



# Grand Lodge Bulletin

Vol. 57, No. 8

Editor, R.W.Bro. Norman J. Senn

October 1992

## October Proclaimed Masonic Higher Education Bursary Month

The Grand Master, M.W.Bro. James R. Crawford, has proclaimed the month of October as Masonic Higher Education Bursary Month. A strong supporter of the fund, the Grand Master urges all brethren to make contributions to the fund during this month. He is convinced of the need of the fund, of the effective work it has been doing and would like his year as Grand Master to be a banner year for individual contributions.

and decide to give.

If each member would open his wallet, take out a twenty dollar bill and send it to the Fund, we would have sufficient money to send over 200 students to higher education centres. Please don't delay, do it today, and just remember that \$20.00 is equivalent to about five cents per day.

Les Jeater, Chairman, M.H.E.B.F.  
Bow River Lodge No. 1

### Message From The Bursary Chairman

Each year at this time, it has been the custom of each Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Alberta, to declare October **Masonic Higher Education Bursary Month**. This year is no exception.

While October is proclaimed as 'Bursary Month,' the Grand Secretary and his staff will be glad to accept donations to the fund at any time during the year. Please make use of the envelopes that are sent to you, but do not let the lack of an envelope deter you — an ordinary envelope will do.

Each year, the Most Worshipful Grand Master and, in fact, all Grand Lodge Officers stress the need for contributions to the Fund from the membership. The lifeline of any charity is advertising. It is the Committee's hope that all **Grand Lodge Officers, District Deputy Grand Masters**, and their representatives will bring the Fund to the attention of Lodge members on visits, District meetings, and at any other gathering they may attend.

The Bursary Fund has, this year, given 55 Bursaries of \$1,000. Donations over the last year amounted to about \$45,000 and about 300 applications for assistance were received. We could only aid 55. Many students who had a need had to be turned down because the Committee did not have sufficient funds.

The Committee wishes to thank the many Brethren who donated to the Fund this past year, and hope they will continue to give their support. It is the Committee's hope, that the approximately 85 per cent who did not donate, for whatever reason, will take time to reflect why they did not give, when they belong to a wonderful organization which has the fundamental principle of "Charity."

The Committee of The Higher Education Bursary Fund, asks every member to think about what Masonry is, what its principles are, and then to look deep within his hearts

### Grand Lodge Proceedings

The **Grand Lodge Proceedings** should be in the hands of your Lodge Secretary and your Worshipful Master this month. This is a significant publication, for it contains the activities of the governing body of the Craft in Alberta — the voting members of the Jurisdiction. It is required reading for the interested Mason and each Lodge is charged with having brethren summarise its contents for the edification of the brethren. Even if your comments are, "You'll never believe what they did!", you should know what happened at your Grand Lodge.

### Suspensions Loom Ahead

This is the month when the action to be taken for "Suspension for Non Payment of Dues" must be considered by Masters and Secretaries. It is almost too late, if the brother being considered has not already had a visit from a knowledgeable lodge brother to discuss this matter. Are there problems for the brother? Is he out of work? Is he unable to deal with the paper work? What is the real reason he has not sent in his dues for two years?

These are questions that must be answered by every lodge when it considers a suspension and all too often the brother gets his final reminder by double registration! The time for lodge action is **NOW** — because the major problem for Masonry is not the number of initiates but the retention of those within the Craft. Check on those brethren today.

### Change Of Meeting Place

All brethren should note Carstairs Lodge No. 20 has changed its meeting place to the same hall that Crossfield Lodge uses, but will retain its own meeting night and time.

### The Grand Lodge Bulletin

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## October

The month of October, the second month of the autumn season, is the tenth month of the year. October was the eighth month of the year before January and February were added at the time Julius Caesar reformed the calendar, and takes its name from a Latin word that means "eight." In the new calendar its name was not changed.

An old tradition assigns the opal, or beryl, as the jewel, and the hops as the flower of this month.

From The Master's Lectures

## The Banff Conference — 1991

This inter-provincial conference, held in September, was attended by the Grand Masters of the four western jurisdictions and the Grand Master of Ontario. Senior officers of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba were present along with Grand Secretaries, Past Grand Officers and an observer from the Grand Lodge of Minnesota.

The Conference commenced on the first evening with the theme speech — *Whither Are You Directing Your Course*. The Friday activity consisted of three papers presented by the Senior Grand Wardens of three of the provinces with discussion of each of the papers immediately following its presentation. On the Saturday, the last of the Senior Grand Wardens presented his paper and then there was the final discussion. The format is consistent over the years and this year was the fifty-first such conference.

Of particular interest in the Proceedings of this meeting, which has the text of all the presentations and the discussions, is a listing of the titles of all papers given at previous conferences. A copy of this publication is sent to all Lodge Secretaries, and additional copies are available for sale through the Grand Lodge Office and at the Masonic Spring Workshop.

## Grand Master's Itinerary

### October

- 1-3 Banff Conference
- 7 Dynamic Lodge No. 96; Holden
- 9 Temple Lodge No. 167; Highlands Hall, Edmonton
- 13 Cyprus Lodge No. 66; Three Hills
- 17 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Red Cross Constantine
- 21 West Edmonton No. 101; 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- 23-24 Edmonton Lodge No. 7; 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- 26 Beacon Lodge No. 190; Red Deer
- 31 Calgary-Highwood District Meeting

### November

- 3 Vulcan No. 74; Game Supper
- 5 Rockyford Lodge No. 123; Strathmore
- 7 Battle River District Meeting
- 10 Northland Lodge No. 147; Fairview
- 12 Saskatchewan Lodge No. 92; Central Freemasons' Hall, Edmonton
- 14 Lakeland District Meeting
- 17 Drumheller No. 146
- 19 Barrhead Lodge No. 171; Barrhead
- 23 Northmount Lodge No. 189; Calgary

### December

- 1 Corinthian Lodge No. 22; Okotoks
- 2 Bowmont Lodge No. 181; Calgary
- 8 Medicine Hat No. 2
- 10 Lochearn Lodge No. 151; Rocky Mtn. House
- 14 Lamont Lodge No. 94
- 16 Alberta Lodge No. 3; Fort Macleod

## District Meetings

### October

- 3 Palliser District — 1:30, , Suit
- \*17 Athabasca District — 1:30 Acacia Hall Edmonton
- 31 Central District — 1:30, Innisfail
- \*31 Calgary-Highwood District — 1:30, Calgary Freemasons' Hall, Suit

### November

- \*6 Three Rivers District — 5:00, Fort Macleod
- \*7 Battle River District — 1:00, Forestburg
- 7 Dinosaur District — Drumheller
- 7 Beaverhills District
- 14 Chinookarch District — Vulcan Lodge Hall, Suit
- \*14 Yellowhead District — 2:30, Central Freemasons' Hall, Suit
- 14 Lakeland District — 1:30, Kitscoty
- 21 Northern Lights District — Central Freemasons' Hall
- 21 Phoenix District — 1:30, Masonic-Star Hall, Didsbury
- \*The Grand Secretary will meet with Lodge Secretaries by District.

## Magic With Numbers

Take your Lodge Number and double it. Add 5 and multiply by half a century. Now add your age, so long as you are not over 100. Add the number of days in a leap year and then subtract 616. The number you get will show your Lodge Number at the left and your age at the right!

## Masonic Foundation Fund Raiser — Edmonton

As all Alberta Masons know, there was a fund raiser for the Masonic Charitable Foundation of Alberta held in Edmonton on May 9th of this year. The Patron of the Foundation, His Excellency, the Lt. Governor of Alberta, M.W.Bro Gordon Towers was present and spoke very eloquently in support of this newly established Foundation.

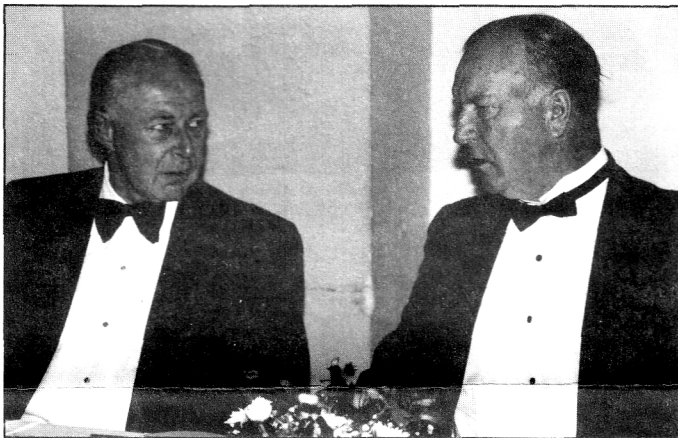
There were 123 in attendance and, after expenses, the funds raised for the Foundation were approximately \$12,000.00.

A donation was made at this dinner to Dr. (and W.Bro.) George Fitzsimmons of the University of Alberta to assist in giving a child the opportunity of taking a special programme at the University for children with a special type of learning disability. This was in keeping with the Foundation's thrust towards Youth Development.

The principal speaker at this function was M.W.Bro. David Bruce, PGM, the President of the Foundation.

The response of the Brethren and Lodges gave ample proof that the Masons of Alberta are more than ready to support the new Foundation. It is expected that the Brethren in Calgary will give equal support when a similar function is held there later in the year.

Submitted by R.W.Bro Donald C. Maskell



M.W.Bro. David Bruce and M.W.Bro. His Excellency Gordon Towers at the fundraising Dinner.

### *Masonic Foundation Of Alberta* **Grand Lodge — MasterCard Affinity Program**

The Masonic Foundation now receives nearly \$400.00 per quarter from the Grand Lodge of Alberta 'Affinity' MasterCard program which was taken up by a goodly number of the brethren over the last couple of years. As it was determined that the 'non-profit' taxation status of the Grand Lodge could be affected by receipts from this program, it was decided to turn all income over to the Masonic Foundation of Alberta for its purposes.

All Masons who use the facilities of the MasterCard system are encouraged to convert to the 'Affinity' card

program and thus allow MasterCard to contribute to our Foundation. Contact your Lodge Secretary, or the Grand Secretary, for information on how to sign up and how to obtain the necessary forms.

### **Masonic Foundation Logo Competition**

It was announced a couple of months ago we were looking for a 'snappy' logo for use on our letterhead and future Newsletters. We would even be offering a \$50 prize for the winning suggestion! To date the response has been ZERO — either no one reads this **Bulletin**, or no one has ideas of value!

As we cannot believe either of the foregoing, we are extending the contest until January 31, 1993. Mail YOUR responses to the Masonic Foundation of Alberta, P.O. Box 6532, Stn. D, Calgary, T2P 2E1.

Don't wait for Spring — do it NOW!

### **Masonic Foundation Calgary Banquet**

The Calgary Masonic Foundation Dinner, originally slated for mid-October, has met with a couple of scheduling problems and is now slated to be held in mid-March 1993. Please keep a look-out for further information to ensure that you are able to contribute to the Foundation.

### **Question Of The Month**

Who were called the Cross-Legged Masons and why?

### **Answer To The Question Of The Month For June**

The following response was received and contains interesting points for us all.

In regard to the question of the month, "Can a Lodge Secretary have an Assistant Secretary?" Sadly, the answer to your question is 'No' as per Sections 3.01.01 and 3.01.02 of the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand Lodge of Alberta AF&AM.

It is my opinion, for what it is worth, that an Assistant Secretary would be able to aid and assist a Lodge Secretary and, if found capable and worthy, when the Secretary retires, the Lodge administration would continue without major problems. It is often the case, when a Secretary retires or must be away from his duties, the Lodge administration slips and the Grand Secretary is hard pressed to gain the information he needs from said Lodge to complete his duties. I am equally concerned that our Grand Lodge does not have an Assistant Grand Secretary.

L.W.

The comments in the above letter reflect what is in the Constitution and the Regulations and what is believed by many Lodges, but every Registrar was invested with the words "Your duty is to assist the Secretary in the duties of his office." Why do we not follow these admirable requirements and simply comply with the directive of the Investiture? Each Lodge only need to outline the expanded duties of the Registrar clearly and we would have our required Assistant Secretary.

## This Is Discount Month For The Royal Princess Transcanal Cruise

The September Bulletin gave the outline of this fun-filled and enjoyable cruise for all Freemasons, family and friends, departing March 20 and returning March 30, 1993 — prices from \$2,790.00 US (double occupancy). Prior to September 28, 1992 you can save up to \$750.00 US per person with an early booking discount.

Contact M.W.Bro. Calvin D. Shaver at 225-0819 or write 439 Lake Newell Cres. SE, Calgary T2J 3L5, for further information and brochures.

## Celebration

On 25th April, Kitchener Lodge No. 95 celebrated 75 years of fraternity in a Grand Birthday Party, at which were a number of guests. Those present included the then Grand Master, M.W.Bro. Cal Shaver, M.W.Bro. W.E. (Curly) Foster, PGM, and two other members of Grand Lodge. The total of 26 members and 23 visitors was the biggest Lodge meeting ever held by Kitchener Lodge.

After the afternoon Lodge meeting, during which all the Past Masters present were recognized, a history of the Lodge was read. In the evening, a Ladies' Night was held with a record 140 in attendance.

The Lodge was delighted by the support it received and expresses its most sincere thanks to all those who attended or contributed.

Submitted by W.Bro. Frank Hodges, P.M.

## A Piece of History about Kitchener Lodge

In 1916, Lord Kitchener, the hero of Khartoum and the Boer War, lost his life when the British cruiser he was on struck a mine and sank. It was fitting that the town of Rimbey should enshrine his name when it decided to establish Kitchener Lodge No. 95. The dispensation was granted on December 19, 1916, soon after Lord Kitchener's death. The Institution followed on January 19, 1917, and the Constitution on July 1, 1918. At the original meeting, eight members were present.

The Lodge ran into difficulties, as did the majority of Lodges in Alberta, when the influenza epidemic caused the authorities to ban all public meetings from November 2, 1918 to January 3, 1919. When the ban was lifted, six brethren travelled across country to Ponoka, where on January 10, 1919, Britannia Lodge No. 18 held installation ceremonies. After the meeting, they left Ponoka about midnight and arrived back in Rimbey at 9:30 a.m.

The Lodge room was destroyed by fire on December 8, 1922. It was replaced by a cottage donated by a member and it had to be hauled into Rimbey by a team of horses and set on a six foot wooden foundation.

The Historical Register of Kitchener Lodge No. 95 says that the only notable thing that happened in 1924 was that on December 15th the temperature fell to a record of 64° below zero F.

From History of the Grand Lodge of Alberta

## From Other Bulletins

### Is Your Lodge Dead?

It seems a certain Grand Master was called to a certain Lodge in ..... He was warned that the Lodge was dead but, nevertheless, he regarded the visit as a challenge and went.

He soon discovered the Lodge *was* dead. No planning, no toil, no encouragement, no spark of life. The Grand Master told the Lodge that they were indeed dead and that he proposed to carry out the last rites for the Lodge. Plans were made.

Into the Lodge room there was brought a coffin. The time of the last rites came. The Lodge was crowded as it hadn't been for years. The Grand Master carried out the burial service,

Then at the end, as a last token of respect, he asked all present to file past the open coffin. As they did so, they received a shock. The bottom of the coffin was not wood, it was glass. Nor was it plain glass — it was a mirror. As each man looked into the coffin of the dead Lodge he saw — his own face!

The fact is that we members are the Lodge. The Lodge is people. The Lodge is its members.

If a Lodge is dead, it is because its members are dead.

North Dakota Mason

## Families Committed To Freemasonry In Crossfield Lodge No 48

In December 1991, the then Grand Master, M.W.Bro. Calvin D. Shaver, assisted Crossfield Lodge No. 48 to raise the third generation of Master Masons from two Masonic families.

This was an extremely significant event for all those involved.



(Left to Right) Front Row: Bro. Rod Morison, M.W.Bro. C.D. Shaver, Bro. Ian Ross.

Back Row: W.Bro. Bill Morison, father; Bro. Peter Morison, grandfather; W.Bro. Ken Reid, Worshipful Master Crossfield Lodge, Bro. Mike Ross, grandfather; and V.W.Bro. Robbie Ross, father.

## Personal Comforts

The Master was absolutely astounded to find a pretty young woman in Lodge sitting next to the newly initiated candidate. Upon asking the initiate to explain her presence, the young member remarked, "Well, sir, this is my wife, and you did say that I could restore myself to my personal comforts."

From Tied to Masonic Apron Strings

## Seen In The Notices

It was observed in the summons of Excelsior Lodge No. 80 of Daysland that, at their June meeting, they were balloting on three candidates for affiliation — Bros. Harry Crampton,

Colin Crampton and Adrian Crampton. That seems like either a full house or three of a kind and we welcome them all to Excelsior Lodge. All lodges should be so lucky!

## Masonic Novels

I would like to follow up on the suggestion you made in the May Bulletin for any books with Masonic allusions.

The novel that comes to mind is a story by Robert A. Heinlein, entitled *If This Goes On* —. It was Copyrighted in 1940 by Street and Smith Publications, Inc.

The novel is set in late 20<sup>th</sup> century U.S.A. The democratic government has been replaced by a religious dictatorship under the "Prophet Incarnate." Opposing this dictatorship, and eventually overthrowing it, is a shadowy group calling itself the "Cabal." The hero of the novel is a soldier in the forces of the Prophet who becomes a member of the Cabal and takes part in the elimination of the Prophet and the restoration of democracy.

The Cabal is obviously Masonic in character, as the following short quotations will make plain: "He rapped once on an inner door; immediately, another man, armed and masked like the first, came out and faced us. He asked Zeb and myself separately: 'Do you seriously declare, upon your honour, that unbiased by friends and uninfluenced by mercenary motives, you freely and voluntarily offer yourself to the service of this order?'"

"There were questions, many questions ... I remember them in snatches 'of your own free will and accord?' — 'conform to the ancient established usages' — 'a man, free born, of good repute, and well recommended.'"

*If This Goes On* — is entertaining reading, even though the style is uneven and the characters are rather flat. It is one of Heinlein's earliest works, and his later novels are much better.

The novel has been recently republished in a collection of Heinlein's work under the title, *The Past Through Tomorrow*, published by Ace Books in July of 1987. The book is obtainable in paperback from local book stores, but may have to be ordered in.

Submitted by W.Bro. Hans Visscher, PM  
West Edmonton No. 101 and  
Lodge Renfrew No. 134

## 275th Anniversary Of The United Grand Lodge Of England

It was my pleasure, on June 9-11, 1992, to attend the 275th Anniversary of the Formation of the Grand Lodge of England as the representative of the Grand Master and the Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Alberta.

The Ceremonial was very impressive for the opening of the Grand Lodge, as one would expect on such an occasion. But it did not occur by chance — rehearsals at Earl's Court commenced at 1000 hours and concluded at 1200. All except Brethren who were in the procession were seated by 1530, which included the ladies. The opening at 1600 went so smoothly that everybody just seemed to drop into place. It was a great lesson in planning and the need for practice. (It was reported that 12,000 Masons were present.)

On June 11, 1992, the program consisted of a conference under the heading *The Freemason — Today — Tomorrow — 2000*. Unfortunately, attendance was restricted because of the space limitations of the Temple. Excellent papers were presented in three topic areas, and adequate time was allowed for full discussion. The following were the areas considered:

### Topic I — The Freemason in Society

- (a) Should a Judge be a Freemason?
- (b) Should a Police Officer be a Freemason?
- (c) Should a Christian be a Freemason?

### Topic II — Relations Between Grand Lodges and Public Perception of Freemasonry

- (a) How open should a Freemason be?
- (b) How should Freemasons relate to the Public?
- (c) What is the "Mature Age" for a Freemason?

### Topic III — Freemasons and Charity

- (a) Masonic charities — the way ahead?
- (b) Should Lodges do more for local charities?

I was impressed with the television and press coverage. Most of it was good, but there were the familiar objections raised. I was also impressed with the reaction of Grand Lodge in speaking out frankly on these objections. It is my opinion that there are alternatives being used in other jurisdictions, including England, who are no longer prepared to "hide" but now actively maintain a public profile.

Hospitality offered to the visitor began when checking into the hotel and continued until checking out. Each of the tour hotels used by visitors had hotel hosts consisting of a Mason and his wife, and a staff who were available at all times. This proved to be invaluable. The program for the wives included tours to Greenwich and Kew, etc. The provision of chartered buses to the site of each event removed all the worries from the visitors and ensured enjoyment of each event.

The celebration was a highly successful and memorable commemorative celebration for all participants.

Submitted by M.W.Bro. Gordon Armstrong, PGM

## Outstanding Lodge Notices

Those of you fortunate enough to see the recent notices of St. John's Lodge, Vegreville have seen a real communication for the members of the Lodge. The publications have more pages than the Grand Lodge Bulletin (although we pack more in), have a decorative front and back cover, contain all required information and then add much more. They have Masonic education, humour, poems, sayings, pictures of prospective candidates, announcements, quotations, and very positive messages from its Master. These are truly 'communication' to the members and Bros. Fontaine and Bryldt and any others involved in the production are to be congratulated.

## Recipe For Improvement

If all the sleeping folks would wake up  
 And all the lukewarm folks fire up  
 And all the dishonest folks confess up  
 And all the disgruntled folks sweeten up  
 And all the discouraged folk cheer up  
 And all the depressed folks look up  
 And all the gossipers shut up  
 Wouldn't the world improve?!!!

From The Western Mason  
 Perth, Western Australia

## Notice Observed In The New Mexico Freemason

By action at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge on March 20 and 21, 1992, 19-year olds may now petition the Lodges for the degrees.

## Saying Of The Decade

"The explanation 'We've always done it that way!' has never been a good excuse for carrying on bad, entrenched practices. If something is patently wrong, it ought to be changed."

M.W.Bro. H.R.H. The Duke of Kent, K.G.  
 G.M. of The United Grand Lodge of England  
 25 April, 1990  
 From Masonry in Manitoba

## Did You Hear?

One of our Worshipful Brothers was playing a round of golf in the Edmonton area on a course that had houses backing on to the fairways, when he hit a ball that went in a glorious curve and straight through the open window of one of the houses. He listened — heard nothing and decided to play on with another ball. About ten minutes later a police cruiser pulled up close to where he was and an officer came across to him. "Did you hit a ball through a window back there?"

The honest Mason said, "Yes, officer, but I didn't hear anything."

The Policemen said, "Your ball hit a lamp in the room

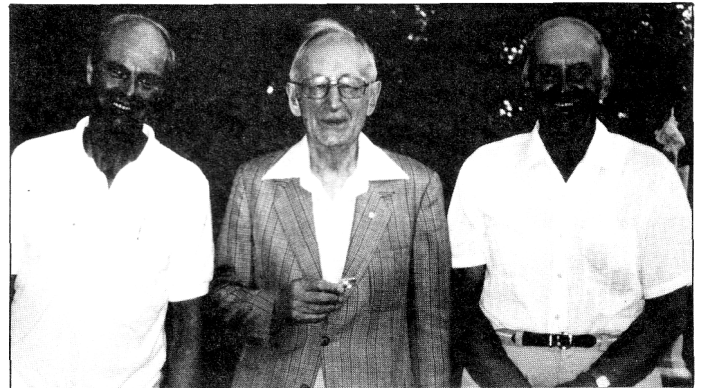
and knocked it over. The dog, which had been sleeping just below it, was scared out of its wits, rushed out the front of the house onto the road and a driver trying to avoid it caused a three car pile up."

The golfer said, "That's terrible, what should I do?" to which he got the reply:

"Try using a stronger grip and close the club face a bit."

## Recognition

At Britannia Lodge's Annual BBQ, Brother Wilbur Bowker was presented with his 60 year bar. Bro. Bowker is well-known throughout the jurisdiction for his many years of service to the Craft and his long tenure as Dean of Law at the University of Alberta. In his short address of response, Bro. Bowker talked about the early years of his Masonry and noted that he joined the Craft on his 21st birthday and that he was looking forward to getting his 70 year bar. Bro. Bowker has such a positive outlook on life that his Lodge brethren have no doubt that this goal will be achieved. Congratulations Bro. Bowker.



(Left to Right) W.M., Bro. Don Morton, Bro. Wilbur Bowker, W.Bro. Roy Barrett, IPM

*From Other Bulletins*

## Ritual Variations

*Why are Masonic Rituals not Universally the Same in all Jurisdictions?*

Freemasonry came to North America from several different sources (England, Ireland, Scotland), and in its spread westward, Grand Lodges were formed from Lodges which sprang up from the Military Regiments, and from the early settlements.

These admixtures of Rituals produced variations which were occasionally increased by actions of Grand Lodges' Committees.

In the early days of Freemasonry, many "travelling lecturers" brought their own conceptions of "the true Masonic Work" to far areas and taught these.

All Rituals are "correct." What a specific Grand Lodge approves as its Ritual is "correct" for the Lodges in its Jurisdiction. No Rituals in the United States or Canada contradict each other; they vary in words and details, not in essentials.

The Quebec Masonic Journal. November 1991.