
Our Convention

by E.V. Debs

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The time is rapidly approaching for the annual convention of our Order for the year 1880. We have every reason to believe that this will be the most interesting as well as s the most profitable convention every held by our Brotherhood. For six years past we have held an annual meeting, for the purpose of enhancing our welfare as laboring men, and consulting upon matters pertaining to the good of the organization. It should be impressed upon the minds of all our members that grave issues are to be met, and that matters of weighty importance will have to be disposed of. It is strictly necessary therefore that the best man of every subordinate lodge should be its representative. Don't send your good fellows! They will do very well in their way; but send a man of parliamentary knowledge and strict habits, who has the love of the Order at heart. Send a man who will attend every session from early morn until late at night. The opinion is prevalent that going to a convention is what is usually called "a soft thing." Don't make this mistake brothers! To do one's duty at a place of that kind requires deep and constant study and ceaseless labor. Subordinate lodges should be careful then of the person they send to represent them. Be sure to have a man at the convention who will be able to give you the sum and substance of the proceedings in its minutest details.

Another thing. Delegates should have the ambition to see that their lodges are square on the Grand Lodge books before they go to Chicago. They should bring with them all the necessary reports, and if they owe anything to the Grand Lodge, raise the money and bring it with them. A delegate whose lodge owes no one feels more at ease and liberty than one whose lodge is in arrears. Remember this brothers! It is also expected by the Grand Secretary and Treasurer [Debs] that delegates will consult with their Magazine Agents before leaving home, and see whether they have paid for all the books they have or-

dered. If not, the delegates will collect the amount still due from the agent, and pay to the Grand Secretary and Treasurer at Chicago. This is strictly imperative as these accounts must be settled at least once each year.

The prospects are brilliant, and by each one doing the duty imposed on him, and doing it well, the coming convention will eclipse all others ever held by our Brotherhood.

Edited by Tim Davenport

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