



Grand Lodge Bulletin

VOL. 51, NO. 4

Editor, R.W. Bro. NORMAN SENN

DECEMBER, 1985

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

WITH CHRISTMAS FAST APPROACHING, MANY DIFFERENT THOUGHTS RUN THROUGH OUR MINDS. MOTHER WONDERS WHAT SIZE TURKEY SHOULD BE PURCHASED AND HOW WILL SHE EVER BE ABLE TO GET THE MEAL READY ON TIME. DAD WONDERS HOW HE WILL PAY THE BILLS ONCE CHRISTMAS IS OVER. THE CHILDREN GET MORE EXCITED AS THE DAY APPROACHES, CURIOUS AS TO WHAT IS IN ALL THOSE STRANGE SHAPED GIFTS THAT KEEP APPEARING. THEN THERE ARE THE PARTIES. HOW WILL WE EVER FIT THEM ALL IN TO SUCH A BUSY SCHEDULE? WITH ALL OF THESE FRANTIC ACTIVITIES, NO ONE SHOULD FORGET THAT IT IS A SEASON OF JOY, PEACE, GOODWILL AND FRIENDSHIP TO THOSE WHO ARE AROUND US. FOR PEOPLE OF THE CHRISTIAN TRADITION, IT IS A TIME TO REMEMBER WHEN GOD SHOWED HIS LOVE TO ALL BY SENDING HIS SON AS A NEWBORN BABY IN THE STABLE IN BETHLEHEM. TO RECEIVE LOVE SO GREAT AS THIS, ONE CAN DO NOTHING MORE THAN PASS IT ON. IT IS A BUSY TIME. IN ALL OUR ACTIVITIES, MAY WE PAUSE FOR A MOMENT AND REFLECT ON THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS TO OURSELVES AND OUR FAMILIES. WITH THE STRAINS OF THE FAMILIAR CHRISTMAS CAROLS RINGING IN OUR EARS, IT IS THE WISH OF THE GRAND LODGE OFFICERS THAT EVERYONE WILL COME TO KNOW THE PEACE AND JOY OF THIS SEASON; MAY THE GOODWILL, FRIENDSHIP AND LOVE THAT IS SO EVIDENT NOW, REMAIN WITH EACH ONE OF US THROUGHOUT THE COMING YEAR.

V.W. Bro. J.B. MILNE
GRAND CHAPLAIN

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE STAFF OF THE GRAND LODGE OF ALBERTA

THE STAFF OF THE GRAND LODGE OFFICE; MRS. MARGARET HORNE, MISS CATHY SUNDBERG AND MYSELF, AL AYLESWORTH; EXTEND TO ALL MASONS OF ALBERTA AND THEIR FAMILIES THE WARMEST OF CHRISTMAS GREETINGS AND OUR WISH FOR A MOST HAPPY AND FESTIVE SEASON. HAVE YOUR HEARTS FILLED WITH THE LOVE AND BROTHERHOOD OF THIS FRATERNITY AND MAY OUR MASONIC BROTHERS OF OTHER FAITHS BE THE RECIPIENTS OF ALL THE BROTHERLY LOVE AND FRIENDSHIP THAT THIS TIME OF YEAR TEACHES US TO PRACTICE EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR.

AL, MARG AND CATHY

ALBERTA LODGE NO. 3 A.F. & A.M. 100TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR 1985

This exciting year for Alberta Lodge No. 3 begins on January 18th when the Grand Master will visit the District No. 8 meeting. There will be a presentation of a 100th year Book of Record to Alberta Lodge No. 3 on this occasion.

At the regular meeting in April, the history of the Lodge be given by R.W. Bro. A Mackay. The major celebrations will run on June 20, 21, and 22nd with social events, lodge meeting, a barbecue, tours and end with a church parade on the Sunday morning.

Other events will continue through the year and conclude with a Thanksgiving Service in December.

More Information will be published in later issues but contact numbers for information and registration are 553-3807 or 553-4142.

MEDICINE HAT LODGE NO. 2 - 100th ANNIVERSARY

The Worshipful Master of Medicine Hat Lodge No. 2 would like to express his thanks to all the brethren who attended the "Centennial Celebrations."

The Grand Master's theme, "The Extended Hand of Masonry" was surely depicted through having brethren from lodges in four Canadian Jurisdictions and one in the U.S.A. The fraternal spirit was felt from the beginning of the "Friday Night Mixer" right through until the "Farewell Luncheon" on Sunday. The support and congratulations offered from the out of town guests made the long hours of planning and preparation well worth while.

The One Hundredth Anniversary of Medicine Hat Lodge No. 2 was celebrated with style and fraternalism and was a complete success.



The picture is of the Past Masters and Officers of Medicine Hat Lodge No. 2.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

September - relating to the problem of a ballot when the Warden's report differently.

A number of letters were received and all had one flaw. There has been much discussion generated by this question and this of course was its interest. The key point was: Should the Lodge know that there were any black balls in the ballot box?

According to section 800, it is a masonic offence to violate the secrecy of the ballot. Section 554(1) spells out how the violation may occur.

Any overt act that clearly indicates how many black balls or cubes are present could violate the secrecy and therefore:

- a) the W. Master cannot correct the Warden in open Lodge.
- b) the W. Master cannot have anyone else do this for him.

The suggested action would be; Destroy the ballot again, call the Lodge to refreshment; the W. Master privately review Section 552 with the Wardens; call the Lodge on again and ballot once more.

There may be alternate approaches and your reaction is welcome but remember "Secrecy of the Ballot".

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Lodge night falls on Boxing Day - how long before the date should the Lodge request a dispensation to move the meeting one week back?

A NEW MASONIC TEMPLE

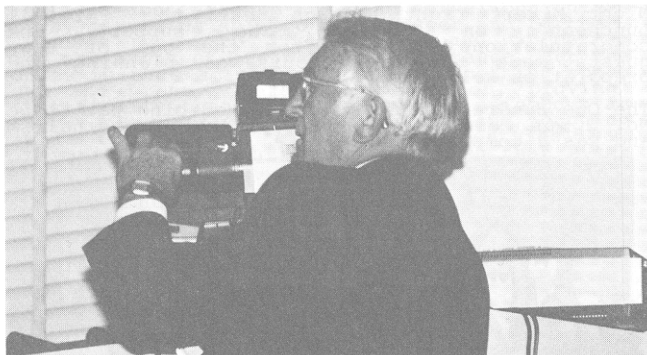
With the relaying of the Corner Stone at 2323 Osborne Cres S.W. of King George Lodge No. 59 in its new home, an attractive new Masonic facility begins to operate in Calgary.

The ceremony took place on October 12th, 1985 with the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Graves, officiating. The corner stone was relayed in the presence of 164 Masons representing 43 Lodges. In addition, there were a number of non-masonic visitors present at this special event.

The new hall is large and high with a feeling of space around the Mosaic tiled floor. The furnishings brought from the old King George Hall means that the Lodge immediately has the richness of the old furniture and fixtures. The gavel used at the corner stone ceremony was that used at the opening of the original hall in 1926, and Three flags were in the east, the Canadian Flag, the Union Jack and the Ensign and the latter two had been present at the first meeting of the Lodge in 1911.

An illuminated scroll, a list of those attending, current coins, together with the original certificates were placed securely below the corner stone, and to the applause of the brethren the Grand Master duly set the stone in place assisted by craftsmen.

As the Grand Master stated "this begins a new chapter in the progress of King George Lodge." Brethren should make every effort to visit with King George Lodge No. 59 in the new facility.



M.W. Bro. R.L. Costigan, P.G.M. and now the Grand Historian filming history in the making, at the corner stone laying.

NEW YEARS' DAY LEVEE

Saskatchewan Lodge No. 92 invites all Brethren, wives and friends to attend the Annual NEW YEARS' LEVEE to be held January 1st, 1986 at the Central Masonic Temple, 10318 - 100 Ave., Edmonton between the hours of 12 noon and 2:30 p.m.

Grand Lodge Officers will be present to receive and exchange greetings with their Brethren.

THE MAILBAG

In the first edition of the Bulletin there was a question and answer section in which, if members were interested, they could pose situations. Once this type of thing starts, interest could hopefully build throughout the Craft. However the membership at this time feel the Bulletin is for information only, re Lodge functions and presentations. At a later date the Bulletin should become a "Newsletter" not just an announcement sheet.

"The Freemason" contains a section called "Ask Me Another" which contains a question and answer plus explanation section - This type of topic surely adds more light to Masonry and gives the member a good reason for looking forward to the following issues.

W. Bro. Fred Jefferson
Bowmont Lodge No. 181

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I refer to the September Bulletin, the Grand Master's Message, and specifically his question "How can we all do our part to build stronger ties in our family of Lodges?"; and I would like to suggest one action which can help.

Inevitably brethren move - more especially in this era of a very mobile population - and become non-resident members of their Mother Lodges. In order to keep them as active members and participants in the fraternity they need communication.

Is it asking too much for someone to send a letter with each Lodge Notice? Generally that only means ten notes in a year giving a bit of local news and a few words concerning individuals from whom, or about whom, information of interest or concern has reached the Lodge. Sometimes one member can and will take on the task; alternatively two or more might each write a couple of letters a year. Once a year, a list of addresses could be sent.

W. Bro. L.F.G. Borden
Yellowknife Lodge No. 162.

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In your September 1985 issue you carried the Grand Master's Message which is always of great interest and brings us the Grand Master's "theme".

I wish to direct my remarks in particular to the fourth paragraph re the lack of representation at Grand Lodge Communication and the question asked. Why does it happen? Unfortunately this is not the only problem we have, as from time to time some Lodges operate contrary to the constitution and ceremonies and in general ignore Grand Lodge. This could be blamed (if blame is the correct word) on the Masters of the respective Lodges, but I think you have to look further and blame Grand Lodge equally or more so - mainly because of lack of communication between G.L. and constituent Lodges.

The success of any organization, be it business, fraternities, communities etc. is the result of top management's qualifications to lead and the highest priority in leadership is communication. To paraphrase M.W. Bro. Elmer Stein, P.G.M., "The buck does not stop at the Master of a Lodge - he is primary - The buck stops at the Grand Master." I would change that to say "the Buck stops at the Grand Lodge organization."

There is a definite lack of direct communication between G.L. and constituent Lodges. By that I mean "eyeball to eyeball" not written communication. If you check you will discover that the majority of Lodges average two visits a year from the D.D.G.M. who are the only link between the two. I have several suggestions on how this can be changed but space will not permit. Perhaps you readers have thoughts on this.

I have to close with the statement that this letter does not in any way let the Master of a Lodge "off the hook". I would suggest that all Masters repeat the Obligation they swore at their Installation at least once a month.

Chuck White
Perfection Lodge No. 9

CORRECTION

The Brethren are really reading the Bulletin and we are delighted to be corrected in an obvious error in our "Corner Stone" article in November. It was noted that King George Lodges' Corner Stone was the first Masonic corner stone to be opened. Of course it was not the case, and the Secretary-Treasurer of Provost Lodge No. 64, W. Bro. George Smith, reminds us of this by sending a photo of the opening of the Masonic corner stone from the Provost Public School. The stone was laid by M.W. Bro. S.Y. Taylor in September 1915 and opened on August 18, 1960. We thank W. Bro. Smith for his alert eye and good memory.

**FORTY-FIFTH ANNUAL INTERPROVINCIAL
CONFERENCE OF THE OFFICERS OF THE
FOUR WESTERN JURISDICTIONS**

The Conference was held at the Banff Centre, August 29, 30, 31, 1985 with M.W. Bro. Claude R.A. Green, Alberta, as President. M.W. Bro. Geo. Baldwin, B.C., Vice-President and R.W. Bro. Allen F. Aylesworth, Alberta, as Secretary.

There were 21 delegates and 14 observers present. The visiting observers came from Ontario, Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, Colorado.

A fine opening address was given by M.W. Bro. James S. Hogg, P.G.M. of British Columbia attended by all delegates and visitors hosted by the Brethren of Cascade Lodge No. 5, Banff.

During the next day and a half, papers were given by the Senior Grand Wardens of the Four Western Provinces and moderated by the Deputy Grand Masters. Workshop Discussion Groups analyzed questions pertaining to the various papers and the conclusions were brought back to the group for further discussion.

The copies of the Proceedings will be arriving at each lodge very soon and it is recommended that they be studied by the various Education Committee members in each lodge and segments of the Proceedings brought to the floor of each lodge throughout the year.



Photo is of the Delegates of the Conference.

FROM THE PAST

WHAT ARE THOSE EXCELLENT PRECEPTS

by M.W. Bro. Harry Donnelly,
Grand Librarian of Manitoba,
from the Conference of the
Four Western Jurisdictions, 1957

From the earliest times, members of the Brotherhood of Masons were taught the duty of mutual help and support. In our Speculative Craft the duty of Relief has become a fundamental precept in our teachings. The North-east Corner, the summit of Charity. This concept of Freemasonry has engaged the thought and efforts of members, Lodges and Grand Lodges throughout our long history. Indeed, in some Grand Jurisdictions, this has meant the raising and spending of so much money that there is the danger of the individual member losing his sense of personal responsibility. Above all, Benevolence, or Charity, is a mission, rather than a material service. It involves the giving of comfort and counsel, the sharing of joy and sadness, and the extending of sympathy and spiritual help. Read again the Thirteenth Chapter of First Corinthians: "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal".

In the old days of the Operative Craft, our brethren were bound by the ties of common effort and of common danger in their hazardous work. So the realization of Brotherhood grew strong among them. Now, Speculative Masonry, dedicated to a wider purpose, with its disregard of rank or station, its refusal to recognize political and religious differences among its members, urges us to lift up our eyes and look beyond the narrow limits of particular institutions, and to devote ourselves to the good of all mankind. To see every human being a "brother of the dust" is to gain a new understanding of our relationship with our fellowmen, and leads us to carry into active operation the cardinal virtues of Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice.

FROM THE NOTICES

WHAT DO YOU BRING

We must remember that "Masonry is men who are Masons." The good of an institution must always result from acts and deeds of the members of such an organization. The Masonic Institution is the achievement of Masons.

Many times the question is asked: "What degree are 'they' going to work tonight?" Perhaps the Brother who asks the question is interested in witnessing one particular degree and prefers not to attend unless that degree is to be conferred. Still there is a mighty impersonal ring to the word 'they'. Many other times the question is: "What are 'they' going to do tonight?"

We cannot leave ourselves out of the Lodge. Whether or not we attend regularly, we are forever a part of the Lodge. We are its success and its failure. We contribute to its welfare.

The degree that is to be conferred, the business meeting that is to be held, or the programme that is to be presented - all are important, but they are secondary to the question: "What will I bring to Lodge tonight?"

The spirit of brotherly love, the warm and friendly handshake, the smile that reflects the Mystic Tie, all that I am capable of bringing to Lodge, are the important factors.

You must give some time to your fellow man. Even if it's a little thing, do something for which you get no pay but the privilege of doing it.

A.J. Richards, W.M.
Bow River Lodge No. 1

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FREEMASONRY A WAY OF LIFE

A bell is only Metal until you ring it,
A song is not even a song until you sing it,
Friendship and brotherly Love are only yours until
you give it,
As a Mason you are only a Member until you Live
it.

Peter Wyllie, W.M.
Star of the West Lodge No. 34

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- Masonic life is a measure to be filled, not a cup to be drained.
- Masonic education rests not on the Lodge officers, but on every Mason.
- There are many men in Masonry, but not much Masonry in many men.
- Freemasonry is an investment, you only get out of it what you put into it.
- Remember brethren, we have but one role to play, and one role only ... to turn our members into Masons.

If you want a better world - work at it.
If you want a better life - work at it.
If you want a better Lodge - work at it.

Elmer Bly, W.M.
Norwood Lodge No. 90.

THE WHAT OF MASONRY OR, WHAT IS FREEMASONRY?

by M.W. Bro. J.R.C. Evans, P.G.M. of Manitoba
from the Conference of the
Four Western Jurisdictions, 1957

The Question as to what Freemasonry is, is by no means easy to answer. Indeed I sometimes wonder if it really can be answered satisfactorily in as much as Masonry is not a fixed thing, but rather something that grows in connotation for those who practice it. Obviously the nature and the extent of the growth in this regard will depend upon the nature and the extent of the experiences of the individual members of the Craft and consequently we might well expect that no one definition would satisfy the thinking of all, or indeed of many.

MASONIC SALES

POCKET HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY
(PICK, FRED L.)

For a concise, reliable, well written history of Masonry, this book is hard to beat; and every successive revision brings improvements. It covers the whole span, from the earliest records right up to the present; and it prefers authentic facts to fanciful legends. Inevitably England receives the heaviest emphasis because the Craft evolved there, but there are chapters on Ireland, Scotland, the U.S.A., and the rest of the world including even a brief section on Canada.

Available at the Grand Lodge Office for \$21.00.

ARE WE OUR BROTHERS' (AND SISTERS') KEEPERS?

by Right Worshipful Brother Robert E. Juthner
- Senior Grand Warden -

Paper presented at the 1985 Banff Conference
of the Four Western Jurisdictions

CONTINUED FROM NOVEMBER ISSUE:

We need not even go as far as the international scene, although that too, in an ever shrinking world is moving closer and closer to home, but we can, and if you should agree, must carry our teachings of Freemasonry into the community in which we live. That is, of course, only if we place any value in our credibility as a force for good ...

Within our nation, within our community, we have numerous other ills with which we are constantly confronted. It would take a long time and fill books to list them all and, maybe, not everyone agrees that they are evils to be combatted. Therefore, let us ask ourselves whether or not we should concern ourselves with such manifestations of our society as prostitution (the oldest profession and therefore entitled to persist forever), homosexuality (even among some of those in whom we otherwise place our trust), child abuse and wife beating, dishonesty in business dealings, the spreading of falsehoods and hatred by such as Keegstra and Zundel right here in Canada, and scores of others that any one of us could add to the list. It is not even the magnitude of the offence that makes it deplorable: run an amber light at an intersection and you have broken the law in the sight of God and man! When it comes to right and wrong there just are no shades of grey. We all know that, but what are we doing about it?

Some of the same sentiments were expressed by Ted Byfield in his letter from the publisher, the Alberta Report, of October 15, 1984. Following is an excerpted quotation:

"Day by day ... we hear demands for new laws aimed at keeping people honest and good because the laws we have already passed aren't doing it. Hence we hear demands for laws against pornography and 'hate literature' because public repugnance is no longer sufficient to prevent its circulation. We hear demands for restriction on the powers of parents because of the ever widening abuse of its purpose. We hear demands for tougher controls on 'sexual harassment' because what would once be considered 'intolerable' conduct is now apparently tolerable, and we raise taxes higher and higher because government must provide what was once provided by voluntary charity. ... In all this we are doing exactly what the (ancient) Greeks did. That is, we are attempting to produce with rules and laws standards of popular conduct that would be far more effectively accomplished by the force of moral suasion. And as all the new laws are enacted, further and more complex legislation is required because they don't work... Moreover, as the law attempts to supplant old-fashioned morality, breaking the law becomes less and less reprehensible and more and more a game... Thousands of people are telling us what should be made illegal; hardly anyone is ever telling us what should be considered wrong... The reason we would rather talk about laws than about right and wrong is, no doubt, the fact that we live in a scientific age. Science has done marvellous things for us, making us able to move faster and farther, to escape pain, to live longer, and to better grasp the facts of our physical existence. But the problem is that science can tell us nothing about right and wrong. There is no way of 'proving' scientifically that I should love my neighbour as myself... By cataloguing moral codes and teaching them to children as 'alternative lifestyles' ... we have induced in children the notion that right conduct is entirely a matter of personal taste. Anything that feels right is right for you ... Need we wonder therefore why so few people find themselves coerced by their consciences?"

To be continued in January's issue of the Bulletin.

GRAND LODGE COMMUNICATION

1986

Remember the dates June 13 and 14, 1986. The next Grand Lodge Communication will be held on these dates in Grande Prairie. This will be an ideal stepping-off point for an early summer holiday in a place surrounded by many possible outdoors activities.

Do not leave your planning too late and try to ensure that your Lodge is represented. Twenty four Lodges failed to have any of the top three officers present last year. Planning of the Lodge year should include attendance at the Grand Lodge Communication.

**DISTRICT MEETINGS
DECEMBER TO FEBRUARY**

DAY	DATE	DISTRICT	LOCATION
SATURDAY	DECEMBER 7, 1985	3	EDMONTON
SATURDAY	JANUARY 4, 1986	5	SEDGEWICK
SATURDAY	JANUARY 11, 1986	16	GLEICHEN
SATURDAY	JANUARY 18, 1986	8	FORT MACLEOD

RECOGNITION

Three generations across the Atlantic

W. Bro. John Allan, Past Master of Riddrie Lodge No. 1340, G.R. Scotland came to visit his grandson Bro. Ken Allan of Mosaic Lodge No. 176 on the occasion of Brother Ken Allan's wedding in June. There was another event which could not be missed and this was the investing of Bro. K. Allan as Secretary - Treasurer of Mosaic Lodge, and to this event came Bro. Allan's father, W. Bro. Fred Allan of St. Mark's Lodge No. 118. All were present on this special evening and we are pleased to recognise this long distance visit for such an pleasant event but never forgetting the Masonic possibilities of visitation.



left to right: W. Bro. John Allan, Bro. Ken Allan, W. Bro. Fred Allan.

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W. Bro. David Sheddon, is seen here celebrating his 97th birthday with his friends at the Bethany Nursing Home. W. Bro. Sheddon was initiated into Bow River No. 1 in January 1927 and became W. Master in 1941. He is now the oldest Past Master of that Lodge. W. Bro. Sheddon served as Secretary of Bow River Lodge. In 1959 he became the first secretary of the new Elbow River Lodge No. 180 at its institution. W. Bro. Sheddon has been a Life member of Bow River Lodge for 31 years.

Born in Glasgow in 1888, W. Bro. Sheddon emigrated to Canada in 1911. He returned to Britain in 1914 as a serviceman, met his wife and returned to Canada after the hostilities had ceased.

While W. Bro. Sheddon's health does not now allow him to attend Lodge, his inspiration and years of service to the Craft have held him warmly in the memory of the brethren of Bow River Lodge. We join in wishing W. Bro. Sheddon - a happy 97th year.



front row left to right: V.W. Bro. H. Rimmer, W. Bro. D. Sheddon

back row: V.W. Bro. D. Spalding, V.W. Bro. H.L. May, Bro. J. Kemp (son-in-law) of Crescent Lodge No. 87, and R.W. Bro. C.E. Tuckey.