

ROYAL ANTEDILUVIAN ORDER OF BUFFALOES.

GRAND SURREY BANNER. (MOTHER BANNER OF THE WORLD).

UNDER GRAND SURREY COUNCIL.

153 BISHOP STREET,

WHALLEY RANGE,

MANCHESTER,

12th May, 1924.

To the Metropolitan & Provincial Grand Lodges & Minor Lodges.

Brethren,

AMALGAMATION.

Acting on the instructions of your Council, a Sub-Committee appointed by the Council has been since November last continuously in conference with several other Banners and Sections of the R.A.O.B. with a view to bringing about, if possible, complete Amalgamation which I venture to say is what our Order has been striving for for years and which I think you will agree is necessary to further the promotion of our beloved Order.

Your Sub-Committee at the Council Meeting on Thursday last, the 8th May, reported the result of their deliberations. They informed the Council that subject to their acceptance of the conditions provisionally agreed by them complete Amalgamation could be *an accomplished fact on 1st July, 1924.* The conditions which have been submitted are set out in copies of Rules and Reports which you will receive within the next day or two, and I suggest a careful perusal of same, but I should here like to say that your Sub-Committee have induced all the other Sections and Banners to accept.

1.—The general constitution of the Grand Surrey Banner.

2.—The adoption of their working Rules subject to slight amendments.

The Council while accepting the report of their Sub-Committee have requested the Grand Council Delegates to bring the matter before each Provincial Grand Lodge and Metropolitan Grand Lodge with a view to each Minor Lodge being thoroughly acquainted with the matter.

It is therefore specially desired that each Province will go into the matter and instruct their Delegates so that the Council can definitely decide the question at a Special Meeting of the Council convened for 3rd July, 1924.

Your Sub-Committee are in the meantime (in anticipation of your acceptance of Amalgamation) continuing their meetings.

As your Grand President I feel it my duty at this stage to urge upon you to accept Amalgamation generally on the lines suggested by your Sub-Committee. The conditions are fair and in every way equitable, and if accepted I feel confident our beloved Order would not only continue to prosper and flourish but would have a far larger scope to extend its benefits and help. Finally, I earnestly trust my recommendation will meet with your whole-hearted support.

I am, Brethren,

Yours sincerely and fraternally,

F. H. KEELING,

Grand President.