

EXALTED RULER OF PORTLAND LODGE BIDS THE VISITING ELKS WELCOME

Hospitality of the City Extended To Great Brotherhood Here Assembled

ON BEHALF of Portland Lodge, No. 142, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, as its present presiding officer, there comes to me at this time a task, a pleasure and an honor. Within a generation, amidst the sounding din of commercialism, in the most advanced nation commercially that the world has ever seen, there has grown up an organization whose every spirit and aim is diametrically opposed to that of the commercial institution—an organization whose banner of royal purple stands not for kingliness in wealth and power, but which proclaims the rulership of love in the kinship of man with his brother man. While great commercial organizations have been building their institutions on a foundation of greed, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has so securely fastened each block of its foundation and superstructure with the cement of brotherly love that the twin angels, Faith and Hope, unite in their assurance of its permanency. It is not to be wondered at that the membership of this organization, realizing that they have builded an institution which perfectly protects in the time of disaster, and which seems destined to continue its mission, should gather once a year at some prearranged point in this great country and should rejoice as no other group of men on earth ever gathered and celebrated before. The annual conventions of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks are vastly more than legislative conventions of selected delegates. They are tremendous yearly outpourings of the general membership—of men and their wives who rejoice in the proof that human love is more potent for good, more powerful to feed and clothe and shelter, more heart-satisfying and more character-developing than have been all the combined forces of greed and gain since the dawn of history. City after city of our great country has vied in entertaining this ever-growing annual throng of the disciples of happiness and human brotherhood, but none has heretofore so lavishly poured out its material treasure—none within the domain of the starry flag can present such a wealth of beauty in mountain, in cataract, in mighty rivers, in deep, dark forests, in beauty of midsummer flower and climate as does our own beloved Portland, the B. P. O. E.; i. e., the Best Place on Earth. And so, as the exalted ruler of Portland Lodge, No. 142, I welcome this great brotherhood. As a citizen—one of the 250,000—of the Rose City, I welcome them to the summer capital of America. Brethren, we give to you, from the abundance of love which the Almighty has blessed this favored spot, our riches of fruit and flowers, our wealth of climate and scenery, and, above all, abundance of that heart-love which comes from a common Father, and which shall continue on this earth till this old world "shall be swallowed up in the wreck of matter and the crash of worlds," and which shall continue on forever in that great city just "over there," in the Supreme Lodge of the Universe.

C. C. BRADLEY, Exalted Ruler of Portland Lodge, No. 142, B. P. O. E.

PORTLAND LODGE NO. 142 ENJOYS RAPID GROWTH

Progress and Prosperity Have Characterized Development of Local Order of Elks From Time of Its Organization to the Present.

Living Charter Members of Portland Lodge, No. 142.

- 1—Louis Dammasch.
- 2—Charles W. Cornelius.
- 4—John E. Kelly.
- 5—Charles F. Sillter.
- 7—Elmer W. Quimby.
- 10—M. Enoch.
- 12—G. W. Spears.
- 14—Henry D. Griffin.
- 15—James A. Burger.
- 16—Hym Wolf.
- 17—Henry Hausman.
- 19—W. J. Ramsey.
- 22—M. B. Goldstein.
- 23—Frank W. Baltes.
- 25—John A. Watson.
- 26—F. W. Lutkemeler.
- 28—Charles F. Traung.
- 30—James W. Casey.
- 32—John Ruoniloh.
- 33—O. H. Crabb.
- 34—Charles L. Brown.
- 36—Robert Jennings.
- 38—Julius Bluhm.
- 40—John D. Manofet.
- 41—W. W. Wright.
- 43—Sol Shapirer.
- 44—John T. Williams.
- 45—E. J. Winters.
- 52—John J. Williams.
- 54—X. N. Steeves.
- 56—Charles H. Cluta.
- 57—Harry C. Hipple.
- 58—E. H. Hanneman.

TO W. C. Dudley, at that time a member of the San Francisco lodge of Elks, and the faithful, unswerving support given him by a few of Portland's theatrical men, is due the credit of establishing the Portland lodge of Elks No. 142. Its present standing among the lodges of the fraternity, its strength and its prosperity are direct outgrowths of the business and social principles laid down by the pioneers of the lodge during the first two years of its existence. Despite discouraging setbacks, they bulled firm. They made their mark high and then set out to accomplish it. The early members wanted a membership representative of the city and state. Today the names of the biggest men, politically, socially and financially in Oregon, are found on the roster. They wanted a home for the lodge, and their ambition today is seen, materialized. On the corner of Seventh and Stark is a splendid five story structure, spread over a quarter block in the heart of the city. The building and land on which it stands is worth \$350,000. And it is paid for and is owned by the club.

The pioneers' mark was attained in 1891, when the mortgage standing against the property was burned. Less than two months afterward the second object of 142 was arrived at—Portland was selected as the site for the 1912 grand lodge reunion, which is being held this week.

Successful thus far, Portland Elks are blocking the way for the future members of the organization to carry through to realization. There is talk of erecting a bigger, better, more expensive home, something that will vie with the splendid club that houses the mother lodge, No. 1, in New York city.

"Western grit and get up can do it," say proponents of the scheme. "Our past history of accomplishment is a good prophet of the future."

Organized in 1888.

In the summer of 1888, W. C. Dudley arrived at Portland from San Francisco and immediately set about organizing a lodge of Elks in the city. Among the first men he met and talked with were John Cordray, now lessee of the Oakes, Dick Clinton and "Charlie" Flinders, all theatrical men. At the time Cordray was running a vaudeville showhouse called Cordray's Musse, on Yamhill and Third streets. Dick Clinton owned a small theatre near the waterfront and Flinders was employed in one of the town's playhouses. Cordray is the only surviving member of the trio.

They took up the plan immediately and lost no time in spreading the news among their friends that an Elks lodge was to be organized in Portland. Captain W. J. Riley, Louis Dammasch, C. W. Cornelius and Elmer W. Quimby, who are living, were told of the plan among others and they joined in the movement.

With more than two score men pledged to become members, Phil Joseph, Edward Barry and George Judge, members of Elks lodge No. 6 of Sacramento, Cal., and John Cordray of Denver lodge No. 17, applied for a dispensation from the grand lodge to establish a Portland lodge. This was granted and on the afternoon of November 8, 1888, a meeting was held at the Turner hall, Fourth and Yamhill streets, where the lodge was organized by W. C. Dudley, who acted as deputy grand ex-

alted ruler. That same afternoon 32 "strangers" were initiated into the secrets of the order. Another lodge session was held in the evening and officers elected.

Four of the first officers are living. They are C. F. Sillter, C. W. Cornelius, Louis Dammasch and Elmer W. Quimby. Cornelius was made esteemed leading knight; Sillter, esteemed loyal knight; Dammasch, secretary, a position he held for four successive terms, and Quimby, iller. On November 5 the second meeting was held, this time at Arion hall, 105 First street, and three men rode the goat and joined the fraternity. On November 7 a third meeting was held, at the old K. P. hall on First street. Ten names were added that night, and 28 were enrolled on November 10, at its fourth meeting, bringing the total membership to 63.

The real history of the lodge begins here. Thus far no regular meeting place had been arranged for. Realizing that no order could grow strong without a home of some sort, the lodge members secured the right to hold meetings in the K. P. hall at a rental of \$20 a month. For three months the lodge held its sessions here. Meantime its members worked hard raising funds to establish the lodge in a home of its own.

Their efforts were successful. May 18, 1890, the lodge, now six months old, moved into "Elks hall" on Second and Salmon streets. In the old building, which still stands, they rented rooms, paying \$100 per month.

Its membership was now 182. That night the charter list, which had been held open under the dispensation, was closed and on July 10, 1890, the lodge was granted its charter by the grand lodge, and No. 142 became a full fledged unit of the organization.

From that time onward the lodge mounted upward. Its members dug deep into their pockets for funds, entertainments were given, and soon there was sufficient money in the treasury to pay for the furnishing of the lodge rooms.

For two and a half years these quarters were deemed sufficient, then its rapidly growing membership compelled removal to larger quarters. A large hall in the Marquam building, at Sixth and Morrison streets, was leased at a monthly rental of \$160. There was nearly \$5000 in the treasury. Four thousand of this was immediately expended in furnishing the hall, and on January 5, 1893, the Portland lodge dedicated its new quarters in the presence of 316 members, all in good standing.

Building Plans Put Under Way.

About this time sentiment began to crystallize in regard to the purchase of property for a permanent home for the lodge. A sinking fund was created.

The initiation fee, which was \$15, was raised to \$50 and the secretary scribbled around until he found several homeless organizations that were willing to pay for the privilege of holding meetings in the "New Elks hall." These organizations, through rentals, contributed \$130 monthly to the Elks' coffers, making the rental for the Elks just \$30 per month. (This was later reduced another \$10 through a lowering of the rental). More entertainments were resorted to.

By this means the finances of 142 were placed in splendid shape and on December 7, 1901, \$24,500 in cash was paid for the corner at Stark and Seventh streets, where the present Elks' club building stands. The first step toward the attainment of the ambition of the lodge to build a temple was accomplished. How means to this end were found is best told by Captain Riley, one of the oldest members of the lodge.

"There were several of us sitting around a lodge meeting one evening, when Ted (E. W.) Rowe, who was in the drug business at the time, suggested that we give a street carnival to raise money." "John Lamont, who was exalted ruler in '02, and Dick Clinton, who held the same position the following year, John Cordray and one or two others were present.

"At the time the treasury was practically empty. Bankruptcy was not so very far off. Indeed, it was tagging right at our heels and sticking out its tongue at us.

"The proposal was taken up with a whoop. Soon afterward we gave two carnivals. Each one netted us approximately \$700, making our assets \$14,000. We paid our bills and established a sinking fund.

"One of our shows along about this time was called the 'Purple Circus.' We went into partnership that time with a traveling circus and split the profits.

"Thereafter it was easy sailing. Our dues and initiation fees were added to the fund and we soon had enough to buy our property. With that in our possession began the fight to procure money for building. We were hurried along by the fact that the owners of the Marquam building were anxious to make our hall into offices. A renewal of our lease had been refused.

"Early in 1903 a building committee was appointed to devise a scheme of a suitable home for the lodge. Our membership was about 750 then. I believe, and we realized that club and

EXALTED RULER C. C. BRADLEY OF PORTLAND



lodge rooms were necessary. The committee went into the matter deeply and on April 19, 1903, reported on the matter. D. Solis Cohen, a past exalted ruler, was chairman of the building committee. The committee recommended that a building to cost \$75,000 be erected, and suggested that the lodge raise the money by floating 20 year 5 per cent bonds among the members.

"The suggestion, however, was not adopted, because we suddenly discovered that our credit was good. The banks were willing to advance us the money, because the city at that time began its unparalleled growth and our property had already doubled in value.

"In 1905 we borrowed \$85,000 outright. Before we got through the building cost us \$90,000 exclusive of the furnishings, which were \$18,000. Today the property is worth at the lowest estimate \$250,000; the mortgage was burned May 25, 1911, by August Hermann, who was then grand exalted ruler. He made a special trip west to burn the document.

"At present we are in a good condition. We have a membership of about 1400. We own our own home and have money in the bank, which is going some for a lodge not yet 25 years old. Thirty-three of our charter members are still alive."

No. 142 on Sound Basis.

A glance through the minutes of 142's early meetings indicates clearly why the lodge today can make the boast, "One of the richest lodges in the Fraternity," and back it with facts. The reason is not far to seek. From the first strict business principles were observed. When committees were ap-

DENVER LODGE NO. 17 OCCUPIES NEW HOME

Formal Dedication of \$250,000 Temple in Colorado City on Memorial Day.

DENVER LODGE NO. 17 is occupying a spacious new home that was formally dedicated May 30, 1913. The property represents a value of a quarter of a million dollars. Great credit for the successful culmination of the building plans is due Thomas M. Hunter, exalted ruler of the Denver lodge, and grand lodge delegate to the Portland reunion. Building operations were undertaken under Mr. Hunter's administration as exalted ruler and he was reelected last March to complete the work.

pointed to do something and did not, its members were fined anything from \$1 to \$10. Members were expected to attend the meetings and aid the lodge in its advancement.

At one time an exalted ruler was prone to absent himself from the weekly sessions. The lodge stood it a short-

time, then a resolution was adopted instructing the secretary to notify the absent official, in writing, using red paint and butcher paper, that his attendance was desired. The communication was sent as ordered and the exalted ruler laughed at what he thought was a joke and failed to appear at the following meeting.

He did not laugh at the next communication. In it he was told that he could either preside or resign. Thereafter he was a regular and enthusiastic participant in the lodge's meetings.

This effective system was employed with frequency and force on committees also. Whenever a committee did its work in a slovenly or unsatisfactory manner it was either fined or "fired." Thus duties set out for accomplishment were performed.

Close tab was kept on the finances also. The club in early days gave many social functions, ladies' nights, and other entertainments. The minutes show that only a few affairs were given at a loss. Numbers of these entertainments cost from \$50 to \$100, quite a sum for such events considering the fact that 142 was still in swaddling clothes.

In truth the club always was a money maker. Through dues and rentals of space in its building today, it paid off a big mortgage in six years. Previous to that it raised thousands to buy its property. It has paid out large sums in sick benefits and to buy its eastern coast members' expenses. It has emerged triumphant and true to the principles of the order—charity, justice, brotherly love, fidelity.

PORTLAND WINS FAME AS CONVENTION CITY

Elks' Grand Lodge Reunion Is 28th Convention That the Rose City Has Entertained This Year—More to Follow.

PORTLAND rapidly is advancing to the front as a convention city. The Elks' grand lodge reunion, now in session, is the twenty-eighth convention that has been held in the city this year, and before the last of November, ten more conventions will have met here, making a total of 38 conventions for Portland from February 1 to December 1, inclusive.

Among the conventions that will be held in Portland in the fall and late autumn, will be the national convention of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union; the Northwest Electric Light association, and the Pacific Photographers' association.

Conventions that have already met here, include the National Livestock exchange; the Pacific Coast Ad Men's association; the Masonic reunion, United Clericus of the Episcopal church of the northwest and western Canada; Pacific coast convention of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers; the annual reunion of Oregon Pioneers; United Metal Trades' association of the Pacific coast; the Northwest Box Manufacturers' association; and the United Commercial Travelers of the northwest.

Although Portland has been the meeting place for many large western conventions, and several national ones, the Elks' grand lodge reunion is the largest national convention that has ever met within her boundaries. It is convincing evidence that Portland can provide entertainment for the largest conventions, and is a community that must be considered by national organizations in the selection of their convention sites in future years.

Convention Getting a Business.

That Portland has acted as host to so many conventions in this and other years is due to the fact that an organized effort is made to secure them. Realizing that the city is in position to take care of and entertain any convention, and knowing full well that the beauty of the city and the scenic wonders surrounding it, are ample rewards for delegates from distant points, the Portland Commercial club, the Chamber of Commerce and kindred organizations are always to the front, pushing the city's claims. The Commercial club has a convention bureau devoted exclusively to this work. When it is decided that Portland wants a certain convention, this bureau starts to work to secure it a year or two ahead, acting in conjunction with some local branch of the organization in question.

An invitation to hold its convention in Portland is the first step taken. Then additional pressure is brought to bear through the governor of the state, the mayor of the city and the Chamber of Commerce, all of whom send similar invitations.

Then the aid of Commercial clubs and the Chambers of Commerce of other northwestern and Pacific coast communities is enlisted in Portland's behalf. By this means the whole western slope stands solidly behind Portland in the fight for the desired convention. Portland in turn assists other western cities when they go out for a convention. Among the communities that work in conjunction in this regard are Portland, San Francisco, Seattle, Tacoma, Spokane, Helena, Los Angeles and Vancouver, B. C.

The railroad is called upon to cooperate also. This explains the presence of railroad literature and a lecturer on the west at practically all big conventions. In the face of such united endeavor, the efforts of a western city usually prove successful.

The reasons why any city is anxious to secure conventions are not far to seek. They want the general advertising that follows a convention, the money it brings to the citizens directly and the wealth that pours in indirectly through investments made in or near the city by the few delegates that always attend such gatherings with an eye out for business opportunities in the convention city. In short, a convention pays, and usually pays well.

Portland paid \$125,000 directly for the grand lodge reunion. It is estimated that visitors and delegates will spend several times that sum. The general advertising the city is getting is worth unestimated thousands. It will bring investments and homeseekers from other states, in addition, Portland is putting her best foot forward to give the Elks a good time—westerners cannot help being hospitable, anyway—but despite all that Portland can do to entertain the Elks, she still will be their debtors in many ways.

Obstacles Must Be Overcome.

Great obstacles must be overcome to Pacific coast cities to secure a big convention like the grand lodge reunion, the National W. C. T. U. and the Shrun, for instance. In addition to putting up a fight against the older and more settled communities in the east, matching dollar for dollar and attraction with their grand coast hostess—must convince eastern delegates that delegates west are other and better things to offer. Otherwise the business man will decline to

leave his business and undertake a long journey and pay the heavy expenses it entails.

Here is where the marvelous scenic attractions of the west stand out in good stead. A plea is made to the little limp of wanderlust that exists in every man. He is told of the sights to be seen, of the favorable climate, and convinced that such a trip would not be a losing proposition.

These arguments have won numbers of conventions for the west, and each one won has meant more popularity for Pacific coast cities as sites for conventions.

Although cities this side of the Rockies are gaining more and more in this field, years will pass before they are looked upon as dangerously formidable rivals of the eastern centers. But the time when all national organizations must consider and not neglect this part of the continent approaches with giant strides. Among the first to extend recognition to the west are the Elks. Twice has the grand lodge reunion met in the land of the setting sun—once in Los Angeles and once in the Rose City.

Portland's Convention List.

Some of the 1913 conventions in Portland follow:

Board of directors of Foster Advertising association, March 19-20.

Oregon state board of health and county officers, March 23-25.

Pacific coast convention American Institute of Electrical Engineers, April 12-16.

United Metal Trades association of Pacific coast, April 15-16.

Oregon conference of Free Methodist church, May 8-5.

Oregon diocese of Episcopal church convention, May 15-18.

United Clericus, Episcopal church, May 21-23.

Oregon Retail Jewellers' association, May 28.

Oregon State Dental association, May 29.

Fortieth annual reunion, Oregon Pioneers, June 20.

Oregon branch American Chemical society, June 15.

Oregon Osteopathic association, June 10.

Pacific Coast Japanese editors, June 11-12.

Masonic reunion, June 12.

United Commercial Travelers of the Northwest, June 7-8.

Northwest Box Manufacturers' association, June 8-11.

Sons of Norway, June 10-11.

Pacific Coast Ad Men's association, June 10-12.

National Livestock Exchange, June 11-12.

Postmasters of Oregon and Washington, June 13-14.

United Brethren church conference, Oregon and Washington, June 13-22.

Elks' Grand Lodge reunion, July 8-12.

Seventh Pacific coast handicap tournament, August 27-28.

Northwest Electric Light association, September 12-14.

Pacific Photographers' association, September 2-5.

Oregon Pure Bred Livestock association, September 4-5.

Oregon State Knights of Pythias, October 15-16.

National W. C. T. U., October 15-22.

State Federation of Women's clubs, November 12-14.

ASTORIA 180 OVER TWENTY YEARS OLD

Second Oldest Lodge in State Occupies \$75,000 Home.

ASTORIA lodge No. 180, B. P. O. Elks, was instituted on December 23, 1890, by Grand Exalted Ruler Simon Quinlan of Chicago and was named after him. The first exalted ruler was Honorable John Fox, who is the present occupant of that position. On April 29, 1901, the name of the lodge was changed to Astoria. It has a membership at the present time of 415 and while not the largest in one of the most prosperous lodges of the order in Oregon. It owns a handsome new temple that was dedicated on May 13 of last year and cost with the elegant furnishings of the lodge and club rooms approximately \$75,000. The present officers are:

Exalted ruler, John Fox; esteemed leading knight, Y. D. Guilleum; esteemed loyal knight, A. W. Norblad; lecturing knight, G. B. Johnson; secretary, J. C. Clinton; treasurer, E. G. Gearhart; tiler, C. T. Crosby; trustees, W. C. Laws, F. J. Carney and George Kabinoff; squire, J. H. O'Connell; chaplain, A. R. Cyrus; inner guard, Alex. Karinen; organist, Joseph Gribier; delegate to grand lodge, J. J. Day.