



# Grand Lodge Bulletin

Editor: SAM HARRIS, P.G.M.

## THE CULTIVATED MIND

**M**AY I first express my sincere thanks to the brethren in Alberta for electing me to the office of Deputy Grand Master. I realize that while it carries with it great honor it also necessitates the assumption of many responsibilities. I assure you that I will do my best to discharge the duties of the office satisfactorily.

At the request of the Editor, M. W. Bro. S. Harris I am noting a few points that I trust may be worthy of your perusal. I have entitled the article "The Cultivated Mind".

Living as we do in a land that is blessed with great natural resources, in a land where we have freedom of speech, freedom of the press and freedom of religion we cannot realize the many blessings, the many opportunities which we enjoy. One great writer noted we only realize the privileges that are ours where one or more of those privileges are withdrawn." For example, we turn on the tap and pure fresh water is available. We turn a switch and an electric light or heat is at our disposal. It is only when there is a break down at the power plant and the water or electric current is off for a few hours that we appreciate our privilege of being able to use these facilities.

The teachings of Masonry provide one of the best courses that any individual can take to enable him to become a good citizen and develop and enjoy our many opportunities. In this article reference is made to some of the lessons taught in our Masonic Lodges.

In the charge of the first degree the entered apprentice is urged to give serious contemplation to the Volume of the Sacred Law and is charged to consider it the unerring standard of truth and justice and to regulate his actions by the divine precepts which it contains. He is taught to follow the "Golden Rule" in his conduct with his neighbors, and as a citizen he is enjoined to be exemplary in the discharge of his civil duties.

As a craftsman you are taught to judge with candor, admonish with firmness and reprehend with mercy. You are instructed to encourage industry and reward merit, supply the wants and relieve the necessity of your brethren and fellows to the utmost of your power and ability and on no account wrong

them or see them wronged. As a Master Mason you are expected to improve the morals and correct the manners of men in society. You are to inculcate universal benevolence and by the regularity of your own behavior afford the best example for the conduct of others.

In fulfilling these obligations the true Mason develops mentally and morally and may be considered as having a "Cultivated Mind". Some of the characteristics of a person with a properly "cultivated mind" are:

(1) He should be a man of honour, of good morals be devoted to his country, his family and be ready and willing to assist his fellows by every means in his power.

(2) He should endeavour to make men think better of his neighbors, to quiet rather than aggravate difficulties; to keep friends from becoming foes and persuade foes to become friends. To do this he must control his own passions and be not rash or hasty, nor swift to take offence, nor easy to be angered.

(3) A person whose mind has been properly cultivated will be very careful in judging others. This training should enable him to judge all persons uprightly and impartially without any personal consideration of the power of the mighty or the bribe of the rich or the needs of the poor. He must not leap hastily to conclusions nor form his opinion before he has heard all the evidence.

When called upon to pass judgement he will realize that he should do it cautiously and charitably, lest in passing judgment on the criminal he commits a serious error.

(4) He who has cultivated his mind properly is an apostle of liberty; equality and fraternity. He detests the tyrant, the lawless oppressor, the military usurper and him who abuses a lawful power. He frowns upon cruelty and a wanton disregard of the rights of humanity. He fosters that humanity and kindness which man owes even to his poorest and most unfortunate brother.

(5) One with a properly cultivated mind is a strong advocate of toleration and liberality and is opposed to fanaticism and persecution.

True toleration holds that every man has the

### THE WELFARE OF FREEMASONRY

At this particular season of the year it is singularly appropriate that consideration be given to a subject very near and dear to our hearts, viz., "The Welfare of Freemasonry."

It is well known that many good and worthy men are enrolled in our ranks though every year many fall out. The question arises, "why does their enthusiasm wane?"

The answer to this all-important question is that these brethern have failed to realise all that Freemasonry offers them. They witness the working of degrees without variation, but unless they are of a

### THE CULTIVATED MIND (Continued)

same right to his opinion and faith that we have to ours. True liberality asserts that as no human being can say with certainty what is "Truth" then every one should feel that it is quite possible that another person may conscientiously hold a contrary opinion to his.

Without doubt intolerance and bigotry have been greater curses to mankind than ignorance and error. Imagine how absurd it is for an individual, to whom everything around are mysteries, to torture or slay others because they cannot think as he does in regard to these mysteries.

(6) Education, enlightenment and a cultivated mind are important agencies against ignorance and error. The ignorant mind jumps to conclusion whereas the cultivated mind takes a new idea and ponders it. The trained mind considers the proposition in the light of established ideas and discovers how it will meet the necessary requirements. As a result of this ability to reason and reflect the person with a trained mind avoids many errors and is immune from the devastating infections of popular slogans.

(7) The cultivated mind sees life as a school. The world is neither a prison nor penitentiary, nor a palace of ease, nor an amphitheatre for games and spectacles but a place of instruction and discipline. The entire course of the great school of life is an education for virtue, happiness and a future existence.

If in this school we have learned moderation, temperance, modesty, gratitude to God and generosity to man then our minds may be said to be cultivated. If on the other hand we have learned selfishness, self-indulgence, wrong-doing and vice then our minds are uncultivated.

This year as we celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the Grand Lodge of Alberta let us as Masons not only consider the great achievements that have been accomplished by our organization during that interval but also look forward to the future. If the Masonic order is to render the service it should during the next fifty years it behooves every mason to do his best to follow our Masonic teachings. To do this effectively we should aim to train our minds and conduct ourselves in the best possible manner.

R. W. Bro. Ross J. Sheppard,  
Deputy Grand Master, Alberta.

nature to undertake investigations for themselves into the hidden secrets and mysteries concealed in our ritual, unless they are put on the right path to make those investigations by those well-versed in the noble art, these brethern conclude that they have learnt all that Freemasonry has to teach them. We as members of a world-wide institution are lamentably ignorant of all that Freemasonry holds for us, but if we genuinely desire to make a daily advancement we must devote ourselves to serious study of our art.

Take for instance, the lectures on the 1st and 2nd T.B.'s in which attention is drawn to the shape of the Lodge — a regular parallelepipedon formed by placing two equal cubes together. This double four-sided figure symbolises man's organism. This is in accord with ancient philosophy that four is the arithmetical symbol of everything that has physical form. Hence this double cube refers to the dual nature of man — the physical and the spiritual.

Further, the Lodge is supported by three Grand Pillars (W., S. and B.) and this again refers to the inherent qualities in the individual as will become increasingly manifest to the initiate as he makes progress in the art. Indeed, the earnest Mason becomes conscious of an increased perceptive unsuspected source of power, giving him enhanced mental strength and self-confidence.

The Mosaic Pavement with its black and white squares denotes the dual quality of all things connected with daily life. Everything material is characterised by interblended good and evil, light and shade, joy and sorrow, positive and negative. These opposites are with us till we reach that state of spiritual elevation wherein we outgrow the sense of the chequer work existence and come to that peace which passes understanding. This final condition is represented by the indented or tessellated border skirting the black and white chequer work.

The 2nd T.B. replete with many lessons to be learned, and secrets to be discovered. The pass-word leading to the 2nd degree is of great significance. It will be remembered that this word denotes plenty and is depicted by an ear of corn near a fall of water, which two objects are literally the meaning of the Hebrew word. This is meant to be descriptive of the candidate himself and of his spiritual condition. It is he who is metaphorically an ear of corn planted near and nourished by, a fall of water or divine wisdom.

Space does not permit further exposition of the symbolism, but the foregoing should help towards a realisation of the hidden meaning in the ritual, and thus conduce to a daily advancement in Masonic knowledge. If brethern would but heed this advice we need have no fear for the "welfare of Freemasonry", for the many would thus be held securely within the circle that binds us together in perfect unity.

W. Bro. H. T. Garde,  
in South Australian Freemason.

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There is something sweeter than receiving praise:  
the feeling of having deserved it.

## MASONRY — PAST AND FUTURE

Masonry has a great tradition, but it is not enough to sit complacently in contemplation of that fact. Whatever is meritorious in the past and can be made applicable to present-day conditions is, of course, desirable to be preserved and utilised.

However, if Masonry of the present is to keep abreast of the best in its past, then its membership must be selected with due regard to having the type of members who will be a credit to the fraternity. This means that petitioners must be carefully scrutinised. Furthermore, this means that quality of membership must be regarded as of far more importance than mere quantity of members.

Masonry's doors are open to the good and true, but no one is ever asked to join. Each one who desires to become a member must seek membership of his own volition. But, once admitted to membership, it rests upon each of the older members to make the new members feel what Masonry stands for and to make him feel that he is among friends and not merely one more stone in a vast building. Masonry is vibrant with all that is fine and uplifting in life, and each new member must be made to feel that the atmosphere of Masonry and of the Lodge to which he has recently been admitted contains the ozone of health and moral uplift.

—“The New Age.”

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## FUNCTIONS OF A MASONIC LODGE

It is not the primary function of Freemasonry to initiate candidates, or to enlarge its membership. Were it so there be no basis for our laws against proselyting. The primary function of a Masonic Lodge—indeed, the primary function of our Craft, is to train its members to an understanding of the truths which its rituals and its ceremonies are calculated to inculcate, to develop its members as benevolent men to cultivate the social virtues among men, and to propagate the knowledge of the art.

The chief concern of the Lodge is with its welfare, the happiness, the Masonic development of its members, not with the admission of those who seek entrance to its doors. Its success as a Masonic Lodge cannot be gauged by the length of its membership roll or by the size of its accumulated funds.

The beauty of our ritual, and the good fellowship among the members of our Lodges, cannot be conserved when the chief aim is to make Freemasons and money—“for a man's life consisteth not in abundance of things which he possesseth”—and a Lodge's life does not consist of its acquisitions, but in the contribution which it makes to civilization and society through the influence of those whom it has helped to train to what we call Masonic character. Therefore, it should be the duty of every Masonic Lodge to put in action a plan for the education of its members in Masonic history, symbolism, and philosophy, devoting more of its meetings to this much-neglected function.

—Wenatchee Masonic News

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services to Freemasonry in their respective Grand Lodges.

The following Grand Lodge Officers were duly elected and installed into office by M. W. Bro. W. H. Jackson, P.G.M. assisted by other Grand Lodge Officers.

<i>Grand Master</i>	<i>M.W. Bro S.C. Heckbert, Vermilion</i>
<i>Deputy Grand Master</i>	<i>R.W. Bro. R.S. Sheppard, Edmonton</i>
<i>Senior Grand Warden</i>	<i>R.W. Bro. S.G. Bannon, Blairmore</i>
<i>Junior Grand Warden</i>	<i>R.W. Bro. D.D. McQueen, Vulcan</i>
<i>Grand Treasurer</i>	<i>R.W. Bro. L.J. Rosling, Calgary</i>
<i>Grand Secretary</i>	<i>R.W. Bro. E.H. Rivers</i> <i>(Appointed) Calgary</i>
<i>Grand Registrar</i>	<i>R.W. Bro. A. Black, Edmonton</i>
<i>Grand Chaplin</i>	<i>R.W. Bro. Rev Canon W.H. Morgan,</i> <i>Calgary</i>
<i>Grand Tyler</i>	<i>V.W. Bro. F.J. Pearce, Calgary</i>

Another year of progress in Freemasonry has been completed in our Grand Jurisdiction. Grand Lodge will be held next year in the City of Edmonton on June 13th and 14th, 1956.

The Fiftieth Year Celebration will be held in the City of Edmonton on Friday, October 14th, 1955, due notice of which will be given later by the Grand Secretary.

M. W. Bro. Sam Harris,  
Past Grand Master, Alberta.

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## THE BULLETIN

I am happy to report that all lodges in the Jurisdiction now subscribe for our Grand Lodge Bulletin, this 100% coverage is indeed most gratifying and appreciated. Our objective now is that every member receive a copy of our Bulletin. It will be greatly appreciated if all lodges will take this under advisement. Thank you.

**CORRECTION:**— Our June Bulletin read “This completes our Fiftieth year of publication” this should read “Our Twentieth year of publication”.

S. H.

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## THE WINDING STAIRS

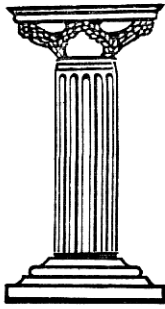
A straight stair, a ladder hides neither secret nor mystery at its top, but the stairs which wind hides each step from the climber, what is just around the corner is unknown. The winding stairs of life lead us to we know not what. For some a middle chamber of fame and fortune, for others of pain and frustration. The angel of death may stand with drawn sword on the very next step for anyone.

Yet a man climbs because he has courage, because he has faith, because he is a man. So must the Freemason climb. The winding stairs do lead somewhere, there is a middle chamber. There are wages of the Fellow Craft to be earned.

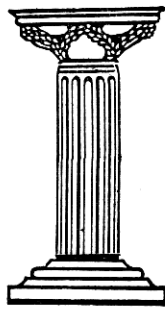
Masonic Service Association.

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The greater the obstacle, the more the glory in overcoming it.—Moliere.



## Between the Pillars



### A Few Highlights of Grand Lodge

The Fiftieth Annual Communication of Grand Lodge was held in the City of Calgary on Wednesday and Thursday, June 8th and 9th, 1955 with the Board of General Purposes meeting on Tuesday afternoon, June 7th.

Our Grand Master M. W. Bro. Rev. Peter Dawson presided over Grand Lodge in a very capable and efficient manner. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the Hon. J. J. Bowlen brought the greetings of Her Majesty the Queen and the Province of Alberta Whilst His Worship the Mayor of the City of Calgary extended to us the greetings and welcome of that city.

Eighteen of the Nineteen District Deputy Grand Masters were present including the Grand Master's Grand Representative for the N.W.T. as was eighteen of the District Deputy Grand Masters elect.

During the year Three Especial Communications of Grand Lodge was held, two for the purpose of Constituting and Consecrating new lodges:—Barrhead Lodge No. 171 at Barrhead on September 29th, 1954 and Milo Lodge No. 172 at Milo on September 16th, 1955, we welcome these lodges into our ranks and wish them a pleasant and useful future. There are now no lodges under dispensation and no new charters were granted. The third Especial Communication of Grand Lodge was held in the City of Red Deer on May 18th, 1955 for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the new Temple being erected by Red Deer Lodge No. 12 and Kenilworth Lodge No. 29, our Grand Master, M. W. Bro. Rev. Peter Dawson performed this ceremony in a pleasing manner, this was a large meeting, over 300 members from all parts of the Grand Jurisdiction being in attendance.

There are now 159 chartered lodges in the Grand Jurisdiction with no lodges under dispensation. Two petitions for new lodges are on file.

471 members were present at Grand Lodge being 35 more than last year, the members present having 635 votes, being 35 more than last year. 36 Master Masons were also present. During the year there were 820 initiations, 43 less than last year making a net increase in membership of 358 as compared with an increase of 460 last year, our total membership as at December 31st, 1954 being 17,335 members.

24 Veteran Members received their Fifty Year Jewels and one Veteran Member his 60th and 70th year bar to his Fifty Year Jewel, may these brethern be spared to serve Freemasonry many more years.

No Grand Lodges were accorded fraternal recognition this year. Three Grand Lodge Representatives were appointed to represent the Grand Lodge of Alberta near other Grand Lodges, namely;— The Grand Lodges of Vienna, Kansas and British Columbia, whilst four Grand Representatives were appointed to represent other Grand Lodges near the Grand Lodge of Alberta namely:— The Grand Lodges of Vienna, Kentucky, New Jersey and North Dakota.

During the year \$9,390.77 was expended by the Board of Benevolence, this was in addition to the amounts expended by the individual lodges in the Jurisdiction. The Deputy Grand Master, the R. W. Grand Secretary and the Editor of the Bulletin attended the All-Canada Conference held in Toronto, Washington, D.C. The two first named attended the Ontario and the Grand Masters Conference held in Western Canada Conference at Banff, Alberta and the Deputy Grand Master and your Editor attended the Consecration of the new \$2,500,000.00 Temple in Havana, Cuba. The M. W. Grand Master and R. W. Grand Secretary attended all of the Nineteen District Meetings, these meetings appear to be more interesting and better attended each year.

No rulings were given by the Grand Master during the year. The Notice of Motion regarding De Molay was withdrawn by the sponsors and the Notice of Motion regarding use of the canvas in the Third Degree was carried. The Annual Banquet was held in the Hotel Palliser on Wednesday evening, the guest speaker being Bro. Rev. Dr. F. S. Morley of Calgary, Alberta.

The following were our guests at Grand Lodge this year:— M. W. Bro. Nelson S. Hart, P.G.M. representing the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario. M. W. Bro. R. C. Emmett, Grand Master and M. W. Bro. Thos. C. Jackson, P.G.M., Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba. R. W. Bro. J. Russell Oliver representing the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, he was accompanied by W. Bros. R. Esplen and James Cook both veteran members and former members of the Grand Lodge of Alberta. R. W. Bro. R. C. Hodson, Senior Grand Warden representing the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan. M. W. Bro. J. P. Tomlove, P.G.M. representing the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota and R. W. Bro. Merle Kidder, Deputy Grand Master representing the M. W. Grand Master of North Dakota. These distinguished brethern were indeed welcome.

The rank of Honourary Past Grand Master was conferred upon M. W. Bros. Nelson S. Hart, R. C. Emmett and J. P. Tomlove. The rank of Honourary Past Deputy Grand Master on R. W. Bro. Merle Kidder. The rank of Honourary Past Junior Grand rank of Honourary Past Junior Grand Deacons on Warden on R. W. Bro. J. Russell Oliver and the W. Bros. R. Esplen and James Cook. May these brethern be permitted to live many more years in order to enjoy these honours and to give continued

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