exalted Ruler, A. A. Ames; Esteemed Leading Knight, E. P. Hilton; Esteemed Loyal Knight, L. H. Lucker; Esteemed Lecturing Knight, Max Cohn; Trustees, E. A. Taylor, F. C. Cook, Neil Downey; Esquire, N. F. Warner; Inner Guard, E. A. Taylor; Chaplain, S. S. Kilvington.

The first lodge room of our own was on the third floor of the building occupied by Hofflin's drug store, 101 Washington Avenue South. This was leased January 20th, 1887, and was fitted up by issuing stock at \$5 a share to members. The first death was that of Frank J. Horan, announced February 27th of that year. At a meeting on this date, articles of incorporation of the lodge were adopted. The hall was first occupied March 20th, Bro. N. F. Warner making the lodge a present of a large altar upon which reposed a Bible donated by Bro. L. H. Lucker. The first benefit was given at the People's Theatre October 31, 1887. The first ladies' social was held at the West Hotel, October 2nd, 1889. In May, 1890, the first lodge of sorrow was held. Of the charter members of the lodge, forty-six in all, fifteen are in good standing today, two demitted, ten died in good standing and the others have all dropped for non-payment of dues.

In 1894, the lodge moved its home to 241 Nicollet Avenue, the third floor of which was fitted up at an expense of \$5,000. In 1897 the grand lodge was entertained here, \$30,000 being expended in extending the hospitality of the city. The present home of the lodge was first occupied Washington's birthday, February 22nd, 1900, and more than \$16,000 was spent in furnishing and fitting it up. There are now twenty-one lodges of Elks in the state with a total membership of 6,532, instituted in the following order: Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth, Stillwater, Mankato, Winona, Crookston, Austin, St. Cloud, Brainerd, Little Falls, Albert Lea, Red Wing, Willmar, Virginia, Hibbing, Bemidji, Fergus Falls, Eveleth, Faribault and Rochester. At the close of the year 1886, when Minneapolis lodge was instituted (with a membership of 46 as against 1,140 now) there were only fifty-nine lodges of Elks in the country, with a total membership of 5,511. At the last grand lodge there were reported 1,216 lodges with a membership aggregating 331,000. Greater New York, by its consolidation, which included Brooklyn, is the only city that has two lodges of Elks, so there are 1,215 cities in this country in which the traveling Elk will find the hand of welcome extended to him upon his arrival, the guarantee of a hospitable reception, protection and care in case of trouble.

*Smith B Hall*