



Grand Lodge Bulletin

VOL. 52, NO. 7

EDITOR, R.W. BRO. NORMAN J. SENN

MARCH 1987

PROPOSED AGENDA FOR THE 1987 ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

June 12th and 13th, 1987
Edmonton Inn, Edmonton, Alberta

Friday, June 12th, 1987

- 10:00A.M.: Board of General Purposes Meeting
(time to be confirmed by the Board at
the February Meeting)
- 11:30A.M.: Grand Master's Luncheon, by invitation
- 1:30P.M.: Opening of the Eighty Second Annual
Communication of the Grand Lodge of
Alberta, A.F. & A.M.
- Reception of Visitors
Reception of Past Grand Masters
Memorial Service
Adoption of Printed Reports
Referral of the Grand Master's Address to
Committee
- 4:30P.M.: Adjournment
- 6:30P.M.: Grand Lodge Banquet (Ladies Welcome)
- 7:00P.M.: Balloting Opens
- 7:30P.M.: Guest Speaker - Bro. Martin L. Larson,
Edmonton Lodge No. 7
- 8:15P.M.: Dance open to all Masons and Ladies
- 10:00P.M.: Balloting Suspended

Saturday, June 13th, 1987

- 8:00A.M.: Balloting Resumed
- 8:30A.M.: Eighty Second Annual Communication
reconvened
- Notices of Motion to Amend the Constitution
Finance Committee Report
1988 Budget Presentation
Remaining Committee Reports
Notices of Motion
Election of Grand Tyler
Grand Master's Address
Report of Committee on Grand Master's Address
- 11:00A.M.: Balloting Closes
- 12:00Noon: Adjourn for Lunch (Organized but no
host)
- 1:30P.M.: Installation and Investiture of
Officers for 1987/88
- 3:30P.M.: Grand Lodge Closes
- There will be a extensive Ladies program being
drawn up at this time. This program will be dis-
tributed to all the Lodges at the same time as the
Notice calling Grand Lodge is sent.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Alberta is a province in which there is a great resilience to difficulties in the outside world, and there has been a positive response by many in the economic downturn. It is not the custom of Albertans to sit in a corner and feel sorry for themselves but rather to get out and challenge the problems face-to-face.

This has been apparent in recent times and while many brethren in the oil business are in difficulty, many have adapted by finding alternate employment. We congratulate those who have accepted problems as an opportunity for change.

There are these who have tried again and again and are still unemployed. These are brethren your lodge should identify and offer any help possible. Remember that the help needed is often more an attentive ear, a supportive arm and possibly just an understanding friend.

Brethren, if you have not met all the members of your lodge recently, phone up those you have not seen and find out how they are, they may need you. Don't worry about overlaps - contact is what is needed. This is not a job for the Secretary, it is a job for everyone in Lodge - do it now - you may be just what a brother needs today.
Editor

The Grand Lodge Bulletin is published by the Grand Lodge of Alberta on each month of the year excepting July and August.

Mailing Address:

330 - 12 Avenue S.W., Calgary, Alberta, T2R 0H2

Republication approval is granted to all other Jurisdictions but printed acknowledgement of the source is requested.

FROM THE NOTICES

A poem which should be seen at regular intervals.

THE INDISPENSABLE MAN - A POEM FOR REFLECTION

"Sometimes when you're feeling important,
 Sometime when your ego's in bloom,
 Sometime when you take it for granted
 You're the best qualified in the room;
 Sometime when you feel that your going
 Would leave an unfillable hole
 Just follow these simple instructions
 And see how they humble your soul.
 Take a bucket and fill it with water
 Put your hand in it up to the wrist,
 Pull it out, and the hole that's remaining
 Is a measure of how you'll be missed.
 You can splash all you want when you enter,
 You may stir up the water galore;
 But stop, and you find that in no time
 It looks quite the same as before.
 The moral in this quaint example
 Is to do just the best that you can;
 Be proud of yourself, but remember
 There's no indispensable man."

From "Tied to Masonic Apron Strings"
 by Stewart Pollard.
 Ivanhoe Lodge No. 142

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A two page Masonic Trestleboard is being included with the Kelvingrove No. 187 Notice. The W.M. Dave Brimsmead is including a variety of items on Masonic history, philosophy, symbolism, personages and trivia. This is a most interesting publication for the brethren and the W. Master is to be congratulated.

**BANFF MASONIC SPRING WORKSHOP
 APRIL 10-12, 1987**

Have you sent in your Registration card yet? If not, please do so immediately to ensure you can get in as space is limited. Additional cards can be obtained from the Grand Lodge Office if your Lodge secretary has run out.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

For all sad words of tongue or pen, the saddest are these: 'It might have been!'

John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1982)

FROM OVERSEAS

On Wednesday July 9th, 1986 the Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England was interviewed on the BBC Radio 4 "Today" Programme. He discussed Grand Lodge's public relations policy which has become much more open recently. He stressed the fact that Freemasonry's aims are not secret and there is little else that is considered private.

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The traditional penalties in the three degrees of Craft Freemasonry in England are now to be removed from the obligations and are to be included in the lectures. There is a "phase in" time allowed.

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In 1985-86, London, England had 1,676 Lodges with no change from the previous year.

The number of Provincial Lodges in England is 5,818 with an increase from the previous year of 29 Lodges.

A TOAST TO THE GRAND MASTER AND HIS OFFICERS

The following poem was used to present the "Toast to the Grand Master and his Officers" in a slightly different and unique way by W. Bro. Peter A. Boitoult of Bow River Lodge No. 1, Calgary, on the occasion of the Installation of Officers in December 1986.

T Taking the time to serve the Craft
 H Hoping to play a small part,
 E Every Grand Lodge Officer
 G Gives of himself, from the heart.
 R Rarely do we appreciate
 A All that they sacrifice,
 N Never too busy, too tired or too late
 D Despite rain, fog, snow or ice!
 M Many a night they spend away,
 A Away from their home and their kin,
 S Serving the Craft with diligence,
 T Trying to help ME - and HIM!
 E Endlessly searching for wisdom,
 R Researching the Truth and the Light
 A And checking the rules, for our guidance,
 N Not just guessing what might be right.
 D Delivering papers and speeches,
 H Hearing complaints, and ideas,
 I Invoking assistance, where needed,
 S Speaking good words to our ears,
 O Obligated too, to sit on Committees
 F From morning, till sometimes quite late;
 F For ALL this unselfish contribution
 I Is summed up in one word - "Dedicate"
 C Come Brethren all, raise your glasses,
 E Everyone stand, straight and true,
 R Respond to the Toast that I give you,
 S Salute to the "Men in Dark Blue!"

Brethren, I give you the Toast to "The Grand Master and His Officers"

CENNTENIAL CELEBRATIONS

North Star No. 4, of Lethbridge will be celebrating its 100th Anniversary in March of 1988.

The celebration date is tentatively set for March 9th, 1988.

The Lodge was instituted in April 1888 as North Star No. 41, Grand Register of Manitoba and received its charter in February of 1889. It received its charter as North Star No. 4, G.R.A. in 1905 at the time of the formation of the Grand Lodge of Alberta.

The Lodge first met on March 11th, 1889 under the Grand Lodge of Manitoba and its first meeting under the Grand Lodge of Alberta was November 13, 1905.

The Worshipful Master in 1888 was Thomas McPherson. An interesting paper about this interesting Mason has been published in the proceedings of Fiat Lux Lodge of Research.

The first initiate of the Lodge was Ben Burrel who, with the Master of the Lodge, were engineer and fireman of the first steam train to enter Lethbridge.

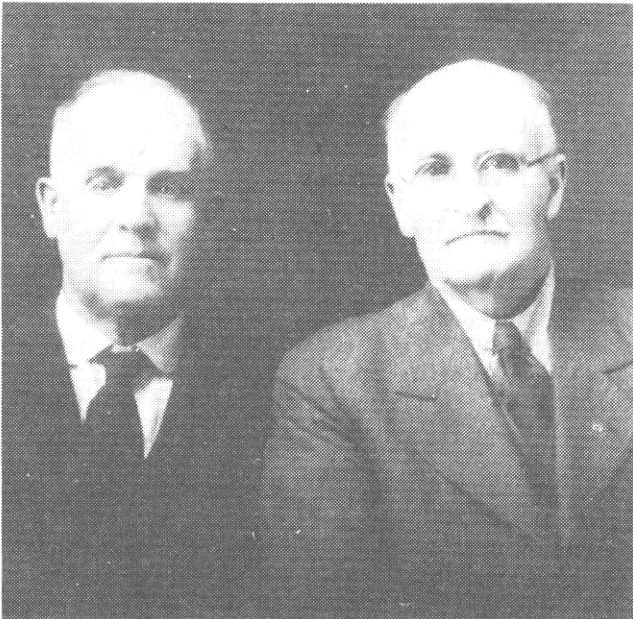


Photo: Ben Burrel (left), W. Bro. Thomas McPherson (right)

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

What is "Masonic Fire"?

ANSWER TO QUESTION OF THE MONTH

The answer to the question of the month of January is most interesting because a Lodge of Instruction is referred to in our ritual. No reference to such a body is to be found in the Constitution. The question is really, why does Alberta not have Lodges for Instruction which are found in many other Jurisdictions.

The information relating to the formation of Lodges of Instruction similar to those which are associated with approximately 50% of English Lodges can be found in the Grand Lodge Proceedings for 1950, pages 160-161. A committee, struck to review this very issue, suggested that these valuable lodge could be formed by interested Lodges in conformity with section 39, subsection 5 of the Constitution through Dispensation from the Grand Master.

There was a formal vote that the report be received as read and the Grand Master then ordered that it be printed in the Proceedings. No further action seems to have taken place as we have no Lodges of Instruction at the present time.

Should any Brother know more about this matter, your letter will be most welcome.

MAILBAG

W. Bro. Hector MacLean of Commercial Lodge No. 81, Edmonton noted the 'Quote of the Month' in the November issue of the Bulletin and sends a fuller version printed on the back page of "The Dental Cosmos", which was published from 1880-1934 in Philadelphia by S.S. White Co. While we are still unable to find the author we publish it now in its entirety. It is truly a message for each of us. Thank you W. Bro. MacLean.

Youth is not a time of life, it is a state of mind. It is not a matter of ripe cheeks, red lips and supple knees, it is a temper of the will, a quality of the imagination, a vigour of the emotions, it is a freshness of the deepest springs of life. Youth means a temperamental predominance of courage over timidity, of the appetite for adventure over the love of ease. This often exists in a man of fifty more than in a boy of twenty.

Nobody grows old by merely living a number of years, people grow old only by deserting their ideals. Years wrinkle the skin; but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul. Worry, doubt, self-distrust, fear, despair - these are the long long years that bow the head and turn the growing spirit back to dust. Whether seventy or sixteen, there is in every being's heart the love of wonder the sweet amazement at the stars and the star-like things and thoughts, the undaunted challenge of events, the unfailling childlike appetite for what next, and the joy and the game of life. You are as young as your faith and as old as your doubt; as young as your self confidence, as old as your fear; as young as your hope and as old as your despair.

In the central place of your heart there is a wireless station, so long as it receives messages of beauty, hope, cheer, courage, grandeur and power from the earth, from men, and from the infinite, so long are you young. When the wires are all down and all the central place of your heart is covered with the snows of pessimism and the ice of cynicism then you are grown old indeed and may God have mercy on your soul.

FROM SISTER JURISDICTIONS

Summarized from the North Dakota Mason.

"How can we have the strange conflict of those who claim they did not receive correspondence inviting them to meetings, when it is sent to the top four officers of each lodge and the District Deputy Grand Master, and at the same time arguing that they cannot read all the mail coming from Grand Lodge?"

How can Brethren claim they haven't attended the Grand Lodge Communication or District Meetings for the last 20 years because nothing new and interesting goes on but seem to have their own idea about what is happening?

Why is it that Brethren claim they don't read the monthly publication because there is nothing in it and seem unwilling to review it for its information filled papers and yet out of state Brethren write complementing letters about the publication.

There are strong requests in the publications for the Brethren to COMMUNICATE on the statements and also on the Grand Lodge mailing, including the monthly publication. An appeal is made for feedback to ensure that the efforts of those who perform the communication tasks in the Jurisdiction are not wasted."

In Alberta, the same appeal is made, and comments are sought on the communications in the Jurisdiction. What can be improved in method or content.

You are the judge - why not overwhelm the Editor with correspondence.

Please reply to the Editor, Grand Lodge Bulletin at the address printed in every Bulletin.

REGULAR MASONIC PUBLICATIONS

A recent survey of 59 Grand Jurisdictions in Canada and the U.S. resulted in 56 replies related to their publications. Of the replies there were two provinces and nine states who do not have publications. Nine of the jurisdictions having publications do not mail to all members.

Fourteen jurisdictions send copies each month of the Masonic year, while twenty jurisdictions issue quarterly publications.

Circulation is led by Kentucky which mails 1,080,000 publications per year against Alberta's 140,000.

The cost per issue varies between \$0.35 and \$1.00 depending on size, format and whether or not colour is used. The Alberta cost is amongst the 7 most economical, per issue.

Overall these are 11.5 million Grand Lodge publications mailed each year at an annual cost of two million dollars. That's Communication!

RECOGNITION

The following brethren have been recognised by their Lodge through the presentation of Jewels. We salute these Masons for their long contribution to the craft.

50 YEAR JEWELS

R.W.BRO. Percy Caesar Engle	Concord	124
W.BRO. Emil Gregor	Saskatchewan	92
BRO. Dewey M. Herron	Concord	124
BRO. Benjamin Phillip Lang	Saskatchewan	92
BRO. Jack Dawson Lee	Gateway	164
W.BRO. Hugh Hubert Millar	Saskatchewan	92
W.BRO. Cyril Poxon	Sherwood	183
W.BRO. Louis Ferdinand Stickney	Saskatchewan	92
W.BRO. Cecil Arthur Suggett	Eureka	10
BRO. Percy Richard Wray	Corinthian	22

50 YEAR PAST MASTER JEWEL

R.W.BRO. Lester Franklin Snyder	Hussar	130
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60 YEAR BARS

BRO. Wilmer Hazelwood Gold	Strathcona	77
W.BRO. Frederick Arthur Reasbeck	Irricana	137
BRO. Thomas Arthur Noble	King Hiram	21
W.BRO. William Friefeld	Saskatchewan	92
W.BRO. Jack Isaac Tidswell	Saskatchewan	92
W.BRO. Charles Cyril Fowers	Cascade	5
BRO. James McKnight	Apollo	27
R.W.BRO. Orlough Paul Thomas	Sherwood	183

Should any Lodge have failed to submit the name of brethren to be recognised in the above categories, please do so now.

MASONIC IMAGE

R.W.Bro. Donald A. Orr, the Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan presented a paper at the 1986 Conference of the Four Western Jurisdictions. In his opening paragraphs was the following which could be the topic for a good evening of discussion in your Lodge.

What is your Masonic Image in your community?

"The topic for this paper came about when, one evening last summer, I met an old acquaintance of mine in a small town north of Saskatoon. He inquired as to what I was doing in town, and when I told him that I was attending a Masonic meeting that evening, he seemed rather amazed and he looked at me and said "I never knew you belonged to that outfit." After a few minutes of casual dialogue regarding masonry, he indicated that he knew very little about the craft, except that there was a lodge hall in town and that meetings were held and a man with a sword stood at the door. He also indicated that what went on within the building was the best-kept secret in town. It was then I asked myself "What is the image of Masonry in this town?", or as a matter of fact, in many of the cities in our jurisdiction. On my way home after the meeting it was determined that the topic for my paper would centre around our Masonic image.