

# A HOME FRATERNITY.



J. C. ROOT, SOVEREIGN COMMANDER  
WOODMEN OF THE WORLD.

**N**UMBERED with the places of interest to visitors in Omaha in the approaching fall festivities the Woodmen of the World building and headquarters, located at Fifteenth and Howard Streets, ranks high; for few there are who are not identified with, or interested in this Grand Fraternity claiming our city as its home.

Perhaps few of our citizens stop to consider the vast volume of business emanating daily from the Woodmen of the World building, a cut of which appears on this page.

The founder of Woodcraft needs no introduction to the business interests of Omaha, but we are pleased to present him here as the father of the home in which he has nurtured and reared from infancy to a sturdy, healthy maturity this Order of Perfected Woodcraft. J. C. Root, Sovereign Commander of the Woodmen of the World, is a man among men. A man whose personal charities are many; a sympathetic nature peculiarly attune to his life work which is fraught with such good to humanity.

Eleven years ago in one room in the north-west corner of the second floor of what was then known as the Sheely Block the Woodmen of the World was launched upon the fraternal sea with sails set for stormy winds, but manned by an able captain with a

faithful steward and a staunch crew, who have by unwearying effort brought her out into the open sea where she calmly rides the waves in majestic pride with her sister fraternities.

With this phenomenal growth of three hundred thousand members in a period of eleven years, the directing brain and firm hand of Sovereign Clerk John T. Yates, whose genial face is a familiar one to our citizens, and the vast membership of this Order have been always on the alert, with what success can be realized only by those acquainted with the details of conduct-

ing so vast an enterprise. Sovereign Clerk Yates' clerical force has grown to some seventy odd and only with a capable mind to evolve methods and plans could so harmonious a grind of business as exists in his accounting, auditing and corresponding departments be accomplished.

The volume of correspondence and mail sent out daily by the Woodmen of the World gives a larger consumption of postage than any other institution in the city of Omaha.

Some conception of the increase of work incident to this rapid growth

may be better grasped with the knowledge that now the Sheely Block is owned by this fraternity, which requires the entire second and third floors and part of the fourth to accommodate the large clerical force necessary for the routine work. The second floor is occupied by the working force of Sovereign Clerk Yates and his private offices. The third floor by Sovereign Commander Root, his secretary and assistants and the Organization Department, also the offices of Sovereign Physicians A. D. Cloyd and Ira W. Porter and that of the editorial de-



JOHN T. YATES, SOVEREIGN CLERK  
WOODMEN OF THE WORLD.

partment, from which emanates the *Sovereign Visitor*, the official organ of the Order, sent monthly to each member, giving the exact financial and social condition of the Order to date. On the fourth floor are the offices of the Finance Committee and Monument Department with Sovereign B. Wood Jewell at its head.

Members and others visiting Omaha will be well repaid and gain knowledge of the working of the Order by a visit to headquarters, where they will be warmly welcomed by those in charge.

The Woodmen of the World has many features original with its founder. Among them the erection of a beautiful monument at the grave of a deceased member, bearing the inscription "Dum Tacet, Clamat," (the silent he claims) a lasting tribute to the memory of a brother; a total disability benefit at seventy years of age and many others, but above all a rapidly growing reserve fund, now aggregating over one million dollars, insuring a limited number of assessments. An Order whose principles give protection alike to the living member and the families of those who have been taken away.

Omaha and her citizens should be proud indeed to own within its bounds this nucleus, which, in an ever-widening circle, proclaims itself a power.



WOODMEN OF THE WORLD BUILDING, OMAHA, NEB.

## Carpenter's Letter

(Continued from Twelfth Page.)

ing the American wood often arrives a shade under this size, and the man who orders it has to pay the duty. The result is he stops at one order. There is also a good demand for our oak boards and planks, provided they are sawed to the right thickness, but at present the Austrian wood is crowding the American wood out because it is better seasoned and more carefully prepared.

I am surprised at the amount of American machinery I see about the docks. The warehouses are full of it and the streets outside are blocked by it. In addition to farm implements there are packages of carpet sweepers, meat grinders and ice cream freezers. There are also large importations of electrical machinery, and within the past few years the Westinghouse company has established a factory at Havre to supply the French market. It is a large building, on the edge of the city, where a number of bright young Americans superintend the Frenchmen who do the rough work. The company has a French name, being entitled the "Societe Industrielle d'Electricite, Procedes Westinghouse." Its capital is 10,000,000 francs, or about \$2,000,000.

During my ride about the wharves with Consul Thackara I asked him to give me some points for American shippers. He replied that the market is not properly understood by more than fifty of our leading American firms.

"These firms," said Mr. Thackara, "have thoroughly studied the subject. They have their own agents on the ground, and have systematized their business after the French methods. They pack their goods as the French want them and are willing to accept the usual terms of credit. The French have been accustomed to receiving such terms from the English and Germans, and if Americans will not give the same terms they refuse to deal with them. The average American wants his money in advance, or on receipt of the goods, but this will not do in the majority of instances here.

"Many of our shippers are sending catalogues of machinery and other American products printed in English," continued Mr. Thackara. "Such catalogues go into the waste baskets, for the average customer cannot read them. They should be printed in French, and all measures should be in the French metric system and prices preferably in French money.

"Some of our houses are sending travelers into France. This is very well if the man understands the French language; if not, he had better be kept at home and a French agent employed. An agent should

not be expected to cover any more territory here than he would be required to cover in the United States, and, when foreign agents are employed, representatives from the home offices should visit them at least once a year. I don't think our shippers appreciate the possibilities of the French market. These people spend a vast deal of money every year for foreign goods, and the bulk of their imports are from other parts of Europe. American goods are popular, and especially American machinery and American tools. I hope that there will be a great increase in our trade with France with the increase in our shipping and that we will now regularly see American ships in this harbor. At present we get quantities of American goods, but they all come in vessels under foreign flags. I have been in office here for five years and I have seen only three American flags flying from American steamers during that time."

In closing this letter I will say a word about Cherbourg, the French port where the American line, the North German Lloyd, the Hamburg-American and others of the big ocean steamers stop on their way to New York. It is not an important commercial point, being little more than a port of call for passengers. It is a military and naval station, and will always be such. Havre is the chief business port, and it will continue to be our gateway to France.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

## Few Minutes' Writin'

Here is a story by the Philadelphia Times about the republican candidate for governor of Pennsylvania, Samuel W. Pennypacker. One of his first "jobs" as a practicing lawyer and attorney was the drawing up of a deed covering some land in which an up-the-state farmer was concerned. When the work was finished the farmer was given a bill for \$2, and objected to it as exorbitant, out of all proportion to the service rendered—a "few minutes' writin'—that's all," as the farmer expressed it.

"My dear sir," said the lawyer, "to learn how to draw up that deed I studied two years in the Grovemont seminary, at a cost of \$200; I then studied four years in the West Philadelphia institute, which cost \$250 a year more; and then I went to the law school of the University of Pennsylvania for a year, and that cost an additional \$500. So, you see, the education needed to do this cost me \$1,700, although you think \$2 too much to charge."

The farmer looked Lawyer Pennypacker over from head to foot for a moment, and then exclaimed:

"Well—by—gum! What a darned fool yer must have bin afore they begun on you!"



(The above is from a photograph taken of twenty-eight A. D. T. messenger boys, as they were delivering twenty-eight Remington Typewriters to the Typewriting Department of the Omaha Commercial College, 17th and Douglas streets. It is said to be the largest delivery of typewriters ever made at one time in Nebraska. The photo was taken by Lancaster.)

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