

Suspension For Non-Payment Of Dues
By Ronald R. Rogers, Junior Grand Warden

Why?

Is our brother no longer interested in belonging to our fraternity?

Is he of an age that he inadvertently overlooked the payment of his dues?

Is he in financial difficulty and cannot pay his dues?

Is he ill and medical costs are taking all his monies except that for food and lodging?

Is he displeased with something our fraternity has or has not done?

Important reasons, each and every one of them. Don't you think we should find out which reason applies?

When you compare the amount of time it takes to initiate, pass and raise a candidate as compared to keeping a brother from being suspended for non-payment of dues, it is monumental!

It is interesting how many of us are willing to serve on an investigating committee, but we shy away from contacting a brother who is in arrears in his dues and could possibly be in need.

How better a way to practice our tenets of Brotherly Love and Relief. It could be that a personal contact might not only cause our brother to pay his dues but he might be impressed by our actions and concerns for him that he might return as an active member.

If, on the other hand, we find that he is having one of the difficulties stated above, not only could the lodge remit his dues, but extend to him some financial aid. How rewarding it would be, knowing we were a part of helping a brother.

Some of our brethren believe our initiation fee should include lifetime dues. This, of course, would eliminate this problem. But until this change might take place, this situation remains with us.

Don't consider this a problem to be dealt with, but an opportunity to personally contact a brother and show him that our fraternity is alive and is concerned with his well-being.