



Grand Lodge Bulletin

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APRIL THOUGHTS

The month of April has caught the fancy of poets and song-writers throughout the ages.

In his 'Introduction to Freemasonry', Carl H. Claudy, in discussing the seven steps of the liberal arts, reminds us that the step denominated 'Music' means, not only sweet and harmonious sounds, but all beauty — poetry, art, nature and loveliness of whatever kind. With this in mind, we commend these April thoughts for your consideration and comfort.

The poet Shelley expressed the transformation that occurs this month very simply when he said —

“Bare Winter was suddenly changed to Spring”

Shakespeare phrased the change quite eloquently in this manner —

“Well-apparelled April on the heel of limping Winter treads”

Thinking of his homeland from abroad, Robert Browning pined —

“Oh to be in England, now that April's there”

In the 16th century, Thomas Trusser came up with the following observation —

“April showers do spring May flowers”

A much later song-writer elaborated on this theme by writing similar thoughts, which you will recall Al Jolson singing —

“Though April showers may come your way,
They bring the flowers that bloom in May;
So if it's raining, have no regrets,
It isn't raining rain you know,
It's raining violets.”

Robert Herrick, back in the 17th century, contemplating on all the pleasant prospects of this season, wrote exuberantly —

“I sing of brooks, of blossoms, birds and bowers,
Of April, May, of June and July flowers.”

And these same joyous feelings were expressed so simply ages ago in this lovely Song of Solomon —

“Lo, the Winter is past, the rain is over and gone,
The flowers appear on the earth,
The time of the singing of birds is come,
And the voice of the turtle is heard in our land.”

Yes, this is the happy month which Shakespeare described so well in his sonnet #98 —

“When proud-pied April, dressed in all his trim,
Hath put a spirit of youth in everything”

May such a spirit be yours, in your home life, in your business life and in your Masonic life, and should there be occasional showers, remember what the song says — have no regrets — and you, too, may find it's raining violets.

We do hope so! Have a happy April!

Harold M. Paterson

INTEREST IS WHERE YOU FIND IT

On the secretary's desk in each lodge there is required to be a publication issued annually by the Grand Lodge of Alberta. This apparently uninteresting compilation of Lodge names and numbers known as the "List of Lodges" can become alive if you find the time to sit down and browse through it with an open eye.

Obviously the most important listing is that of our own jurisdiction for it gives not only the list of all our lodges but states clearly those Grand Jurisdictions having fraternal relations with us and also those where such relations have not yet been established. The purpose of this section is to determine those jurisdictions which you may visit as an Alberta Mason and those which you may not, as well as showing whether or not visitors or those requesting affiliation are able to enter our lodge rooms after examination. A satisfactory examination does not overrule the statement noted in the List of Lodges under the Grand Lodge of Alberta, A.F. & A.M. For ease of reference it is a good idea for Lodge Secretaries to cross out all jurisdictions noted as not having fraternal relations with us to ensure that no one refers only to the body of the list, for at least a dozen of the listed entries are unacceptable.

Under each Grand Lodge are to be found entries giving the names, addresses and phone number of the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary; the year in which the Grand Lodge was formed; the date of the annual communication; and in most cases, the number of Lodges and the total membership. This section can give much general information which is often surprising. There are over 600,000 masons under the Grand Lodge of England and over 250,000 in a number of jurisdictions of the United States. Our 17,000 membership seems small until we observe that we have more than twice as many members as The Netherlands and are third in membership size in Canada. The Grand Lodge of Canada (Ontario) with 125,000 members is the largest jurisdiction in Canada with the Grand Lodge of British Columbia second with 25,000 members (1971 figures).

Looking at the Grand Lodges listed one can see that there is a Grand Lodge of China in Taiwan, but of course this must not be confused with the many "Chinese Lodges" in North America which are definitely clandestine and not in any way associated with the Taiwan jurisdiction.

The Grand Lodges of Canada seem to be one short for there is no Grand Lodge of Newfoundland, as such, because the Newfoundland lodges are listed under either the Grand Lodge of Scotland or the Grand Lodge of England. This is most interesting for other Canadian Masons, for here is the opportunity to visit lodges on our Eastern Coast and see other rites being used. St. John's, for example, has two lodges under the G.L. of Scotland and four under the English constitution. The reasons for this could well be the subject of papers given in your lodge or perhaps a Mason who is well versed in Newfoundland history could be found in your membership.

The names of lodges are interesting and form an astounding credit to man's ability to find appropriate

Masonic relationships. There are, of course, many place names and also the names of renowned people and in addition, certain jurisdictions can be found to have a very high proportion of names of people of local significance.

Turkey and Israel give English translations to the names of Lodges given in their own languages and Australian jurisdictions indicate native names with asterisks. There are lodges with non-masonic names seeming very appropriate, such as Thunderbird Lodge No. 48 in Phoenix, Arizona and our own Dynamic Lodge No. 96 in Holden. There are names of certain lodges which show the type of membership in their name, such as Air Force One No. 889 in Montgomery, Alabama; Mechanics' No. 78 in Caledonia, Nova Scotia; Newcastle Marine No. 795 in Adamstown, New South Wales; and Associated Engineers No. 7303, Cardiff, Wales.

The ingenuity of those thinking up appropriate names is really stretched when you appreciate that in the city of London, England there are 1,700 lodges and no two have the same name. The city of New York similarly has not repeated a lodge name in over 1,000 lodges within the city boundaries. Apart from the names we must be almost awestruck to contemplate that number of lodges in single cities when we do not have quite 1,600 lodges in all of Canada.

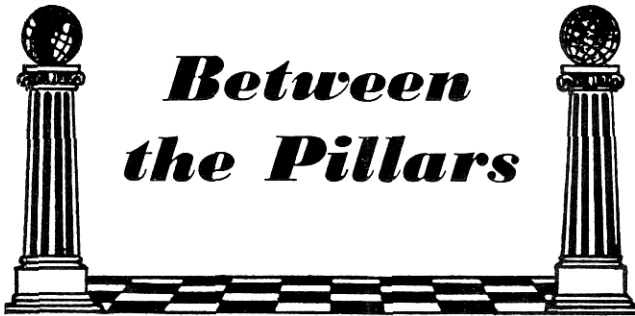
Certain lodges are established for certain specific purposes and one can find many Research Lodges listed; Memorial lodges which carry out masonic funerals; and in England many lodges of Installed Masters who obviously carry out no initiations.

Where the language is not English it can be seen that certain jurisdictions have courteously indicated that certain lodges in their jurisdiction work in English and in some cases in other languages. Examples of this are found in the Grand Lodges of Germany and Greece.

Other information can be found by casual reading relating to special arrangements for lodges in other countries such as the National Grand Lodge of Denmark explains that "Lodges of Instruction" are formed where membership is inadequate for a regular lodge, while in Norway there are "Deputy Lodges" which are branches of a regular lodge but located in another city.

It is important when using the List of Lodges to ensure that the Grand Lodge of Alberta is used as the final authority on deciding which other Grand Lodges are recognized, for minor errors creep into all such publications. For example, the Gran Logia de Guatamala, although specifically noted as not within our fraternal relationships, states under its entry that it is recognized by all Grand Lodges. Should you have any doubts about fraternal recognition the most current information can always be found at the back of our Grand Lodge Proceedings together with the names of Secretaries and our own Grand Representatives.

Why not have a look at the copy of the "List of Lodges" on your secretary's desk as casual reading or even better, consult it before you travel next time and pack your apron and certificate so that you can take fraternal greetings to at least one lodge away from home.



Between the Pillars

Question — Occasionally one of my Canadian Rite friends chides me for using the word “enthusiastic” or “enthusiast” in connection with the practice of Freemasonry. Is there some explanation for this attitude?

Answer — In the Canadian Rite Fellowcraft Degree the lecture in connection with the presentation of the Working Tools talks about the necessity of a Mason walking in humility before God and asserts that a Mason ought not be an “enthusiast”. The context of the word should give the Canadian Rite brethren a clue to what the meaning of that passage is.

The meaning of words change in the English language and much of our ritual has to be understood by a comprehension of the original meaning of the word. The word “enthusiast” is derived from Greek and is a combination of “en” and “theos” or “in” and “god”. Hence the meaning of the word “enthusiast” is a person who believes himself to have a very special relationship to God and is subject to an impassioned emotion concerning this relationship. An enthusiast may, according to the original meaning of the word, be a zealot, a fanatic or a bigot.

When one applies this meaning to the word one can see that there is no place in Freemasonry for an “enthusiast” and certainly a person who walks humbly before his God does not fall into that classification.

Through the centuries the meaning of the word “enthusiast” has changed and now means a person who expresses eagerness on behalf of a cause. It has lost any meaning connected with attitude to God or religion.

Masonically and ritually speaking an “enthusiast” is unacceptable. Speaking in the language of the Twentieth Century the Masonic Lodge should welcome an “enthusiast” who expresses eagerness on behalf of his Lodge.

OUR ERROR

In the March issue of the Bulletin on the fourth page we erred by spelling Lodge as Loge twice. Some of our kinder brethren have told us that they thought we were attempting to encourage bilingualism amongst the craft by inserting the French spelling. We were tempted to accept this explanation as evidence of our wider brotherhood but felt that, once in a while, it is good for the soul to realize that one can be wrong. Our apologies to Commercial Lodge No. 81 and to Elbow River Lodge No. 180 (incidentally the number is 180 and not 182).

OUT OF THE PAST

From Grand Lodge Bulletin, Vol. 8, No. 3, November, 1942.

BY WAY OF CONTRAST

Some men wouldn't get to lodge if you furnished them with a motor car.

Others would walk miles to get there.

Some would like you to pay their dues.

Others would go down in their pockets to pay yours, if necessary.

Some men gain their experience in fraternalism at the bedside of the sick.

Others only gain it on the sick bed.

Some men remember the orphan child,

Others forget them, and leave them by the wayside.

Some men can install the officers or be installed into any office, and fill it with credit.

Others cannot work their way into the lodge.

Some men sit on the sidelines and let everybody know that the brother giving a charge has just made an error.

The same fellow puts on a robe and makes ten mistakes where the other brother made only one.

Some smile, some don't; some build, some tear down. Which do you prefer? Which are you?

— Texas Grand Lodge Bulletin.

HARRY S. TRUMAN

The recent notice of Commercial Lodge No. 81 calls attention to the death of former U.S. President, M.W. Bro. Harry S. Truman who was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Missouri in 1941 and who continued his active Masonic Career until the time of his death. The account says that in Bro. Truman's will there was a bequest of land to Grandview Lodge No. 618, of which he was the first Worshipful Master, to be used as a site for a new Masonic Temple.

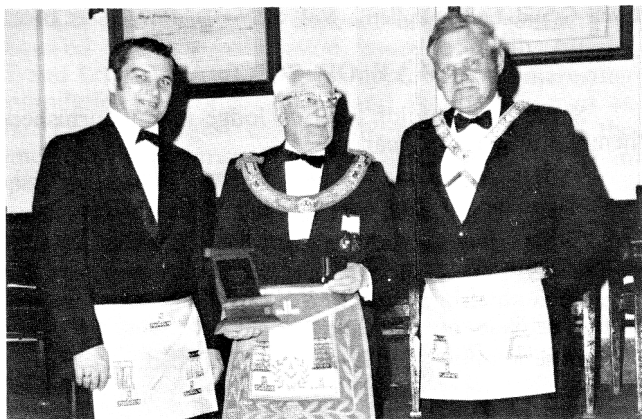
VULCAN LODGE No. 74

The notice of Vulcan Lodge No. 74 carries the following timely quotation from the Masonic Journal of South Africa —

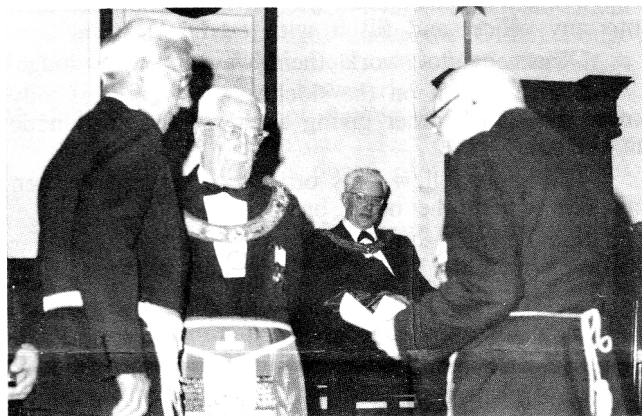
The destruction by whatever means — human stupidity or deliberate design, political corruption or public apathy, parental neglect or juvenile ridicule — of those moral standards which have sustained men through the ages will, I am sure, spell the doom of our civilization.

The story of the Garden of Eden is more than a fable. Important segments of mankind have been there many times. In each instance, the breakdown of moral standards because of man's unwillingness to take the responsibility of maintaining them was one of the principal contributing factors limiting man's length of tenure in the garden.

BOW RIVER LODGE No. 1



W. Bro. W. Sakal, W. Master of Elbow River Lodge No. 180; R.W. Bro. D. Bareham; W. Bro. R. Beazley, W. Master of Bow River Lodge No. 1.



R.W. Bro. Geo. Haines, P.M. Bow River; R.W. Bro. D. Bareham, P.M. Bow River; and W. Bro. T. G. LaRose, P.M. Bow River.

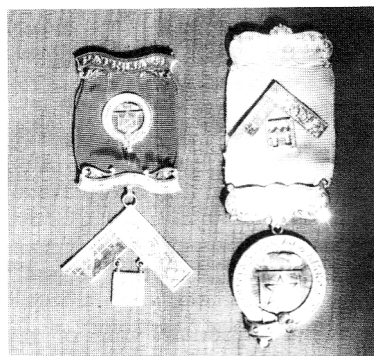
Bow River Lodge No. 1 celebrated its EIGHTY-NINTH BIRTHDAY by presenting to a distinguished Past Master, R.W. Bro. D. S. Bareham a Fifty year bar to be attached to his Past Masters' Jewel and a scroll. The presentation was made by W. Bro. G. R. Haines.

R.W. Bro. Doug Bareham is almost a legendary figure in the Masonic World and has never wavered in his interest and support of the fraternity. He was initiated into Bow River Lodge No. 1 on April 24, 1920, served as the Worshipful Master in 1922 and was elected District Deputy Grand Master of District No. 1 in 1954. In that year his Lodge honoured him with an Honourary Life Membership. In 1965 he received his Fifty Year Jewel. True to his conviction that Masonry must grow and spread its influence, he was one of the moving forces behind the establishment of Elbow River Lodge No. 180 and a charter member when it was constituted in 1959. A large number of brethren from Elbow River Lodge attended the meeting which honoured their valued advisor. For years he served as President of the Calgary Masonic Temple Board.

This outstanding Mason who is now in his 83rd year enjoys health and vigour and retains his love of the craft.

M.W. Bro. P. J. Kendal, P.G.M., was the guest speaker for the evening.

PATRICIA LODGE No. 91



The interesting picture shows the two Past Master's Jewels of Patricia Lodge No. 91. The jewel on the right has been worn by past masters since the constitution of the Lodge in 1915. The last Past Master to receive it was W. Bro. A. M. Hanasyk in June 1971. The new Jewel on the left was presented for the first time in 1972 to the retiring Worshipful Master, W. Bro. E. J. Hasasyk.

COMET EFFICIENCY LODGE No. 50

Bro. Chris Rud was recognized by Comet Efficiency Lodge No. 50, Hardisty, at a special Lodge Meeting and dinner which was attended by our Grand Master, M.W. Bro. F. G. Fox and M.W. Bro. P. J. Kendal, P.G.M. The event was attended by masons from a number of neighboring lodges. Bro. Rud came to the Amisk district in 1908 from Minnesota and the family operated a machinery business and farmed. Bro. Rud and his brothers still own farms in that district. The guest speaker for the celebration was Bro. Art Eastly. M.W. Bro. Kendal and W. Bro. Myron Lusk presented V.W. Bro. Rud with the apron of a Past Grand Steward.

CENTENNIAL LODGE No. 194

Centennial Lodge No. 194 and Archbishop O'Leary Council No. 4570 of the Knights of Columbus held a unique joint meeting in the Knights of Columbus Hall in Edmonton recently. Some members of Evergreen Lodge No. 166 took advantage of the meeting to visit. W. Bro. W. B. Campbell and Grand Knight V. O'Shea both spoke of the meaning of their groups and this presentation was followed by a sharing of thoughts by other members. It was an evening of real sociability and comradeship and great progress was made in mutual understanding. Centennial Lodge plans to make a joint meeting of this kind an annual event.

EDMONTON LODGE No. 7

Edmonton Lodge No. 7 recently celebrated its EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY in the Edmonton Masonic Temple. It was a gala occasion attended by the members and their wives. Pictures and artifacts were on display and explanations of the exhibits were given by the members. A banquet, dancing and games were part of the evening organized by the Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Fred Clarke. Edmonton Lodge boasts twenty-eight living past masters and a large number of them were present, one, R.W. Bro. Parker, came from Victoria, B.C.