



# Grand Lodge Bulletin

Editor: SAM HARRIS, P.G.M.

## A Message from Our Grand Master

Dear Mr. Editor:

Thank you for the invitation to appear in the pages of your increasingly interesting *Bulletin*.

It affords me a most welcome opportunity of passing to my brethren news of the implementation of the recognition of a crying need in our Grand Jurisdiction.

The approach to Peace raises the question in the minds of many people, "What is the best type of War Memorial?" Some will doubtless pin their allegiance to cenotaphs and kindred structures and many may be found who will seek those more utilitarian in character and of lasting benefit to the living.

This is not a plea for a war memorial though its implication and provision could be linked with so laudable an intention. I want to plead for the living; for a more sympathetic consideration to the need for providing for the aged, the poor and the distressed.

It is a slur upon our Order that any member of ours, his widow or orphans should be helped by public assistance institutions or religious bodies.

There are many Freemasons and widows of Freemasons, some of them quite alone who are compelled by present circumstances to spend their remaining days in back rooms, without comfort, indeed in much unhappiness, silently borne.

Some have a small income and would gladly pay their share for the joy of fellowship with others of their own age in homes of congenial surroundings, if only facilities could be provided.

Statistics seem to prove the proportion of people of pensionable age has grown from six to twelve per cent in forty years and is likely to rise to twenty per cent in another thirty years.

It is also apparent that the provision of old age pensions has tended, among other things to destroy the old traditional three generation family. One no longer sees living together grandparents with the children that are the crown of old age. The smallness of modern dwellings has made it more necessary for grandparents and parents to live apart from their grown-up and married children. And yet, the urge to avoid wide separation is seen by the very many

applications made by old people to be allowed to build "just a wee shack" at the bottom of the garden of their childrens' home—a request denied to them by municipal regulations.

Old folk avoid public institutions as long as they can pinch and scrape an independent existence.

Allowances such as we can and do give in some cases, cannot solve the problems of the autumn years of the aged. The keys to the greater problems of loneliness and infirmity will be found in housing and in the communal facilities of a well-planned scheme.

It is not so much poverty perhaps as lack of accommodation or inability to care for their parents that causes many sons and daughters (of all classes) to have to refuse shelter to aged relatives.

It is because I am so keenly aware of the need for assisting many of our brethren and their widows that I have embarked upon a scheme that shall provide homes where the occupants could live in their own wee flat, apartment or cottage, and in some cases with their own belongings—where they could receive their own friends and in the eventide of life be assured of the comfort they need and which our present system of benevolence denies them.

I am aiming at a small apartment house in every one of our seventeen districts; separate establishments containing two or three rooms, kitchen, bathroom, built-in cupboards and so on for those still able and anxious to keep house.

I recommend the erection of separate homes in each district as the best way in which we can be assured of their proper upkeep and supervision. The brethren would have a continual and permanent incentive to exercise that virtue we all profess to admire. There would be that healthy spirit of rivalry to make in each district a home to be proud of. The brethren could beautify and adorn them—create the gardens around them and visit their guests to ensure no semblance or thought of loneliness exists.

It is charity in its kindest conception of fraternal love. Many of our brethren have contributed generously to our beneficence for years; they are fully entitled to this consideration. There will be cases

where the relatives of the occupants of these apartments might be only too ready to contribute to the cost of such accommodation and to the support of their dependants.

For the orphans, a section could be utilised and children housed under the care of some kindly widow or spinster relative of a Freemason. There is no limit to the usefulness of such a scheme, and by it we would remove forever from our honoured name the stigma of selfishness—we would at long last justify our existence in the fullest exemplification of brotherly love, relief and truth.

The ten District Meetings I have attended so far have most enthusiastically endorsed my scheme. The other seven now a-visiting, will, I am sure, do no less.

A representative group of brethren in the northern half of the Province met to consider the proposals and very courteously consented to resolve themselves into an advisory Committee. I hope to meet a similar group representing the southern portion on Sept. 6th, and have every confidence they will gladly join the throng that plans to provide dignified comfort to such of our brethren as may need this.

After consultation with our brethren in the south I purpose to inaugurate the scheme by the means which best may admit of our functioning with the least tramelling of regulations. A Board of Trustees will administer the capital fund to be raised. Committees on Finance, Land and Buildings, Campaign, Legal Aspects and Maintenance, will be formed. Each District will set up its own committee for supervision and maintenance.

When the machinery is set up, the campaign for funds will be set in motion and I look with confidence for a minimum of ten dollars from every brother in this Grand Jurisdiction. Those whom God hath endowed with more will eagerly seek to contribute more.

This scheme, for which the most suitable name and style has yet to be found, is not a child of Grand Lodge. It will receive sanction from Grand Lodge, but will operate as a separate entity with its own governing body, and contributions to the fund will be accepted from anyone and everyone recognising its sterling merit.

I invite criticism that is not destructive. I will gladly try to answer any questions sent to me, care of The Central Masonic Temple, Edmonton, where, thanks to our brethren I am permitted to establish a temporary office.

Please write telling me what you think of the scheme and, more than that, do please rally 'round it with your best material and moral support.

Sincerely and fraternally,

*Geo. H. Crane-Williams.*

Grand Master.

## TIME MARCHES ON

Medicine Hat Lodge, No. 2, at Medicine Hat, celebrated their 60th Anniversary on Saturday, June 16th last. The proceedings commenced with a splendid banquet after which a meeting of the lodge was held. Their large lodge room was filled to capacity, amongst the brethren present were several real old timers, some having come from long distances in order to be present on this historic occasion. A large number of present and past Grand Lodge Officers including our Grand Master, M. W. Bro. Rev. Canon Crane-Williams were also present. A 60 Year Jewel was presented to one old valued member and two other old valued members were presented with Life Membership Certificates by the Lodge. A splendid historical history of the lodge was read by the Secretary, R. W. Bro. W. H. Williams, incidentally this Historical Register is the best or one of the best it has been the writer's privilege to see.

The spirit of true brotherliness was evinced when the brethren of Medicine Hat Lodge presented to the brethren of Bow Island Lodge No. 64, a cheque to be used in the re-building of their lodge room which was recently totally destroyed by fire.

Speeches and reminiscences were given by several members and a splendid 60th Anniversary was brought to a successful close by an inspiring address from our Grand Master. Great credit is due R. W. Bro. Jesse Elliott and Bro. W. A. Noble, the Chairman and Secretary respectively of the Committee in charge of the arrangements which were all that could be desired. Personally, it was pleasing to have the privilege of being amongst those present on such an unique occasion. May Medicine Hat Lodge, No. 2, celebrate many more anniversaries.

S.H.

## HONOURS

At the recent Annual Communication of our Mother Grand Lodge, the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, the following were honoured in being elected Honourary Past Grand Masters: M. W. Bros. George Moore, Sam Harris and Geo. F. Ellis, all Past Grand Masters of our Grand Lodge of Alberta.

At the recent Annual Communication of our own Grand Lodge, M. W. Bro. Dr. P. T. Pilkey, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba and M. W. Bro. John R. Carter, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan were elected as Honourary Past Grand Masters. R. W. Bro. Robt. A. Tate, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan, who was our Guest Speaker, was elected as an Honourary Past Deputy Grand Master and R. W. Bro. D. S. Fenton of Peace Lodge No. 126 at Dawson Creek, British Columbia, was elected as an Honourary Past Senior Grand Deacon.

We were pleased to honour these brethren and at the recent Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan our Grand Master, M. W. Bro. Rev. Canon Crane-Williams, who was their

Guest Speaker, was honoured in being elected as an Honorary Past Grand Master. May the Most High give these brethren many years of good health and strength in order they may enjoy these honours.  
S.H.

### THE LAST CALL

H. R. FISHER, P.M., K.T., 32°  
Los Angeles, Calif.

This call is certain to come to every one because we are born to die. May we be ready when this call comes to us to embark on that long trail that leads to that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns. This lonesome trail must be traveled by every one whether rich, poor, white or colored. We are all on the same level when traveling on this trail, except for the record we leave; and this depends on the individual alone.

This life consists of material things and spiritual values. The record we leave to posterity will show the wisdom of making our choice whether it was in the material or the spiritual realm. The material things are just for the moment and, when the last call comes, these vanish and are soon forgotten. But not so with the spiritual values; these will live on and on eternally and will be a decided help as a guiding light to the generation following us.

May our record then be one of the highest value, morally and spiritually, so that others may be guided thereby; in this way we have done our bit to improve the world in which we live. Then, when the last call comes, we will have no regrets and with faith in God we will lie down to pleasant dreams and awaken in that great morning in the Father's house. We will hear from Him the welcome words, "Well done, good and faithful servant; enter thee into the joy of thy Lord." "Be ye always ready."

### OUR BULLETIN

An effort is being made this year to have a copy of the *Bulletin* every month in the hands of each member of our lodges. At the present time all the members of a few lodges receive the *Bulletin*, some lodges 50 per cent of their membership receive copies, whilst in some lodges no members receive a copy other than the three copies forwarded gratis by Grand Lodge to every lodge each month. All District Deputy Grand Masters have promised they will canvas the lodges in their respective districts and endeavour to bring our objective about, but the work in the majority of instances will devolve upon the W. M. and Secretary of each lodge. May we depend on our W.M.'s and Secretaries to see that every member of their lodge receives a copy of our *Bulletin* regularly. The cost is small, 20 cents per copy per year.

I have been requested by the Grand Librarian of another Grand Jurisdiction to obtain for him a copy of the Summons issued by every lodge in our Grand Jurisdiction. It will be appreciated if all Secretaries will kindly mail me a copy of their next Summons.  
Thank you.  
S.H.

### A CHALLENGE TO YOU

By GERALD L. WOOD, So. Norfolk, No. 329

The time has come when we must learn that our obligations, as Masons, are more than words, only to be spoken when we gather together in our Lodge Halls. The time has come when we must stop pretending and become true Masons, in all of our dealings with mankind. The time has come when every individual must learn to let God guide and control his heart. The time has come when we must not forget the true meaning of these words: "Let us all strive to be true Masons". Let us not attend the meetings only to have the honor of being able to carry out the work as it should be. Let us, as we depart and go out into the world, be able to let the world know that we are true Masons, in our teachings and actions, and not merely because we wear the Masonic badge. Let us remember our fellowman, in our daily labors; be willing, at all times, to lend a helping hand, and not wait until he has passed on to that eternal home, from whence no traveler returns. Let us remember that when a brother is in need is the time for us to come to his aid and offer a helping hand. Brethren, the time has come when we should be more concerned about what is going on in the world. Do not ignore it, but try to correct it, in order that we might have a better world in which to live. Ever remember what our forefathers have preserved and left here for us to enjoy. Let us remember that we, too, are growing old, and sooner or later, we will be classed as forefathers by the future generations. We are proud of our forefathers; let our children be proud of theirs, too. Let us remember that our days on this earth are numbered, remembering always that we have just a short time in which to perform and erect our spiritual building, agreeably to the rules and designs laid by the Supreme Architect and the great Book of Nature. Ever remembering, my brethren, that it is here before us. The choice you make will determine the way you will go.

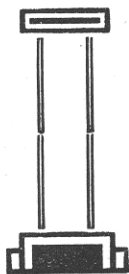
—Virginia Masonic Herald.

### PHILIPPINE MASONRY

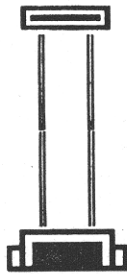
The first call of distress of Freemasonry in devastated countries has come from the Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands and has proved the wisdom of accumulating a surplus in the Masonic War Chest above the annual contributions being made for welfare work in the armed forces. Both the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master were killed by the Japanese and the Senior Grand Warden is attempting to revive the Craft in the islands.

The Grand Lodge of North Dakota forwarded a cheque for \$500.00 within 48 hours after receiving this information.

—Grand Lodge Bulletin, North Dakota.



## Between the Pillars



GRAND LODGE, 1945

M. W. Bro. WM. IRELAND,  
Immediate Past Grand Master

SINCE the last issue of our *Bulletin*, the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge has come and gone; and another chapter written in the history of Freemasonry in Alberta.

Calgary was the venue and we welcomed one of the largest attendances recorded and with it the enthusiasm and harmonious goodwill of the brethren from all parts of the Province. The outposts of the "Peace" sent a large delegation doubtless to witness the installation of their friend and brother M. W. Bro. G. H. Crane-Williams, installed into the Chair of King Solomon. From every district of our beloved Province the brethren came demonstrating their unbounded faith in the "Craft" and determined to go forward to even greater heights than have ever been known.

Following the formal Opening of Grand Lodge, the Grand Master called upon the brethren to join with him in a Service of Thanksgiving to the G.A.O. T.U. for bringing us, our Nation and Empire through the Valley of the Shadow of Death and restoring Peace to a war torn world. Our Grand Chaplain, R. W. Bro. John House led the Grand Lodge in a very beautiful and inspiring devotional service. The brethren singing the hymns, the reading of the lessons and the inspiration of the prayers pervaded the atmosphere long after the service was over and laid the foundation for a Grand Lodge Session that was worthy of the Brethren of Alberta.

We are always proud to receive our visitors and entertain the representatives of Sister Jurisdictions. This year it was even a greater privilege and pleasure, for we had the Grand Master of Manitoba, M. W. Bro. Dr. P. T. Pilkey an old friend, a man among men and beloved by all who know him. With him was his Grand Secretary, R. W. Bro. J. H. G. Russell, known to us all for he has been a frequent visitor among us and has delighted us on many occasions. This year we doubly esteemed his effort in coming among us for the years are beginning to weigh heavy upon him and we want him to know we appreciated his visit. It was a great pleasure to welcome the Grand Master of Saskatchewan, M. W. Bro. J. C. Carter from Outlook; he has done a great work during his year of office and his contributions to the Banff Eastern Conference are worthy examples of his high ideal of Freemasonry. With M. W. Bro. Carter was

R. W. Bro. A. A. Tate, his Grand Secretary. I would like to say many nice things about Bob for everybody likes him—to know him is to love him. Heretofore, he has just been one of the boys, mixing among us and enjoying himself to the full; this year we discovered something great about Bob for he delivered an address at our banquet that will long be remembered by the Masons of Alberta. The Grand Master had arranged for a special speaker well known internationally, but at the eleventh hour he was unable to be present and Bob jumped in and delivered a talk that will go down in the annals as one of the best. No greater compliment could be paid to him than the demand of many of our Worshipful Masters in asking him to come to their lodge and repeat the address so that all their members may learn. Every lodge should see that this address is read at one of their meetings for it will be printed in full in our Annual Proceedings.

Progress is shown during the past year in the many reports presented to Grand Lodge and adopted. We had a large increase in membership; our finances are in excellent shape; the Board of Benevolence continues to do a great work and the report of the Committee on Rehabilitation showed that your Grand Lodge was fully alive to the issue of reconstruction and the return of our Service men to a normal way of life. That these reports met with the approval of the brethren cannot be gainsaid, for although they were invited to enter into discussion, silence prevailed.

For the next year M. W. Bro. G. H. Crane-Williams is the ruler of our Craft and under his virile leadership much can be expected and Freemasonry in Alberta continue its forward march.



### I KNOW SOMETHING GOOD ABOUT YOU

Wouldn't this old world be better,  
If the folks we meet would say:  
I know something good about you,  
And then treat us just that way!

Wouldn't it be fine and dandy,  
If each hand-clasp warm and true,  
Carried with it this assurance  
I know something good about you!

Wouldn't things here be more pleasant  
If the good that's in us all,  
Were the only thing about us,  
That folks bothered to recall?

Wouldn't life be lots more happy  
If we'd praise the good we see?  
For there's such a lot of goodness  
In the worst of you and me.

Wouldn't it be nice to practice  
This fine way of thinking too;  
You know something good about me,  
I know something good about you?

—Author Unknown.