

MEMORIAL SERVICE TO DECEASED ELKS Lodge of Sorrow of Scranton Lodge in the Frothingham.

A Splendid Array of Talent Participated in the Event, Which Was in Every Way Worthy Its Noble Importance--Attorney J. Elliot Ross Delivered the Memorial Address--A Masterful Discourse--Poems by Editor John E. Barrett and Dan L. Hart.

In many parts of the world last night, but especially throughout the States, there gathered up from thousands of throats the sweet, familiar and sympathetic strains of "Auld Lang Syne," the memorial song of the Elks, the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks.

Scranton Lodge, No. 123, did its part in swelling the grand chorus. The annual lodge of sorrow took place in the Frothingham theater and was participated in by nearly 200 Elks, who occupied seats on the theater stage, and witnessed by a large number of friends, daughters, relatives and friends of Elks, who occupied all the seats in the theater from orchestra pit to gallery.

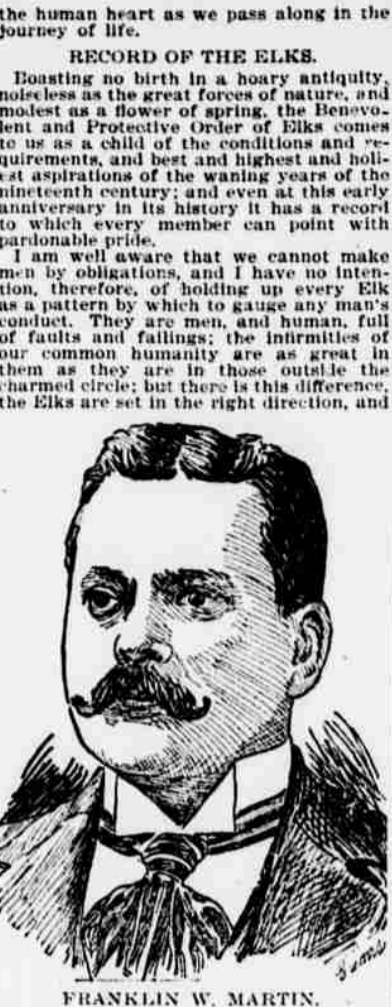
From soon after 8 o'clock until a quarter past ten there was witnessed an admirable memorial programme, planned and carried out with such regard for the excellent and with such success that the Elks must have gained an increased prestige in a city where they are already considered as honorably strong as in any city in this country.

It is not often that in any city a semi-public gathering is witnessed, which has so profitable and well-selected corps of artists and entertainers as that provided last night. First there was the flute, easy and beautiful organ. J. Elliot Ross delivered the memorial address; Bauer's orchestra of fifteen pieces, Elsie Van Dervoort, the contralto soloist of Etna Park church; Thilo Lewis, the Wilkes-Barre pianist, who has for several years been clinching his popularity in Elksdom; "Dan" L. Hart, the Wilkes-Barre Elks and play-writer and Mrs. Ernest Thiele, violinist and soprano, respectively, whose advent in Scranton has, though recent, been followed by pronounced favor; Will W. Watkins, baritone; and the Elk quartette, Fred C.

J. ELLIOT ROSS. One of Scranton's Orators Who Delivered the Memorial Address. Hand and Howell Davies, tenors, and Will W. Watkins and Curtis Colvin, basses.

THE THEATER CROWDED. Early in the evening hundreds of fortunate ticket holders began to enter the theater, and by eleven o'clock the seats were all occupied. The spectators were greeted by a pleasing scene after the lighting of the curtain. There was a glimpse of Elks in even dress occupying ten tiers of seats, a suspension of flowers and drapery and then the house was darkened. The next glimpse of light was from the letters "B. P. O. E. No. 123," shown in large electric set-piece of incandescents suspended above the stage. The light was shown in purple, the richest of all colors and the color of Elks. In a few seconds the regular illuminations were turned on in the whole auditorium.

In the center of the stage at the footlights rested a large elk's head, loaned for the occasion by Henry Bellin, Jr. Near the footlights were arranged several ornate tables, palms and green shaded lamps. The curtain was raised to the overtone of "Auld Lang Syne" by Suppe.



FRANKLIN W. MARTIN, The Exalted Ruler of Scranton Lodge, E. P. O. E. No. 123.

The rest is but matter of growth. How could it be otherwise? It is a period at the early age of nineteen years. I say the Elks are set in the right direction and are far from making a mistake. They have broken down, sweat away obliterated the narrow lines of nationality, race, color, creed and sect, and much to stunt the growth of man's best attributes, and kept them apart in the battle of life.

SLANDERER IS ABROAD. As may be said of individuals, so may it be said of organizations--the slanderer abroad in the form of a nation. There is no man or woman of any prominence in the city of Scranton who is not the object of some unkind words, and in some cases, words which are false and untrue. The slanderer abroad is the most common of men, and he is the most malicious of men.

WHEN IT IS A BLESSING. When the lightning of sorrow flash across the sky of the human heart, and the thunder of misfortune shake the very foundations of the mortal soul, when the sun is hid, and the flower no longer blooms, when the bird is no longer heard, when the world is dark and dreary, and the heart is full of gloom, then it is a blessing to have a friend who will sit by your side and share your sorrow.

ROLL OF THE DEAD. Among the number of our deceased brethren, absent Dr. George S. Throop, one of the organizers of the Scranton lodge, and his first Exalted Ruler; the genial, generous, kindly and generous brother, Dr. B. F. Throop, who, happily, is yet spared to the Order of Elks and to the city of Scranton.

FRED C. HAND, The Chairman of the Memorial Committee, Which Arranged the Service. with that mother's prophetic soul and penetrating eye, and we shall see therein the germ of every good that has ever come to pass.

pretensions in his life, kind, considerate and generous to a fault, a most excellent friend, our sympathy goes forth in unstinted measure to his bereaved family, and we will be glad to do all in our power to assist them in their sorrow.

THE CONCLUDING REMARKS. At this point the speaker turned to the members of the lodge, who, at a sign from the exalted ruler, arose. Mr. Ross then concluded his address as follows: My Brethren--I would address my closing words especially to you, and in so doing would lend emphasis, if I could, to the lines of the poet:

And it will follow as the night the day, That though not then he falls to any man, Every man who really realizes the fact, Not, bear aloft a banner with the God-given device, "As ye would that men should love you, so love ye them," and by noble living you can never sully that motto.

When Miss Van Dervoort had sung "Pensien Melancolico" the audience would not accept a bow as an encore, but insisted on further honor, and when she sang "O, Fair, O, Sweet, O, Holy," by Cantor, Mr. Thiele followed with a dual violin number, "The Boat on the Marsh," by Brax and Verdi, and for an encore "Mignon," by Handel.

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