



Grand Lodge Bulletin

Editor: SAM HARRIS, P.G.M.

Grand Master's Message

Brethren,

Let me first thank you sincerely for conferring upon me the honor of being your Grand Master for 1947-48. It brings to me a deep sense of responsibility and know with your help this will be an outstanding year in our Grand Jurisdiction.

Each and every one of us as Masons have a very great responsibility. The public look upon us as leaders of every community in which we live. May we measure up to the fullest meaning of this and live our Masonry twenty-four hours of every day by our actions and conduct, both in our homes and our business wherever it may be. May the Great Architect of the Universe grant us wisdom and guide us in all our work. In these days of trial and tribulation we must keep our heads up and our hearts and minds sound.

Over the past years I have been planning on this position and wondering what could be done to stimulate Masonry in this great Province of ours. I have had consultations with many wise men in the Craft with regard to what we could do to make Masonry felt in this Community to a greater extent than it is today. After giving this matter a great deal of thought and pondering over the many problems that face us it would appear to me that we, as Masons, could well undertake something in the nature of assistance for Boys with delinquent tendencies. To this end I am endeavoring to lay plans for the Masons of the Province of Alberta to develop what would be known as a 'Boys Farm'. This I hope could be started with one unit and perhaps developed in years to come into several to be located in various parts of the Province.

My suggestion is that this first unit be placed in the Lethbridge or Irrigation District of Southern Alberta where intensified farming can be undertaken along with the raising of livestock, etc., so that there would be work for the boys twelve months

in the year. I firmly believe that this farm could be made self-sustaining after it was well established.

It will be some time along toward the end of the year before we have this plan worked out so that it can be sent you in a printed form. You will however be the judge as to whether such a set-up will be feasible when you see the figures, etc., on it.

I would refer you to the Reader's Digest of August 1947 for an article on a farm such as I have in mind which was developed in the Panhandle District of Texas, and would recommend that if you have not already read this you endeavor to procure a copy of the magazine from some friend and read it. Or better still, if each Lodge would procure a copy of this magazine and read it aloud in the Lodge. I am sure, brethren, that if we can develop this there will be no need for any person to say that the Masons never do anything.

When I say there have been on an average of 800 Juvenile delinquents in the Province of Alberta each year for the past five years you will realize there is a tremendous work we could undertake and each and every Lodge in the Province could sponsor boys after they had completed their education on this farm so that it would still leave work for every member even after the boys had been given a new lease of life and shown how a boy should act throughout his life.

Many volumes could be written on this subject and those of you who attended the District Meetings have heard me speak it. I wish each and every one of you would give this matter very serious thought and if you have any suggestions to make, either for or against, drop me a line c/o the Masonic Temple, Calgary, and I will only be too pleased to give them every consideration.

I propose as soon as we have the data all gathered together, which will be sometime early this Fall, to call a meeting of the Board of General Purpose

in Edmonton and Calgary, and perhaps in Lethbridge, to discuss the plan more fully with the leaders of Masonry in each District.

As above stated do not feel at all backward in dropping me a line of any 'for' or 'against' ideas you may have in connection with this plan.

Fraternally yours,
A. D. CUMMING,
Grand Master.

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FLASHES OF YOUR GRAND LODGE

Dear Brethren,

In order to keep you up-to-date on what your Grand Lodge Officers are doing I intend to give you a running resume on what I have done since I last saw you at Grand Lodge.

Immediately following Grand Lodge I flew to Fargo, North Dakota, accompanied by our Grand Secretary, to visit the Grand Lodge of North Dakota. Unfortunately at Fargo, M. W. Bro. Moore had a slight illness which necessitated his returning to Calgary. However, I continued with my itinerary and visited the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan. At each one of these Grand Lodge Communications harmony prevailed throughout.

On July 4th we left for Jasper where we held an Open Forum meeting with Jasper, Edson and some of the other surrounding Lodges. We answered many questions and believe we did the boys at Jasper and these other points a great deal of good straightening out a number of questions that were bearing on their minds.

I believe that these outpost Lodges such as Jasper, need visitations by Grand Lodge Officers more frequently than they have had in the past in order that they may be kept in touch with what is going on in this Grand Jurisdiction.

We then came back to Edmonton and took the train to Grande Prairie to attend the District Meeting at Wembley. This meeting was very well attended and the brethren were in very high spirits. The papers we had asked to be given at these District Meetings were well prepared by the brethren of the District.

The following Thursday morning we flew to Yellowknife and Constituted and Consecrated the new Lodge at Yellowknife, and on Friday we installed and invested their Officers. This is very much an outpost Lodge and I am of the opinion that this Lodge should be visited by Grand Lodge Officers at least once a year in order to keep them up-to-date on what is going on.

Returning to Calgary we then covered District Meetings at Wainwright, Coronation, Delburne and Rockyford. Then on the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th of August we attended District Meetings at Champion, Lethbridge, Pincher Creek, and High River. These

meetings were all very well attended and great interest was displayed in the idea of the Boys Farm. We explained this to them as far as we could with what information we have to date.

Before this report reaches you, however, we will have attended all the District Meetings in this Province but one, that being Calgary, and owing to the fact that we could not get the Masonic Temple to hold the meeting this had to be put off until a later date.

In the issue next month I will give you a further story of the work being done by your Grand Lodge Officers and also a short report on the Banff Conference which is to take place on the 4th, 5th and 6th of September.

Fraternally yours,
A. D. CUMMING,
Grand Master.

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MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION

Through the kindness of the Editor, M. W. Bro. Sam Harris, I take this opportunity of expressing through the Bulletin, my sincere thanks and appreciation for the Loyalty and Cooperation extended to me by the District Deputies, The Masters, Officers and Brethren of the General Membership, during my tenure of Office as Grand Master. It was indeed a pleasant reassurance to receive kind and willing cooperation in all parts of the Grand Jurisdiction, which in radiating a wonderful spirit of fraternal goodwill, reflected the very essence of Masonic Teaching. For such Loyalty extended to me whom you honored through your confidence, and sustained with kindness throughout the Masonic year, I am most grateful.

Fraternally,
Arthur G. R. Bond,
Immediate Past Grand Master.

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MASONIC HISTORY MADE AT BARRIE, ONTARIO

Eleven Caldwell Brothers officiated at a Unique Masonic meeting in Barrie, Ont. on May 1st last. They are all sons of the late Bro. Thomas Caldwell of Barrie, Ont. The eleven Caldwell Brothers occupied the chairs in a unique meeting of Corinthian Lodge No. 96, at Barrie, Ont. The meeting was observed as "Caldwell Night" and was a largely attended meeting, both of members of the Lodge and visitors who were present from all parts of Ontario and Canada. The eleven brothers exemplified the second degree in the most impressive manner. Though some of the brothers had never attempted degree work before, every charge was excellently given. One of the brothers, W. Bro. George G. Caldwell, a Past Master of Corinthian Lodge, occupied the Master's chair.

The Freemason.

GRAND SECRETARY'S COLUMN

As stated elsewhere in this issue by the Grand Master, your Grand Officers have covered an immense amount of territory since the week before Grand Lodge. In addition to the courtesy visits paid to neighboring Grand Lodges, the Lodge at Yellowknife has been duly Constituted and Consecrated and is now away to a good start. This Lodge has approximately forty-five members who are very enthusiastic, but like all outpost Lodges, will suffer to some extent through its inability to visit other Lodges and thus see how the Work is done, and to keep in touch generally with Masonic affairs in this jurisdiction.

A visit was also paid to Jasper in which Edson Lodge joined and they extended a hearty welcome to the Grand Master and those accompanying him. Following the banquet a real get-together was held in which matters pertaining to the welfare of Freemasonry in these Lodges were freely discussed. Some of these problems were directly due to geographical difficulties, which we hope will improve from now on.

The District Meetings have been exceptionally well attended and have followed a different program from the usual run of former years. Following Grand Lodge the D.D.G.M.s were thoroughly schooled in what was expected of them. Masters, Wardens, Secretaries and other interested Brethren met with the Grand Master in the afternoon, and papers on the four following topics, which had been prepared by selected Brethren of the District, were read:

1. What are the responsibilities and place of Past Masters in the activities of the Lodge? By a Past Master.
2. Responsibilities of Sponsorship of a Candidate. By a Master.
3. Worthwhile procedures of an Investigating Committee. By a Secretary.
4. The responsibilities of the Master and Wardens of their respective Lodges. By a Senior Warden.

Following the reading of these papers the Meeting was given over to open discussion, resulting in some very frank opinions being given. Lodge formalities being dispensed with appeared to be a great help in getting the Brethren to express themselves. Dinnertime came all too quickly in most cases. Following the banquet and the formal opening of the District Meeting and the transaction of regular business, Election, etc. District Meeting was closed and the discussion resumed in an informal atmosphere, which was very much appreciated as we were at the height of the hot weather. Much information was received and given. We found to our surprise that there was a wide variation of opinion on the topics of Sponsorship and the Investigating Committee. These two topics were the most popular subjects and wherever we went were responsible for the most discussion. We found that in many

instances the letter authorized by Grand Lodge some three years ago, was not being used. We also found that many Members had never heard of it. This letter was read at almost all of the meetings and it was unanimously agreed at every meeting that it was an exceedingly good letter and left no doubt in the minds of the Petitioner of what Masonry expected of him and what he could expect from Freemasonry. I rather imagine that a great many questions will be asked in some Lodges as to why this letter has not been used, particularly as Grand Lodge furnishes them free of cost of each Lodge. In a few instances we found some extraordinary views prevailing, which we had to correct.

The Grand Master briefly explained at each Meeting his proposal for a Masonic Farm for delinquent boys. This also aroused a great deal of interest and many questions pertaining to its set-up and management were asked. The suggestion was undoubtedly well received. As this is a question which appears to be very much to the fore in the minds of many of our Members who welcome the idea as outlined, more will be heard of this matter in due course.

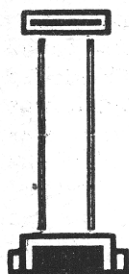
George Moore, Grand Secretary.



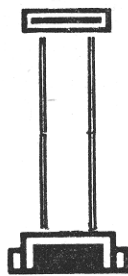
A CHALLENGE

The Editor of "The Masonic Chronicler" sees in the present world crisis a challenge to Masonry. Says he: "There seems to be a growing acceptance of Masonry as an adjunct to life rather than as a governing way of life. Far too many of us think of ourselves as members of the Fraternity and from it seek and expect little more than prestige, contacts and social benefits to be obtained from membership, but so long as this remains their primary interest in the Craft, Masonry will find them weak instruments with which to improve mankind's estate. It is not contended that Masonry should function as a militant, organized force designed to control and direct the thinking and action of its members. The thinking of Masons may be as diverse as the individuals themselves. Masonry asks only that each shall arrive at decisions governed by his concept of the eternal basic truths revealed to him in the light obtained through Masonic instruction. It is inevitable that when problems are approached in this manner there will not be great diversity in the solutions found. Too long have we tried to halt the floods by controlling the river, but have neglected the rivulets from whence come all waters. If each of those were kept in due bounds and the springs made pure, we would have little trouble with the great river. This is the true function of Masonry. It makes no attempt to subdue the angry river of life, but it does teach each man how to rule the single stream for which he is responsible. Does it seem harsh criticism to imply that many Masons are not so doing?"

Masonic Trestle Board.



Between the Pillars



A FEW HIGHLIGHTS OF GRAND LODGE

The 42nd Annual Communication of Grand Lodge which was held in the City of Calgary on June 10th and 11th, 1947 has passed into history. Grand Lodge was presided over by the Grand Master, M. W. Bro. A. G. R. Bond. A large number of members, both old and new, were in attendance. The following distinguished visitors were present—M. W. Bro. C. S. Hamilton, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada (in Ontario), R. W. Bro. W. A. McDonald, Deputy Grand Master and M. W. Bro. Dr. P. T. Pilkey, of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba. M. W. Bro. K. K. Reid, Grand Master and M. W. Bro. George Derby, O.B.E., Past Grand Master, of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, and R. W. Bro. Chas. E. Elliott, Grand Historian, Grand Lodge of New Jersey. M. W. Bro. W. L. Clink, Grand Master and R. W. Bro. Robt. A. Tate, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan. We were indeed glad to welcome these distinguished Craftsmen and suitable Grand Lodge Rank was conferred upon them.

The Grand Lodge banquet was held in the evening of the first day of Grand Lodge at which M. W. Bro. Chas. S. Hamilton was our guest speaker.

The following amendments to our Constitution were carried—All nominations for Grand Lodge Officers are to be in the hands of the Grand Secretary not later than noon of the last day in February each year, these nominations are to be printed and distributed by the Grand Secretary to all Lodges 60 days previous to the convening of Grand Lodge. Section 194 of the Constitution was amended by inserting after the word "Committee" in the second line, the words "appointed by the Worshipful Master privately."

The following two amendments were lost—A motion to permit Lodges to conduct all their business in the E. A. degree and provision for the superannuation of the Grand Secretary on his retirement from office. This amendment also included the appointment of the Grand Secretary by the Board of General Purposes. At the present time the Grand Secretary is elected by the members of Grand Lodge.

A charter was granted to Yellowknife Lodge No. 162, at Yellowknife, North West Territories, and the M. W. Grand Master granted a Dispensation to members at Mirror, to form a new Lodge at that place. Our membership again showed an increase during the past year, our present membership showing a

net increase of 815. The following officers were duly elected and installed and invested for the current year—

Grand Master—M. W. Bro. A. D. Cumming, Calgary.
Deputy Grand Master—R. W. Bro. Dr. W. A. Henry, Lacombe.

Senior Grand Warden—R. W. Bro. H. B. Macdonald, Calgary.

Junior Grand Warden—R. W. Bro. LeRoy Bond, Irricana.

Grand Treasurer—R. W. Bro. A. J. Davis, Calgary.

Grand Secretary—M. W. Bro. George Moore, Calgary.

Grand Chaplain—R.W. Bro. Rev. W. J. Whelan, Wainwright.

Grand Tyler—R.W. Bro. Percy Fielding, Calgary.



YELLOWKNIFE LODGE

Yellowknife Lodge No. 162, located in the North West Territories was duly Constituted and Consecrated by the M. W. Grand Master on July 10th, 1947, assisted by the following Grand Lodge Officers—R. W. Bro. Dr. W. A. Henry, Deputy Grand Master, R. W. Bro. D. Patterson as Senior Grand Warden, R. W. Bro. L. Nichol as Junior Grand Warden, M.W. Bro. Geo. Moore, P.G.M., Grand Secretary, V. W. Bro. W. Harper as Grand Chaplain, M. W. Bro. Sam Harris, P.G.M., as Grand Director of Ceremonies, R. W. Bro. J. F. Casteel as Grand Pursuivant and R. W. Bro. W. H. Wilson as Grand Tyler. The Officers of Yellowknife Lodge No. 162 were duly installed and invested on July 11th by the Grand Master, assisted by the above mentioned Grand Lodge Officers, R. W. Bro. D. Patterson being the Installing Master and M. W. Bro. Sam Harris acting as Grand Director of Ceremonies, thus our baby Lodge has duly started on what we anticipate and hope will be a distinguished career and may it develop into one of Alberta's brightest Masonic jewels. This new Lodge has the good wish of every one of our members in Alberta. Yellowknife is located in the North West Territories, on the north shore of Great Slave Lake, it is the hub of one of the largest gold mining districts in Canada, and when it is properly developed, perhaps in the world. Our trip was a very unique and enjoyable one, the Grand Lodge party travelled by train from Calgary to Rycroft, thence by auto to Wembley where Masonic District No. 13 held its Annual Meeting on July 9th. We left Grande Prairie by plane on Thursday morning, July 10th for Yellowknife, stopping en route at Peace River and Hay River, the mosquitoes at the latter place being almost as large as humming birds and very much more numerous, we arrived at Yellowknife in the afternoon. During our stay in Yellowknife several hours were spent in sight-seeing which included descending into the mines of three of the largest gold producing mines in the district and a boat ride on the waters of Great Slave Lake.

Sam Harris, P.G.M., Editor.