



# Grand Lodge Bulletin

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

## WE - AND OTHERS

By M.W. BRO. W. A. HENRY, Past Grand Master  
Grand Lodge of Alberta

As I visit various Lodges throughout our jurisdiction, on their regular meeting night or on special occasions, I invariably speak to the officers about their attendance. The answers are surprisingly uniform: "We have a fair turnout on degree nights and a better turnout on special nights, but at the regular meetings, with no degree work, the attendance is very slim." In response to an inquiry as to the interest shown in Freemasonry they reply: "We would like to see more."

In our Grand Lodge Communication last June there were between twenty and twenty-five Lodges, or sixteen to eighteen per cent not represented in any way. This very definitely shows a lack of interest by the principal officers in these lodges. I cannot understand a man who would accept an office in which he cannot or does not wish to perform the duties of that office, with determination and efficiency. He should be prepared to sacrifice some time, and money if necessary, for the performance of the duties of his office; otherwise he should never assume such office. Each honor has its corresponding duties which should be known and recognized by all. If the principal officers of a lodge are not interested, how can they expect to create interest among their members?

In Alberta we have only a modest sum invested in Masonic Temples, but still, in proportion to our population and wealth, they represent and serve us very well. We are only a very young jurisdiction and we have not untold wealth.

I have visited many of the great Temples in the cities of the United States; they are grand and magnificent buildings, very proper and suitable as the House for Freemasonry.

Many of these Temples cost many millions of dollars. The new one in San Francisco is the latest and probably embodies all the most recent architectural ideas for utility and beauty. The dedication of this marvellous structure was the occasion of a most spectacular meeting with distinguished guests from all parts of the world. The Temple was dedicated to the cause of Free-

masonry, universal benevolence and the perpetuation of freedom.

The great George Washington Memorial Temple at Alexandria, Virginia, is another fabulous building. Built at a cost of many millions of dollars, and situated on top of a hill overlooking Alexandria, the Potomac River, and the capitol city of the United States, Washington, D.C.

This great and renowned Temple was built by the Freemasons of the United States as a memorial to General George Washington, a brother Freemason, the Commander in Chief of their army during the Revolution, and the first President of the thirteen colonies. In one of the lodge rooms in the Temple they have the old furniture and regalia of George Washington, considered to have untold value and great historical importance. These cherished possessions are valuable antiques and hold special interest for Freemasons.

Visitors are welcomed to the building and may be conducted through the various rooms, pictures are available and may be sent through the mails of the United States to any part of the world.

I have had the pleasure of sitting in lodge with the Prime Minister of Canada, Cabinet Ministers, Lieutenant Governors, Judges and distinguished citizens of our country. In the United States I have been in lodge with an ex-President, Secretary to the President, officers of the navy, army and air force as well as many distinguished citizens whose names are often before the public; and all these men are enthusiastic Freemasons.

All these things convince me that we in this country and in this age, have accepted Freemasonry as a part of our life and that it holds an honored place in our community and national life. We point with pride to the splendid buildings; we wear jewelry which marks us as Freemasons, we receive notices of our meetings through our post offices, and, above all, we walk down the street and enter our Temple without fear or trepidation.

I have had the pleasure of speaking with Freemasons from various countries, and as I am especially interested in the Latin American countries, I make it a practice to speak to as many

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## EDITORIAL

Perhaps one should not use a personal experience as the basis for an editorial comment in a fraternal publication, but I am constrained to do just that, at this time.

Finding it necessary to undergo a surgical operation, and having repaired to an Edmonton hospital, I was immeasurably pleased to find that members of my own Lodge, when visiting the city on business or pleasure took time to visit me and that in just under three weeks, during which period I was hospitalized, some sixty members of Edmonton Lodges found their way to my room and made the stay much more pleasant than one would naturally associate with being a patient.

Representatives of the Masters, Wardens and Deacons Association of the capital city were generous in their visits indeed; Brethren in attendance at sessions of the Scottish Rite took time from their busy days to bring light and sunshine into the sick room and each day it was impressed upon me in no uncertain terms that the brotherhood of Freemasonry is truly a worthwhile association, in deed as well as in word.

It is virtually impossible to express my thanks to individuals who interfered with their routine to bring pleasure to me and I trust that those of my readers who visited me will know from these words how much I appreciated the kindness so clearly indicated to me.

Since my return to my home and my gradual and steady return to health I have come to realize my own shortcomings as regards visiting brethren confined to hospitals and I am determined that, in future, it will be a sober charge upon my responsibilities to endeavor to repay, in some measure, the great pleasure that was given me by the extremely gratifying visits of my Brethren who brought me news of lodge affairs in the city and country and relieved the monotony of hospital confinement, by paying regular visits to others so confined.

Doubtless most lodges have 'Sick' Committees, whose representatives make it a point to visit those in hospital, but there is no doubt but that, where the illness permits, the voluntary visits of members in general can serve a most useful purpose and help to relieve the mind of the patient and to pleasantly pass time that might otherwise hang rather heavy. There is something about the friendly handclasp of a Brother in Masonry and the understanding camaraderie of our Fraternity that means much to the ill or distressed and there is ample exhortation in our ritual that we should bear in mind those to whom our strength may be of untold value. The words "I was sick and ye visited me" are as full of import today as they were when uttered by Our Saviour in the dim and distant past.

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of these brethren as possible. It is most interesting to hear about their Freemasonry and its problems. They all have much the same story; these countries are predominantly Catholic and generally Church and State are hand in hand. No good Catholic can be a Freemason because Pope Gregory and others have issued papal bulls against Freemasonry, these being still in effect.

The foremost problem in the Latin American countries is the antagonism of the Church authorities. This can be very annoying and often damaging to business, to social standing and community position. In these countries a Freemason is not one with prestige and freedom, but one who must be careful how he acts, so as not to draw particular attention to his own activities and those of his lodge. Masonic jewelry is not worn and there is no display of lodge work, nor public procession, such as in the laying of cornerstones and other Masonic ceremonies.

There is an ever present fear of a sudden change in government, which might bring new forces against Freemasonry. It has occurred many times in our neighboring countries that after a revolution, lodges have been closed, Freemasonry suppressed and officers removed or placed under careful watch. It has been known for governments to attempt to set up a grand lodge of their own. Naturally this upsets Freemasonry within the country, as well as abroad, because we do not recognize the right of any government to dissolve a grand lodge or to appoint a new one.

It takes a bold man to be a Freemason in such countries and under such circumstances. One would naturally think seriously before endangering his family to all sorts of indignities or to social ostracism or to jeopardize the future of his business. In spite of this I am told that they have enthusiastic members and practice a respectable brand of Freemasonry. The lodges are never very large or numerous; their buildings are modest, but the lodges are usually in good financial standing.

It would appear to me that we have much more suitable ground for Freemasonry; it should prosper and we should enjoy the fruits of the eminent fraternity. We are most fortunate throughout our jurisdiction in the peace and harmony that prevail; we have no problems with church or state; in actual practice a great many of our members are actively engaged in both. Freemasons endeavor to work with the Church authorities in the service of mankind, and they have ever been known to be loyal subjects and patriots.

Our only problem, then, is to create more interest among our members, that there may be greater service to our fellow men.

"All that is necessary for the forces of evil to win in this world is for enough good men to do nothing." Edmund Burke.



## IN MEMORIAM

M.W. BRO. RUSSELL JOHN BRADLEY

Members of the Masonic Order in Alberta, as well as in other parts of Canada and in many of the Grand Jurisdictions of the United States have been saddened to learn of the passing of M.W. Bro. Russell John Bradley, for almost fifty years an ardent Freemason and Grand Master in Alberta in 1943. M.W. Bro. Bradley was born at Port Perry, Ontario, on June 19th, 1887, and answered the call of the West while still a young man. He was a merchant at Wolf Creek, west of Edmonton when the Grand Trunk Railway was built and it was at this time, Nov. 15th, 1910, that he was initiated into Unity Lodge, then under dispensation in Edmonton and soon to mark its Fiftieth Anniversary.

On moving to Edmonton, M.W. Bro. Bradley became unusually active in his chosen Lodge which he served as Master in 1933; he was D.D.G.M. of District No. 3 in 1937 and was named as Junior Grand Warden in 1940, attaining the Grand Master's chair in 1943, when his enthusiasm gave leadership for a most successful year.

In 1920 he started a food brokerage business in the capital city, operating with notable success until the time of his death. Active in business circles he was a Past President of both the Alberta Food Brokers Assn. and the Canadian Food Brokers Assn. He was an active member of the Navy League of Canada.

Broadening his Masonic activities M.W. Bro. Bradley was TPGM in 1937, Commander in Chief of the Consistory in 1955-57, a member of the Rose Croix, Mizpah Chapter and of the Royal Order of Scotland; he was honored only a comparatively short time prior to his death when by being coroneted a member of the Thirty Third Degree of the Scottish Rite.

Left to mourn are Mrs. Bradley and one son, Jack, associated for some years past in business with his father, as well as a host of friends throughout the length and breadth of Canada.

*"When Death draws down the curtain of the night,*

*And those we love in his deep darkness hides,  
We can but wait the coming of the light,  
And bless the memory that still abides."*

## GRAND SECRETARY RAISES SON IN COLOURFUL CEREMONY

On April 22nd, 1960, Alastair H. Rivers, son of R.W. Bro. E. H. Rivers, Grand Secretary of Alberta, who is serving with the R.C.M.P. in British Columbia, received his Third Degree in St. George's Lodge No. 41, at Kelowna, B.C.

The Master Mason's Degree was conferred by an R.C.M.P. Degree Team under the direction of W. Bro. S/Sgt. E. H. R. Nesbitt of Penticton, assisted by members of the Force serving in the Okanagan and surrounding area. Members of the team wore ceremonial dress uniform, lending colour to the pleasing occasion.

R.W. Bro. E. H. Rivers, a retired S/Sgt. of the R.C.M.P. participated in the ceremony of raising his son.

The meeting included a large number of visiting Brethren, including R.W. Bro. Gordon McMynn, Deputy Grand Master in the sister province, R.W. Bro. F. F. W. Lowle, P.G.R., Alberta, now residing in Penticton, R.W. Bro. Rev. J. G. Goddard, P.G.C., Alberta, but now of Kelowna and W. Bro. Eric Osborne, P.M. of Jordan Lodge, Calgary, who accompanied R.W. Bro. Rivers on the visit.

## GRAND MASTER'S NIGHT, RED DEER

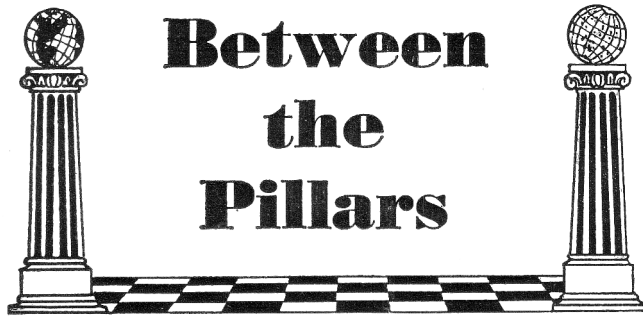
Red Deer Lodge No. 12 and Kenilworth Lodge No. 29 honoured the Grand Master at a special meeting in the central Alberta city on April 8th, 1960. The particular event of the evening was the presentation by the Grand Master of a Sixty Year Bar to M.W. Bro. W. J. Botterill, our Senior Past Grand Master and also a Jewel to mark the 50th anniversary of his having occupied the Worshipful Master's chair in Kenilworth Lodge No. 29.

M.W. Bro. F. P. Galbraith presented a Fifty Year Jewel to W. Bro. F. Turnbull, who is associated with him in business and was also associated with his father, M.W. Bro. Botterill presented an Honorary Life Membership in Kenilworth Lodge to M.W. Bro. Galbraith.

M.W. Bro. Little, Grand Master, in honoring M.W. Bro. Botterill noted that the distinguished senior member was initiated in Moosomin Lodge No. 35, at Moosomin on July 17th, 1900, and that he affiliated with Kenilworth Lodge No. 29, March 14th, 1907, filling the respective chairs in the Lodge and becoming its Worshipful Master in 1910, advancing to the position of D.D.G.M. of District No. 9 in 1913, and to become Grand Master of Masons in Alberta in 1919.

M.W. Bro. Botterill was commissioned as Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan in 1921 and retains this position to this day. The event was enjoyed by a large gathering and is to be an annual affair.

To attain the truth, and to serve our fellows, our country and mankind—that is the "noblest destiny of mankind."—The Masonic News.



# Between the Pillars

UNIQUE MEETING AT CASCADE LODGE, BANFF



The above photograph is a pictorial record of an historical event taking place in Cascade Lodge, Banff, Alberta, on April 7th, 1960, when the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. David Little presented Fifty Year Jewels to the three Brethren in the front row, R.W. Bro. L. S. Crosby PDDGM, Bro. Geo. H. Harrison and R.W. Bro. T. A. Dunsmore, PDDGM. In the back row are W. Bro. W. G. Robinson, W.M. of Cascade Lodge, M.W. Bro. Little and W. Bro. G. M. Atkin, who received his Fifty Year Jewel four years ago.

The three receiving the tribute at this unique meeting were initiated in Cascade Lodge on March 24th, 1910; they still reside in Banff and have been close friends for the past half century.

The recipients of this signal honour spoke briefly, following the presentation, reminiscing of the old days and mentioning particularly the fact that Lodge meetings were held at strategic points in the mountains surrounding the Town of Banff in years gone by.

The Bulletin joins with the membership at large in extending congratulations to these long time members for the honours conferred upon them.

## HONORARY DEGREES MARK ACHIEVEMENT

Two well known Alberta Brethren were recently honoured by the University of Alberta when the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred on R.W. Bro. K. C. MacLeod and R.W.

## CHARTER MEMBER RECEIVES 50 YEAR JEWEL



A jewel representing Fifty Years in Freemasonry was presented to Leonard D. Nesbitt of Calgary at the regular meeting of Brooks Lodge on March 15th, 1960. R.W. Bro. Nesbitt was a charter member of Brooks Lodge when it formed in 1913; taking an active part in the work of the Order he became District Deputy Grand Master of District No. 2 in 1920.

Joining the Order in Lindsay, Ontario, in 1909, R.W. Bro. Nesbitt maintained a keen interest in the work and was one of the founders of the lodge at Brooks.

R.W. Bro. Nesbitt was born in Lisburn, Ireland and came to Canada as a child, settling in Lindsay. Receiving his education in the schools of that city he entered the newspaper business, following that profession in Lindsay and Woodstock in the eastern province and later becoming sporting editor of the Calgary Albertan and city hall reporter for the Calgary Herald. Subsequently he entered the publishing business in Brooks, Bassano and Langdon and after some years was named as superintendent of publicity for the Alberta Wheat Pool, serving for twenty nine years in that capacity. On his retirement from that position he was editor of the Farm and Ranch Review for two years.

Mr. and Mrs. Nesbitt have three sons, all of whom are members of Brooks Lodge and one daughter, Mrs. J. B. Randall of Ottawa.

In accepting the honour from the Lodge, Bro. Nesbitt harkened back to the old days, outlining some of the trials and vicissitudes attending the institution of a lodge under pioneer conditions.

Bro. W. J. Collett; both of these members have made well-known contributions to the welfare of Alberta through lengthy ministries in the Province and it is particularly pleasing to members of the Order that they have been selected for the high honor.

Each of these eminent Masons has filled the office of Grand Chaplain, R.W. Bro. Collett being the present incumbent of the office. Our most sincere congratulations are extended to these members who have paced their progress in the ministry by steady advancement in Freemasonry.