

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. IV February, 1957 No. 1

Peace is More Than a Word

The word peace has been printed billions of times, uttered in billions of prayers, spoken millions of times over the radio and voiced thousands of times by every member of the human race in all the languages of earth. And still we have wars.

It is high time to consider that peace is more than a word. It is more than a spot of ink on a piece of paper, or a sound on our lips.

Peace is everything that makes life worth living.

Peace is God on both sides of the table in a conference.

Peace is goodwill in action.

Peace is world-wide neighborliness.

Peace is co-operation and team-work; it is pulling with people instead of pushing them around.

Peace is sanity and common sense in human relations.

Peace is open-mindedness. It is a willingness to listen as well as to talk. It is looking at both sides of a situation objectively.

Peace is patience. It means keeping our tempers, rising above petty irritation, taking the long-look. It means keeping our shirts on and giving time a chance to work its magic.

Peace is having the courage and humility to admit mistakes and take the blame when we are wrong.

Peace is international courtesy. It is good sportsmanship in world affairs.

Peace is tact, and tact has been defined as the ability to pull the stinger of a bee without getting stung.

Peace is vision. It is being big enough to give up small individual advantages for the universal advantage of a warless world.

Peace is using the Golden Rule as a measuring stick in solving world problems.

Peace is the open hand instead of the clenched fist. It is tolerance and understanding toward men of every class, creed and color.

Peace is a mighty faith. It is a radiant belief in the potential goodness and greatness of men. It is a dynamic confidence that war can be abolished forever.

Peace is a thing of the heart as well as the head. It is warmth, a magnetism, that reaches out and draws people together in a common purpose.

Peace is top-level thinking, feeling, acting. It is rising above tanks, planes and atom bombs as a way of settling disputes.

Peace is a way of living.

—W.A.C.

Are Maçonnnes Gudder Men Then Odhers?

(Continued from page 2)

"Some maçonnnes are not so virtuous as some odher menne; but, yn the moste parte, thay be more gude then thay woulde be yf thay war not maçonnnes."

In other words, while he would not claim that Masons are better men than others, and admitted that some Masons are not so virtuous as some other men, of one fact he could be, indeed, was sure: that in the most part Masons are better men than they would be if they were not Masons.

In this truth we find much of the glory of Masonry. Its influence through the centuries has been such that, in the most part, those who have followed its teachings have become better men than they otherwise would have been. If this were all that could be said in its favor, surely this, and this alone, would be a sufficient excuse for its being.

Errata et Addenda

By WILLIAM E. MONTGOMERY

An amateur historian such as the present writer is dependent to a considerable degree upon friends and associates in his effort to keep the facts straight and up-to-date. In connection with several articles appearing in "The Pennsylvania Freemason," it therefore seems appropriate to express appreciation to:

(1) Brother Arthur L. Miller of Pittsburgh who called attention to an error in the article on Capitular Masonry in Pennsylvania, in which it was asserted that the Royal Arch degree was first conferred in this country in Philadelphia in 1758. The statement was correct when applied to Pennsylvania but covered too much territory in referring to the entire country. At the Communication of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania in December, 1953, the Grand High Priest of Virginia in his remarks called attention to the fact that the first documentary evidence of the conferring of the Royal Arch degree is in the possession of Fredericksburg Lodge, No. 4, of Virginia and bears the date of December 22, 1753, at which time and place three brethren were "raised to the Degree of Royal Arch Mason."

(2) Brother Edward Barth of Philadelphia who was kind enough to send a photograph of a bronze plaque which was erected just about a year ago near Benjamin Franklin's grave in Christ Church burial ground at 5th and Arch Streets in Philadelphia. The plaque contains the unique and witty epitaph which Franklin wrote as a young man and which was quoted in the August 1956 issue of this publication. Brother Barth cites the fact that the stone marking the graves of Benjamin and Deborah Franklin is in accordance with the provisions of Franklin's will . . . "a marble stone, 6 ft. long, 4 ft. wide, plain; with only a small molding around the upper edge."

(3) Brother William J. Paterson, Grand Lodge's efficient Librarian and Curator, who forwarded a clipping from The Philadelphia Inquirer of October 24, 1956, in which ref-

erence was made to The Free Quakers Meeting House (where Grand Lodge held its sessions from 1790 to 1799), described in the November issue of this quarterly publication. The clipping states that the Free Quakers were a group of Friends who defied the principles of the sect and took up arms in the Revolutionary War. It also conveyed the interesting and welcome news that, because the structure is a fine representation of Colonial architecture and has historical significance, it will be preserved when the Mall is completed northward from Independence Hall.

Report of Extension Fund Committee

(Continued from page 5)

as the Treasurer but in the many, many other services which he cheerfully and willingly rendered, including the monthly statistics as to the progress of the various Lodges, which he made up and furnished to the members of the Committee. He was also most liberal with his time, efforts and money, and still is continuing with his fine work.

Brother Richard A. Kern, Past Right Worshipful Grand Master has been a tower of strength and help to the Committee, not only with the work he performed in his own Lodge but with his counsel and advice to the Committee in general.

Brother Charles H. Nitsch, the Present Right Worshipful Grand Master, from the very beginning, when he succeeded Brother Edward F. Roberts as an Officer of the Grand Lodge, was extremely free with his time and effort for the benefit of the fund and, in a large measure, the success of the fund is due to his interest.


Every Grand Master, beginning with Brother George H. Deike, William E. Yeager, Albert T. Eyler and Ralph M. Lehr, assisted the Committee in every manner possible to perform its job.

In addition to the work of raising the necessary funds, the work of the Committee has brought together many Masons of the City of Philadelphia who have become fast friends because of working together and because of their respect and admiration for one another. This by-product, as it were, must be considered just as important to the welfare of the Freemasons of Philadelphia in particular, and the Fraternity in general, as the raising of \$500,000 or more.

Possibly at some future time, someone with the necessary literary ability and the inquisitive nature required, will research the work of the Committee and properly evaluate the services of all of those who merit commendation, including officers and members of individual Lodges.

Footnote by the R. W. Grand Master:

Brother Morris Ruberg, Past Master of Lodge No. 91, who wrote the above article, is too modest to credit himself with the tremendous amount of work he has done in assisting in raising this fund. As Secretary of the Hospital Extension Committee, he has written hundreds of letters, met with many groups from various Lodges and suggested various methods of procedure. The Freemasons in Philadelphia are fortunate indeed in having the services of this dedicated Mason.



The FREEMASON

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

VOLUME IV FEBRUARY • 1957 NUMBER 1

A Message from Our Grand Master

COMMITTEE ON LANDMARKS

I have frequently been asked "What is the Committee on Landmarks?"

ARTICLE 13, SECTION NINE of the *Ahiman Rezon* reads, "The Committee on Landmarks shall consist of all the Past Grand Masters, who in conjunction with the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master, shall be a Standing Committee, to which shall be referred all questions touching the Ancient Usages, Customs, and Landmarks of the Fraternity, and the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania."

ARTICLE 12, SECTION ONE of the *Ahiman Rezon* reads: "The Past Grand Masters shall be regarded as the conservators of the Ancient Usages, Customs and Landmarks of Freemasonry, by reason of their experience. . . ."

ARTICLE 12, SECTION TWO of the *Ahiman Rezon* reads in part ". . . He (The Grand Master) is supreme in all matters concerning the Fraternity. . . ."

ARTICLE 12, SECTION THREE of the *Ahiman Rezon* reads: "To him (The Grand Master) belongs the general supervision and government of the Fraternity. For these purposes he is empowered:

"To appoint District Deputy Grand Masters, the Subordinate Officers of the Grand Lodge, Trustees, Standing Committees and Special Committees whose appointment is not otherwise provided for; and all employees who may be necessary in the conduct of the business of his office . . . To issue edicts (Edicts of the Grand Master have the authority of Masonic Law) regarding the action of Lodges, or for the government of the same, their officers and members . . . To cause Masons to be made in his presence at any time and any place, a Lodge being opened by him for that purpose, To grant, and authorize to be granted, Dispensations for making Masons, for constituting Lodges, for passing to the Chair, for laying Cornerstones, for forming Masonic processions, and for the burial of unaffiliated Master Masons. . . ."

ARTICLE 12, SECTION FOUR reads: "He shall be ex-officio, chairman of any Committee, whose sessions he may think proper to attend . . ."

Thus from the above, the Grand Master is vested with tremendous authority.

The Grand Master is charged to keep, support, maintain and abide by all of the Ancient Usages, Customs and Landmarks of the Fraternity. How does one define Ancient Usages, Customs and Landmarks?

Much has been written on the subject. Great Masonic scholars have delved deeply into this subject. Some Grand Lodges have enumerated

the Landmarks for their Jurisdictions. In these tabulations they vary from as few as three to as many as fifty-four.

The prevailing idea of the Ancient Landmarks is that they are those time honored and universal customs of Freemasonry which have been the fundamental laws of the Fraternity from a period so remote that their origin cannot be traced, and so essential that they cannot be modified or amended without changing the character of the Fraternity.

The philosophical theory can be applied to some fundamental tenet or principle and we can cite as an example, Joseph Fort Newton's statement that the Landmarks are "The Fatherhood of God, the Brotherhood of Man, the Golden Rule and the hope of a life everlasting."

I repeat, The *Ahiman Rezon* states that "The Past Grand Masters shall be regarded as the conservators of the Ancient Usages, Customs and Landmarks of Freemasonry, by reason of their experience."

All our Past Grand Masters are dedicated Masons. The combined experience of these Brethren must be used to the fullest extent by the Grand Master presently holding office.

It is my desire that meetings of the Committee on Landmarks be held at regular intervals and there should be included in these meetings, the Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary.

It is my desire that the Committee on Landmarks be consulted on matters beyond the "Ancient Usages, Customs and Landmarks of the Fraternity." The Committee should be consulted on all matters of policy that would affect the welfare of the Fraternity. I do not wish to imply that your present Grand Master is reluctant to make decisions. It is a matter of common sense to combine the opinions of those Brethren who have been Grand Masters with the opinions of those who will be Grand Masters in the future. Surely the Grand Lodge will profit by such discussions.

It is possible that a Grand Master in his enthusiasm, may not always use his power wisely. Let me quote from an address delivered by the late Senator Reed of Missouri who in an address in the Senate said "He is a fool, he is every kind of a fool that has ever cursed the earth or cursed himself, who thinks that any power will always be used wisely or justly."

To make a beginning of what I hope will result in regular stated meetings of the Committee on Landmarks, the Past Grand Masters and the Grand Officers will shortly be invited to attend a session some time during the month of March at which time matters of great importance will be brought up for discussion.



CHARLES H. NITSCH, Grand Master

Royal Arch Masonry

By FRANK R. LEECH

M. E. Grand Treasurer

Royal Arch Masonry, as a separate and independent organization, is of comparatively modern date. The Royal Arch is founded upon and is but a part of the Master's Degree, as the Mark is but an appendage of the Fellow Craft. The separation grew out of, and was one of the results of the schism in England, which occurred in the forepart of the 18th century. This schism was not completely harmonized there until 1813. The remembrance of it is embedded in the phraseology of our ritual, in the term "Ancient York Mason."

The earliest mention of the Royal Arch as a separate degree, is in 1740. It is noticed as one of the results of the schism in England, and as a difference between the work of the two opposing bodies. The seceders from the Grand Lodge of England called themselves "ANCIENTS," and stigmatized the Grand Lodge and its adherents as "MODERNS." They organized as "The Grand Lodge of ALL England," and cut off the Royal Arch from the Master's Degree.

The first Royal Arch Chapter ever opened in America, of which any account has been published, is that of No. 3, in Philadelphia, meeting under the Lodge Warrant, about the year 1758. The Grand Chapter of Virginia records the first documentary evidence of the conferring of the Royal Arch Degree to be found in the world as being in possession of Fredericksburg Lodge, No. 4, at Fredericksburg, Virginia, and bears the date of December 22, 1753.

The Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania is the oldest on this continent, having been formed by our Grand Lodge on November 23, 1795, with William Ball, then Grand Master, as Grand High Priest. A communication was immediately addressed to the Grand Lodge of ALL England and a reply from that body was received and read in our Grand Lodge May 30, 1796. The Grand Chapter continued under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge until 1824, when the Grand Chapter was made an independent body, electing its own officers as at present.

At the election in Grand Chapter, held December 6, 1956, the following Grand Officers were elected:

M. E. Grand High Priest

WALTER D. FERREE

M. E. Grand King

JOHN R. ASHER

M. E. Grand Scribe

MAURICE T. WHITE

M. E. Grand Treasurer

FRANK R. LEECH

M. E. Grand Secretary

JOHN C. F. KITSSELMAN

Companion KITSSELMAN appointed Companion J. EDWARDS SMITH, JR. as Assistant Grand Secretary and the appointment was confirmed by Grand Chapter.

Is Our Face Red?

It is wisely said that "error is the force that welds men together; truth is communicated to men only by deeds of truth."

After three years of publishing, we have experienced some rather unfortunate errors in our efforts to do justice to the many phases of service performed in our Jurisdiction.

A most recent error in the columns of "The Pennsylvania Freemason" was, of all things, an omission of a name in the listing of The Philadelphia Freemasons' Memorial Hospital Medical Staff. And of all the names, it was Dr. E. J. Stein's, of Lancaster, that was omitted.

Dr. Stein is a Member of Huguenot Lodge, No. 377 of Kutztown, Pa., and just recently received his Fifty Year Masonic Service Emblem in that Lodge. Dr. Stein is the Dean of the members of the Consulting Staff of The Philadelphia Freemasons' Memorial Hospital, having served continuously even prior to the erection of the present hospital buildings. He has performed practically every tonsillotomy at The Homes and The Thomas Ranken Patton Masonic Institution for Boys since 1921, and is still at it.

They say "To err is human." But what can be said of such bad errors and big errors except to offer our sincerest apologies to Dr. Paul R. Evans, Resident Medical Director at The Homes, and through him to Dr. E. J. Stein, a prominent member of his staff. And at the same time we'll make a memo to have a session with our printer and proofreader.

Lowther Manor Lodge, No. 781 Recently Constituted

Fifteen states, the Canal Zone and 97 Lodges in Pennsylvania are represented in the membership of Lowther Manor Lodge, No. 781 which was constituted on February 9, 1957, in Zembo Mosque, Harrisburg, with 203 Warrant Members.

West Shore Lodge, No. 681, of Camp Hill which was constituted in 1915 with twenty-two members quickly grew in membership in forty-two years to 800 and its officers and members were in agreement that this rapidly growing area could well support a second Lodge. While this idea had been given consideration for some time, it was not until last May that the project was given the final impetus that resulted in the formation of the new Lodge. Brother Harry L. Parson, then Worshipful Master of West Shore Lodge, and the Committee appointed by him, approached the many Masons living in this section whose home Lodge was at least fifty miles away, and the response was so enthusiastic that by early last Fall fifty of these Masons, many of them from other states, had agreed to petition Grand Lodge for a Warrant.

With the petition formally approved last December the list of Warrant Members grew so rapidly that by February 9, the date of the constitution, the number had reached 207,

only ten of whom had been members of West Shore Lodge. Only four were absent when Brother George A. Avery, R. W. Grand Secretary, called the roll that afternoon.

West Shore Lodge, No. 681, not only sponsored the new Lodge, but also offered the use of its Masonic Temple to the new group.

A large number of Masons attended the ceremonies, conducted by the R. W. Grand Master, Brother Charles H. Nitsch and the Grand Lodge Officers, marking the consecration and constitution of the new Lodge. A banquet attended by over 500 was held immediately following the ceremonies.

"Lowther Manor" was the name given this area about 1750 by the Penn family.

The Warrant Officers of the Lodge, which will meet on the Second Tuesday, are: *Worshipful Master*, MAURICE W. HYKES, *Senior Warden*, RAYMOND A. MYERS, *Junior Warden*, JACK B. KNORR, *Treasurer*, JOHN L. WITMER and *Secretary*, NEWTON C. LANDIS. —A.B.P.

Are Maconnes Gudder Men Then Odhers?

By GEORGE A. AVERY

Right Worshipful Grand Secretary

This thought-provoking question is found in an old English manuscript which claims to have been written by the hand of King Henry VI, and seems to be a transcript of an oral examination taken by a member of the Brotherhood of Masons, possibly in the presence of the King.

To what extent Henry was influenced by this examination we shall never know. However, in 1450, he was initiated into the mysteries of Masonry, and immediately put a stop to the persecution of the Craft, whose assemblies had been prohibited by Parliament since 1425.

The question we have quoted as our headline is the eleventh of a series of twelve which touch on the origin and nature of Masonry, and on the character of its members.

Are maconnes gudder men then odhers?

There can be no denial of the fact that at first thought the question seems to be a fair one, especially if asked, whether five hundred years ago or in our own day, by one who is trying to make an honest appraisal of the Craft.

Are Masons better men than others?

Upon more mature deliberation it becomes patent that it is a question which no thoughtful Mason would dare to answer by a mere "Yes," or "No." There have always been, and, no doubt, will always be many good men, and, alas, some evil men, both in and out of the Fraternity. Our unknown Brother, who stood before the King and answered the questions put to him, was well aware of this fact. He dared not say that Masons are better men than others. What, then, was his reply?

(Continued on page 6)

Report of Philadelphia Freemasons' Memorial Hospital Extension Fund Committee

By MORRIS RUBERG, Secretary of the Committee

January 3, 1957 was a red-letter day for the members of our Fraternity, affiliated with the ninety-six Lodges located in the City of Philadelphia, because on that date the Philadelphia Freemasons' Hospital Fund Committee paid over to the Grand Secretary a check in the sum of \$15,000, thereby bringing the total of monies paid over to the Grand Secretary, out of contributions and other funds received by the Committee up to that date, to a grand sum of \$500,000.

The actual amount of contributions received from the various Lodges aggregated a total of approximately \$483,000, and from Special Gifts an additional sum of approximately \$26,500 was received. Included in the Special Gifts was the sum of \$16,300 from Benjamin Franklin Consistory (Valley of Philadelphia), \$1,050 from Mary Commandery No. 36, Knights Templar, \$528.46 from Scott S. Leiby, 33 Class 1953 Scottish Rite, \$5,000 from Lodge No. 9, specifically for the Dispensary, and various amounts from \$15.00 up to \$300.00 were contributed by a host of Square Clubs and individuals.

The Committee is not satisfied to rest at this point but will continue in its efforts. As of December 31, 1956, 57 of the 96 Lodges reached the suggested quota or an excess of that quota, 39 Lodges have not yet reached their quota but out of these 39 Lodges 15 Lodges need amounts of \$1,000 or less in order that their respective quotas may be reached.

The Lodges in District "A," with Brother John K. Young as District Deputy have the outstanding distinction of every Lodge in the District, having contributed at least the suggested quota. Several Lodges have performed remarkably, as, for example, Philadelphia Lodge No. 72 with a quota of \$2,640.00 has contributed \$5,450.20, and William B. Hackenburg Lodge No. 703 with a quota of \$6,890 has contributed \$18,625. No doubt Brother William R. Mooney is responsible for the performance of Lodge No. 72 and Brother E. Marx Schwerin is responsible for the outstanding contribution to the Fund by Lodge 703. It is hoped that at some future time a study will be made of the work of the Committee in order that all persons who merit commendation will receive proper recognition of their efforts.

It should be remembered that the Committee began its work in earnest with the Organization Meeting, held in Corinthian Hall on the first day of April, 1949, after two inauspicious starts. The two inauspicious starts were brought about by the fact that Brother Albert Thatcher Hanby, R. W. J. W., died on July 13, 1947 and Brother Raymond M. Remick, R. W. S. G. W., died on October 12, 1948.

Though these starts did not bring any real results, a great deal of the ground work and presentation of the need for an enlargement of the facilities of the Philadelphia Freemasons' Memorial Hospital at Elizabethtown was put in print and a vote of thanks was extended to Al Paul Lefton for the creation of the brochure under date of March 31, 1949, and the statistical information under date of October 29, 1948, and the pledge forms probably prepared by Horace N. Barba and H. W. Schweizer, and the printing was done under the supervision of George Townsend, connected with Dunlap & Company.

Immediately following the Organization Meeting, the fund moved its office and its activities to the Masonic Temple and engaged the services of a part time clerk.

Numerous meetings were held by the Committee, for the purpose of putting into effect the various plans and ideas that were promulgated. Reports were made to the General Meetings on several occasions.

The Meeting which was held on the first day of April, 1949, which can be referred to as the Organization Meeting, elected the following Officers: Brother Edward F. Roberts, R.W.D.G.M., Chairman, Horace M. Barba, Executive Chairman, William H. Betz, Treasurer, Morris Ruberg, Secretary, and William R. Mooney, James W. Alexander, James L. Fawley, George C. Flannigan, Jr., and Morris Scheinfeld, Trustees. These Trustees, together with the then District Deputies, the Officers elected, with Richard A. Kern, Past R.W.G.M., and Henry S. Borneman, Past D.D.G.M., comprised the committee.

The District Deputies for Districts "A" to "J" inclusive were as follows: George A. Avery, John H. Doherty, Frank R. Leech, W. LeRoy McKinley, Louis Bacharach, Warner H. Heston, Philip O. Widing, Ralph W. Welsh, Roy G. Wolff and John H. H. Morrow.

During the period of the Committee's activities, the following Brethren have passed to the "Great Beyond": Brother Edward F. Foster Roberts, August 31, 1951, Brother Jacob K. Miller, June 7, 1951, Brother Henry S. Borneman, January 12, 1955, Brother Horace M. Barba, January 15, 1956, and Brother Morris Scheinfeld, March 27, 1956.

Certain changes likewise have occurred, as follows: Louis Bacharach is now Grand Treasurer, George A. Avery is now Grand Secretary, Charles H. Nitsch is now Right Worshipful Grand Master, and Frank R. Leech, Ralph W. Welsh, Philip O. Widing, Roy G. Wolff and John H. H. Morrow are now Past District Deputies. Likewise, in the interim, E. Paul Kitchen and James W. Frey served as District Deputies for a short time. Out of the original

list of District Deputies only Warner R. Heston remains as District Deputy of District "F" and the other District Deputies are as follows: John K. Young, "A;" Rochester B. Woodall, "B;" William Gauer, "C;" Albert A. Baner, "D;" Herbert S. Mullen, "E;" George C. Flannigan, Jr., "G;" William G. Thomas, "H;" William H. Van Voorhees, "F;" and John Harper, "J." Brother John H. Doherty has served as Chairman of the Committee with credit and distinction since the death of Brother Roberts.

During the period when George H. Deike was the Right Worshipful Grand Master, it became evident that the Hospital at Elizabethtown would have to be enlarged and inasmuch as the original buildings for this purpose were named the Philadelphia Freemasons' Memorial Hospital, it was felt that the Masons of the City of Philadelphia should assume the responsibility of raising at least a part of the funds required. The figures at that time were estimated as follows: For Hospital additions a total of \$1,500,000, covering the costs of the actual building additions including alterations and equipment in the old buildings, and \$500,000 for the Nurses' Home. Grand Lodge, after allocating certain funds from gifts and legacies, determined that there was still a balance needed of \$500,000. At that time there were approximately 50,000 Masons in the City of Philadelphia and, therefore, it was determined that if an average of \$10.00 was contributed by each Mason in the City of Philadelphia the \$500,000 would be raised. The matter was presented to a meeting of representatives of the various Lodges and the campaign was launched for the raising of the funds, with the result as already stated.

The major expenses of the Committee covered the cost of printing, postage, stationery, auditing, sign maintenance and clerk hire. For the greater portion of the time, the Committee was served by two very capable clerks, one by the name of J. Robert Patterson, who served until he entered the Service, and the other is Gerald F. Wilson, Sr., who is still serving the Committee faithfully and well down to the present time.

During the period of the fund collections, and up until the time the Grand Secretary found it necessary to make a call for funds to pay the contractors, the money was on deposit with the Beneficial Saving Fund Society, in a Special Account, which brought some income into the fund. It should be remembered that the monetary condition during 1949, 1950, 1951 and 1952 was much different from that of the present time. The banks then were paying very little or no interest on saving deposits. It is, therefore, due to the excellent judgment, influence and management of Brother William R. Mooney that the arrangement with the Beneficial Saving Fund Society was made possible and a hearty vote of thanks is due Brother Mooney.

Brother William H. Betz has performed outstanding services for the Committee, not only

(Continued on page 6)

From Our Grand Secretary's Office

OUR DECEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

The December Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge was held in Town Hall on Wednesday, December 5, 1956, and the Annual Grand Communication in the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, on Thursday, December 27, 1956.

Annual Election and Installation

At the Quarterly Communication the following Brethren were elected to serve Grand Lodge for the Masonic year beginning December 27, 1956.

Brother CHARLES H. NITSCH,
R. W. Grand Master
Brother SANFORD M. CHILCOTE,
R. W. Deputy Grand Master
Brother MAX F. BALCOM,
R. W. Senior Grand Warden
Brother W. LEROY MCKINLEY,
R. W. Junior Grand Warden
Brother LOUIS BACHARACH,
R. W. Grand Treasurer
Brother GEORGE A. AVERY,
R. W. Grand Secretary

Committee on Masonic Homes

Brother SCOTT C. REA
Brother ROBERT E. WOODSIDE, JR.
Brother SCOTT S. LEIBY, R.W.P.G.M.
Brother C. HOWARD WITMER
Brother WILLIAM E. YEAGER, R.W.P.G.M.
Brother FRANCIS H. MILLS
Brother ELLIS E. STERN

The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary were duly installed at the Annual Grand Communication on December 27.

Gifts and Bequests

At the December Quarterly Communication the Right Worshipful Grand Master announced that during the fiscal year ending November 15, 1956, Grand Lodge received gifts and bequests in the amount of \$466,-010.70. It is of interest to note that the smallest bequest amounted to \$2.68, and the largest, \$76,487.07.

Gift of George H. Deike

At the Annual Grand Communication the R. W. Grand Master, Brother Charles H. Nitsch, informed Grand Lodge that Brother George H. Deike, R. W. Past Grand Master, for the seventh consecutive year had presented a gift of \$5,000.00 to Grand Lodge, to be applied to the cost of the erection of the Recreational Building at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown.

Committee on Finance

The Committee on Finance reported that it had, with the assistance of Main and Company,

Certified Public Accountants, examined the accounts and records of the Grand Lodge, its Committees, Trusts, Bequests, Funds, etc., the accounts and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary, and found the same to be correct.

Receipts during 1956, available for the maintenance of the Masonic Homes and for the operation of Grand Lodge, were \$1,905,-292.04, the expenditures \$1,789,806.34, leaving a balance of \$115,485.70 as of November 15, 1956.

The budget for the fiscal year ending November 15, 1957 included estimated receipts of \$2,353,985.70, and estimated expenditures of \$2,214,131.38, leaving a reserve of \$139,-854.32 for contingencies. Maintenance of the Masonic Homes was set at \$1,273,440.00.

Pennsylvania Freemason

The Committee on Masonic Culture, in its Annual Report, called attention to the growth of the circulation of the Pennsylvania Freemason, which has reached 95,000, or about three eighths of our entire membership; and also, to the increased use of the circulating library. During 1956 twice as many books were borrowed as were requested in 1954.

Grand Master Honored by the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan

A communication was read from Brother Robert A. Tate, Grand Secretary, stating that the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan, Canada, at its Fiftieth Annual Communication, had conferred Honorary Membership on Brother Charles H. Nitsch, Right Worshipful Grand Master, with the rank of Most Worshipful Past Grand Master. A Certificate of Honorary Membership, which accompanied the letter, was then presented to Brother Nitsch by Brother Avery, Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, acting on behalf of Brother Tate.

Pennsylvania Mason Juvenile Court Institute

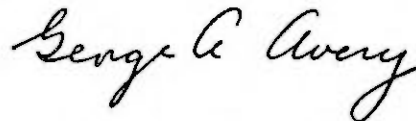
The Committee on Children's Service reported that at the conclusion of the fourth session of the Pennsylvania Mason Juvenile Court Institute, to be held in Pittsburgh from Sunday, December 9, 1956 to Friday, December 14, 1956, 92 judges, representing 40 different states and 24 of the 59 judicial districts in Pennsylvania, will have become Fellows of the Institute.

Following the reading of the report by the Chairman of the Committee, Brother William E. Yeager, Brother Gustav L. Schramm, Director of the Institute, and Chairman of the Salvation Army-Juvenile Court Children's Fund, presented "on behalf of troubled children, a certificate of appreciation" to Brother George H. Deike, Past Grand Master, to Brother William E. Yeager, Past Grand

Master, and to Brother George A. Avery, Grand Secretary, all three of whom had been previously elected to Honorary Membership in the National Juvenile Court Foundation.

Corner Stone

The Right Worshipful Grand Master, Brother Charles H. Nitsch, reported that on Saturday, September 22, 1956, with the assistance of the Officers of Grand Lodge, he had laid the cornerstone of the addition to the Colestock High School in Titusville, Pennsylvania.



GEORGE A. AVERY, Grand Secretary

Brownstone Lodge, No. 666 Dedicates New Temple

The new Brownstone Masonic Temple, home of Brownstone Lodge, No. 666, was dedicated on January 26, 1957, by the R. W. Grand Master, Brother Charles H. Nitsch, and the other Grand Lodge Officers in impressive ceremonies.

Brownstone Lodge which was constituted in 1910 had been meeting in cramped rented quarters in Hummelstown. The Lodge Room on the third floor was entirely too small for the membership of over 500, while the Bank which owned the building desired the Lodge space for its own needs. This prompted Brother Donald J. Diffenbaugh while Worshipful Master in 1954 to revive the Building Committee. The Brownstone Masonic Temple Association was then chartered and the beautiful Masonic Temple in Hershey is the result of that activity.

The new Temple, located on a spacious plot for ample parking at the intersection of Governor's Road and Hockersville Road on the southern outskirts of Hershey, is 52 feet wide and 120 feet long with a projecting entrance lobby 20 feet by 35 feet.

The building, which was designed by Brother Claude R. Greiner, a well known Registered Architect and a Past Master of Brownstone Lodge, is arranged with the Lodge Room and associated rooms on the second floor and the Social or Banquet Hall on the ground floor. The Temple was erected by Brother Martin L. Haldeman, also a member of Brownstone Lodge.

The dedication ceremonies, attended by over 300, were held in the new Lodge Room, while the banquet following the dedication was also held in the Temple.

Brother William H. Earnest, Warrant Master of Brownstone Lodge, attended the ceremonies, while Brother Robert M. Miller, P. M., who had been President of the Temple Association until he became seriously ill was also able to attend.

The Temple with its furnishings cost approximately \$125,000. —A.B.P.

Brother George Washington in Pennsylvania

By WILLIAM E. MONTGOMERY

Although citizens of all States should honor George Washington, it is particularly appropriate for Pennsylvanians to pay tribute to his memory, for though a native of Virginia, yet during the major portion of his public career, he was bound closely and inseparably to the Keystone State, to an extent even greater in many ways than to the Old Dominion in which he was born and reared.

He had scarcely reached his majority in 1753, when he was sent by Governor Dinwiddie to Western Pennsylvania to warn the French to cease building forts and to vacate the territory which they were obviously endeavoring to annex. Upon his return with the report that the French were determined to continue their encroachment on soil claimed by the English, a military expedition was formed to prevent them from putting their designs into effect. Washington declined the leadership of this force, but accepted a commission as Lieutenant Colonel as second in command. The senior officer, Colonel Fry, was later incapacitated and never got beyond Wills Creek, now Cumberland, Maryland. And so it was that in 1754 Washington came again to Pennsylvania in an official capacity.

In the course of about two months his little army of about four hundred men reached the so-called Great Meadows, a comparatively clear area in the wilderness, located about nine miles southeast of what is now the city of Uniontown. There Washington constructed some entrenchments, the beginning of Fort Necessity. His first actual contact with the enemy in this expedition occurred about four miles north of the Great Meadows, where Washington with a detachment of Virginians accompanied by some Indian allies met and defeated a group of French under the command of Ensign Jumonville. At one time there was considerable dispute among local historians whether this should be designated as Washington's first battle. After a bit of controversy, the conclusion was reached that, since less than one hundred men were involved and the action only lasted about fifteen minutes, it could hardly be called a battle, but merely a skirmish. Although it was at this place that Washington was first under fire, it seems to be agreed that his first real battle was at Fort Necessity several days later, on the 3rd and 4th of July, 1754. Deserted by his Indian allies, outnumbered three-to-one, with no hope of expected reinforcements arriving in time, Washington consented to the terms offered by the French that both sides leave the battlefield with all the honors of war.

However, Washington was by no means through fighting in Pennsylvania. In the following year, 1755, he was with Braddock at the defeat and death of that brave but obstinate Englishman. Three years later, Washington again came to Pennsylvania in military service,

this time as the aide to General Forbes, when the English forces captured Fort Duquesne and renamed it Fort Pitt. Although interesting himself to some extent in local affairs, Washington's next service on the national scene was in 1770 when he journeyed to Fort Pitt and thence for a distance down the Ohio in connection with the land bounties which had been promised to the soldiers but which had never been deeded to them. In referring to this land, it should be mentioned that about the same time, Washington purchased the land upon which Fort Necessity was located, and continued as a Pennsylvania land-owner until his death. The tract is mentioned in the settling of his estate as comprising 234 acres at an estimated valuation of \$6.00 per acre.

Again coming to Pennsylvania in nationwide service, Washington was a delegate to the First Continental Congress meeting in Philadelphia in Carpenters Hall in 1774. Then in the following year while a member of the Second Congress, he was elected as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army. If his military career during the next eight years is carefully studied, it will be noted that (with the exception of the siege of Boston and the battles of Long Island and Yorktown) almost all of the principal field engagements, in which Washington himself was personally in command, were fought primarily for the purpose of obtaining or retaining possession of the city of Philadelphia, although admittedly not all were on Pennsylvania soil.

And what patriotic citizen is likely to forget the stories of those darkest days of the Revolution during the terrible winter spent upon the hallowed ground of Valley Forge! Those indeed, in the words of Thomas Paine, were the days "that tried men's souls;" and it is doubtful whether the soldiers of this or any other land ever met the challenge more heroically. The fate of America was hanging in the balance, depending upon the courage, the fortitude, the loyalty of a few thousand ragged, poorly-armed, underfed Continentals who looked with confidence and devotion to their great commander. By the force of his character, by his unconquerable will, by the strength of his courageous soul, the spark of liberty was kept alive. When the writer goes to Valley Forge, he invariably pauses at the National Arch to read thereon the sublime passage comprising the end of the oration of Henry Arnett Brown at the Centennial Celebration of 1878: "And here in this place of sacrifice, in this vale of humiliation, in this valley of the shadow of that death, out of which the Life of America arose, regenerate and free, let us believe with an abiding faith that to those who are to follow, Union will seem as dear, Liberty as sweet, and Progress as glorious as they were to our fathers and are to you and me, and that the institutions which

have made us happy, preserved by the virtue of our children, shall bless the remotest generations of the time to come."

After victory had been attained, it soon became evident that a more stable and effective form of government was absolutely necessary, if the nation was to survive. In answer to this call, Washington came again to Pennsylvania in May 1787 as one of Virginia's Deputies to the Constitutional Convention, over which he presided until the Constitution of the United States was finally approved by the Convention on September 15. New York City was designated as the capital of the new-born nation and Washington was inaugurated there as the first President. However, the seat of government was soon transferred to Philadelphia and thus the greater portion of Washington's two terms was spent in Pennsylvania.

From the foregoing recital of events, it would appear certain that although Washington was a loyal son of Virginia, yet Pennsylvania seems entitled to adopt the major portion of his public career. Although the purpose of this article is to emphasize George Washington's activities within the boundaries of the Keystone State, it does not seem amiss to mention that, even from a Masonic standpoint, Pennsylvania has a claim to Brother Washington by reason of his membership in a Pennsylvania Lodge over a period of several years. He was made a Mason in the Lodge at Fredericksburg, Virginia on November 4, 1752 several months prior to his reaching the age of twenty-one, and continued as a member of that Lodge. However, after his return to Virginia following the termination of the Revolution, a dinner was held in his honor by Alexandria Lodge No. 39 (working under a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania), on St. John the Baptist's Day, June 24, 1784, at which time Washington accepted membership in that Lodge. Several years later, this Lodge surrendered its Pennsylvania warrant and received a new one from the Grand Lodge of Virginia as Alexandria Lodge No. 22. On this warrant Washington is designated as the Worshipful Master and served as such. There is some confusion with regard to the dates pertaining to this change of allegiance, and the belief has been expressed that Washington was actually installed while the Lodge was still working under its Pennsylvania warrant. The writer, however, has been able to find no indisputable evidence of this. It is correct, however, that Brother Washington was serving as Worshipful Master when he became President of the United States in April 1789. Although about one-half of the Presidents have been members of the Masonic fraternity, Washington is the only one who has been Master of a Lodge during any part of his term as President.

Being persuaded that a just application of the principles on which the Masonic Fraternity is founded, must be promotive of private virtue and public prosperity, I shall be happy to advance the interest of the Society, and to be considered by them as a deserving Brother.

GEORGE WASHINGTON