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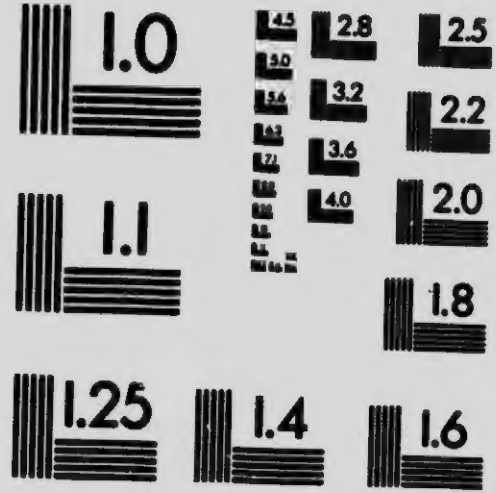

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CONSTITUTION
and
BY-LAWS
of the
GRAND CHAPTER
OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA
ORDER OF THE
EASTERN STAR



1912

TOGETHER WITH THE
RULES AND REGULATIONS
FOR THE
Government of Constituent Chapters

Adopted July 23, 1912

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and
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Stephen McIntyre
Jan 11 $5.00

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Will the Secretary of each chapter please observe the following rules?

1. Acknowledge promptly to the Grand Secretary the receipt of proceedings sent.

2. Notify the Grand Secretary promptly of all changes in the person or address of Secretary.

3. Send to the Grand Secretary and Grand Matron at the beginning of the year a list of officers elected and installed.

4. Prepare annual reports up to and including the 31st day of December in each year and transmit the same to the Grand Secretary before March 1st.

5. Designate married ladies by their own christian names —not by the initials of their husbands.

6. Distinguish between married and unmarried ladies by the prefix "Mrs." and "Miss."

7. In reports to the Grand Secretary never use the prefix "Sister" or "Brother."

8. See that the number reported the previous year, plus the number affiliated and initiated during the year, less the number who had died, demitted, suspended, dropped from the roll or expelled during the year, shall equal the number in good standing when report is prepared.

9. Notify the Grand Secretary promptly of all suspensions or expulsions from and restorations to membership.

MRS. FANNIE N. JONES,

Grand Secretary,
309 Loo Block, Vancouver, B. C.

287102

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

Grand Chapter of British Columbia, O. E. S.

DECLARATORY.

We, the Grand Chapter of British Columbia, Order of the Eastern Star, in order to establish fraternal union, maintain order, insure tranquility, provide for and promote the general welfare of the order, and secure to the members of the order the blessings of its privileges, do ordain, establish and promulgate the following Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations, and Penal Code, for the government of the order within its jurisdiction.

STYLE AND TITLE.

Section 1. **Name.**—This body shall be known as the "Grand Chapter of British Columbia, Order of the Eastern Star."

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.

Sec. 2. **Membership.**—The grand Chapter shall consist of:

The following elective Grand Officers, viz: Grand Matron, Associate Grand Matron, Grand Patron, Associate Grand Patron, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Grand Conductress and Associate Grand Conductress;

Also the following appointive Grand Officers, viz: Grand Chaplain, Grand Lecturer, Grand Marshal, Grand Organist, Grand Adah, Grand Ruth, Grand Esther, Grand Martha, Grand Electra, Grand Warder and Grand Sentinel;

Also all the Past Elective Grand Officers, and the Past Matrons and Past Patrons of chartered chapters in this jurisdiction, while they continue members of chapters therein;

Also all Past Matrons and Past Patrons who are affiliated with the chapters in this jurisdiction.

Also the Worthy Matrons, Worthy Patrons and Associate Matrons of the several chartered and duly constituted chapters

in this jurisdiction, or their duly appointed proxies; provided, that such officers of constituent chapters shall, by virtue of their office, individually appoint their several proxies from the membership in good standing in their respective chapters.

Sec.3 . **Deputies.**—The Grand Chapter may also from time to time authorize the appointment of such number of District Deputy Grand Matrons as it shall determine necessary or expedient.

Sec. 4. **Qualification for Office.**— Past and Present Matrons or Patrons of constituent chapters in this jurisdiction are eligible to an elective or appointive office, in a manner not inconsistent with the Ritual; also Past Matrons and Past Patrons who are affiliated with chapters in this jurisdiction.

QUALIFICATIONS AND RIGHTS OF VOTERS.

Sec. 5. **Vote of Members.**—Each member of the Grand Chapter is entitled to one vote in his or her own right, and may as Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron, Associate Matron or representative of a chapter, cast the vote or votes to which such position shall entitle him or her.

Sec. 6. **Vote of Chapters.**—Each chapter represented, and not in arrears for Grand Chapter dues, shall be entitled to three votes. The Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron and Associate Matron of subordinate chapters shall be entitled to appoint a member of their chapter, in good standing, as their proxy to vote in this Grand Chapter. But said officer or their proxy must be present to cast their own ballot and none shall cast ballot for another unless holding duly accredited proxy therefor.

Sec. 7. **Tie Vote.**—In all cases of a tie vote, the Grand Matron shall have the casting vote; providing, she has not voted as a member.

JURISDICTION AND POWERS.

Sec. 8. **Jurisdiction.**—This Grand Chapter has supreme and exclusive jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to the

Order of the Eastern Star within the limits of the Province of British Columbia.

Sec. 9. **Powers.**—This Grand Chapter has power to grant dispensations and charters for forming and holding chapters of the Order of the Eastern Star; to revoke or suspend the same; to enact rules and regulations; to amend or repeal the same; to censure or suspend chapters for wilful violation of its constitution, regulations or edicts; upon due trial to decide all appeals from its constituent chapters or their members; and to exercise every right of sovereignty, limited only by the Landmarks of the Order and its own Constitution and By-Laws.

POWERS AND DUTIES OF GRAND OFFICERS.

Sec. 10. **Powers of the Grand Matron.**—The Grand Matron has power:

To convene any chapter within this jurisdiction, preside therein, inspect its proceedings, and require its conformity to Eastern Star law.

To require the attendance of, and any information from any Grand Officer respecting his or her office.

To appoin such deputies, officers and committees as may be required by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Chapter. She may act as ex-officio chairman of any committee so appointed.

To suspend any elected officer of a chapter from the functions of his or her office for just cause, and to arrest the charter of any chapter for dereliction of duty or violation of our law, until the next annual communication of the Grand Chapter, when she shall present the reasons, in writing, for such suspension or arrest.

To grant a dispensation for an election to fill the vacancy in the office of Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron or Associate Matron of a chapter, in case such vacancy occurs.

To grant a dispensation to a chapter to elect and install its officers, when such chapter may have failed to do so at the proper time.

To grant such other dispensations, in accordance with the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of Grand Chapter, as may be requested by majority vote of any chapter; provided, that no dispensation shall be granted to any chapter to suspend its communications for a v period, except the months of July and August, nor to hold communication elsewhere than in the town or city specified its charter.

To appoint representatives of this Grand Chapter near other recognized Grand Chapters and to receive and accredit representatives of other recognized Grand Chapters near this Grand Chapter.

It is her prerogative to do such other things as are inherent in and pertain to her office as the chief executive officer of the order in this jurisdiction and are not in conflict with this Constitution..

Sec. 11. **Duties of the Grand Matron.**—It is the duty of the Grand Matron:

To preside in the Grand Chapter.

To present at each annual communication a written message, therein setting forth all her official acts during the year, stating sufficient reason for any departure from any established law or custom, exhibiting the general condition of the order within this jurisdiction, and recommending such legislation as she may deem necessary or expedient for the welfare of the order.

To constitute all chartered chapters, either in person or by a duly authorized representative, in accordance with the usages and regulations of the order.

To direct any and all of the officers with reference to the correspondence of the Grand Chapter.

To exercise a general and careful supervision over the order, and see that the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of the Grand Chapter are strictly maintained, supported and obeyed.

To discharge all the necessary executive functions of the Grand Chapter when that body is not in session.

Sec. 12. **Vacancies, How Filled.**—In case of the death, absence or disability of the Grand Matron, or of a vacancy in her office, the Associate Grand Matron, Grand Conductress and Associate Grand Conductress shall, in succession, assume the powers and discharge all the duties of the Grand Matron.

Sec. 13. **Of the Grand Patron.**—The Grand Patron shall assist and advise with the Grand Matron in the discharge of her duties.

He has power to grant dispensations for new chapters upon proper application, and to delegate authority to confer degrees upon a sufficient number of eligible persons for the purpose of organizing a chapter; provided, that no new chapter shall be organized in any place where no Lodge of Masons exists, nor at all between the last day of April and the close of the annual communication of Grand Chapter, and, provided, further, that no new chapter shall be organized in any city where one or more chapters exist, or within five miles of a regularly organized chapter, except upon the recommendation of a majority of the chapters already organized in said city or town, or within said radius of five miles, and under the further condition that all applicants to form a new chapter in such city must be members of the order.

No dispensation for the establishment of a new chapter shall be issued until the Worthy Grand Patron shall be satisfied that the proposed officers are thoroughly qualified for the proper discharge of their duties, and the proposed members are duly qualified as to Masonic relationship.

He shall provide for a day's School of Instruction at the time of the institution of each new chapter.

He shall report to the Grand Matron immediately, and to the Grand Chapter at each annual communication, all his official acts.

He shall preside whenever called upon by the Grand Matron; and, in the absence of both Grand Matron and Associate Grand Matron, he shall call the Grand Chapter to order and appoint some Past Grand Matron or Past Worthy Matron present to act as Grand Matron pro tempore.

Sec. 14. **Vacancy, how filled.**—In case of the death, absence or disability of the Grand Patron, the Associate Grand Patron shall assume all the powers and discharge all the duties of the Grand Patron. In the absence of both the Grand Patron and Associate Grand Patron, the Grand Matron shall appoint some Past Grand Patron or Past Worthy Patron present to act in their stead pro tempore.

Sec. 15. **Of the other Grand Officers.**—The Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer and other Grand Officers shall exercise such functions and perform such duties, respectively, as usage and the By-Laws and Regulations of the Grand Chapter shall prescribe.

DEGREES AND RITUAL.

Sec. 16. **Degrees.**—The degrees of the Eastern Star are five in number, viz.: First, Adah, or the daughter's degree; second, Ruth, or the widow's degree; third, Esther, or the wife's degree; fourth, Martha, or the sister's degree; and, fifth, Electa, or the mother's degree.

Sec. 17. **Ritual.**—The ceremonial forms contained in the ritual of the order adopted by the General Grand Chapter shall be used by this Grand Chapter.

REVENUES AND THEIR SOURCES.

Sec. 18. **Sources of.**—The revunes of this Grand Chapter shall be derived from the following sources, viz.:

From fees charged for dispensations, charters, diplomas and other documents issued under its authority.

From contributions levied upon its constituent chapters, which shall always be uniform in proportion to their membership and degrees conferred.

From the sale of rituals, printed proceedings and blanks authorized by the Grand Chapter.

From the funds, dues and proceeds of all property of dissolved chapters within its judisdiction.

Sec. 19. **How Levied and Collected.**—Methods of levying and collecting, and the management and disbursement of the revenues and funds of this Grand Chapter shall be regulated by the By-Laws.

CONSTITUENT CHAPTERS.

Sec. 20. **Under What Authority Held.**—Every constituent chapter in this jurisdiction must be held by virtue of a charter from this Grand Chapter, or a dispensation issued by authority of law.

Sec. 21. **Of Whom Composed.**—The constituent chapters shall be composed of those named in their charters and such as they shall admit by regular affiliation or to whom shall be given the degrees of the order, and retaining membership therein.

Sec. 22. **Officers.**—The officers of constituted chapters shall consist of those prescribed by the usages of the order and the ritual.

Sec. 23. **Powers and Duties.**—The powers and duties of a chapter are such as are prescribed in the charter or dispensation, by the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of the Grand Chapter, and the general regulations of the order.

Sec. 24. **Property to Vest in Grand Chapter.**—Upon the demise of a chapter under this jurisdiction, the charter, books, papers, jewels, funds, furniture and all other property of such chapter shall vest in and belong to this Grand Chapter; and it shall be the duty of the last presiding Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron, Secretary and Treasurer to surrender the same to the Gand Secretary without delay.

AMENDMENTS.

Sec. 25. Procedure.—Any proposed amendments to this Constitution shall be presented in writing at an annual communication, and shall in all cases be referred to a committee, who shall report thereon; after which, upon a two-thirds vote in favor of such proposed amendment, it shall be declared adopted, and, after the close of that communication, shall become a part of the Constitution.

Sec. 26. Deferred Action.—If the vote in favor of such proposed amendment be less than two-thirds, but there is a majority therefor, it shall lie over for one year, and shall be published with the proceedings under the heading, "Proposed Amendment to the Constitution." And at the next succeeding annual communication, if it shall receive two-thirds of the votes given thereon, it shall be declared adopted, and from and after the close of that communication shall become a part of the Constitution.

BY-LAWS

OF THE

Grand Chapter of British Columbia, O. E. S.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Sec. 27. **Stated.**—The Grand Chapter shall meet once each year in the month of June, the day and place to be determined at each annual meeting.

Sec. 28. **Special.**—Special communications may be ordered to convene by the Grand Matron at such time and place as may be deemed best for the interests of the order; provided, that the Grand Secretary shall notify all constitued chapters of such meeting at least twenty days previous thereto, except for the purpose of conducting funeral services; and, provided, further, that no legislation shall be made, repealed or changed except at the annual communication.

Sec. 29. **Quorum.**—Representatives of a majority of the chartered chapters shall be necessary to constitute a quorum, except on occasions of ceremony, when the Grand Matron, or her representatives, with a sufficient number of members, may open the Grand Chapter and transact the business for which it was called.

Sec. 30. **Regalia.**—Each officer of the Grand Chapter shall appear therein with his or her proper jewels.

RULES OF ORDER, VOTING AND PARLIAMENTARY LAW.

Sec. 31. **Rules of Order and Law.**—In transacting the business of the Grand Chapter at its communications, and in determining the course of procedure on other matters relative to the jurisprudence of the order, in the absence of any established precedent in the history of this jurisdiction, the rules and usages as promulgated by the General Grand Chapter shall be followed.

Sec. 32. **Manner of Voting.**—All questions in the Grand Chapter, except the election of officers, and, unless otherwise

provided, shall be decided by a show of hands; provided, that in all matters affecting the constituent chapters, the representatives of five chapters may call for a vote by chapters.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

Sec. 33. The Grand Matron shall call the Grand Chapter to order at the appointed hour, after which the following order of business shall be observed, viz.:

1. Calling roll of officers.
2. Call roll of chapters and noting number represented.
3. Ceremony of opening the Grand Chapter in ample form.
4. Reading and approval of the minutes of any previous communication not before read and approved (unless dispensed with).
5. Announcement of Committee on Credentials, and report of same, and any other business affecting the organization of Grand Chapter.
6. Addresses of the Grand Matron and Grand Patron.
7. Annual reports of Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer and Committee on Correspondence.
8. Miscellaneous business.
9. Appointment of regular committees and filling vacancies, if any, in standing ocmmittees.
10. Presentation and reference, or other disposition, of memorials, petitions and communications.
11. Motions and resolutions, and reference or other disposition of same.
12. Reports of regular and standing committees, and action thereon.
13. Reports of special comimttees and action thereon.
14. Special orders, if any.
15. Consideration of amendments to the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations.
16. Miscellaneous business, including exemplification of the work.

17. Unfinished business.

18. Election and installation of Grand Officers.

19. Appointment of standing committees.

20. Ceremony of closing the Grand Chapter in ample form.

ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

Sec. 34. **Election and Appointment.**—The following Grand Officers shall be elected at each annual communication, in the order named, by separate and majority ballot, viz.: Grand Matron, Grand Patron, Associate Grand Matron, Associate Grand Patron, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Grand Conductress, and Associate Grand Conductress. All other Grand Officers shall be appointed by the Grand Matron-elect before her installation.

Electioneering for office, either for one's self or for another, shall be deemed an offence and the offender shall be subject to charges and trial therefor.

Sec. 35. **Installation.**—The Grand Officers shall be installed before the close of each annual communication, and shall continue in office until their successors shall have been elected, or appointed, and installed. Any officer unable to be present at the regular time for installation may be installed in such chapter as the Grand Matron may designate, and the secretary of the chapter in which such installation shall take place shall forthwith certify the fact to the Grand Matron and Grand Secretary.

Sec. 36. **Vacancy, How Filled.**—Whenever a vacancy shall occur in any Grand Office not provided for by the Constitution, the Grand Matron may appoint any member of the Grand Chapter to discharge the duties of the office until the vacancy shall be filled at the next annual communication.

POWERS AND DUTIES OF GRAND OFFICERS.

Sec. 37. **Of Executive Officers.**—The powers and duties of the Grand Matron, Grand Patron, Associate Grand Matron and Associate Grand Patron are as defined by the Constitution.

Sec. 38. Of Grand Secretary.—It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary:

To record the transactions of the Grand Chapter.

To register all initiates and members of chapters returned to him or her for that purpose.

To receive, duly file and safely keep all papers and documents of the Grand Chapter.

To sign and certify all instruments of the Grand Chapter.

To receive and keep a proper account of all moneys of the Grand Chapter, with date of their receipt, and pay over the same promptly to the Grand Treasurer, taking a receipt therefor.

To report annually to the Grand Chapter the amount of money received, by items and dates, and the specific sources from which received; also the chapters that have neglected to render proper returns of their elections, members and dues; and such general facts regarding the state and condition of the chapters as may be proper for the information or action of the Grand Chapter.

To attend, with any books, papers or writings under his or her control or custody, on all communications of the Grand Chapter, and to attend upon the Grand Matron or Grand Patron on business of the order when required.

To be ex-officio librarian of the Grand Chapter, and custodian of the records and property of defunct chapters.

To act as the financial agent of the Grand Chapter in the sale of its printed proceedings, by-laws and rituals.

To furnish the Grand Matron, within ten days after the close of the Grand Chapter, a copy of the reports of all committees adopted at its last communication.

To keep an alphabetical register of all suspensions and expulsions from, and restorations to, membership as officially reported by chapters, specifying the date of such action by the chapters, with such other information as may be embodied in such report, together with the name and number of the chapter from which received, and at all proper times to furnish the free

inspection of said register to all members of the order in good standing.

To transmit to each constituent chapter, quarterly, by circular letter, a list of all suspensions, expulsions and restorations of which he or she shall have been notified by the several chapters.

To examine the annual returns of constituent chapters, and see that errors and irregularities are corrected; and, if not corrected, report the same to the Grand Chapter.

To provide and distrubute, at the expense of the Grand Chapter, all the blank forms necessary for the use of eh ed Officers, and such as may be required for the use of con ent chapters in transmitting their annual returns and other rts to the Grand Chapter.

To make and retain duplicates of all charters he ter issued to constituent chapters.

To record the transactions of the Grand Chapter and superintend the publication thereof under the direction of the Grand Matron.

To distribute, at the expense of the Grand Chapter, to constituent chapters and to all others on application, printed slips, suitable for insertion at the proper place in the Code, containing any change or amendment made from time to time therein.

To distribute copies of the printed Proceedings of Grand Chapter, as follows: Three copies to the General Grand Secretary; three copies to the Grand Secretary of each Grand Chapter; three copies to each constituent chapter in this jurisdiction; and one copy each to each Grand Officer, Past Elective Grand Officer, and Masonic publication and library in this jurisdiction, and to each Past Matron and Past Patron of Chapters, upon request.

Sec. 39. **Bond.**—The Grand Secretary shall execute and file with the Grand Matron, within thirty days after his or her installation, an official bond, furnished by a surety company and approved by the Jurisprudence Committee, in the penal sum of one thousand dollars, the premium for which shall be

paid by the Grand Chapter, conditioned upon the faithful discharge of the duties of the office.

Sec. 40. **Of Grand Treasurer.**—It shall be the duty of the Grand Treasurer:

To receive all moneys of the Grand Chapter from the Grand Secretary, giving receipt therefor, and pay them out only upon orders drawn by the Grand Matron and certified by the Grand Secretary.

To take charge of all funds and securities of the Grand Chapter, depositing the same in some depository or depositories approved by the Grand Matron, in the name of the Grand Chapter, payable on the order of the Grand Treasurer.

To keep accurate account of all receipts and expenditures, with dates thereof, carefully number and file all vouchers covering the same, and attend on the Grand Matron at any time upon request, with such books and documents of the Grand Treasurer's office as required.

To report at each annual communication of the Grand Chapter a detailed account of all receipts and disbursements during his or her incumbency, showing the existing condition of the Grand Chapter's finances and investments, and submitting the books and vouchers for examination of the Grand Chapter.

Sec. 41. **Bond.**—The Grand Treasurer shall execute and file with the Grand Matron, within thirty days after his or her installation, an official bond, furnished by a surety company and approved by the Jurisprudence Committee, in a penal sum of not less than five thousand dollars, the premium for which shall be paid by the Grand Chapter, conditioned upon the faithful discharge of the duties of his or her office, and that at the expiration of his or her term of office, all moneys, securities and property of the Grand Chapter under his or her control, will be paid over and transferred to his or her successor in office, or such person as shall be designated by the Grand Chapter.

COMMITTEES AND THEIR DUTIES.

Sec. 42. **Appointment.**—At each annual communication of Grand Chapter, as soon as practicable after its opening, the

Grand Matron shall appoint the following committees, to consist of three members each, all of which shall be discharged by the closing of Grand Chapter: On Credentials, on Work and Returns of Chapters, on Charters and New Chapters, on By-Laws, on Unfinished Business, and on Obituaries.

Sec. 43. **Same.**—After the installation of Grand Officers, the Grand Matron shall appoint the following committees, whose duties shall continue during the recess and the next annual communication, and until their successors shall be appointed, to consist of five members each, except the Committee on Printing, which shall consist of the three following members, viz.: Grand Patron, Grand Secretary, and Chairman of Committee on Finance: On Jurisprudence, on Grievance and Appeals, on Finance, and on Printing.

Sec. 44. **Special Committees.**—Special committees may also be appointed by the Grand Matron to facilitate the business of the Grand Chapter, or empowered to transact special business assigned to them, whenever it shall be deemed necessary.

Sec. 45. **Duties.**—All committees shall perform such duties as their titles indicate, conforming to the usages of the order, and such other duties as may be assigned to them by the Grand Chapter; provided, that the Committee on Printing shall receive and consider competitive bids on all printing for the Grand Chapter, and that the Committee on Finance shall approve the investments of the funds of the Grand Chapter and pass upon all subjects involving an appropriation of the funds of the Grand Chapter.

REVENUES AND THEIR SOURCES.

Sec. 46. **Sources.**—The revenues of this Grand Chapter shall be derived from the following sources, viz.:

For each dispensation to form a new chapter, twenty-five dollars, in return for which the Grand Secretary shall furnish to each new chapter organized three rituals, one secret work, one secret work cipher, twenty-five petitions each for the degrees and for affiliation, and one signet.

For each dispensation for any other purpose than the formation of a new chapter or election of officers, one dollar.

For each ritual sold, eighty cents.

Sec. 47. **Fees and Dues.**—Every chartered chapter shall pay annually, on or before the first day of March, to the Grand Secretary:

Fee for each initiation during the preceding calendar year, or from date of the charter, if granted within the preceding calendar year, fifty cents;

Dues for each member borne upon its roll on the last day of the preceding December, including all initiated during the year previous thereto, the sum of fifty cents.

The fiscal year for the payment of per capita tax shall be January 1st to December 31st of each year, and the per-capita shall accompany the report to the Grand Secretary for the period covered by such report; always provided, that when an emergency exists the Worthy Grand Matron may instruct the Grand Secretary to make a call upon the constituent chapters for such a portion of their per-capita tax as is deemed necessary and the amount so remitted by any chapter shall apply on the amount due from such chapter to the Grand Chapter in any one year.

APPROPRIATIONS, EXPENSES AND SALARIES.

Sec. 48. **Appropriations.**—During the annual communication of Grand Chapter no appropriation or expenditure of the funds of the Grand Chapter shall be authorized until it shall have been considered and reported upon by the Committee on Finance; and during the recess of Grand Chapter, no purchases shall be made other than those for which appropriation shall have been made, nor money distributed from the funds of the Grand Chapter, except upon the written order of the Grand Matron and the Chairman of the Committee on Finance.

Sec. 50. **Salaries.**—The Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer shall each receive such sum for the faithful performance of his or her duties as the Grand Chapter may decide.

ARREST AND FORFEITURE OF CHARTERS.

Sec. 51. **Arrest of Charter.**—The charter of a chapter may be arrested by the Grand Chapter or Grand Matron at any

time upon proper cause shown, which action, when taken by the Grand Matron, shall not extend beyond the next annual communication of Grand Chapter.

Section 52. **Forfeiture of Charter.**—No charter can be declared forfeited, except upon charges having been regularly made in Grand Chapter at its annual communication, of which charges due notice shall have been given the offending chapter and opportunity afforded of being heard in its defense.

AMENDMENTS AND REPEALS.

Sec. 53. **Amendments.**—The By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of this Chapter may be amended, added to or repealed at any annual communication, by a majority vote of the Grand Chapter, after written report from a committee to which such proposed action shall have been referred for consideration.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

FOR THE

Government of Constituent Chapters

O. E. S. of British Columbia

CHAPTERS UNDER DISPENSATION.

Sec. 54. **Fomation.**—The Grand Patron may, upon the petition of not less than fifteen persons residing within the jurisdiction of the proposed new chapter, and properly recommended by the nearest chapter or majoirty of chapters having concurrent jurisdiction therewith, grant dispensation to form a new chapter; provided, that of such petitioners one shall be a Master Mason, possessing the qualifications of a petitioner for the degrees of the order, and not less than nine of the number shall be ladies; and, provided, further, that if any of such petitioners are not members of the order, the Grand Patron may confer the degrees upon a sufficient number to complete the minimum number required for the formation of a new chapter.

Sec. 55. **Conditions.**—The Grand Patron shall satisfy himself fully that all petitioners are eligible. When a member of the order joins a chapter U. D. by certificate of good standing, the organization of the new chapter severs his or her connection with the chapter granting the certificate, and the Secretary of the chapter U. D. shall immediately notify the chapter from which the member came.

Sec. 56. **Fee.**—The petitioners for a dispensation to form a new chapter shall pay to the Grand Secretary twenty-five dollars therefor; if for good reason the dispensation should be continued by order of the Grand Chapter, no additionl fee shall be required.

Sec. 57. **Officers.**—A chapter U. D. cannot elect or install its officers. The Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron and Associate Matron, as recommended in the petition, shall be appointed by

the Grand Patron and hold their respective offices until the constitution of the chapter. The Worthy Matron shall appoint all the other officers. A chapter U. D. shall recommend to the Grand Chapter the names of the persons desired by the members thereof to be named in the charter as their three highest officers, and the persons so named shall be installed at the constitution of the chapter and serve as such officers during the remainder of the calendar year without election.

Sec. 58. **Powers.**—A chapter U. D. can prepare by-laws for its government, subject to the approval of the Grand Matron, and can grant demits to its members. It possesses all the powers and may perform all the duties of a chartered chapter, except that it need not have a seal and that it cannot exercise discipline over its members. Offenses and charges arising under its jurisdiction must be submitted to the nearest chartered chapter, subject to appeal to the Grand Chapter.

Sec. 59. **Returns.**—A chapter U. D. must return for the inspection of Grand Chapter its dispensation, by-laws and records, together with the amount of fees for initiations and such tabulated statements as may be required by the Grand Secretary, on or before the first day of June, after which date no further communication can be held by the chapter U. D. until after the next communication of the Grand Chapter.

Sec. 60. **Charter.**—Upon satisfactory showing, the Grand Chapter may order a perpetual charter or continue the dispensation until the next annual communication. In case a charter be granted, the chapter may, unless otherwise ordered by the Grand Chapter, continue to meet and work until it shall have been regularly constituted by the Grand Marton or her deputy. In the event that any name entitled to appear upon the charter be omitted through error or neglect, it can be inserted thereon later by permission of the Grand Chapter.

Sec. 61. **Representation.**—A chapter U. D. is not entitled to representation or vote in Grand Chapter until its charter has been granted by the Grand Chapter and the chapter has been duly constituted. It is exempted from paying dues to the Grand Chapter until the time fixed by Grand Chapter for making its first annual report.

Sec. 62. **Constitution.**—A chapter receiving a charter can only be constituted by the Grand Matron or her duly authenticated uroxy, who must be an affiliated member of the Grand Chapter. Due notice must be given as early as possible after the close of the annual communication at which the charter was granted, of the time appointed to convene the members, organize the chapter and install the officers recommended and named in the charter.

Sec. 63. **Records.**—The dispensation to form a chapter shall be copied in full upon the records of the chapter, and the charter, when issued, shall be recorded thereon in like manner.

CONSTITUENT CHAPTERS.

Sec. 64. **Authority.**—Every constituent chapter must have a charter from this Grand Chapter, or a dispensation from the Grand Patron, attested by the Grand Secretary under the seal of the Grand Chapter, and no chapter shall be deemed legal or regular without such charter or dispensation. All communications, either public or private, are hereby prohibited between any chapter in this jurisdiction, or any member thereof, and any chapter illegally formed, opened or holden, or any person initiated therein.

RIGHTS, POWERS AND DUTIES OF CHAPTERS.

Sec. 65. **Must Be Represented.**—Each chartered chapter shall be represented in Grand Chapter at every annual communication by its Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron or Associate Matron, or their duly appointed proxy, but no such appointment shall be valid until certificate of same shall be filed with the Grand Secretary, and no person shall act as such proxy other than a member in good standing of the chapter so represented.

Sec. 66. **By-Laws.**—Each chapter shall have the inherent right to make and amend by-laws and regulations for its own government; provided, that such by-laws and regulations conform to the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand Chapter, and that no such by-laws or amendments thereto shall be effective until approved by the Grand Matron.

Sec. 67. **Returns.**—Each chartered chapter shall transmit to the Grand Secretary, on or before the first day of March,

a full and correct statistical report for the pevious calendar year, accompanied by the payment of its fees and dues, and each chapter under dispensation shall transmit promptly upon the first day of June a similar report covering the period from the date of its organization to that time. In case of the non-performance of this requirement by any chartered chapter, its representative shall be deprived of all privileges of Grand Chapter.

Sec. 68. **Seal.**—Each chartered chapter shall, within two months after the date of receiving its charter, procure a seal with the name, number and location of the chapter, and such devices as they may by vote decide to adopt, engraved thereon; and no document emanating from any chapter, or its Worthy Matron or Secretary in the official capacity of either, shall thereafter be received or deemed authentic without such seal being affixed thereto.

Sec. 69. **Communications.**—The meetings of a chapter shall be called communications, and are of two kinds, viz.: Stated and Special.

Sec. 70. **Stated.**—Stated communications shall be held at least once in each month at the time and place specified in their by-laws; provided, that it shall be optional for a subordinate chapter to hold communications during the communication of the Grand Chapter, if so desired.

Sec. 71. **Special.**—Special communications may be called by the Worthy Matron or at the discretion of the chapter, and shall be called at any time upon written request of seven or more members of the chapter, but only such business shall be transacted thereat for which such communication was called.

Sec. 72. **Penalty for Failure to Hold.**—Failure to hold a communication once in six months may subject a chapter to forfeiture of its charter by vote of the Grand Chapter.

Sec. 73. **Cannot Adjourn.**—All communications of a chapter shall remain in session absolutely within the discretion of the Worthy Matron as to length of time, and cannot by motion be adjourned, called off or postponed, but the Worthy

Matron can declare a communication closed when less than seven members of the chapter remain in attendance.

Sec. 74. **Admission to.**—After registering their names, all members and visitors in good standing are entitled to admission to the chapter room at any time during any communication, except during the opening and closing ceremonies, while a ballot is being spread, and in conformity with the rules regarding visitors and trials.

Sec. 75. **Essentials to Open.**—The presence of the charter or dispensation, the Holy Bible upon the altar (to be opened at the time prescribed by the ritual, at the second chapter of St. Matthew). one of the three highest officers (or a Past Matron or Past Patron) and six other members of the chapter, are indispensable to open a chapter for the transaction of business; but balloting on petitions or conferring degrees of the order cannot be done without the presence of a Master Mason in the East.

Sec. 76. **Ritual.**—Constituent chapters shall use only such rituals for the work of the order and issue only such diplomas as shall be authorized by this Grand Chapter. Copies of the ritual of the order can be procured from the Grand Secretary upon request of the secretary under the seal of the chapter.

MEMBERSHIP.

Sec. 77. **Qualification.**—Membership shall be limited to Master Masons, (who are not engaged in the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors for other than medicinal or sacramental purposes), in good standing in any lodge in the United States or any foreign jurisdiction recognized by the grand Lodge of British Columbia, their wives, widows, mothers, mothers and sisters of legally adopted sons, daughters, sisters, half-sisters, and legally adopted daughters and sisters, who shall have attained to at least eighteen years of age; provided, that mutes, blind and deaf persons are ineligible; and, provided, further, that the suspension or expulsion of a brother from a Masonic Lodge shall also deprive him of all rights of membership in this order until reinstated by the Masonic body,

but that the standing of a sister in the order shall not be affected by any action of a Masonic Lodge.

Sec. 78. **Limitation.**—No person can be a member of more than one chapter at the same time, nor can any member withdraw from a chapter until all dues are paid or remitted.

Sec. 79. **Petitions.**—Petitions for membership by degrees or affiliation can be received only at stated communications of a chapter, and shall be signed by the petitioner, giving full christian name, place of residence, and must be recommended by two members of the chapter to which presented. Petitions for the degrees shall further state whether or not the petitioner has ever applied before or has ever been rejected.

Sec. 80. **For Degrees.**—Each petition for the degrees shall be accompanied by a certificate of the Masonic membership on which the petition is based and the amount of the degree fee as prescribed by the by-laws of the chapter, which shall be not less than five dollars.

Sec. 81. **For Affiliation.**—Each petition for affiliation shall be accompanied by a demit, or certificate of good standing, from the chapter of which the petitioner was last, or is now, a member; provided, that certificates of good standing may be accepted from members of other chapters in this jurisdiction only.

Sec. 82. **Residence.**—No petition for degrees shall be received by any chapter unless the petitioner shall have actually resided immediately preceding the date of such petition at least on year within this Grand Jurisdiction and six months within the jurisdiction of the chapter to which petition is presented; provided, that exception shall be made in the case of seafaring men, students or persons whose profession does not permit of continuous actual residence for six months within the jurisdiction of any chapter, and female members of their respective families.

Sec. 83. **Waiver.**—A chapter may receive the petition for degrees from an applicant otherwise qualified residing within the jurisdiction of some other chapter by having first obtained the consent of such chapter; provided, that no such waiver of jurisdiction shall be granted except by two-thirds vote by show

of hands in the case of a petitioner for degrees previously rejected by the chapter having jurisdiction.

Sec. 84. **Same.**—Any chapter desiring waiver of jurisdiction over a petitioner residing within the concurrent jurisdiction of several chapters, shall not be required to obtain such waiver from more than one of such chapters; provided, that the applying chapter shall have given notice of such request to all the chapters having concurrent jurisdiction.

Sec. 85. **Jurisdiction.**—The jurisdiction of chapters for all purposes shall extend to a point geographically half-way between them, except that in cities or towns where more than one chapter exists, and within two miles outside their corporate limits, they shall have concurrent jurisdiction; and in such cases, each chapter shall immediately notify all chapters under concurrent jurisdiction of all petitions received by it for membership.

Sec. 86. **Conduct of Members.**—Each chapter shall take cognizance of the conduct of every member of the order within its jurisdiction, for the purpose of enforcing obedience to the laws of the order and maintaining its good name. Any member, whether affiliated or not, can be tried for bad conduct in the jurisdiction wherein he or she resides.

Sec. 87. **Courtesy.**—The degrees of the order may be canferred by courtesy upon a duly elected petitioner, in compliance with request of chapter having elected the petitioner, whether within this or another grand jurisdiction.

Sec. 88. **Investigating Committee.**—Each petition for membership shall be referred to a committee of three members (one of whom shall be a brother), appointed by the Worthy Matron, who shall thoroughly investigate the qualifications and character of the petitioner, and make to the chapter a written report thereon, signed by a majority of the committee (one of whom must be a brother); and no further action upon a petition shall be taken by the chapter until the next regular meeting after its receipt, or before satisfactory evidence of the petitioner's qualifications and character has been obtained, and of this the chapter inself must be the judge.

That more care be taken in investigating candidates for membership, so that we do not sacrifice quality for the sake of quantity. Make it a privilege to be sought for.

Sec. 89. **Withdrawal of Petition.**—After having been referred to an investigating committee, a petition becomes the property of the chapter and it cannot be withdrawn, except as hereinafter stated; provided, that a petition for affiliation may be withdrawn at any time previous to ballot thereupon by making written application therefor. A ballot is necessary in all cases upon petitions for the degrees, except when it is found that the chapter has no jurisdiction, or that the petitioner is ineligible or has been proposed without authority, in any of which events the Worthy Matron shall declare the petition void.

Sec. 90. **Balloting.**—No ballot shall be taken on a petition for degrees or membership at any other than a stated meeting, nor in less than two weeks from the time the petition was received and referred. A separate ballot shall be taken on each petition for membership, without discussion upon the merits thereof, and must be unanimously in favor of the petitioner in order to secure election.

Sec. 91. **Method.**—The ballot box shall be provided with white balls, not less in number than the members present, and black cubes, not less in number than one for every twelve white balls and fraction thereof contained therein. Not more than one ballot box shall be used on each petition, and it shall either be passed to the members or placed on the altar beside the open Bible to receive the ballots, at the option of the Worthy Matron. All mmbers of the chapter shall rise to their feet and cast their ballots on each petition, and no one shall be allowed to retire from the chapter room while any ballot is in progress.

Sec. 92. **Reballotting.**—No member shall be permitted to move for the reconsideration of an unfavorable ballot; but if not more than one black ball shall appear upon the first ballot, the Worthy Matron shall, before announcing the result thereof, order a second ballot, which shall be final.

Sec. 93. **Secrecy of Ballot—Penalty.**—No one but the Worthy Matron and Associate Matron shall, after the close of

the ballot, see the contents of the ballot box, which shall be cleared at once by the Worthy Matron, after declaring the result of the ballot. Immediately after the announcement of the result of an unfavorable ballot, and before any one shall have retired from the chapter room, the remainder of this section shall be read aloud in open chapter:

"No statement as to the character of anyone's vote shall be allowed, and no remark or discussion concerning the action of the chapter is permissible. The ballot must be kept secret, and any violation of its secrecy shall be met with prompt discipline. Any member or visitor divulging the secrecy of the ballot, or making known the character of ballot cast by anyone, or informing anyone not a member of the order concerning the rejection of a petition for membership, shall, upon conviction thereof, be suspended not less than three months nor more than three years, or expelled, as the chapter shall decide; provided, that if the ballot be declared clear in error, it is the duty of any member knowing that the ballot was not clear to object immediately."

Sec. 94. **Rejected Petitioners.**—Rejected petitioners for the degrees may again petition for membership, in the same or any other chapter having concurrent jurisdiction, after the expiration of three months after rejection, and each petition must be acted on as an original; provided, that no petition of a rejected petitioner for the degrees shall be received within six months after such rejection by any chapter other than those having concurrent jurisdiction with the rejecting chapter without a two-thirds vote of the rejecting chapter consenting thereto.

Sec. 95. **Same.**—Rejected petitioners for affiliation may again petition at any time and in any chapter, and each petition must be acted upon as an original.

Sec. 96. **Erroneous Ballot.**—When a petitioner has been rejected through a mistake or misapprehension, the rejecting chapter may correct such error at the same or any subsequent stated communication in the following manner, viz.: The member or members who balloted in the negati e by mistake or misapprehension, shall announce the same in open chapter; and

if the number of such members shall correspond with the number of negative ballots by which the petition was rejected, a new ballot shall be taken, after all members present at the time of the first ballot shall have had due notice thereof.

Sec. 97. **Objection After Ballot.**—If any member in good standing, even though having been present when the ballot was taken, shall object, either in open chapter or to the Worthy Matron, to conferring the degrees upon an elected petitioner, it is equivalent to rejection by ballot, and the degrees cannot be conferred. The objecting member shall not be required to state reasons for objection, and the fact of objection alone, and not the name of the objector, shall be entered upon the records of the chapter.

Sec. 98. **Notice to Petitioners.**—The Secretary shall notify all petitioners of the result of the ballot on their petitions, and in case of a petition being rejected or declared void, return forthwith the degree fee accompaning it; provided, that at least one week shall elapse after election before the degree shall be conferred upon an elected petitioner.

Sec. 99. **Failure to Appear.**—Failure of an elected petitioner to appear after such notification and receive the degrees within one year after election shall render void all action upon such petition, and a clear ballot upon another original petition shall be necessary before the degrees may be conferred.

Sec. 100. **Demits.**—Demits shall be granted by direction of the Worthy Matron, upon written request of the applicant presented at a stated communication of the chapter; provided, that dues to date be paid or remitted, and no charges are preferred and pending. The membership of such petitioner shall be severed from and after granting of a demit, and can only be renewed in the same or any other chapter by unanimous ballot upon petition for affiliation.

Sec. 101. **Certificate.**—Certificates of good standing, valid for three months only after date of issuance and void thereafter, for the purpose of enabling members to affiliate with another chapter within this grand jurisdiction, shall be issued in the same manner and under the same conditions as

demits, except that their issuance shall not sever membership in the chapter issuing same.

Sec. 102. **Transfer of Membership.**—The secretary of a chapter electing a member whose petition was accompanied by a certificate of good standing shall immediately thereafter report such election to the secretary of the chapter issuing such certificate, who, in turn, shall at once issue and forwrad a demit for said member to the chapter electing said member, and report such action at the next stated communication of the issuing chapter. The petitioner's new membership shall date from the election of such petitioner in the new chapter.

Sec. 103. **Cancellation of Demit.**—All demits and certificates of good standing shall be cancelled and preserved by the secretary of the chapter receiving the member.

Sec. 104. **Right to Visit.**—Members of the order in good standing, who have been properly examined, singly and in secret, by a committee appointed by the Worthy Matron, or otherwise vouched for, if found worthy, shall have the right of visiting any chapter; provided, that no objection is made to the visit of such member.

Sec. 105. **Objection to Visitor.**—Any member shall have the unrestricted right to object to the visit of anyone not a member of the chapter; provided, that the objector must be present, must make objection to the Worthy Matron in person, and, in order to be valid, must renew objection each time the visitor is present.

OFFICERS—ELECTION AND INSTALLATION.

Sec. 106. **Officers.**—The officers of a chapter shall consis of a Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron, Associate Matron, Secretary, Treasurer, Conductress, Associate Conductress, Chaplain, Marshal, Organist, Adah, Ruth, Esther, Martha, Electra, Warder and Sentinel. Any member of a chapter in good standing is eligible to any office within its gift, but electioneering for office is not permissible.

Sec. 107. **Election.**—The seven officers first named in the preceding section shall be elected annually in the order named, by a separate and majority ballot (excluding blanks), at the

first stated communication in December, no notice of such election being necessary.

Sec. 108. **Appointment.**—The other officers shall be appointed by the Worthy Matron-elect prior to her installation.

Sec. 109. **Installation.**—All officers shall be installed (either in public or within their own chapter) on or before the first stated communication in January following their election or appointment, or as often as re-elected or re-appointed, and shall hold their offices until their respective successors are elected, or appointed, and installed.

Sec. 110. **Delayed.**—If for good reason any of the officers cannot be installed at the time of the installation ceremonies, they shall be installed in their own chapter as soon as possible thereafter.

Sec. 111. **Objection.**—Objection to the installation of any officer cannot be entertained by the installing officer, unless the grounds for objection be of a very serious nature, affecting the moral character of the officer, and can be proven when charges are preferred, which must be done without delay by the objector to the Grand Matron.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

Sec. 112. **Worthy Matron.**—The Worthy Matron shall preside throughout the communications of the chapter, except while the degrees are being conferred, see that the report of the jurisprudence committee, as adopted at each annual communication of the Grand Chapter, is read in open chapter once each year, and that the by-laws, rules and regulations of the order are strictly observed; appoint all committees; require the officers to faithfully perform their respective duties; remove any appointive officer for just cause; see that each candidate receiving the degrees be taught the secret work immediately after being initiated; see that the proceedings of the Grand Chapter are read in open chapter as soon as received; discharge all the executive functions of the chapter; and, in the absence of the Worthy Patron, call any brother in good standing to preside during the conferring of the degrees or balloting on petitions.

Sec.113. **Appeal from Decision.**—From the decision of the Worthy Matron during a communication of the chapter there is no appeal, except to the Grand Matron or Grand Chapter; and when the official decision of the Grand Matron is desired, the Worthy Matron shall submit the question at issue to her, with a full statement of all the facts relative thereto, under the seal of the chapter.

Sec. 114 **Install Successor.**—It is the prerogative of the Worthy Matron, at the close of her term of office, to install her successor and the other officers for the ensuing year, or deputize a Past Matron or Past Patron as her proxy.

Sec. 115. **Worthy Patron.**—The Worthy Patron shall be a Master Mason in good standing. His duties are to have general supervision over the affairs of the chapter; to advise with and assist the Worthy Matron; to give the secret work and the obligations with the members once each month; to preside during the conferring of the degrees; and to call upon the Worthy Matron at any time to assist in conferring the degrees.

Sec. 116. **Same.**—In the absence of the Worthy Matron and Associate Matron, he may call upon any sister to preside.

Sec. 117. **Associate Matron.**—The Associate Matron shall perform the duties pertaining to her office; and in case of the death, absence or disability of the Worthy Matron, or a vacancy in her office, succeed to her position, prerogatives and duties.

Sec. 118. **Secretary.**—The Secretary shall, in addition to the duties indicated in the ritual of the order, perform the following duties:

Certify and affix the seal of the chapter to all official documents, and attest the official signature of the Worthy Matron when necessary.

Keep such books as may be necessary to show the account of each member with the chapter, and the receipts of all money and payments of same to the treasurer, classified by proper dates.

Preserve the books of Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Chapter and all printed proceedings thereof, together with all the papers and documents belonging to the chapter.

Send to the Grand Matron and Grand Secretary, immediately after each installation, a correct list of the officers installed.

Prepare on blanks furnished by the Grand Secretary, a statistical report of the chapter for the preceding calendar year, and forward same to the Grand Secretary on or before the first day of March of each year, accompanied by the Grand Chapter dues; such report to be prepared by the outgoing Secretary and signed by the outgoing Worthy Matron.

Notify the Grand Secretary immediately of all deaths of members, suspensions and expulsions from, and restorations to membership.

Send written notice promptly to chapters having concurrent jurisdiction with their own, of all petitions received for membership.

Inform in writing, twice between the first day of June and the first day of November of each year, all members indebted to the chapter for more than the current year's dues, of the state of their account and of the proivsions of Section 123 of these Rules and Regulations.

Sec. 119. **Of Other Officers.**—The other officers shall perform the duties indicated by their titles and stations, in conformity with the ritual and under the direction of the Worthy Matron.

Sec. 120. **Officers and Members.**—That so far as practicable the use of the Ritual be discontinued in chapter and officers be required to memorize their work within thirty days after election.

That members make a careful study of the Constitution and By-laws of the Grand Chapter, as well as those governing their own chapter.

VACANCIES IN OFFICE.

Sec. 121. **Before Installation.**—Any officer, failing to be present for installation within three months after election or appointment, shall by vote of the chapetr forfeit all right to the office and a vacancy be declared to exist, which shall be filled at a stated communication—by ballot, if an elective office be vacant, the members having been duly notified to that effect.

Sec. 122. **After Installation.**—After their installation, vacancies in the office of Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron or Associate Matron can occur only in case of failure to fill their respective offices for six months consecutively, death, removal from the grand jurisdiction, or election to another office; and in such event, upon the properly certified request of the chapter adopted at a stated communication, the Grand Matron may declare the office vacant and issue a dispensation to fill such vacancy, the members having been duly notified to that effect.

Sec. 123. **Of Other Offices.**—A vacancy in any other office may be declared to exist at any time by majority vote of the chapter, by reason of death, or neglect of duty; and if occurring in any other elective office than that of Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron and Associate Matron, may be filled by ballot at any stated communication, the members having been duly notified to that effect.

FAILURE TO PAY DUES.

Sc. 124. **Dropping from Roll.**—No chapter shall expel or suspend any member for failure to pay dues, but all members who at midnight on the day of which the last stated communication in November was, or should have been held, shall be indebted to their chapter in a sum equal to one year's dues exclusive of the dues for the current calendar year, shall forthwith cease to be members thereof, their names shall be dropped from its roll of mmbership, and their status shall be that of unaffiliated members without demits; provided, that the secretary of every chapter shall notify in writing twice each year between the first day of June and the first day of November, all members delinquent for the previous calendar year's dues of the state of their account and of the provisions of this section. At the first stated communication in December of each year, and before the election of officers thereat, the Worthy Matron shall announce the names of those whose membership shall have ceased, unless they shall have restored themselves to membership. The Worthy Matron and Secretary may be held responsible for neglect of the duties herein prescribed, but no such neglect shall render inoperative the prvoisions thereof.

Sec. 125. How Restored.—All persons, whose membership shall have expired under the provisions of the preceeding section may be restored to membership within twenty-five months thereafter by notifying their chapter in writing of their desire to renew membership, paying or procurring remission of their arrearage at the time of being dropped, and paying their dues for the remainder of the current year; provided, that if a demit be requested and granted at the time of restoration, dues in advance shall not be collected. After twenty-five months from date of being dropped, such persons can obtain membership only by petition for restoration, a majority vote shall be sufficient to restore membership.

Sec. 126. Certificate.—A member dropped from membership by any chapter for non-payment of dues shall be entitled to receive from the secretary thereof at any time a certificate showing the fact of being dropped for non-payment of dues, the date thereof, the amount due when dropped from the roll, and the date of such certificate. Such a certificate, when showing that all such indebtedness to the chapter has been paid or remitted, may be received with a petition for affiliation in lieu of a demit.

DISSOLUTION OF CHAPTERS.

Sec. 127. How Secured.—The charter of a chapter cannot be surrendered as long as seven members desire to retain it. A motion to surrender it should be acted upon with great prudence. If it be deemed expedient to consider the question of surrendering the charter, the resolution must be presented in writing, introduced at a stated communication, and lie over until the next stated communication. Every member within reasonable distance should be summoned to attend the communication when the question shall be brought up for final action.

Sec. 128. Return of Property.—In the event of the surrender or forfeiture of the charter of a chapter, the charter, jewels, property and all ecords become the property of the Grand Chapter, and must be forwarded at once to the Grand Secretary.

Sec. 129. **Status of Members.**—The Grand Secretary, upon the application of any member of a defunct chapter who was in good standing and clear on the books when the charter was surrendered, and against whom no charges are pending, can issue to such member a demit; provided, that the charter or dispensation was not revoked by proper authority; and provided further, that said member was blameless of any act of omission of duty rendering the recall of said charter or dispensation necessary, and of this the Grand Matron and Grand Secretary are to be the judges.

PENAL CODE

Sec. 130. Whatever is a breach of good morals, or a violation of the laws of the Province or Dominion, is an offense against the principles of this Order, and must be promptly dealt with.

Sec. 131. Any member disobeying the order of the presiding officer, or in any manner disturbing the harmony of the Chapter, may be invited by the presiding officer to withdraw from the chapter room; if, on such invitation, the member so offending gives assurance of no further trouble, he or she may be permitted to remain. Should the offense be repeated, the member shall be excluded from the hall during such session of the chapter, if so ordered by the presiding officer.

Sec. 132. The only penalties recognized are four, viz:

1. Reprimand.
2. Suspension for a definite time.
3. Suspension indefinitely.
4. Expulsion.

Sec. 133. No person can be reprimanded, suspended or expelled, for any offense whatever, unless written charges and specifications be filed and ten day's notice of the time and place of trial be given; provided, that in case of suspension or expulsion of a brother from a Masonic body, the entry on the chapter records of a certificate from such body, of its action, or oral proof of the fact in open chapter, shall be conclusive evidence, and the brother shall stand suspended or expelled in the chapter until restored to good standing in the Masonic body.

Sec. 134. Any affiliated member has a right to prefer charges, and may act as counsel for either the accused or the chapter, but in no case can this right be extended to one who is not affiliated.

Sec. 135. Complaints or charges against a Matron or Patron must be made to the Grand Matron during vacation, or

to the Grand Chapter while in session, and if approved, the Grand Matron will fix a time for trial and notify the chapter, with a copy of the charges made, and instruct the secretary of the chapter to serve a copy upon the accused, at which time she or her deputy shall preside.

Sec. 136. All charges must be made in writing, signed by the party making them, with specifications, including the names of witnesses. They shall be read in open Chapter at a stated communication, and if the Chapter by a majority vote of the members present entertain the charges and specifications, they shall be spread upon the records. The presiding officer shall set a time for trial, and instruct the secretary to notify accused of the same, or may refer the matter to a special grievance committee with instructions to give notice, take testimony and report their findings and recommendations.

Sec. 137. All charges must be heard and decided by the Chapter; in no case can this be left to a committee.

Sec. 138. The secretary may serve the notice either in person or by mail, but when sent by mail, twenty days shall be allowed for the accused to receive it.

Sec. 139. Upon the trial of a sister, at the request of a majority of the sisters present, the brothers shall retire; and upon the trial of a brother, at the request of a majority of the brothers present, the sisters shall retire.

Sec. 140. The rules of evidence shall be, so far as applicable, the same as in the Masonic law.

Sec. 141. The attendance of witnesses on either side, when they are members of the order, may be enforced by summons, which shall be issued by the secretary when ordered by the Worthy Matron or Chapter.

Sec. 142. When a witness is non-resident, and cannot attend in person before the Chapter, her or his evidence may be taken before a Worthy Matron or Worthy Patron certified by the secretary under seal of the Chapter in whose jurisdiction the witness may reside, both the accused and the accuser having due notice of the time and place of taking the testimony.

Sec. 143. The evidence of members of the order who may not be able to attend the trial, and of persons not members of the order, shall be taken in writing by a committee appointed by the presiding officer, of which both parties shall have due notice.

Sec. 144. The accused shall be a competent witness, but shall not be required by the Chapter to give evidence unless he or she shall be willing to testify, and cannot be allowed to vote on any question growing out of his or her case.

Sec. 145. At the time set for trial, if the accused fails to appear in person or by counsel, or has absconded before notice is served, the presiding officer may continue the case to some future time, or appoint a competent member to appear for the accused, and decide upon the case as though the accused were present.

Sec. 146. Should the accused appear and plead guilty to the charge and specifications no further evidence is necessary, and the Chapter shall at once fix the penalty.

Sec. 147. At the time and place apointed, the committee shall proceed to take the evidence of each witness, and after reading to each, her or his testimony in the case, request her or him to sign the same. The evidence thus taken shall be reduced to writing, preserved by the secretary and read before the Chapter at the time of the trial.

Sec. 148. The presiding officer shall decide as to the admissibility of any testimony offered, and all points of law and order that may be raised.

Sec. 149. After the evidence shall have been presented, and the prosecution and defendant, by themselves or counsel, have had an opportunity of being heard, the defendant shall retire, and the Chapter shall proceed to decide by taking a separate ballot upon each charge and specification; first, whether the assuced is guilty or not guilty, as charged, and if found guilty by a majority of the votes cast, then to fix the penalty, commencing with the highest grade and so on down until some penalty is determined on.

Sec. 150. Should definite suspension be decided upon, the time must be fixed upon by motion, but the longest time must be voted upon first.

Sec. 151. Should the Chapter refuse by a majority vote to inflict any penalty, after having voted on any grade, the secretary shall, within three days, certify the fact to the Grand Matron, who shall arrest the charter of the Chapter.

Sec. 152. The suspension of a member precludes for the time being, all privileges and benefits of the order whatever, and the expiration of time for which a member stands suspended restores her or him to all rights and privileges which she or he possessed before the trial.

Sec. 153. A sentence of suspension or expulsion will be in force from and after the passage thereof, until reversed by the Chapter pronouncing sentence or by the Grand Chapter.

Sec. 154. Any one refusing to submit to the penalty of reprimand is subject to discipline, and upon conviction thereof, may be suspended or expelled.

Sec. 155. To restore to membership any member of a chapter who may be indefinitely suspended, or expelled, shall require a petition for restoration received at a previous stated communication, which must have been referred to and reported upon by a committee of investigation, where it shall require a majority vote to restore one suspended, and a two-thirds vote one who has been expelled.

Sec. 156. A new trial may be granted by a chapter that tried the case, when a member has been suspended or expelled, in the following cases and upon the following conditions:

1. Upon newly discovered evidence which would indicate with reasonable certainty a change in the finding of the Chapter.

2. When a finding of a chapter is contrary to the evidence, and law and usage, or the penalty excessive.

Sec. 157. Application for a new trial must be made in writing, addressed to the Chapter, and contain a statement of the causes upon which the application is founded, be presented within ninety days after the trial was had or within ninety

days after the accused is informed of the action of the Chapter, and in all cases where a new trial is granted, the same rules shall govern as in the first instance.

Sec. 158. Every member found guilty of an offense, or any member of the Chapter, if either deem herself or himself or the cause of the order injured by the decision of the Chapter, or of the Worthy Matron thereof, in any trial may, within thirty days after such decision, appeal therefrom to the Grand Chapter at its next annual communication; in which case it shall be the duty of the secretary of the Chapter, upon receiving notice of such appeal, to transmit all the papers and a full, true and complete copy of all the proceedings had, and evidence taken in the case, to the Grand Secretary.

Sec. 159. Whenever an appeal shall be taken from any constituent Chapter, as provided in the foregoing section, the Grand Chapter may upon investigation:

1. Dismiss the appeal, approve the proceedings, or affirm the decision appealed from.

2. Modify or change a decision or sentence, or inflict a penalty where the constituent Chapter has failed to do so.

3. Set aside the proceedings of the Chapter for informality, and remand the case for future proceedings.

Sec. 160. The appeal shall first be referred to and receive investigation by the Committee on Grievances and Appeals, who shall report the facts, with their opinion thereon, to the Grand Chapter in session, and the decision of the Grand Chapter shall be conclusive upon all parties.

Sec. 161. The Committee on Grievances and Appeals shall not receive any other or further testimony than such as comes up with the appeal, nor shall any adidtional testimony be presented in the Grand Chapter unless by unanimous consent.

Sec. 162. Whenever the Grand Chapter shall modify or change a decision or sentence adjudged by a constituent Chapter, the same shall be final; and upon notice thereof, such constituent Chapter shall cause the same to be entered upon its records.

Sec. 163. Whenever the Grand Chapter, on a review of the trial or other proceedings of a Chapter, shall reverse or annul the judgment of said proceedings or shall order a new trial, the accused shall be thereby restored to all her or his rights, privileges and membership. When a case is remanded for a new trial, no amendment shall be made to the original charges and specifications, unless the accused have due and timely notice thereof.

APPENDIX

SUGGESTED FORM OF BY-LAWS FOR CONSTITUENT CHAPTERS.

ARTICLE I.

Name.

Section 1. The name of this Chapter shall be..... Chapter No.....Order of the Eastern Star, British Columbia.

ARTICLE II.

Communications.

Section 1. All communications of this Chapter shall be held in ..... hall, in the (city or town) of.....

Sec. 2. The stated communications of this Chapter shall be held on the..... evenings of each month at the hour of 7:30 o'clock from October 1st to April 1st, and at 8 o'clock from April 1st to October 1st.

ARTICLE III.

Fees and Dues.

Section 1. The fee for the degrees shall be..... dollars, which shall accompany the petition.

Sec. 2. There shall be no fee for affiliation.

Sec. 3. The dues shall be..... per annum, payable during the current year ending December 31st.

ARTICLE IV.

Salaries.

Section 1. The Secretary, Sentinel and other officers shall receive such remuneration as the Chapter may determine.

ARTICLE V.

Standing Committees.

Section 1. The Worthy Matron shall appoint at the stated communication next succeeding her installation a finance

committee, whose duty it shall be to examine the books and reports of the Secretary and Treasurer and audit all bills. She may appoint such other committees as in the opinion of the Chapter or Worthy Matron are requisite.

ARTICLE VI.

Charity.

Section 1. The Worthy Matron shall be empowered to draw on the Treasurer for sums not exceeding .....dollars each, for the immediate relief of a distressed worthy member of the Order, and report the same to the Chapter at the following stated communication for approval.

ARTICLE VII.

Amendments.

Section 1. Amendments to these By-Laws shall be proposed in writing at a stated communication, and if approved by a two-thirds vote of all members present at a subsequent stated communication, previous notice being given of such proposed action, shall become effective after aproval by the Grand Matron.

ARTICLE VIII.

Order of Business.

1. Opening.
2. Reading minutes of last stated and subsequent special communications.
3. Election of officers.
4. Conferring of degrees.
5. Reception and referring of petitions.
6. Reports of investigating committees.
7. Balloting on petitions.
8. Reports of standing and special committees.
9. Unfinished business.
10. New business.
11. Communications and bills.
12. Closing.

SUGGESTED FORM OF INTRODUCING GRAND OFFICERS.

Warder.—"Worthy Matron, the Grand.....is in waiting and desires admittance.'

Worthy Matron.—"It gives me pleasure to welcome the Grand ..... Sister Marshall (or Conductress), you will retire and escort the Grand ..... into the Chapter room." (As they enter, the Chapter is called up and the Conductress, with the distinguished guest, advances to the west of Esther's chair and says:) "Worthy Matron, it gives me great pleasure to introduce to you the Grand ..... of the Grand Chapter of British Columbia."

Worthy Matron.—"Grand ....., on behalf of the officers and members of ..... Chapter, No. ...., I welcome you. We are fully aware of your interest in our Order, to which we are bound by the ties of fraternity and the obligation of charity. Sister Conductress, you will escort the Grand ..... to the east." (Worthy Matron gives her hand to the visitor as they approach the dias.)

Worthy Matron.—"Sisters and Brothers, I take great pleasure in introducing to you the Grand ..... of British Columbia. You will join me in saluting her (or him) with the Grand Honors."

ABBREVIATIONS

G. C.	Grand Chapter
A. G. P.	Associate Grand Patron
A. G. M.	Associate Grand Matron
G. M.	Grand Matron
G. P.	Grand Patron
G. S.	Grand Secretary
Sec.	Secretary
U. D.	Under Dispensation
W. M.	Worthy Matron
W. P.	Worthy Patron

Figures refer to sections throughout the work.

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