



Grand Lodge Bulletin

Editor: S. CARL HECKBERT, P.G.M., Vermilion, Alberta

Brethren:

Most of you know Charles Dickens' "Christmas Carol", it has long been a bit of favourite reading, especially at Christmas-time.

Do you recall these words of Scrooge's nephew when he called at his uncle's Office on Christmas Eve to wish the old man a Merry Christmas and had been rewarded with Scrooge's reply—"Bah!" "Humbug"!

"I have always thought of Christmas-time, when it has come round—apart from the veneration due to its sacred name and origin, if anything belonging to it can be apart from that—as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time; the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely, and to think of people below them as if they really were fellow-passengers to the grave, and not another race of creatures bound on other journeys. And therefore, uncle, though it has never put a scrap of gold or silver in my pocket, I believe that it HAS done me good, and WILL do me good; and I say, God bless it!"

Christmas IS a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time and it has become such because of its sacred name and origin so that even those who are not Christians come under its spell. It is a Gift Day and all men are recipients. On this day God gave His Son and every soul in the world was included on God's Christmas list. This is a true story—the Babe of Bethlehem was the first Christmas present and the first presents offered in return for this gift were given by Wise Men from the East—gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Remembering that you are on God's Christmas list, let me ask you this—is He on yours? Let us resolve that He is on your list. Now may I ask you what you will give Him that will be of use to Him in establishing His Reign on earth.

You cannot send Him a card expressing your good wishes, you cannot offer words of admiration, these are not good enough. You must give Him something He can use!

Give Him your heart, to love Him and your fellow men, and also to love what He loves—truth, righteousness, and peace.

Give him your mind, so that your ideas may be helped by His guidance, and that you may follow truth and bring others to the knowledge of truth.

Give Him your strength of body, heart, and mind, that you may become a peace maker, not just a peace lover, but one who brings peace home with him every day, one who works for harmony in Lodge and Community.

Give Him these three gifts—by such is the Kingdom of Heaven brought near to men.

God rest you, merry gentlemen!

GEORGE REGINALD CALVERT,
Past Grand Master—Manitoba.
Honorary Past Grand Master—Alberta

The Universality Of The Science

Having had the opportunity of doing a bit of wandering in the last few months it was an added pleasure to take advantage of making the acquaintance of Grand Lodge officers of the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland and my appreciation of the privileges of membership in the Fraternity was greatly enhanced thereby. Unfortunately the time available in London and in Dublin was not as long as I might have wished, while our visit to Edinburgh provided the opportunity for a somewhat closer association with the executive officers than was possible in the other centres.

It was a matter for deepest regret to me that all Lodges in the British Isles were 'at rest' during the summer months and that I was, therefore, unable to attend one or more of the older Lodges in whose operations I would have had very considerable interest.

V. W. Bro. J. W. Stubbs, Grand Secretary of the United Grand Lodge of England, was busily engaged during my visit but graciously arranged for an assistant to show me through the fine Masonic Peace Memorial Building which dominates the large Circus or Place at the junction of Great Queen Street, Drury Lane and Long Acre; the superlative beauty of Freemasons' Hall is altogether deserving of an article more extensive than is possible at this time, although I hope to be able, at a later date, to utilize the columns of the Bulletin in an endeavor to describe at least some of the beauties of this great central home for English Freemasons in the metropolis of the Commonwealth.

The Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, R. W. Bro. J. O. Harte was also absent on the occasion of my visit to Dublin, but had left an assistant to extend a welcome and to show me through the splendid Temple in the capital of Southern Ireland; the friendly greeting and the ready willingness of Bro. Love to make my visit a pleasant one will not soon be forgotten.

In planning our visit to the United Kingdom we had reserved rather considerable time in which to view the wonders of Scotland (I presume that if any Scots should read this that they will feel that this was only right and proper) consequently my visit to Edinburgh provided an opportunity to enjoy a more extensive acquaintance with the Secretary of that Grand Jurisdiction than seemed possible in the case of the sister Grand Lodges in the United Kingdom and Southern Ireland.

On arrival at my hotel in Edinburgh I was surprised and gratified to find a cordial letter of welcome from Dr. Buchan, the Grand Secretary, awaiting me and his invitation to visit the Grand Lodge office was one which could hardly be overlooked. Alex. Buchan, listed in Masonic publica-

tions as Dr. A. F. Buchan, M.B.E. BSc., Ph. D., F.R.S.E., proved to be one of the most delightful gentlemen it has ever been my pleasure to meet and certainly not the abstruse type which one might imagine on reading the impressive designation of honours attached to his name.

Having previously had the opportunity of meeting Dr. Buchan on the occasion of the one hundredth anniversary of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario in 1955 it was pleasant indeed to renew the acquaintance and despite the fact that he was an extremely busy man he was more than willing to talk of those who fostered the work of the Craft in his country and, too, of so many who had departed to Canada's shores to seek an outlet for their capabilities, and who had maintained their interest in the Craft at home and abroad.

Dr. Buchan is a member and a Past Master of Lodge Canongate Kilwinning and certainly no Lodge ever had a more devoted and expressive exponent; putting aside matters of importance to the work of his office Dr. Buchan was good enough to drive me down to go through the Lodge and to explore some of the ancient furniture which so pleasantly takes one back a long way in the history of Freemasonry; to say that I was impressed with my somewhat lengthy visit would but mildly express my feelings as I inspected the benign home of this historical Lodge, sat in the Master's chair and listened with so much pleasure to the strains of the ancient organ in the Lodge room under the masterful touch of Dr. Buchan as he played several pieces for my enjoyment.

Bro. Buchan later presented me with an historical outline of Lodge Canongate Kilwinning and while it is somewhat lengthy it is proposed to publish it almost in its entirety in this paper in two sections, because I feel that it may hold the interest of brethren of our own Grand Jurisdiction as it has mine; while conditions and circumstances will differ to some extent between the long and impressive service of this Lodge and of other Lodges throughout the British Isles, there would seem to be much that is similar in their splendid records of service to their adherents and it will be my hope that members of the older Lodges, now resident in Canada may find something of interest in the entrancing history of this early Lodge, the story of which is typical, doubtless, of many Lodges steeped in antiquity and dear to the hearts of those who have found new homes in our new land. The book, which will always be one of my treasured souvenirs of a wonderful experience outlines an introduction of Lodge Canongate Kilwinning and proceeds to mark its progress in the following paragraphs:-

"The traditions of Lodge Canongate Kilwinning date back to the building of the Abbey of

Holyrood, when, by Royal Warrant skilled builders and craftsmen were brought from far and near to assist in the work. The Abbey was founded by King David I in 1128 for the Canons Regular of St. Augustine, and dedicated to the Holy Rood or Cross brought to Scotland by his Mother, the pious Margaret.

By the time the Reformation of the sixteenth century had swept away the authority of the Church, the Burgh of Canongate had become of sufficient importance to confer rights of freedom of trade apart from the protection of the Church. The trade societies of the Canongate never owed any allegiance to Edinburgh, and the somewhat arrogant attempts made by the trades of the latter to exercise control in the Canongate led to indignant repudiation. The Canongate Masons, however, while dating their corporate privileges from King David's charter to the Canons of Holyrood and the Constitution of the Burgh of Canongate, and while being entirely separate from and independent of Edinburgh, identified themselves with the general body of Freemasons in Scotland in 1677. In that year they acquired a warrant from the Lodge Kilwinning in Ayrshire, which was at that time exercising the functions of a Grand Lodge. Mother Kilwinning, as it is now affectionately known, had a traditional connection with the skilled ecclesiastical architects and builders of the time. It is from the foregoing connection that No. 2 derives its title of Canongate Kilwinning.

Owing to the incompleteness or absence of documentary evidence of earlier existence, its precedence thus runs conventionally from a much later date (1677) than the real inception of the Lodge warrants. In respect of its constitution at this date as a purely speculative Lodge, independent of and uncontrolled by any trade organization or incorporation, it takes rank as one of the very oldest of existing Lodges. It is one of the few which cannot, and does not, produce to candidates or anyone else any "charter or warrant of constitution from the Grand Lodge of Scotland".

The Lodge holds its Annual Festival on St. John the Baptist's Day, corresponding with the Summer Solstice, and its bright red clothing and apt motto, Post Nobilem Phoebus ("After the clouds the sun"), both pointedly refer to the dawn of day in the East and to ancient Sun Worship. As the sun never sets but to rise again, so, according to the oldest forms, at every communication the work is closed, but the Lodge is never closed—only adjourned.

The Lodge preserves the ancient Scottish arrangement of the interior, having the Masters and Wardens' chairs at the three points of a triangle, the Master's chair forming the apex. This is the correct and most ancient arrangement of a Scottish Lodge, corresponding with the so-called Higher Degrees and also with the continental masonic systems, but differing from the English and American.

Three of the early minutes of the Lodge may prove of interest;-

Canongate: Feby, ye 13th. A.D. 1735. A. M. 5735.

The Lodge having met according to Adjournment, do appoint R. Bulkley, Edwd. Miller and Geo. Frazer to meet in Order to prepare regulations & by Laws to be laid before the Rt. Worshipful the Master and Wardens against Thursday the 27th. inst. to which time the Lodge stands Adjourned.

Canongate the 29th. Septemr. 1735. A.M. 5735.

The Lodge having mett according to adjournment being duely formed this being a quarterly meeting continued the Committee for the Laws, admitted Wm. Montgomery as Master Mason who pay'd as usual and appointed David Home, William Robertson and such other members as think fitt to attend as a Committee for framing proposals to be layd before the Several Lodges in order to the chusing of a Grand Master for Scotland, the Committee to meet tomorrow's night at 6 o' th' clock & to report against Wednesday to which time the Lodge stands adjourn'd.

Canongate 18th. Decr. 1736. A.M. 5736.

The Lodge having been summoned to attend the Grandmaster at the consecration of the new Lodge built by the subscribers members of this Lodge at the House of James Hamilton vintn in Canongate, being mett accordingly made a procession in due order from his House to the New Lodge, where the Most Worshipful appointed the Rt. Worshipful George Frazer to consecrate the Lodge which being done in most due and Solemn form, several Brethren were admitted as Masons, paying into the Treasr. the fees as usuall over and above the 2 sh. 6 d for the use of the Grand Lodge. Thereafter the healths proper to the occasion were Drunk.

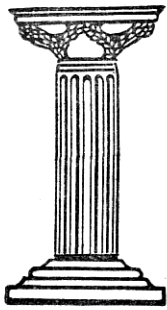
The Lodge was visited by the Deputy Grandmaster, by the Junr. Grand Warden, by the Right Worshipful Wm. Montgomerie Esq. with the most part of his Leith Kilwinning Lodge and by Severall other worthy Brethren, Bro. George Crawford having been appointed Junr. Grand Warden pro tempore".

(To be concluded in next issue.)

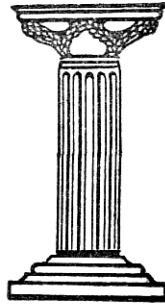
S. CARL HECKBERT, P. G. M.



Greetings of the Season



Between the Pillars



JORDAN LODGE No. 177

The M. W. the Grand Master, M. W. Bro. D. D. McQueen presided at the Constitution and Consecration of Jordan Lodge No. 177 in Calgary on Oct. 22nd, 1958. Forty-four names were on the petition, forty two of the Brethren being in attendance; unhappily one of the petitioners passed away after the presentation of the petition and W. Bro. W. N. Tucker was prevented by illness from attending. This record is tangible proof of interest shown in the new Lodge, the fourth in the City of Calgary in the past two years.

Six Past Grand Masters, M. M. Bros. Botterill, Ireland, Cumming, Henry, Bond and Bannan were present, as well as a number of Grand Lodge officers, past and present, R. W. Bro. S. H. Hardin travelled the greatest distance, coming from Vegreville especially for the ceremonies, V. W. Bro. W. J. Hamilton acted as Grand Director of Ceremonies and Bro. H. Rimmer, P. G. O. presided at the organ. Some two hundred Brethren signed the register, all of the fifteen other Lodges in Calgary being represented by their Worshipful Master or Senior Warden, who took part in the ceremonies.

This meeting was honoured by the presence of the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York, R. W. Bro. Edward Carman who had been visiting in Banff with Mrs. Carman and availed himself of the opportunity of renewing friendships with Grand Lodge officers. The gathering was delighted by a most impressive address by the visiting dignitary.

The M. W. the Grand Master installed W. Bro. Eric Osborne as the first Worshipful Master and was assisted in the investiture of the other officers by a number of Grand Lodge officers and by W. Bro. Lawrence E. Walter of Memorial Lodge No. 172, Moose Jaw, Sask., who invested his son-in-law as a Deacon.

At the conclusion of the ceremonies W. Bro. Benoy of Perfection Lodge No. 9 acting on behalf of the Masters and Wardens of the Calgary Lodges presented Jordan Lodge with a set of Working Tools and our Grand Chaplain, R. W. Bro. W. J. Collett, dedicated the Volume of the Sacred Law, the much appreciated gift of M. W. Bro. L. W. Bond.

Bro. P. L. Backus, who has been a member of Red Deer Lodge No. 12 since September 1930, was installed as Worshipful Master of Canada Lodge No. 3527 in London, England on October 21st, 1958. The installing Master was V. W. Bro. J. W. Stubbs, Grand Secretary of the United Grand Lodge of England. Red Deer Lodge sent a cable of congratulation to the new incumbent of this important office and the many friends of Bro. L. P. Backus, M.D., C.M., D.P.M. will be pleased to learn of his advancement.

The very pleasing news that every Lodge in Alberta now distributes the Masonic Bulletin to its membership has just been received by the Editor. Every possible effort will be made to provide an interesting and informative paper for the Masons of Alberta.

"Thank God every morning when you get up that you have something to do which must be done, whether you like it or not. Being forced to work, and forced to do your best, will breed in you temperance, self-control, diligence, strength of will, content, and a hundred other virtues which the idle will never know."

CHARLES KINSLEY.

"Masonry has greatly enriched my life. It has given me friendships that I cherish dearly. It has, I think, whispered subconsciously to me in silent hours, of caution and encouragement. I like going back to my Lodge; I have found it refreshing and good to step aside out of the path of my busy life and sit again with the Masons who have carried on in my absence."

EDGAR A. GUEST.

"A good man will find that there is godness in the world; an honest man will find that there is honesty in the world; and a man of principle will find principle and integrity in the mind of others."

—Albert Pike.

"We do not love people so much for the good they have done us, as for the good we have done them".

—Tolstoy.

"There is a courtesy of the heart; it is allied to love. From it springs the purest courtesy in outward behaviour."

—Goethe.

BE STRONG

"Be Strong!

We are not here to play, to dream, to drift;
We have hard work to do, and loads to lift.
Shun not the struggle; face it. 'Tis
God's gift."

"To be able to fill leisure intelligently is the last product of civilization."

—Bertrand Russell.