



Grand Lodge Bulletin

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FROM LABOR TO REFRESHMENT

SOME ADVICE ON SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

THE MASON, which is the Masonic Magazine published under the authority of the United Grand Lodge of Victoria, Australia, thought that attention should be drawn to the conduct of masons at the hour of refreshment. Accordingly it recently published some passages from the New English Bible, Ecclesiasticus Chapters 31 and 32.

If you are sitting at a grand table, do not lick your lips and exclaim "What a spread!"

Remember, it is a vice to have a greedy eye,
There is no greater evil in the world than the eye;
that is why it must shed tears at every turn.

Always behave considerately,
Eat what is set before you like a gentleman.

If you are dining in a large company, do not reach out your hand before the others.

A man of good upbringing is content with little.

Do not prove your manhood by drinking, for wine has been the ruin of many.

As the furnace tests iron when it is being tempered,
so wine tests character when boastful men are wrangling.

Wine puts life into a man, if he drinks in moderation.

What is life to a man deprived of wine?

Was it not created to warm men's hearts?

Wine brings gaiety and high spirits, if a man knows when to drink and when to stop.

If they chose you to preside at a feast, do not put on airs; behave as one of themselves.

Look after the others before you sit down; do not sit down until you have discharged all your duties;

Let their enjoyment be your pleasure, and you will win the prize for good manners.

Speak, if you are old - it is your privilege - but come to the point, and do not interrupt the music.

Where entertainment is provided, do not keep up a stream of talk; it is the wrong time to show off your wisdom.

Speak, if you are young, when the need arises, but twice at the most and only when asked.

Be brief, say much in few words, like a man who knows and can still hold his tongue.

Among the great, do not act as their equal or go on chattering when another is speaking.

Leave in good time and do not be the last to go; go straight home without lingering.

And one thing more - Give praise to your Maker, who has filled your cup with His blessings.

THE NEAR AFFINITY OF MASONRY AND RELIGION

W. Bro. H. P. Mascho delivered the address at a Church Service in Yellowknife United Church early in 1973. It is impossible for us to print the entire address but below are some excerpts from this very timely message —

Perfect freedom of action which is inherent in Masonry is one of the reasons so many people don't really understand Freemasonry. While every mason is expected to accept and practice masonic precepts and principles seriously in their daily lives, there is no compulsion or coercion exercised by the Fraternity. It is up to the individuals own personal inclination how much or how little he develops and lives up to the ideals of Freemasonry. Regular meetings are held, and a member is afforded the opportunity to participate in the rites and ceremonies and thereby increase his masonic knowledge. Well skilled craftsmen are always ready to explain a point and to assist a member in his researches. Moral turpitude, murder or treason are about the only actions by which a member could lose this freedom of choice and be cast out by the Craft. In all other areas a member is expected to live in such a manner as to reflect credit to himself and to the Craft in general. Yet no public recognition of the fraternity's or an individual mason's good work on behalf of the community is expected or encouraged.

You could well ask the question when is a man a mason. I feel the answer to this was best expressed by the Rev. Joseph Fort Newton who wrote many years ago and I quote, "A man is a mason, when he can look out over the rivers, the hills and the far horizon, with a profound sense of his own littleness in the vast scheme of things and yet retain his faith, his hope and his courage, the foundation of every virtue.

When he knows that deep in his heart every man is as noble as vile, and as lonely as himself and seeks to know, forgive his fellowman.

When he can sympathize with men in their sorrow, yet even in their sin, knowing man fights a good fight against many odds.

When he loves flowers, can hunt birds without a gun, and can feel an old forgotten thrill when he hears the laugh of a little child.

When no voice in distress reaches his ears in vain, and no hand seeks his aid without response.

When he makes friends and keeps them and above all keeps friends with himself.

When star crowned trees, the glint of sunlight on swiftly flowing waters moves him like the thought of one much loved and long dead.

When he can find good in any faith that lays hold of men and teaches them the finer majestic meanings in Life, no matter what the name of that faith may be.

When he can look into a wayside puddle and see something beyond the mud and into the face of the most forlorn fellow mortal and see something beyond the sin.

When he has kept the faith with himself, with his fellowman, and with his God, in his hand a sword for evil, in his heart a bit of song, glad to live but not afraid to die.

Such a man has found the only real secret to Freemasonry the one it is trying to give to all the word.

I believe you would agree with me such a man is not only the ideal Freemason, but could be the ideal member of any Christian denomination. And any man who is exposed to these ideals cannot help but have reflected in his daily life many of the attributes I have mentioned. And therefore be a better citizen in the community at large, and a better husband and father to his own immediate family.

WISDOM FROM LODGE NOTICES

VULCAN LODGE No. 74 —
W. Bro. A. R. Walker, W.M.

MASONRY TEACHES

Masonry teaches man to practise charity and benevolence, to protect chastity, to respect the ties of blood and friendship, to adopt the principles and revere the ordinances of religion, assist the feeble, guide the blind, raise up the down trodden, shelter the orphan, guard the altar, support the government, inculcate morality, promote learning, love man, fear God, implore His mercy and hope for happiness.

ACACIA LODGE No. 11 —
W. Bro. D. C. M. McDonell, W.M. 1973

"When a man is received into Masonry and goes digging into its mysteries and beauties, studies its aims, inspirations, ethics, traditions, legends and history, and finds, as he must do, what Masonry really is and makes it his own, then he becomes indeed and in truth a Mason. And such a Mason will never leave the Fraternity nor can he be driven from it."

— Selected

POLARIS LODGE No. 186 —
W. Bro. A. F. Applewhite, W.M.

How many times have you heard someone who has no Masonic affiliation say to someone else, "Why, he's a Mason".

This is truly one of the finest tributes that can be paid a Mason, and there is only one reason he receives it: He has earned it.

MYSTIC TIE LODGE No. 188 —
W. Bro. G. Mortimer, W.M.

Are you practicing the M.W. Grand Master's theme for this year? Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. Have you brought a Brother to Lodge? Have you helped a Brother over some difficult moment? Come on now, let's have a little Truth — we all need to take an inward look.

CASCADE LODGE No. 5 —
W. Bro. J. E. Nudd, W.M.

In this day and age when everyone is facing so many pressures from without, it would behoove us to sit quietly and take stock of our attitude towards each other and all mankind. Our need to appreciate each other, and to assist in the reformation of a fallen Brother is very essential. Let us endeavour to put aside our differences and work together for the mutual good of all, and more especially for our brethren in Masonry.

BROTHER IS A TITLE

While browsing through the Grand Lodge Library recently we picked up the 1966 Year Book of the Grand Lodge of Antient and Accepted Masons of Scotland. The Library has an extensive file of Year Books from Scotland and each volume contains valuable and interesting reading. The article in this particular issue that caught our eye was entitled, "Masonic Etiquette and Scottish Usage". We reprint a very interesting section from it with due acknowledgements. The Scottish Custom is very different from ours and gives us food for thought.

"In the usage of the Scottish Craft 'Brother' is neither a sentimental nor familiar form of address. It is a title — as much as Right Worshipful or Worshipful. A man does not attend his Lodge in his capacity as a private individual; he is not John Frazer or Robert Anderson. He is there in his capacity as a Master Mason — a Brother. For this reason he should always be addressed in open lodge as 'Brother Frazer' or 'Brother Anderson'. It cannot be too strongly stressed that all Scottish Freemasons are Brothers — irrespective of their rank in the Craft. The Scottish Craft knows no such form of address as 'Right Worshipful Brother' or 'Worshipful Brother', etc. In the Scottish Craft the appellations 'Right Worshipful' and 'Worshipful' are appropriate only to the office, not to the person. When addressing the Master of a Lodge it is correct to address him as 'Right Worshipful Master' and to refer to him as 'Right Worshipful Master, Brother Anderson'. It is incorrect and not in accordance with Scottish Custom to address him as 'Right Worshipful Brother Anderson'. In the same way a Past Master is *never, repeat never*, addressed as Worshipful Brother John Brown. He is Brother John Brown, Past Master and on a billet — again a Scottish term — his name would be written as Brother John Brown, P.M."



THE MASON'S LODGE

The Masonic Lodge is the silent partner of the home, the church, and the school. Toiling in behalf of law and order, adding strength, wisdom and beauty to our institutions and national life. Today Freemasonry stands as it ever has stood, an institution, seeking liberty of conscience for all, teaching the Brotherhood of Man, and the Fatherhood of God. Freemasonry is a vast world-wide Fraternity of free men, built on the basis of all faiths, binding men closer to one another, refining and exalting their lives, upholding every noble and redeeming ideal of humanity, but it cannot continue unless we all realize and practise those great duties and obligations inculcated within our walls.

From an Address by

The late M.W. Bro. R. V. Harris, P.G.M.,
Nova Scotia, 1938.

MASONIC SPRING WORKSHOP

April 26th, 27th & 28th, 1974

Do you know what you get for \$37.00 at Banff? Accommodation for Friday night and Saturday night, 3 meals on Friday and two meals on Sunday. This \$37.00 total cost per person with double accommodation includes all normal gratuities, but excludes such things as having a porter park your car.

In these days of inflation it could easily be thought this would be a daily rate, but the reasonable cost is possible because of the large attendance anticipated.

The opportunity to spend a weekend in the Rockies accommodated in a hotel occupying a vantage view of some of the most spectacular scenery is hard to overlook. The additional fact of it being a truly Masonic weekend with discussions and schools of instruction on matters that are of interest to you as a Mason, places it amongst the most important of annual Masonic functions in Alberta. To meet old friends, to make new friends, to gain knowledge, to impart experience and to refresh masonic vitality is an important part of a Mason's existence. There is still time for you to register to attend. Why not do so TODAY.

A TOUR OF BANFF

The Masonic Workshop Committee have arranged with Brewster Buses at Banff to have a special tour available from the Brewster Office in the Banff Springs Hotel.

This tour will cover the most important scenic areas around Banff and is arranged to coincide with the free time on Saturday afternoon. Should you wish to take advantage of this tour please book individually with Brewster's by letter or on the Friday night at the Hotel.

The cost is to be \$3.00 per person for a 2 hour tour.

THE LEFT FOOT

There have been a number of opinions expressed (see the March issue of the Bulletin) as to why the candidate in the First Degree is instructed to commence on the left foot. Which do you choose or are there more theories —

1. There is no significance. All it does is to ensure that the candidate and his guide start on the same foot and keep in step.
2. It is a result of military practice. A soldier carrying arms on the left side naturally starts with the left foot to ensure his balance. So the practice has grown up.
3. The left side, being the repository of the heart which is supposed to be the seat of the emotions, has long been regarded as the sacred side of man. It is reasonable then that, entering the sacred Lodge, the candidate starts with the left foot.

“THE ROLE OF MASONRY IN CANADA”

Excerpts from an address at
area meetings in 1973 by M.W. Bro. G. J. Armstrong

Your Grand Lodge officers feel that more efforts must be made to promote better East-West relations. To this end we will support a proposal to make the All Canada Conference an annual conference rather than every two years as at present. This will bring about a closer feeling between the jurisdictions and hopefully a better understanding of the contributions and difficulties of our brethren.

In this mobile society today masons are travelling from one end of this country to the other, but how many pack their aprons and visit a lodge? I suggest your Grand Lodge should encourage our brethren to do so. This effort will benefit the brother who visits, the lodge he visits, and his own lodge here in Alberta.

NEWS NOTES

A large number of Lodges held Burns' Nights in January to celebrate the birthday of the famous Mason, Robert Burns. Unity Lodge No. 51 was one of them. They had arranged with a Highland Team, complete with kilts, to confer the First Degree. Unfortunately the weather in the north did not cooperate and the candidate was stranded in a snow storm north of Edmonton. Bro. Frank Milling, who was the first candidate to be initiated in Unity Lodge, was present at the meeting. He is ninety years of age.

Two Lethbridge Lodges, North Star No. 4 and York Lodge No. 119, made a trip to Fernie B.C. in February and put on the second section of the Third Degree in Ancient York Rite. Fernie Lodge No. 35 G.R.B.C. welcomed the Alberta brethren very warmly.

A number of Lodges have indulged in cribbage tournaments in the last few months. The most recent to report are Concord Lodge No. 124 which has a tournament under way and Strathmore Lodge No. 53 which held a cribbage night following their Lodge meeting.

The famous Mini Workshop of District No. 4 was held again this year on March 3 in the Olds College. The ladies attended again and joined with the men for lunch and the devotional periods. While the men engaged in discussing matters Masonic, the ladies were occupied with handcrafts and flower arrangement sessions.

THE MAIL BAG

One of the better Masonic Magazines, The Mason, which was published by the United Grand Lodge of Antient and Accepted Masons of Victoria, Australia, has suspended publication and merged with another Australian publication. The Mason has been a popular publication in this jurisdiction and The Bulletin has reprinted material from it on several occasions as in this issue.

Bro. James Fanklin, Secretary of Hainault Lodge No. 4367, Brentwood, Essex, England, writes expressing appreciation in receiving the Bulletin. He sends the Hainault Newsletter to our Grand Lodge Library and for which we are grateful.

Bro. Edward H. Siems, the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of California writes to inform us of the death of Bro. Newcomb Condee, the Editor in Chief of the California Freemason. Judge Condee has made the California Freemason widely known, read and valued. He will be missed by masons throughout the world.

Bro. Ralph J. Simpson, Acacia Lodge No. 11, writes deploring the quality of photos reprinted in the Bulletin. He says, "If the quality of these photos cannot be improved, why attempt to publish them? In my opinion trying to publish the photos is a waste of time, effort and money. They add nothing to the Bulletin.

(In deference to this letter there are no pictures in this issue of the Bulletin.)

AREA MEETINGS

As we go to press for this issue there are some Area Meetings yet to be held. The inclement weather early in the year had an adverse effect on the meetings. Bro. George I. Burke, Secretary of Brooks Lodge No. 73 writes, "The Area Meeting in Brooks on Saturday, February 2, 1974 was opened with R.W. Bro. S. Fuller, D.D.G.M., District 16, presiding. M.W. Bro. J. G. Armstrong, Grand Master, was accompanied by M.W. Bro. Fox P.G.M., R.W. Bro. Milligam S.G.W., R.W. Bro. A. Aspeslet, J.G.W. and several P.D.D.M.'s. Eighteen Lodges were represented. Group discussions covering many aspects of our duties, were of interest to all. The meeting was followed by a hearty banquet served by the ladies of Helen Chapter O.E.S. It was a very successful session".

W.Bro. Toby Kazeil, W.M. Jasper Lodge No. 14 writes:

"I had the opportunity to attend the Area Meeting in Vermilion on Saturday last. This gathering of Masons from throughout the city and eastern neighbours was very well attended. It was the general opinion of the brethren present that although we practice brotherly love in the Lodge room, we should all think back to our initiation when we were asked: "Name the grand principles upon which it is founded?"

HISTORY IN EDMONTON

From some comments in the notices of Edmonton Lodges we judge that a project similar to the Heritage Park development in Calgary is being undertaken and that an early Masonic Lodge is to be constructed in Fort Edmonton to house many articles of interest from the early days of Masonry. The Bulletin Committee would like to do a feature on this very worthwhile effort similar to what has been done for Heritage Park. All we need is information and pictures. Will someone help us to spread the good word by sending an article and pictures or the name of a contact person.