



# Grand Lodge Bulletin

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

## WHOSE IS THE EARTH ?

H. Melville Richards, Sacramento, California

The question is answered in the Psalm of David when he declares, with joy and confidence, "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world and they that dwell therein." Perhaps if we desire an awakening to the beauty of this world we live in, we should read some of the utterances found in the Book of Psalms. Knowing full well that our good intentions oftentimes are not proven by actuality and to forestall a search for another of the utterances of King David, a further quotation is hereby given from the Book of Psalms, "The Heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth His handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech, nor language where their voice is not heard."

After an enjoyable vacation, what do we wish to retain in our book of memories? Whatever fulfills the special days of relaxation becomes your pleasure and mine. No matter where we go, we cannot pass beyond the beauties of a marvelous earth. Perhaps our joy at the end of a vacation will include happy times spent in a mountain cabin, a seaside cabin, an automobile travel experience or even an ocean voyage. Who has not enjoyed the quietude of a summer evening under the stars, even listening to a concert or perhaps a play beneath the dome of the great out-of-doors. Have we not felt the same way as David did when he said, "When I consider Thy Heavens, the work of Thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which Thou has ordained; what is man, that Thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that Thou visitest him."

Two years ago we journeyed through the Canadian Rockies, such points of interest being Jasper National Park, Banff and Lake Louise. I think an incomparable word picture of Lake Louise is given by Dr. Norman Vincent Peale in one of his many books, when he said: "Before me lay the lake, one of the most beautiful in the world. It was once called Emerald Lake because of its marvellous coloring, sweeping the whole gamut of blue, green, amethyst and violet, under-

shot by shifting kaleidoscopic tones of green and gold, as if some supreme magician were everlastingly mixing colors in its magic bowl. At the end of the lake, directly before me and dazzling white, was the sun-glorified Victoria glacier, flanked by somber pine-clad mountains, with a far vista of snowcapped peaks. I could not help thinking of the peace and strength of the noble panorama before me. That glacier, cradled among those mighty peaks, is thousands of years old. Five hundred feet deep, the vast ice mass moves forward less than three inches a year, as if imperceptibly unconcerned with the hurry and excitement of the men who gaze with awe and wonder upon its white majesty. He who surrenders to the exalted greatness and silent eloquence of glaciers and mountains finds himself lifted to a height where many things cease to matter." One wonders what beauty of nature impelled the psalmist to exclaim, "The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof."

Some of the massive redwood trees in California were saplings when Rome fell. Erosive glacial ice carved deep ravines and shaped many a valley. It was Albert Pike who said that the first scriptures for the human race were written by God on the earth and heavens. Familiarity with the grass and trees, the insects and the infusoria, teaches us deep lessons of love and faith. Said he, "The great Bible of God is ever open before mankind." Very beautifully he expressed this in the following sentences. "The grand objects of nature perpetually constrain men to think of their Author. The Alps are the great altar of Europe; the nocturnal sky has been to mankind the dome of a temple starred all over with admonitions to reverence, trust and love. The Scriptures for the human race are writ in earth and Heaven. Nature is full of religious lessons to a thoughtful man. The eternal flowers of Heaven seem to shed sweet influence on the perishable blossoms of the earth. Material nature is its Old Testament, millions of years old, thick with eternal truths under our feet, glittering with

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## CASTRO VERSUS FREEMASONRY

### Adapted from the Canal Zone Orient

The Miami Herald of September 28, 1962 carried a feature story of an exile who had just arrived in Miami from Cuba, who reported that Fidel Castro personally ordered six Masons to be shot in the current crackdown on Freemasonry. The report indicated that the magnificent three million dollar Temple (the official opening of which in 1955 was attended by two Alberta Masons) had been seized by Castro and a number of Grand Lodge Officers arrested.

This is a pattern similar to that occurring in other countries taken over by Communists and presents a most regrettable situation.

This situation contrasts with the high regard for the Fraternity that Cuba has shown in the past; in 1955 on the occasion of the dedication of the Temple in Havana it was reported that an estimated 30,000 people participated in the three hour parade which featured the opening.

Cuba, in 1956, issued two postage stamps picturing the eleven storey building which occupies an entire block and which is topped by a huge globe bearing a large Square and Compass.

Information coming out of Cuba indicates that during meetings of fairly recent date Castro agents searched all floors of the Masonic Temple and that books and documents were seized from the building in Carlos Tercero Street.

Masons were leaders in Cuba's long struggle to free herself from the yoke of Spain. Carlos Manuel de Cespedes, called "The Father of His Country" was a Freemason. He proclaimed Cuba's independence in 1868 and was elected the first provincial president. He was seized and slain by the Spaniards in 1874.

Agramonte, an eminent Havana lawyer, drafted the Slaves' Emancipation Act and drew up the constitution. For a time he served in the revolutionary army as Commander-in-chief and died in battle on July 1, 1873.

Estrada Palma gave his fortune to the cause, freed his slaves and joined the army. Betrayed, he was imprisoned for ten years. He became the first President of the Republic in 1902 when the United States, which had seized the country in the Spanish American war, returned it to its people.

This association with leaders of Cuban Masonry with the destiny of the republic perhaps explains Castro's fear that Masons again may come to the forefront of any movement to free the country from its oppressors, and in all probability is responsible for his attitude towards the Craft.

A resolution calling for the support of Communism in the Cuban Grand Lodge was defeated 180 to 2 and would seem to clearly indicate that Fidel Castro had little to hope by way of support from members of the Masonic Order. It is believed that members of Grand Lodge now in Florida are keeping alive the fine traditions of Masonry with hope for the future.

The Psalmist prayed, "Let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us." Maybe this should be a Masonic prayer and, if "beauty is God's handwriting," may every Mason write upon the pages of his particular small sphere of activity, "I have seen the great light and beauty of Masonry; I thank God for it and for the beauty of the earth of which I am a part."

### ARE WE SATISFIED?

In a recent article was the comment, "Women can sometimes be pleased but never satisfied!" The person who wrote that was probably more philosophical than he suspected.

We have no right ever to be satisfied completely, for such a condition would cause us to cease to be creative, to build and to strive for a better world in which to live, not only for ourselves but for others living now and those who follow after us.

It is the ceaseless urge to create, to be productive and accomplish desirable changes for good that makes us worthy to be God's vehicle for the bringing forth of His Manifestations through us.

To be satisfied is to be static, a condition which cannot exist in reality. Life in the body is dynamic, being either in a state of regeneration or degeneration. We must strive to maintain a proper balance.

The cyclic process of burning energy during working hours (degeneration) and the rebuilding (regeneration) of our bodies during night time, rest and sleep keep us in a condition to continue, on the morrow, our work of creative accomplishment which, in the very nature of things, must be a work of love.

Love is regenerative, and its opposite, hate, is degenerative. Show me a good hater, if there is such a thing, and I will show you a person who is slowly destroying his own body. The visible traces of accelerated degeneration will manifest itself in his features, both inside and out.

We need not be artistic, in the sense the dictionary defines the word, to be creative. The farmer at his plough, the lawyer in his office, the blacksmith at his forge, the doctor, the banker, the merchant, all are creative so long as their efforts are directed towards the bringing forth of changes and manifestations for good in the progress of mankind toward a better world.

The philosophical teachings of Freemasonry direct us toward that goal. We may sometimes be pleased, but we should never be fully satisfied.

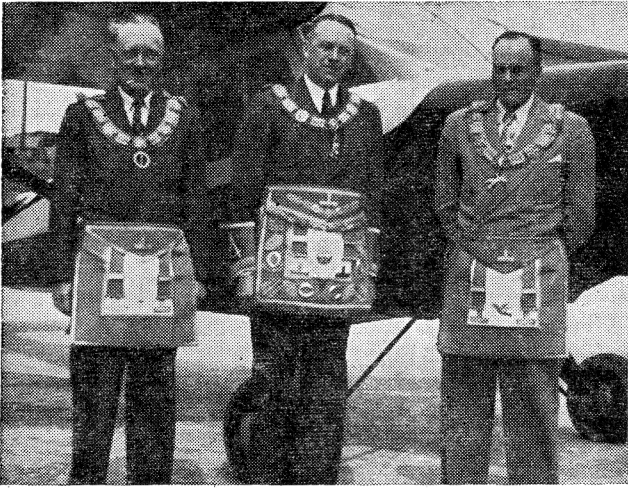
—Judge A. R. Kitts in the "New Age".

Many a man's idea of charity is to give unto others the advice he can't use himself.

Hugh Murr.

It is said that the largest collection of Masonic books in the world is to be found in the Vatican library.

## WITHIN THE CRAFT IN ALBERTA PAST GRAND MASTER MOURNED



F. J. Pearce (Grand Tyler), M. Wor. Bro. Bond, T. S. Hughes (Grand Pilot), at Manyberries

It is distressing to have to report the passing of Most Worshipful Brother LeRoy W. Bond whose death occurred recently in the City of Calgary.

M.W. Bro. Bond was a devoted member of Irricana Lodge No. 137, having been initiated in November 1926; in due course he was Master of the Lodge, filled the position of District Deputy Grand Master most acceptably and in due course was elevated to the office of Grand Master in 1950. In this office LeRoy Bond gained a reputation for outstanding service to Freemasonry and became endeared to Masons throughout Alberta and Western Canada.

M.W. Bro. Bond belonged to a great many Masonic bodies and in each made a contribution of value; young in spirit, he was active in the formation of Jordan Lodge when it was formed in 1958, being a Charter Member and it was the officers and members of this Lodge who were called upon to render the last sad service when this distinguished Mason was laid to rest.

M.W. Bro. Bond was born in Charlton, Mass., sixty years ago and came to Alberta in 1919 and established a ranch at Irricana; specializing in purebred Hereford cattle he soon established a reputation for the excellence of his cattle and for his knowledge of the beef breeds. His efforts in promoting Herefords led to his serving as President not only of the Alberta Hereford Association, but also of the Canadian Association. He was also President of the Alberta Cattle Breeders' Ass'n., a director of the Calgary Stampede and an active member of the Calgary Chamber of Commerce.

The loss of this outstanding Mason and citizen will be keenly felt and the sympathy of the entire membership goes, at this time, to Mrs. Bond, two daughters, Mrs. Lyle T. Livingstone and Mrs. Clyde Windecker, both of Calgary, and three brothers, Otto F., Long Beach, California, Clarence F., of Claresholm, and Harry F., of Charlton, Mass.

## NORTH STAR LODGE 75th ANNIVERSARY

The City of Lethbridge was the scene of a most interesting event on April 20th, when North Star Lodge No. 4 marked its 75th Anniversary. The large attendance at the Service of Thanksgiving in the afternoon and at the banquet session in the evening testified to the popularity of the unusual event.

The impressive Thanksgiving Service was conducted by R.W. Bro. W. J. Collett, Past Grand Chaplain and Deputy Grand Master Elect. Worshipful Master Geo. Smith presided at the meeting and welcomed M.W. Bro. W. Lloyd McPhee and a large number of present and past Grand Lodge Officers.

The Grand Master presented a Sixty Year Bar and Treasurer Emeritus Jewel to V.W. Bro. W. M. Edwards and Fifty Year Jewels to eleven Masonic stalwarts. R.W. Bro. David Penman of Edmonton presented the Lodge with a beautiful set of gavels, hand made by himself and inlaid with the respective jewels of office. The fine gift was gratefully received and warmly applauded.

His Worship, Frank Sherring, Mayor of Lethbridge, extended a welcome to some five hundred persons at the banquet, while R.W. Bro. Stretton, P.D.D.G.M., proffered a toast to Grand Lodge which was suitably acknowledged by the Grand Master. R.W. Bro. Ian Hendry toasted the "Old Timers" which drew a reminiscent reply from V.W. Bro. Dr. J. S. Stewart who was in particularly good form for the response to this important toast. The large number of visitors were greeted by W. Bro. D. S. Draper and Deputy Grand Master Hardin of Vegreville responded.

The ever popular toast to the ladies was proposed by Bro. John Moreland and drew a pleasing reply from Mrs. J. G. Smith.

Guest speaker for the occasion was M.W. Bro. S. Carl Heckbert of Vermilion who took as his theme the responsibility of members of the Fraternity to take their place effectively in the work and conduct of the community and the nation. The large audience gave enthusiastic applause to the well prepared and thought provoking address and the evening was brought to a close by the singing of Auld Lang Syne. (Contributed).

## KELVINGROVE LODGE U.D.

Lodges throughout the Grand Jurisdiction will welcome the institution of Kelvingrove Lodge U.D. which was instituted on April 24th by M.W. Bro. W. Lloyd McPhee in the Meadowlark Park Community Hall, Calgary. W. Bro. J. Frew was named to head the Lodge in its first year with Bro. H. V. Cowling acting as Senior Warden and Bro. R. H. Chapman is Junior Warden. The progress of the newest addition to Masonry in Alberta will be watched with interest.

The name of M.W. Bro. LeRoy W. Bond will live long in the hearts and memories of all with whom he came in contact during his useful life, more particularly, perhaps, members of the Masonic Fraternity to whom he greatly endeared himself by his kindly and courteous manner.

### THE GREAT LIGHT

A letter from Wm. E. Hyde, Portland, Ore.,  
transmitting a poem to the "New Age",  
Washington, D.C.

I am a locomotive engineer, a member of Masonry in Oregon. In my work I meet men of every type, but the man I wish to write about is as good a man as I have ever known.

While we were on a siding one day waiting for another train, I noticed this man writing and asked him what he was writing, and why he looked so serious about it. He then handed me a poem he had just finished. He told me something about himself, how he had once studied for the ministry, and about his life in general. He said he had once been a member of Masonry, but no longer belonged. I thought, now here is a case such as my grandfather's. As I remember it, when I was a little fellow I looked in a small dish of my grandmother's and picked up a pin of the square and compasses; it had belonged to my grandfather who had been in the Civil War and had once been a Mason. My grandmother told me that my grandfather, while out in the woods one day, became very depressed and began to pray. Shortly afterwards they moved to Wisconsin and later to Oregon on one of the first immigrant trains.

I told a friend of my grandfather and that I had always wondered why he had laid his little pin away, and I wondered why my new friend had ceased to retain his interest in Masonry. I told him he was keeping back any light that he had on the great Book and that it was a pleasure to sit in Lodge where men of faith were in attendance. I said that one of the greatest thrills of my life came while sitting in lodge at the outbreak of the war with Japan, when a Presbyterian minister, a Methodist minister and a Salvation Army captain were introduced as members of Masonry who had been called to the colours of our country. I did not know what would have come to his mind if he had been there as I was, but my thought was, there goes our country's greatest strength.

I asked him if I could have the poem as I would like to have it published in the "New Age" (a prominent United States Masonic publication). A little later I received a letter from my new found friend asking me to look up a certain verse in the Bible and then he added, "You may send my poem to the New Age, your Masonic Magazine, if you wish."

As some people of religious faith sense a conflict between their faith and Masonry, as in the case of my friend and my grandfather, I welcome this faith and would be lost without its understanding, because in II Timothy 2: 24, 45, it is written: "And the servant of the Lord must not strive, but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God, peradventure, will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth."

So I enclose the poem which my friend calls "Musing" and trust you can use it.

### MUSING

From whence I come I do not know,  
Nor why, nor whither I shall go.  
My life is one great question mark.  
The past obscure, the future dark.  
If I by chance have come to be,  
Tomorrow holds no hope for me,  
All grain is sown to live and grow,  
Does man in death cessation know?  
Who justifies the deeds of wrong?  
Who feeds the birds, the beast, the throng?  
Who set the Universe in space?  
Whose laws direct its daily race?  
The greatest truth I've learned to know,  
Tomorrow's chance may overthrow.  
These queries, though so strong and odd,  
Are answered by the word of God.

### A TRUE MASON

"We shall pass this way but once" said the poet of old, and his words call this thought to mind: If we can show some kindness to one in need, or comfort some fellow being, let us do it now, that he may have the opportunity of enjoying the roses that may be scattered in the pathway of his life. By so doing we will experience the happiness and satisfaction which proceed from deeds of kindness unselfishly performed. If we do this, we may indeed be worthy to wear the white lambskin apron and stand before the world as upright Masons.

Leon Godown.

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everlasting glories over our heads; and Human Nature is the New Testament from the Infinite God, every day revealing a new page as Time turns over the leaves."

On my desk is a motto written by Charles Kingsley. It says, "Never lose an opportunity to see anything beautiful. Beauty is God's hand writing."

One is not limited to view only outward beauty. One can enjoy the symbolic beauty taught by Masonry. Mackey tells us: "The idea of beauty as one of the supports of the Lodge is found in the earliest ritual of the eighteenth century, as well as the symbolism which refers it to the Corinthian column and the Junior Warden. Hiram Abif is also said to be represented by the column of Beauty, because the Temple was indebted to his skill for its splendid decorations.

Surely there is beauty in the unfolding of the degrees of Masonry. Undoubtedly there is beauty of expanding continuity as each succeeding degree is unfolded; at the outset the initiate is given a vivid portrayal of that mystic art which men call Masonry and glimpses of beauty are visible in all degrees as the work proceeds.

But this is not enough. Men should carry the practical teachings of Masonry into every day life. In some measure they are on trial; actual knowledge of the science often appears quite hazy in the minds of members.