



Grand Lodge Bulletin

Editor: Sam Harris, P.G.M.

Our Masonic Potentialities or Unfulfilled Possibilities

The year 1950 is the turning point of the century. We live in a new era, never to return to the conditions which existed at the beginning of this century. God gives to this world in due course those things which in His great wisdom He deems necessary for its continuance. Man, himself, whom God created and placed here has expanded and developed until he covers the face of the earth. But man, to whom God has given creative ideas and knowledge in due time for the expansion and improvement of His Kingdom and has in some cases, like animal and plant life, served its purpose in His plan or through sin and disbelief in Him or by improper use of the talents He gave them, caused Him to bring down His wrath upon them and destroy them. Thus, we now find such animal life as for example our prehistoric dinosaurs and such peoples as made up the Roman Empire now completely extinct.

We in this new era who comprise the Anglo-Saxon people who form a great part of the free democratic nations, can well take note of the past eras. It is a bit frightening to compare ourselves with the Roman Empire. They in their day were the seat of learning, science, music, art and literature. They were the leaders of the then known world, but through arrogance, immorality, disbelief in Him, selfishness, greed and cruelty, they met with His disfavor and in a period of 400 years He completely destroyed them. Some students of today in comparing our North American Continent to the Roman Empire state that we may be standing at the crossroads of His favor. I think not, but it is true that in large sections of this world men are living in the darkness of a world without demonstrable purpose or order. Such people without a God of purpose and order, must learn to live as best they can in their darkness. Yet must they? They have only to believe, for Jesus said: "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take up my yoke and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." There for all who elect is the greatest gift. Jesus saw in us only our POTENTIALITIES, not what we had been or were, but what we could be. He said: "Believe

in me and become the children of God." It is not what we have been but what we could be, by believing in Him. Why should we fear to declare Him in the face of any evil force that would destroy this FAITH? We as Masons today, founded upon this FAITH, face the world with a responsibility that Masons of no other era have faced. To bring about PEACE in this troubled and opposing world by the principles of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man is our UNFULFILLED POSSIBILITY. May God in His infinite wisdom give us power to profess with our every word and action our FAITH in HIM and to assist in establishing lasting PEACE.

Freemasonry is one of the most highly favored institutions on earth; it has witnessed the rise and downfall of many mighty nations, yet has survived unadulterated throughout the ages, all because she emanated from ETERNITY simultaneously with ORDER, RELIGION and VIRTUE and is founded upon ETERNAL TRUTH. The world yearns for TRUTH and PEACE but it cannot come until the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man becomes a REALITY, which is one of Masonry's greatest POTENTIALS. Masonry is old yet ever new, it fits life's unfolding pattern, ever powerful with its girding influence, to act as a FOUNDATION of PRINCIPLES on which to build a NEW WORLD acceptable to God in the face of any disaster or condition in which we as foolish men find ourselves by reason of greed for power or wealth, or better in which we as righteous men find ourselves when surrounded by the FORCES of EVIL which would destroy us and all that we stand for. Montgomery said "Military might will not save this floundering world. It will take inspired leadership to win it away from its mood of distrust and suspicion. The true and ultimate strength of a nation lies in its people, in their strong national character. The key to the whole matter in every nation lies in harmony within."

Masonry gives you INSPIRED LEADERSHIP and people of STRONG CHARACTER who live in HARMONY. Masonry has in its PHILOSOPHY that which can guide nations towards the ULTIMATE goal of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. This is a Masonic

POTENTIALITY. Can we hope to bring about this belief UNIVERSALLY? It is within our POWER. Our UNFULFILLED POSSIBILITIES are so great we do not know our power.

We must redouble our effort to so live and act as to attract the best material as candidates, within our midst, proper to be made Masons, and so instill them with the true meaning and Principles of Freemasonry that they will, with us, become men of character, inspired leaders, clear thinkers, lighthouses in the great seas of uncertainty. Men who fear God and walk in His way, to lead nations to victory over evil in His name. It is more of such men that are needed to form one great power that can direct this world into the PEACE. "Beautiful life is that whose span is spent in DUTY to God and man."

M.W. Bro. LEROY W. BOND,
Grand Master, Alberta.

AN INSPIRING MESSAGE

What is the object of the Craft? That question has been asked many times, and varied and interesting have been the answers, but probably no more inspiring answer has been given than the one which was found among the papers of the late Prov. Grand Master of Sussex, Major R. Laurence Thornton. It was written in his own handwriting and was as follows: "The object of Freemasonry is, first of all, to perfect the individual and to guide mankind towards better and more harmonic development. It teaches that the first duty of mankind is to dedicate itself to the welfare of human society and to sacrifice itself if necessary. It searches for the sentiments common to all men, in order to unite the nations and pursues the object of destroying the prejudices which are the source of enmity between nations. It strives to bring these principles into effect in social life and gives support and help wherever efforts are made to further the welfare of mankind."

—V.W. Bro. the V. Rev. A. T. A. NAYLOR, Sussex, England.

COCKNEY CAUTION

Two Cockneys met in their favorite pub and over a pint and a game of darts each suspected that the other was a Brother Mason. Both were, however, cautious, but at last one asked the other if he could prove anything, and he said he could by lettering or halves. Being told to commence, he replied "Bow", to which the other, with a grin, answered "Bells".

He who imagines he can do without the world deceives himself much; but he who fancies the world cannot do without him is still more mistaken.

—Rochefoucauld

God grant that not only the love of liberty, but a thorough knowledge of the rights of man, may pervade all the nations of the earth, so that a philosopher may set his foot anywhere on its surface and say, "This is my country".

—Benjamin Franklin.

A MASON'S FAITH

Freemasons believe in men. It is a great possession, to believe in our fellows because we have said the same vows, seen the same "work," taken the same degrees, sat in the same Lodge, struck hands with the same grip. To have faith in one's fellowmen is an asset beyond money and beyond price. To believe that all men are good if we dig deeply enough; that most men have good within them to be found without digging far to find it; to know that in the long run a man will do what he promises, can be depended upon to keep his word, is worthy of trust and confidence — this is wealth at its best and not to be destroyed by the cynic who points to the men who have failed those who believed.

Man does fail. He reaches for the stars and grasps a branch above his head; he adventures toward the sunset and settles on the banks of the first river which blocks his path; he starts right and runs strongly and turns off to the primrose path and falters when he reaches the garden.

All sadly true. But some reach for the stars and find them; some travel to the sunset nor stay until the goal is reached; some run until they drop nor ever swerve.

It is belief in such as these, and the knowledge that a majority of men are such as these, which makes belief in men the capstone of a Mason's faith.

—Bro. LEVERETT SALTONSTALL in "Masonic Historiology".

TRULY SAID

The ticking of the clock is one of the most important things in the world, for it marks the passage of time. It reminds us that another second, another hour, another day has gone. And yet, despite this constant reminder, most of us go along wasting our time, using it aimlessly, failing to get out of it either enjoyment of life or the satisfaction of accomplishment. We know that the opportunity which today presents will never be repeated, that Spring fades into Summer, and presently Winter comes, and we wake with a start to realize that another year has passed. Still we postpone the doing of things. There is plenty of time, we tell ourselves. That is the great fallacy. "The clock of life is wound but once."

—Paul W. Litchfield.

GOOD WILL

The most precious thing anyone can have is the good will of others. It is something as fragile as an orchid, and as beautiful. It is more precious than a gold nugget, and as hard to find. It is as powerful as a great turbine, and as hard to build. It is as wonderful as youth, and as hard to keep. It is an intangible something, this good will of others, yet more to be desired than much gold. It is the measure of a man's success and determines his usefulness in this life.

—Exchange.

It is the Master's duty to instruct as well as to employ the Brethren. Have those Brethren who sit in the East spent sufficient time on the study of Masonry to enable them to be able to instruct their Brethren in Freemasonry or is the correct rendering of the ritual the limit of their Masonic attainments? What a furor would be caused if the S.W. were to refuse to close the Lodge because the Brethren had, in his opinion, not received their due! Who knows, if the S.W. were to exercise his rights W.M.'s would exert themselves to see that their Brethren received their just due. Do we render each Brother his just due out of Lodge or do we shed our Masonic responsibilities with our dinner jackets? Do we give everybody we come into contact with his just due or do we only remember our obligations when we come into contact with those from whom we can expect dues? In the Charge at the N.E. part of the Lodge the Candidate is told "that Charity, like its sister Mercy, blesses him who gives as well as him who receives". In like manner blessed is he who receives his just dues in life but thrice blessed is he who giveth his neighbor his just dues without hope of reward. Just dues to our fellow men is the only credit balance we will be able to draw on when we have to give an account of our stewardship on earth.

—W. Bro. C. H. VAN ZYL, A.D.G.M., Dist. G. Lodge, S. Africa.

THE MAN YOU LIKE

The man you most admire is the type of man you ought to be. He is courteous, adaptable, magnanimous, sympathetic, and tactful. He favors pleasant aspects of life, and has large common sense. It is well to study this type of man and to emulate his example. The fine qualities of kindness, tact, sympathy, and courtesy can be cultivated by giving them thoughtful attention. You can also learn what not to be from the unlovely type of man. He is captious, contradicting, unsympathetic, and phlegmatic. You feel you have nothing in common with him. He repels you. You can develop in yourself the manners, tastes, and habits which you most admire in others. The man you most like to meet is the type of man you ought to be.

—"The Educator."

MASONS SHOULD BE DELIBERATE IN JUDGMENT

Freemasons, of all men, should be deliberate in judgment, candid in consideration, charitable in construction, moderate in condemnation. If you feel moved to criticize a brother, suppose you see him first. Talk over the matter in question and discover his viewpoint. Probably it is a different angle from that which presented itself to you. Perhaps he can tell you things you did not know. On the other hand, perhaps you can enlighten him and lead him to see the error of his way. How much better to convince and reform him than to convict and destroy! At any rate, it is a satisfaction to be sure you are right before you go ahead.

—Masonic Historiology.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF SPONSORSHIP

Few who recommend petitioners realize the responsibility of such sponsorship. When a member of a Lodge signs the petition of a petitioner for the degrees of Freemasonry, he, by that very act, vouches that, in his opinion, the petitioner is the type that would be a credit to the Lodge and to Freemasonry.

The sponsor's Masonic reputation is at stake. No member should ever sponsor a petitioner unless he is convinced that the Petitioner will, if admitted, be a credit to Freemasonry. It is a responsibility that should not be lightly undertaken, and if undertaken should be recognized throughout the petitioner's entire Masonic career.

Sponsors are the Masonic fathers of the petitioner. A father naturally is interested in his son's welfare. He gives him advice. He tries to guide him. It is not enough that the sponsors be present on each occasion that their Masonic son receives the degree. When he receives his Entered Apprentice Degree he is apprenticed to them, his sponsors. It is their clear-cut duty to make certain the candidate understands and appreciates his membership in the Order. When he receives his Fellowcraft Degree it is their duty to make certain that as a Fellow of the Craft he has every opportunity of advanced knowledge and instruction and that he has a thorough knowledge of all elementary fundamentals of the Order. When he receives his Master Mason's Degree theirs is the responsibility to guide his Masonic activities in a manner that will enable him to erect a superstructure perfect in its parts and honorable to the builder. Thus will he reflect honor on his Masonic fathers and on the Institution as a whole.

—ENOCH B. CARLSON in "Masonic Bulletin."

MASONRY — A BRIDGE

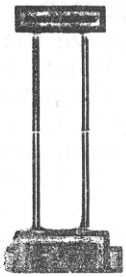
Masonry is a bridge between thought and action. Thought is a sterile, dead thing until it is transformed into action. The principles of Masonry are the principles with which the people must be inspired if they are to become new people. The principles aren't new. They have been known for at least 1900 years of the Christian era. There is no idea in the entire Masonic ritual which cannot be found in the Bible. The principles have been written over and over again in our books of literature, ethics and religion. But we will not have the new people this world needs until the well known moral principles have been lifted from the printed pages on which they are written, engraved on the minds and in the hearts of people, and then translated into action.

—PERRY W. MORTON in "Masonic Trestle-Board."

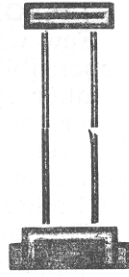
The Real Creditor

"Young man," the doctor exclaimed to his rapidly convalescing patient, "you owe your remarkable recovery to your wife's tender care."

"Glad to hear you admit it, doctor," came the cheerful rejoinder. "That being the case, I'll just make out the check to the little woman!"



Between the Pillars



A FEW HIGHLIGHTS OF GRAND LODGE

Another Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Alberta has passed into history. The 45th Annual Communication was held in the City of Edmonton on Wednesday and Thursday, June 14th and 15th last. Grand Lodge was presided over by the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. H. B. Macdonald. He did a splendid job keeping the business of the Communication moving very smoothly and on time. There was a little larger attendance than last year which is as it should be, there being approximately 154 new members entitled to attend Grand Lodge every year. There were 470 members present with a total of 649 votes.

His Honor J. J. Bowlen, Lieut-Governor of the Province of Alberta, and His Worship Mayor Bro. Sidney Parsons were present and presented the greetings of our Province and the City of Edmonton respectively.

Fourteen of the eighteen District Deputy Grand Masters were present and a splendid start for this year was made in that all of the 18 District Deputy Grand Masters-elect were present to be installed. There are now 154 Chartered Lodges in our Grand Jurisdiction; of these, 119 were represented at Grand Lodge.

Gateway Lodge No. 164 at Edmonton was Constituted by the M.W. Grand Master during the year. No new Dispensations or Charters were granted.

During the year 921 new members were initiated into the Craft, making a net increase of 634 members for the year, the membership as at December 31st, 1949, being 14,962. Twenty-seven courtesy degrees were conferred by the Grand Lodge of Alberta for other Grand Jurisdictions. Three Grand Representatives were appointed in Sister Grand Jurisdictions to represent the Grand Lodge of Alberta and three Grand Representatives were appointed in Alberta to represent Sister Grand Jurisdictions: England, M.W. Bro. John Martland, P.G.M.; Sweden, M.W. Bro. Dr. W. A. Henry, P.G.M.; and The Netherlands, V.W. Bro. C. M. Macleod, P.G.D.

The Benevolent Committee distributed \$8,282.57 during the year and Grand Lodge voted that \$5,000.00 be sent to the Manitoba Flood Relief Fund. In addition to this \$5,000.00, the Grand Master reported that approximately \$9,741.53 had been contributed by 114 Lodges in Alberta.

The Grand Master attended the Annual Conference of Grand Masters held in Washington, D.C., U.S.A., and was one of those invited to contribute a paper; he also attended in company

with our Grand Secretary all of the 18 District Meetings held in Alberta.

The Grand Master suggested that the larger Lodges in this Jurisdiction form new Lodges. The Banff Conference was held as usual.

A message of loyalty was forwarded to His Majesty the King, who is a Past Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England and Honorary Past Grand Master Mason of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

The report of the Special Committee under the chairmanship of M.W. Bro. G. M. Blackstock, P.G.M., on the Benevolent Fund and the report of the Special Committee under the chairmanship of M.W. Bro. Sam Harris, P.G.M., on Lodges of Instruction, presented their reports at an evening session of Grand Lodge, both reports being accepted as presented.

The Board of General Purposes recommended to Grand Lodge and their recommendation was accepted that an honorarium of Fifty Dollars be given to the District Deputy Grand Masters towards the defraying of their out-of-pocket expenses; that part of the Charge to the newly-initiated be omitted and the levy on Lodges be increased from \$1.30 to \$1.50 with \$1.25 going to the General Fund of Grand Lodge and 25 cents to the Benevolent Fund. Notices of Motion to cover these changes in the Constitution will be made in order they may be considered at our next Annual Communication of Grand Lodge.

The following were our guests this year: M.W. Bro. Chas. C. Hamilton, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario, who was also our Guest Speaker at the Annual Banquet of Grand Lodge; M.W. Bro. Judge S. H. Fahrni, P.G.M., and R.W. Bro. Chas. E. Cole, D.G.M., of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba; and M.W. Bro. W. H. Moor, Grand Master, and R.W. Bro. Robt. A. Tate, Grand Secretary, of the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan. The rank of Honorary Past Grand Master was conferred on M.W. Bro. W. H. Moor, also on M.W. Bro. Harry Coddington, Grand Master of Manitoba, and M.W. Bro. Fred C. Wilson, P.G.M., of Saskatchewan, the latter two being our guests last year.

The following Grand Lodge Officers were duly elected and installed for the current year:

M.W. Bro. LeR. W. Bond, Calgary	Grand Master
R.W. Bro. W. F. Empey, Edmonton	Dep. Grand Master
R.W. Bro. H. E. Howard, Calgary	Senior Grand Warden
R.W. Bro. W. H. Jackson, Innisfail	Junior Grand Warden
R.W. Bro. A. J. Davis, Calgary	Grand Treasurer
M.W. Bro. Geo. Moore, P.G.M., Calgary	Grand Secretary
R.W. Bro. Rev. P. Dawson, Champion	Grand Chaplain
V.W. Bro. F. J. Pearce, Calgary	Grand Tyler

These officers were installed by the retiring Grand Master, M.W. Bro. H. B. Macdonald, assisted by the M.W. Grand Master and other Grand Lodge Officers. This completed a most prosperous year of Freemasonry in Alberta and a most successful Annual Communication of Grand Lodge. Grand Lodge will convene next year in the City of Calgary on June 13th and 14th, 1951.

S.H.