

Wishing Every Brother a Merry Christmas



Vol. 15, No. 4

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Grand Lodge Bulletin

Editor: Sam HARRIS, P.G.M.

The Eternal Quest

In the days of Herod the king, behold wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him."

These brief words so often read and repeated at Christmastide partially unveil a picture of three kings or philosophers, Parthian noblemen, who came from the East seeking a King. Their appearance is shrouded in mystery and obscurity as they move from the shadows of Mount Orontes across the desert sands of saffron hue, over mountains and through deep valleys, following a star.

"The Kings of the East are riding  
Tonight to Bethlehem.  
The sunset glows dividing,  
The Kings of the East are riding,  
A star their journey guiding,  
Gleaming with gold and gem,  
The Kings of the East are riding  
Tonight to Bethlehem."

They belonged to the ancient Priesthood of the Magi, who as Zoroastrians worshipped the Infinite in the symbolism of fire. Before their altars ever burned the sacred flame. They offered their gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh; they departed to their homes and temples another way. Their quest was ended. They had found their King.

The history of the world is the history of Great Quests. We are children of the Quest. The soul of man at his best is forever unsatisfied. The dumb animals in the pasture never feel this divine discontent. They eat; they die — and the tale is fully told. But the finger of God has touched the soul of man; the breath of the Infinite has entered into his being, and he is linked to the larger life of the Great Architect. He is awakened to a

kinship with eternal things. There has been implanted in his heart a divine unrest; his longings can never be fully satisfied here.

"But chief of all Thy wondrous works,  
Supreme of all Thy plans,  
Thou hast put an upward reach  
Into the heart of Man."

Lord Tweedsmuir (John Buchan) writes — "The Unknown, happily, will be always with us, for there are infinite secrets in a blade of grass, an eddy of wind, a grain of dust — and human knowledge will never attain that finality when the sense of wonder will cease." Rubenstein was asked if he would like to go to Church on a certain Sunday and he answered — "Yes, but you must take me to hear a man who will tempt me to the impossible." The mountain peaks of achievement have been reached by sleepless seekers. Great enduring books, the Classics of the Soul, tell the stories of man's Quests. The Argonauts of Greek legends set out on the long journey to find the Golden Fleece. Virgil tells the story of Anaeas of Troy as he sails westward in quest of a new Land. The journey of the soul is portrayed in many acts by Dante in his "Divine Comedy". Bunyan, the tinker of Bedford, writes the immortal story of Christian as he seeks the Eternal City. Columbus with his tiny ships — the Santa Maria, the Pinta and the Nina — sets forth on an unknown Sea and finds a Continent. By the tragic trail of ninety-eight, thirty thousand men faced the perils of the Chilkoot Pass, the Whitehorse Rapids, the Five Finger Rapids in the race for the gold of the Klondike Creeks. In the great white silence of the Antarctic, Captain Scott

and his courageous men sleep their last sleep beneath a cross encribed with the words — "To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield". High on the wind-swept icefields of Mount Everest were seen two dark moving climbers — young Mallory and Irving — and "they were still climbing upward". No, they did not return. The Magi of the Christmastide story have a kinship with those rare and illustrious souls who have ever climbed upward.

Masonry is built on noble men who strive to find the hidden secrets of Nature and Science and open their souls to an awareness of God. They too would gaze upon the star of the East and would follow the Gleam as it leads to high Adventure, to the joys of unfolding Fellowship and to a Peace which this world of cosmic madness cannot know.

1. Take from the soul of man the guiding spirit of Adventure and life loses its meaning and its thrill.

"Something hidden, go and find it;  
Go and look behind the ranges,  
Something lost beyond the ranges,  
Lost and waiting for you — Go."

Man is called today to the most formidable tasks ever presented to a generation in all the history of the human race. He must search for the secrets of a lost Eden, and from the Paradise Lost journey to a Paradise Regained.

"My heart will keep the courage of the Quest,  
And hope the road's last turn will be the best."

Build staunch the ship. Hoist carefully the sails and then out across the Sea and with brave hearts we will see at last the palm trees of the Happy Isles. With the Wise Men of the first Christmastide, we too will set forth on the pilgrimage of high adventure.

"Come, my friends, 'tis not too late to seek a newer world."

2. As men of this Ancient Guild of Free Men, we will follow in the pursuit of Fellowship. This is indeed a commendable Quest and has been the aim of all good men and true throughout the unfolding centuries of time. Come with me for a moment to the notorious Changi Prison Camp where the Japs had placed thousands of the British and Australian troops after the fall of Singapore. Men of the craft quietly and secretly found a Fellowship of friends in these strange and cruel surroundings. Behind the barbed wire and under the rifles of watchful guards, in an old war-damaged building the faithful group men and called themselves "The Prisoner of War Masonic Association of Changi".

Some were there without boots, some without shirts. Military rank had no bearing for they as Brothers were equal. The Japs located one of their number and subjected him to many of the cruel and inhuman methods of Oriental torture, but he remained true to himself and his Brethren. Representatives of twelve (12) Grand Lodges and over 600 Daughters Lodges were included in this group of friends in a Prison Fellowship. "Christmas is a time for the reaffirmation of Friendships," writes a revered Grand Master.

In the Canadian Rockies at Jasper, a majestic mountain known as Mount Edith Cavell stands

supreme among the snow-capped peaks. On its steep Eastern slopes, the Angel Glacier is poised with its wings outspread. Fed with the mountain stream, a blue-green Lake nestles in the silent valley below, the steep precipices mirrored in its still waters, and it is called "The Lake of Forgiveness". Here is the deep secret of Fellowship of man with man, and of man with the Infinite — and if you listen and have a soul that is in harmony with God, you may hear above the music of the murmuring pines the last words of the brave English nurse — "Patriotism is not enough: I must bear no hatred in my heart." So mote it be!

3. There is the Quest of Peace. The Magi journeyed homeward "another way" for they had found their King, the Christ Child, and they were satisfied.

"Peace does not mean the end of all our striving;  
Joy does not mean the drying of our tears;  
Peace is the power that comes to souls arriving,  
Up to the light where God Himself appears."

The angels by the Bethlehem Hills sang the Song of Peace. That is what our sad, blinded, bewildered old world needs — just Peace. The war was over, but Peace was born dead. Yet to this generation is given the opportunity of planning a world of Peace where war can be no more. This opportunity may not come again to mankind — at least for centuries. Here is a Quest worthy of man's creative powers and his highest visions. Let us firmly believe that Peace is possible—that men can live as brothers on the face of the earth—that as this old world has now shrunk into a neighbourhood, its citizens can and must be neighbourly. Let us know and feel that it is the Will of the Great Architect, who has made of one blood all nations to dwell upon the face of the earth, that His children should live in Peace and none should make them afraid. Herein is the task of heroic souls and prophetic minds. Herein is the task of true Masons the world around. Brother clasps the hand of Brother; they march together, and though the Quest may be long and the trail wearisome and rough, yet in the darkness they catch the gleams of light of the City of God.

In the rude cradle by the Inn of Bethlehem, the Eastern Magi find the Prince of Peace. The world in darkness turns to Him today for He alone is the Light of the World.

"How gleam Thy watch fires through the night,  
With never failing ray!  
How rise Thy towers serene and bright,  
To meet the dawning day."

BRO. RT. REV. A. H. SOVEREIGN, D.D.,  
Peace River Lodge No. 89, Alberta.

### CORRECTION

We regret the error that was made in reproducing the article "Declaration of Principles" as it appeared in the September issue of our Grand Lodge Bulletin. This article was NOT adopted by the United Grand Lodge of England and the Grand Lodge of Canada (in Ontario). We regret exceedingly being misinformed in this matter.

—S. H.

**GATEWAY LODGE No. 164**

Gateway Lodge No. 164 is the newest addition to our Masonic family in Alberta, it being duly Constituted and Consecrated by our Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Howard B. Macdonald, in the Acacia Masonic Temple, South Edmonton, on Friday, October 14th last. There was a splendid number in attendance, about 225 including 49 Present and Past Grand Lodge Officers. One nice noticeable thing was representation from all of the sister lodges in Edmonton.

Our Grand Master was ably assisted by our Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. LeRoy W. Bond, our Senior Grand Warden, R.W. Bro. W. F. Empey, our Junior Grand Warden, R.W. Bro. H. E. Howard, and our Grand Secretary, M.W. Bro. George Moore, P.G.M. M.W. Bro. John Martland, P.G.M., did a splendid job as Acting Grand Director of Ceremonies. The work and address of our M.W. Grand Master was greatly appreciated by all those privileged to be present.

Our sincere congratulations are extended to the Worshipful Master, Officers and Members of Gateway Lodge No. 164, and we believe a pleasant and profitable existence is in store for their Lodge and they have the good wishes of all their Brethren in the Grand Jurisdiction of Alberta.

—S. H.

Our congratulations are extended to the undermentioned Brethren who have been honoured by the Brethren in their respective Masonic Districts in being elected as District Deputy Grand Masters-elect for the ensuing year. We hope their year of office will be pleasant to themselves and profitable to Masonry in their respective Districts and our Grand Jurisdiction of Alberta.

No. of District	Name	Address
1	W. Bro. Leslie J. Rosling (9)	Calgary
2	V.W. Bro. J. R. W. Cann (70)	Redcliffe
3	V.W. Bro. J. Ferguson (34)	Calmar
4	W. Bro. Roy F. Anderson (42)	Bowden
5	W. Bro. Paul R. Elliott (135)	Alliance
6	W. Bro. Harold A. Gates (33)	Stavely
7	W. Bro. P. C. Engle (39)	Lethbridge
8	V.W. Bro. M. M. Cooke (30)	Coleman
9	W. Bro. K. A. Cameron (27)	Stettler
10	W. Bro. F. G. Miller (145)	St. Paul
11	W. Bro. Peter J. Asplund (136)	Barons
12	W. Bro. W. J. McCullough (114)	Westlock
13	W. Bro. D. W. Patterson (105)	Grande Prairie
14	W. Bro. R. L. Wood (78)	Hanna
15	W. Bro. A. G. Warren (125)	Delburne
16	V.W. Bro. F. D. Knowlton (152)	Standard
17	W. Bro. Donald H. Allan (96)	Holden
18	W. Bro. H. A. Mallory (124)	Calgary

—S. H.

**SEEKING AND SEEKING**

Do you observe why the wise men saw the King when all others that night at Bethlehem were blind to Him? The simple reason is that they were seeking for Him, and just because they were seeking Him, they saw.

—G. H. Morrison.

Have you read the motto of our Grand Master for last year? See page 21 of the Grand Lodge Proceedings.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

Our sincere congratulations and best wishes are extended to our Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Howard B. Macdonald, on his being crowned as a Sovereign Grand Inspector-General Thirty-third degree and enrolled as an Active Member of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Dominion of Canada. M.W. Bro. Macdonald was also appointed Special Deputy of the A. & A. S. Rite for the Province of Alberta. Our sincere congratulations are also extended to our Senior Grand Warden, R.W. Bro. W. F. Empey, on his being coronetted as an Honorary Inspector-General Thirty-third degree and enrolled as an Honorary Member of Supreme Council.

We hope they will be blessed with good health in order that they can enjoy these honours and serve their Brethren for a great many years to come.

—S. H.

**OBITUARY**

We regret to record the passing of our Brother James Winters, who passed away at Wetaskiwin on Monday, October 24th last, at the ripe old age of 108½ years. Brother Winters was Alberta's oldest resident and perhaps the oldest in Canada, he being born in Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.A., on May 5th, 1841, coming to Calgary about 50 years ago.

Brother Winters was initiated into Masonry on November 23rd, 1903, and Bow River Lodge No. 1, Calgary, honoured him with a Life Membership in March, 1930. Brother Winters served in the Confederate Army during the Civil War. After coming to Alberta, Brother Winters was a bridge builder by occupation. It can truly be said he was one of nature's true Southern gentlemen. He was laid to rest with Masonic honours by the Members of Wetaskiwin Lodge No. 15 in their Masonic plot at Wetaskiwin on October 26th, beloved and respected by all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

—S. H.

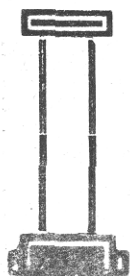
The dollars and cents value can easily be determined, but who can measure the spiritual values attained by the grants made from time to time. Who can tell the joy of the widow when she learns that the payment under the Mothers' Allowance Act has been augmented by a Grant from the Lodge of which her husband was a member. Yes, Brethren, what our Benevolent Funds have accomplished in spiritual values far outweighs the monetary, important as this may be.

M.W. BRO. W. IRELAND,  
P.G.M. at the Banff Conference.

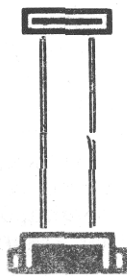
**THE NEW MEMBER**

Every Lodge owes something to its newly admitted members. No Lodge is going to succeed in holding the attention of members when it neglects giving proper attention to those who have recently entered its doors. A good Master will call up the newly admitted member, and invite him to be present. A little kindness shown at the proper time will mean much for the future.

—Grand Lodge Bulletin of Iowa.



## Between the Pillars



### THE EVOLUTION OF DUTY

The aspiring candidate for acceptance into the fraternity is informed during conference of the first degree that there are three great duties which every Mason is expected to perform. The first is owed to God, the second to the individual's neighbour and the third to himself. The lecture briefly explains what these three duties are. The work of all three degrees is calculated to so instruct the candidate that he will, on completion of them, have at least the basic knowledge necessary to guide him in discharging these duties.

After that it is expected that as he follows the injunction to perfect himself in Masonry his investigations, study and discussion with the brethren will expand his knowledge while practice of what he has learned will perfect him in the art. This part of Masonry is vitally essential. Masonry being a way of life and a progressive science is only begun in the conferring of the degrees. Initiation is simply introduction. It opens the door to knowledge, points out the way to wisdom, encourages the practice of principles which ages of experience have proved true and which will lead to a richer and more satisfactory mode of living.

However, if the new Mason makes no attempt to study, to learn from older and qualified brethren, if he feels that having received the degrees he has all Masonry can offer it will be useless to look for the fruit of Masonic living in his case. Others will be unable to find it in him nor will he be able to discover it in himself. The only knowledge he will have gained is that of lodge procedure. And this desire to learn, to study, to practice must be in the man himself. It is for this reason, among others, that each must come of his own free will and accord. If he did that sincerely other members can help him. If not, it is most unlikely that any brother can implant it in his mind and heart.

Granted, however, that the candidate came in all sincerity with an honest desire to improve himself in the art of Masonry, he may find progress slow and at times in direct conflict with natural impulses. Many such cases have been traced to misunderstanding or wrong interpretation of the word "duty" as applied in Masonry. Many people do not like the word. It implies obligation, restriction, limitation and makes demands upon time and talent. Duty is something we have to do. Often it is unpleasant, demands sacrifice and interferes with actions we much prefer to take. Duty is a reality and we all know it but somehow we have come to

make it mean something more or less irritating because we must bow to it and do it at whatever cost. Some of us look upon it as a limitation of freedom, as a requirement forced upon us by forces and conditions not under our control. Therefore many duties are performed with a rebellious spirit and because they must be.

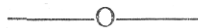
All of the above applies to the natural man, the man as he is when he comes to the door of Masonry and unless he learns how to make the lessons and principles of the Craft a part of himself that view of duty will remain with him. Such a man will find it difficult to stand as a just and upright Mason, ever to live and act as such.

That is why the word duty appears in the first degree. At that time before any of the real and deep teachings of the fraternity have been learned and for some time afterwards the new Mason will be engaged in learning to subdue his passions and to improve himself. Then these requirements are really duties, obligations which he must practice even though it hurts. But if the new Mason is sincere, will study and observe, converse Masonically with older members, he will begin to discern that what he now knows as duty undergoes a steady and constant evolution until all of the unpleasant features of the word dissolve and its real meaning emerges as privilege.

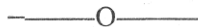
This is one of the things meant in "improving in Masonry." As the rich significance of truth, justice, liberty, brotherly love and charity rises in his intelligence the new Mason discovers there is a joy and a happiness in doing all of the things once included under that difficult word, duty. As he mellows in self control and grasps the warm meaning of brotherhood, as more and more the ageless principles of good and wholesome living are woven into his daily life the idea of duty fades in consciousness to be replaced with the urgent desire to reach still higher planes and to be of usefulness and help wherever that can be done.

Thus it is that the tried and true Mason, the man who has made Masonry a genuine way of life, seldom thinks of the word duty. On the contrary for him the word has completely evolved until every opportunity to serve his God, to demonstrate his love for his fellow man and to improve himself becomes a welcomed and precious privilege.

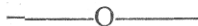
—Editor, The Masonic Chronicler.



The Illinois Society of Architects has issued the statement that, according to modern value of precious metals, the metals used in the construction of Solomon's Temple would today be valued at 87 billions of dollars.



The teeth may be false but let the tongue be true.



After all, it is what is in the mind that counts, and we can learn to control the mind.