

## 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

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### Freemasonry in a New Age

It may come as something of a shock, it may be a bit difficult to comprehend for a time, but it is a fact that the world is entering or actually in a new era. This is a situation which Freemasonry certainly must consider.

It is not the policy of Freemasonry to enter into political or economic disputes. We do not attempt to advise or instruct any civil organization as to what its course of procedure should be. Such a thing is not within the purposes or functions of the Craft. Yet, the fact remains that we are a definite part of any social order set-up and whatever that may be will surely have an effect upon our Fraternity. Therefore, we must take cognizance of these things and gear our thinking to whatever the future is likely to be.

We know that violent and revolutionary events are taking place in the world. Almost unbelievable things are happening to social orders that have existed for centuries. Perhaps driven by the extraordinary and urgent demands of the past years, scientific development has been speeded up to a bewildering degree. The manner of life to which we were born and in which we grow alters so rapidly that we can hardly keep up with the tempo. This, in a word, presents the picture and poses the problem of what we as Freemasons shall do about it.

Frankly, as an organized body, we should do only what we have always done—with a constant effort to do it better. The lessons for Freemasons to remember or to relearn are that changes in the physical life of nations have been going on since the dawn of man's ordered experience and will continue to go on, but not one of them ever has nor ever can alter the foundations upon which Freemasonry is founded. Freemasonry has nothing in it which needs changing.

Some of our practices might well be improved but all of these refer solely to the machinery of application and are matters always under consideration. When we speak of Freemasonry in a new age, and what may

happen to it there, we are thinking of the principles that brought it into being, that are the justification for its perpetuation.

The whole matter is really simple. What difference does it make what the world does with its affairs? It will still need in it what Freemasonry teaches. Let us be plain about it. New age, era or whatever you may want to call it, men will still need love, friendship, loyalty, brotherhood, generosity and kindness. They will still need understanding, patience and good will.

All these are principles, basic and fundamental. No society can be firmly established or endure without them. These are what Freemasonry teaches and there will never be any reason to change or forsake them. And, incidentally, it is these principles with which we should be most concerned. Sometimes I feel that we get so involved in the organization and machinery of the Fraternity that these more vital things are pushed into the background.

Such a danger could exist now when all of us are so much concerned about the future. Therefore, let us remember that what was really true a thousand years ago with reference to the great virtues is just as true today and will be equally true in the ages to come. We may be assured that Freemasonry in any new age will be unchanged though I hope a deeper appreciation of its moral and spiritual values will be reached and enjoyed by all of us.

—W. A. C.

### George Washington Masonic Memorial

(Continued from page 2)

Freemasons over the land, be increased, if possible, so that this fund may become a reality. It is, therefore, urged that each of the Lodges throughout this Grand Jurisdiction continue to remain steadfast in the matter of securing the amount of \$1.00 from each newly raised Master Mason, forwarding same to the R. W. Grand Secretary so that Pennsylvania may continue its prominent position in support of this great undertaking.

Early in the history of Freemasonry in the Colonies there was considered the proposition of a National Grand Lodge under one National Grand Master. This suggestion first crystalized in a memorable meeting at Morristown, New Jersey on December 15, 1779 and the subject was later discussed at a meeting near Morristown on January 31, 1780. Masonic history indicates that George Washington was present at one or both of these meetings and opposed the idea. It is significant that Masonry in the United States today operates under the several Grand Lodges of the several states, each of which is supreme. In the erection of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial all of the Grand Lodges of our United States, as well as many of the Grand Lodges of other countries, have in a sense been brought together in a great undertaking. The Freemasons as individual members of their respective Lodges

acting under the jurisdiction of their Grand Lodges have also worked together and by their contributions have made possible this great Memorial. One of the greatest undertakings of our time has been a successful one because of the unanimity of thought and action of all Freemasons. In the erection and construction together with the continued activity necessary to the maintenance and preservation of this Memorial, Freemasonry has surely exemplified a great cooperative endeavor. The deep sense of gratitude in the hearts of all mankind in general and Freemasonry in particular for George Washington will be forever exemplified in the Memorial on Shooters Hill. Truly it can be said of him—"FIRST IN THE HEARTS OF HIS MASONIC BRETHREN."

### New District Deputy Grand Masters Appointed

Seven new District Deputy Grand Masters have been appointed by the Right Worshipful Grand Master. They include—

**District J—BROTHER JOHN HARPER**, a Past Master of Robert A. Lamberton Lodge No. 487, in Philadelphia. He is an Attorney and succeeds Brother John H. H. Morrow.

**District 4—BROTHER PAUL G. PENSINGER**, of Gettysburg, a Newspaperman, and a Past Master of Good Samaritan Lodge No. 336. His predecessor was Brother Claude O. Meckley.

**District 13—BROTHER WILLIAM E. FLETH**, a Past Master of King Solomon Lodge No. 584, in Dunmore. Brother Fleth, who succeeds Brother Cecil F. Reeser, is in the lumber business.

**District 28—BROTHER JOHN WATSON HARMEIER**, Past Master of Hugh Thomson Kerr Lodge No. 768, Pittsburgh. Dr. Harmeier follows Brother Robert R. Davey.

**District 34—BROTHER RICHARD E. SHAFFER**, a Past Master of Hyndman Lodge No. 589, in Hyndman, is in the Insurance business, and succeeds Brother I. Newton Taylor.

**District 40—BROTHER MINOR M. DAIN**, Past Master of Phoenix Lodge No. 75, Phoenixville, who is in the Hardware business, succeeds Brother Earl Himmelberger.

**District 57—BROTHER RAYMOND H. GRIMM**, an Engineer and a Past Master of William D. McIlroy Lodge No. 758, Pittsburgh, succeeds Brother Paul H. Magnus.

All of the above outgoing Deputies have served at least ten years and have been appointed Past District Deputy Grand Masters.

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

VOLUME IV

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## A Message from Our Grand Master

### VISIT TO HOLLAND

One of the most delightful experiences of my term of office as Grand Master, was my visit to the Netherlands to attend the 200th Anniversary celebration of Freemasonry in Holland. I was very happy indeed to have been invited and it was a memorable event.

Measured by American standards, the Grand Lodge of the Netherlands is not large. There are some 4500 Masons in 78 Lodges but the spirit of Freemasonry is very strong.

The celebration was held at The Hague on March first and second and was attended by Grand Lodge Officers from many countries. There were present representatives from the Grand Lodge of England, Ireland, Sweden, Scotland, Denmark, Germany, Austria, South Africa, Australia and five Grand Lodges from the United States.

The United States representatives were Whitfield W. Johnson, Past Grand Master of Massachusetts, L. Wade Temple, Jr., Grand Master of South Carolina and his Grand Marshal George R. Alford, Leonel M. Jensen, Grand Master of South Dakota, Colonel and Brother Edward B. Harry, representing the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia and your Grand Master representing Pennsylvania.

On March first, an informal reception was held at the Masonic Temple at the Hague, giving ample opportunity for the various representatives to become acquainted. At this reception various gifts were presented by foreign Grand Lodges. In this Pennsylvania missed her opportunity and it is my hope that this will be corrected and an appropriate gift be sent in the name of our Grand Lodge.

On the evening of March first, the Grand Master entertained his officers and the visitors from foreign jurisdictions at a private dinner, a most delightful affair and here we were presented with a beautiful bound volume of the History of Freemasonry in the Netherlands and a bronze commemorative medal. Both of these important items will be placed in the museum of our Masonic Temple in Philadelphia.

On March second at 11 A.M. the top representatives of the Grand Lodges were received in audience by Her Majesty, Queen Juliana, at her palace at Soestdijk, where we were graciously received by this great lady. There were 19 Brethren in the party and we were served coffee and cakes and spent an interesting hour in her company and during this reception she found time to talk with all of us. A photograph was taken of Her Majesty and the visitors which will be a delightful souvenir of this event.

The formal session of the Grand Lodge of the Netherlands was opened at 3 P.M., March second, in the "Dierentuin" a large assembly hall in the Zoological Garden, the Grand Lodge Hall being inadequate for the large assemblage.

The guests were dramatically received under an arch of steel in a Lodge room beautifully decorated with flowers of all description.

Every available space was covered with flowers. A splendid symphonic orchestra played appropriate music. Each representative was separately received by the Grand Master, Brother C. M. R. Davidson and escorted to a place on the platform. There were 1050 Brethren in the Lodge room, all dressed in full evening dress, white tie, tails and white gloves. This is the dress at all Lodge meetings, both Grand and subordinate.

The Grand Lodge ceremonies were beautiful and dignified. A touching service with appropriate music was performed for their martyred Grand Master Hermannus von Tongeren, who died in the concentration camp in Sachsenhausen. He had been Grand Master from 1929 until 1941.

The Grand Master, Brother C. M. R. Davidson, is an accomplished linguist. He addressed the Grand Lodge in several languages, but nonetheless a translator was available for those from foreign Jurisdictions.

Six subordinate Lodges have been in continuous existence from the beginning of Freemasonry in the Netherlands and the present Masters were given special honors.

The Grand Lodge session lasted from 3 P.M. until 4.30 P.M.

At 7 P.M. the Grand Lodge banquet was held. Some 2000 Brethren were present. Again the visitors were graciously received after the Brethren had been seated.

Toasts were proposed for Queen Juliana, Queen Elizabeth, our own President Dwight D. Eisenhower and to the heads of the other countries represented.

Short addresses were given by all but Sir Allan Adair, the principal speaker, representing the Grand Lodge of England. This fine brother received a tremendous ovation. He had commanded the British troops that had driven the Nazis from the Netherlands and is a hero to all Dutchmen.

I was fortunate during my visit to mingle with many of the Dutch Brethren and I was tremendously impressed with their knowledge of Freemasonry; its purposes, philosophy and history. I learned it is required of all masons in the Netherlands to study Freemasonry thoroughly. They know much of what Freemasonry does in the United States. They are envious of our opportunities for service and of our wealth. It is my intention to keep in touch with several of the Brethren whom I met and I have already received several letters. It was a most delightful and rewarding experience to have visited with our European Brethren and it is an experience I shall always cherish.

CHARLES N. NITSCH, Grand Master



# The George Washington Masonic National Memorial

By SANFORD M. CHILCOTE

Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master

The name of George Washington recalls to my mind a little red-backed book on the front cover of which appeared the words "American History." It was handed to me by my teacher in the very early years of my public school education. When I opened the book I recall the picture of George Washington, underneath which there appeared these words—"FIRST IN WAR, FIRST IN PEACE AND FIRST IN THE HEARTS OF HIS COUNTRYMEN." A deep and lasting impression still remains of the effect of these words and of the picture of this great American who was the "FATHER OF HIS COUNTRY." To the quoted inscription could well have been added—"FIRST IN THE HEARTS OF HIS MASONIC BRETHREN."

Much has been written concerning George Washington as a Mason. His association with Freemasonry during the early history of the Craft in the Colonies has been the subject of much writing. It is well known that he was the First Master of Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22. There can be no question of his practice of the tenets of Freemasonry. His interest and devotion is much in evidence by the very valuable relics handed down to Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22. Many of these relics and valuable items so closely associated with George Washington, the Mason, were for years displayed in a Museum arranged for that purpose under the control and custody of his Lodge. They became the subject of curiosity and interest by those who visited the early environs of his activity. Pilgrimages to Alexandria, Mt. Vernon and other nearby places were being made by many thousands of people for the purpose of viewing them. Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 therefore considered the problem of their preservation, safekeeping and display in view of the tremendous public interest.

On February 22, 1910 Brother Joseph W. Eggleston, M. W. Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, at the request of Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 requested the Grand Masters of Masons over the United States to be present at a meeting of that Lodge. The Worshipful Master of the Lodge explained the purpose of the meeting which was to form an organization which would be as lasting as the birthday then being celebrated, so that the necessary steps could be taken to prepare a suitable building in which the priceless relics surrounding the life and Masonry of George Washington could be placed, properly preserved and displayed. It was considered that the building in which these relics would be placed should be such as would preserve his memory in a *National Sense*, rather than in a purely local sense, as related to Alexandria-

Washington Lodge No. 22. The result was that certain resolutions were drawn by those present, endorsing the proposed erection of a Masonic Temple as a memorial to George Washington. Thereafter on February 21 and 22, 1911 a second meeting was held, attended by a larger representation of Grand Masters and an Association was formed and given the name of "George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association." The first President was Thomas J. Shryock, M. W. Grand Master of Masons in Maryland. On February 21, 1912 the next meeting was held and in the absence of Thomas J. Shryock, Brother James W. Lamberton of Pennsylvania was the acting presiding officer and the Constitution and By-laws were approved and ratified in 1913. To Pennsylvania Masons it is significant to note that when Thomas J. Shryock died in 1917, Brother Louis A. Watres, R. W. Past Grand Master of Masons in Pennsylvania (1916-1917) was elected President and served as such until his death in 1937.

The site selected for the erection of this beautiful and impressive Memorial was thirty-six acres of land located on the western slope of Alexandria, Virginia. It appears that at one time George Washington was the owner of this tract and it was at this location that at one time it was proposed to erect the National Capitol. To the northeast of this site is the City of Washington which is readily viewed, with the Potomac River lying between. To the north is Arlington National Cemetery and in nearby Arlington, Washington's headquarters on two occasions, is Christ Church in which Washington worshiped. To the west is the tower of the Episcopal Theological Seminary, Alma Mater of many famous and distinguished Divines. To the south is located the King's Highway, one of the most famous roads in America. The site is known as Shooters Hill and it has been said that Washington traversed every foot of the area on which the monument is erected.

On November 1, 1923 the cornerstone was laid and it is interesting to note that Calvin Coolidge, then President of the United States, and Chief Justice William Howard Taft of the Supreme Court of the United States, were present. Grand Masters of Masons from all Grand Jurisdictions of the United States actively participated and all Masonic bodies were actively represented. The trowel used was the same which George Washington himself employed in the laying of the cornerstone of the National Capitol in Washington, D. C. one hundred thirty years before. At the dedication ceremony on May 12, 1932, Brother Louis A. Watres, President of the Association, said

"We are dedicating a Temple that will be articulate for centuries. Its interior is still incomplete, but the Masonic spirit which has thus far enabled us to work continuously and without debt since June 5, 1922, when ground was broken, will enable us to complete the interior at an early day. . . . It is the spirit of Masonry and the spirit of Washington that have brought forth this Temple. The impelling force behind it is the gulf-stream of love and of patriotism in the hearts of the Brethren. It will proclaim to the world that Washington's sentinel spirit still guards the imperishable ideals which governed his great career, and which constitute the sure foundation of freedom."

It is impossible to describe the wonder of the Memorial. It has to be seen in order to be understood and appreciated. The exterior is constructed of New Hampshire granite and the interior is beautiful beyond compare. A number of the Grand Lodges have made distinct contributions in the completion and furnishing of the interior. Freemasons of Pennsylvania are proudly represented by their gift of The Library Room which was dedicated on February 22, 1952.

On February 22, 1942 or shortly thereafter, the valuable relics and possessions of Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 were transferred to the Memorial and were placed in rooms especially prepared to receive them. Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 by arrangement with the Association has its Lodge room and meeting place there. To indicate the national scope of this achievement all of the Grand Lodges in the United States and some of the Grand Lodges from other countries have contributed substantially to the support and construction of the Memorial. Shortly after the meeting of February 22, 1942 the Grand Lodges in the United States followed the suggestion of the Association that legislation be enacted whereby each newly raised Master Mason contribute the sum of \$1.00 toward the cost of its maintenance and it was provided that any excess so received be placed in the Endowment Fund. In the year 1944 the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania by Resolution set up The Louis A. Watres Memorial Fund and the Freemasons of Pennsylvania have contributed substantial sums to this Fund. As a matter of fact the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and the Freemasons of this Grand Jurisdiction are the third largest contributors to the Memorial, the amount so contributed as of February 10, 1956 being \$526,194.91.

At the annual meeting of the Memorial Association on February 22, 1957, President C. D. Jory, M. W. Past Grand Master of Iowa, announced that the Memorial is fast reaching its completed stage. The problem now before the Association is to create and establish an Endowment Fund of such amount as will assure its perpetual maintenance and preservation. To this end it is necessary that the effort of the Grand Lodges, as well as of individual

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copy important State, County and City Offices. A dinner preceded the Special Meeting which is held biannually to honor Masonic Members of the Executive and Legislative Branches of our State Government.

Brother Scott S. Leiby, R. W. Past Grand Master, and a former Senator, acted as Toastmaster.

Brother and Senator M. Harvey Taylor, of Perseverance Lodge No. 21 of Harrisburg, introduced Brother and Governor George M. Leader, of White Rose Lodge No. 706, York.

Brother and Senator Frank W. Ruth, of Williamson Lodge No. 307, Womelsdorf, presented Brother and Senator James S. Berger, of Eulalia Lodge No. 342 of Coudersport.

Brother and Representative Stanley G. Stroup, of Doric Lodge No. 630, Sewickley, introduced Brother and Representative Harold B. Rudisill, of Patmos Lodge No. 348, Hanover.

The above speakers in each case were introduced by persons of the opposite political party.

Brother Scott S. Leiby also presented Brother Charles H. Nitsch, R. W. Grand Master and Brother Ralph M. Lehr, R. W. Past Grand Master.

Brother Frank J. Evans is Worshipful Master of Robert Burns Lodge. Over 400 members attended the Special Meeting held in the new Scottish Rite Cathedral and Masonic Temple Building in Harrisburg. —A. B. P.

## Our Masonic Employment Bureau Committee Reports

The Masonic Employment Bureau Committee takes pleasure in presenting herewith its report covering the activities of the Philadelphia and Pittsburgh Bureau offices for the year ended November 15, 1956.

The Committee derives considerable satisfaction from the knowledge that in this, the fortieth year of the Employment Bureau's operation, it has made a substantial contribution to the welfare and benefits of the members of the Fraternity.

We believe the Fraternity will derive gratification from the knowledge that many employers of labor advise that the applicants supplied by the Bureau are of a superior type and, accordingly, a great many of the employers, when vacancies occur, give us the first opportunity to supply applicants therefor.

The Philadelphia and Allegheny Counties Associations are holding regular meetings in collaboration with the Grand Lodge Committee and the cooperation of the subordinate Lodges, through their respective representatives in the association, bespeaks the interest of the membership of the Fraternity in the work which the Employment Bureau Committee is doing. We are pleased to report that there is an increasing use of the Employment Bureau facilities which, of course, enables the Com-

mittee to render constantly improving service and extend increasing help to those members seeking or requiring assistance.

The best indication of the constructive work accomplished by your Committee in the offices under its jurisdictions is reflected in the statistics incorporated in the report itself, a summarization of which we are pleased to submit below:

During the year just closing 3,792 applicants were registered in the Philadelphia and Pittsburgh offices. 3,734 job opportunities were offered to the Bureau offices by employers and 872 of the applicants were placed in positions. It is estimated that the combined income going into Masonic homes resulting from placements during the year was in excess of \$1,070,827.00, and is equivalent to approximately \$65.00 for each dollar of appropriation by the Grand Lodge. We would direct attention to the fact that the average age of the members placed by the Philadelphia office of the Committee was 48 plus years and we derive considerable satisfaction from this fact in view of the difficulty generally experienced by employment agencies in procuring placements for applicants in excess of 40 years of age. We feel that the Employment Bureau offices are promoting prestige and standing with employers which, in turn, reflects credit on the Fraternity and we have every hope of being able to continue the fruitful efforts into the future.

For the information of the members it should be stated here that those eligible for registration, in addition to the members of the Fraternity are their wives, daughters, sisters, mothers and sons under 25 years of age. Any qualified person seeking employment should be urged to register with the Bureau and we would particularly urge Masonic employers who seek competent employees to enlist the services of the respective Bureau offices.

It is interesting to note that when the Bureau first started, over forty years ago, it was pleased to report that it had placed applicants in positions paying in the aggregate of \$7,000.00 per year, as compared with the figure in excess of one million as reported for the year just past.

Serving on the Grand Lodge Employment Bureau Committee are: Brothers Lloyd A. Unger, chairman, Howard A. Woodruff, William F. George, George B. M. Robertson, Frederick W. Gross and Howard Thompson.

## Declaration of Principles

(At the Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in March, 1939, the following "Declaration of Principles," formulated in the Grand Masters' Conference at Washington, D. C., in February of that same year, were introduced and adopted by Grand Lodge. It may well be regarded as a broad definition of Freemasonry.)

Freemasonry is a charitable, benevolent, educational and religious society. Its principles are proclaimed as widely as men will hear. Its only secrets are in its methods of recognition and of symbolic instruction.

It is charitable in that it is not organized for profit and none of its income inures to the benefit of any individual, but all is devoted to the promotion of the welfare and happiness of mankind.

It is benevolent in that it teaches and exemplifies altruism as a duty.

It is educational in that it teaches by prescribed ceremonials a system of morality and brotherhood based upon the Sacred Law.

It is religious in that it teaches monotheism, the Holy Bible is open upon its altars whenever a Lodge is in session, reverence for God is ever present in its ceremonial, and to its brethren are constantly addressed lessons of morality; yet it is not sectarian or theological.

It is a social organization only so far as it furnishes additional inducement that men may forgather in numbers, thereby providing more material for its primary work of education, of worship, and of charity.

Through the improvements and strengthening of the character of the individual man, Freemasonry seeks to improve the community. Thus it impresses upon its members the principles of personal righteousness and personal responsibility, enlightens them as to those things which make for human welfare, and inspires them with that feeling of charity, or good will, toward all mankind which will move them to translate principle and conviction into action.

To that end, it teaches and stands for the worship of God; truth and justice; fraternity and philanthropy; enlightenment and orderly liberty, civil, religious and intellectual. It charges each of its members to be true and loyal to the government of the country to which he owes allegiance and to be obedient to the law of any state in which he may be.

It believes that the attainment of these objectives is best accomplished by laying a broad basis of principle upon which men of every race, country, sect and opinion may unite rather than by setting up a restricted platform upon which only those of certain races, creeds and opinions can assemble.

Believing these things, this Grand Lodge affirms its continued adherence to that ancient and approved rule of Freemasonry which forbids the discussion in Masonic meetings, of creeds, politics, or other topics likely to excite personal animosities.

It further affirms its conviction that it is not only contrary to the fundamental principles of Freemasonry, but dangerous to its unity, strength, usefulness and welfare, for Masonic Bodies to take action or attempt to exercise pressure or influence for or against any legislation, or in any way to attempt to procure the election or appointment of governmental officials, or to influence them, whether or not members of the Fraternity, in the performance of their official duties. The true Freemason will act in civil life according to his individual judgment and the dictates of his conscience.



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*Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master*

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Brother Scott S. Leiby, R. W. Past Grand Master, and a former Senator, acted as Toastmaster.

Brother and Senator M. Harvey Taylor, of Perseverance Lodge No. 21 of Harrisburg, introduced Brother and Governor George M. Leader, of White Rose Lodge No. 706, York.

Brother and Senator Frank W. Ruth, of Williamson Lodge No. 307, Womelsdorf, presented Brother and Senator James S. Berger, of Eulalia Lodge No. 342 of Coudersport.

Brother and Representative Stanley G. Stroup, of Doric Lodge No. 630, Sewickley, introduced Brother and Representative Harold B. Rudisill, of Patmos Lodge No. 348, Hanover.

The above speakers in each case were introduced by persons of the opposite political party.

Brother Scott S. Leiby also presented Brother Charles H. Nitsch, R. W. Grand Master and Brother Ralph M. Lehr, R. W. Past Grand Master.

Brother Frank J. Evans is Worshipful Master of Robert Burns Lodge. Over 400 members attended the Special Meeting held in the new Scottish Rite Cathedral and Masonic Temple Building in Harrisburg. —A. B. P.

## Our Masonic Employment Bureau Committee Reports

The Masonic Employment Bureau Committee takes pleasure in presenting herewith its report covering the activities of the Philadelphia and Pittsburgh Bureau offices for the year ended November 15, 1956.

The Committee derives considerable satisfaction from the knowledge that in this, the fortieth year of the Employment Bureau's operation, it has made a substantial contribution to the welfare and benefits of the members of the Fraternity.

We believe the Fraternity will derive gratification from the knowledge that many employers of labor advise that the applicants supplied by the Bureau are of a superior type and, accordingly, a great many of the employers, when vacancies occur, give us the first opportunity to supply applicants therefor.

The Philadelphia and Allegheny Counties Associations are holding regular meetings in collaboration with the Grand Lodge Committee and the cooperation of the subordinate Lodges, through their respective representatives in the association, bespeaks the interest of the membership of the Fraternity in the work which the Employment Bureau Committee is doing. We are pleased to report that there is an increasing use of the Employment Bureau facilities which, of course, enables the Com-

mittee to render constantly improving service and extend increasing help to those members seeking or requiring assistance.

The best indication of the constructive work accomplished by your Committee in the offices under its jurisdictions is reflected in the statistics incorporated in the report itself, a summarization of which we are pleased to submit below:

During the year just closing 3,792 applicants were registered in the Philadelphia and Pittsburgh offices. 3,734 job opportunities were offered to the Bureau offices by employers and 872 of the applicants were placed in positions. It is estimated that the combined income going into Masonic homes resulting from placements during the year was in excess of \$1,070,827.00, and is equivalent to approximately \$65.00 for each dollar of appropriation by the Grand Lodge. We would direct attention to the fact that the average age of the members placed by the Philadelphia office of the Committee was 48 plus years and we derive considerable satisfaction from this fact in view of the difficulty generally experienced by employment agencies in procuring placements for applicants in excess of 40 years of age. We feel that the Employment Bureau offices are promoting prestige and standing with employers which, in turn, reflects credit on the Fraternity and we have every hope of being able to continue the fruitful efforts into the future.

For the information of the members it should be stated here that those eligible for registration, in addition to the members of the Fraternity are their wives, daughters, sisters, mothers and sons under 25 years of age. Any qualified person seeking employment should be urged to register with the Bureau and we would particularly urge Masonic employers who seek competent employees to enlist the services of the respective Bureau offices.

It is interesting to note that when the Bureau first started, over forty years ago, it was pleased to report that it had placed applicants in positions paying in the aggregate of \$7,000.00 per year, as compared with the figure in excess of one million as reported for the year just past.

Serving on the Grand Lodge Employment Bureau Committee are: Brothers Lloyd A. Unger, chairman, Howard A. Woodruff, William F. George, George B. M. Robertson, Frederick W. Gross and Howard Thompson.

## Declaration of Principles

(At the Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in March, 1939, the following "Declaration of Principles," formulated in the Grand Masters' Conference at Washington, D. C., in February of that same year, were introduced and adopted by Grand Lodge. It may well be regarded as a broad definition of Freemasonry.)

Freemasonry is a charitable, benevolent, educational and religious society. Its principles are proclaimed as widely as men will hear. Its only secrets are in its methods of recognition and of symbolic instruction.

It is charitable in that it is not organized for profit and none of its income inures to the benefit of any individual, but all is devoted to the promotion of the welfare and happiness of mankind.

It is benevolent in that it teaches and exemplifies altruism as a duty.

It is educational in that it teaches by prescribed ceremonials a system of morality and brotherhood based upon the Sacred Law.

It is religious in that it teaches monotheism, the Holy Bible is open upon its altars whenever a Lodge is in session, reverence for God is ever present in its ceremonial, and to its brethren are constantly addressed lessons of morality; yet it is not sectarian or theological.

It is a social organization only so far as it furnishes additional inducement that men may forgather in numbers, thereby providing more material for its primary work of education, of worship, and of charity.

Through the improvements and strengthening of the character of the individual man, Freemasonry seeks to improve the community. Thus it impresses upon its members the principles of personal righteousness and personal responsibility, enlightens them as to those things which make for human welfare, and inspires them with that feeling of charity, or good will, toward all mankind which will move them to translate principle and conviction into action.

To that end, it teaches and stands for the worship of God; truth and justice; fraternity and philanthropy; enlightenment and orderly liberty, civil, religious and intellectual. It charges each of its members to be true and loyal to the government of the country to which he owes allegiance and to be obedient to the law of any state in which he may be.

It believes that the attainment of these objectives is best accomplished by laying a broad basis of principle upon which men of every race, country, sect and opinion may unite rather than by setting up a restricted platform upon which only those of certain races, creeds and opinions can assemble.

Believing these things, this Grand Lodge affirms its continued adherence to that ancient and approved rule of Freemasonry which forbids the discussion in Masonic meetings, of creeds, politics, or other topics likely to excite personal animosities.

It further affirms its conviction that it is not only contrary to the fundamental principles of Freemasonry, but dangerous to its unity, strength, usefulness and welfare, for Masonic Bodies to take action or attempt to exercise pressure or influence for or against any legislation, or in any way to attempt to procure the election or appointment of governmental officials, or to influence them, whether or not members of the Fraternity, in the performance of their official duties. The true Freemason will act in civil life according to his individual judgment and the dictates of his conscience.



## From Our Grand Secretary's Office

### CONFERENCE OF GRAND SECRETARIES IN NORTH AMERICA

The Twenty-ninth Annual Conference of Grand Secretaries in North America met in the Pan-American Room of the Hotel Statler, Washington, D. C., on Thursday, February 21, 1957, with Harry S. Johnson of Ohio, presiding. There were forty-seven Grand Secretaries present, five Associate Members, and three Grand Secretaries represented by proxy, making a total attendance of fifty-five. Fifty of the fifty-nine Grand Jurisdictions which are members were represented.

It should be clearly understood that the Conference of Grand Secretaries, like the Conference of Grand Masters, has no power to legislate for the several Grand Lodges which constitute its membership. Each Grand Lodge is a law unto itself, and the Conference of Grand Secretaries, rather than a legislative body, is a forum for the interchange of ideas and information.

To be sure, many of the ideas which are not in conflict with the law of other Grand Lodges find practical application in the work of many of the Grand Secretaries, and the information that is presented is of invaluable help in understanding the law and procedure of the several Grand Lodges.

There were four papers presented and discussed in the 1957 Conference.

#### 1. Uniformity in Certificates for Transfer of Membership and the Handling Thereof.

Presented by

Arthur H. Strickland, Kansas

Discussion led by

Elvin F. Strain, South Dakota

#### 2. Reciprocity Between Grand Lodges on Rejected Petitioners.

Presented by

Julian B. Hollingsworth, West Virginia

Discussion led by

Raymond N. Babcock, District of Columbia

#### 3. What is an Unaffiliated Mason? What Are His Rights and Privileges?

Presented by

Earl W. Taylor, Massachusetts

Discussion led by

Harold O. Cady, New Hampshire

#### 4. Should Grand Lodges Encourage and Promote the Organization of New Lodges? If So, How?

Presented by

Byron F. Gaither, Montana

Discussion led by

Daniel W. Locklin, Georgia

It was evident that each paper had been written only after intensive study and thorough preparation. In each case, the discussion was not only spirited, but helpful as well. At the close of the session, it was agreed that the day had been well spent, and that the Conference had been of great benefit to all who had attended.

The Grand Secretaries' Banquet was held the same evening, in the Federal Room of the Hotel Statler. The Speaker of the Evening was Matthew W. Hill, Past Grand Master of Masons in Washington, and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Washington. Brother Hill's address, the subject of which was "Pronounce or Perish," was based on those familiar words from Holy Writ, "Say now, Shibboleth." It was replete with appropriate illustrations aptly applied to the practical problem of living from day to day in accordance with the high moral and spiritual teachings of the Craft.

### Annual Rehearsal of the Ritualistic Work

On Tuesday evening, March 5, under the direction of Brother Andrew J. Schroder, Instructor of the Ritualistic Work, the three Degrees were exemplified in the presence of the R. W. Grand Master, Brother Charles H. Nitsch, in the auditorium of Town Hall, Broad and Race Streets, Philadelphia. Approximately 1400 were present.

Members of the Temple School of Instruction opened and closed the Master Mason's Lodge, and exemplified the Entered Apprentice Degree. The Sixth District School exemplified the Fellowcraft Degree, and the Fortieth District School exemplified the Master Mason's Degree.

### The March Quarterly Communication

Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form on Wednesday, March 6, at 7 P.M.

There were 251 Lodges represented, with 617 Brethren present.

### Reports of Committees

Reports were received from the Committees on By-Laws, Temple, Masonic Culture and Children's Service.

The report of the Committee on Finance included two resolutions which were unanimously adopted.

The first of these appropriated \$75,000 additional from the Grand Lodge Reserve Fund for the purpose of improving the Premises 1324-1342 Arch Street, so as to make the presently unrented portions of that building available for leasing.

The second resolution was as follows:

ARTHUR H. HULL  
MEMORIAL

It is with profound sorrow that we record the death of Arthur H. Hull, on February 2, 1957, and

WHEREAS, Arthur H. Hull for a period of over thirteen years has faithfully served on the Committee of Finance of Grand Lodge, and on its Sub-Committees, from time to time, to the best of his ability and deep interest,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That this Committee hereby desires to express, and to have recorded, its sincere thanks and appreciation for the loyal and faithful service rendered by him to this Committee as a member thereof, and the deep sense of loss to its individual members, at the severance of their close association with him in the duties of this Committee.

He has rendered outstanding service and his help, counsel and advice will be sadly missed. He has given without stint of his time, thought and energy, and it is difficult to adequately express our appreciation of his tireless labor and self-sacrifice.

### Masonic Week at Washington, D. C.

Reports of the meeting of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association, held in Alexandria, Va., February 22, 1957, of the meeting of the Masonic Service Association of the United States, held in Washington, D. C., February 19, 1957, and of the Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, held in Washington, D. C., February 20 and 21, 1957, were presented by Brothers Sanford M. Chilcote, R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Max F. Balcom, R. W. Senior Grand Warden, and W. LeRoy McKinley, R. W. Junior Grand Warden, respectively.

The R. W. Grand Master, Brother Charles N. Nitsch, informed the Brethren of some of the highlights of his recent visit to the Grand Lodge of The Netherlands on the occasion of its 200th Anniversary.

### SUMMARY OF MEMBERSHIP FOR 1956 BEFORE EXAMINATION OF GENERAL RETURNS

The Grand Secretary presented the following annual statistical report:

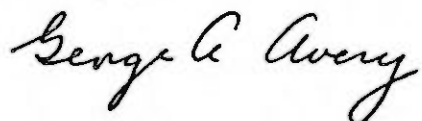
Number of Lodges, December 27, 1955 . . .	585
Number of Lodges Constituted in 1956 . . .	2
Number of Lodges, December 27, 1956 . . .	587
Membership, December 27, 1955 . . . . .	252,406
Admitted during 1956 . . . . .	711
Initiated during 1956 . . . . .	8,708
	9,419
Suspended during 1956 . . . . .	930
Resigned during 1956 . . . . .	721
Deceased during 1956 . . . . .	4,905
	6,556
Increase (net) for 1956 . . . . .	2,863
Membership, December 27, 1956 . . . . .	255,269

It is of interest to note that 1956 was the fourteenth consecutive year during which the total membership of our Lodges has increased.

In 1942 there was a net decrease of 49, with a total membership of 170,138 reported at the close of the year.

During the fourteen following years (1943-1956), there have been 145,295 initiations, with a net increase in membership of 85,131.

The average number of initiations has been 10,378 per year, and the average yearly increase in membership 6,081.



GEORGE A. AVERY, Grand Secretary

## Noteworthy Masonic Meeting Places

### II—INDEPENDENCE HALL

By WILLIAM E. MONTGOMERY

When, toward the end of 1799, the owners of the Free Quakers' Meeting House at Fifth and Arch Streets, in Philadelphia, refused to renew the lease for the room in which the Grand Lodge and the several subordinate lodges in that city had been meeting during the previous nine years, the brethren were in quite a quandary. No suitable room seemed to be available and funds were not at hand with which to buy a building. Grand Lodge did own a lot at the south-west corner of 12th and Walnut Streets. This was originally presented in 1785 by Brother Joseph Dean (later Senior Grand Warden) in consideration of ten shillings and the payment of one acorn annually on Saint John the Evangelist's Day if demanded—provided that a building be erected thereon. This condition was not fulfilled, and when Brother Dean became bankrupt a few years afterwards, the lot was seized as part of his property, and was sold. However, in the following year (1792) Grand Lodge bought the lot for four pounds five shillings (it was sold in 1805 for \$2,000.00—a nice "capital gain," and not taxable as such!). This lot was available as a building site, but there was insufficient time—and the efforts to raise funds had not made great progress. Besides, many of the brethren thought that the lot was much "too far out of town!"

Evidently, however, some one had a happy thought and under date of November 4, 1799 a letter was written to His Excellency, Thomas Mifflin, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, stating in part: "Your petitioners, understanding that the rooms in the State House are at present unoccupied and are likely to remain so for a considerable time, are induced to request the Grd. Lodge may be indulged with the use of the Senate Chamber or such other apartments on the same floor as your Excellency may see fit." The Governor assigned the Secretaries' Chamber to Grand Lodge and it was used for Masonic purposes for about two and one-half years.

It was quite appropriate that the Freemasons of Philadelphia should have been given this temporary privilege, inasmuch as their fraternal ancestors had been decidedly active in the erection of that historic structure. When the construction of a State House (as it was originally designated) was first proposed, it was suggested that it be located on High Street near the Prison, and vigorous efforts were made to adopt that site. Due to the efforts of the Speaker of the Assembly, Andrew Hamilton, that proposal was defeated and the present site selected in order that there might be plenty of ground available to set off and emphasize

the beauty of the structure. Hamilton (although not an architect) also drew the rough sketch of the building. He made a world-wide reputation as the counsel for the New York printer, John Peter Zenger, when he brilliantly and successfully defended the principle of the freedom of the press. He was the father of James Hamilton (Grand Master of Pennsylvania in 1735) and the father-in-law of William Allen who was the original and oft-time Grand Master and was definitely "Mister Masonry" in Pennsylvania for a period of thirty years. When the controversy concerning the site of the State House was at its height in the early 1730s, William Allen bought and held for the Province a large part of the land needed under Hamilton's plan. The site was staked and the foundations laid under the direction of Thomas Redman (City Surveyor 1712-1725) who was one of the early members of St. John's Lodge. In charge of the brick-work was Thomas Boude, the first Secretary of St. John's Lodge. It is quite possible that Thomas Hart assisted in this phase of the construction. It has been claimed that Edmund Woolley, the general superintendent and master carpenter, was a Mason but proof of this seems to be lacking. In later years a brother by the name of Woolly visited the lodge meeting at the Tun Tavern but there is nothing which identifies him as Edmund. According to Masonic legend, the corner-stone was laid by Benjamin Franklin during his year (1734) as Grand Master. It has also been claimed that a trowel (said to have been used on that occasion) was for many years in the possession of the Bache family.

For several years, Independence Hall proved to be a very satisfactory meeting place for the brethren, except for the fact that they still desired a home of their own. In the early part of 1802, however, the Legislature granted to the artist, Charles Willson Peale, permission to use the east room (Assembly Chamber) and part of the upstairs as an art gallery and museum. Dissension soon arose between the two tenants and later in the year, the Masons were asked to vacate. This was rather embarrassing as they had no place to go—until Brother William Francis offered a room on 8th Street which was used until a property on Filbert Street could be purchased and made ready for occupancy. Incidentally, it is interesting to note that some months later the Grand Lodge voted to request the R. W. Grand Master to cause Brother Francis to be passed to the Chair. He was also presented with the appropriate jewel and apron and was given a vote of thanks "for his kind attention to the welfare of our Institution."

## For Your Reading Pleasure

The following is just a partial listing of the many available and highly recommended books for Freemasons to read. These, and many others may be enjoyed through the Circulating Library of Grand Lodge. Send your request to:

**William J. Paterson, Librarian and Curator, Masonic Temple, Broad and Filbert Streets, Philadelphia 7, Pa.**

Introduction to Freemasonry . . . . . Carl H. Claudy  
The Builders . . . . . Joseph Fort Newton  
The Newly-Made Mason . . . . . H. L. Haywood  
The Beginnings of Freemasonry in America  
Melvin M. Johnson  
Brothers and Builders . . . . . Joseph Fort Newton  
The Great Teachings of Masonry . . . . . H. L. Haywood  
These Were Brethren . . . . . Carl H. Claudy  
Facts for Freemasons . . . . . Harold V. B. Voorhis  
Short Readings in Masonic History . . . . . J. Hugo Tatsch  
Speculative Mason . . . . . A. S. MacBride  
The Master's Book . . . . . Carl H. Claudy  
Our Ancient Brethren . . . . . F. de P. Castells  
A History of Freemasonry . . . . . H. L. Haywood  
and J. E. Craig

Freemasonry Before the Existence of  
Grand Lodges . . . . . Lionel Vibert  
Washington, the Man and the Mason  
Charles H. Callahan

The Facts About George Washington  
as a Mason . . . . . J. Hugo Tatsch  
Territorial Masonry . . . . . Ray V. Denslow  
Guild Masonry in the Making . . . . . Charles H. Merz  
The Cathedral Builders . . . . . Leader Scott  
Origin of the Masonic Degrees . . . . . F. de P. Castells  
England's Masonic Pioneers . . . . . Dudley Wright  
The Mediaeval Mason . . . . . Douglas Knopp and  
G. P. Jones

The Concise History of Freemasonry  
Robert Freke Gould

Historical Landmarks of Freemasonry  
George Oliver

The Spirit of Masonry . . . . . William Hutchinson  
The Revelations of a Square . . . . . George Oliver  
The Religion of Freemasonry . . . . . Henry Whymper  
The Genesis of Freemasonry . . . . . Douglas Knopp and  
G. P. Jones

Morals and Dogma—A. & A. S. R. of  
Freemasonry . . . . . Albert Pike  
Symbolism of Freemasonry . . . . . Albert G. Mackey  
Symbolical Masonry . . . . . H. L. Haywood  
Jurisprudence of Freemasonry . . . . . Albert G. Mackey  
Masonic Law and Practice . . . . . Luke A. Lockwood  
The Landmarks of Freemasonry . . . . . Silas H. Shepherd  
Masonic Jurisprudence . . . . . John T. Lawrence  
One Common Purpose . . . . . Charles H. Johnson  
The Men's House . . . . . Joseph Fort Newton  
Masonic Soldiers of Fortune . . . . . William M. Stuart  
The Masonic Harvest . . . . . Carl H. Claudy  
The Man of Mount Moriah . . . . . Clarence M. Boutelle

## Robert Burns Lodge No. 464 Host to Grand Lodge Officers and State Officials

Politics and the problems of the day were laid aside recently when Robert Burns Lodge No. 464 of Harrisburg was host to Grand Lodge Officers and Brother George M. Leader, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and over one hundred other Masons who oc-