



Grand Lodge Bulletin

VOL. 45 NO. 7

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

CALGARY, MARCH 1980

From Volume 1 No 4, GRAND LODGE BULLETIN, March 1936

A RABBINICAL LEGEND

The book of Isiah contains the following: "Behold I have created the smith that bloweth the coals in the fire and that bringeth forth the instrument for his work." Built apparently upon this, the following legend has grown up. With no knowledge of its authenticity, it is published here for its intrinsic interest.

And it came to pass, when Solomon, the son of David, had finished the Temple at Jerusalem, that he prepared a feast for his chief craftsmen and artificers, and spread the tables with the fatness of the land, and with the wine and corn and oil thereof.

And the seat of the King was apart on a raised dais facing the head of the table, and the two famous pillars of bronze, with their beautiful capitals of lilies, pomegranates and delicate network, stood, one on his right hand and the other on his left, and the lintel thereof was as a canopy over the head of the king.

And Solomon had also prepared a seat of honor, and set it on his right hand, ready for that craftsman who might be pronounced most worthy among all who wrought in building the house of the Lord.

And when all was ready, he called to his chief architects and master-overseers, and the head-artificers who were cunning workers in gold and silver, in bronze and ivory, and in wood and stone, yea, all who had labored in building the Temple of the Most High, and he said unto them:

"Come now with me and partake of the feast which I have prepared. Stretch forth your hands; eat, drink and be merry. The skilled artificer is worthy of honor. Is not the laborer worthy of his hire? Muzzle not the ox that treadeth out the corn upon the threshing floor."

And when Solomon and his guests had arrived at the place of the feast, they beheld a man, clad in the garb and covered with the soil of labor, seated in the chair of honor not yet awarded. And the King waxed wroth, and said. "What manner of man art thou? Why comest thou thus unseemly and unbidden to our feast, where none are invited save the chief workers on the Temple?"

And the man answered and said, "Please you, I came not unbidden. Was it not proclaimed that this day the chief workmen of the Temple dine with the King? Therefore am I come."

And when the man had thus spoken, the guests talked with each other, and he who carved the cherubim spake aloud and said, "This fellow is no sculptor. I know him not."

And he who inlaid the roof with pure gold said, "Neither is he of those who work in refined metals." And he who wrought in raising the walls said, "He belongs not with those who are cutters of stone."

And one who labored in shaping the timbers for the roof said, "We who are cunning in cedar wood, and know the mystery of joining strange timbers together, know him not. He is not us."

Then said King Solomon, "How sayest thou now? Wherefore should I not have thee plucked by the beard, scourged with a scourge and stoned with stones, even unto death?"

But the man was nowise daunted, and he rose from the seat, and came to where the wine was set, and took a cup of the wine and raised it high and spake aloud, saying, "O King, live forever!" He then drank long until the cup was emptied.

He now returned to the seat and spake to the guests who had rebuked him, and said unto the chief of the carvers in stone, "Who made the instruments with which you carve?"

And he answered, "The Blacksmith."

And to the chief of the workers in wood he said, "Who made the tools with which you felled the cedars of Lebanon, and shaped them into pillars and roof for the Temple?"

And he also answered, "The Blacksmith."

Then he spoke unto the artificer in gold and ivory and precious stones saying. "Who fashioned the instruments with which you wrought beautiful ornaments for my lord the King?"

And he too made answer the same, "The Blacksmith."

Then said the man to Solomon, "Behold, O King, I am he whom, when men deride, they call Blacksmith,

LODGE CHARTERS

From Grand Lodge Bulletin, March 1936

Our Patricia Lodge No. 91 has had the misfortune to lose its Hall with much of the contents by fire, and the sympathy of every lodge in the jurisdiction will be with them in their loss.

Among the important things destroyed was their Charter, which can only be replaced by a duplicate issued by the Grand Master. This brings up the thought that our ancient brethren in the days before Grand Lodges must have had some document corresponding to the Present Charter or Warrant. In those days lodges of Masons were sometimes just casual gatherings. Under what authority they met and even made Masons is explained in an article by R.W. Bro. C. C. Hunt, Grand Secretary in the Grand Lodge Bulletin of Iowa. He says the Charter or Warrant was regarded as based on the Old Gothic or York Constitution. This copy was obtained from a lodge or a brother who had one, or was copied by them expressly for the purpose. A group of Masons could with such a document in their possession open and work a lodge of Masons. These lodges were known as "St. John's Lodges", and the Old Charges were read to candidates after their initiation.

Such lodges continued to meet long after the formation of Grand Lodge. Their members were accepted as regular and when visiting a chartered lodge, would sign the register as members of "St. John's" or sometimes just "Old Mason".

So today, we still have the modern form of the Old Charges in the front of our Book of Constitution, which is always present in a lodge at work, although we insist on a Charter or Warrant from Grand Lodge being our authority for meeting as Freemasons.

POETRY FROM LODGE NOTICES

FROM A NEW MEMBER —

I see you at the meeting but you never say hello;
 You're busy all the time with men you already know.
 I sit among the fellows, still I am a lonely guy;
 The new ones sit there with me while you quickly pass
 me by;
 But, gosh, you guys have asked us in and you talk of
 fellowship;
 You could just step across the room but you've never
 made the trip,
 Why can't you nod and say hello, or stop and shake
 my hand.
 Then go and join your other friends?
 Now that, I'd understand.
 I'll be at your next meeting, too, on that you can
 depend.
 So, won't you introduce yourself?
 I want to be a friend!

continued from page 1

but when they would honor me, they call me Son of the Forge. These Craftsmen say truly that I am not of them. I am their superior. Without my labor first, their labor could not be. The great Tubal Cain, whom all men honor, taught those who in turn taught me my handicraft, and the mighty Vulcan, who wrought in fire and smoke and sweat, as I do, was it not deemed fitting he should have even the Queen of beauty to wife?"

"Son of the Forge," said Solomon, "I, too, honor thee, thou worthy successor of the great master, Tubal Cain. Take thou this seat at my right hand prepared for the most worthy. It is thy due."

Thus it came to pass at the feast of Solomon, the wise King of Israel, and from that time forth the smiths were held in high esteem, and greatly increased and multiplied in all lands.

R.W. BRO. JAMES A. LORE



R.W. Bro James A. Lore, D.D.G.M. of District No. 15 will be the guest speaker at the 15th Annual Masonic Spring Workshop using the theme of the Workshop, "Beyond the Ritual". He will give two addresses to be followed by discussion groups. He was born in Bassano, Alberta

May 28, 1931 and was initiated into Acme Lodge No. 60 on June 16, 1966, passed on July 21 and raised on October 20, 1966. In 1975 he was the Worshipful Master of Acme Lodge and proceeded on to become the District Deputy Grand Master of his district.

R.W. Bro. Lore received a B.Sc. degree in Agriculture from the University of Alberta in 1954 and subsequently farmed in the Carstairs area. Later he was Research Assistant at the Plant Science farm of the University of Alberta and then worked for the Provincial Government in Land Appraisal and Rail Classification. Since 1968 he has been Executive Vice-President of McKinnon, Allan and Associates (Western Ltd.) involved in agricultural consulting. He belongs to a number of Professional Organizations in Agriculture.

R.W. Bro. Lore is an able speaker and is frequently called upon to address conventions and seminars. He will bring to the Spring Workshop an impressive Professional Background to which is added his experience and research in Masonry.

BEYOND THE RITUAL
 MASONIC SPRING WORKSHOP
 BANFF CENTRE - May 2, 3 and 4

Attendance Limited to 500

Registration Fee \$58.00. Must Accompany Registration.

Register Early Forms are Available From Your Lodge Secretary.

THE VITAL STEP

In May
Of 1979
I took a vital step in life
By knocking on a door.
With open arms I was received
By brothers loyal and true
A poor and lonely candidate
Who didn't know what to do.
On September 4th
To Eastgate Lodge I did go
To take an obligation
My loyalty to show.
A fellowcraft I then became,
By October 2nd
A sudden change came over me,
To me new life was given
With the help of the great architect
There was conferred on me
On the night of November the 6th
The ultimate Degree
A Master Mason I became
A cell in life's blood stream
To me it means fulfillment
Of a long lost Boyhood dream.

COUNT THAT DAY

If you sit down at the set of sun
And count the acts that you have done,
And counting find
One self denying deed, one word
That eased the heart of him that heard.
One glance most kind
That fell like sunshine where it went
Then you may count that day well spent.

But if thru all the live long day
You've cheered no heart, by yea or nay,
If thru it all
You've nothing done that you can trace
That brought the sunshine to one face
No act most small
That helped some soul and nothing cost
Then count that day as worse than lost.

THE SHARING AND THE CARING

Two things make for happiness, the giving and the taking.
It does not come by chance for it is something of our making.
It does not drop from Heaven like the manna from above,
It is the result of how we live and how we love.

The sharing and the caring and the doing of the thing that helps to heal and ease a load, kind thoughts will bring
Harmony and sympathy that money cannot buy, the happiness that deepens as the passing years go by.
Patience Strong

A VANISHED FRIEND

Around the corner I have a friend
In this great city that has no end;
Yet days go by, the weeks rush on,
And before I know it a year has gone,
And I never see my old friend's face.
For life is a swift and terrible race.
He knows I like him just as well,
As in days when I rang his bell,
And he rang mine, we were younger then,
And now we are busy, tired men.
Tired of playing a foolish game,
Tired of trying to make a name.
"Tomorrow, I will call on Jim,
Just to show that I am thinking of him."
But tomorrow comes and tomorrow goes,
And the distance between us grows and grows
Around the corner, yet miles away . . .
"Here's a telegram, Sir" ----
"Jim died to-day!"
And that's what we get, and deserve in the end,
Around the corner a vanished friend.
(Author unknown)

WELL - ARE YOU?

Are you an active Mason
The kind that would be missed
or are you just content
that your name is on the list?
Do you attend the meetings
and mingle with the flock
or do you stay at home
to criticize and knock.
Do you take an active part
to help the work along
or are you satisfied to be
the kind that just belongs.
Do you ever go to visit
a Mason who is sick
or leave the work to just a few
and talk about the "clique"
Think this over "Mason"
you know right from wrong
are you an active Mason
or do you just belong?

How often have any of the Brethren met someone on the street or in the Temple and thought — that person looks familiar, maybe I should say hello — then passes on.

This point was brought forcibly to my attention recently, the officers of the Lodge were assembling for practice and there was a person waiting in the lobby, no one bothered to extend more than a casual "Good Morning".

Imagine our surprise, when after what he must have thought, was a lengthy passage of time, we finally got around to asking his name and for what he was waiting, he informed us he was our candidate.

One of our better known brethren, R.W. Bro. Bev. Facey has had a school named after him in the County of Strathcona in recognition of the excellent work done by him as Superintendent of Schools of that County. R.W. Bro. Facey is a member of Eastgate Lodge No. 192 and a Past District Deputy Grand Master. Eastgate Lodge also honored him recently by presenting him with a Life Membership.

The Grand Secretary of the United Grand Lodge of Antient Free and Accepted Masons of England was recently named on the honours list of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II to become a Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order. This was in recognition of his more than thirty years service to our Mother Grand Lodge and his celebration of 50 years as a Mason. Our congratulations to R.W. Bro. Sir James Stubbs and to Lady Stubbs.

Edmonton Lodge No. 7 presented a Life Membership to Bro. John, R.M. Donald. Jasper Lodge No. 4 presented a Life Membership to W. Bro. Palmer Johnson who now resides in White Rock, B.C.

North Star Lodge No. 4 has presented Life Memberships to W. Bro. J. G. Gardner and Bro. R. A. Cooke.

Innisfail Lodge No. 8 presented W. Bro. J. W. Manuel with a sixty year bar to his Fifty Year Jewel at a meeting attended by the M.W. the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. W. N. Love.

There was an attendance of over 100 Masons at a recent game dinner held by Strathmore Lodge No. 53. At the Lodge meeting the Calgary Police Team conferred the Master Mason's Degree on three candidates. It was an outstanding event with a number of visitors present.

Crossfield Lodge is presently engaged in the renovation of facilities in the basement of its Hall and have spent \$3767.00 on the project with several hundred dollars yet to be spent. So far the Lodge has received \$1360.00 in donations and has hopes that the entire amount will be subscribed.

W. Bro. Bev. Harrington was presented with his Fifty Year Jewel at a recent meeting of Eureka Lodge No. 10. The presentation was made by R.W. Bro. John Parsons.

St. Marks Lodge No. 118 which recently opened a new Lodge Room incorporated in a Senior Citizen's housing project is now engaged in equipping the new room with seats. The Lodge is requesting donations of seats from its members at a cost of \$85.00 each. The seats will have plaques on them inscribed with the name of the donor or with the name of the person in whose memory the seat is donated.

In December Buffalo Park Lodge No. 44 tyled its Lodge at 6:30 p.m. and then followed it with a Ladies Night at which the widows of deceased members, Life Members of the Lodge and members of the Order of the Eastern Star were guests. Special arrangements were made to transport those individuals who needed a ride to the event.

Kenilworth Lodge recently held its 44th Annual Moose Dinner. The Deputy Grand Master R.W. Bro. W. E. Foster represented the M.W. the Grand Master.

W. Bro. J. R. Richardson, W.M. of Coronation Lodge No. 72 in a recent Lodge Notice offers the following message -

"I sometimes wonder if life is worth living?", mused the pessimist.

"It is", replied the optimist, "And it is worth living much better than most of us live it".

We would like to acknowledge a very encouraging letter from R.W. Bro. J. R. W. Cann, Secretary of Quarry Lodge No. 70. He reports that he has received from a brother in the United States a scrap book compiled by the first Worshipful Master of Quarry Lodge W. Bro. A. J. Nicholson which contains considerable material about Lodges in and around Medicine Hat and which he will forward for historical purposes. He also points out that there are only four Lodges in the world named Quarry. There is one in England, two in the United States and one in Medicine Hat.

FIAT LUX LODGE OF RESEARCH, U.D. ALBERTA

The first meeting of the new Lodge of Research was held in the Edmonton Central Masonic Temple in November of 1979. The meeting dealt primarily with Bylaws and procedural matters. It is decided however, the Lodge will meet four times each year on Saturday afternoons at various and changing locations throughout the province.

The next meeting of the Lodge will be held at Crescent Masonic Lodge Hall, 131 - 16th Avenue, N.W., Calgary, on March 22nd, 1980 at 2:00 p.m. If you are interested in attending as a visitor you will be most welcome. A research paper entitled "Jephthah" will be presented during this meeting.

Following the meeting at approximately 5:00 p.m. a banquet will be held. This meal is strictly on a prepaid basis and the Secretary-Treasurer must receive your request and a cheque for \$7.50 at least one week prior to the meeting date.

At the present time there is no procedure set up for the acceptance of new members into the Lodge but this will be established in the very near future. Should you wish to receive information on membership when it becomes available, or information of any nature, please contact the Secretary-Treasurer at P.O. Box 102, Station G, Calgary, Alberta. T3A 2G1.