



MR. ERNEST C. SIDDALL,  
Grand Secretary, Manitoba.

### ANOTHER FORWARD MOVE.

**New Grand Secretary—Whole Time to the Work—Progress Demands It—Tribute to Allan—Change Expected in June.**

Manitoba has marked another new era in her progress, as a Provincial body, by the selection of a Grand Secretary who will give his whole time to the work of the Order. At the monthly Executive meeting in May the resignation of Mr. F. J. Allan was accepted, and Mr. Ernest C. Siddall was elected to the office.

Mr. F. J. Allan for a round dozen of years filled the position and proved to be an efficient officer. He was re-elected, by acclamation, last February, and might easily have considered himself in possession of a life lease of the duties and honors. He had in a remarkable degree the confidence, the respect and the affection of the membership. His was, indeed, a labor of love, and it was worth much to the Order to have in that important position a man of such high standing and influence, and one of such strong character and spiritual power. Mr. Allan was the cashier of the Customs Port of Winnipeg, one of the most responsible positions in the civil service, and carrying with it heavy duties. For several years he felt the growing demands of the Grand Secretary's office, and often stated that the burdens were too heavy, but his colleagues would not listen to his suggestions of a withdrawal. He was so much in love with the work of the Order, and so thoroughly convinced of the great good that was being accomplished, that he desired superannuation in the customs service that he might give his whole time, even at serious financial sacrifice, to the Grand Secretary's office. But the department would not listen to the withdrawal of so valuable a servant so early in life. The rapid increase of membership, the active campaign for Veto, and the opening of the new Headquarters offices, led him to the conclusion that the time had arrived when the Grand Council should have a responsible officer, giving his whole time to the office work; and to open the way, he pressed his resignation upon the Executive, and it was reluctantly accepted. This resignation, however, does not remove him from the Executive, of which he will still remain a member, to give the benefit of his rich experience and mature judgment to the management of the work.

Ernest C. Siddall won his spurs in Royal Templar activities as Financial Secretary and Elocution Superintendent of Immanuel Council, No. 4. To his enthusiasm, devotion to duty, and splendid natural gifts, much

not listen to his suggestions of a withdrawal. He was so much in love with the work of the Order, and so thoroughly convinced of the great good that was being accomplished, that he desired superannuation in the customs service that he might give his whole time, even at serious financial sacrifice, to the Grand Secretary's office. But the department would not listen to the withdrawal of so valuable a servant so early in life. The rapid increase of membership, the active campaign for Veto, and the opening of the new Headquarters offices, led him to the conclusion that the time had arrived when the Grand Council should have a responsible officer, giving his whole time to the office work; and to open the way, he pressed his resignation upon the Executive, and it was reluctantly accepted. This resignation, however, does not remove him from the Executive, of which he will still remain a member, to give the benefit of his rich experience and mature judgment to the management of the work.

Ernest C. Siddall won his spurs in Royal Templar activities as Financial Secretary and Elocution Superintendent of Immanuel Council, No. 4. To his enthusiasm, devotion to duty, and splendid natural gifts, much of the success of the young Western Council is due. Precise and accurate in business operations, modest and urbane in manner, ambitious and devoted in spirit, he soon became a general favorite, and he made a success of the enterprises to which he put his hand. Members of the Provincial Executive had their eye on him, and when Mr. Allan presented his plan for a change, and urged the acceptance of his resignation, there were no two opinions about the man for the place. Ernest C. Siddall was unanimously elected to the office. He was carrying a responsible position as Cashier and was virtually managing the Customs Port. He had to give a month's notice to be relieved of his duties there. On the 8th of June he entered upon the work of Grand Secretary of Manitoba, and is now in charge of the beautiful new Headquarters Offices.

The new Grand Secretary is a native of Australia, born in Melbourne in 1882. He is a typical son of the Southern Cross, a tall, straight, husky fellow, who fills the physical eye with distinct satisfaction. He finished his education in England, whence he came to Canada about five years ago, and settled in the Western metropolis. He is an Anglican, an active member of St. Matthew's, and his pastor, the rector of the church, Rev. R. B. McElheran, B. A., is also a Royal Templar, and a hearty coadjutor in the good work.

The Executive appointed a special committee to prepare an address for Mr. F. J. Allan, as a recognition of his long, faithful and self-sacrificing services as Grand Secretary.

This change carries with it new responsibilities for the growing Royal Templar family of Manitoba, and for the temperance people whose cause profits by the increased efficiency of leadership. For the first time, probably, the cause will have a capable, responsible official, giving his whole time to the work. It is a great shame that such an important movement of applied Christianity, so ripe for advanced achievement, has suffered such straits for lack of equipment and financial support. No other field of Christian activity promises finer returns for investment, and the faith and enterprise of the Royal Templars, in appointing well-appointed headquarters offices, and placing in

JUNE, 1908

charge an able manager, thus establishing a much-needed bureau of information and direction, will surely call out the admiration and command the practical support of all aggressive temperance workers. This new move will greatly increase the efficiency of the service we will be able to give the Veto movement, and insure thorough management of correspondence, and distribution of literature.