

# THE PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON

Issued Every Three Months By

The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of The Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction Thereunto Belonging, through its

COMMITTEE ON MASONIC CULTURE — William E. Yeager, Past Grand Master, Chairman; William E. Montgomery, G. Edward Elwell, Jr., Frank R. Leech, William A. Carpenter, Charles A. Young and Ashby B. Paul.

APPROVED AND AUTHORIZED TO BE PRINTED BY

CHARLES H. NITSCH

Right Worshipful Grand Master

WILLIAM A. CARPENTER, Editor

Mailing Address: The Masonic Temple,  
Broad and Filbert Streets, Philadelphia 7, Pa.

Vol. III November, 1956 No. 4

## Peace on Earth Good Will Toward Men

Once again, our thoughts turn to the Christmas Season, that time for happy gatherings and expression of good will and peace toward our fellow men. Let us consider peace as it must have been regarded by the Galilean whose birth we celebrate this December 25, 1956.

He spent His earthly life in bondage to the Roman Legions. That fact He considered unimportant. His work centered on the individual. He knew that if the individual was right, society would be right. So He touched the hearts and souls of men. He was the greatest leader that the world has ever known, yet, He never raised an army, He never fought a battle and He never resisted authority. He was, indeed, a man of peace.

The peace He gave was within one's self. He taught to "love your enemies, do good to them that hate you, bless them that curse you and pray for them that spitefully use you." His peace was the peace of understanding and love for all men. He constantly admonished his followers to clear their minds and hearts of lust, hate, greed and selfishness. With this accomplished, nothing would remain but peace and love. Wickedness redounds wickedness; hate breeds hate; greed accrues greediness and all lead to misery. But peace generates love, and love is strong—ever swelling, enduring and overcoming.

It is entirely fitting for us at this time of the year, and every day of the year, if you please, to recall the genuine spirit of good will, that true Christmas spirit which should prevail among Freemasons as we live together and work together as a band as Brothers, among whom no emulation should ever exist. This same expression of good will, harmony and friendship practiced within our Fraternity can very well be radiated and reflected in the minds and actions of those with which we have daily contact and association. Strange, is it not,

that with all the millions of people who profess to follow His philosophy, the world remains in somewhat of a chaos rather than in order. The solution is easy—and if accepted and enforced even within the membership of the Craft could prove to be a most powerful influence throughout the world. We must be builders, not destroyers; workers, not drones; and above all, doers of His Word, not just hearers only.

—W.A.C.

## Noteworthy Masonic Meeting Places

(Continued from page 5)

The structure in question is located at the southwest corner of Fifth and Arch Streets. The present size is approximately 60 feet (on Fifth Street) by 45 feet on Arch Street, although apparently a 10-foot or 12-foot addition has been erected at each end, so that the original part of the building is somewhat smaller than the over-all dimensions indicated above. It is built of brick, two stories high and on the gable end facing Arch Street is a stone bearing the inscription: "By General Subscription for the Free Quakers Erected in the Year of Our Lord 1783 of the Empire 8." The building has recently been occupied by a supply company, but is now empty. It seems unfortunate that this historic old structure was not acquired by Grand Lodge in times past when it doubtless could have been purchased for a relatively small sum. Wishes of this kind, however, are usually made after the favorable opportunity has long since passed.

It might be interesting to note some of the items of expense incurred in fitting the new room for Masonic occupancy as charged by Samuel Bengé, Upholsterer (noted in pounds, shillings and pence):

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| to Covering to Formes with Green Bays—Brass Nails, Green Binding, Tacks &c           | 3-9-7   |
| 7½ Yds Wilton carpeting at 6/6 Brase nails. Tape. Black Tacks makeing & putting down | 3-8-3   |
| 18½ Yds Best 3/2 Scotch Carpeting @ 5/3  | 4-16-1½ |
| To makeing Brase Nails, Black Tacks Tape & putting down                              | 1-2-6   |
| 15½ Yds Crimson Morreen at 3/9 For Canipy and Wardin Pedistalls                      | 2-18-1½ |
| To Washing the Six Window Curtins, taking down and putting up again with             | 1-2-6   |
| 24 new Tosells at 1/6  | 1-16-0  |

The above, together with other items including a "frame for the Canipy," "green serge for Wardens Caushine," "16 yds white bed lace," "repicking haire making and stuffing" and similar expense, totaled 23-4-10½.

Evidently the Free Quakers did not care to renew the lease, for as early as August 12, 1799, in the minutes of Lodge No. 2 it is noted that a Committee was appointed to confer "on a suitable place for meeting after we leave this." It is interesting to note that at the same meeting a motion was presented that "one-third of the Initiation fees be placed in the hands of the Grand Treasurer half yearly for the express purpose of Establishing a fund for the building of a Grand Lodge. Ordered to lie over for Consideration." This refers to a plan of Grand Lodge to raise \$6,000.00 by subscription to build or otherwise secure a permanent meeting place for Grand Lodge and the local subordinate lodges.

Not being able to secure other accommodations, our Masonic ancestors were permitted to meet for a time in the State House (Independence Hall) under circumstances which will be recited in a subsequent issue.

## Who Guards the Portals of Freemasonry?

*Who guards the portals of Freemasonry? It may rightly be said that three Master Masons guard these cherished portals. And but for the devoted and attentive diligence of these three Master Masons, the virtues of the Craft might be exploited by the ambitious, corrupted by the immoral, or subverted by the seekers of evil power.*

*Each petitioner for the Mysteries of Freemasonry has within him the will and desire either to perpetuate the Craft in the glory of the past, or to warp and use it to his own ends. Nothing stands between the unscrupulous petitioner and the Lodge except three guards who are appointed by the Worshipful Master as the Investigating Committee. It is true, of course, that each member of the Lodge has the right and privilege of the ballot, but it is equally true that the individual member oftentimes is influenced by the report of the Investigating Committee.*

*Who guards the portals of Freemasonry? Three Master Masons who, if they are vigilant and alert that the petitioner is worthy of a favorable report, will guard well our portals, but who, if they be heedless and insensible of their responsibilities, will allow a petitioner through the outer door to the detriment of the Craft. The guard or sentinel must always be awake and faithful in the discharge of his duty. In time of war the sentinel who sleeps may well pay with his life for his slumbers. Today, this very day of our current Masonic year, we wage war—let no man mistake it—war against the most insidious forces that would strangle and crush and dishonor our great Fraternity, and the Master Mason who permits himself to be the sleepful guard may pay with the life of our great Fraternity.*

*Who guards the portals of Freemasonry? All of us, Brethren. Each time we investigate the petition of one who seeks the Mysteries of Freemasonry, we guard those sacred portals.—W.A.C.*

# The FREEMASON

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF PENNSYLVANIA

VOLUME III

NOVEMBER • 1956

NUMBER 4

## A Message from Our Grand Master

A SUBJECT of great concern to your Grand Master is the matter of providing proper educational material to the more than 252,000 Masons of our Grand Jurisdiction.

My immediate predecessor, Brother Ralph M. Lehr, also recognized this need and for this reason, created the Committee on Masonic Culture and appointed Brother William E. Yeager, R. W. Past Grand Master, as its Chairman. After considerable discussion it was finally agreed that an official publication should be created and made available to all Brethren of our Jurisdiction. Thus was born "The Pennsylvania Freemason." This is the official publication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and is mailed to approximately 92,000 of our Brethren. It is disappointing that more of our members have not availed themselves of the opportunity of being placed on the mailing list. We urge each Brother who is not on the list to contact his secretary. The procedure is very simple and there is no charge for subscription. It is the gift of the Grand Lodge to the membership.

To further add to your Masonic knowledge, each Secretary of our Lodges has been sent the following letter:

"By a resolution, adopted unanimously at its September Quarterly Communication, Grand Lodge took another forward step in its program of Masonic education by becoming a member of the Masonic Service Association of the United States. As a result of this membership, all of our Lodges each month will receive a copy of the monthly Short Talk Bulletins published by the Association.

"These Bulletins contain a wealth of informational and inspirational material, and it is my desire that they be circulated as widely as possible. The members of your Lodge who desire to do so should be given every opportunity to read them. It will be your duty, as the Secretary of the Lodge, to see that this is done, and, when there is no longer a demand for any particular Bulletin, to file it with the papers of the Lodge.

"You will read this letter at the next stated meeting of the Lodge, and then file it in the Official Binder."

### What is the Masonic Service Association of the United States?

The Association was formed in 1919 as the result of need developed in World War I, of a means by which American Freemasonry could function unitedly in relief for the distressed.

The Brethren who gathered in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in 1918, for preliminary discussion, and again in 1919, for the formation of the Association, knew that more than one bond between Jurisdictions was required. Hence the Educational, Statistical, Informative and other Services to the Craft which this organization has given from the beginning.

### The Short Talk Bulletin

Started in 1923 as an experiment in Masonic Education, not even its proponents envisioned the speakers library into which it would develop or prophesied the enthusiastic reception of these monthly pamphlets.

Written for the average Mason, The Short Talk Bulletin has made its place in Masonic education. Speakers here find addresses on more than 400 Masonic subjects. Libraries use them to answer inquiries, writers consult them for subject matter, educational committees use them to instruct new Brethren.

The Executive Secretary of the Association is Brother Carl H. Claudy, one of America's outstanding Masonic scholars.

### Midwest Conference on Masonic Education

On November 8th, 9th and 10th, your Grand Master, accompanied by Brother William E. Yeager, R. W. Past Grand Master, Chairman of the Committee on Masonic Culture, attended the Seventh Annual Midwest Conference on Masonic Education at Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Following are some of the subjects that were discussed:

"Analysis of the Essential Divisions of Masonic Education and Evaluation of Methods Applicable to Each."

"What should the candidate be taught?"

"Open Discussions on Masonic Publications."

"A Review of Some Recent Masonic Books."

"Masonic Misinformation."

"Topics and Scope of Masonic Research that needs to be done."

"The role of the Masonic Education Committee in relation to the Masonic Student."

"A Program for the Use of Lodge Talent."

"How to Investigate a Candidate."

Brother Yeager and your Grand Master feel much was learned that can and will be passed on for the edification of our Grand Jurisdiction.

*Charles H. Nitsch*

CHARLES H. NITSCH, Grand Master



## Our Building Program at Elizabethtown

By RALPH M. LEHR  
R. W. Past Grand Master

The Building Committee of the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, desires to give to the Masons of Pennsylvania, a thumb nail sketch of the progress being made in the Building Program at the Homes.

The new underground tunnel from the Power House to the Homes Buildings and Hospital, is complete and in full operation. The tunnel is over one mile in length and contains all of the utilities for use in the buildings on the Homes grounds, namely, the electric equipment (power and light lines), the heat units and also the return pipes from all heating units. It is a walk-in type concrete tunnel, six feet high, six feet wide, with several grade level man holes, thoroughly lighted and every safety precaution installed.

Many necessary changes have been made at the Power Plant in order to bring our electric and heating requirements up to the full load capacity when the new Hospital Extension, the Recreation Building and the Lodge Hall are added to our present utility load. The one major change was the transfer from self-manufactured electric power to the purchase of same from the Pennsylvania Light & Power Company. This transfer will effect a great saving of money in operation costs over the former method.

The Philadelphia Freemasons' Memorial Hospital Extension, Alterations and Addition are progressing in accordance with the building schedule. The 105-bedroom extension is almost completed, each room now being occupied by an adult guest patient. The extension is a "Y" shaped building, three stories high, modern in every respect. Each bedroom is equipped with wide bed level window (properly curtained and ventilated), latest type hospital bed, built-in clothes closet, complete service and utility cabinet, and a lavatory. Those in authority proclaim this new extension to be one of the most beautiful, useful and modern hospitals in this day and age.

The alterations and additions are confined to the first, second, third and fifth sections of the old hospital. The alterations cover the removal of general offices located on the second floor—the employees dining room—doctors' offices—examining rooms—several bedrooms—general service rooms and also some of the corridors. The first floor of sections one, two and three will contain the new general offices, doctors' offices, examining rooms, x-ray rooms, receiving section, laboratories, morgue, drug storage and pharmacy, operating room, dispensary, therapy rooms, record and filing rooms, general waiting and visitors' room, and a complete utility section.

The addition covers the food department, consisting of kitchen for the entire hospital, employees cafeteria and dining room, deep freeze and temperature holding rooms. All food

is cooked in the central kitchen located in Grand Lodge Hall and conveyed by special trucks to the Hospital as well as all buildings on the grounds.

The Recreation and Lodge Hall Building to date has progressed according to the building schedule. However construction work on this building was almost at a stand-still due to the fact we were unable to get delivery of the roof slabs. The roof slabs have now been delivered to the site of the building, and the work is expected to continue on schedule.

We would like to draw you a mental picture of this project. The Recreation Building is a two-story structure. On the first floor is the Main Auditorium with a seating capacity of approximately 500, equipped with a complete stage for live shows, concerts and recitals, also screen for regular and cinemascope moving pictures. The lower floor is equipped for general assemblies, dancing, card parties and holiday season celebrations.

The Lodge Hall is a standard furnished Lodge Room. However, very unique in design, the roof is in the shape of a triangle, the apex being 88 feet above the ground, ceiling height is 46 feet above the floor. The walls and ceiling are finished entirely in California Cedar with special wood trim. This building is approximately 50% completed, and it is the hope of the Committee to be able to dedicate same about September 1957.

## The Residency Program at The Masonic Homes

By CHARLES WILLIAM SMITH, M.D.  
Member of the Staff

The ever-increasing population at The Masonic Homes along with an increasing average age of those patients admitted to the Homes has created several problems. The average age of admission of guests is now over 80 and this, of course, leads to many more physical ailments and an increase in the hospital population. There has been a need for more hospital beds and this need is now met with the completion of the new addition to the Philadelphia Freemasons' Hospital at Elizabethtown. The need for additional care for the patients has not been met and it is with a view to this end that a Residency Program in Geriatrics is now under development.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master and the Committee on Masonic Homes feel that a Residency Program in Geriatrics will provide several things for the guests at the Homes which are not possible otherwise. First, we will be able to provide all of our guests with an increased quality of medical care. Secondly, we will be able to afford the patients in the hospital a much better quality of medical care by providing more constant supervision and more adequate scientific therapy. Finally, while we are accomplishing these two important functions for the guests and patients at the home, we will also be able to provide young

physicians with an adequate training in the field of Geriatrics. With the problem of the population in the United States becoming older an entirely new field of medical problems has been opened up and it seems that the facilities at the Masonic Homes are ideal for a scientific study and evaluation of these problems of the aging patients.

The Brethren in the Fraternity who are physicians have, for the past ten years, been providing the Homes with a much needed consultation service. This in itself has improved the quality of medical care considerably but there is still great room for improvement. At the present time some seventy-five physicians from the central Pennsylvania area have indicated their willingness and desire to participate in the Residency Program and to help supervise the training and care of the patients and guests at the Home. These physicians represent all of the various specialty fields in medicine as well as well-qualified general practitioners, and their willingness to assist in the care of the guests and patients at the Homes will provide the Philadelphia Freemasons' Hospital with a professional staff that is unexcelled so far as qualifications and ability are concerned.

One of the biggest deficiencies at the Homes has been the problem of maintaining adequate records on the guests, and particularly on the guests at the Hospital. This is certainly no reflection on the Resident Medical Director nor his staff because it is practically an impossible situation for one man to maintain the necessary scientific records that would constitute those which would be expected of a first-class hospital. The physicians who have signified their willingness to take part in staff activities have also signified willingness to help get our records up to date before the institution of the Residency Program. Therefore, in the next few months, these men will be giving several afternoons a week to write histories and physical examinations and to study thoroughly the patients in the hospital, so that when we can obtain Residents we will be ready to launch into a full Residency Program.

Our intention is to offer three residencies in Geriatrics each to last for one year. Physicians who have graduated from first-class medical schools and served at least a one-year rotating internship will be eligible to apply for the Residency training. They will be paid a stipend for their year's training, and fine residence facilities will be provided for them with full maintenance. If they happen to be married, facilities will be available to house their wives, and, if their wives happen to have some field of professional training such as laboratory technology, nursing or stenographic work, it is anticipated that they might also be employed during the time that their husband is in training at the hospital. These Residents will assist the Resident Medical Director and his Associates in maintaining the records of the patients and in caring for the patients in the hospital under the supervision of the Visiting Medical Staff.

(Continued on next page)

## The Thomas Ranken Patton Masonic Institution for Boys

By THOMAS H. FORD, Member of Board of Trustees

Beautifully situated on the Bainbridge Road near Elizabethtown, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, on a tract of land containing one hundred sixteen acres to the south of the artistic Gothic buildings and landscaped grounds of The Masonic Homes of Pennsylvania, is the Thomas Ranken Patton Masonic Institution for Boys. It is well known among school men and our Masonic Brethren as "The Patton School." Trees, shrubs and grass adorn the campus. A hill covered with evergreens and the Brehm-Stewart orchard forms a fitting background to the School.

This splendid institution was established in 1925 through the foresight, vision and generosity of our late and beloved Brother Thomas Ranken Patton. As a memorial to his only son, Thomas Graham Patton, he willed that a portion of his estate should be used for "The establishment and maintenance of an institution for the support and education of male orphan children of Master Masons, who were at the time of their decease, members in good standing in some subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania." He further directed that in the event of any vacancies, the Trustees may admit any other male orphan whose father or mother is deceased, if he is deemed worthy.

Thus we have located in the same area of our Commonwealth two neighboring Masonic Institutions of great significance. The Masonic Homes are devoted to the unselfish purpose of providing comfort and sustenance to our brother Master Masons who, no longer, are able to care and provide for themselves; as well as extending its beneficence to their wives, their mothers, their widows, and their children. The Patton School, on the other hand, provides for the education and development of our orphan youth whose lives of service will make valuable contributions, not only to themselves and to their immediate families, but to all mankind. Every Pennsylvania Mason views with just pride this accomplishment of Grand Lodge.

The Patton School commenced the current school year with an enrollment of fifty-three vigorous American boys housed in recently modernized home-like dwellings. Patton Hall, Ranken Hall and Memorial Hall are utilized for dormitories, recreational, study and classroom purposes. Crindle Cottage, Levis Cottage, Graham Cottage and the Farm House serve as homes of the Superintendent and instructors. The boys study the necessary fundamental subjects for proper mental development and develop vocational skills by applying themselves to machine shop practice, carpentry or training in electronics in well-equipped laboratories, shops and classrooms under the direction of a capable and well-prepared faculty.

A thorough trade training is offered each boy. Moral and spiritual values are stressed. A healthy activity program is scheduled and periodic medical and dental examinations are required. Great care is exercised in the selection of properly prepared boys for admittance to the School. The results speak for themselves. Among five hundred graduates are skilled die and tool makers, superintendents and foremen, machine shop proprietors and operators, carpenters, building contractors, representatives of the medical, dental and legal professions, teachers, ministers and officers in military service. The alumni proudly presented the School with sweet-toned electronic bells which daily peal forth their delightful musical tones from the Patton Hall belfry, as a reminder of the gratitude of the Alumni for the services of their Alma Mater.

In keeping with the great tradition of the past, the Board of Trustees in cooperation with the Grand Lodge officers and appropriate committees have recently expended considerable time, energy and money to properly renovate and equip the school with the necessary improvements needed to maintain such a modern institution after its thirty-one years of notable service. A list of some of the recent accomplishments are as follows:

### Patton Hall and Ranken Hall

New bed, bureau, desk, chair, lamp, rug, book ends, waste basket and electrical fixture for each boy; new chairs and tables for Dining Hall; interiors renovated and painted, as well as exteriors; new urinals and showers—new lighting fixtures; floors resanded and refinished; new stainless steel sinks in kitchen; tile floors and walls for toilet rooms; new hot water

heating boiler; new trophy cases to contain Mr. Patton's silver and Masonic treasures; front porch steps rebuilt; gutters and roof repaired; dormitory room floors renewed; new rug for Ranken Hall library, and game room painted, barber shop provided, laundry room refinished.

### Memorial Hall

Asphalt tile—first floor hall; new roof for entire building; chimney repaired; toilet and shower rooms renovated; new domestic hot water heater for showers; ladies rest room provided; and new electric fixtures for classrooms.

### Grounds

All drives resurfaced, road from Ranken Hall to Memorial Hall built and surfaced; garage roof and end wall renewed; wall around ramp in rear of Patton Hall renewed; new cement walks laid in front of Ranken Hall, Memorial Hall and rear of Patton Hall; new oval shaped garden near entrance to Patton Hall and relocation of light standard and improvement of school sign at entrance to the grounds from Bainbridge Road.

In a subsequent issue of The Pennsylvania Freemason it is hoped to present some facts about the life of Thomas Ranken Patton 33°, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for a period of thirty years, who made possible this noble institution. Space does not permit doing so in this issue. Neither does space permit proper acknowledgment of the services rendered by the loyal members of the present and the past Boards of Trustees and Grand Lodge officers and committees and faculties who functioned so ably to make the institution a success. We trust that every Pennsylvania Mason learns to appreciate their services to the Grand Lodge and that each one of us is impressed with the opportunities afforded our orphan boys privileged to have been, are, or will be enrolled in the Thomas Ranken Patton Masonic Institution for Boys. All Hail to Patton School!

## Noteworthy Masonic Meeting Places

### FREE QUAKERS' MEETING HOUSE

By WILLIAM E. MONTGOMERY

Of the fifteen meeting places of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, from its inception in 1730 to the present time, only three buildings are still standing: (a) the Free Quakers' Meeting House (1790-1799), (b) Independence Hall (1800-1802) and (c) the present Masonic Temple (1873- ) at the corner of Broad and Filbert Streets, all in Philadelphia.

From the records of the latter part of 1789, it seems evident that the quarters in Vidells Alley that had been occupied by the Grand Lodge and its several subordinate lodges at various times since 1769 (and in which the Grand Lodge had organized on an independent basis on September 25, 1786) had become in-

adequate. A committee of Grand Lodge was appointed to confer with committees from the various lodges, and at the Communication of December 6, 1790, the following report was made: "The Committee appointed to take the room over the Free Quakers' Meeting House reported that the same had been taken for nine years from the 23rd day of December, and that the several lodges had agreed by their Committees (excepted No. 9) to pay their respective shares of the rent, which is seventy-five pounds per annum, and of the expenses of moving and fitting up the said room: the Grand Lodge to pay no proportion at all."

(Continued on page 6)



## From Our Grand Secretary's Office

### THE SEPTEMBER QUARTERLY

Those who were not present at the September Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge, upon being informed that it was not more than an hour in length, might be inclined to conclude that the business transacted must have been wholly routine in character. Such a conclusion, however, would be incorrect.

To be sure, the minutes were read, committees reported, and the By-Laws and Amendments to By-Laws of more than twenty Lodges were approved. Such things are by no means unimportant, and they must be done if the Grand Lodge is to operate properly.

However, there were a number of items which can scarcely be considered routine. These, we feel, should be given all possible publicity among the members of our Lodges:

#### Mason At Sight

The Right Worshipful Grand Master, Brother Charles H. Nitsch, announced that, on July 20,

1956, he had caused Dr. Elmer Hess, a prominent surgeon of Erie, Pennsylvania, to be made a Mason at Sight in Lodge No. 708.

#### Ford Foundation Gift

Grand Lodge was informed that the Philadelphia Freemasons' Memorial Hospital, at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown, had been awarded a grant of \$120,500.00 by the Ford Foundation, that one half of the grant, \$60,250.00, had already been received; and that the remaining half would be forthcoming in March, 1957.

#### Membership in Masonic Service Association

Attached to the report of the Committee on Masonic Culture was the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

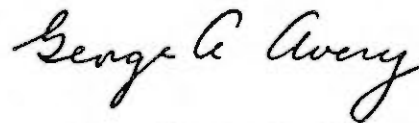
"Whereas the members of the Committee on Masonic Culture are of the opinion that much of the material prepared by the Masonic Service Association

fits into the Educational Program now being developed by them, and will be most helpful in the attainment of their objective, therefore,

"Be it Resolved:

"That the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania become a member of the Masonic Service Association of the United States."

The adoption of this resolution marks a definite forward step in our program of Masonic education. As a result of our membership, each month all of our Lodges will receive a copy of the monthly Short Talks Bulletins published by the Association. The Grand Master and the Committee on Masonic Culture expect these Bulletins to be made available to as many of the officers and members of our Lodges as desire to read them.



GEORGE A. AVERY, Grand Secretary

## Medical Consultants to The Masonic Homes Honored at Annual Testimonial

Brother Richard A. Kern, while R. W. Grand Master, recognized the urgent need for a "Medical Consultant Service" to the Philadelphia Freemasons' Memorial Hospital at The Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown. Prior to 1947 the resident physicians invoked the assistance of physicians and the facilities of hospitals in communities close to Elizabethtown when special skill or treatment was required. Usually the guests had to be transported to the specialist's office or the appropriate hospital, many of them by our ambulance.

It occurred to Brother Kern that it might be possible to have the consultants come to our Hospital at frequent and regular intervals. He obtained the names of the physicians who were members of Masonic Lodges located within a reasonable distance of Elizabethtown. He then checked their age, experience and special qualifications, and 62 were invited to take part in the plan. Over 50 favorable replies were received.

Together with Brother Frank G. Hartman, then Chairman of the Executive Committee and also of the Hospital Committee for The Masonic Homes, Brother Kern worked out the plan whereby a consultant in one specialty or another would visit the Hospital two days a week, yet no one consultant usually need come

more than three or four times a year. Thus in 1947, in the waning days of Brother Kern's term as R. W. Grand Master, was born the "Medical Consultant Service," whose members year after year since then have given so willingly and freely of their great talents and time in the interest of our guests.

Now nine years later the Medical Consultants number more than 75, most of them living within fifty miles of the Homes. No group of Masons are more dedicated to our guests nor perform more unselfish service to our Fraternity than these Brethren who comprise the Consultants' Staff.

Most of us probably do not realize that these busy members of the medical profession do not charge for their services to our guests in the Hospital at The Masonic Homes. As a token of appreciation of their invaluable and distinguished service, the Committee on Masonic Homes tenders these Consultants and their ladies a dinner each Fall in Grand Lodge Hall at Elizabethtown.

This year the Eighth Annual Consultants' Testimonial Dinner was held on October 11, with more than 130 in attendance. The Hospital Committee now includes Brother C. Howard Witmer, Chairman, and Brothers W. Leroy McKinley and Scott C. Rea.

Brother C. Howard Witmer presided at the Dinner, which was attended by many of the Grand Lodge officers and the Committee on Masonic Homes.

Brother Scott S. Leiby, R. W. Past Grand Master and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Committee on Masonic Homes, spoke of the Medical Consultants' great contribution at Elizabethtown in alleviating the suffering of our guests and restoring them to health and happiness—a service to humanity and our Fraternity. Brother Leiby also spoke glowingly of the services of Brother Paul R. Evans, Resident Medical Director, Brother C. Stuart Smith, Associate Medical Director and the Nurses Corps.

Brother Witmer read a letter from Brother Charles H. Nitsch, R. W. Grand Master, expressing regrets on his inability to be present because of another Grand Lodge engagement. In his absence Brother Sanford M. Chilcote, R. W. Deputy Grand Master, voiced the deep and sincere appreciation of the 252,000 Masons in Pennsylvania for the outstanding work performed so willingly by the Medical Consultants at Elizabethtown, which is the very heart of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania.

Brother Charles Wm. Smith explained in detail the proposed Residency Program for the Hospital and he has prepared an article which appears elsewhere in this issue covering this most important subject.

The Staff of the Philadelphia Freemasons' Memorial Hospital is as follows:

### Philadelphia Freemasons' Memorial Hospital Medical Staff

PAUL R. EVANS, M.D. (Resident Medical Director)  
C. STUART SMITH, M.D. (Associate Medical Director)

#### VISITING STAFF

|                                    |                             |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Allyn, Russell E., M.D.            | Kottcamp, Edward C., M.D.   |
| Atlee, John L., Jr., M.D.          | Landes, W. Latimer S., M.D. |
| Bentler, K. L., M.D.               | Lawson, E. Kirby, Jr., M.D. |
| Bitner, Walter P., M.D.            | Lenker, L. A., M.D.         |
| Bixler, Lester C., M.D.            | Long, Ross E., M.D.         |
| Bolton, J. Collier, M.D.           | McBride, William K., M.D.   |
| Bowman, Herbert S., M.D.           | Markley, George M., M.D.    |
| Brandt, Richard, M.D.              | Means, W. Horace, M.D.      |
| Bray, John S., M.D.                | Miller, Richard J., M.D.    |
| Cowley, Allen W., M.D.             | Miller, William B., M.D.    |
| Crist, Guy C., M.D.                | Milliken, Howard E., M.D.   |
| Daugherty, J. Arthur, M.D.         | O'Conner, Thomas W., M.D.   |
| Deck, Roy, Jr., M.D.               | Persun, Lloyd S., Jr., M.D. |
| Denney, John D., M.D.              | Petry, Howard K., M.D.      |
| Douglass, William Tyler, Jr., M.D. | Plowman, J. Wesley, M.D.    |
| Dutlinger, R. P., M.D.             | Pool, Champ C., M.D.        |
| Eaton, H. C., M.D.                 | Quickel, Kenneth E., M.D.   |
| Emrick, M. W., M.D.                | Romig, John E., M.D.        |
| Ervin, Carl E., M.D.               | Sayres, Gardner A., M.D.    |
| Esbenshade, J. Howard, M.D.        | Schildnecht, Page M., M.D.  |
| Fager, Charles B., M.D.            | Seiple, Harvey H., M.D.     |
| Foster, J. H., M.D.                | Sheely, Raymond F., M.D.    |
| Fulton, Harry C., M.D.             | Shookers, T. Cletus, M.D.   |
| Garber, J. Hoffman, M.D.           | Simmons, A. Harvey, M.D.    |
| Hamman, J. S., M.D.                | Smith, Charles W., M.D.     |
| Harris, John H., M.D.              | Smith, Harvey F., M.D.      |
| Hauck, Samuel M., M.D.             | Snoke, Paul O., M.D.        |
| Hawke, C. M., M.D.                 | Snyder, John J., M.D.       |
| Hawkins, W. D., M.D.               | Spillman, Murray K., M.D.   |
| Hodge, Ian G., M.D.                | Steele, R. Edward, M.D.     |
| Hooper, Fred B., M.D.              | Stouch, D. Haydn, M.D.      |
| Hoover, Carl, M.D.                 | Strock, B. K., M.D.         |
| Hutchison, Lloyd S., M.D.          | Suter, Stanley C., M.D.     |
| Johnston, David A., M.D.           | Walter, Henry, Jr., M.D.    |
| Kehm, Roy W., M.D.                 | Wentz, Maurice C., M.D.     |
| Kerr, J. DeWitt, M.D.              | Witmer, C. Howard, M.D.     |
| Kirk, Norris J., M.D.              | Yoder, Mahlon H., M.D.      |
| Klitch, George M., M.D.            |                             |

### A Letter in Praise of Our Masonic Homes

6 April 1956

Mr. Arthur E. Myers, Superintendent  
The Masonic Homes of Pennsylvania  
Elizabethtown, Pa.

Dear Mr. Myers:

No doubt persons with complaints concerning your organization feel free to write letters, and do. Too often, those who feel only the highest admiration do not make such an effort, so, in departing Masonic Homes after a five day visit incident to the final illness and death of my father, Dr. Wallace L. Roberts, I am taking the liberty of offering a few observations.

As a result of being at my father's bedside for the better part of 36 hours, I had the opportunity of observing, as I believe few visitors have, your medical department in particular and the organization in general in around-the-clock operation. As an M.D., I naturally cast a critical and appraising eye on this operation.

I can assure you that your old people are receiving finer and more personalized medical attention than they would receive as private patients in the average outside hospital today. The high quality of this attention (and I use the word attention as above and beyond the excellent diagnosis and treatment prescribed by the staff physicians) is largely due to the high sense of service shown by every member of the staff. The lowest bus-boy collecting trays takes a quiet sense of pride in his contribution to the local March of Medicine and this feeling is shared from the bottom to the top. As a great contemporary philosopher Honest George Gobel has so aptly remarked, "You can't hardly get them like that no more." These individuals, i.e., orderlies, nurses, and doctors, showed every conceivable consideration to the patient, myself, and my mother.

As a career man in the Navy, currently serving with the U. S. Marines, I feel that the efficiency, morale, and loyalty of a military organization are the direct responsibility of the Commanding Officer. Just so, as superintendent of Masonic Homes, full credit can and should be extended to you for the presence of these organizational virtues in your institution in such degree. Such high dedication to service as I have observed throughout Masonic Homes can only be attributed to inspiring leadership, precept, and personal example, in this case, your own.

My sincerest thanks to you and your staff for the every consideration shown during this visit, saddened as it was by the loss of a husband, a father, and a friend of all.

Very sincerely yours,

WILLIAM L. ROBERTS  
Captain, Medical Corps  
United States Navy

### Why Not Make Use of Your Circulating Library

Yours is a privilege and opportunity that is most precious and priceless—that of being eligible for membership in Our Circulating Library with its wealth of Masonic literature. There is no charge for the use of the books other than the return postage to our Library. The lending period is three weeks.

In addition to the interesting books on Freemasonry listed in the previous issue of "The Pennsylvania Freemason," we list the following—just a few more of the many that are available for your reading pleasure:

#### Additional List of Books Available

Outline History of Freemasonry, An . . . . .WARD  
Masonic Documents, Handlist of . . . . .KNOOP-JONES  
Masonic Organizations, Allied Orders,  
Degrees . . . . .VOORHIS  
Washington and His Masonic Compeers. HAYDEN  
Ben Franklin, The Amazing . . . . .SMYTHE  
Mysticism of Freemasonry . . . . .SWINBURNE  
Master Masons Handbook, The . . . . .WARD  
Masonry in Poetry . . . . .HURD  
What to Say . . . . .MACOY  
After the Lodge Is Closed . . . . .A BRO. P. M.  
Masonry and Citizenship . . . . .LANIER  
What Masonry Means . . . . .HAMMOND

Make your inquiries and requests through

WILLIAM J. PATERSON, Librarian  
Masonic Temple, Broad and Filbert Streets,  
Philadelphia 7, Pennsylvania

### The Residency Program

(Continued from page 2)

The Visiting Staff will not only make rounds and supervise the actual care of the patients but in addition to this, monthly staff conferences will be provided at which various clinical problems will be discussed. It is anticipated that quarterly staff conferences lasting half days will be provided and that the speakers for these conferences will be outstanding medical authorities from larger medical centers. Didactic lectures will also be presented by various men on the visiting staff in the various specialty fields, so that the training provided for the Residents will be adequate and complete. This sort of program will not only provide good training for the Residents but it will also tend to stimulate the knowledge and interest of the entire Medical Staff.

We anticipate having a library of current medical journals available for the Residents, and hope that during their residence in Elizabethtown they will be able to make some specific study of a specific problem in the field of Geriatrics which could become reportable and a part of the medical literature.

We would be very glad to have any physician who has not as yet been contacted, who feels that he could contribute time and effort to the residency program, to have him contact the Committee on Masonic Homes so that we could include him among the members of the visiting staff.

As the training program progresses, we hope to have in addition to the complete laboratory and X-ray facilities which are not now available, a good program in physical therapy and

occupational therapy developed for the patients at the Homes. This will serve two purposes. Not only will it provide the patient but also some of the guests with new interests but could, in time, prove to be a very influential factor in rehabilitating many older people who it was thought had already reached the final stages of interest in this life.

### Did You Remember The Masonic Homes?

Your attention and consideration is again directed to the annual appeal in behalf of the Christmas and Entertainment Fund for our guests at The Masonic Homes, the boys at the Thomas Ranken Patton Masonic Institution for Boys and also for those receiving Home Assistance. This Fund makes possible many social activities at the Homes such as picnics, concerts, motion pictures, etc. It also makes possible recreational equipment, books and the like for the children at the Homes and the boys at the "Patton School." And to those receiving Home Assistance from our Lodges and Grand Lodge, the Fund makes possible just a little more at Christmas.

Your generosity toward the Christmas and Entertainment Fund will be abundantly rewarded by the grateful appreciation of the children and our aged guests.

Make your checks, postal orders or express money orders payable to Arthur E. Myers, Superintendent, and mail to The Masonic Homes of Pennsylvania, Elizabethtown, Pa. Your remittance will be cheerfully acknowledged.