

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, Grand Secretary.

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Freemasonry in The Netherlands

By R. W. WARD K. ST. CLAIR

Chairman of Museum and Library Committee

R. W. Grand Lodge of New York

Freemasonry was first introduced into The Netherlands from England in 1731, when a delegation visited The Hague for the purpose of conferring the First and Second Degrees on the Duke of Lorraine, afterwards the Emperor Francis I. He received the Third Degree subsequently in England. There is a legend that there were several Dutch and English Lodges operating in The Hague prior to 1735 but this legend has not been confirmed.

On September 30, 1734, a Lodge was opened by Bro. Vincent de la Chapelle, who may be considered as the originator of Masonry in The Netherlands. This lodge received a patent from the Grand Lodge of England in 1735 and proceeded to establish several other Lodges. On November 30, of that year the States General issued an edict prohibiting all Masonic meetings. Most of the Lodges ceased to function but the Lodge in Amsterdam continued to operate in secret. This action by the Lodge was soon discovered by the government authorities. The resulting action led to the cancellation of the edict and the Lodges again resumed their activity.

On December 25, 1756, fourteen Dutch Lodges assembled and formed the Grand Lodge of the United Netherlands. Negotiations were soon started with the Grand Lodge of England for an independent Grand Lodge. Accordingly an agreement was finally signed on April 25, 1770 which established the Grand Lodge of the United Netherlands as an independent body.

To become a Mason in The Netherlands requires patience and perseverance. First the

applicant must obtain the recommendation of a Master Mason. During the next twelve to eighteen months he is examined very closely in all ways, by various Brethren of the Lodge as well as by the Council of the Lodge. The Council gathers all the information it can concerning the candidate. This is done severely and accurately. His entire life's record is scrutinized; if the verdict is favorable he receives the first degree. For a year the Entered Apprentice receives instruction nearly every week. After passing a thorough examination, he is passed to the degree of Fellowcraft. Another year of instruction follows. The Brother is again judged, and when the results are according to the aims of Masonry he becomes a Master Mason—two years, with systematic instruction between the First and Third Degrees.

In addition to the Craft Degrees there are practiced in The Netherlands the degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Rite and the Royal Arch degree.

Originally the degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Rite (to us in the United States the "Scottish Rite") were conferred under the control of the Supreme Council of Belgium. However, in 1912 a Supreme Council of the Rite was organized in The Netherlands. Official recognition of this body was given by both the Northern and Southern Supreme Councils in the United States in 1913. The Supreme Council of The Netherlands was formed under the authority from the Supreme Council of Belgium. The First Degree of the Rite conferred is the Rose Croix of the 18th. The other degrees of the Rite which are worked are the 22nd, 26th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, and 33rd. Membership in the Rite is by invitation and the degrees beyond the 18th are controlled by the Supreme Council.

The Royal Arch Degree has been introduced since the end of World War II. A number of Dutch Masons made a journey to England where they were initiated into the Royal Arch. They then obtained a Charter for a Chapter to be held in The Hague and have since that time worked in their own country. They use the English method of work and only confer the Royal Arch Degree in their Chapters.

Neither the Cryptic Rite nor the Order of the Temple operates in The Netherlands.

Netherlands Freemasonry is a great charitable organization. The amount of its charity far exceeds that of many countries with a larger membership. They maintain schools and orphanages for the children and orphans of Masons.

Additional Institutes Being Conducted by Committee on Masonic Culture

The new series of pamphlets, which are to be used primarily for the instruction of the Members as well as Initiates in the fascinating and inspiring fundamentals of Masonic history, tradition and symbolism, have been distributed to the Lodge Officers and Members of the Lodge Committee on Masonic Culture. These new pamphlets will amplify the instruction contained in the present booklets ("On the Threshold," *et al.*), the use of which will be continued.

To indoctrinate the Members of the Lodge Committee on Masonic Culture and Lodge Officers in the aims, objectives and procedure of the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Culture, Institutes will be held in various sections of the Jurisdiction. These Institutes generally embrace the Lodges in two or more adjacent Districts.

The first of these Institutes embracing the Lodges which comprise the 30th, 39th and 41st Districts was held in the Masonic Temple, Johnstown, at 3 P.M. on Saturday, May 2nd. The twenty-three Lodges were represented by a total of one hundred fifty-five Officers and Committee Members. Following a meeting of one and one-half hours in duration, conducted by Brother William E. Yeager and Brother William E. Montgomery, Chairman and Secretary, respectively, of the Grand Lodge Committee, those present participated in a delicious dinner.

The second Institute was held at 8:30 P.M. on Monday, June 1st in the Masonic Temple at Erie. Each Lodge in District No. 24 was represented by the Worshipful Master and other Officers and Members of the Committee on Masonic Culture, a total of ninety-four Brethren being present.

Institutes have been scheduled for:

August 29th—New Castle—
Districts No. 26, 27, 37, 53 and 54.
September 5th—Altoona—
Districts No. 20, 21 and 34.
September 12th—Oil City—
Districts No. 23, 25, 52 and 56.

The meetings will convene at 3 P.M., followed by a dinner at 5:30 P.M.

It is hoped that arrangements may be made which will enable all of the Districts in Philadelphia to participate in an Institute which is to be held on a Saturday in October.

If, at any time, your present mailing address is changed, please remember that, in addition to your new address, your Lodge Number MUST be indicated if you wish to continue receiving "The Pennsylvania Freemason."

In mailing in a "Change of Address Card," it is vitally important to process one card only and to be certain that your Name, New Address and Lodge Number are so noted.

... YOUR NAME ... YOUR NEW ADDRESS AND LODGE NUMBER
ARE MOST IMPORTANT, IF AND WHEN YOU MOVE

The FREEMASON

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

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NUMBER 3

Pennsylvania Freemasons Have Part in Pittsburgh Bicentennial

A Message from Our Grand Master

ONE OF THE outstanding Communications of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in recent years will be held in the City of Pittsburgh on September 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 1959. The City of Pittsburgh is celebrating its Bicentennial year and it is most fitting that Freemasonry be represented as an integral part of the many activities in connection with the Bicentennial. A great deal of thought and planning is involved in bringing the September Quarterly Communication of our Grand Lodge to Pittsburgh. For the first time in the history of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania a Quarterly Communication will be held away from the City of Philadelphia.

It is urged that every Mason make careful note of what is said here. Especially, we call the attention of all Masons in the Pittsburgh area and southwestern Pennsylvania to note well the program hereinafter discussed. If you can plan to be present at some or all of the various activities we feel quite certain that you will be well rewarded.

On the evening of September 1, 1959, at 7:30 o'clock, P.M., in the Masonic Temple located at Fifth, Lytton and Tennyson Avenues, a most prominent citizen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania will be made a Mason At Sight. He will receive his Degrees in Verona Lodge No. 548, which on that evening will meet in the Masonic Temple. We are certain that you will desire to be present and be a part of the events of the evening.

At 9:30 o'clock, A.M., on September 2, 1959, a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will be held in the Masonic Temple. The purpose of this Communication is to Constitute a new Masonic Lodge to be known as the Col. Henry Bouquet Lodge No. 787 of which Hiram P. Ball will be the Warrant Master. We know that many Masons will look forward to the Constitution of this Lodge as a part of Masonry's contribution to the Bicentennial. All of the Grand Lodge Officers will be present to participate in this activity.

At the conclusion of the Constitution of the Col. Henry Bouquet Lodge No. 787 and at 12 o'clock Noon sharp, a Memorial Plaque will be dedicated. This plaque is in memory of all Masons who have by their individual efforts contributed to the growth and development of the City of Pittsburgh during the past two hundred years. This plaque has been beautifully designed and arranged and will be so located on the Fifth Avenue side of the Masonic Temple that it will be viewable and readable by all who will in future time walk on the Fifth Avenue sidewalk abutting the Temple property. The proceedings in connection with this dedication will be televised and broadcast in the Pittsburgh area.

Following the dedication of the Memorial Plaque luncheon will be served to all Masons present, in the Dining Room of the Masonic Temple and also in the Dining Room of Syria Mosque located nearby. At the conclusion of the luncheon a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will be held in Syria Mosque at which time many distinguished Masons from all over the United States and Canada will be received and introduced by the Grand Master. At the conclusion of this Special Communication Dinner will be served to all Masons present, in the Dining Rooms of Syria Mosque and the Masonic Temple.

At 7 o'clock, P.M., the September Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will be held in Syria Mosque. As a part of the September Quarterly Communication the Oration will be delivered by the Honorable Brother Clyde S. Shumaker, President Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Butler County, Pennsylvania.

The Pennsylvania Mason Juvenile Court Institute will hold its Tenth Anniversary Dinner on the evening of September 3, 1959 at the Masonic Temple. The Grand Master has invited all of the Judges of all of the Courts in Allegheny County to be his

(Continued on page 2)

A Message from Our Grand Master

(Continued from page 1)

guests at this Tenth Anniversary Dinner. An outstanding Mason, Dr. Thomas S. Roy, Most Worshipful Past Grand Master of Masons of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, will deliver the Address. We are certain that you will want to be present on that occasion. Arrangements for tickets for this function should be made through the Honorable and Brother Gustav L. Schramm, Judge of the Juvenile Court of Allegheny County, 3333 Forbes Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The growth and development of any great City is the result of the efforts of the individual citizens. Freemasons have been most active in the building and development of the City of Pittsburgh. It is the purpose of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to recognize and memorialize those who have labored diligently in the development of this great City. We know that if it

Arthur E. Myers Resigns After Decade of Excellent Administration at The Homes

After more than a decade of highly efficient, conscientious service, Brother Arthur E. Myers has resigned as Superintendent of The Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown, effective September 1, 1959.

Shortly after the sudden death on October 3, 1948, of Brother Frederick C. Auch, Brother Myers, who had been engaged in institutional work for 18 years in Dauphin County, was considered for this most important post. After several conferences, Brother Myers was officially appointed as the new Superintendent on December 17, 1948, effective January 1, 1949.

Brother Myers served as Superintendent during one of the most active periods in the history of The Masonic Homes. At the end of 1948, there were 596 Guests, including 55 children, in The Homes, and the highest number of Guests in the Philadelphia Freemasons' Memorial Hospital that year was 174. By mid-1959 there were 695 Guests in The Homes, of which 279 were in the Hospital and 87 in the Allegheny County Rest Home.

During the same period, The Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown also witnessed its greatest building program. In 1951 the Nurses Memorial Home was dedicated. A year later the swimming pool was completed, and then the kitchen in Grand Lodge Hall was completely rebuilt and new equipment installed. In 1954 a walk-in tunnel with new utility services was erected from the powerhouse to the Hospital, a distance of a mile. A large impounding dam with a capacity of 3,500,000 gallons was completed in 1956. The large addition to the Philadelphia Freemasons' Memorial Hospital and the alterations to the existing building were completed the following year.

is at all possible for you to commit yourself to be present you will be well pleased with what you observe.

We also call your attention to the fact that on August 23, 1959 the *Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph* will publish a special section devoted to Freemasonry. Much work and planning has gone into this publication. We are certain that it will be most valuable as a source of Masonic information.

Will you please make careful note of the above and by your presence contribute to the success of this outstanding recognition of Freemasons in the development of the City of Pittsburgh.

Cordially and fraternally,

Sanford M. Chilcote

SANFORD M. CHILCOTE, R. W. Grand Master

The Masonic Temple of The Masonic Homes and the Recreation Building were dedicated last year, while the electrical wiring and facilities in Grand Lodge Hall and many of the Guest Homes are now being replaced.

It has been an extremely busy and most interesting period in the history of our Masonic Homes, with new developments being experienced almost daily. The tranquility, happiness and continuing excellent care of our Guests during this hectic period, along with the able management of The Homes, is a great tribute to the ability, resourcefulness and devotion of our Superintendent, Brother Arthur E. Myers.

It is hoped that he and his gracious lady will continue to enjoy life for many years to come.—A.B.P.

Patmos Lodge, No. 348 Dedicates New Masonic Temple

The members of Patmos Lodge No. 348 can well be proud of their newly constructed Masonic Temple. Located at 855 Broadway on an ample plot near the outskirts of Hanover, this one-story and basement structure will provide a comfortable home for the Masonic bodies in this area.

The building has an exterior width of 42 feet and a depth of 123 feet. The Lodge Room on the first floor is 40 feet by 70 feet with a permanent seating capacity of 155. Also on the first floor is a spacious lobby, office, first-aid room and storage space.

The 40-foot by 80-foot Social Room in the basement seats 450 and is equipped with modern kitchen facilities. All utilities are also located in the basement. The property provides off-street parking for 60 cars.

The Patmos Masonic Corporation is headed

by Brother John P. Wildasin, President, while the Building Committee includes Brothers Luke W. Rohrbaugh, Chairman; J. Walter Rohrbaugh and Raymond C. Markle. Brothers Paul G. Pensinger, District Deputy Grand Master, and Claude O. Meckley, the latter a Past Master of this Lodge and a Past District Deputy, were enthusiastic supporters of this project.

Ground-breaking ceremonies were held on March 16, 1958, while the cornerstone was laid on September 28, 1958. The Temple was dedicated on January 25, 1959, while the Right Worshipful Grand Master, Brother Sanford M. Chilcote, and a corps of Grand Lodge Officers dedicated the Lodge Room to Freemasonry at a Special Communication of Grand Lodge on February 14, 1959.

In addition to Patmos Lodge No. 348, Hanover Royal Arch Chapter No. 310, Penn Council No. 67, Bethel Commandery No. 98 with its Auxiliary and a Chapter of DeMolay will meet in this Temple.—A.B.P.

DO YOU DESIRE A BICENTENNIAL MEDALLION?

Brother Sanford M. Chilcote, Right Worshipful Grand Master, has authorized the casting of a special 3-inch solid bronze Medallion, commemorating the Masonic Ceremonies in connection with Pittsburgh's Bicentennial Year Celebration. This is a limited issue of a unique and historic Masonic commemorative piece.

These Medallions sell at \$3.75 each, postage included. Should you desire one or more please mail your check to Brother Oscar R. Olson, 209 Boulevard of Allies, Pittsburgh 22, Pennsylvania, being careful to give your name and correct address.

The First American Masonic Book

By HAROLD V. B. VOORHIS

The *Pennsylvania Gazette*, published by Benjamin Franklin, in numbers 283, 285 and 286, contained this advertisement (May 9, 1734): "Just Published

The CONSTITUTIONS OF THE FREEMASONS: Containing the History, Charges, Regulations, etc., of that most ancient and Right Worshipful Fraternity, London printed. Reprinted by B. FRANKLIN, in the year of Masonry 5734. Price stitch'd 2s. 6, bound 4s."

Thus was heralded the first Masonic book printed in America—some six months before its printer became Grand Master of Pennsylvania Freemasons and three months before the actual distribution of the first copies.

This book is the rarest and, consequently, the most prized Masonic book in America. I have traced 127 copies sold by Franklin between August 1734 and March 1735, from his account books, 5 copies being bound and the other 122 being unbound. Of these I have discovered seventeen—all extant but one owned by Annapolis Royal Lodge in Nova Scotia, which had been presented to Grand Master Phillips in 1738, which was destroyed in a fire in the Lodge Room. The copies are as follows:

- 1 —GRAND LODGE LIBRARY—Iowa
- 2 —A. & A. S. RITE LIBRARY—
Washington, D. C.
- 3 —GRAND LODGE LIBRARY—New York
- 4 —GRAND LODGE LIBRARY—Pennsylvania
- 5 —GRAND LODGE LIBRARY—Pennsylvania
- 6 —AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL LIBRARY—
Pennsylvania
- 7*—UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY
—Pennsylvania
- 8*—HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA
—Pennsylvania
- 9*—GRAND LODGE LIBRARY—Massachusetts
- 10*—GRAND LODGE LIBRARY—Massachusetts
- 11*—GRAND LODGE LIBRARY—Massachusetts
- 12 —YALE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY—
Connecticut
- 13 —ALEXANDRIA-WASHINGTON LODGE,
No. 22—Virginia
- 14*—ACADEMY BORNEMAN COPY—
Pennsylvania
- 15 —GRAND LODGE LIBRARY—England
- 16*—WALLACE HEATON—England

*Re-bound copies.

The original London edition contains 91 pages. The "FRANKLIN REPRINT" contains 94 pages—including "A New Song" on page 93. There are some minor errors in Franklin's book, the most obvious being two pages numbered 87, and no page 88.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania published a facsimile edition of the "FRANKLIN REPRINT"

labeled "In the Year of Masonry 5906; Anno Domini 1906" on the title page. However, the official bookplate in the copies reads "Reprinted by the Committee on Library—A.L. 5907—A.C. 1907." In this facsimile the pagination 87-87 is corrected to 87-88.

I have held every copy of this book extant in my hands, and it was a rare privilege to have my fingers on the very pages on which once rested those of "the first civilized American," as Philips Russell calls Franklin. Dr. A. S. W. Rosenbach, the famous bibliophile, said that Franklin "originated almost everything original in America."

Note: A full description of each copy extant may be found in the TRANSACTIONS OF THE AMERICAN LODGE OF RESEARCH (New York) Volume VI—Number 2—1954-1955, pages 182-186.

Our Circulating Library Available to All Pennsylvania Freemasons

The library in the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia belongs to the Masons of Pennsylvania. It is financed by them and managed for them by the Committee on Masonic Culture of the Grand Lodge. Any Pennsylvania Mason may borrow books through the Circulating Library in person or by mail. There are no fees and no expense except for return postage.

Regardless of the needs or desires of any Mason, whether it be history, biography, symbolism or the romance of the Fraternity, outstanding works by distinguished authors are available.

Brethren who desire to make use of the facilities of the library should write to:

William J. Paterson, Librarian
Masonic Temple, Broad and Filbert Sts.
Philadelphia 7, Pa.

Council of Deliberation Meets in Pittsburgh

The high lights of the meeting of the Pennsylvania Council of Deliberation at the Masonic Temple in Pittsburgh on July 10, 1959, were the addresses by Ill. Scott S. Leiby, 33°, Deputy for Pennsylvania, and Ill. John A. Fleck, 33°, Assistant to the Sovereign Grand Commander and Editor of the *News-Letter*.

Other than the adoption of a resolution prohibiting action within the District upon petitions for dual or plural membership until the Council of Deliberation of Pennsylvania has adopted regulations governing such membership in our subordinate bodies, only business of a routine nature was transacted and the session closed with a delicious dinner followed by a very diversified entertainment provided by the members of the Scottish Rite Bodies in the Valley of Pittsburgh.—W.E.Y.

Knights Templar Educational Foundation

Young men and young women, who otherwise might not have had the opportunity of completing their education, are taking advantage of the services of the Pennsylvania Knights Templar Educational Foundation to a far greater extent than at any previous time. This is indicated in a report by its Chairman, Brother James N. Deeter, St. Marys, Pennsylvania, which gives the following comparisons:

1955—81 loans for \$ 18,025.00

1956—101 loans for \$ 22,700.00

1957—149 loans for \$ 43,471.00

1958—325 loans for \$120,014.00

On December 31, 1958, 334 boys and girls owed the Foundation \$187,812.90. Of these 136 have graduated and 198 are still in college.

It is apparent that in 1959 students will benefit from the use of the money in this Foundation in an amount far in excess of any previous year; loans to 224 students totaling \$87,579.00 were made from January 1, 1959 to May 31, 1959 and new applications are being received daily.

The funds of the Foundation are available to students during their Junior and Senior years of a four-year course, or the last two years of a five, six, or more year course of study. These loans, the maximum amount of which is \$750.00 a year for two years, are no longer restricted to sons and daughters of members of the Masonic Fraternity. While any Pennsylvania Master Mason or Knight Templar may serve as a recommender, inquiries should be made of Brother Deeter at St. Marys, Pennsylvania.—W.E.Y.

New Pamphlets Now Available to Membership

The eight pamphlets recently published by the Committee on Masonic Culture are now available and can be purchased by the members. These interesting pamphlets include important phases of Freemasonry not covered by the ritual and will be instructive to members as well as initiates.

Their titles are:

1. **Fraternatism Through the Ages**
2. **The Old Charges**
3. **From an Operative Art to a Speculative Science**
4. **Symbolism—Part I**
5. **Early Freemasonry in Pennsylvania**
6. **Major Benevolences of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania**
7. **Symbolism—Part II**
8. **The Committee on Masonic Culture**

These pamphlets can be purchased for \$1.00 by writing to:

William J. Paterson, Librarian
Masonic Temple, Broad and Filbert Sts.
Philadelphia 7, Pa.

From Our Grand Secretary's Office

OUR JUNE QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION

The June Quarterly Communication was just about as busy as the two days preceding it had been. Numerous meetings were held Tuesday morning, June 2nd, while the Finance Committee meeting which started at 2 P.M. was not concluded until late that night.

The Grand Lodge Officers held a very interesting meeting with the District Deputy Grand Masters on Wednesday morning, while the Committee on Masonic Culture was in session much of the afternoon. Other important meetings were also held after lunch.

The Quarterly Communication opened at 7:00 P.M. with 175 Lodges represented.

Fraternal Recognition

Requests for fraternal recognition were received from the Grand Lodges of Ecuador and Occidental of Colombia, which were referred to the Committee on Correspondence.

Some time ago, our Grand Lodge recognized the United Grand Lodge of Germany. The so-called Land Grand Lodges of Germany have now been united with that Body, all under the name of the United Grand Lodges of Germany. A request has been received to transfer our recognition to this new Body. This was also referred to the Committee on Correspondence.

A communication from the Deputy Grand Master of the National Grand Lodge of Italy outlined the condition of Masonry in Italy. The above Grand Lodge is recognized by few Grand Lodges in the United States, most of which recognize the Grand Orient of Italy as we do.

The Committee on By-Laws is always busy. Proposed amendments were received from 27 Lodges and the Thomas R. Patton Memorial Charity Fund. This Committee had reviewed the suggested amendments of 30 other Lodges and recommended the approval of 25, either as submitted or as revised, while those of 5 Lodges were either disapproved or held for further information.

Four Resolutions Adopted

Brother George H. Deike, R. W. Past Grand Master, Chairman of the Committee on Finance, in addition to presenting the Quarterly financial report also offered four resolutions which were adopted. In brief, they are as follows:

1. The unexpended balance of approximately \$129,000 remaining after the completion of the rebuilding of the utilities, the erection of an extension to the Philadelphia Freemasons Memorial Hospital and the erection of the Recreation Building and Lodge Hall, all at The Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown, be allocated to The Masonic Homes Reserve Fund.

2. The electrical system supplying power and telephone service to the "Farm Loop" at

The Masonic Homes is considered to be badly in need of replacement and the Committee on Masonic Homes was authorized to proceed with this work at a cost not to exceed \$310,000.

3. It is deemed advisable to establish a Hospital Reserve Fund to care for future major projects in connection with the Philadelphia Freemasons Memorial Hospital at The Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown and Grand Lodge was authorized to create such a fund.

4. A small school property now adjoins the land on which is located the Thomas Ranken Patton Masonic Institution for Boys at Elizabethtown. The above school is no longer used and it is thought to be most advisable to purchase this property. Authority was given the Trustees of the Patton Institution to acquire this plot and the building for \$2400.

Brother Deike also proposed an Amendment to the Ahiman Rezon, which will lay over until the December Quarterly Communication, when action will be taken. The purpose of this Amendment is to permit Grand Lodge, acting through the Committee on Finance, to allocate gifts, devises and bequests for the Masonic Homes of the Grand Lodge, unless specifically designated, to The Masonic Homes Endowment Fund, to the Masonic Homes Reserve Fund or partly to each as deemed necessary or advisable from time to time.

Brother William J. Wallace, Chairman of the Committee on Temple, outlined the improvements and maintenance work, costing approximately \$27,500, that had been performed during the past Quarter.

Newest Lodge Approved

A petition was received for a new Lodge at Pittsburgh, to be called Col. Henry Bouquet Lodge No. 787, signed by three Master Masons and recommended by Brother Benjamin S. Barbour, District Deputy Grand Master, and by Corinthian Lodge No. 573. There were 20 signatures on the petition.

This newest Lodge will be Constituted at a Special Communication of Grand Lodge in Pittsburgh on September 2, 1959.

Brother Albert T. Eyler, R. W. Past Grand Master, Chairman of the Committee on Appeals, reported on the activities of this Committee. A resolution sustaining a Trial Committee's appeal was adopted.

Masonic Culture

Brother William E. Yeager, R. W. Past Grand Master, Chairman of the Committee on Masonic Culture, discussed the eight pamphlets which had been prepared and forwarded recently to each Lodge with a letter explaining the purpose and proposed method of using the pamphlets. He also pointed out that the four previously prepared booklets will be continued in use.

Brother Yeager mentioned the Institutes which are being held in various parts of the Jurisdiction to familiarize the District Deputy Grand Masters, Lodge Officers, Aides and Lodge Committees on Masonic Culture with the aims, objectives and procedures in making the new program effective.

Brother Yeager, who is also Chairman of the Children's Service Committee, pointed out that the tenth session of the Pennsylvania Mason Juvenile Court Institute will be held in Pittsburgh starting on August 30th and extending to September 3, 1959. It is expected that twenty Judges will attend.

Order of DeMolay

Brother Sanford M. Chilcote, R. W. Grand Master, discussed his edict dated March 18, 1959, relative to the International Order of DeMolay and his letter with which the edict was sent to the Lodge Officers and District Deputy Grand Masters.

The purpose of this edict is to vigorously stimulate interest in the Order of DeMolay and authorizes any Lodge or group of Lodges to sponsor a Chapter or Chapters of the International Order of DeMolay.

Pittsburgh Bicentennial

Brother Hiram P. Ball, General Chairman of the Pittsburgh Bicentennial Masonic Celebration, discussed in detail the various Masonic activities which will be held in Pittsburgh in connection with this Celebration. The usual Quarterly meeting of the Finance Committee will be on Tuesday afternoon, September 1, 1959, while Col. Henry Bouquet Lodge No. 787 will be Constituted the next morning, followed by the unveiling of a Commemorative Plaque.

The Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge will be held Wednesday night, September 2, 1959, preceded by a Special Communication that afternoon. The tenth Session of the Pennsylvania Mason Juvenile Court Institute will hold its concluding meetings on Thursday, September 3rd.

It is the Grand Master's desire that as many Masons as possible attend the above activities.

Brother Sanford M. Chilcote, R. W. Grand Master, announced that Brother George H. Deike, R. W. Past Grand Master, had again made a substantial gift to Grand Lodge. One hundred shares of common stock of the National Dairy Products Corporation have been received as a joint gift from Mrs. Deike and Brother Deike to be used in connection with the recreational facilities of the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown.

Grand Lodge closed this unusually busy June Quarterly Communication at 9:05 P.M.



ASHBY B. PAUL, R. W. Grand Secretary

Pennsylvania Host to Fourth Annual Northeast Conference on Masonic Libraries and Education

The Fourth Annual Northeast Conference on Masonic Libraries and Education was held in the Banquet Hall of the Masonic Temple at Broad and Filbert Streets, Philadelphia, beginning on Friday morning, June 12, 1959. After invocation, Brother W. LeRoy McKinley, R. W. Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania (in the absence of Brother Sanford M. Chilcote, R. W. Grand Master, who was unavoidably prevented from being present) brought the greetings of the Grand Lodge and welcomed the delegates to the Keystone State. To this, Brother Alton L. Miller, Past Deputy Grand Master of Massachusetts, graciously responded.

The Chairman of the meeting, Brother William E. Yeager, P. G. M., Chairman of the Committee on Masonic Culture in Pennsylvania, presented the theme of the Conference, "Working Tools for Masonic Education." In keeping with this general subject, during the morning and afternoon sessions, the following papers were presented and afterwards thoroughly discussed: (a) "Tools Available in New York and Methods by Which the Desired Results Are Attained" by Brother Wendell K. Walker, Director, Library and Museum, Grand Lodge of New York; (b) "The Working Tools in New Jersey and How Utilized" by Brother Walter W. Kunze, Chairman, Committee on Education Service; (c) "Tools Now Available in Pennsylvania" by Brother William E. Montgomery, Secretary, Committee on Masonic Culture; (d) "The Indiana Plan" by Brother Laurence R. Taylor, Chairman, Committee on Masonic Education, Grand Lodge of Indiana; (e) "Ritual as a Tool in Masonic Education" by Brother Andrew J. Schroder, Instructor of Ritualistic Work, Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Following the delicious luncheon which was served with the compliments of the R. W. Grand Master, Reverend and Brother Thomas S. Roy, M. W. Past Grand Master of Massachusetts, in his usual eloquent style, delighted the delegates with a dissertation on the value of the work being done in the dissemination of information concerning Masonic ideals.

Following the afternoon session, most of the out-of-State delegates made a specially conducted tour of the Masonic Temple and were much impressed by its beauty and grandeur. In the evening many of the visitors from other Jurisdictions, most of whom were unfamiliar with the Pennsylvania Work, attended a meeting of University Lodge No. 610 where, through arrangements made by Brother Schroder, they had an opportunity to witness the conferring of the Second Degree and an exemplification of the Degree of Master Mason.

On Saturday morning at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel, a short business session was held, after which these papers were read and discussed: (a) "The Masonic Library as a

Working Tool" by Brother Ray Baker Harris, Past Grand Master of Masons in the District of Columbia; (b) "New Publications of Value to Masons" by Brother Ward K. St. Clair, Chairman, Committee on Library and Museum, New York; (c) "Grand Lodge Sanctioned and Approved Publications as a Working Tool" by Brother William A. Carpenter, Editor, *The Pennsylvania Freemason*; (d) "Working Tools Made Available by the Masonic Service Associations" by Brother William C. Edmunds, Chief Field Agent, Masonic Service Association.

Registrations from the various Jurisdictions were as follows: Pennsylvania—12; New York—7; Connecticut and Massachusetts—3 each; Maine, District of Columbia, Virginia and New Jersey—2 each; Indiana, Ohio and California—1 each, a total of 36.

The Northeast Conference on Masonic Libraries and Education originated several years ago, the First and Second Conferences being held in New York City in 1956 and 1957, and the Third in Boston last summer. The Fifth Conference will be in Hartford, Connecticut a year hence.—W.E.M.

100th Annual Conclave of Grand Commandery Held in Scranton

The 100th Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania was held at the Masonic Temple in Scranton on May 24 to 26, 1959.

It was a well-planned affair and although the death of the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Sir Knight Robert W. Michael, just prior to the Conclave caused a feeling of deep sorrow to pervade the activities, the program was carried out as it had been planned by Sir Knight Michael.

The membership report showed that for the first time since 1901, Pennsylvania is not the largest Grand Commandery in the nation, the Grand Commandery of Texas having ended the year with 28,648 members or 206 more than Pennsylvania.

The Conclave closed with the installation of the following officers:

Grand Commander
HARRY F. HOSTETLER, Lewistown
Deputy Grand Commander
HARRISON C. HARTLINE, Erie
Grand Generalissimo
PERRY L. LABARR, Pittsburgh
Grand Captain-General
JOHN B. COTTRELL, Jr., Media
Grand Senior Warden
PAUL C. RODENHAUSER, Columbia
Grand Junior Warden
F. PARSON KEPLER, Milton
Grand Treasurer
RAYMOND F. HOFFMANN, Pittsburgh
Grand Recorder
JOHN W. LAIRD, Philadelphia

Old Minute Book of Franklin Lodge No. 134 a Treasure of Art

Almost a century ago, Brother George J. Becker, who had come to this country from Germany as a boy, was elected Secretary of Franklin Lodge No. 134 in Philadelphia. He had developed great artistic ability, and although handicapped by the loss of an eye, he proceeded to produce a series of most unusual, illustrated Minute Books.

Brother Becker was born in Carlsruhe, Germany, in 1816 and came to this country with his parents when about sixteen. He became a lithographer, but years of close application to this meticulous work resulted in the loss of one eye. He was thus obliged to abandon his trade and subsequently became a Professor of Drawing and Writing in Philadelphia High School. In 1852 he was appointed Professor of Drawing, Writing and Bookkeeping in Girard College, where he remained until 1896 when he was retired as an Emeritus Professor at the age of eighty.

Meanwhile he had become interested in Masonry, and on November 17, 1846 was made a Mason in Lodge No. 3. Shortly thereafter he resigned and was admitted into Franklin Lodge No. 134. He was elected Worshipful Master in 1858 and then as Secretary in 1860, serving in the latter capacity until November 30, 1892, when he declined re-election.

Franklin Lodge No. 134 recently presented one of Brother Becker's Minute Books to our Library and Museum with the request that it be placed in "our rare book collection, as they had no proper place to display it."

The frontispiece of this Minute Book is a black and white pen and ink, richly ornamented etching of Brother Benjamin Franklin, while on the title page is a similar etching of Brother Peter Williamson, Past Grand Master. A beautiful reproduction of the Charter of "Franklin Lodge No. 134, A.Y.M." follows.

Another highly artistic page states that "The Frontispiece and Title Page of this Minute Book were Executed and Presented by Past Master Brother George J. Becker in token of his regard and good will to Franklin Lodge."

The book is replete with black and white ink etchings as well as beautifully painted and brilliantly colored illustrations. Each deceased Brother was honored by a distinctive, appropriate sketch; every unusual Masonic occasion was highlighted by his talented pen or brush. His writing was clear and firm; his minutes apparently most complete; his ledgers and accounts concise and informative.

The result—a Minute Book that in the opinion of many distinguished Masons who have seen it "has no equal in the Fraternity for artistic skill in execution."

On your next visit to our famous Library and Museum be sure to see Brother George J. Becker's Minute Book.

By CHARLES S. BAKER, *Ass't to Librarian*