



# Grand Lodge Bulletin

VOL. 51, NO. 1

Editor, R.W. Bro. NORMAN SENN

SEPTEMBER, 1985

## THE GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE

Brethren, I wish to take this opportunity, in the first Bulletin of our new Masonic year, to express my sincere thanks to all the Brethren of the Jurisdiction for having conferred the Office of Grand Master upon me. I sincerely appreciate the great honour you have bestowed on me in electing me to this high position. My greatest hope is that I will be able to discharge my duties in a manner befitting the confidence you have placed in me.

On looking back I see the names of many great men who have served this fraternity as Grand Master. I do not expect to fill their shoes, but with the support of all my Brethren, I hope to meet my responsibilities fully and add something to the Craft for the benefit of all.

I ask the Worshipful Masters to arrange to have those members who have not attended Lodge for some time, to be personally contacted. I also ask that a visitation be made to those who are in arrears or who are about to be suspended. Forget the mail and make that personal contact for I am sure that it would pay off in gaining greater attendance at our meetings.

It would appear that we are not as dedicated and proud of our fraternity as we should be when one looks at the attendance at our communications at the local, District and Grand Lodge levels. There were 24 Lodges not represented at Grand Lodge this year. Why does this happen? Are our three principal officers taking their pledge and duty to attend Grand Lodge too lightly?

How can we all do our part to build stronger ties in our family of Lodges?

Let us each make a strong resolution to devote greater effort to being involved and carrying out our duties in this new Masonic year.

Brethren, my theme this year is:

### "The Extended Hand of Masonry"

A theme that I feel blends well with all facets of our Craft from the moment of first admission into the Lodge to the time that you were raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason.

In closing, I quote one verse of a poem entitled

### "That Old, Old Friend of Mine"

A friend I've always reached for  
As I've stumbled o'er the trails  
And found a hand of welcome  
From a heart that never fails;  
For a friendship that is rooted  
Deep in the mellow past,  
Like the rugged, timeless pine tree  
Holds its virtue to the last

Brethren, I ask YOU to practice the "Extended Hand of Masonry".

W.C. Graves, Grand Master



M.W. Bro. G.D. Thompson investing M.W. Bro. W.C. Graves with his collar.

Most Worshipful Brother William (Bill) Graves was born at Shaunavon, Saskatchewan on July 29th, 1929. He commenced his education at Shaunavon and after moving to Regina, completed it in that city. M.W. Bro. Graves was initiated in Medicine Hat Lodge No. 2 on March 14th, 1967 and became Worshipful Master in 1973. In 1977 he was invested as District Deputy Grand Master of District No. 2. He was elected to the Board of General Purposes in 1978 and served on the Board for two years. He has been the Grand Representative near the Grand Lodge of Alberta for the Grand Lodge of Chile since 1979. He was General Chairman of the Banff Masonic Spring Workshop in 1984. M.W. Bro. Graves is married to Doris and has two children, a daughter and a son. He has had many years of police service and is presently a sergeant with the Medicine Hat Police Force.

THE GRAND LODGE BULLETIN

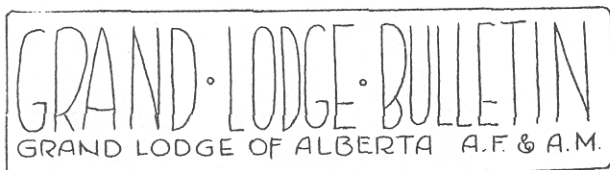
You will notice a major change in the format of the Grand Lodge Bulletin starting with this volume. The major reason is to be able to send camera-ready material to the printing company and avoid the heavy expense of type setting. The cost saving should appear in our budget next year when the system is working well. An additional reason is that many of our older members found the print size too small in the previous version. The final reason is that it saves approximately two weeks in time between first drafts and the final version.

Your reaction to this change will be welcomed if sent to the Editor.

THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PRINTING OF VOLUME 1 NUMBER 1 OF THE BULLETIN 1935-1985

You are now looking at Volume 51, Number 1 of the Grand Lodge Bulletin. It was in December of 1935 that the first edition was published by direction of the Grand Lodge of Alberta. This was 30 years after the formation of Grand Lodge and for that period there was no official communication between the Grand Lodge and the Lodges. Even when the Bulletin was first issued, only three copies went to each Lodge so that our present broad distribution to the Brethren must be a great advance to our more senior members of the Craft.

Copies of the Bulletin are on file in the Grand Lodge Library and prove to be most interesting reading. Printed below is the first page of the first issue and its contents are as relevant today as they were then. The concerns, the hopes and the aspirations of men, whether mason or profane, were much the same as ours in struggling to create a better world for mankind.



VOL. 1	December 1935	NO. 1
<u>GREETINGS.</u>		
<p>At the Thirtieth Annual Communication of Grand Lodge held in Calgary on June 12th, 1935, the Grand Master recommended the publication of a Monthly Grand Lodge Bulletin in experimental form for distribution to the Lodges. The Committee on the Grand Master's Address concurred in the recommendation and it was ratified by Grand Lodge in session.</p> <p>M.W. Bro. A.M. Mitchell has been given the duty of preparing the first copies and this issue comes to your Lodge as an indication of the lines which are to be followed. Naturally with space decidedly limited all material must be in very brief form, but it is hoped that ideas on many Masonic topics collected from widely distant fields may interest the brethren and induce them to follow the subjects farther.</p> <p>Three copies only of the Bulletin will be supplied each Lodge for the present but it is suggested that it will be time well spent were the Bulletin read at the regular meeting of your Lodge, thus giving every attending brother the benefit of a short summary of Masonic news and views elsewhere.</p> <p>The Bulletin will be composed of items from the Masonic press, opinions of notable Masons everywhere and where possible news of Masonic happenings of more than local interest.</p>	<p>The necessity for and use of the Bulletin will be a subject for discussion at the Thirty-first Annual Communication of Grand Lodge in Edmonton on June 10, 1936. All officers should examine its contents and make-up to be ready with considered opinion at that time.</p> <p>With this first issue the editor takes the opportunity to extend to all Lodges and Brethren everywhere the Compliments of the Season.</p>	<p>The future of Freemasonry depends largely upon the better selection of men. Not every man is adapted to understand or appreciate the Masonic fraternity. It is a very unusual institution and what a man gets out of it will depend very largely upon his mental process. It is doubtful if there will ever again be a great influx of men into the fraternity. The chances are that as soon as the fraternity again becomes stabilized it will select its material with the utmost care.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Fraternal Record"</p>

There have been many editors of the Bulletin over the years and some of you may recognize the names of Brethren who were well known.

The names of past editors are:

- M.W. Bro. A.M. Mitchell
- M.W. Bro. Sam Harris
- M.W. Bro. S. Carl Heckbert
- M.W. Bro. J.W. Collett
- M.W. Bro. R. Costigan

Should you have any interesting information or anecdotes about any of these Brethren, please send it to the Editor during the anniversary year.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION 1986

We have just concluded our 1985 Annual Communication in Calgary, but it is not too soon to start planning for next year. The dates to note are June 14th and 15th and the location is the Grande Prairie Inn, Grande Prairie.

Some points to consider:

- An ideal jumping off point for your holiday,
- The Grand Lodge of British Columbia will meet at Prince George on the 18th and 19th June - (160 kilometers away),
- District 13 Annual Meeting June 16th,
- B.B.Q. on Saturday evening after Grand Lodge
- Send-off breakfast on Sunday morning.

More information will follow.

EXCERPTS FROM THE NOTICES

I was travelling across town a couple of nights ago, pondering what to put into this message, when a man got onto the bus and caught my attention straightway by his presence, his pleasant smile and calm, relaxed manner. While I do not recall ever having seen him before, I thought to myself, "That man really looks like a Mason". It was then that I noticed his ring and a tiny square and compass on his tie clasp. What was it about that Brother that set him apart? Do we assume our Masonry just for Lodge meetings or do we live it in our everyday lives? Conversely, do we treat only our Brethren with Masonic respect or do we extend it to all around us?

W. Bro. Chris Gordon-Craig  
Strathcona Lodge No. 77

Being Master of our Lodge gave me two distinct and apparently opposite reactions; a feeling of Humility and one of Pride. Humility, because you find out you do not have all the answers, or the problems are not so little - and Pride, because you feel very proud of the Lodge, its Officers and Members. In the way they do their work, how they help each other, how they react to not only their brotherhood in Masonry, but in being friends with each other.

W. Bro. John Pelletier  
Mosaic Lodge No. 176

LODGE NOTICES

Lodge Secretaries should note that TWO copies of the Lodge Notice should be sent to the Grand Secretary. One copy is for the Editor of the Bulletin, while the other is placed on file at the Grand Lodge Office.

FROM THE PAST

"THE LODGE TODAY"

There has always been the necessity for an intimate, personal contact between the Master and each member of his Lodge; to properly employ his brethren; and to make vital in his Lodge the spirit of brotherhood. These have been the constant requirements of a successful Master in all time, and have demanded the gift of himself, to his Lodge, if it were to be a vital influence in the lives of his brethren and through them in his community.

But today, in addition, there is the necessity for cultured spiritual leadership to combat the growing materialism of our age, and direct the methods employed, (and in many instances even to initiate them) to insure a Masonically educated Lodge membership.

And so today, a Warden may well pause and consider, before he accepts the election to the Master's chair. Having accepted it, he may employ two methods of filling his office. He may work alone. He may spend his every spare hour trying to overtake the possibilities of his office, in contacting his brethren; in planning his programmes; in preparing and arranging his messages of inspiration and education. If he has an attractive personality he may, by these means, cement his Lodge to himself, and be the mainspring of it. And he will have made a splendid contribution. Or, he may choose the more difficult, if less spectacular method, of cementing his brethren to each other, of discovering group leaders; of making all conscious of a spirit of unity that will permeate the every day life of every member of his Lodge. He may so evoke the willing co-operation of his officers that a co-ordinated programme of education will become a delight to all, instead of a burden to one or two, and so he will demonstrate the almost forgotten truth that it is a Lodge's supreme work to make MASONS instead of Lodge members.

H.R. Chauncey.

From The May 1936 Grand Lodge Bulletin.

100 YEAR ANNIVERSARIES

This most important time in the life of an Alberta Lodge is arriving in the near future for a number of our Lodges. The first will be Medicine Hat Lodge No. 2 in September of this year. Following that will be Alberta Lodge No. 3, Ft. MacLeod in 1986, Northstar Lodge No. 4, Lethbridge in 1988, and Cascade Lodge No. 5, in 1988.

The Brethren of these Lodges plan many events and the Lodges involved go to extraordinary efforts to make them meaningful and enjoyable for those who attend. Do not let these historically significant opportunities slip by.

MEDICINE HAT LODGE NO. 2  
100th ANNIVERSARY

The deadline for attending the functions at this 100th Anniversary was August 31st, 1985 but contact Duncan Strachan, 2109 Hawke Cr., N.E. Medicine Hat - 526-6721 if you wish to attend.

The festivities begin on Friday, September 13th with Registration and Cocktails at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 14th starts with a separate noon Luncheon for the Masons and the Ladies. The ladies will have organized activities while the men attend Lodge at 1:30 p.m. In the evening there will be a Banquet and Dance at the Legion Hall commencing with Cocktails at 6:30 p.m. The Banquet will start at 7:30 p.m.

The ceremonies will conclude with a Church Parade on Sunday, September 15th.  
The cost per couple is \$55.00.

HISTORICAL INTEREST

W. Bro. Ken Greenwood of Vermilion Lodge No. 24 sends in an interesting historical fact.

While visiting Fort Prince of Wales, a National Historic Park near Churchill, Manitoba he photographed the symbol seen in the picture.



The Fort was commenced in 1732 and took 40 years to build. Speculation has it that the square and compass was carved by one of the 24 men sent from England in 1731 to start construction. The symbol which is surrounded by radiating cuts approximately one half inch deep in the solid stone, is to be found on the inside face of the main balustrade by the main gate.

Should any Brethren find other interesting Masonic items please inform the Editor.

FIAT LUX  
Lodge of Research No. 1980

The Lodge of Research will be holding its annual Installation of Officers on September 21, 1985 at Acacia Hall, Edmonton. The Installation will take place at 11:00 a.m. after which there will be lunch adjournment. Papers will be presented in the afternoon commencing at 2:00 p.m.

Visitors are most welcome.

CORNER STONE CEREMONY

King George Lodge No. 59, of Calgary has been forced to move due to the unsatisfactory surrounding area and the changing nature of the district. Those who have visited the King George Masonic Temple at Kensington Road will have enjoyed its warm Lodge atmosphere but after 59 years, King George Lodge is relocating.

The new location is at 2323 Osborne Crescent, S.W., and M.W. The Grand Master, M.W. Bro. W.C. Graves will relay the corner stone of the Lodge at this new hall on October 12th, 1985. Lodge will open at 2:00 p.m. and will be preceded by a luncheon at 12:30 p.m.

Participating Officers formal dress. All others, dark business suit.

All are welcome. Further information from Bro. M. Bumstead S.W. King George Lodge No. 59 at 243-7081.

THE MAILBAG

I have always enjoyed the ceremonial presentation of the flags at our Grand Lodge Annual Communication but did not see it this year. Is this a regular part of the ceremony or is it related to the wishes of the Grand Master?

A.N.

You are correct in assuming that this is the prerogative of the Grand Master but on this occasion it was fate that stepped in. We asked the help of professionals who are often on shift duty and on this occasion, fate conspired to change shifts on too many at once. There were offers of help at the last minute but without a practice it was felt better to have the flags in the East throughout.

This section of the Bulletin will be used to publish excerpts of mail addressed to the Editor but any item may be edited. No items related to Ritual or requiring opinions of the Committee on Jurisprudence will be printed.

Editor

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

The Worshipful Master looked into the ballot box and seeing the three black cubes called for the ballot to be destroyed and a new ballot taken. Following the second ballot, the Worshipful Master sees but one black cube. He asks the J.W. the question and receives "unfavourable", he is surprised and asks the S.W. who says "favourable".

If you were the Worshipful Master, what would you do?

A summary of all written replies will be published at a later date. The "first" answer that addresses all the points will be recognized. Send answers to the Editor c/o Grand Lodge Office.

G.L. R & E Committee

GRAND LODGE LIBRARY

Remember that the Grand Lodge Library is open in the week as well as on Wednesday evenings - 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., and on Saturdays - 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. There is an index of the titles in the hands of your Lodge Secretary and you should use it as much as you can. Should you be unable to travel to the library, you may send in for any loan volume and it will be sent to you by return if not currently in use.

MASONIC SALES

"MASONIC WORLD GUIDE" by Kent Henderson  
(Lewis Masonic)

A comprehensive guide to the Grand Lodges in 164 Countries, this book is a valuable guide for those Masons that travel anywhere around the globe. It gives correct procedures for visiting in foreign Jurisdictions and will help to avoid embarrassing pitfalls that can easily arise. Details on the Rituals used, the dress expected and the etiquette are included.

Available through the Grand Lodge Office for \$18.00.

RECOGNITION

At the May meeting of York Lodge No. 119, the Brethren celebrated the 90th birthday of R.W. Bro. Ernie Risler. R.W. Bro. Risler was born on May 9th 1895 and was initiated, passed and raised in York Lodge in 1921. He missed being a charter member by just a few weeks, but has been a member for 64 years. He remains extremely active in the Lodge and at the 1984 Past Masters' Night presided in the East and gave the General Charge at the joint Installation of North Star Lodge No. 4, Charity Lodge No. 67 and York Lodge No. 119.

The congratulations of all Brethren in the Jurisdiction go to R.W. Bro. Risler and our wishes for continued health.

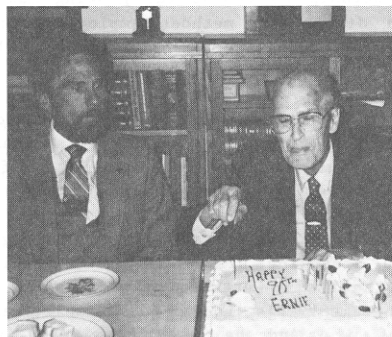


Photo: L. - W. Bro. Gordon Matthews, W.M. York Lodge No. 119  
R. - R.W. Bro. Ernie Risler, P.D.D.G.M.

Seventy years ago in April of 1915, the fourteenth candidate to be initiated into the new North Hill Lodge known as Crescent Lodge U.D. was Mr. Ernest Jones. On May 26th 1985, Bro. Ernie Jones was presented with his 70 year bar at Beverly Nursing Home. Among the Brethren present was the Worshipful Master, W. Bro. W.G. Sheppard and W. Bro. Frank Jones, the consanguineous brother of Bro. Ernie Jones and W.M. in 1957, who travelled from Victoria especially for the ceremony.

Bro. Ernie Jones is 95 years young and danced a little jig for the visitors to prove it. Bro. Ernie Jones has had Life Membership of Crescent Lodge No. 87 for over 30 years which is something of a record in itself.

We join Crescent Lodge in wishing well to this Brother who has stood on the square for a full threescore years and ten.



Photo W. Bro. W.G. Sheppard (left), Bro. Ernie Jones (centre), W. Bro. Frank Jones (right).

HONOURED

W. Bro. I. Melech, Past Master of Unity Lodge No. 51 visited the Grand Lodge of The State of Israel in June of 1984. On this occasion he was made an Honorary Grand Almoner of that Grand Jurisdiction. We convey our congratulations to W. Bro. Melech on this recognition.