

GRAND LODGE BULLETIN

GRAND LODGE OF ALBERTA - A. F. AND A. M.

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UNDERTONE AT THE NORTH EAST CORNER

We have just encountered a Gossip, rapped him smartly for his stupid practice and made him the subject of this editorial.

The major lesson of the North East corner is Charity. That is a sadly degraded word nowadays but it means more than a penny in a bowl surely! It means kindness and tolerance in thought, word and deed, and one of the commonest intolerances is petty talk about what concerns one's neighbor. Consider the Third Point of Fellowship again, brother. Does it permit you to pass judgment on your brother and adding two and two permit you to proclaim the result as five?

Here are a few items to ponder before you repeat the next malicious story which may come your way:

No happening was ever reported exactly as it occurred. If it were we would need neither witnesses nor juries to decide upon human weakness.

Every repetition of a story carries part of the gossip's personality - a little added dirt. The gossip's story is more of a revelation of himself than of the one he maligns, and he who thus abuses the confidences of his brethren should certainly not pass judgment on the works of another.

A well-bred man, and every Mason should be, asks no personal questions and therefore has no inside information of skeletons in his brother's closet. If, perchance, an ugly story comes his way, he verifies the facts, should that seem necessary, or says nothing.

Malicious talk has destroyed more reputations, more careers, created more jealousy, discontent and envy, ruined more friendships, than any single factor in human intercourse. If you have nothing good to say, say nothing!

Curiosity, used constructively is the tool of progress, but a weapon of woe when used for the destruction of another's reputation. Be charitable. Be tolerant. Ill-timed gossip is the tiger's claw in the heart of the unsuspecting. It has no place in Masonry where the tenets of silence and circumspection are ever on the lips of the teachers.

A.M.M.

ALBERTA FRATERNIZES WITH MONTANA

Alberta was represented at the recent Seventy-third Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Montana, held in Helena, by M.W. Bros. Middleton and Macaulay and R.W. Bro. George Moore, S.G.W. Here they had the privilege of returning the courtesy of the visit to our Grand Lodge last June of M.W. Bro. John Cain, Grand Master, and R.W. Bro. Luther T. Hauberg, Grand Secretary.

A very interesting program included inspirational addresses by R.W. Bro. Walter Stockwell, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of North Dakota and Bro. Carl Claudy, Secretary of the Masonic Service Association of the United States. One of Bro. Claudy's Masonic plays, "The Greatest of These" was splendidly performed and made quite an impression on the Alberta visitors, who felt it readily adaptable to our work.

A beautiful \$75,000 cut stone building was dedicated as a Library, Museum and Grand Lodge Office. This edifice is constructed to resist fire, earthquake and tornado.

Other distinguished visitors included the Grand Masters of Idaho, Wyoming, North Dakota and Michigan. In company with M.W. Bro. Macaulay they were made members of the Past Grand Masters' Association and Honorary Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Montana. These honors had previously been conferred upon M.W. Bro. Middleton. R.W. Bro. Moore was made an Honorary Past Senior Grand Warden.

As a fitting conclusion to the sessions a picnic was held at the magnificent Masonic Home located a few miles out of the city. The Home is furnished on an almost palatial scale and should be a most delightful place for old folks to watch the lengthening shadows. It has a capacity for sixty guests with forty-seven in present residence.

The hospitality and fellowship of the Montana Masons so impressed the Alberta visitors that they sincerely recommend the continuance of the exchange of visitations with our neighbor jurisdiction to the South.

MASONRY AND THE DEPRESSION

The depression has brought out many of the needs of Masonry. First, the necessity of selecting the right kind of material. Then the need for Masonic Education and with that the necessity for keeping true and faithful record of our own history.

The depression has shown us an immense amount of real help willingly given. It has proved the wise provision made in the past. A Mason's Lodge in hard times is like a man with his back to the wall. Adversity brings out the best that is in him.

The depression has shown the need of close co-operation between Lodges. Some members and Lodges have been rid of the notion that they are the mother lode of our institution and found they are but another unit in an ancient and

world wide brotherhood. It has given the strong the opportunity to help the weak and shown that there is no limit to the good some men can do when they forget who will get the credit.

Finally the depression has shown that the energy displayed by some members in promoting societies based on Masonic membership would be more useful if applied to the working of the Craft.

R.G.T.

MASONRY ON A FAR-AWAY BRITISH FRONTIER

But for the droning of an aeroplane passing overhead, the creaking of the windlass at the open well, or the casual outcry of a Sepoy, silence pervaded the village of Nahakki on the sun-heated plain of Kamalai in Mohmand country on the evening of October 17th, 1935.

With that ingenerated enthusiasm felt by Masonic Brethren far from home, Jamrud Lodge No. 4372 held a Regular Communication, which was attended by Master Masons of the British Military Force occupying the area. The meeting took place in a yard amidst dark, baked mud buildings, surrounded by walls of the same dull material and adjacent to the village.

There, with Lodge fittings furnished principally by the visiting Brethren and "under the clear blue canopy of heaven" in "that Temple not made with hands"...were enacted the ancient mysteries. Dried mud blocks sufficed for the altar and the seats of the Master and Wardens. On the altar lay a small pocket edition of the Volume of the Sacred Law, treasured by its owner, the Master of the Lodge, Major H.E.A. Morris. Properly placed were the Square and Compasses and the usual Lights were candles stuck in bottles. The gavels were tent mallets and the rough ashlar picked up on the camp ground. None could be found for the "perfect" one. The letter "G" was of painted cardboard.

On the straw covered ground were spread waterproof "service" sheets on which the Brethren sat. In the centre was a "tessellated pavement" composed of black and white cloth squares and in the centre of the pavement lay an ancient pocket tracing board loaned by Mr. Reeves-Brown, the Punjab District Grand Secretary. In the performance of their duties the Deacons carried pick-helves, while the Tyler, armed with a bayonet stood at his post. Fortunately, Lodge collars and some aprons were to be had.

Thus British soldiers and airmen met, opened, and closed a Masonic Lodge, far from their native haunts, and "somewhere on the North West Frontier" history had been made and "Light" had come to an obscure Mohammedan village, for had not there been gathered there those who are "Brother to a Prince and fellow to a beggar if he be found worthy"?

Digested from an Article in "The London
Freemason".

SENIOR PAST GRAND MASTER PASSES

It is with much regret we record the death of Rev. Bro. George H. Hogbin, D.D., P.G.M., in England on September 7th very suddenly.

M.W. Bro. Hogbin during his long residence in Calgary was a very active member in his lodge, Bow River No. 28, G.R.M., which became No. 1 in our Grand Lodge, and it is interesting to note that he himself was No. 1 on the Grand Lodge register of our members. He was Master of his lodge in 1905, the year our Grand Lodge was formed, having much to do with the formation of the latter and the organization work which followed, as our records show. In 1908 he was elected Grand Master, after serving as Junior and Senior Grand Wardens and Deputy Grand Master.

He was an energetic and earnest Churchman, holding many important offices in the Diocese. For two and a half years he was Rector of St. George's Church in Banff and later was appointed Archdeacon of Calgary.

During the war he acted as Chaplain to the forces and was stationed at Sarcee Camp. About the year 1918 he went to British Honduras as Rector of the Church at Belize and was appointed Archdeacon. After several years he returned to England, taking the living of Hindon with Chickdale and Perwood in the Diocese of Salisbury, where he died at the age of 68.

The passing of our senior Past Grand Master will be particularly regretted by those who had the privilege of knowing him in the early days.

A MASONIC APPEAL

The campaign for vegetables, fuel and clothing for sufferers in the dried out areas goes on apace. Detailed information from these districts reveals the startling need for practically all necessities of life in many places. The amount of help required to keep our fellow men, their wives and children from hunger, cold and disease is enormous. The response of the lodges and brethren to be an organizing and collecting force in this jurisdiction has been truly Masonic, and the number of carloads available for shipping cannot yet be estimated.

The matter of distribution has met with the same earnest attention by lodges in the needy areas and every care is being taken to see that opportunity for proper supervision by these will be given and that help supplied will be only to those deserving—but to these, irrespective of all other consideration. The difficulty of correct distribution quite equals that of collection and transportation, but it is felt the brethren will make this a personal obligation in each district, that our effort may result in the desired end.

The bringing together at this time of all classes of the community in this common effort of helpfulness will exemplify the true spirit of Masonry.

C. C. HARTMAN,
Grand Master.