



Grand Lodge Bulletin

VOL. 46, NO. 4

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

CALGARY, DECEMBER 1980



Christmas 1980

Christmas is a time of Joy and a time of Sadness. A time to remember old and new friends. A time of good-will; this is the joyous time.

But then there is the sad part — the empty chairs at the dinner table; the loneliness of those who have no families left, those who are in Nursing Homes or hotel rooms with no friends, no cards or parcels to open on Christmas morning. And of course there is the increase in crime and the annual toll of the hopeless who commit suicide.

For the Christian, Christmas brings thanksgiving. The great Christmas Eve services of worship in the church. The welcoming of the birth of Christ. The renewal of hope that maybe this year will bring Peace on earth. That man will find in his heart God's love and in finding it, be able to transmit that love to his brothers and sisters.

It is interesting that those who believe in God, who accept all the blessings which this faith brings; whether a person is Muslim, Jewish or Christian, the teaching of God is very similar — He teaches love and service to Him.

There is a quote from the Gospel in Matthew 22. An answer which Jesus gave to some people who asked the question "Is it lawful to pay tax to Caesar or not." That answer must be the keystone in the life of every mason no matter what his religious persuasion. "Give to God the things which are God's and to Caesar the things which are Caesar's." So if we are to be His servants, His children, we are bound to give Him the Honour and the worship which is His due. And in doing that we can do no other than pay the tax which is required in order to provide the goods and services which are needed to run this complex society in which we live. One might say the answer could be explained in one word "sharing". Christmas is the time of year when we have the greatest wish to share. I urge you to remember those less fortunate in our world, they may live quite close to you or they may be in a distant land but each one of you know where you can help the most. It is your Christmas. This treasure is not ours because we have collected all the right things, traditions, family, love, the warmth and brightness comes from outside ourselves, they come from God.

I am happy to have this opportunity to wish you a very Merry Christmas and God's richest blessings in the year to come.

Fraternally yours,

James Linster
V.W. Grand Chaplain



**MASONIC HIGHER EDUCATION
BURSARY AWARDS — 1980-81**

MATRICULANTS

- COLES, James Leslie Edgar, Calgary U. of C.
 CUCHERAN, Cheryl Helen, Calgary U. of A.
 DIVEL, Dale Edward, Bowden S.A.I.T.
 FITKIN, Gordon Ross, Calgary U. of C.
 GLOD, Teresa Janet, Calgary U. of C.
 HARWARDT, Cheryl Doreen, Medley U. of A.
 HOLTHE, Lorri Rae, Turin U. of A.
 HORMOTH, Kathleen Eleanor, Iron Springs U. of A.
 IVERSON, Bryan Neil, Wainwright U. of A.
 MASUDA, June Youko,
 Lethbridge Lethbridge Community College
 MOCK, Janie Frances,
 Devon Camrose Lutheran College
 MORIYAMA, Robert Todd, Picture Butte ... U. of C.
 MUELLER, Roland, Bowden Red Deer College
 MULLANEY, Karen Jean, Coaldale U. of C.
 NEOTE, Amarjeet, Calgary Mount Royal College
 NISHIYAMA, Robin Michi,
 Raymond U. of Lethbridge
 PENNER, Daryl Alexander,
 Stettler Camrose Lutheran College
 ROGERS, Shannon Patricia, Edmonton U. of A.
 SAMUELSON, Clarence Parnell,
 Sexsmith Grande Prairie Regional College
 SEREDA, Irene, Shaughnessy U. of Lethbridge
 SMITH, Catherine Cheryl Irene, Calgary U. of A.
 SZOJKA, Aniko Eva-Maria,
 Lethbridge U. of Lethbridge
 TIDLUND, Thomas Walter, Calgary U. of C.
 van der LEE, Katrina Jennifer L., Calgary ... U. of C.
 WALTON, Kevin Todd, Calgary U. of C.
 WOTTON, Doreen Dawn,
 Drayton Valley Olds College

**MR. AND MRS. FRANK MILLING
SCHOLARSHIP FUND AWARDS**

UNDERGRADUATES

- BEYER, Valerie Jean,
 Lethbridge U. of Lethbridge
 CHERAK, Patrick Verne, Canmore U. of C.
 KINSELLA, Aileen Celeste, Wainwright U. of A.
 SKEET, Linda Diana, Calgary U. of C.
 SUSHYNSKI, Cheryl-Lynn Ann, Edmonton. S.A.I.T.
 TIEDEMANN, Larry L., Edmonton U. of A.

CONCORD LODGE NO. 124

For a number of years Concord Lodge No. 124 has been known for the very colourful Services Night that it has held each November. This year the Lodge decided to replace that historic event with Clergy Night. Clergymen from the various Lodges throughout Southern Alberta filled the chairs for the Master Mason's Degree directed by a Past Master of the Lodge, W.Bro. the Rev. J. Brown Milne. Following the Lodge Meeting a meal was served in the lower hall of the Calgary Masonic Temple and the speaker was Bro. Rabbi L. Ginsberg, Past Grand Chaplain.

LODGE RENFREW NO. 134

The October meeting of Lodge Renfrew No. 134 was called "Novice Night" because the work in the Fellowcraft Degree was performed by a group of members of the Lodge who had never held office in the Lodge. Bro. A.A. Lant, Senior Warden, was responsible for the evening and the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. C.W. Gewers took part. Four brethren were passed to the Fellowcraft Degree.

AMALGAMATION

In September M.W.Bro. W.E. Foster, the Grand Master and R.W.Bro. M.P. Dunford, Grand Secretary, were in Castor to officiate at the amalgamation of Monitor Lodge No. 120 of Consort and Beaver Lodge No. 56 of Castor. The New Lodge will be known as Beaver Monitor Lodge No. 56 and will meet in Castor.

A GREAT MASON

(Masonic bulletin of the G.L. of British Columbia for September, 1980 and reprinted in the Lodge Notice of Grand Prairie Lodge No. 105.)

Once there was a Mason who found it really hard to learn the ritual and he never was much help in conferring the degrees. He was extremely self-conscious and had no real ability to fill positions of authority; he was not officer material and he never held a lodge office. He never achieved financial success and so could not be one of the larger contributors to lodge charities or the building fund. In all these respects, he was rather an insignificant Mason.

He did attend every Lodge meeting he possibly could, always arriving early enough to assist the Tyler and Stewards in getting things ready. He visited the sick and the widows. He went to see and talk to that brother who suddenly stopped attending lodge. He made sure that each visiting brother was never made to feel a stranger. He praised the officers, encouraged new members, put his arm around the shoulders of any who were troubled or discouraged, and had a smile and a cheery, "Hello, my Brother," for all he met, every time.

Eventually he died. The church could not hold all those attending his funeral. Even the cemetery was crowded. The next meeting of the lodge was just not the same. Everyone missed him, terribly.

An insignificant Mason? Certainly not! He was a GREAT Mason. Perhaps no greater ever sat in Lodge! Who was he?

Nobody in particular. Most lodges have known him or his like. And he is still around, still attending his lodge, still doing those little things. Do we treasure him and honor him? We certainly ought to, for he is a GREAT Mason!

**THE WORSHIPFUL
MASTER'S MESSAGE**

W.Bro. J.W. Hunter, Unity Lodge No. 51

Light, when it is only illumination, is not enough. It can be utilized for personal means, to the utter exclusion for the consideration of another's good or harm. When you teach a person to write he can then write personal cheques or forge other cheques. Dyes and medicine can

be extracted from tar now, but so can a dangerous explosive used in modern warfare. And so the list goes on and on. Knowledge, then, is potentially capable of good and evil. Men, with their knowledge daily live in fear of war. Only when light emits the rays of brotherly love is it most beneficial. Brotherly love then cements men of every color and creed into a genuine, enduring brotherhood.

The compass enables men to draw a Perfect Circle. A Perfect Circle allows for no gaps. Its unity is complete. Similarly, Masonic unity, like the Perfect Circle, allows for no breaks. Like the Level, it also suppresses all artificial distinction. It aims to produce a harmonious whole.

Masonry, however, is ever striving to enlarge its circle of influence, and rid the world of the imperfect friendships which exist today. Edwin Markham said it best when he wrote —

*“He drew a circle that shut me out —
Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.
But love and I had the wit to win:
We drew a circle that took him in.”*

When we remember these words then we can influence Brotherly Love, Justice and Peace. Masonry, when unheeded, causes men to contend for place and power. Even unscrupulous methods are devised to vanquish one another. Few pass through life free from terrific jolts. Life can be extremely callous, cold and cruel. Masonry must then function in daily life otherwise it is of negligible value. It must therefore make the path of daily life smoother and the journey less irksome and hard. Masons should be pledged to shelter each other from life's cold, blasting winds, to protect each other from life's devastating tempests, to be life-giving streams to those caught in life's arid, barren stretches, and a source of inspiration and rejuvenation to the weary.

One of the great objectives then of Masonry is to cement in brotherly love its numerous units into a strong, harmonious entity. Recognizing that, whereas discord is pregnant with painful possibilities, numerous are the benefits accruing from concord. Those magnificent pillars situated at the approach to King Solomon's Temple, denoting established strength, were adorned with emblems of Peace, Unity and Plenty. Peace and Plenty, the glorious fruits of Unity! This impressive truth Masonry untiringly strives to instil into the minds of its members. It works to the end that harmonious, just and helpful relationships may be encouraged and strengthened, thus will the individual “Living Stones” be harmonized into a finer social structure and the blessings of concord be ensured and enjoyed.

WHAT ARE THE ORNAMENTS OF A LODGE?

W. Bro. D. Cameron, Saskatchewan Lodge No. 92

Mosaic pavement, indented tessel and blazing star are ritualistically symbolic of the floor of King Solomon's Temple, the border surrounding it, and divine providence. One of the early symbols of Masonry not only in England, but in France and Germany. “Tesselated” as applied to border is a curious corrup-

tion of one idea into another. Originally the border had many different names: indented tassel, indented tassel, tasselated border, tesselated border, indented tessel in French, cord of strong threads in German. Apparently the old symbol was anciently displayed in chalk or charcoal on the floor of the Lodge, being drawn for every meeting, only to be erased at its close. This symbol was encircled by a wavy line, apparently a cord; the ends of the cord had tassels. By slow corruption the indented tassel became the indented tassel; from this came tasselated border (border made of a cord with tassels) and finally, a further corruption into tesselated, because the representation of the cord, transferred in a latter day from floor to cloth or trestle board, seemed to look like inlaid stones instead of the original black and white threads. Hence “Tesselated Border” became a part of Mosiac work instead of the original conception of a cord with tassels surrounding and strengthening the representation of divine providence in its prominent position in the floor of the Temple.



“My new-cut ashlar takes the light
Where crimson blank the windows flare,
By my own work before the night,
Great Overseer, I make my prayer.

If there be good in that I wrought
Thy Hand compelled it, Master, Thine —
Where I have failed to meet Thy Thought
I know through Thee, the blame was mine.

The depth and dream of my desire,
The bitter paths wherein I stray —
Thou knowest Who has made the Fire, —
Thou knowest Who has made the Clay.

Who lest all thought of Eden fade,
Brings Eden to the craftsman brain
Godlike to muse o'er his own Trade
And manlike stand with God again.

One stone the more swings into place
In that dread Temple of Thy worth
It is enough that, through Thy Grace,
I saw nought common in Thy Earth.

Take not the vision from my ken —
Oh, whatso'er may spoil or speed.
Help me to need no aid from men
That I may help such men as need.

— Rudyard Kipling



Many Lodges throughout the Jurisdiction are following the wishes of the M. W. the Grand Master and are arranging their own special observances of our Seventy-fifth Anniversary Year. He has expressed to the Bulletin his appreciation of these efforts. Many Lodges are sending to the Bulletin accounts and pictures of these happenings. We would be delighted to receive more so that this year's issues will contain a complete picture of what happened. We appeal to you to send accounts to us. Remember that the deadline for any issue

is the 15th of the month for we must have our material to the printers six weeks in advance of publication. Some very informative papers are being given. The Bulletin would like to publish these as space permits. Do not hesitate to send them along. The address is the Grand Lodge Office.

ZETLAND LODGE EXEMPLIFIES ROYAL ART

Submitted by W.Bro. D.F.G. Kalverla,
Commercial Lodge No. 81

W.M. Bert van Helden, Master of Zetland Lodge in Calgary, Alberta and his officers, exemplified as a 75th year celebration project, a ritual of opening and closing, and the first degree initiation, used by the Grand Orient of the Netherlands or the Grand Lodge of the Netherlands.

The Most Worshipful, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Alberta, several of his incumbent officers and Past Grand Officers in the vicinity of Calgary, were invited.

The exemplification of the work was done in an extraordinary well regimented fashion, although W.Bro. Bert van Helden excused himself and his officers for reading it out, because of lack of time to learn it by heart. It was one of the best readings I have witnessed.

The significant highlight in this exemplification was the mention, not of the "Masonic Fraternity" but the "Royal Art". Whereas we would refer to the Masonic way of Life, the Netherland's ritual would mention the Royal Art of Life.

We are not talking about any extended degrees beyond the third degree, they are concordant bodies but they are not under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge or the Grand Orient.

The "Royal Art of Life" are the first three degrees as can be exemplified during a human lifetime. And since nobody yet returned through the entrance of transgression, it is conceivable a logical conclusion to remain this realm.

The Lodge is the temple of Life, where a true Brother will light the Light of Wisdom, the Light of Strength and the Light of Beauty. The Light of Wisdom to lead and to conceive, the Light of Strength to support and the Light of Beauty to adorn the inner truth of a human soul. This was physically performed.

On the altar lays the Book of Wisdom, not specifically a Koran, a Christian Bible, a Jewish Talmut or the seven Books of Wisdom of the East, etc., etc., but all of them exemplified in whatever Book of Wisdom of the religion customary in that particular region, the Lodge happens to operate and its members are comfortable with.

To have seen this excellent evening was a strengthening of my belief in the Royal Art.

When you missed it brethren, you missed a great deal of enlightened rays of Masonic Beauty exemplified under a true follower of the Royal Art of Life.

Dirk. F.G. Kalverla
Commercial No. 81

Tapes (reel and cassette) of R.W. Bro. The Honorable Donald M. Fleming's address at the Annual Communication Banquet June, 1980 are available for lending. Those Lodges interested may borrow them by writing to the Grand Lodge office. Would you please give two or three dates when making the request.

THE FIFTH POINT

All masons will readily recall the reference of upholding a brother's good name whether he is present or not. This is probably the one part of our expression of fellowship that comes under the greatest trial because of the various situations encountered from time to time which cause pronounced differences of opinion between us.

However, I was most intrigued recently while looking through the old records of Crescent Lodge No. 87 of how the principle of preserving a mason's honour has been applied in one particular instance. As other secretaries will readily recall there used to be a card system maintained for each member indicating the masonic history and other vital statistics including both date and cause of death. In my perusal of these cards I found duly recorded over forty years ago under cause of death the words "Electrocution — Accidental". If you pause to reflect a moment you will realize the significance of that one word "Accidental". Surely the secretary of that day conscientiously added that word to indicate that this was a worthy brother and in no way could his conduct be construed an unmasonic. No doubt the circumstances of the tragic occurrence was well known at the time but the notation by the secretary was for posterity and the unfortunate brother's honour carefully preserved.

I have been deliberately vague about the date because it is not important to know the name of the accident victim nor, for that matter, who the secretary was at the time.

On a personal note I sincerely hope that when my days as a scribe have ceased, future custodians of our records will also find no evidence that I, too, did not carefully preserve the honour of my brethren.

Don McLaren, Secretary
Crescent Lodge No. 87

1905 — PROVINCE OF ALBERTA — 1980

The Edmonton Journal recently enclosed a copy of their 1905 edition which reported the Birth of the Province of Alberta. On the second page of that edition was an ad from Charles L. Wittman-Furrier. Charles Louis Wittman was born in Germany on April 19, 1849. He was initiated in Edmonton Lodge No. 7 on October 29, 1914, passed on March 18, 1915 and raised on June 28, 1915. At the time he was initiated he was 65 years old. He died in Edmonton on December 10, 1939 at the age of 90 years. His Granddaughter is Mrs. R.I. Lewis, wife of our immediate Past District Deputy Grand Master, District No. 3 — Bob Lewis.