



Grand Lodge Bulletin

M.W. Bro. W. J. COLLETT, Editor

OUR TREASURED SYMBOL

What is this Treasured Symbol,
That's found, yea, here and there,
Sometimes on Lofty Structures,
Sometimes o'er Entrance bare.
But, whether o'er Golden Door Knob,
Or on Home of lesser fare —
We know where Workmen gather,
The Moral kind, who care.

What is this Treasured Symbol,
The letter G, and Square,
The Compass firm protecting
The Others in his care —
Ah, well we know their meaning
These Golden Jewels declare,
Their hidden, special meaning
Which in our Lodge we share.

The G, that Awesome Letter,
Stands for Goodness up Above,
The Source of every Blessing,
Of Life, and Trust, and Love.
It stands for the patient Master,
Who is anxious that we should share
His Marvellous Creation,
This "Farm" beyond compare.
This Gift of such dimension
It stuns the mind to dare;
Its ours by Trusted Promise —
If we're grateful, if we care.

Now the Square, that Lovely Symbol,
Treasure, Jewel, Useful Tool, —
Don't you think our Founding Brethren,
Saw in this the Golden Rule —?

If the World in all its dealings
Used this Symbol, tried and true,
Used the upper blade for Fairness —
Turned the other, t'wixt me or you, —
Then would be all joy in contact,
Suspicion, guard, would fade away
And Trust would fill the World with Gladness,
Love could have its fullest play.

And the Compass, Ah, the Compass,
Symbol of Control, Precision —
Standing firm in all its actions,
Helps us form the best decision.
Tries to show the Bound of Passion,
Just so far, and curb it more;
Leaving room for much Compassion
For our future credit store.
In conjunction with its Brother,
Tries to mould, and tries to Teach
The true joy of Reputation,
Just as far as our fame can reach.

Thus My Brothers, My Trusty Brothers,
Let us hold these Symbols high,
Like our Brethren of the Ages
Who are now beyond our eye.
Let us bind their Tenets gladly
In our hearts, while in this Life,
Let them Guide our Daily Conduct,
As we meet both Joy and Strife, —
Then when comes our word, our Summons
May we know that Great Award, —
"Come, thou useful, trusted, servant,
enter thou, where is, thy Lord."

Brethren; yours and mine, our Treasured Symbol.
(A grateful member)

Presented at the Installation Ceremony
Corinthian Lodge No. 22, Alberta,
January 6, 1976

R.W. Bro. Ralph L. Osborne
Corinthian No. 22, Alberta

THE ANCIENT CHARGES

No. 3 — OF LODGES

Page 113 Book of Constitution

by Bro. H. N. Hryvnak

Senior Warden Charity Lodge No. 67

In his **The History of Freemasonry**, R. F. Gould says two things which I think are pertinent to the study of the Old Charges: firstly, "... these old legends and traditions, these bygone usages and regulations of the operative guilds, thus happily preserved have, and always must have for all thoughtful Freemasons, the deepest value and the most lasting interest.", and secondly, "By no other Craft in Great Britain has documentary evidence been furnished of its having claimed at any time a legendary or traditional history." We, as Masons, should be proud when we state in the lecture to a new Brother that our Craft "... is not only the most **ancient**, but the most moral human institution that ever existed ...". On What can we base our claim of ancientness?

There still is controversy regarding the sources of "legendary history" but traditional history can be verified by comparing the Old Charges of over 400 years ago to the interpretation used in our present-day charges and rituals. Let us consider some "Articles" and "Points" as they appear in various manuscripts of the Old Charges and as they pertain to the Lodge. "If the Master have an apprentice, he must instruct him fully in all points, so that he may have fully learned his craft, whithersoever he may go." or "A Master shall take no apprentice without making proper provision that he shall learn of him, within his term of servitude, 'diverse points'." or "A Master who is well-skilled in the Craft, and sees his fellow hewing a stone, which he is in a fair way to spoil, should help him without loss of time, if able so to do, and also instruct him how to do better ...". The above articles and points can be heard in our present-day charge to a newly-raised Brother, "In the character of a Master Mason, you are henceforth authorized to correct the errors and irregularities of your Brothers ...". This charge is telling us to get into the "work" of Masonry, which does not deal with ritual alone, but also with the instruction of the Brethren and the self-improvement of each of us. Whether a Brother is a newly-raised Mason or a Past Master of many years, there is much to be learned from each other. This is one reason that a Mason must belong to a Lodge; because one does not ever cease to learn, and where better to do so than amongst others who have the same interests. A body of knowledge, and its development and advancement must be controlled. For the Ancient Landmarks to be observed and perpetuated every Mason must belong to a Lodge where he is subject to its bylaws and the general regulations of the Craft.

That our ancient Brethern realized the necessity of attendance, and obedience to ordinances is shown by the following excerpts: "And also that every Master and Fellow shall come to the Assembly if it be

within seven miles about him." (Note: various manuscripts also give distances of five, forty, and fifty miles), and also: "Therefore be it known; if any master or fellow being forewarned to come to the congregation be contumacious (obstinate) and appear not; or having trespassed against any of the aforesaid articles shall be convicted; he shall forswear his masonry and shall no longer exercise the craft." As a mason's livelihood depended on his belonging to a lodge in order to work in his trade, this was severe censure indeed.

The qualifications of membership have not changed appreciably over the centuries. The "Apprentice Charges" which follow are reflected in our present-day regulations and rituals. "That no person hereafter be accepted a **Free-Mason** but such as are of able body, honest parentage, good reputation, and observers of the laws of the land. Also, "That no person shall be accepted a **Free-Mason** unless he be One and twenty years old or more.

There are many versions of the Old Charges that have come down to us in printed or in manuscript form. One just has to read a representative selection to realize that they "have, and always must have for all thoughtful Freemasons, the deepest value and the most lasting interest."

All quotations taken from Gould's History of Freemasonry or Stillson and Hughan's History of Freemasonry.

CARBON LODGE NO. 107

WHAT IS MASONRY?

In the home it is kindness.
 In the business it is honesty.
 In society it is courtesy.
 In work it is fairness.
 Toward the unfortunate it is pity.
 Toward the weak it is help.
 Toward the strong it is trust.
 Toward the penitent it is forgiveness.
 Toward the fortunate it is tolerance,
 Toward God it is reverence and love.

— O —

Life

Try to make the most of life,
 Loose no happy day.
 Time can never give thee back
 Chances thrown away.
 Leave no tender word unsaid.
 Love while love shall last,
 For the mill can never grind,
 With the water that is past.



MASONIC LECTURES SCHEDULED

Harry Carr, a Past Junior Grand Deacon of the United Grand Lodge of England, will lecture in Calgary on May 25th, 1976, and in Edmonton on May 27th, 1976. This is an opportunity for Masons throughout the Jurisdiction to listen to and meet one of England's outstanding Masonic Scholars. He was elected a member of Quatuor Coronati Lodge in 1953 and was its Worshipful Master in 1958. In 1957 he was appointed Prestonian Lecturer and chose as his subject, "The Transition from Operative to Speculative Masonry". He acted as Secretary of Quatuor Coronati Lodge from 1961 to 1973. More details of Brother Carr's visit will be published in the April Issue of the Bulletin. In the meantime it is important that you should mark the appropriate date on your calendar.



COMET - EFFICIENCY LODGE NO. 50

The Grand Master M.W. Bro. W. A. Milligan presented to V.W. Bro. Chris Rud of Comet-Efficiency Lodge No. 50 a Fifty Year Jewel and an Honorary Life Membership at a meeting of that Lodge in November. Bro. Rud was initiated into Freemasonry on August 25th, 1925. Also honoured at the same meeting was W. Bro. Bill Gutowski who received an Honorary Life Membership. The picture shows the M.W. the Grand Master with Bros. Rud and Gutowski.



STAR OF THE WEST LODGE NO. 34

W. Bro. Freeman MacDonald received his Fifty Year Jewel from M.W. Bro. E. J. Thompson, P.G.M. at a gathering in Leduc in December. The event was a real family occasion when members of Bro. MacDonald's family, his neighbours and his friends were invited to a dinner in the Leduc Masonic Hall. The guest speaker was M.W. Bro. Thompson who was a former United Church Minister in Leduc, a member of Star of the West Lodge and the son of a pioneer family in that district. The evening will long be remembered for the pleasant renewing of friendships and the exchanging of stories about the early times. Bro. MacDonald has a file of all the Grand Lodge Bulletins issued since he was initiated with the exception of a few copies he gave to the Grand Lodge Office to complete the file there.

FIRST CHARTER MEMBERS' NIGHT

Temple Lodge No. 167

On October 24th, 1975 Temple Lodge held its first Charter Members' Night when 10 of its current 13 charter members (originally 36) conferred the Fellowship Degree on three candidates.

M.W. Bro. Dave Little, PGM who was largely instrumental in the formation of the lodge was in the East; M.W. Bro. Ed Thompson, PGM, the first chaplain of the lodge and Master in 1962 was in the West, while the eight other charter members and PM's and officers of the lodge filled the other chairs.

The resident charter members taking part were W. Bro. Jack Johnson, W. Bro. Bill Gutierrez, Bro. Vic Nelson and Bro. George Grover, organist from the lodge's inception until 1959.

Bro. Bill Ewing, 85 years old, travelled all the way from Thunder Bay, and R.W. Bro. Jack Parker, 88 years old and the first secretary of the lodge, came from Victoria. Both, hale and hearty, were welcomed back by old friends. W. Bro. Roy Brookes Master in 1956 and 1957, from Calgary; Bro. Ken Whitfield from Lethbridge, and R.W. Bro. Russ McKinney, Master in 1955, from Stettler were the other out-of-town charter members.

Bro. Harry Webster from Calgary and Bro. Bill Gould from Kerrobert, Saskatchewan, both long time members made the trip for the re-union.

M.W. Bro. W. A. (Sandy) Milligan, Grand Master, honored the occasion by making an official visit to the lodge. Accompanying the Grand Master were R.W. Bro. Gordon Renton, DDGM, District No. 3, V.W. Bro. S. A. Noble, Grand Chaplain, M.W. Bro. S. H. Hardin, PGM and M. W. Bro. G. J. Armstrong and many other distinguished Grand Lodge officers. Their presence added tremendously to the whole success of the evening.

Before the lodge closed, members of the first class — Bro. Bob Rae, Bro. Ted Wormsbecker and Bro. Harry Williams were briefly honored, as well as two of our early affiliates — Bro. George O'Hara, and W. Bro. Ernie Siegel.

During refreshment downstairs afterwards, M.W. Bro. Dave Little and M.W. Bro. Ed Thompson were presented with personal scrolls in token of their long years of service to Masonry and to Temple Lodge in particular.

Altogether 52 members and 39 visitors enjoyed a truly memorable Masonic evening, and a social reunion of good fellowship and reminiscences, that will long be remembered as a truly great highlight in Temple Lodge.

THE MASONIC SPRING WORKSHOP

The Masonic Spring Workshop is to be held at the School of Fine Arts in Banff on April 30th, May 1st and 2nd. There is still time to get your reservations in although already there are indications of a record attendance. The theme is, "Participating is Giving", The program, as usual, will be well prepared and of value to every mason. Your Lodge will have registration forms available.

LODGE DUES

Many Lodges report in their notices that Lodge dues have been raised or that they are proposing to change their bylaws to facilitate changes. This is an expected development. Many Lodges are urging that Lodge Dues be paid as soon as possible. The most heart rending plea from the Trestle Board of St. George's Lodge No. 169, Elk Point—

I fell asleep the other night, and while I had my snooze,
I dreamed each member stepped right up and promptly paid his dues:
But when I found it was a dream, I nearly threw a fit,
It's up to you to make it true, so won't you please remit!

ELBOW RIVER NO. 180

The Junior Grand Warden, R. W. Bro. R. L. Costigan, congratulates R.W. Bro. A. C. Gunning, P.D.D.G.M. after Bro. Gunning had received a Life Membership from Elbow River Lodge in recognition of his many services to that Lodge and to Masonry. R.W. Bro. Gunning is a Charter Member of Elbow River Lodge and its first elected master.

JASPER LODGE NO. 14

At the January Emergent meeting of Jasper Lodge No. 14, which is celebrating its 75th Anniversary this year, the M.W. the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. W. A. Milligan paid an official visit. At that meeting a City Police Degree team headed by W. Bro. F. Leach conferred the First Degree on four candidates.

ASTRA LODGE NO. 179

Here is an old quotation from Plato which would make one believe that he knew something of Masonry:

"Perfect wisdom hath four parts, viz., wisdom, the principle of doing things aright; justice, the principle of doing things equally in public and private; fortitude, the principle of not flying danger but meeting it; and temperance, the principle of subduing desires and living moderately".