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# Grand Lodge Bulletin

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

## PROCLAMATION



M.W. Bro. W. J. Collett

We, William John Collett, Grand Master of Masons in the Grand Jurisdiction of Alberta, DO PROCLAIM the month of November 1964, amongst the Brethren of the Fraternity, Higher Education Bursary Month.

AND FURTHER we do urge all good and faithful Brethren to contribute to the Higher Education Bursary Fund during the said month of November.

BE IT NOTED that all Secretaries of all Lodges have been directed to mail to all Brethren envelopes which should be used for the purpose of making the donation addressed to the Secretary of the Lodge or to the office of the Grand Lodge.

BE IT NOTED FURTHER that, despite the fact that the Federal Government has provided a loan fund for students attending University, the Higher Education Fund will continue to be needed to make it unnecessary for students to

assume large indebtedness by being forced to apply for loans for the full cost of their University course.

BE IT FURTHER NOTED that it is our hope that funds will be provided by the Brethren of this Jurisdiction to provide at least thirty bursaries with a value of \$500.00 each.

The Higher Education Bursary was originated by a vote of our Grand Lodge in 1958 and this will be the seventh term in which the bursaries have been provided. It is interesting to note our progress:

1958-59, 4 students	1959-60, 7 students
1960-61, 12 students	1961-62, 12 students
1962-63, 19 students	1963-64, 21 students

In the current year, 1964-65, 29 students are being assisted and their names appear elsewhere in this Bulletin.

This is an enviable record, even for a Fraternity dedicated as ours is to the welfare of our fellow-man. The opportunities in this area of service are limitless and the dividends that will be earned in terms of good citizenship cannot be reckoned.

While the individual contributions of any one member may be small, yet the combined effort of all our Brethren makes the total contribution most worth while. The assistance of each Mason is necessary if the fund is to continue to grow as it should. All true and faithful Brethren will please take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

Grand Master

## EDITORIAL

The Grand Master issues a Proclamation in this issue designating November as Higher Education Bursary Month and urging all Brethren in the Grand Jurisdiction of Alberta to join hands in helping to establish a worthwhile fund for use in promoting the education of the young people of our Province and there is little question but that, generally speaking, members of the Fraternity will respond in no uncertain terms.

Wor. Bro. Chas. H. White of Perfection Lodge No. 9, Calgary discusses ways and means of financing the Bursary programme in this issue and it is probable that many will agree with his contention that a regular annual fund might well be established through the institution of a levy, added to the per capita tax, which would have the advantage of providing a definite amount of money so that the Bursary Committee would be appraised of the funds available for distribution to worthy young people seeking to improve their lot in life for the future.

Not only does advanced education provide the impetus for personal and individual advantage for those who benefit from scholarships, but the whole structure of our nation must reap benefit from the fact that our youth are possessed of usable skills which are brought to bear on our national life, so that all of our people benefit from an educated society.

It will be realized that while an annual levy has been suggested that this cannot possibly be brought into being before the lapse of another academic year and it will be evident that if the Bursary Fund is to be of such proportion as to provide a desirable number of scholarships for the next year, it is entirely up to the generosity of all members to make sure that funds are provided through voluntary contributions.

It should be borne in mind that subscriptions to the Fund are recognized by Canadian Income Tax Authorities as deductible for tax purposes; this in itself is an indication that educational funds are valued. In order to obtain sanction for such deductions for income tax purposes the Grand Lodge Bursary Fund was necessarily opened to all young people, not only to sons and daughters of Masons in Alberta. This is an indication that the Order does not view education in the narrower sense and was a commendable move.

There are a number of groups in this Province providing funds for the advancement of education; concerted effort on their part assures the logical and sensible distribution of funds to as many young people as possible and provides against over-lapping. It will be fully evident to all Masons that we have a duty to the younger members of our communities and it would be unfortunate indeed if we, as an organization, were to stand back and permit others to meet the need for educational funds which are so essential for the future.

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## FINANCING BURSARY AWARDS

by

W. Bro. Chas. H. White, Perfection Lodge #9

The members of Perfection Lodge No. 9, Calgary, are very concerned about member-participation in the Bursary Fund. On checking the records since its inception it is noted that only a handful of members have voluntarily given financial support to the project. In 1959 some 53 Lodges participated and of this number seven donated less than \$15.00. In 1960 forty-seven Lodges made donations, ten of them subscribing less than \$15.00 each. Participating Lodges have increased, until, in the last year only seven Lodges did not make donations, but unfortunately forty-five Lodges donated \$25.00 or less and twenty-three of these Lodges gave sums less than \$15.00; three Lodges contributed \$500.00 or more. The total donated this year averages about 75 cents per member, but only the generosity of a minority brings this average up to that amount.

It makes no difference who gives the most or who gives the least; all we ask is that every brother in Alberta participate. If every brother donated \$1.00 per year, this, with other donations, would bring the Bursary Fund well over \$20,000.00 per annum. Participation of every brother, we realize, is the wish of Grand Lodge and we also realize that it is a major job to reach every brother. However, we believe that non-participation is due as much to ignorance of the Bursary Fund as to any other reason. We note that the Committee has worked in the hope that envelopes be sent to all members in the Jurisdiction and we would like to stress that each Lodge endeavor to educate its own members as to the value of this project.

Some brothers, we realize, are definitely not in favor of the Bursary Fund; it has been said that some who have achieved success have done so without help and without higher education and that anyone can do the same. Advancing without the best education is very commendable, but times have changed and in the present day knowledge in all fields of endeavor is a 'must' and boys and girls with little or no education are being left far behind in our very technical world.

Education is a definite necessity, not a luxury: to follow an old cliché, "The young people of today will be our leaders of tomorrow" and we want these leaders to have the necessary knowledge so that they may offer effective leadership.

If we were each to contribute \$1.00 per year, a mere ten cents per meeting, we would be contributing to a most worthy project and we would have made an investment that would pay us and our great country the most significant dividends imaginable. A contribution of \$1.00 per year, if added to Grand Lodge per capita tax, would be scarcely noticeable to any member and, collectively, the dollars would serve a most useful purpose and give tremendous satisfaction to all concerned.

### COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN SPEAKS

As Chairman of the Higher Education Bursary Committee I would like to tell you that I consider the work in which we are engaged to be of the utmost importance. Since our programme was initiated in 1958 we have made marked progress. We cannot expect tangible proof of the progress we have made, but must look beneath the surface and ask ourselves if we have faith in the future. Canada needs leaders; Canada will always need leaders in every walk of life; we can materially help to provide these leaders by making it possible for qualified students to further their education.

I know that in bygone years it was possible to earn the funds necessary for one's education, to work one's way through university, but I can tell you that it is much more difficult today. During the summer of 1964 it was very difficult for students to get work, some was available, but in many cases not steady work so that they could save substantial sums to meet the coming expenses. Many tried exceedingly hard and were not able to secure steady employment; their earning power was thus reduced and in the meantime costs of university training have been steadily increasing.

In business today, in any branch, it is not possible to go to work and prove ability to handle the job, the applicant must first produce educational qualifications; this is the rule in practically all occupations, whether an educational standard is required to perform the task or not. We must do all we can to help prepare young people to effectively qualify themselves to meet present and future requirements.

I have observed in many of the applications that we considered this year that the sole support of the applicant was a widow who was receiving Welfare payments, just enough for her to raise her family decently, but not sufficient to enable her to put funds aside for education. True, a qualified student can borrow enough money to go to University, but what is going to happen when he graduates? The loan, which by then could be substantial, would be subject to 5½% interest, so that he has a millstone around his neck. He may wish to marry and provide a home for his family, but he will be faced by payments on his loan for a long time before it has been retired.

I would like to emphasize, Brethren, we are not PAYING for a student's education, we are only HELPING. Five hundred dollars is not even one half the expenses for a year at University, it will only pay fees and provide some books, so we are not coddling students, they still require to have energy and initiative to proceed with their work and they have to work really hard.

This year we have stipulated that a student who wishes further help must have an average of at least sixty per cent; in the past some have

had less, but they have settled down and are making the grade. It is interesting to see excerpts from letters of appreciation appearing in this issue and I believe that we are helping a fine group of young Canadians secure an education which will rebound, not only to their benefit, but to the benefit of the Canadian economy as a whole.

I urge all members to acquaint themselves with the work of this Committee, to study the reports of the Committee to Grand Lodge each year as they appear in Grand Lodge Proceedings in detail. The material concerning this important work is being put squarely before our members in this special issue of the monthly Bulletin and we depend on each and every member to give your special consideration to the information provided and that you may then provide your Committee with the necessary resources to carry on the work in the name of all who make up this Grand Jurisdiction. Collectively we can do a great job.

L. O. SANDERS, P.D.D.G.M.,

Chairman,  
Higher Education Bursary Committee.

### GRAND LODGE OF ALBERTA BURSARY AWARDS

#### University of Alberta, Edmonton

##### Undergraduates

Robert Benesch, Wildwood, B.Sc.  
George Orten Davis, Drumheller, Engineering  
Harvey James Holinski, Edmonton, Commerce  
Kathryn Kozak, Lethbridge, Arts  
William Cameron Laing, Lethbridge, Engineering  
Harvey Jack Matson, Edmonton, Commerce  
Shayne Hazen Page, Medicine Hat, Arts

##### Matriculating Students

Mary Anne Kreutzer, Rocky Mountain House, Modern Languages  
Sonja Barbara Ypma, Claresholm, Education  
Gordon Donald Arnett, Berwyn, Medicine  
Ronald William Massing, Ponoka, Science  
Irene Voris McFarlane, Edmonton, Education  
Lynda Susan Heming, Calgary, Pharmacy  
Elizabeth Ruth Weiss, Wetaskiwin, Education  
Marcia Sheridan Wichers, Nobelford, Science  
Barbara Joan Wolfe, Grande Prairie, Pharmacy  
Lennora Mae Stratton, Medicine Hat, Science  
Maxene Gay Hoffman, Medicine Hat, Science  
Marilyn Alice Gee, Medicine Hat, Science

#### University of Alberta, Calgary

##### Undergraduates

Jim Lenard Glenn, Lethbridge, Science  
Raymond Keith Friesen, Calgary, Commerce  
Richard Allen Sieb, Calgary, Medicine  
Dwayne Alan Skoye, Warburg, Agriculture

##### Matriculating Students

Edgar Everett Gilson, Calgary, Mathematics  
Olaf James Bakko, Calgary, Engineering  
Arnold Donald Sollberger, Trochu, Physics

#### Lethbridge Junior College

Jens Henry Orsten, Lethbridge, Science

#### Red Deer Junior College

Kenneth Theodore Blain, Olds, Education

#### Camrose Lutheran Junior College

Warren Lewis Smith, Enilda, Education

### BURSARY NOTES

Review of the files dealing with the awarding of scholarships by the Grand Lodge indicate that during the seven years the plan has been in operation twenty students have been assisted for one year only, twenty-one for two years, six for three years and one student for a fourth year. The latter was especially recommended for ability and there was no money available for her assistance by her family. In addition there are twenty new students this year, many of them children of widows. The family income in many cases was well below \$2,000.00 per annum.

We would like to coin the phrase 'FOR THE NEEDY NOT THE GREEDY'. Many of the one hundred and fifty five applicants were well able to arrange their own financing and these were carefully excluded. The Committee, in their first review of the applications reduced the number to eighty-seven and these were given points on the basis of need; having done this the Committee awaited the receipt of marks for the grade twelve examinations and whilst waiting many of the applicants were interviewed and all possible inquiries made. On receipt of the marks, points were added, so that the scholastic ability of the needy students would be a major factor in the awarding of scholarships. The names of students were now tabulated according to the points and with this list two Committee Members attended a meeting of the University Awards Committee to check and to ensure that there would not be any duplication of awards. Following the meeting our list was issued and all students were advised by letter that they had been successful in their application for an award.

The marks of some students, as may be expected, were not as high as we would have hoped. Those with any marks under 60% who were applying for a renewal of the Bursary were interviewed and the Committee were able to learn of any problems and to act as the circumstances indicated. Students granted awards this year have been advised that renewals will not be considered for students with an average below 60% and this should be an incentive for them to put forth their best efforts. We have to consider the drastic change from High School to University life, some students with very high marks from High School have taken quite some time to adapt themselves to University life and their marks have suffered accordingly. The Committee has been satisfied that those who have been assisted for a second or third year have been deserving.

The Committee was pleased with the results of nearly all students in the 1963-64 University year. Two made over eighty per cent, the highest being 88.4% in Science (Chemistry); eight more were over 70% and seven between 60% and 70%. The boy who made 88.4% has won an industry scholarship and will probably do exceedingly well. There was one failure.

University authorities tell us that the minimum budget for a year at University is nearly \$1,300.00. It also seems reasonable to remember that our Bursary of \$500.00, although generous, only HELPS to pay the cost of attending University and that a great deal of 'get-up-and-go' will be required for a student to be entirely successful. We have a most worthwhile undertaking here, as the Most Worshipful the Grand Master says; our dividends will be reaped in terms of good citizenship and collectively we can perform this self-imposed task with a minimum of sacrifice, but with a measure of pride that will build our Fraternity and strengthen us for the years ahead.

The following extracts from letters received tell a story that will doubtless be of interest to members of the Order throughout the Province.

"I again find myself writing a letter expressing deep appreciation to the Masonic Lodges of Alberta and their many members. In these two years I have received not only financial assistance to continue my education, but also a considerable amount of friendship and guidance from many Masons with whom I have come in contact."

"In view of my present financial status and the prospects for the coming year, I feel that I should not enter my name for further assistance, but, instead, let some other student enjoy the benefits of the Bursary. May I express my sincere gratitude and my promise to follow the way that the Masons have laid before me."

"I would like to acknowledge the Masonic Organization for re-awarding me their Bursary for Higher Education. Since I require financial aid in order that I may continue my education, any effort to express my gratitude would never begin to equal my real feeling. However, I will attempt to show my appreciation by continuing to work hard so that you will not regret your choice."

The above mentioned student went on to receive a Bachelor of Science Degree in Pharmacy and writes the following; "I would again like to take the opportunity to thank the Masonic Organization for enabling me to attend University and to graduate. I know that this would not have been possible without the aid and support of the Masonic Higher Education Bursary."

A Mother writes, "You have been most generous and kind and I sincerely hope you will be able to continue this good work in the future. I know your Bursaries are a boon to many a hard working mother with hopes of higher education for their sons and daughters."

"Your Higher Education Bursary, in assisting me with an award, also made it possible for my twin to attend University. We both sincerely thank you."

These letters are a real expression of gratitude and must give all members of our Order a sense of deep satisfaction in knowing that their cooperation has been of assistance in providing much needed educational opportunity to some of Canada's future leaders.