



JAMES J. DAVIS, Director General

"He believes that every boy and girl is entitled to a High School education and a trade."

# JAMES J. DAVIS

## Director General Loyal Order of Moose

(By GUY H. FULLER)

**J**AMES J. DAVIS, Chairman Board of Mooseheart Governors, Pittsburgh, Pa., Governor since 1913. Term expires 1920. Born in Tredegar, Wales, Oct. 27, 1873; father, mother and six children immigrated to Pittsburgh in 1881; at the age of 11 began working in the iron and steel works at Sharon, Pa.; in 1892 went to Pittsburgh and worked as a puddler in the iron works; in 1893 moved to Elwood, Indiana, and there worked in the steel and tin plate mills; elected City Clerk of Elwood, Indiana, in 1898, in which office he served until 1902; in the fall of 1902 was elected Recorder of Madison County, Indiana, in which office he served until 1906; joined the Loyal Order of Moose at Crawfordsville, Indiana, Oct. 27, 1906, and became its 247th member then in good standing in the entire Order, which had been organized in Louisville, Ky., in 1888; from 1907 to date he has been Director General of the Loyal Order of Moose and has seen its membership increase from 247 to over 500,000.—From Mooseheart Year Book.

A history of the Loyal Order of Moose, dating from 1906, would be a biography of Brother Davis. The Order has been his very life during that period and is just what his untiring and enthusiastic effort has made it. Shortly after joining the Order, Brother Davis, seeing its possibilities, worked out and submitted a plan of organization which was original and which he claimed would place "The Moose" in the front rank of fraternities in a much shorter time than had ever been done by any other organization. His proposition was accepted. As to its success let me quote a statement made in his report to the Supreme Convention at Pittsburgh, Pa., by Supreme Dictator John W. Ford:

"Ten years ago the method of organizing subordinate Lodges as devised and proposed by Director General James J. Davis, was an inno-

vation in fraternal work and received the usual amount of criticism given to all new propositions. We have now arrived at the end of the first decade. We have reached the time in our history when we can measure up our accomplishments as an Order, with the older fraternal beneficial organizations, and what do we find? A condition not equalled by any other organization. More than a half million of men gathered together in a period of ten years. More than 1600 subordinate Lodges; many of them owning their own Homes. All of them in a financial position to make good the promises made to those sought as candidates and several millions of dollars have been paid out in sick benefits and for funeral expenses. And then our Great Mooseheart, which is a result of the combining together of these subordinate Lodges. All of this has been done by our Organization methods."

There are a number of elements which go to make up such a character as that possessed by Brother Davis: An honest belief in his work, enthusiasm and progressiveness, the ability to surround himself with competent co-workers, inspiring in them his own enthusiasm. All of these elements are combined in him to a marked degree.

Self-esteem and pride cannot be charged against Brother Davis, on the contrary he embraces every opportunity to give credit to his associates for the progress made and his every act breathes out his democracy. He wants to be and is known to thousands and thousands of men as "Jim Davis."

May he live long to guide the destinies of this great Order and may his years be extended until he sees the fulfillment of his hopes for Mooseheart. Mooseheart, his dream and his reality; Mooseheart, the home of Happy, Healthy Childhood.