

SCENES AT OVOCA, WHERE THE PYTHIANS WILL GATHER FROM ALL OVER TENNESSEE THIS WEEK



(Photo. by J. R. Peeden, Nashville.)

THE FOLKS WHO LIVE AT OVOCA.

OVOCA, Tenn., June 3.—(Special.)—The fortieth annual convention of the Grand Lodge of the Knights of Pythias of Tennessee will be held at Ovoca, the widows' and orphans' home of the order, located three and one-half miles from Tullahoma, June 13, 14 and 15. The committees will assemble at Ovoca Tuesday, the 13th, for the transaction of the business assigned them, and the opening session of the grand lodge proper will be held in the castle on the morning of the 14th. This bids fair to be the most interesting and important gathering of Pythians ever held in a southern domain. The eyes of Pythians all over the country are upon Ovoca, and the progress of this unique undertaking is a matter of interest to those concerned in fraternal matters everywhere.

The thirty-ninth annual session of the grand lodge was held last year at Ovoca, and those who attended that meeting, the first to be held at the home, will be impressed with the wonderful changes that have been wrought during the past year, under the guiding hand of Grand Keeper of Records and Seal W. D. Fox, with the assistance of the other members of the board of trustees—Grand Chancellor L. G. Browne, Chattanooga,

of the Hostages," where are domiciled the dependents of the order, the cottages are named for the various Pythian sister temples in Tennessee. Thus the signs, "Battle," "Calanthe," "Star of Hope" and "Rachel" greet the eye. On the "Arm of Samson" the cottages are named in honor of the lodges of the state, such as Damon, Myrtle, Memphis, etc.

NEW BRIDGES BUILT.

Three new bridges are practically finished, making four large structures of this kind. Three of these are called "Banim," "Bridge-on-the-Brink," and "Ruthellen." Work is in progress on the three principal thoroughfares of the home—viz., Reynolds Road, the White Way, and Howard Highway. The White Way is named for R. L. C. White, the deceased supreme keeper of records and seal, whose name is dear to every Pythian heart.

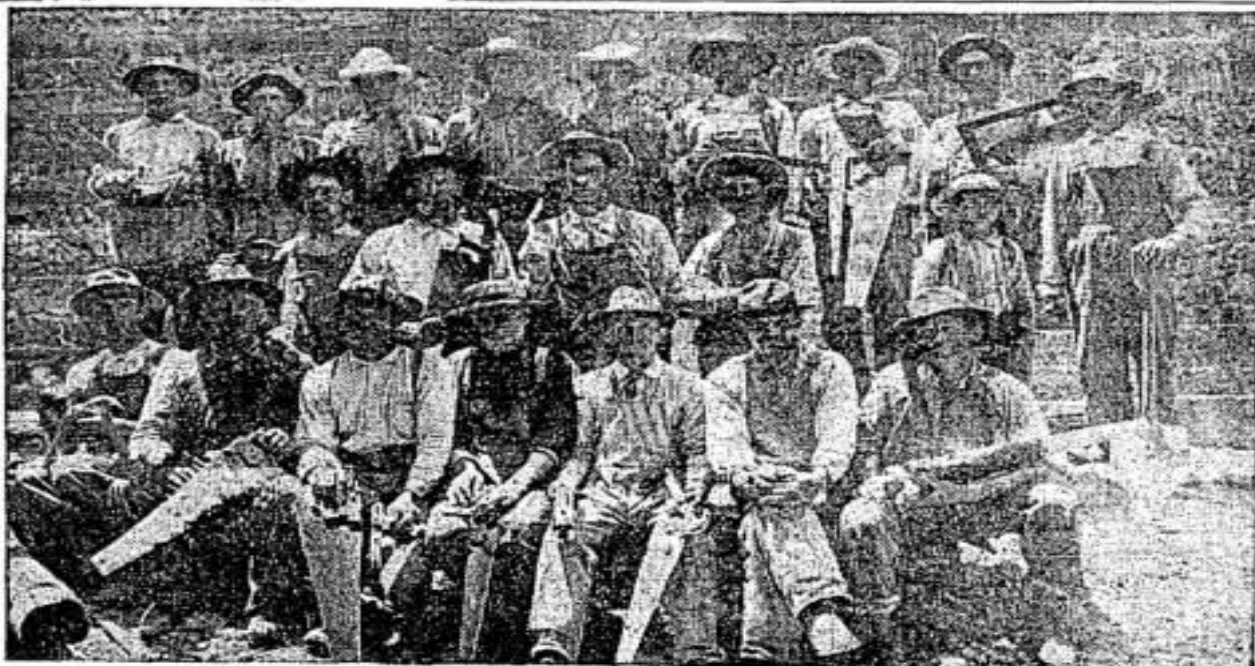
The drill ground has been prepared for the encampment of the Uniform Rank of the order, which will be an interesting feature of the coming convention. There are now five active Uniform Rank companies in the state, and these will be well represented at the encampment. Dr. Paul

Pythian Sisters in the Castle by Ovoca Temple No. 12, of Tullahoma.

Wednesday, June 14.—First day of Grand Lodge convention; 9:30 a. m., reception to representatives by the orphans of Ovoca; invocation by District Deputy Grand Chancellor Everett S. Smith of Murfreesboro; welcome address by Past Grand Chancellor George H. Price of Nashville; response by Past Grand Chancellor John C. Twinam of Chattanooga; exercises open to the general public. At 10 a. m., Grand Lodge assemblies. 1 p. m., swimming contest on Lake Calanthe; parade by the Dramatic Order Knights of Khorassan; 8 p. m., presentation of amplified third rank of the order by Nashville Lodge No. 185, in the Castle, assisted by the uniform rank, under direction of Past Grand Chancellor H. L. Fox of Nashville; Khorassan ceremonial, the Castle.

Thursday, June 15.—7:30 to 9 a. m., competitive drills by the uniform rank companies on Pythian Field; Grand Lodge convenes; 1 p. m., boating contest on Lake Calanthe.

The rank work, the Khorassan ceremonial and the uniform rank encampment are features that have never before been attempted at Grand Lodge conventions, and these diver-



(Photo, by J. R. Feden, Nashville.)

CARPENTERS WHO BUILT OVOCA.

ga; Grand Master of Exchequer P. D. Houston, Nashville; L. M. Pindell, Chattanooga; Alex. Scott, Chattanooga; Kirk Allen, Memphis; Otto B. Giers, Nashville; Mora B. Fariss, Columbia, and R. S. McClaran, Jackson. With the limited means at their disposal, these improvements have been nothing short of marvelous. For several months the five-hundred acre tract has been the scene of daily activity. A large force of carpenters, landscape workers and laborers has been at work, and new cottages and other buildings, roadways, waterways and other improvements greet the eye of the visitor to the home.

LAKE CALANTHE DAM.

The dam to form Lake Calanthe has been completed at a cost of \$3,000, and the water was turned in on June 1. From four to ten days will be required to fill the lake bed. The body of water will embrace an area of about twelve or fourteen acres, the supply emanating from countless springs located in and near the grounds that go to make up the main stream terminating in the noted Cascade Falls, several hundred yards below the dam. This structure contains a concrete core 200 feet long and 16 feet high, reinforced by an earth fill varying in thickness from 4 to 24 feet. The lake will vary in depth from four to sixteen feet.

A supply of black bass and other fish will be furnished by the bureau of fisheries of the government with which to stock the lake, and summer resorters and other visitors to the Pythian home can engage in the pleasurable pastime of fishing, swimming and boating. The natural surroundings render this one of the most beautiful spots to be found in the land.

In the new cottages the representatives to the grand lodge convention will be housed, and they will take their meals in the restaurant that has just been completed.

Each building in Ovoca has been given a name suggestive of Pythian nomenclature, and a neat sign over each discloses to the uninitiated the identity of each structure. The main auditorium is known as the "Castle," while the restaurant has been dubbed "The Respite." The signs over these buildings are in the Pythian colors—blue, yellow and red. On the "Hill

DeWitt, of Nashville, is the major commanding the first battalion of Tennessee, and it is to his untiring work that this feature of the meeting has been made possible. On Phintias Field will be held the competitive drills, for which the grand lodge last year appropriated \$200.

Another feature of unusual interest will be the ceremonial of the Dramatic Order of Knights of Khorassan. The ceremonial will be a joint one, in which the temples of Nashville, Memphis and Chattanooga will participate. Many Pythians high in the order will be in attendance at the ceremonial, which will be held in the castle at 9:30 p. m. on the 14th, preceded by a parade of the camels, tigers and tyros in the afternoon.

The Pythian Sisters will hold their grand temple convention in Tullahoma. A reception will also be tendered the grand temple officers and all Pythians by Ovoca Temple No. 12, of Tullahoma, on the evening of the 13th. Mrs. Otto B. Giers, of Nashville, is the grand chief of the Pythian Sisters.

The representatives from the various Knights of Pythias lodges in the state, the trustees and grand lodge officers who will be in attendance upon the approaching convention number about two hundred, and it is thought that the additional Pythian visitors will swell this number to five hundred.

An automobile has recently been purchased by the board of trustees, and this, with a number of other machines secured for the purpose, will be used to convey the representatives out to Ovoca. A committee has been appointed by Henry R. Howard Lodge No. 180, of Tullahoma, to meet the knights upon their arrival in Tullahoma. Pythians other than the representatives, grand lodge officers and trustees will be entertained in the city. The visiting Pythian sisters will also be looked after in Tullahoma. The Tullahoma lodge has recently moved into a new and commodious hall, and here the ladies auxiliary of the order will put on their work for the edification of the knights.

CONVENTION PROGRAM.

Following is the program in full for the three days' meeting:

Tuesday, June 13.—2 p. m., committees meet at Castle; reception to

sions will add zest to the coming convention. The swimming and rowing contests on Lake Calanthe will be a unique departure.

Reports of Grand Lodge officers and trustees of Ovoca will be mailed to each representative within the coming week.

CONVENTION COMMITTEES.

Grand Chancellor L. O. Browne and Grand Keeper of Records and Seal W. D. Fox have selected the various committees for the coming convention, and the members comprising these committees will gather on the day before the opening of the grand lodge for the purpose of transacting the business assigned them. The committees will meet in the castle. The personnel of the committees is as follows:

Finance—W. B. Young, Clarksville, chairman; W. H. Tonkin, Cleveland; Aaron Bergeda, Nashville; M. Geo. Y. Foreman, Chattanooga; Frank Stockard, Clifton.

Mileage and Per Diem—Reginald Stonestreet, Nashville, chairman; O. B. Fisher, Monterey; Madison E. Wells, Nashville; L. G. McMillan, Martin; W. G. Ackerman, Memphis.

Charters—W. T. Capehart, Chattanooga, chairman; D. C. Boyd, Somerville; W. C. Hunter, Johnson City; A. J. Jamison, Murfreesboro; Jas. W. Griffin, Nashville.

Appeals—C. W. Turner, Waverly, chairman; L. B. Harwell, Friendship; Terry Abernathy, Selmer; B. F. Alnut, Cedar Hill; B. P. Turbeville, Memphis.

State of the Order—S. L. Peeler, Camden, chairman; G. T. Riddle, Pulaski; J. P. Rauch, Memphis; C. C. Breese, Franklin; Verner Tolmie, Nashville.

Law—J. Washington Moore, Nashville, chairman; W. O. Brandon, Dyersburg; C. B. Newman, Jackson; D.

T. Bates, Centerville; M. L. Bryan, Etowah.

Subordinate Lodge Reports—Ed Albright, Gallatin, chairman; H. J. Swindler, Newbern; W. H. Clark, McKenzie; B. H. Irwin, Knoxville; Ed Lallemand, Memphis.

Necrology—H. Lee Parrish, Nashville, chairman; L. H. Burke, Parsons; J. B. Brandon, Clifty; B. H. Moore, Chestnut Bluff; A. M. Patterson, Savannah.

Distribution of Reports—Jephtha Bright, past grand chancellor, Chattanooga, chairman; B. J. Dillard, past grand chancellor, Lebanon; George H. Price, past grand chancellor, Nashville.