

Bro. Roberts, 103,  
Inspires Craft

(Continued from Page 3)  
staying busy.

Nearing his 100th birthday, Bro. Roberts was still giving speeches before civic clubs and women's groups. And he still hadn't stopped working. Every Wednesday he held down a job at the newspaper plant in Tunkhannock, "stuffing" special sections into the papers as they rolled off the press. He also rode along when the papers were delivered to out-of-town newsstands in surrounding communities.

Bro. Roberts handles all his personal affairs and in recent months was teaching a Sunday School class at the Marlatt Nursing Home in Tunkhannock, where he has lived the past nine years.

Up until a year ago when he suffered a fall, Bro. Roberts was a familiar figure walking along the streets of the community. He kept in good shape by his walking jaunts from the nursing home to the Masonic Hall, newspaper office and public library.

Since he fell, he said, he tries to get a taxi to take him up town so he can attend his Blue Lodge meeting.

One of his joys is reading. He never misses reading the daily newspaper and subscribes to two national news magazines to keep abreast of world events.

He and his wife, Emily, were married 57 years when death called her in August, 1951. They had a daughter, Josephine, also deceased, and two sons, Tracey, of Mechanicsburg, Pa., and Alfred, of Bogota, N.J.

Bro. Roberts, who's up every morning at 7 o'clock, never seems to get tired like most of us. Twice a month, he reminded, he always attended the "Ever Young Club" luncheon meetings.

Could be that's one reason he is still a "young fellow."



Site of Annual Grand Event

Grand Master's Banquet during Annual Grand Communication will be held in December in beautiful ballroom of Penn Harris Motor Inn near Harrisburg. (Story Page 6).

Action Set on Holiday Meetings

(Continued from Page 7)

in this house until 1827, when it moved close to the Susquehanna River. The Brick House, erected prior to the Revolution, remained standing until late this spring when it was demolished to make room for a new apartment complex. The frontispiece of the Perseverance Lodge Notice still carries a picture of the Campbell Brick House.

Bro. William E. Yeager Sr. was made a Mason in Hazle Lodge No. 327 in Hazleton in 1918 and ever since has been one of the busiest Masons in our Jurisdiction. He subsequently moved to Warren and was instrumental in having Joseph Warren Lodge No. 726 constituted on October 5, 1923 with 59 warrant members. He was the warrant Senior Warden and then the first elected Worshipful Master, serving as such in 1924. Since then he has been active

in every phase of Freemasonry. He was appointed District Deputy Grand Master in 1932 and served in that capacity until 1942, when he became a member of the Committee on Masonic Homes. He is still active on that committee. He was our R. W. Grand Master in 1950 and 1951. He has served as chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, Masonic Culture, Insurance, and Children's Service Committee.

He has been an officer in all the York Rite Bodies. In 1949 he became an active member of the Supreme Council of the Northern Scottish Rite Jurisdiction and is now its Grand Captain General. He is a member of the Shrine, the Jesters, the Grotto, Royal Order of Scotland and Knights of the York Cross of Honor.

He has served as president of the Masonic Relief Association and is an officer of the Philalethes Society, the Rosicrucians and served recently as Grand Sovereign of the Red Cross of Constantine.

Active in business, he is president of the Community Consumer Co. in Warren. He recently received the Community Service Award by action of the Warren County Chamber of Commerce. He is a 60-year veteran of the National Council of Boy Scouts of America, and is a 51-year member of the American Legion. These are a few of his activities. Can anyone top them?

Don't forget the September Quarterly Communication will be held in Jaffa Mosque in Altoona. We hope to see you there.

It has been said, "Helping someone else is the secret of happiness."

The  
PENNSYLVANIA  
FREEMASON



AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF PENNSYLVANIA  
VOLUME XVIII AUGUST • 1971 NUMBER 3

Homes Gets Modern Care Facility

A new 116-bed extended care facility, one of the most modern of its kind in the country, will be built at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown.

The building was approved unanimously by Grand Lodge at its June Quarterly Communication held at the Homes.

The three-story structure with partial basement will cost an estimated \$3,500,000, including equipment and furnishings.

Target date for the building's com-

pletion is the "summer of 1973," according to a spokesman for Lawrie & Green of Harrisburg, the architects.

The air conditioned facility will be erected adjacent to the Philadelphia Freemasons' Memorial Hospital.

A large out-patient clinic, consisting of 2,635 square feet, will link the new brick building with the hospital.

The type of brick will be compatible with the hospital's stone construction.

The all-steel frame, fire-resistant new building has been designed so two ad-

ditional floors and a wing can be built at a future date.

With that expansion, up to 196 more Guests could be accommodated.

At the site a new visitors' parking area for 15 cars will be constructed adjacent to the entrance of the new building. A new, two-way service driveway will be installed leading to the employees' present parking area, which will be rebuilt to handle 79 cars.

A series of walkthrough tunnels will (Continued on Page 4)

\$1 Million Goal  
Provides Masons  
Newest Challenge

The newest challenge facing Pennsylvania's 242,387 Masons is a goal of \$1,000,000.

That's the total contributions needed to put the "Guest and Building Fund" over the top.

Known previously as the Guest Fund, its designation has been changed this year with Grand Lodge approval of building the 116-bed extended care facility at the Masonic Homes.

Calling for the charitable help of every Brother to reach the \$1,000,000 goal, Bro. Hiram P. Ball, R. W. Grand Master, said:

"In approving this new structure, the Masons of Pennsylvania have demonstrated they can accept the challenge of the future."

The extended care facility, he said, will provide critically needed space for ambulatory Guests. It also will lessen the pressures faced daily by the hospital's medical staff, he added.

The new building will be built without increasing Grand Lodge dues.

Grand Lodge unanimously approved two steps which will pay for most of the new construction program.

(Continued on Page 4)



103rd Birthday One to Remember

Bro. George L. Roberts' birthday cake called for 103 candles but when the baker couldn't come up with enough, icing did the trick in spelling out greetings to the state's oldest Mason in point of membership. Helping to honor him were Bro. Clifford J. Manns (right), District Deputy Grand Master of the 59th Masonic District, and Bro. Marvin Sands, Worshipful Master of Temple Lodge No. 248 in Tunkhannock. Bro. Roberts, who described the cake as "just beautiful," has been a member of the Lodge for more than 79 years. (Story Page 3).

THE PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON  
Distribution Office  
MASONIC HOMES  
Elizabethtown, Pa. 17022  
(Send FORM 3579 to Above Address)

Second Class  
POSTAGE  
PAID AT  
Elizabethtown  
Pennsylvania



## THE PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON

Issued Quarterly

February, May, August and November at Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, by The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of The Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction Thereonto Belonging.

Approved and Authorized To Be Printed By  
The Grand Master

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Rochester B. Woodall, R. W. Senior Grand Warden  
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Vol. XVIII August, 1971 No. 3

## Quarterly Session At Altoona Tops 3-Month Itinerary

The schedule for Grand Lodge Officers the next three months includes:

**September 1** — Quarterly Communication, Jaffa Mosque, Altoona.

**September 7** — Grand Master, 125th Anniversary, Zerubbabel Royal Arch Chapter, Pittsburgh.

**September 18** — Grand Lodge Officers, Special Communication, dedicate Lodge Room, Monaca — Center Lodge No. 791, Monaca.

**September 22** — Senior Grand Warden, 175th Anniversary, LaFayette Lodge No. 71, Philadelphia.

**September 24** — Grand Master, 100th Anniversary Grand Lodge Library, Equity Lodge No. 591, Philadelphia.

**September 25** — Grand Master, 100th Anniversary, Renovo Lodge No. 495, Renovo.

**October 1** — Grand Lodge Officers, meeting, Committee on Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown.

**October 2** — Grand Lodge Officers, Special Communication, place cornerstone and dedicate Lodge Room, Masonic Temple, York.

**October 7** — Senior Grand Warden, 50th Anniversary, Pilgrim Lodge No. 712, Philadelphia.

**October 9** — Grand Master, 100th Anniversary, Charles M. Howell Lodge No. 496, Millersville.

**October 12** — Senior Grand Warden, 100th Anniversary, William C. Hamilton Lodge No. 500, Philadelphia.

**October 14** — Senior Grand Warden, 50th Anniversary, Sunbury Lodge No. 713, Sunbury.

**October 16** — Grand Lodge Officers, Special Communication, dedicate Lodge Room, Cochran Lodge No. 790, Cochran.

**October 21** — Junior Grand Warden, 125th Anniversary, Franklin Lodge No. 221, Pittsburgh.

**October 22** — Grand Lodge Officers, meeting.

(Continued on Page 5)



This beautiful Masonic Temple of Monaca-Center Lodge No. 791 was once an old, abandoned train station of the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie Railroad. The renovation project took more than 10,000 man-hours of labor by Lodge members, their families and friends.

### Monaca Residents "Very Proud"

## Old Train Station Becomes Temple

Old railroad stations are fading away, it seems, across the country.

But one such train station, abandoned and slowly dying in darkness and dirt, has been reborn in a service that today outshines anything in its past.

For the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie Railroad's dingy station at Monaca, Pa., has been transformed into a beautiful Masonic Temple.

More than 10,000 man-hours of labor went into the year-long renovation project to make the grimy station the home of Monaca-Center Lodge No. 791.

Nearly all the work was donated by the Lodge members, their families and friends.

And the culmination of their dedicated effort will come September 18 when the Lodge Room will be dedicated at a Special Communication of Grand Lodge.

The Lodge in Monaca is the newest in the 37th Masonic District, of which Bro. Robert Batto is District Deputy Grand Master.

At a recent open house when the public toured the unique Temple, a Swiss chalet style structure, Bro. Batto remarked:

"The townspeople are very proud of this new Temple and what has been done for Freemasonry here."

Bro. Batto particularly gave recognition to Bro. George W. Rowse, a Past Master of the Lodge and president of the Monaca-Center Fraternity Club, and Bro. George Baltic, general chairman of the Building Committee. Bro. Batto commented:

"Had it not been for the leadership of these two men, together with a spirit of dedication to make a dream become a reality that was shared by all of the

volunteer laborers . . . this could not have happened."

The Fraternity Club was organized and chartered to raise funds, acquire the property and operate the Temple.

The Lodge bought the abandoned brick and concrete station from the railroad in 1969. Built in the early 1900's, the station had been moved in April, 1910 from its original site at Colona, Beaver County, to its present location at Pennsylvania Avenue and 14th Street in Monaca.

Constituted March 11, 1961, Lodge No. 791 held its meetings in the Masonic Temple at Rochester before moving into its own home.

The furniture in the Lodge Room was donated by Grand Lodge. The handcarved benches and chairs, some dating back 135 years, had been used in the "New Masonic Hall" on Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, between 1855-1873.

Before being placed in the new Temple, the furniture was repaired and reupholstered in bright crimson.

Rich blue carpeting also was installed in the 60 by 28-foot Lodge Room.

When the history of the 176-member Lodge is recorded, the month of September certainly will receive prominent mention.

Early last September a tornado touched down in Monaca. The twister left a path of destruction in ripping through an area only a few hundred feet from the railroad station.

But the building being restored into a Masonic Temple was left untouched.

And next month, just a year after the storm narrowly missed wiping out the Brethren's work, ceremonies will mark the dedication of their Lodge Room.

# Bro. Roberts, 103, Inspires Craft

Bro. George L. Roberts, the state's oldest Mason in years of membership, will remember his 103rd birthday celebration for some time to come.

This remarkable man, whose service to Freemasonry totals 300 years, told those who gathered for the occasion that "I don't feel over 65."

For 79 years the sharp witted centenarian has been a member of Temple Lodge No. 248 in Tunkhannock, a small community tucked away in north-eastern Pennsylvania's "Endless Mountains."

There aren't many of Tunkhannock's 2,300 residents who either don't know or haven't heard of this venerable Mason, who was born June 16, 1868 when they were still laying track for the Lehigh Valley Railroad along the Susquehanna River.

Bro. Roberts not only ranks No. 1 in Pennsylvania in length of service in the Fraternity. He's the fourth oldest Mason in point of membership in the United States and Canada.

His fellow Brethren, therefore, decided to present him his latest honors at Temple Lodge's Stated Meeting on June 7, nine days before his birthday.

One of the high spots of the meeting came when Bro. Roberts was presented a personal, congratulatory letter from Bro. Hiram P. Ball, R. W. Grand Master, and also the Grand Master's Medallion.

Bro. Clifford J. Manns, District Deputy Grand Master of the 59th Masonic District, made both presentations.

As Bro. Roberts stood, his still broad shoulders held erect and looking like a man 30 years his junior, Bro. Manns told him:

"You're an inspiration to everyone who is a member of the Craft."

Smiling broadly and his brown eyes flashing inward satisfaction, Bro. Roberts replied:

"I try to get to my Blue Lodge every month."

He is the oldest member of the 256-member Temple Lodge, having been initiated Jan. 11, 1892.

In addition to those 79 years, Bro. Roberts' Masonic record includes membership in Cayuta Royal Arch Chapter No. 245, Waverly, N.Y., for 71 years; Northern Commandery No. 16, Knights Templar, Towanda, Pa., 70 years; Irem Temple, Wilkes-Barre, 69 years; and The Masonic Ancients, Philadelphia, 11 years.

That's 300 years of Masonic life, a mark of great esteem.

And Bro. Roberts, who didn't retire until he was 85 and who was still working part-time at age 100, has achieved marks of distinction in government, as

a businessman and civic and church leader.

Tossing over his shoulder the remark "I'm retired, darn it, and sure wish I wasn't," Bro. Roberts recounted that he served four terms as a Bradford County commissioner, 20 years as president of the Sayre Building and Loan Association, 12 years as a bank director and 16 years as a school director.

He also found time to be secretary to the board of trustees at the Sayre Presbyterian Church for 27 years.

For many years the bespectacled Bro. Roberts wrote a Tunkhannock newspaper column on histories of his native Wyoming County, where he grew up as a young boy.

Not one to mourn for the "good, old days," Bro. Roberts reminisced how he

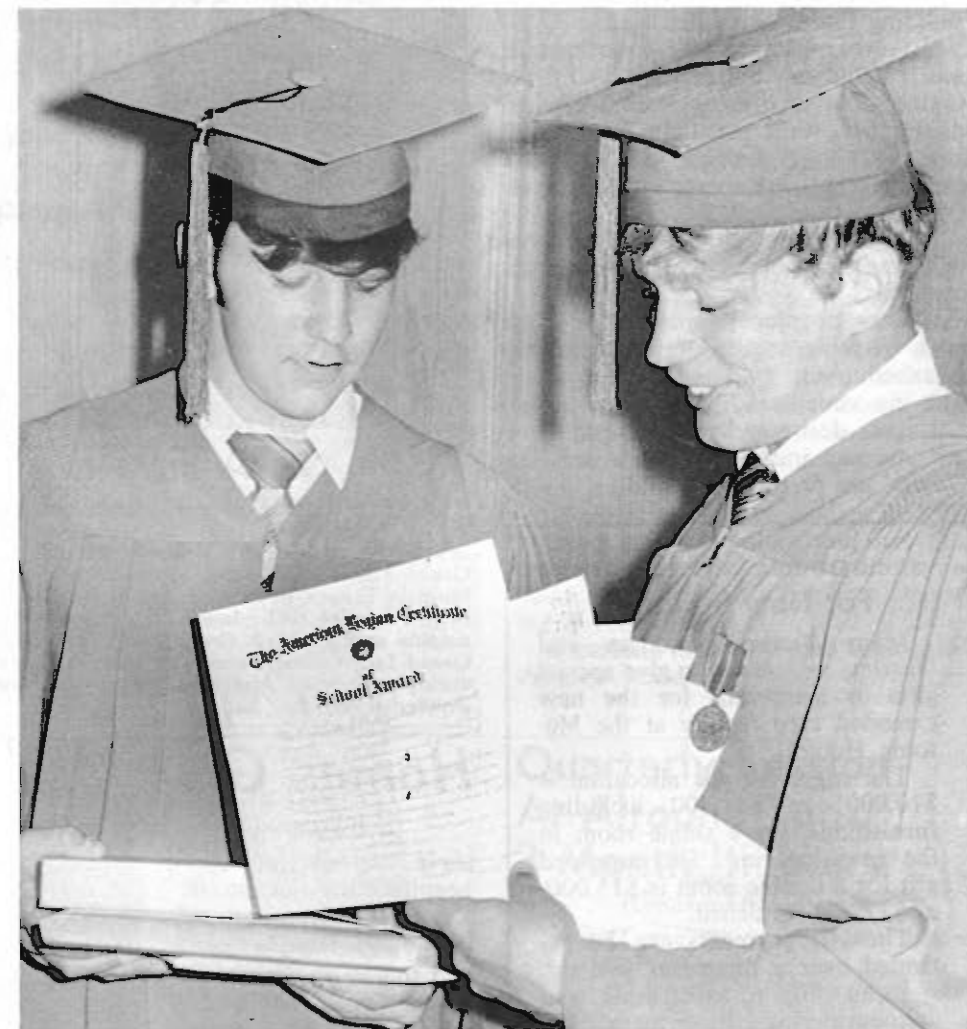
was forced to quit high school at 16 and go to work for \$2 a week in a hardware store. But it only took him 12 years to become a partner in the business.

In 1901 he opened his own hardware store in Sayre and operated the business for 40 years. During that time, he mastered the tinning and plumbing trades.

His long business career behind him in 1941, Bro. Roberts started a "new life" when 73 years old. He went to work as a fieldman with the Department of Internal Affairs in Harrisburg. At this job he traveled to every county in the state, keeping up the strenuous pace until he was 85.

After that they again marked "retired" beside his name, but he kept on

(Continued on Page 8)



## Happiness Is . . . Graduation Day

Awards presentations were a highlight at June 5 commencement exercises of Patton Masonic School and Charles Brecht (right) and classmate Kenneth Miller were among the top recipients. Miller received the William H. Van Voorhees Craftsman Award after being voted the outstanding craftsman in the class. And young Brecht proudly shows his American Legion Award which included a medal and certificate. The award was given to the student who exemplified the qualities of honor, leadership, citizenship, scholarship and service. The commencement address was delivered by Bro. Hiram P. Ball, R. W. Grand Master, and Dr. Richard A. Rudisill, a trustee of Patton School, presented diplomas to the ten graduates at exercises in George H. Deike Auditorium at the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown.



## \$1 Million Goal Provides Masons Newest Challenge

(Continued from Page 1)

They are (1) to sell the Temple Building, adjacent to the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia, and (2) liquidate the Masonic Center Development Fund.

But an added \$500,000 will be needed to pay complete costs of the new building.

The "Guest and Building Fund" goal of \$1,000,000 is twice the amount ever given.

The goal was determined, Bro. Ball explained, by taking into consideration the needs for the new building and the Guests at the Homes. He pointed out that last year Pennsylvania Masons gave \$471,729 to the Guest Fund.

In requesting gifts to the "Guest and Building Fund," Bro. Ball said:

"If every Brother will contribute as much as he can but at least \$4.13, actually less than buying a dinner when dining out, we'll reach the \$1,000,000 goal. Surely an average of \$4.13 isn't too much to ask for such an important, charitable program."

Bro. Ball also pointed out that contributions are deductible on your income tax.

Checks or money orders should be made payable to the Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pa., and mailed there. The zip code is 17022.

If you desire, when you send your gift you can indicate whether it is for Guests' use or the new building.

### Special Gifts Set For New Building

Many Brethren, Lodges and Districts will desire to give special gifts or memorials for the new extended care facility at the Masonic Homes.

The suggested gift allocation is \$10,000, or \$11,500 including furnishings, for a single room in the new building. The proposed gift for a double room is \$15,000, or \$17,500 furnished.

The gift payments can be extended over a three-year period.

In an effort to assist those who are considering gifts or memorials, other suggested allocations are \$125,000 for the out-patient clinic; \$15,000 for meditation room; \$40,000 for visitor's lounge; \$18,000 for recreation room and office; \$100,000 for dining room and recreation facility; \$6,000 for examination and treatment room and \$15,000 for an isolation room.



### A First for Rainbow Girls

Miss Patricia Ann Dibert of Northumberland, Grand Worthy Advisor of the Grand Assembly of Pennsylvania International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, smilingly accepts a beautiful bronze Grand Master's Medallion presented to her by Bro. Hiram P. Ball, R. W. Grand Master. The happy occasion was April 17 when "Rainbow Day" was held in the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia. It was the first time in the history of the Jurisdiction that such a meeting took place in the Temple. Rainbow Girls from 21 Assemblies in the Philadelphia area attended. Grand Lodge hosted them at a luncheon in the Grand Banquet Room. Grand Lodge officers remarked on how lady-like and well-mannered the Rainbow girls were during their visit. And many girls wrote "thank you" notes to the Grand Master on the wonderful day they had.

## Homes Gets Modern Care Facility

(Continued from Page 1)

serve the new facility and extend the hospital's utilities into it.

The out-patient clinic on the ground floor will include seven examination and treatment rooms, a pharmacy, staff lounge, work room and office and waiting facilities for Guests.

Infra-red heating units for use during inclement weather will be installed overhead at the clinic's entrance and at the loading dock.

Dining and recreation facilities are on the first-floor in a multi-purpose area which can be divided into three sections. An outdoors terrace can be used for either dining or recreation.

A recreation work room will be equipped with an electric kiln and spray booth for use in various crafts.

Other first-floor features include an office for the recreation director and staff, a visitors' lounge and a small meditation room.

The central linen and housekeeping facilities for the entire hospital complex also will be on the ground floor.

There will be 44 double and 28 single rooms on the upper floors of the new facility, which will have two self-service elevators.

The second and third floors each will have three lounges and a small balcony, an examination and treatment room and an isolation room.

## St. Marys Lodge Holds Dedication, Places Cornerstone

Impressive ceremonies marked the Lodge Room dedication and placing of the cornerstone in the new Masonic Temple in St. Marys, Pa.

The new home of George E. Wagner Lodge No. 639 was dedicated April 10 at a Special Communication of Grand Lodge.

A dinner for about 150 guests was held at the St. Marys Country Club following the ceremonies.

Ground was broken June 7, 1969 for the Temple, which was built off Mason Road in a scenic wooded area about two miles from downtown St. Marys.

The 200 by 400-foot tract of land was donated by Bro. John P. Lenze, a Past Master and trustee of Lodge No. 639.

The new, two-story building, which measures 36 by 72-feet, is of concrete block and steel.

The 36 by 50-foot Lodge Room, which is air conditioned, is on the second floor along with a lounge room. The entire second floor is done in wood



The new Masonic Temple of George E. Wagner Lodge No. 639 is in scenic wooded area about two miles from downtown St. Marys. The groundbreaking was June 7, 1969.

### Brick, Stucco Building

## Moosic Lodge Room Dedicated

The Lodge Room of Moosic Lodge No. 664 has been dedicated in its new Masonic Temple at 430 Main Street, Moosic.

The ceremony was held May 29 at a Special Communication of Grand Lodge. Bro. Hiram P. Ball, R. W. Grand Master, dedicated the Lodge Room. He was accompanied by a corps of Grand Lodge officers.

The two-story brick and stucco building is 40 by 70 feet. The Lodge Room and a waiting room with rest room facilities are on the second floor. A large social room for banquets, kitchen and rest rooms are on the first floor.

The 40 by 48-foot Lodge Room is paneled in dark walnut and has flush ceiling lights. The altar furniture and pews are new. The plush wool carpeting is rust colored.

A parking lot for 40 cars is alongside the new building.

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## Quarterly Session At Altoona Tops 3-Month Itinerary

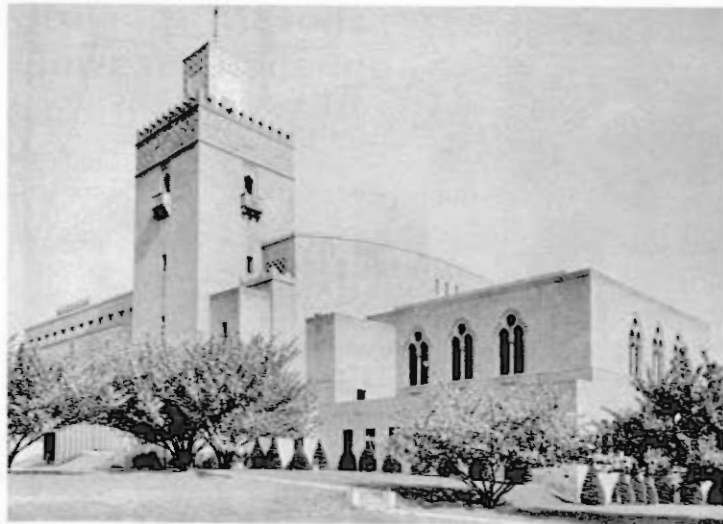
(Continued from Page 2)

- ing, Committee on Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown.
- October 23** — Grand Master, 100th Anniversary, Pine Lodge No. 498, Linesville.
- October 30** — Grand Master, 100th Anniversary, Glasgow Lodge No. 485, Midland.
- November 6** — Grand Master, Masters' Night, Zem Zem Temple, Erie.
- November 13** — Grand Master, 175th Anniversary, Rural Amity Lodge No. 70, Athens.
- November 20** — Junior Grand Warden, 50th Anniversary, Wilson Lodge No. 714, Clairton.
- November 27** — Grand Master, 125th Anniversary, St. John's Lodge No. 219, Pittsburgh.



Practically every nook in the magnificent Masonic Temple came under scrutiny of the Rainbow Girls during guided tours of the building. Here the ornate desk and chair at the secretary's station in Ionic Hall caught the eye of four young misses. Lisa Van Dusen, of Delco Assembly No. 70 at Broomall, tries out the chair for size and comfort to the gleeful satisfaction of (left to right) Nancy Swider and Helen Schofer, both of Reading Assembly No. 33, and Kara Renninger, also of Delco Assembly No. 70.





Grand Lodge will convene Monday, December 27 in Zembo Mosque in Harrisburg. This will be the third time in history that the Annual Grand Communication is held outside of Philadelphia.



Harrisburg's splendid Scottish Rite Cathedral and Masonic Temple will be scene for Vesper Service which will be open to all Master Masons and their Ladies who attend Annual Grand Communication.

## Brethren, Their Ladies to Take Part

# Harrisburg Prepares to Host Annual Grand

For one of the few times in history, Pennsylvania Masons and their Ladies will take part in program events at the Annual Grand Communication of Grand Lodge to be held in December in Harrisburg.

Many of the events will be in the beautiful Scottish Rite Cathedral and Zembo Mosque. Both structures are at Third and Division Streets, about a mile north of the State Capitol.

This will be only the third time the Annual Grand will be held outside of Philadelphia.

In 1969, Bro. Hiram P. Ball was installed as R. W. Grand Master in Pittsburgh's Syria Mosque. And in 1958 Bro. Sanford M. Chilcote was installed as R. W. Grand Master in the Masonic Temple at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown.

At the Annual Grand this year Master Masons and their Ladies have been invited to the Vesper Service at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 26 in the Scottish Rite Cathedral.

An outstanding speaker and music will highlight the service in the 1,200-seat, air conditioned auditorium. A social hour will follow.

Grand Lodge will convene at 10 a.m. Monday, Dec. 27 in Zembo Mosque, with Master Masons invited to attend.

A luncheon for all Brethren will be held at 1:30 p.m. in the Scottish Rite Cathedral.

The newly installed Grand Master will be received officially at a 3 p.m. special meeting of Robert Burns Lodge No. 464 to be held in the Blue Room of the Masonic Temple.

All Master Masons and their Ladies

are invited to attend the Grand Master's Banquet at 6:30 p.m. in the ballroom of the Penn Harris Motor Inn at Camp Hill, near Harrisburg.

Brethren interested in attending the banquet should complete the coupon and mail it as soon as possible to assure reservations. Tickets will cost \$7.50 each and be reserved on a first come basis.

Outstanding entertainment and dancing will follow the banquet. Dress for the affair will be tuxedo preferred but dark suit acceptable.

## Bro. Miller Named New Field Agent

A new Field Agent of the Masonic Service Association has been appointed to the Veterans Administration Hospital at Wilkes-Barre.

Bro. Kenneth M. Miller of Plymouth, Pa., has been assigned to carry out visitation program services at the hospital.

A member of Plymouth Lodge No. 332, he retired last year after 40 years as chief chemist at United Gas Improvement Co.'s Luzerne Division. He also is a member of the Caldwell Consistory at Bloomsburg.

Bro. Miller attended Bucknell Junior College and the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

He is a member of Plymouth United Methodist Church where he has served on the board of trustees, as chairman of the Commission on Education and secretary of the Sunday School for 30 years.

# Action Set on Holiday Meetings

By ASHBY B. PAUL  
R. W. Grand Secretary

Quarterly Communication, June 2, 1971

The comfortable Deike Auditorium at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown was well filled for this Communication, which was preceded by meetings of the Committee on Masonic Homes and Committee on Finance, along with the usual informative session with the District Deputy Grand Masters.

## Committee Reports

The Committee on By-Laws reviewed proposed amendments submitted by 27 Lodges, most of which were approved in whole or in part.

The Committee on Finance report for the Quarter ending May 15, 1971 indicated budget receipts of \$1,209,798.93 and expenditures of \$1,248,227.19. Upon recommendation of this committee, resolutions were adopted approving the purchase of a property adjoining the Masonic Homes grounds; necessary re-wiring at the Masonic Homes; sale of property adjacent to Deshon Hospital in Butler; and sale of a property in Wernersville.

The erection and furnishing of an 116-bed extended care facility at the Masonic Homes also was approved.

Through efforts of the Committee on Masonic Culture, the Speakers' Bureau now includes 127 well qualified Brethren and it is hoped many more will be added to the list.

The 44th Commencement Day exercises for Patton Masonic School for Boys was held in Deike Auditorium. Ten students were graduated and four of them will go to college. Through efforts of the Lodge Representatives, a full enrollment is expected for September classes. The "Panther Review," the Patton School newspaper, was awarded a silver certificate for placing second in the National High School Newspapers' competition sponsored by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association of Columbia University.

Most of the scheduled improvements to the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia have been completed, while additional work will be done during the summer.

Many Lodges are improving their Lodge Rooms and associated facilities. Dedication ceremonies are scheduled October 2 in the new York Temple and October 16 in the new Lodge Room in Cochranon (Lodge No. 790).

## Membership Statistics

The final membership statistics for 1970 show a net loss of 2,633. While there were 4,733 initiates, 6,036 deaths occurred and suspensions continued high.

## Amendment to Ahiman Rezon

A proposed amendment was submit-

ted at the June Quarterly Communication whereby the date of a Stated Meeting may be changed when it conflicts with a religious or national holiday. This amendment will be acted upon at the December Quarterly Communication.

Article XVII, Section 12 now reads: "Section 12. A Lodge must assemble for labor at least once in every month; but the Stated Meetings in the months of July and August may be omitted by vote of the Lodge. A Masonic month must elapse between Stated Meetings. The hour for meeting shall be fixed by the By-Laws of the Lodge."

The proposed amendment reads: "Section 12. A Lodge must assemble for labor at least once in every month; but the Stated Meetings in the months of July and August may be omitted by vote of the Lodge. A Masonic month must elapse between Stated Meetings. The hour for meeting shall be fixed by the By-Laws of the Lodge. When a Stated Meeting of a Lodge falls on the eve or day of a religious or national holiday, such Stated Meeting may be changed without the amendment of the By-Laws of the Lodge to a different time on the day in question, or to a day within seven days before or seven days after the date of the religious or national holiday or eve thereof, with the approval of the Grand Master (either by a Specific Dispensation or by a Decision of General Application enumerating specific holidays and setting forth the procedure to be required of the Lodge) and if a Stated Meeting is held at a changed hour or on a changed date in accordance with the Specific Dispensation or Decision of General Application, it shall be a valid meeting for all purposes."

Grand Lodge was saddened by the deaths of three Past District Deputy Grand Masters, Bros. Frederick F. Bruch, Jay N. Newcomer and Charles L. Foreman.

When Perseverance Lodge No. 21 was constituted way back on November 10, 1779, it met in Campbell's Brick House, two miles east of Harris' Ferry, now Harrisburg. The Lodge met

(Continued on Page 8)

## Brother Carries Out Idea of Giving

The number "52" has special meaning to Bro. Harry E. Beehner of Philadelphia.

He is a member of Harmony Lodge No. 52 in the City of Brotherly Love. And he has been a Mason 52 years.

So he recently contributed \$52 — a dollar for each year he's been in the Fraternity — to the Guest Fund for the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown.

In fact, this is the third year Bro. Beehner has carried out his wonderful idea of giving.

He hit upon the notion when he received his 50-Year Masonic Service Emblem in 1969. Each year of his Masonic life has brought him special joys, so he wanted to do something special for others.

So in 1969 Bro. Beehner thoughtfully gave \$50 to the Guest Fund. And each year since he has added \$1 to his generous contribution.

## Bro. Williamson Gets Homes Committee Post

Bro. Samuel C. Williamson, 44, for nearly 10 years District Deputy Grand Master of the 54th Masonic District, has been appointed to the Committee on Masonic Homes.

The committee is responsible for management of the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown.

Bro. Williamson, of Pitcairn, is superintendent of the chemicals department at the Clairton Works of U.S. Steel Corp.

A chemical engineering graduate from the University of Pittsburgh, Bro. Williamson has been prominent many years in Masonic and civic affairs.

He is a Past Master and a member of Tyrian Lodge No. 612, Wilmerding; a member of Valley Royal Arch Chapter No. 289; Liberty Valley Council No. 50, Royal and Select Masters; the Scottish Rite Bodies, Valley of Pittsburgh; and Syria Temple.

Bro. Williamson is a councilman in Pitcairn Borough, an officer of the Model Cities Association, a director of the Pitcairn Savings and Loan Association and a member of the administrative board of Center Avenue United Methodist Church.

George R. Moad, P.M.  
Robert Burns Lodge No. 464  
Post Office Box 1629  
Harrisburg, Pa. 17105

Enclosed is my check for \$..... for ..... reservations at \$7.50 per ticket for the Grand Master's Banquet to be held at 6:30 p.m. December 27, 1971 at the Penn Harris Motor Inn at Camp Hill, near Harrisburg. Checks should be made payable to Ashby B. Paul, Grand Secretary.

Print Name .....

Address .....

City ..... State ..... Zip .....

Note: Please enclose self-addressed, stamped envelope.