



# Grand Lodge Bulletin

Editor: S. CARL HECKBERT

## An Appreciation

By

M.W. BRO. H. B. MACDONALD



Freemasonry in general will regret to learn that M. W. Bro. Sam Harris has laid down his pen as Editor of the "Grand Lodge Bulletin," whose destiny he has guided since 1944 and under whose capable editorship the circulation has increased until now nearly every member in Alberta receives a copy. The Grand Lodge Officers and all Masons unite in tendering him our heartfelt thanks for his faithful years of service as Editor of the "Bulletin" and for a dedicated work, well done.

His resignation as Editor comes as a surprise to all of us but we rejoice in the words of John Markham's poetic insight that "it is not the end but only a bend in the road," and we smile as we wave "farewell." We smile because there is no finality in the word "farewell." It means "fare you well"—a kindly wish for a friend who takes to the open road. We are not losing each other and we look forward to many years of service from our beloved friend and Brother.

Freemasonry appealed strongly to M. W. Bro. Harris. He saw the light of Masonry in Wascana Lodge No. 23 (now No. 2 G.R.S.) at Regina in June, 1906, under the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, and was elected a life member in 1921 and, in 1956, at a special meeting of the Lodge, was honored by being presented with his fifty year medal. He is a charter and Life Member of Wahpun Lodge No. 88 A.F. & A.M., High Prairie, Alberta, serving as its first Senior Warden in 1915 and 1916; was elected the Worshipful Master in 1917, and again in 1921 and 1935. He is an Honorary Life

member of Peace Lodge No. 126, A.F. & A.M., Dawson Creek, British Columbia.

Bro. Harris served the Grand Lodge of Alberta as the first Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District No. 13, in 1918.

Since 1921 he has served continuously as a member of the Board of General Purposes of Grand Lodge. In 1937 he was elected Junior Grand Warden, in 1938 Senior Grand Warden, Deputy Grand Master in 1939, and Grand Master in 1940. He is Honorary Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodges of Saskatchewan and Manitoba. As Grand Representative he served the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, near this Grand Lodge, for twenty years, when he was appointed Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, and recently was appointed to be the Grand Representative of the Mother Grand Lodge of England.

He is a Member of Edmonton Lodge of Perfection, Mizpah Chapter of Rose Croix, the Alberta Consistory and, in September 1954, was coroneted an Honorary Inspector-General 33°, Supreme Council A. & A.S.R.

In Capitular Masonry, he was exalted in Wascana Chapter No. 121 (now No. 1) in 1907; he is a Life Member of Wascana Chapter No. 1, R.A.M., Regina, and also a member of Capital City Chapter No. 13 in Edmonton.

A member of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Western Canada, he served as Grand Inspector-General in the year 1938. During 1946 he was the Grand Principal Conductor of Works. He has held several offices in the Grand Imperial Conclave of Canada, is a Knight Grand Cross of the Red Cross of Constantine, and served as Right Illustrious Grand Intendant General for the Western Division. In 1938 he was appointed the Grand Representative of the Grand Council, R. & S.M. of Maine, near the Grand Council of Western Canada.

He has membership in Edmonton Preceptory No. 46, Knight Templars and the Royal Order of Scotland.

What an impressive list of Masonic achievements.

The highlight of his Masonic year as Grand Master was the inauguration of a Masonic Fund

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## Editorial Comment

Accepting an invitation from Most Worshipful Brother Bannan, I have undertaken (for the time being, at least) to carry on the duties as Editor of our Grand Lodge Bulletin; I have done so with very considerable reluctance as I realize that in endeavoring to follow the magnificent service given to the Masonic Order in Alberta and elsewhere by Most Worshipful Brother Sam Harris as Editor of our Bulletin for so many years, I have accepted a responsibility which is a grave one indeed.

That our Bulletin, under my direction, may be able to maintain at least some measure of the success it has attained with the guidance of M.W. Bro. Harris will be my most sincere hope and I earnestly solicit the support of Officers and members in my endeavor. That it will be possible to improve on the quality of the monthly publication is doubtful, but we must strive for the highest quality and I am sure that I may count on the assistance of those who are in a position to make a valuable contribution.

During my term of office as Grand Master, 1955-1956, it was not uncommon to hear the Bulletin discussed at District and other meetings and in general conversation among the Brethren and that it had quite general favourable appeal was always evident. On occasion I have heard some demand for the inclusion of items of local character, but it has been policy for many years, and quite rightly so, in my opinion, to avoid publication of articles which could be of little general interest to members of the Craft, items which would have appeal only in restricted circles and in the immediate vicinity of a Lodge where some thoroughly interesting event had taken place. I shall have to 'feel my way' in respect of any major deviation from established procedure and meanwhile I ask for the sympathetic understanding of readers of our paper.

As our Province has recently attained its Fiftieth Anniversary it is but logical that constituent Lodges throughout the jurisdiction will now periodically reach the half century mark and that joyful celebrations will be held to note such events. We will be glad to be advised of any such events, so that proper notice may be made of such important milestones. It is requested that advice in connection with such occasions may be confined to essentials and such enlargements as may be possible will be made with deference to space available and to the required priority of what I trust may be generally interesting material.

There is a vast store of Masonic information available to us through the hundreds of Masonic publications from all over the world and when the organization of my work as your Editor has been completed every possible effort will be made to send into the home of every Freemason in Alberta a monthly paper with appeal to him who has a vital interest in the science which is worthy of our study.

Yours faithfully,  
S. Carl Heckbert, Editor

## AN APPRECIATION

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in aid of those suffering from the bombing attacks of the enemy on the cities and towns of Great Britain and which appeal met with warm and wholehearted response from the Masons in our Jurisdiction.

All his life M.W. Bro. Harris has been an ardent and dedicated student of Freemasonry and has travelled far and by different routes in search of further knowledge in the Masonic world. He has attained honorable achievement in many branches of Masonry and has filled, with distinction, many important positions. He has a large circle of friends all over the North American continent but, notwithstanding the honors that have been so worthily showered upon him, he has retained a great love for the Blue Lodge and its three outstanding and comprehensive degrees. Indeed, in a most remarkable sense, he has symbolized the intent of Kipling's words:

*"He who can talk with crowds and keep his virtue  
Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch,  
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt him—  
"He who can dream and not make dreams his master;  
Who can think—and not make thoughts his aim;  
Who can meet with Triumph and Disaster  
And treat those two impostors just the same;  
"If all men count with him, but none too much  
If he can fill the unforgiving minute with sixty seconds'  
worth of distance run,  
His is the earth, and everything that's in it—  
He is a man, a brother and a friend."*

M.W. Bro. Harris has, in a marked degree, retained the common touch of Freemasonry and, through the medium of the "Bulletin," maintained the highest traditions of Masonic lore.

We all hope that for many years to come we may have the benefit of the service and counsel of M.W. Bro. Harris in the guidance of the affairs of our Grand Jurisdiction, and that the reflected splendor of a faithful and useful life may gild his years with health and happiness. May the realization that he is surrounded by the love and affection of countless friends, not only in this Grand Jurisdiction but far beyond the confines of our beloved Province, bring him pleasure and contentment.

We extend our sincere thanks to M.W. Bro. Harris for a service well rendered.

Throughout Alberta, and indeed throughout our country there are many members of the Fraternity who have attained positions of importance and have carried the principles of Freemasonry into their daily lives in their impression upon their communities. We salute Brother McGillivray who, in the evening of his life, doubtless often reflects upon the pioneer days and the emergence of our grand Province to a position of importance among the provincial units that go to make up a nation in which we have so much faith and pride.

Editor.

## "Give Him A Day!"

*(Adapted from a message in the Indiana Freemason by August J. Sieloff, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Indiana, with his gracious permission).*

Take another good look at that boy holding down the shortstop position or winding up in the pitcher's box . . . there is young Canada all wrapped up in one lusty, eager, dynamic package. He craves action—knows exactly what he wants and tells the whole world about it in no uncertain terms—and it's probably a safe bet that he'll get it; but win, lose or draw he'll take everything in his stride and come back for more, for that is the measure of sportsmanship and fair play and no one knows it better than the boy on the sandlot to whom, perhaps, we pay far too little attention.

As we see the boy striving with his fellows to 'play the game' we wonder if this bundle of energy isn't learning a great many of the fundamentals of good citizenship from the association with his team mates and we wonder, too, if he isn't in the process of developing the most important of all human traits—how to get along with people—how to be a friend, no matter how the game goes.

The scene suggested by the ball game is duplicated all during the summer in our towns and cities, in our villages and at the cross-roads—and that is good—because it not only means that the youth of our country have the opportunity for clean, wholesome recreation and training, but also because, it demonstrates unmistakably that our adults, the men and women of Canada, or at least, many of them, have awakened to the fact that our youngsters must have such opportunities if they are to develop those healthy attitudes which later will be reflected in responsible citizenship.

It is no secret that uniforms, sports paraphernalia and recreation areas, be they "sandlots" or more pretentious playgrounds, cost money—and the bill for such juvenile necessities falls squarely in the laps of Mr. and Mrs. Canada. But never was money better spent! And I dare hope that you, my Brother, have enjoyed the privilege of sharing in the encouragement of one of these character building projects.

"Cast thy bread upon the waters; for thou shalt find it after many days."

Albert Pike, one of Masonry's immortals, once reminded the Craft of its obligation to youth. He said: "It should never be forgotten, that in the poorest unregarded child that seems abandoned to ignorance and vice, may slumber virtues, intellect and genius and that in giving him the means of education and development we may confer on the world as great a benefit as was given it by John Faust, the boy of Mentz, who revealed to it the art of printing. For we never know the importance of the act we do. The daughter of Pharaoh little thought what she was doing for the human race, and the vast, unimaginable consequences that depended on her charitable act, when she drew

the little child of a Hebrew woman from among the rushes that grew along the bank of the Nile, and determined to rear it as her own.

"How often has an act of charity, costing the doer little, given to the world a great painter, a great sculptor, a great musician, a great inventor! How often has such an act developed the ragged boy into the benefactor of his race! For there is no law—thank God—that limits the returns that shall be reaped from a single good deed."

That thought leads me to a "good deed" important to every member of the Masonic Fraternity in Alberta. There is a period in the life of every youngster known as "adolescence"—those vital years between childhood and maturity when character is shaped, morality is tested, education is fostered or neglected and habits, good or bad, are so easily formed. It is during this period that our boys so seriously need the interest of their fathers, or of some man in lieu of a father who can and will impress upon the youngster the importance of aims, of worth while objectives and the importance, too, of a comradely approach of boys, one to another, for the development of that spirit of interdependence which is so essential to character building.

We, as members of a Craft with tremendous individual and joint influence, must recognize the significance and importance of these formative years in the life of our boys and must endeavor to keep before our young people the same principles and ideals which have given strength and vitality to Masonry through the centuries. I submit to you that this is one of the most essential of all our undertakings, for it goes to the very heart of Masonry and that spirit of 'togetherness' which has, through the years been so vital to the welfare of the Craft.

Look into it, my Brother, see what is being done in your community for the youth who will so soon be charged with responsibility . . . then pitch in and help. Give of yourself . . . the greatest gift of all. Now I have one final request. As one dad to another, my Brother, read and then read again the little poem which you will find accompanying this article . . . and then govern yourself accordingly.

### GIVE HIM A DAY

*What shall you give to one small boy?*

*A glamorous game, a tinsel'd toy.*

*A barlow knife, a puzzle pack,*

*A train that runs on a curving track?*

*A picture book, a real live pet . . .*

*No, there's plenty of time for such things yet.*

**GIVE HIM A DAY FOR HIS VERY OWN—**

*Just one small boy and his dad alone.*

*A walk in the woods, a romp in the park,*

*A fishing trip from dawn to dark,*

*Give the gift that only YOU can—*

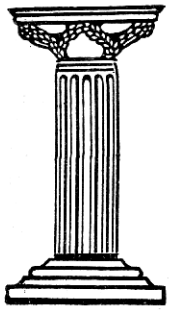
*The companionship of his Old Man.*

*Games are outgrown, and toys decay*

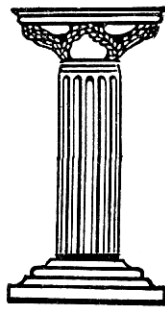
*But he'll never forget if you*

*"Give him a day."*

Anonymous.



## Between the Pillars



### "SERVICE"

One of the most satisfying results or privileges of membership in Craft Masonry is the opportunity which is afforded the individual to be of service, and to make his contribution to the welfare of his fellows. Indeed, no self respecting member can retain his membership and good standing in his lodge and the Craft unless he recognizes by carrying into active operation the practice of our first and most important duty which is to serve our lodge, our fellows and mankind.

There is no finer accomplishment, or one which brings more happiness, than that of being able to do a kindly act, or make a contribution to the welfare of an individual or an organization. One feels good all over, and gains far greater recompense than the receiver. We build our lodges with these kind of efforts, and our own appreciation of the craft and love for our brethren grows too. This brings the kind of happiness which is the charm of Masonry.

There are many ways we can serve our lodges. The most important and simplest is to attend its meetings regularly. We hear a lot these days of small attendance at lodge meetings, and various causes for it are given. Officers of lodges are urged to make the meetings more "attractive" or "interesting" in an effort to bolster the attendance. This is all very fine, but is certainly not the solution. We can solve the poor attendance problem and do a very worthwhile service to our lodge by attending the meetings—for a purely selfish reason if you like, that of enjoying the fellowship extended to us by our brethren who are there. In accepting this we radiate fellowship in return. It is a stimulating experience which, given a proper chance, will develop into many joyous and happy associations. The member who serves by regular attendance very soon learns that every meeting, no matter how short or ordinary it may appear to some, can be delightful and important to those brethren who are genuinely interested.

The interested brother soon learns that his own little contribution is important. Just to be present—to be one of a number of the brethren is a service and a terrific help and encouragement to the Master and his officers. To be ready at all times to do any job—even a small inconsequential job—is a contribution which matches any effort no matter how great or important it might be.

There is also an exceptional opportunity to serve the lodge by taking part in the degree work.

Some will say that one brother is able to "put on the work" better than another, but the interested brother can take a small part and create extra importance and seriousness in it by learning it perfectly, believing in its philosophy and being sincere in rendering it. Who gets the most good from this? The interested brother of course. He understands and appreciates our ritual more and more by committing it to memory. Memorizing the "work" is the surest way to acquire and absorb its beautiful lessons and moral instruction.

Another way to serve your lodge is to pay the annual dues promptly. Your lodge Secretary usually works hard for the welfare of the lodge. Make his job easier by sending your cheque promptly and keep him informed of your correct mailing address. This may seem to be a trivial thing, but it helps the Secretary to do his job better. A member whose dues are in arrears soon develops into a careless member. Masonry has no time for carelessness. We have an imperative and exacting duty to look after these details.

There are many ways of serving the lodge and the Craft. An interested member needs no prompting or urging. It goes without saying that one should not let his zeal or desire to serve supplant any other member who is also trying to do his part. Let him have something to do which he might like, even if you can do it better. We all must share in the work.

To be of service to an individual brother is an experience which brings happiness to both. We have a duty toward our brethren. Some recognize this duty in a broader sense and to a greater degree than others. We speak of the "brotherhood of man" which to some has sort of a vague meaning. There is no greater service one can render to his fellow than to offer him personal friendship. It is a beautiful experience to feel the genuine affection and friendliness which exists among Masons. To give and receive these expressions of fellowship is a great service to and privilege of our membership.

To coach and teach our new members provides an excellent channel to be of service to our brethren and has far reaching effects. Teaching by; precept and example; by explaining the work; by defining and illustrating our duties in and out of the lodge; improves and strengthens both teacher and pupil. To have a hand in helping to make it possible for an initiate to learn to improve himself in Masonry and to watch him acquire a love for the Craft is a worthy contribution.

When we have learned and accepted the fact that the fundamentals are Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, and have learned to interpret them, the crowning glory of our efforts is the realization that the greatest appreciation of Masonry can only come from the practice of it. Service, sacrifice and doing for others is Masonry. They are our chief employments. Practicing these virtues brings happiness and contentment—the satisfying result of membership in this great fraternity.

Donald D. McQueen,  
Deputy Grand Master.