



Grand Lodge Bulletin

Editor: Sam Harris, P.G.M.

BE ALERT

In a recent issue of the Bulletin, the M.W. the Grand Master drew attention to the necessity for care in the admission of those seeking to become members of our Order, so that any with beliefs conflicting with Masonic principles be not received. This seemed a very timely warning and worthy of great emphasis. In fact it is now apparent that the advice of M.W. Bro. Mac-Cauley, given us twelve years ago, was more than true. His insight must have been keen, for he insisted, even then, that the nature of Communism was to bore from within, and wreck the individual, the organization and the nation from the soul outward. It is not by open propaganda or daylight organization that it does its harm. Its adherents make their way so stealthily into key positions that clever leaders of democratic nations have been deceived and have realized only too late the uncontrollable situation which they have helped to create. The success of this insidiousness has been so great in the last few years that the world is now faced with practically a life and death situation. Certainly to an Institution like Masonry it is a matter of life or death. We loathe war, but unless means are found to stop the steady, secret encroachment of those who would ruin our way of life, it seems inevitable. Unless, indeed, we passively await the time, as have so many others, when it is too late even for that horror.

The advice of the Grand Master is sound and good, and the greatest caution should be exercised in our present influx of prospective members. But the experience of others should teach us that we are fortunate if we have not already among our membership, or do not have shortly, those who have become deliberately dishonest,

and joined our Order for ulterior purposes. It has happened so often in guarded places: it can happen here.

We are taught and believe that the principles of Freemasonry are right and everlasting and must prevail. Are we inclined to sit back and allow these principles to do the best they can under adverse conditions; smugly calm in our conviction that Right is Might? How horrible to anticipate the return of the Black Ages for some centuries, with the total suppression of all good things, and Masonry awaiting the Renaissance of Truth and Freedom in the world before beginning its forward march with civilization!

The answer to any suggestion that Masons should act collectively to protect or forward Masonry is, by influence, that any such attempt is out of order, since Masonry is purely an individual matter, and the good that can accrue to Masonry and the world must be through the exemplification of these principles in the individual's life. Granted the individuality of Masonry as correct and necessary, is there anything to prevent bands of like-minded individuals uniting in an effort to preserve that which they believe? Admitted that religion and politics play no part in Masonry, are we correct in sitting back and allowing the development and spread of an ideology so contrary to our belief that it will destroy us, merely because it was questionable a few years ago if the word Communism was one safe to use in a Masonic Lodge? In fact, ten years ago I was warned in one Grand Jurisdiction to be very careful not to use the word in its Grand Lodge, as it might create far from fraternal feeling. We have progressed from that to the time when our Grand Master advises care on this

point in our admissions. That is good, but is it sufficient?

Has the time come for fourteen thousand honest, adult men to view the situation fairly and squarely to see if we are, by laissez-faire, drifting to our own destruction? With due care exercised, it surely should not be within our ranks that trouble might be active, but rather among those who have never been members of the Order. It may be that many, not believing Masonry to be their path, belong to other associations also concerned with our way of life, and these doubtless are equally on guard. But there are some quietly opposed to both these groups and secretly adding leaven to the mass of unrest and desire for change now rampant in the world. These are the danger points to the multitudes who are unknowingly lead to loss of freedom and individuality. It is to these multitudes, the large majority, that efforts should be directed to bring, by active propaganda and instruction, knowledge of the uncertainty ahead. Only by definite public opposition, outside our lodges, can we bring to many the realization of the dangers which now exist to our civilization. Instead of brethren reminding each other of the greatness and strength of Masonry, let us reach those outside who have not yet realized the significance of the moment. Let us make clear to all that the way of life they accept as certain is now desperately threatened, and put all on guard that dangerous tenets be not insinuated into their lives. The members of our Lodges have the duty, as directed by the Grand Master, to guard well the portals; Grand Lodge has the men and the money — which provide the means — to greatly preserve this Grand Jurisdiction from totalitarianism, so that Freedom and Truth shall not perish.

CLARE C. HARTMAN, M.D., P.G.M.

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GRAND LODGE

All Worshipful Masters and Wardens are reminded it is their privilege and responsibility to represent their respective Lodges, in fact, this is an obligation the Worshipful Masters committed themselves to fulfill when they were installed into office. Do not be diffident in the matter Brethren but attend and support your Grand Master and other Grand Lodge Officers. Important matters will be presented for your serious consideration. Every lodge member has the right to know what is being done at Grand Lodge, attend and return home able to inform your members what Grand Lodge has done and are doing.

GRAND LODGE BULLETIN

The Forty-third Annual Communication of Grand Lodge will be held in the City of Edmonton on June 9th and 10th next.

This issue of our Grand Lodge Bulletin completes its Thirteenth year of publication and my fourth year as your Editor. I wish to extend my sincere thanks to those who have so kindly assisted me again this year. Their assistance is really appreciated.

Whilst the cost of printing has greatly increased and one issue of the Bulletin was 2 pages larger than usual, the Bulletin gives Grand Lodge a credit of \$142.86 on the year's operation. Let us make a further effort this year Brethren and attain our objective of a Bulletin for every member.

SAM HARRIS, P.G.M., Editor

Brethren responsive and glad of the opportunity to assist you, and with their willing co-operation you will be surprised at the success of your efforts in providing interesting and suitable entertainment which will redound to the good and welfare of your Lodge. Remember you are in the business of promoting happiness and of distributing happiness to others. By the way, when speaking of the refreshment hour always refer to it as such, or as the "Banquet" or "Social Hour" — never say "Fourth Degree."

I appreciate that in this Grand Jurisdiction many of our constituents Lodges have achieved a remarkable reputation for efficiency and this message has not been prepared in any spirit of criticism. My specific purpose is to emphasize, and strongly so, the necessity for a constant and continuing watchfulness in our officers, and particularly on your part Brother Junior Warden since you are now one of our prominent leaders, so that there may be no lessening in the progress of our Institution and no impairment in the glory, strength and high-standing of our Freemasonry. You have a job to do — a job that is worth doing well. You know your responsibilities, you know where you are going, and I am sure that you want to make good. It is not essential that you be an outstanding administrator or an outstanding orator, but you must be honest with yourself and others, humble enough to seek and receive advice, industrious and sincere, and above all really enthusiastic for the work you have undertaken.

With these qualifications you will unquestionably be found worthy of the Masonic trust committed to you in fraternal good will.

R.W.Bro. J. H. N. MORGAN,
Grand Lodge of British Columbia.

GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE

Brethren —

This will be the last communication that you will receive from me through the Bulletin as your Grand Master. The next Bulletin will be issued in September when the Grand Master elect, R. Wor. Bro. Dr. Henry, will greet you.

I have endeavored throughout my year of office to bring to the brethren the thoughts of what Masonry should mean to each and every Master Mason throughout the world, and in this message I have endeavored to impress further upon your minds that all Master Masons must be true, upright and just men. True in their living, true to their families, and true to all human beings who sojourn here on this earth, because after all brethren, in the eyes of God we are only here for a matter of minutes, a thousand years being a day. While we are here on this earth may we exemplify as Master Masons the true way of living, let us look at the parable of the Talents and realize that we bring nothing into this world neither can we take anything out. Remembering always that we must endeavor to spread good will and love to all our fellow men so that when we are called to the Grand Lodge above the people we leave behind will say there was one brother who spread sunshine and good will to all men, neither did he love his talents so much that he buried them in place of spreading them as he went along. Let us remember the lectures given us in the three Degrees, ponder on them and see how close you can come to living up to them. Confucious says—When the archer misses the center of the target he turns around and seeks for the cause of his failure within himself.

To this end, along with other Master Masons throughout this Grand Jurisdiction, I have formulated a plan whereby each and every brother can have an interest in the young men who will be the Masters of tomorrow. Coming before the Grand Lodge Communication to be held on the 10th of June is a motion presented by myself that Grand Lodge endorse the Boys' Farms scheme and the Benevolent Board is bringing forward a motion to grant certain monies to this scheme, I seek your loyal support of this scheme. Some of the brethren of course, naturally, do not agree with the scheme. True, we are going to have difficulties, but these difficulties will all be surmounted, and in years to come your children and my children will be able to say 'The Masons of Alberta laid a sure foundation, it is up to us to carry on the superstructure to great heights'.

Let us not worry too much about details, let us leave the details to your Board of Trustees who represent brethren from all over this Grand

Jurisdiction. They will surmount the difficulties as they arise. We hear arguments that the boys will not stay on the farm, we hear arguments the boys won't work. Brethren, where such a plan has been devised, with proper management behind it, there is no instance where it has failed. Neither will this fail, but the Craft as a whole will have to be patient and wait for it to develop, as I feel sure it will as time goes on. Many brethren are devoting a lot of their time and money to start this project on its way and we have hopes that even before the Grand Lodge Communication in June we will have some boys on the farm whom we will train to begin with as leaders. However this may not be possible as it is necessary first to set up arrangements to feed and sleep these boys properly. We do not want to take any boy until we are sure he will be happy on the farm and have nothing to object to. If only the brethren would realize these various points I am sure that the Craft would be 100% behind us. We can do it,—we must do it.

If by any chance Grand Lodge does not give us their blessing there is no reason why this should not go on. There are enough Master Masons who, like myself, have their heart and soul in the scheme that we can develop it as good citizens even if Grand Lodge is not identified with it.

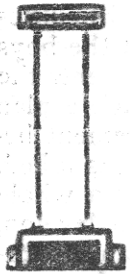
It was my intention to visit many more of the Lodges than I have, but owing to the condition of the roads through the latter part of March, April and May, I have found it impossible to get into the territory as I wished to. To the Lodges who wrote asking me to visit them, if they still want me to visit them I will do so as a Master Mason. I have some appointments yet between now and Grand Lodge Communication but road conditions, I fear, are going to make it such I will not be able to be present.

I am looking forward to meeting many of at the Grand Lodge Communication. I sincerely hope that every lodge will be represented even though you have to put yourselves out a little and even though you are only there for one day. Wednesday is the all-important day, that is Election Day — the polls close at 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon. Please come in, register your vote and cast your ballot.

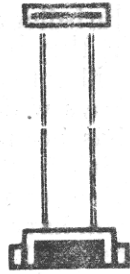
In closing and saying goodbye as your Grand Master, may God be with you all, may the very soul of Freemasonry direct your thinking and activities, may you use good judgment in all your decisions, and may you have the best of health and happiness all the rest of your days.

Fraternally yours,

A. D. CUMMING, Grand Master.



Between the Pillars



LOOK WELL TO THE SOUTH

In the past recent months the Annual Installation of Officers has taken place in the majority of our constituent Lodges. To all those worthy Brethren who have been elected and appointed to assist in the government of their respective Lodges I extend my sincere congratulations upon their preferment and wish them well in their labours. But it is to the newly installed Junior Wardens that I especially wish to address a message of advice and encouragement — as one Junior Warden to another.

It must be very gratifying to feel that your Brethren have had sufficient confidence in you, as judged from your past performance, to elect you to your present office. A great honour has been conferred upon you, and at the same time a trust is reposed in you which carries with it certain duties and responsibilities. You have been promoted to a position from which it is reasonably probable that within a few years you will advance to the Master's Chair. You should begin now to prepare yourself to discharge those duties and responsibilities in a conscientious and efficient manner, and to qualify for the position of a leader in the Craft.

Alert and efficient leadership is as essential to a Lodge of Freemasons as to any business or other organization. To be successful, a Lodge must have a zealous and intelligent membership and be led by enthusiastic and well-informed officers, by leaders who are men of character, correct in demeanor, sincere in purpose, completely unselfish, and willing to serve even at personal sacrifice. To earn and hold the respect and esteem of their Brethren should be their constant ambition.

As a Junior Warden you should endeavor to excel in such character qualifications, but there are other duties of an administrative nature with which you should also be acquainted. You are now a member of Grand Lodge and it will be your duty to attend its communications. You will have the privilege of participating in the work of Grand Lodge, of taking part in its discussions and deliberations, of voting on matters

of policy and in the election of its officers. You should make a careful study of the Constitution so that you will not only have a complete knowledge of the purposes and functions of Grand Lodge, but of all the regulations under which your Lodge and all other constituent Lodges operate. You should also study the By-laws of your own Lodge so that you will have an intimate understanding of its internal rules of government.

As a further source of knowledge you should consider it a MUST (if you have not already done so) to secure from your Secretary, or the Grand Secretary, a copy of the latest Proceedings of Grand Lodge. Therein you will find a store-house of Masonic information, of instruction and inspiration — your Grand Master's address, reports on the various aspects of Freemasonry in British Columbia, and a most interesting review of the doings of other Grand Jurisdictions.

It should not be necessary to stress the need for complete mastery of your part of the ritual and the ability to deliver it in a correct and fluent manner. You should also take time to familiarize yourself with the ritualistic requirements of the stations ahead. Nothing is more distressing to witness than careless and indifferent degree work, not to mention its ill effects on the candidate, and ultimately upon the whole life of the Lodge.

May I further suggest that you carefully peruse the material contained in the Book of Forms and Ceremonies, with particular reference to the several Charges contained therein. These Charges, masterpieces of English literature, contain advice and uplift that will be found indispensable to every Freemason, and in particular to you as one of the principal officers of the Lodge.

There is one duty which is specifically assigned to the Junior Warden — "the superintendence of the Craft during the hours of refreshment." It is an important duty, and one which affords a wide scope for your activity and your skill of organization. There is an old saying, "All work and no play, makes Jack a dull boy," and these words can be applied to the personnel of your Lodge. Frequent get-togethers of a social nature brighten the life of your Lodge, they help the Brethren to know each other better, and definitely make them more useful and profitable members of our Society. Try and plan ahead your refreshment hour. Seek out and develop the latent talent in your Lodge. You will find your

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