

Diamond Drill

Out of the Past

February 5, 1898

The Knights of the Maccabees (K.O.T.M.) celebrated the acquisition of the 100<sup>th</sup> member last Tuesday evening in a manner that marked a whole chapter in the history of the tent which will not soon be forgotten. The simply beastly inclemency of the weather kept a great many of the outside tents from attending but both Iron River and Amasa tents were represented. Ernest Munns was the 100<sup>th</sup> member inducted and after the initiation ceremonies the assembled guests adjourned to the Miners & Lumberman's Building (100 Superior) where the Ladies of the Maccabees had prepared an elaborate spread for 150 persons. The Knights of the Maccabees was founded in London, Ontario in 1878 by the Order of the Foresters basing their name, ceremonies and rituals on the Maccabees, a group of Jewish rebels against the Seleucid Empire. The organization provided insurance and benefits for people engaged in hazardous occupations such as local area woodworkers. Membership was open to all white persons between 18 and 70 of good character, bodily healthy and socially acceptable.