



JOHN W. FORD
Supreme Dictator

1917 - 1918

Number one charter member of Philadelphia Lodge, No. 54, and its first Past Dictator.

Appointed Dictator by Supreme Dictator Ralph W. E. Donges March, 1913, and has been unanimously elected each year since.

Member of Supreme Council five years, Mooseheart Governors two years and member of Executive Committee.

Elected Acting Supreme Dictator November, 1916, to succeed the late Brother Hy. D. Davis. Unanimously elected Supreme Dictator at Pittsburgh Convention July, 1917.

FOREWORD

Fraternity a Necessity

EVEN before the days of civilization the aborigines lived together in tribes and clans. It is unnatural for man to live by himself because there is a natural desire inborn, a gift from the Creator, for man to seek companionship. Fraternal Organizations make this natural proclivity easy of accomplishment. Men do not join Fraternal Organizations merely for the benefits derived but require and look for fraternal companionship.

The Loyal Order of Moose and other Fraternities of like character, embrace the opportunity of doing more than simply giving men the privilege of association with their fellow men. Lessons are taught which cannot fail to influence the lives of those who attend Lodge meetings. Our Order impresses upon its members the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man, teaching the duty which all men owe to the Divine Father and to each other as sons of the Creator. We seek to teach our members to crush out selfishness, having thought always for the feelings and well-being of our Brothers. We teach Patriotism, love of Country, good citizenship, and honesty of purpose.

The three great cardinal principles of our Order teach our members Purity of Thought and Purity of Word and Deed, in our association with others. Aid freely given to our members not only in times of sickness and sorrow, but during every day of our busy lives, "Doing some good to someone each day." Progress in that we will be ever alert to increase the value of our Order to its members. The establishment of Mooseheart is a splendid exemplification of our Progress. Caring for our boys in the service of their Country, at home and abroad, is another example of our Progress.

The United States of America has fostered and encouraged fraternal organizations since its

very beginning, until today it is estimated that 17,000,000 men are members of Fraternities. When we consider the lessons taught by these Fraternities, we can feel assured that these members are better men, better husbands, better fathers, and better citizens, because of their membership. Then may we not claim that Fraternities have had much to do with the development of the United States of which we are all so proud, and does it not follow that Fraternity is a necessity?

The same conditions which exist on this side of the imaginary line also prevail in Canada, and the success achieved by our Canadian Lodges proves that Fraternity is a Necessity on the whole North American Continent.

The Banner of Purity, Aid and Progress has been carried by Director General Davis, representing the Moose War Commission, to foreign climes, and it has been unfurled to European breezes. The seed has been sown in England, France, and Italy, and when this great World's War shall have ended and International Peace shall come, the seed sown will undoubtedly blossom forth like flowers in the sunshine, binding me together in the bonds of fraternal love and affection. And no agency will have more to do in the establishment of a permanent World's Peace than the introduction of Fraternal Organizations in all the Nations of the World.

May the Supreme Dictator above speed the day when all men shall recognize that FRATERNITY IS A NECESSITY.

Cordially and Fraternaly,


Supreme Dictator.