

Questions & Answers

Question: What was or is "The Ahiman Rezon?"

Answer: It was the Constitution of the Ancient Grand Lodge of England and first published in 1754 as compiled by Bro. Laurence Dermott, Grand Secretary. The name is Hebraic in origin and is supposed to mean "A Help to a Brother." It is the name of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of Pennsylvania, published in book form.

Question: Although I have never seen a close-up of the Past Grand Master's Jewel of Pennsylvania, I have always been fascinated by its design and beauty. Will you describe or explain it?

Answer: The lower portion is the Compasses and Square united, with the irradiated Sun, in the center, setting behind clouds, and with the Gavel pendent between the legs of the Compasses. The Jewel is gold, set with a diamond and suspended by a purple ribbon. By coincidence, you can observe the beauty of this rare and coveted Jewel shown on the oil portrait of Bro. Joseph E. Trate, Right Worshipful Grand Master, appearing on Page 1 of this edition of "The Pennsylvania Freemason."

Question: While visiting Lodges recently I have noticed a new or different procedure used in the ceremony for opening and closing the Holy Bible. When was the change made and why?

Answer: The ceremony used for opening and closing the Holy Bible has been taught and used for many, many years. Recent directives to the Ritualistic Instructors to bring uniformity throughout the Jurisdiction, relative to proper procedures in all Ritualistic and Lodge Work, has resulted in many areas in what appears as "something new." It isn't. It is really the way it should have been done all the time.

Question: I have now attended a Quarterly Communication and a Special Communication of our Grand Lodge and I am curious about the additional purple and gold flag. What is it and what is on it?

Answer: Placed in the East, opposite to the American Flag, it is the Standard or Banner, adopted by Grand Lodge on December 6, 1939. More frequently known as the Grand Master's Flag, the specified size is four and one-half feet by five and one-half feet. The adopted Seal of Grand Lodge, with the omission of the name, Grand Lodge of



BRO. BEN IS NOW PART OF "A LEGACY OF LOVE" — Recently erected in front of the latest addition to our Masonic Health Care Center that bears his name, is shown the actual and original handiwork of Mr. Joseph Brown, sculptor of the 14-foot bronze statue of Benjamin Franklin — Craftsman now located directly across North Broad Street from the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, and presented by the Masons of Pennsylvania to the City of Philadelphia in commemoration of 250 years of Freemasonry in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on June 27, 1981. This work of the sculptor, used by the foundry in making the bronze statue, has been treated to protect it from the weather and will be given whatever treatment is necessary to maintain its longevity. Stop and see Bro. Ben when you visit the Homes.

Pennsylvania, is embroidered in the center in gold colored silk on government flag silk, purple in color. The Latin motto, "VIRTUTE SILENTIO AMORE," also embroidered in gold color silk, beneath the Seal, reads

Virtue, Silence and Love. Gold colored silk fringe is applied on three sides and two long gold colored silk cords, each with a large tassel, hang from the top of the sleeve used to insert the staff.

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FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF PENNSYLVANIA

VOLUME XXVIII

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER • 1981

NUMBER 4

Long Needed and Vital Concerns of Craft Have Been Priority Items in Grand Master's Program

My Brethren:

This is the last time that we will have the privilege, as your Right Worshipful Grand Master, of addressing you from these pages. We take this opportunity, therefore, to express to you, the Freemasons of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, our eternal gratitude for the honor and pleasure of serving you as your Grand Master in 1980 and 1981. It has been, for us, an extremely valuable and most enjoyable experience, the reality of which seemed, at times, difficult to comprehend as reality because of the extraordinary excitement and exhilaration produced by the many Masonic functions and events which occurred in those two years.

The most valuable experience and that which gave us the greatest enjoyment, my Brethren, was in meeting, personally, with so many of you in almost every nook and cranny of this great Jurisdiction of ours. By the end of this Masonic Year (the end of our two-year term) we will have been in well over 100 cities, towns and localities in Pennsylvania, traveled more than 100,000 miles in the process and greeted, personally, between 20,000 and 25,000 of you, our Pennsylvania Brethren.

We cannot help but recall, as we write this, the words of a good friend and distinguished Mason, our late Brother and Right Worshipful Past Grand Master, Rochester B. Woodall, as he asked: "How can you be a Brother to someone you don't even know?" Brethren, our only regret is that we could not meet and greet all of you and, further, that each of you cannot meet and know every other Pennsylvania Freemason. There is something to be said, however, for the joy of anticipation of meeting and making new friends amongst our Brethren, a joy we have been experiencing for some time in the District Visitation program.

The District Visitations also provided us with the knowledge that Pennsylvania Freemasons are enthusiastic about their Masonry and concerned with the things that the Masonic Fraternity must endure in this day and age. We found a thirst for knowledge



Bro. Joseph E. Trate
Right Worshipful Grand Master

A four-color photograph of the large oil portrait by Artist, Henry Cooper, which will take its rightful place after December 28, 1981, on a wall in the Benjamin Franklin Room, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, with the portraits of the living Right Worshipful Past Grand Masters.

about Freemasonry in general and about the Grand Lodge in particular. Great concern was expressed for the physical problems besetting the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia which we reported. Following our many progress reports, the concerns seem to be diminishing.

(Continued on Page 3)

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Approved and Authorized To Be Printed By
The Right Worshipful Grand Master

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Beatitudes of Masonry . . .

Blessed is the Mason who casts aside doubt and fear and puts his trust in God; for his faith will bring joy to his soul.

Blessed is he whose cheery smile and hearty handclasp at his Lodge Room door radiates sincere welcome; for gracious hospitality is a test of Brotherly Love.

Blessed is the Mason who is ever ready to extend a helping hand in relief; for the greatest of these is charity.

Blessed is he whose service to the Craft is a labor of love; for his is a heart that is happy and aglow with melody.

Blessed is the Mason whose morality is on the Square, conducted by the Plumb, and who meets all men on the Level; for his is a friendship that is more valued than gold.

Blessed is he who preserves the beauty of our Ritual; for his is a sacred trust that crowns him with dignity.

Blessed is the Mason whose numberless visits bring comfort to the sick and to the weary; for his Cable Tow is truly imbued with love for his Brothers.

Blessed is he who believeth in the Fatherhood of God, rejoiceth in the Brotherhood of Man, and who travels on the Golden Rule; for within his breast lies the deepest ministry of Freemasonry.

A Broad Definition of Freemasonry

Our Declaration of Principles

Adopted by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania at
the Quarterly Communication, held March 1st,
A. D. 1939, A. L. 5939

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 ceremonies 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 ceremonies, 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 gather in numbers, thereby providing more material for its primary work of education, of worship, and of charity.

Through the improvement 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.

The philosophies of Freemasonry, when discovered, then accepted, and then practiced, provide that simple but profound solution to the problems of human relationships.

Vital Concerns of Freemasonry Has Been Theme of Grand Master

(Continued from Page 1)

Foremost in the minds of most of the Brethren that we met, however, was concern for the well-being of their Blue Lodges. It is our concern, too, and the main reason for our program to visit each of the 70 Masonic Districts during our term of office. Many of our actions and Decisions over the past two years were generated by the questions and comments which we received during our District Visitations. Each of those actions and Decisions were designed to help the Blue Lodges to develop programs to increase attendance, to attract new Members, to provide for the training of leaders, to improve finances, to promote a better understanding of Freemasonry and to enrich the Masonic knowledge of not only new Members but all Members, whatever their number of years of service.

We shall be eternally grateful to the District Deputy Grand Masters and the Worshipful Masters and other Officers of the Blue Lodges, especially those which hosted the District Visitations, for the obvious amount of time and effort they expended to ensure the success of the meetings. We remember the Lodge Rooms filled, wall-to-wall, with Masons who, in some cases, came by the busloads. We recall the many beautiful Lodge Rooms in which we met, some built almost entirely by the hands of the Members. We shall not forget the generous, financial contributions for the Masonic Homes and for the 14-foot bronze statue, "Benjamin Franklin—Craftsman," that we received during our visits. Our appreciation for those gifts cannot be sufficiently expressed by mere words. Last, but far from least, the support given to us by Officers of the Grand Lodge, some of whom attended many more than one or two of our visitations, was exceptional and will always be remembered with heartfelt gratitude.

My Brethren, as of the end of this Masonic Year of 1981, we will have served you in one Grand Lodge Office or another for 19 years. Over that period of time and, especially during the last two years, we have been pleased to be a part of the things that

have been done in the name of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania.

At Elizabethtown there has been a continuous program of improvement and modernization of the facilities of your Masonic Homes that has contributed much to the care, comfort and security of our Guests there. The campus of the Thomas Rankin Patton Masonic Institution for Boys, closed since 1978, is being used for the Grand Lodge Special Youth Program. Over 1,000 young men and women annually attend conferences and seminars held by the DeMolay, Rainbow for Girls and Job's Daughters using the buildings and grounds on the Campus.

The Masonic Temple in Philadelphia has never looked better, in spite of the vast amount of construction work being done in the area around it. We never receive anything but compliments for our Masonic Temple wherever we go. You should be proud of the fact that one of the greatest and most authentic Masonic buildings in the world is yours.

The celebration of the 250th Anniversary of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania this past summer was the peak of our Masonic experience. What a beautiful sight to see the Masons of this great Jurisdiction and their Distinguished Guests march through the streets of Philadelphia announcing to the world by their presence that Freemasonry is alive and well in this great Commonwealth, a fact that was recognized in the proclamation signed by Governor Thornburgh establishing the week of June 21st through the 27th, 1981, as Freemasonry Week. The capstone, of the celebration was the unveiling and dedication of the large bronze statue of "Benjamin Franklin—Craftsman," a mark of the Masonic Craft that should recall for all of its viewers the origin of our Ancient and Honorable Fraternity in Pennsylvania. The working model of that statue has been erected at the Masonic Homes near the Benjamin Franklin Building of the Masonic Health Care Center for our Guests and visitors to the Homes to enjoy.

In closing these remarks, my Brethren, we report to you that we have tried our very best to live up to the great traditions of our Craft and

to the examples set for us by our predecessors in this high office. By appointing Brethren from every part of the Commonwealth to Grand Lodge Offices, we have endeavored to avoid the snare of sectionalism. It has been our firm belief that we were elected and installed as Grand Master to serve all Pennsylvania Freemasons. To that end we have been in each of the 70 Masonic Districts at least once. We have visited 100 Blue Lodges, presided at 16 Grand Lodge Communications and chaired 22 meetings of the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Homes. In addition we attended approximately, 80 meetings of other committees and with individuals, and when we were not engaged in Masonic Meetings and other functions, our time was spent on Masonic business in our office in the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia or at the Homes. We were very fortunate to be able to attend 11 Sectional Meetings of the Schools of Instruction and to observe the excellence of the Ritualistic Work. The Officers and Members of the Schools of Instruction throughout the Jurisdiction are to be commended for their dedication and expertise, as are the Instructor of the Ritualistic Work and his six Regional Instructors.

It is our hope that we have improved the lines of communication between our Grand Lodge and its 582 Blue Lodges and, in the process, strengthened the latter. We believe that we have given the Freemasons of Pennsylvania an in-depth knowledge of the Grand Lodge and its actions, and a better understanding of Freemasonry.

We, again, urge each and every one of you to live your Freemasonry; don't just "wear" it. Spread the word! There are many good things you can tell those who are not Masons about our Fraternity. Remember that they not only listen to what you say; they also observe what you do. You might be the only "book" on Freemasonry that they will ever "read." Make sure that it is so good, they won't be able to "put you down."

Thank you, my Brethren, for giving us so many excellent and lasting memories.

Ever fraternal,
Joseph E. Trate,
Grand Master

Our Responsibilities as Recommenders

The responsibilities of Recommenders are many.

When a Member signs a petition, he becomes, in a large measure, responsible to the Fraternity for the Petitioner. One of the two Recommenders, signing the petition, must have known the Petitioner for at least one year. Recommenders should have a knowledge of the Petitioner's character. They should be reasonably sure that the Petitioner is worthy of consideration and, if accepted, will bring honor to the Fraternity.

Recommending a man for the Degrees of Freemasonry is a serious matter. The Recommenders are staking their own reputation on the character of the Petitioner. Hence, it isn't wise, nor can a Member afford, to be so careless as to sign a petition just to accommodate a friend or another Member.

Recommenders should be familiar with the various sections in The Ahimman Rezon and Digest of Decisions as pertain to Recommenders and Petitioners. Your Lodge has copies of these two books for your reference.

Recommenders should have a knowledge of certain basic facts and requirements relative to the processing of a petition. These facts and requirements can always be obtained from the Lodge Secretary when the blank form of petition is requested. Facts pertaining to the correct and proper processing of the petition should be shared with the Petitioner to avoid any delay, once the petition is turned in.

The Petitioner should be informed of the initiation and membership fee of the Lodge and also the annual dues fee. The proper fee should accompany the petition when it is presented.

Recommenders should inform the Petitioner that the Masonic Fraternity is not a beneficial or insurance-type society and that there is no provision for sickness or death benefits.

Recommenders should assure themselves that the Petitioner comes of his own free will and accord and that he can financially afford this step without jeopardy to himself or family.

Recommenders should be

certain that the Petitioner comes of good report and is physically, mentally and morally qualified. Any questionable physical qualification, however slight, must be referred to the District Deputy Grand Master by the Lodge after the Petition has been presented.

Both Recommenders should be in attendance at Lodge when the petition is presented and when the petition is acted upon.

When the Petitioner has been approved, the Recommenders should be available to advise and extend every courtesy as proud and faithful Recommenders.

Recommenders should feel free to advise the Candidate along lines of proper dress and cleanliness so as to avoid any embarrassment to the Candidate when he is notified to appear at the Lodge Meeting.

Recommenders should accompany their Candidate when he appears for each Degree and take every opportunity to introduce their Candidate to the various Brethren. It is suggested, when possible, that the Recommenders stay with their Candidate at all times until the Guide takes him for preparation.

The Candidate should be cautioned by his Recommenders before he receives his Degree that every word spoken, every step that is taken during the ceremonies has a definite significance which will become clearer to him as he progresses. The Candidate should be assured also that there is no frivolity, either by word or act, during the conferring of Degrees. He should be reminded that he must put aside all doubt and fear in order that he may observe every detail with reverent attention.

Recommenders should not only satisfy themselves that their Candidate is receiving all the instruction possible but they should follow through after each Degree has been conferred by acquainting him with ways and means whereby he can obtain further Masonic knowledge.

Recommenders are duty bound to assist the Candidate in acquiring an understanding of the real meaning of Freemasonry. This is why a Recom-

An American's Creed

I believe in the United States of America as a Government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic; a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it; to support its Constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies. —William Tyler Page

mender should always be in Lodge whenever his Candidate is receiving a Degree. In a sense, the Candidate is under your protection and care. It is important that you show your Candidate that you really care about him. Be ever ready to congratulate him as he completes another step in his progress through the Degrees. You have acquired another Brother to add to your equity in Freemasonry. Govern yourself accordingly.

In due time, you will note that your Petitioner and Candidate is not only appreciative of all you are doing for him but it will soon appear that he is "leaning" on you. He welcomes someone close. As he progresses through the Degrees, he is full of wonderment, unanswered questions and many perplexities. Because everyone else seems to know what is going on and everybody seems so sure of himself, your Candidate may hesitate to ask questions of other Members. Here is a point where his interest in Masonic knowledge can be stimulated when someone like a Recommender is close at hand and ever willing and ready to encourage him to ask questions and continue his curiosity and interest in Freemasonry. Both Recommenders should accompany their Candidate to his first Stated Meeting.

When Recommenders consider it a sincere Masonic duty to properly process a Petitioner and then personally see their Candidate through the Degrees, both a wholesome effect and a lasting impression will result in the life of any newly made Mason.

Proud Worshipful Master Shares Great Experiences

Bro. Jack W. Fritsche, Worshipful Master of Williamson Lodge, No. 369, held at Philadelphia, writes to tell us how the program he adopted for his Lodge in this year set aside to commemorate 250 years of Freemasonry in our Commonwealth, was highlighted by emphasis on the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown, Pa.

Williamson Lodge, dedicated to supporting our Legacy of Love at Elizabethtown, presented a check in the amount of \$1,500.00 to be used to refurbish a Guest room in the renovation program now underway on the interiors of the residential buildings at the Homes.

Bro. Fritsche also arranged for a visit to the Masonic Homes of approximately 80 on September 27, 1981, which included Officers and Members of his Lodge with their families and even Brethren and their families from other Lodges.

Bro. Fritsche states that the visit to the Homes was, indeed, a mountaintop experience for each and everyone who made the trip. He highly recommends that other Lodges govern themselves accordingly.



ACCLAIMED AS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL LODGE ROOM — A photograph of Corinthian Hall, used by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania when its Communications are held in Philadelphia, and several of the larger Symbolic Lodges held in Philadelphia, is acclaimed by Masonic scholars as the most beautiful Lodge Room in the world. The features of this magnificent Lodge Room are in strict conformity with the principles of Grecian classical architecture and the best examples of the Greek Corinthian Order. The Hall will accommodate nearly 600 persons. It is 106-feet long; 53-feet wide and 52-feet high. The Hall is replete with Masonic emblems and representative of Freemasonry in every part. A picture does not show the real beauty of this Lodge Room. You must see it in person.



A MOST IMPRESSIVE ROOM — Renaissance Hall, one of the more spacious of the seven Lodge Rooms in the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, is decorated in the Italian Renaissance and is also used by the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania and subordinate Chapters. Brilliant scarlet, the symbolic color of the Chapter, prevails throughout the decorations. The emblems of Royal Arch Masonry are displayed on the walls and ceiling of the Hall, which was dedicated to Capitular Masonry on September 29, 1873. A striking feature of the Hall is six beautiful paintings on the walls. They are of Moses; King Solomon; Joshua, the High Priest; St. John the Evangelist; Hiram, King of Tyre, and Hiram Abiff.

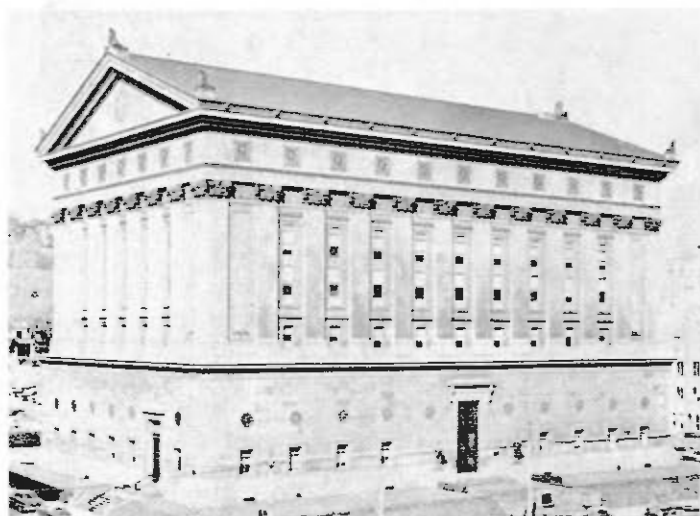
We Welcome Another Masonic Centenarian

Bro. E. Fred Anderson, a Member of Pennsylvania Lodge, No. 380, held in Philadelphia, has been a Member for 70-years, having been Entered in September 1911. Bro. Williams will be 100-years-old on December 29, 1981. He lives alone in a first floor apartment, receives his meals from a local service and has excellent neighbors who keep an eye on him daily.

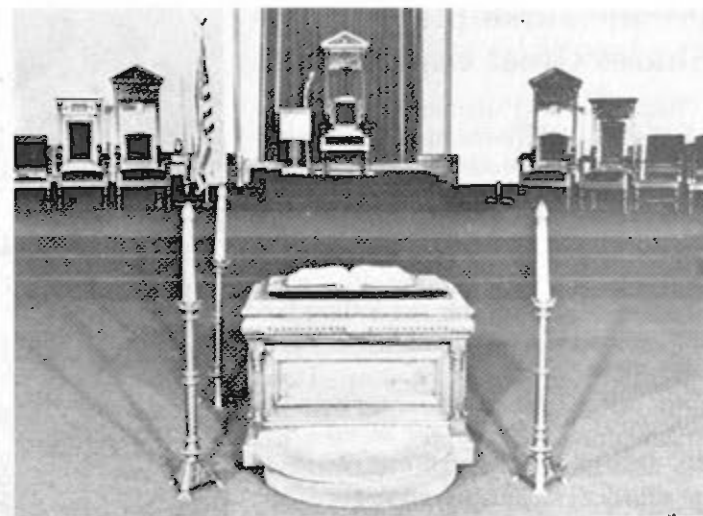
Bro. Otto A. Schoenly, a Member of Warren Lodge, No. 310, and a neighbor, visits with Bro. Williams and tells us that Bro. Williams is in good health and has a wonderful memory. For many years, Bro. Williams was self-employed as a master mechanic. He retired in 1955.

Bro. Schoenly tells us that during the baseball season, Bro. Williams has a habit of staying up until the game is over on his TV.

We welcome Bro. Williams to our ever increasing group of Masonic Centenarians.



SITE OF ANNUAL GRAND—The Masonic Temple, located at 4227 Fifth Avenue, Oakland Area, Pittsburgh, Pa., where the Annual Grand Communication of Grand Lodge will be held on Monday, December 28, 1981. All Master Masons are invited to attend. The Communication will begin at 10:00 o'clock A.M., in Gothic Hall, when Distinguished Guests will be received, Grand Lodge business will be conducted and installation of Grand Lodge Officers will begin at Noon.



LOOKING TO THE GRAND EAST—A photograph taken in Gothic Hall, one of the spacious and attractive Lodge Rooms in the Masonic Temple, Pittsburgh, where the new Right Worshipful Grand Master will be installed at Noon on December 28, 1981, followed by the installation of other Elected Grand Lodge Officers. A Special Meeting of Tyrian Lodge, No. 612, will be held at 3:00 o'clock, P.M., in Egyptian Hall, to receive the new Right Worshipful Grand Master.

Three Brothers Now Fifty-Year Members

Word comes from Bro. Richard W. Wood, District Deputy Grand Master for the 3rd Masonic District, that three blood Brothers, all Members of Cumberland Valley Lodge, No. 315, Shippensburg, are now the proud recipients of the Grand Lodge Fifty Year Masonic Service Emblem. Bro. Wood held a rendezvous with the three Brothers at the bedside of Bro. Carroll F. Hockersmith, a resident of the Leader Nursing Home in Chambersburg, while Bro. James B. Hockersmith and Bro. R. Lee Hockersmith joined them. Bro. Wood then presented the coveted gold emblem and wallet card to Bro. R. Lee Hockersmith, a resident of Shippensburg and a retired heating contractor and rural mail carrier.

Bro. Carroll F. Hockersmith, age 86, is a retired Postmaster and Pennsylvania Game Commissioner.

Bro. James B. Hockersmith, age 80, of Shippensburg, is the retired president of the First National Bank and presently a director of Commonwealth National Bank. He is a Past Master of his Lodge.

This is quite an accomplishment for three dedicated Masons and we wish them many more years of Masonic fellowship and service.

All that is necessary for the forces of evil to win in the world is for enough good men to do nothing.



COULD WE SAY: "ONE OF A KIND?"—Bro. Forrest L. Kinley, Past Master of Elk Lodge, No. 379, held at Ridgeway, Elk County, prides himself as a Freemason but few of us could begin to match the active life he has enjoyed for over 83 years. A colorful military life, followed by years of executive status in the Public School System, caused him to withhold his unusual Masonic activity until he retired in 1963. Bro. Kinley has the distinction of having received all three of the Symbolic Degrees at one session of the Lodge. Community service, Church work, Boy Scouting, American Legion, and then the full and complete scope of Masonic Bodies, resulting in him becoming quite a Masonic scholar. He is one of the most knowledgeable Members on the facts and figures surrounding the William Morgan episode, having known descendants of some of the Brethren involved. We wish Bro. Kinley many more years of Masonic experience and romance in one of the most scenic regions of our Grand Jurisdiction.

DO YOU KNOW ME?

It amuses me to think that your organization spends so much time looking for new Members — when I was there all the time. Do you remember me?

I'm the fellow who petitioned and was accepted. I paid my dues and then I was asked to be a loyal and faithful Member.

I'm the fellow who came to every meeting, but nobody paid any attention to me. I tried several times to be friendly, but everyone seemed to have his own friends to talk and sit with. I sat down among some unfamiliar faces several times, but they didn't pay much attention to me.

I hoped somebody would ask me to join one of the committees or to somehow participate and contribute — but no one did.

Finally, because of illness, I missed a meeting. The next month no one asked me where I had been, I guess it didn't matter very much whether I was there or not. On the next meeting date I decided to stay home and watch a good television program. When I attended the next meeting no one asked me where I was the month before.

You might say that I'm a good guy, a good family man, that I hold a responsible job and love my community.

You know who else I am? I'm the Member who never came back to Lodge.



GRAND MASTER VISITS VETERANS HOSPITAL—Bro. Joseph E. Trate, R. W. Grand Master, (seated left) visited the Coatesville V.A. Medical Center on August 3rd. The Grand Master toured the facility with Dr. J. L. G. Parsons, II, (seated right) the hospital's Medical Director, and (standing left to right) Bro. Thomas R. Dougherty, Director of Hospital Visitation of the Masonic Service Association; Bro. Edward J. Klink, a V.F.W. volunteer; James R. Harris, the hospital's Chief of Staff; Bro. Paul Stewart, Field Agent at the Philadelphia V.A. Medical Center, and R. J. Adams, the hospital's Chief of Voluntary Services.

Pennsylvania Masons Urged to Support Hospital Visitation Program of M.S.A.

In a recent "Short Talk Bulletin", published by the Masonic Service Association of the United States, the following facts were revealed:

"The Masonic Fraternity is truly charitable. Last year over one half billion dollars were spent in various charitable endeavors by the Masons in the United States." A quick breakdown of that figure tells us we contributed more than one million four hundred thousand dollars a day for the assistance of those less fortunate than ourselves.

You have to agree this is an impressive record and one of which we should all be proud. However, when you break it down a little further you find that it amounts to just about the price of a cup of coffee per Mason per day. Isn't it amazing what can be accomplished when many hands pitch in and help? Unfortunately, all hands do not pitch in. Just think what we could accomplish if everyone did his fair share!

Of course, the Shrine Hospitals for crippled children, the Burns Institute, the Scottish Rite Schizophrenia Research Program, Knights Templar Eye Foundation, the Tall Cedars project for Muscular Dystrophy

among all the other worthwhile Masonic sponsored charities are well known.

Yet, there is one program that is sponsored by 39 of the Grand Lodges across our Nation that is comparatively unknown among the membership of almost three and one-half million Masons; that is, the Hospital Visitation Program of the Masonic Service Association.

Sometimes we take for granted the simple chore of tying our shoes, dressing ourselves, or performing the every day routine of simple little things we do and don't even think about it. However, there are many men and women in Hospitals that are unable to do these things for themselves. That is where the Masonic Field Agent and his volunteers come upon the scene.

Last year 71,000 Masonic visits were made by Masons and their volunteers, and contributed one-half million hours of SERVICE doing little things for patients such as mentioned above. They also write letters, go shopping, read the Bible, perform escort service to and from religious services, and befriend a lonely person just by visiting and talking to

Pennsylvania Field Agents Needed

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania is sponsoring the M.S.A. Hospital Visitation Program in nine hospitals throughout our Jurisdiction. For several months we have been operating without a Field Agent in the hospital at Butler, Pa., and also the hospital at Coatesville, Pa. Each of these hospitals should be covered by a Field Agent to enable us to carry out this great charitable endeavor.

him and showing that someone cares. These volunteers also serve in Therapy, Libraries, Admission Offices, Laboratories and just about every department in the Hospital.

We get letters from the Directors of the Hospitals telling us how much they appreciate the work that is being done by our Field Agents and volunteers for the welfare of the confined patients and as assistance to the Hospital Staff. The M.S.A. has received National Recognition from Presidents for the Great Service that Masons have done in this charitable work that so few members of the Fraternity even know exist.

All of this possible because of the contributions of Grand Lodges, individual Lodges, concordant bodies and from the members of the Fraternity. There is a total of 172 V.A. Hospitals in every State in the country. At the present time, we have Field Agents and Representatives in 105 Centers. The only reason we are not represented in all 172 Centers is because of the lack of funds that it takes to support the program.

It is the only National Masonic Program that is sponsored by the combined efforts of the Grand Lodges in the United States through the M.S.A.

We need additional Volunteers and Field Agents in every area of the country. If you would like to be a part of this charitable cause that has been in existence since 1919 just drop us a line, we will do the rest.

It Works Because Masons Care!
Contributions to the M.S.A. Hospital Visitation Program are tax deductible and may be mailed through your R. W. Grand Secretary.

Student Loan Repayments Needed to Keep Program

The Higher Education Loan Program (H.E.L.P.) is a program that has been ongoing in the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for a period of 52-years. During that period of time, many young men and women have been helped to complete their advanced education. The total impact upon humanity this aid has provided can never be told, but we should take pride in both their accomplishments and our influence upon their lives.

Unfortunately, we are finding that the attitude regarding repayment of these loans is becoming similar to the attitude of repayment of government loan programs. It is a continuing time consuming operation within the office of the Grand Secretary who administers the loans for the Committee on Youth Services to enforce repayment. Also the rate of loan requests has increased markedly in recent years.

A result has been a drastic decrease in the funds available to support the program which necessitated a decision by the Grand Master to eliminate post-graduate level students from being eligible to receive loans.

Every once in a while, a spark of encouragement arises to re-enforce our faith in the program when it is needed the most. Such an example is the following letter received from a member in regard to his son, to whom the program granted a loan of \$2,000.00 in 1980 and in which no repayment was due until 1982:

"Dear Brother Jackson:

Gary has been able to work a little since he has been at West Chester State College. Because of this we can return \$1,200.00 at this time.

Maybe someone else can use this money. He'll return the \$800.00 balance as soon as possible. He's doing very well in school. He has a grade average of 95 so far.

We'll never be able to thank you enough for the loan of this money. Should Gary need more money at a later date, he'll contact you.

Thank you again."

The Committee on Youth Services, under the Chairmanship of Brother William A. Carpenter, R. W. Senior Grand Warden, responsible for



EVEN THE WALLS ARE CARPETED—Another beautiful room in the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, is the new Computer Room, well secured and beautifully appointed with ultra modern equipment. Shown above are Bro. Albert T. Morrison of Lodge No. 340, Manager (standing) and Bro. Harry E. Parker of Lodge No. 292, an assistant, both blessed with the knowledge to make the "software and hardware" work.

Software, Hardware, Input, Output, Diskettes, Bytes, Memory, Etc.

Computer Room in Masonic Temple Becoming Real "Control Center"

Although we do not feel adequate to write about and describe the sophisticated furnishings within the new Computer Room at the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, we can attest to the fact that it is not only an unusual room but it is a beautiful room with pleasing green wall-to-wall carpeting and four walls covered with beige floor-to-ceiling carpeting. Yes, the room has a tendency to want to "hug" you when you enter.

The photograph above shows a portable Disk Storage System back in the corner. This equipment holds two removable Disk Packs, each with 63-million Bytes of storage capability. The Packs can be removed and stored in case of disasters.

The Terminals, one on the left and the other where Bro. Parker is seated, are used for data entry, file inquiries, development and debugging of programs, and creation and maintenance

granting the loans, hopes that reading this letter will serve as an incentive to those in our membership whose name appears as a recommender for the loan recipient, to assume a greater responsibility in assuring the proper repayment will be forthcoming when due.

nance of files. They are capable of displaying and entering up to 1,920 characters of information at one time.

The Rack Enclosure, where Bro. Morrison is standing, contains the Main Memory, the Input/Output Expansion Unit, the Diskette Magazine, and three fixed Disk Drives. The Diskette Magazine holds 23 Diskettes, each capable of storing 1,136,640 Bytes of Data. The three fixed Disk Drives afford 63-million Bytes each for storage.

To the right of the Rack Enclosure is the Line Printer, used to print reports, checks and labels. This device prints up to 950 lines of information per minute with up to 132 characters per line and is used whenever a hard copy of data is required.

Whew!!

Fifty Years of Membership Needed for Service Emblem

A Member of a Symbolic Lodge in Pennsylvania who has been a Mason in good standing for fifty years, is eligible to receive the Grand Lodge Fifty Year Masonic Service Emblem and an engraved Wallet Card.

New Chaplain Appointed



Bro. and Rabbi Gerald I. Wolpe

Bro. Joseph E. Trate, Right Worshipful Grand Master, has recently appointed Bro. and Senior Rabbi Gerald I. Wolpe of Har Zion Temple, Penn Valley, Pa., a Grand Lodge Chaplain.

Bro. Wolpe, a Member of William B. Hackenburg Lodge, No. 703, held at Philadelphia, has served as a Chaplain in the Second Marine Division in 1953 to 1955; served the Emanu El Synagogue, Charleston, South Carolina, in 1955 through 1958; the Temple Beth El, Harrisburg, Pa., from 1958 through 1969, when he became associated with Har Zion Temple.

Widely known for his community activities, he has held numerous teaching positions and has already been the author of many publications. A graduate of New York University, the Jewish Theological Seminary, he is a Ph D Candidate at the University of Pennsylvania. Bro. Wolpe is currently serving as President of the Board of Rabbis of Greater Philadelphia.

WE NEED YOUR CORRECT ADDRESS

Copies of the "Pennsylvania Freemanson" returned by the Post Offices, due to incorrect or wrong addresses, cost 25 cents each.

You can help save us this expense by notifying your Lodge Secretary immediately when you change your address. Don't forget your ZIP Code. Thank you.

Generous Contribution by 19th Masonic District

When Bro. Joseph E. Trate, Right Worshipful Grand Master, scheduled one of his 70 District Meetings for the 19th Masonic District at Lewistown, Pa., the Officers and Members of the Lodges in the 19th Masonic District decided they would do something special.

Plans were made to publish a 16-page supplement to be carried in the various newspapers in the three-county area of Mifflin, Juniata, and Perry Counties. The supplement contained a brief history of each of the seven Lodges in the Masonic District and also a summary of the early history of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania. The District felt it would make the 19th Masonic District Meeting a memorable one for the R. W. Grand Master and also share with the general public the heritage we have enjoyed, both in the Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania and the three-county area for several years.

The cost of the printed supplement was underwritten by many of the Masonic businessmen of the 19th Masonic District and by donations to the patrons' page by many of the Members of the Craft.

To relate the success of the undertaking, on the evening of the 19th Masonic District Meeting, two

checks were presented to the R. W. Grand Master, one in the amount of \$812.76 to assist in the cost of the large bronze statue of Benjamin Franklin — Craftsman, dedicated on June 27, 1981, in Philadelphia as a highlight of the 250th Anniversary Celebration of Freemasonry in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and a second check in the amount of \$9,000.00 for the Masonic Homes.

Quite often the Right Worshipful Grand Master has been pleased to receive generous contributions from Districts and Lodges in support of the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown while conducting his District Meetings. Pennsylvania Masons have every reason to feel proud as they continue to support our "Greatest Charity, the Masonic Homes."

HELP NEEDED AT MASONIC TEMPLE PHILADELPHIA

Due to retirements and other personnel changes, there is a need for Security Guards and Maintenance men to work at the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia.

Any Brethren interested in this type of employment may call the Building Superintendent, Bro. William Vogt at 215-988-1916.



THREE GENERATIONS OF MASONS—Again, we are proud to introduce to the Craft another three-generation combination from one of our Symbolic Lodges. Shown above (left to right) are Bro. Dennis Leroy Glessner, the current Junior Warden of Cumberland Valley Lodge, No. 315, held at Shippensburg, Pa.; then, we have Bro. Glen Leroy Glessner, Past Master and currently serving as Secretary of the Lodge. And, on the right we have Bro. Irvin Jay Glessner, the senior Member of the trio who is, of course, mighty proud of his son and his grandson in this Masonic family.

A Very Proud and Happy Mason Takes Time to Express Himself

Bro. Thomas L. Moore, a newly Raised Master Mason in John Marshall Lodge, No. 734, just couldn't refrain from expressing himself, now that he has been the recipient of the three Symbolic Degrees of Freemasonry. The following was delivered in his Lodge after he was Raised:

"I feel a deep sense of humility and gratitude upon becoming a Master Mason, thereby attaining the threshold of service to Freemasonry, as well as the good council and fellowship of this most worthy Lodge.

"My only regret is that I did not seek to enter the Masonic life many years ago, but it has only been in recent years that I began to search for some knowledge of what was "missing" in my life. My search ended at these doors and I have thus embarked upon the search for knowledge of secrets and mysteries of Freemasonry.

"My gratitude goes out, not only to you who are gathered here, and those who have helped me to this most memorable moment in my spiritual life, but to another Master Mason whose name I never learned. Many years ago, that stranger stepped forward unselfishly to help a small boy crippled by Cerebral Palsy. Through this Mason's effort, the young boy was admitted to the Shriner's Hospital in Philadelphia where he underwent some nine operations in a six-month period. He returned home in a waist-to-toes cast for an additional six-months. The boy is now a young man, my son, Michael. He is a student at Gateway Tech in Pittsburgh. He drives his own car and walks without the aid of braces. He is a Past Master Counselor of the Potomac Valley Chapter, Order of DeMolay in West Virginia and aspires to one day become a Master Mason.

"In August 1981 Michael won three gold medals and a silver one at the National Cerebral Palsy Olympics held at Kingston, Rhode Island. He will represent the United States at the World Cerebral Palsy Games in Copenhagen, Denmark next July. Michael is an inspiration to his father and his many friends.

"We could never repay, in material ways, all the help and concern that the "stranger," the Doctors, the Jesters and so many others have given. Michael dispatches his debt through his services to the DeMolay and his fellow man. I now begin to repay my debt through gratitude and service to Freemasonry and my fellow Masons."



BROTHERLY LOVE AND AFFECTION—Bro. Harry F. Leonard, Past Master of John Marshall Lodge, No. 734, held at Pleasant Hills, Pittsburgh (on the left) who, at age 85 and a Mason for 61 years, is shown giving a real Masonic greeting to Bro. Thomas L. Moore whom he had Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, back in June of this year. Bro. Leonard was Worshipful Master of the Lodge in 1932. Bro. Leonard, president of the Cinosam Club of Mt. Washington, was assisted by other Members of the Cinosam Club who occupied the other Floor Offices for the Degree. Cinosam, incidentally, is Masonic, spelled backwards. Read the adjoining article, written by Bro. Moore after he received his Master Mason's Degree.

In Memoriam

We are saddened to report the death of four Members of the Grand Lodge since the previous edition of "The Pennsylvania Freemason."

BRO. EDWARD K. WILLIAMS, JR.
Lodge No. 500
Member of Committee on Temple
Died October 15, 1981

BRO. WALTER L. MOORE
Lodge No. 578
Past District Deputy Grand Master
Died October 20, 1981

BRO. HERBERT S. MULLER
Lodge No. 126
Past District Deputy Grand Master
Died November 16, 1981

BRO. ARCHIBALD W. NORMAN
Lodge No. 295
Former Member and Chairman of
Grand Lodge Committee on Finance
Died November 29, 1981
Bro. Norman celebrated his 104th
Birthday in February this year

Guest and Building Fund for the Homes Remember It Always

It is always in order to contribute to the Guest and Building Fund of the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown, Pa.

Your contributions enable the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Homes to provide a real home for the more than 700 Guests spending the sunset years of their lives at the Homes.

Make your checks payable to:
Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pa.

Mail to the Executive Director, Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pa. 17022 or to Office of Grand Master, Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19107.

Give 'til You Feel Real Good.

About Current Guest and Building Fund for Homes

Contributions to the Guest and Building Fund of the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown through the first week of September amount to a little more than \$709,000.

On the surface, it appears the level of giving in 1981 is comparable to that of last year when a total of more than \$745,000 was received. In reality, however, more than \$410,000 of the current year-to-date total has been generated by two individual gifts.

One is the \$125,000 contributed by the Members of Lodge No. 9 in presenting to the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown the Hyperbaric Chamber that is now being used for the medical benefit of our Homes' Guests in the Masonic Health Care Center. The gift was made by Lodge No. 9 as part of celebration of its 200th anniversary and in honor of Bro. Joseph E. Trate, R.W. Grand Master.

The other is a bequest in the amount of \$285,528.75 from the estate of Lucille Z. Johnston.

Mrs. Johnston, who died in February of 1980, left a will in which she bequeathed the residue of her estate to the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown in memory of her late husband, Bro. David A. Johnston, a Past Master of Concord Lodge No. 625, and herself.

An Active Year for Ritualistic Program

The year 1981 proved to be a banner year for the Ritualistic Sectional Meetings held throughout the Jurisdiction. Never, since the inception of the Sectional Meetings, have the meetings been so well attended by our Grand Lodge Officers.

This turned out to be a two-way road of appreciation, for it not only gave the Principals, Instructors, Officers and Members of the Schools an opportunity to meet and perform before the Grand Master, but it also provided him and his Officers the time to meet with them and see the dedicated effort put forth by them and the Regional Instructors to maintain the purity of the Ritualistic Work. The fact that Bro. Joseph E. Trate, our Right Worshipful Grand Master, found time to attend the meetings in every region of the Jurisdiction makes it all the more worthwhile.

The final meeting of the year was held in Philadelphia on Saturday, October 3rd, with a registered attendance of 392. The total attendance at all of the Sectional Meetings for the year was approximately 2,500.

Although the attendance at the Sectional Meetings has been good, the attendance at some of the Schools is not what it should be. This in itself is not a good situation for it indicates that some of the Officers and Members are not particularly interested in doing the Ritualistic Work as well as it can be done.

That is why the Schools are in existence, to offer all Lodge Officers and Members the instruction necessary to do the Work properly. They are, therefore, urged to take advantage of this opportunity.

Following are the dates and locations of the Sectional Meetings to be held in 1982:

March 13—Pittsburgh
March 20—McKeesport
March 27—Harrisburg
April 3—New Castle
April 17—Scranton
April 24—Kane
May 1—Oil City
May 8—Williamsport
May 15—Somerset
May 22—Mt. Union
June 12—Philadelphia



THREE GENERATIONS OF TRAVELERS—At a recent Stated Meeting of Zaradatha Lodge No. 448, held at Millvale in the 48th Masonic District, Bro. Chester W. Shoop, Sr., now living in Oil City, Pa., shown above in the center, was honored as the oldest Member of the Lodge in years of service. Bro. Shoop was Entered on September 11, 1913 and was 89 years-old on April 4, 1981. On Bro. Shoop's left is his son, Bro. Chester W. Shoop, Jr., Past Master of Oil City Lodge, No. 710 and Bro. Michael L. Shoop, his grandson, a Member of Perry Lodge, No. 392, held at Erie, Pa. On the left in the photo is Bro. Robert O. Finley, District Deputy Grand Master for the 48th Masonic District, and on Bro. Shoop's right is Bro. Raymond E. Cook, Worshipful Master of Zaradatha Lodge, who has Bro. Shoop well in hand.

My Master Mason's Card

In my wallet is a little scrap of paper, 2½ by 3¾ inches in size. It is of no intrinsic value not a bond, not a check or receipt for values, yet it is my most priceless possession. It is my Membership Card in a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

It tells me that I have entered into a spiritual and material kinship with Brother Master Masons to practice charity in the word and deed; to forgive and forget the faults of my Brethren; to hush the tongues of scandal and insinuation; to care for the crippled, the hungry and the sick, and to be righteous to all mankind.

It tells me that no matter where I travel in the world, I am welcome to visit a place where good fellowship prevails among Brothers and friends.

It tells me that my loved ones, my home, and my household, are under the protection of every Member of this great Fraternity, who have sworn to protect and defend mine, as I have sworn to protect and defend theirs.

It tells me that should I ever be overtaken by adversity or misfortune, the hands of every Freemason on the face of the earth will be stretched forth to assist me in my necessities.

And finally, it tells me that when my final exit from the stage of life has been made, there will be gath-

ered in my Lodge friends and Brothers, who will recall to mind my virtues, though they may be few, and will forgive and forget my faults, though they may be many.

It tells me all this and much more, this little scrap of paper, about 2½ by 3¾ inches in size.

MASONIC DRESS CLARIFIED

The Masonic Decision covering Masonic Dress states the following:

"The Masonic Dress of Lodge Officers, with the exception of the Worshipful Master (or Acting Worshipful Master), can be tuxedo coat, black vest, black tie, black shoes and white gloves; or it can be tail coat, black vest, black tie, black shoes and white gloves. The dress of Grand Lodge Elected Officers, Past Grand Masters, Grand Lodge Appointed Officers (other than Grand Chaplains), District Deputy Grand Masters, Past District Deputy Grand Masters and Worshipful Masters (or Acting Worshipful Masters), will be tail coat, black vest, black tie, black shoes and white gloves. Shirts which are to be worn with Masonic dress must be white in color and may have a pleated bosom, but it is not to be ruffled either at bosom or cuffs. The Grand Master and Worshipful Masters (or Acting Worshipful Masters) will wear the high black silk hat (opera hats not permitted) when appropriate."