The Cable Tow

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OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

PUBLISHED FOR AND IN THE INTEREST OF THE MEMBERS OF THE LODGES OF THIS JURISDICTION
(Entered as second class mail matter at the Manila Post Office)



MOST WOR. BRO. MICHAEL GOLDENBERG
Grand Master

138 Gunao, Quiapo — Manila, Philippines

The Grand Master's Message

The Spirit of Masonry

We have never realized what the real spirit of Mansonry is, what it meant to those who were at the mercy of the brutal Japs. Those dark years which we were obliged to endure, those days of terror when you do not know at what moment you would be picked up and taken to that dreaded place, "Fort Santiago" and kept there indefinitely. You felt suspicious of everyone around you, but when you happened to meet a Brother Mason, you were suddenly moved by a special feeling, that of being of service to each other and to be solicitous of the welfare of others. Masons in these circumstances never lost their faith in the belief that the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe would be on the side of the righteous. We have many times remembered the various parts of the teachings of our beloved order and particularly that the Supreme Grand Master understandeth our thoughts and we have asked Him to support us under the trials and afflictions which we are destined to endure while traveling through this vale of tears. In spite of torture and sacrifice in the hands of barbarians, we have never forgotten our duty as Masons and that is, to alleviate the suffering of humanity and to keep the morale of our friends and brothers as high as possible in a period of extreme darkness. The spirit of Masonry has never faded within us and it is that very spirit which has given us hope, fortitude and courage, that has bound us together with an unfaltering vision that the Spirit of Masonry will live until time shall be no more. My brethren, we have passed through those dark days and are now, once more, breathing the fresh air of Freedom. Our beautiful temples have been destroyed and our earthly belongings gone, but what fully remains is the most important, that which our enemies could never erase from our hearts and minds, and that is, the Spirit of Masonry.



THE CABLETOW

EDITORIALS

THE TASK AT HAND

The election of officers for 1946 of the various Lodges throughout the Philippines is over. In the solemn act of installation, the brethren elected were charged with the faithful performance of their duties and compliance of their obligations as leaders of their respective Lodges. Invariably, the challenge was accepted and the promise to do one's best was made. This having been done, the next step is to translate into action the beautiful words and rosy promises so eloquently expressed.

Our present day world demands sound leadership in every field of human endeavor; a leadership that is energetic, fearless and resourceful. And this has particular application to the Masonic Fraternity which stands for enlightenment and progress, for brotherhood and service. Officers who are alert but humble and hard-working but cheerful, cannot but win the respect of their brethren; the former being exemplary in conduct need not make repeated appeals for cooperation; this will come voluntarily and will be expressed in many ways by the brethren.

The task at hand appears gigantic. The war which has brought about utter destruction of properties and wholesale loss of human lives especially in the Philippines, makes the matter more complicated. Consider the burning of our temples, the loss of valuable Masonic records and more than these, the depletion in the rank and file of our membership. These are enough sources of pessimism and discouragement. But brethren, we cannot remain dormant. We must look ahead and march forward without hesitation. On the ruins of our temples there should rise bigger and better ones, wherein historic documents could be kept not only in proper order but in places more secure. Those who are to be admitted as members must not only be a source of strength of, but an honor to our Venerable Institution. Reconstruction and rehabilitation in our Lodges constitute a task that requires the assistance of each and every Mason. While it is not possible to accomplish in a year what we were prevented from doing during the three years of Japanese occupation, at least we can move faster now than ever before.

There is a trinity of factors which is of great help in tackling the task at hand, namely: (1) Careful planning; (2) Firm decision, and (3) Prompt action.

THIS IS YOUR PAPER

The CABLETOW is your paper. It is the official organ of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippine Islands. Among other things, it contains many items — the Grand Master's monthly message, instructive and inspiring articles, "What our Lodges are Doing", Fraternal Reviews of other Grand Lodges, the Official Section under which edicts, circulars and other important communications appear, the Scottish Rite Page and the Spanish Section — of particular interest to members of our Venerable Institution. Indeed, it is the only paper of its kind in this jurisdiction.

The carpenter with inadequate tools cannot do his work well; likewise the Mason minus his official organ can not keep himself up-to-date with the activities of his Craft here and there. It will be a welcome step to have the CABLETOW in our private library.

Let us all have a hand in pushing through the program of the Grand Lodge especially during this period of reconstruction and rehabilitation in our native land. By subscribing to the CABLETOW and thus helping it grow, we will be contributing our share toward this end.

OFFICIAL SECTION

GRAND MASTER'S WELCOME ADDRESS

Brethren of the Grand Lodge:

It is a great honor and privilege for me to welcome each and everyone of you on this the Thirtieth Annual Communication of our Grand Lodge. It has been exactly five years ago since this Grand Body held its last regular session and we who are alive to-day, thank the Great Architect of the Universe for giving us courage and wisdom and protecting us through the trials and hardships endured particularly during the long and terrible years of the enemy invasion.

I am immensely happy to see such a large delegation here in attendance, because I know it is difficult and uncomfortable to travel anywhere in our country at this time. By your presence here you have shown that your valuable time, convenience and comfort mean nothing to you when it comes to performing your duties and obligations for the benefit of our great and honorable institution and through it, to all mankind. Brethren, we are again gathered here as Freemen and as such, enter into our deliberations and conduct the annual business session of our Grand Lodge. I trust peace and harmony will prevail and success will crown our efforts.

We are grateful for your participation in rehabilitating your respective Lodges. Without your cooperation, it would have been impossible for this Grand Body to hold its regular Annual Communication at this time. I fervently hope that on your return to your respective Lodges, you will be further imbued with the good results of this gathering and that you will make every effort to improve your own conditions and will continue your undiminished interest in, and support of your respective Lodges, your Grand Lodge and Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction.

With your assistance, we will no doubt be on the road to normalcy and without it we can do nothing no matter how hard we try. We entertain no doubt that by the wonderful attendance we see gathered here we can overcome all obstacles in our endeavors.

I hope and pray that your stay with us will be most pleasant and fruitful. And when you are back home again in your respective places of abode, you will continue to put into practice those moral obligations which Masonry expects of each and everyone of its members.

Again, I welcome you most cordially and sincerely.

RESPONSE TO THE GRAND MASTER'S WELCOME ADDRESS

(By Wor. Bro. Hermenegildo Perez Santos, Master of Bagong Buhay Lodge No. 17, F & A. M.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Officers of the Grand Lodge and Brethren:

It is a great honor to have this rare privilege to speak in the name of my brother delegates, in response to the hearty welcome extended to us by the Most Worshipful Grand Master at this our Thirtieth Annual Communication.

Most Worshipful Sir: We are here to pay our respects to the Most Worshipful Grand Master as the highest masonic authority in the Philippines; we are here anxious to meet and shake hands with the brethren with the warmth of our affection and brotherly love; we are here to pledge anew our loyalty to our Ancient and Honorable Institution and to re-dedicate ourselves to the service for which our Fraternity stands.

We can assure you, Most Worshipful Sir, that our hearts are overflowing with joy on this happy occasion. This is so because throughout the chaotic years of the Japanese invasion of our native land, the brutal enemy not only forced the closing of our Lodges only to loot or burn them but also persecuted the members of our Fraternity and in many instances killed them. And now that we are free again and democracy reigns once more in our country, we are eager as it were to manifest our fidelity to our principles and to carry on the work entrusted to our care.

World War II which has caused so much destruction and indescribable suffering to humanity, has just come to an end. The Philippines which became a veritable battle-ground has lost plenty and sacrificed much. But we should not worry too much about yesterday; the past is past. Rather we should do our share to make Freemasonry assert itself and let its influence felt in the community. We should help in a crusade against the evils existing in our midst —bribery, profiteering, racketeering, robbery, bigotry, fanaticism, superstitution, immorality. Here is a challenge to the brethren of our Institution. We must accept it or be recreant to our obligations as masons.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, we wish you complete success in the administration of our Grand Jurisdiction, and hope that with God's guidance this Annual Communication will bear fruits for the benefit of the craft and mankind.

ADDRESS OF PRESENTATION OF GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

By Wor. Bro. Ludwig Model, Grand Marshal

Most Worshipful Grand Master:

As Grand Marshal of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands, I am more than delighted in being called upon to present to you the Worthy Brethren Grand Representatives of the Sister Grand Lodges with which we have the pleasure to be in a friendly and fraternal relationship.

You are certainly aware of the fact, that their number is much smaller than in former years, but taking into consideration what we, in these Islands had to go through, during the years of occupation by an unscrupulous, uncivilized, and oppressive enemy, the Japanese, I feel it my duty to thank the Great Architect of the Universe for letting me introduce to you these worthy Brethren small as their number actually is.

Not all the absent Grand Representatives have gone to the Eternal Beyond; many of them crossed the seas to their boyhood homes to recover their former health and vigor. I am convinced however, that in thought and in spirit each and every one of them is with and among us, this day of our customary Annual Reunion.

They, together with all our Brother Masons, wheresoever dispersed are happy that the reign of terror in this, and many other countries has finally come to an end, and that the principal perpetrators of those hundreds of thousands of told and untold crimes committed against humanity in general and against the beloved members of our Venerable Institution in particular, are at this moment being tried by the courts of justice and will, in due time receive their well deserved punishment.

It is my sincere hope, that in the coming year, when calling the Roll, the well pleasing Word "PRESENT" will be heard almost uninterruptedly.

Grand Master's Welcome Address To Grand Representatives

More than at any other period of the existence of our Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, we are greatly in need of contact with our sister Grand Lodges in the world. In my own name and on behalf of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippine Islands, I most cordially and most sincerely extend to you in your capacity as Representatives of all sister Grand Jurisdictions, our warmest brotherly affection and welcome you to this

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our thirtieth annual communication. This is our first assembly since our country was invaded and Masonry banned, our properties confiscated and its Lodges closed, Temples sealed and later destroyed by the brutal Japanese invaders. Since then, our members suffered untold hardships and many of us were tortured, persecuted and murdered. But Masonry itself never lost its identity and the spirit of Masonry prevailed during the entire invasion and I am happy to state that relief and Masonic charity were extended to all by our brethren who were in a position to do so. The three great tenets of Masonry were imbedded in our hearts and at all costs we have emerged through the greatest catastrophe of our existence with the spirit of Masonry foremost in our minds and not the spirit of personal gain and ambition. We were ready for any sacrifice, for the Philippines was and still is the bastion of Democracy in the Far East as implanted here by the greatest Democratic nation in the world — America. And the Japs themselves accused Masonry of being the originator of democratic ideals and customs. We feel proud of this accusation from our own enemies. The Great Architect of the Universe understands our pure principles and will always protect us in the hour of our need. We have passed through those extremely difficult years with courage and fortitude and are made more happy by the relief extended to our needy and the moral support of our sister Grand Jurisdictions in America. Every word of encouragement which we have received since liberation from the various Grand Lodges, through their officials, has given us greater vigor to forge ahead in our formidable task of rehabilitation of Masonry in the Philippines. I hope and expect that you will convey our fraternal greetings and sincere affections to the Grand Lodges you represent and tell them that Philippine Masonry is grateful for their moral support for everything that is being done for us. You are all ambassadors of true fellowship and as such I cordially welcome you.

RESPONSE TO THE GRAND MASTER'S WELCOME TO GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

By Wor. Bro. Macario M. Ofilada,
Master of Nilad Lodge No. 12

Most Worshipful Acting Grand Master:

I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude for the distinct honor of representing the Grand Lodge of Norway at the Thirtieth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines, and, in behalf of the Grand Representatives of sister Grand Lodges of the world, I am happy to respond to the grateful and generous words of welcome extended to us by the Most Worshipful Acting Grand Master. While this part of the program is just a symbolic feature of the Grand Lodge Communication, it is significant in that, because of the representation made by us, the world is united in promoting the ideals for which Masonry stands—the same ideals that make the world a safe place to live in.

Norway has given the world a permanent synonym for treachery in the English and other languages—Quisling. It is of record that Norway was the first European country to communicate with the Grand Lodge of the Philippines. That country, with a population of 3,000,000, emerged from the European war with few battle scars because occupation by, and liberation from, the Germans both came in a rush. And that was possible because the Norwegians have equanimity, sobreity and temperance. To me these are Masonic qualities which I believe should be inculcated among other peoples.

We have answered the roll call and joined your Annual Communication this week with our hearts hungering for a genuine brotherhood of men the world over. To that end, we hope that from the general rehabilitation and reconstruction will emerge a world where human beings do not have to go about their business in the shadow of the valley of death—a world in an atomic age without atomic bomb dropped anywhere.

The second global war has been written off, but hardly had the smoke of the last battle disappeared when the signs of the time indicate that new dangers are again brewing abroad. But whatever those dangers are, men's thoughts and feelings should be directed toward the world's future. Whatever the condition may be in the next generation, Masonry wishes so to enter into it with disposition and ability to cope with the problems as to make that future the worthiest. Masonry desires through lasting and fundamental forces of a democratic way of life so as to contribute to that future, that the world shall be brought from devastation to recovery; from uncertainty to security; from disorder and turmoil to peace and tranquillity; in short, a world "brought from darkness to light." Thus we shall again live in a world where righteousness, both intellectual and moral, shall rule; where contentment shall possess the heart of the individual; and where peace for the soul of man and for the nations shall be an unending benediction and an imperishable beneficence.

With this response and, relying upon past endeavors of the Grand Lodge of this jurisdiction, we, Representatives of the sister Grand Lodges of the world, have no doubt, and it is our sincere hope and earnest prayer, that this Thirtieth Annual Communication will close with unprecedented accomplishments, so that the Philippines will continue to be a champion of Masonry and bulwark of Democracy in the Far East.

SPEECH OF BRO. PAUL V. McNUTT DELIVERED AT THE INSTALLATION OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS FOR 1946

Most Worshipful Grand Master,
Brethren, Friends, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am grateful for the privilege of installing in office this evening the highest authority of the Masonic Fraternity in the Philippines: The Most Worshipful Grand Master, and the Officers of the Grand Lodge. I feel more than ordinary pride in being able to speak to you, here in the Philippines, as brother Masons.

In the years when Jap horde overran the Philippines and the Nazis were turning the face of Europe brown-black, we feared, with good reason, for our Masonic brethren in the dark hours of Axis conquest. Yet it was a mark of honor that Masons, among the many societies of the Brotherhood of Man, were always singled out for attack by the Fascist and his propagandist. Their bullies wielded their clubs against these people whom their words could not convince. We know the reason. The democratic principles of life, so wisely taught as an essential part of masonic ideals and purposes provoked our defeated enemy to single us out as target. But we knew, we were sure, that Masonry would survive. It did. Its record added glory to the name of Masonry. It added glory to the cause of democracy the world over.

It is good to be here again. Tonight we mark a victory of stubborn faith which survived four years of occupation and devastation. But we cannot be content merely to recite our past heroisms. Now, more than ever, is the time that we should be solemnly dedicated... and united.... for the vast rehabilitation work ahead of us here. We are all determined to place the Philippines and the Filipinos among the honored nations of the earth, vested with the gifts of

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Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity: Liberty, the blood-won right of a freedom-loving people, Equality, without which freedom would be a mockery, and Fraternity, the Brotherhood of Mankind.

We are presented with the opportunity—for the first time in history—of helping in the transition of a people for *dependence* to *independence*. There are a billion Oriental eyes turned this way.. eyes which have always seen the power of the strong over the weak, the power of the great over the small. They are now watching and waiting to see what we do here. The fact of independence itself is no small wonder, it has never been freely given before. Here in the Philippines is a test case, a trial run, which makes success a necessity. We cannot fail. The world will have reason to regret it if we do.

Under the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man, Masons here have this job to do: to help in the successful rehabilitation of a nation, to help its progress towards its declared goals and those of our own Fraternity. The Fraternity, in the United States particularly, will not only watch you; it will support you in this task.

We have been through the valley of the shadow of death. We have seen darkness of the night. Now that the curtains of the night are pinned together with a star, may that star be the star of Bethlehem. He who was born under that star said, "I am come that ye might have life and have it more abundantly." The words of the Master who is the Prince of Peace must be the pattern of peace and the pattern which all of us must follow.

INVOCATION

By Wor. Bro. W. H. Fonger, Acting Grand Chaplain at the opening ceremonies of the Grand Lodge

Oh Thou who art the Architect and Creator, the Designer and Builder of the universe as on so many similar occasions thru the centuries past our brethren have come to Thee, so now do we at the opening of this another annual communication come to Thee, to render praise and thanksgiving and to ask for ourselves Thy blessing and guidance. We humbly acknowledge that in and thru Thee, we at this time feel ourselves united with the true members of the Craft of all ages past. As we sit together in these days we will be constantly reminded of their labors and we acknowledge with grateful hearts the structure which they have built for us, knowing that they have built in conformity with the plans as portrayed on the trestle board of the Supreme Architect.

At this time as we are still able to look out upon the destruction and devastation of war, we give grateful thanks for the coming of peace. As we have long believed that harmony is the strength and support of all societies so we believe peace and harmony to be the strength and support of that society of nations which must now be built. As we give thanks for the coming of peace so we give thanks for those who were willing to sacrifice their lives in order that peace might come. Especially are we reminded this day of those of our own number who thruout the world have laid down their lives that a new and more noble structure might arise wherein peace and harmony may ever reign and where brotherly love and every social and moral virtue may cement the nations of the world into one great brotherhood.

We give thanks to Thee at this time our Creator, that we belong to an order devoted to the great task of building. In these years past so much has been brot to ruin, so much torn down, so much utterly destroyed. As we face the years ahead the opportunity for reconstruction — for rebuilding — for building anew presents a challenge which cannot go unheeded by any true master workman. We thank Thee for our heritage which carries us back to the building of stately temples where each separate part was so made that the whole was put together without noise or confusion. As these master builders of the past used the tools and instruments of the Craft for such work of perfection, so may we use them for the more noble and glorious purpose of constructing in our day a new order, wherein the races and nations of earth may so work and build in harmony that confusion and discord, mistrust and suspicion may be neither heard nor felt and only peace and goodwill prevail.

And now Oh Thou Divine Master wilt Thou be pleased to grant at this time Thy blessing that we may be led of Thee and that here and now we may proceed in all our doings as those who know themselves to be governed by the instructions of the Supreme Master Builder. Amen.

GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
Manila

January 28th, 1946

To the MASTERS and SECRETARIES of this Grand Jurisdiction —

GREETINGS:

Hereunder we quote a memorandum of our Finance Committee relative to the "CABLETOW", the monthly publication of this Grand Lodge:

"Pursuant to the report of your Committee on Finance submitted and approved in the last Annual Communication, the Masters and Secretaries of the Lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction are jointly requested to furnish the office of the Grand Secretary with the number of members from their respective lodges who would like to subscribe to the CABLETOW now being again published by the Grand Lodge.

"Each member shall be charged fifty centavos (₱0.50) a copy, A MONTH which shall be paid IN ADVANCE by the subscribing member to his lodge, and the lodge, in turn, shall forthwith remit the total amount together with the list of subscribing members to the Grand Lodge.

"Kindly send in your subscription before the next publication of the CABLETOW

(Sgd.) FRANCISCO SANTIAGO (4)
Chairman
(Sgd.) JOAQUIN GARCIA (12)
Member
(Sgd.) ORESTES HERMOSURA (13)
Member"

In view of the foregoing, the masters and secretaries of our constituent lodges are hereby enjoined to comply with the above ruling so as to enable the office of the Grand Secretary to serve the subordinate lodges in the distribution of the CABLETOW with accuracy and the least possible delay.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,
ANTONIO GONZALES, P.G.M.
Grand Secretary

GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
Manila

February 1st, 1946

TO ALL ELECTED OFFICERS
of our Subordinate Lodges—

GREETINGS:

This is to advise you that there will be a Convention of Lodge elected officers to be held on February 22, 1946, at 9:00 A.M. at the Masonic Hall of the Grand Lodge, 138 Gunao, Quiapo, Manila, for the purpose mentioned in the attached announcement of the

WHAT OUR LODGES ARE DOING

LABONG No. 59
Malabon, Rizal

After three years of cessation of masonic activities in the Philippines due to the enemy's occupation, Labong Lodge No. 59 was duly reorganized on May 5, 1945 and its first stated meeting was held at the temporary hall of the Grand Lodge in Manila.

The officers elected in the year 1941 governed the lodge during the year 1945 after the liberation, and were all re-elected in the election meeting held on December 1, 1945, thereby giving them another year to serve. On the occasion of the Official Grand Lodge Visitation, jointly with Dapitan Lodge No. 21, on January 4, 1946, said officers were duly installed by the Grand Lodge Installing Team headed by M. W. Brother Antonio Gonzalez. The re-elected and appointed officers are: Elpidio Laiz, Worshipful Master; Ciro I. de Jesus, Senior Warden; Teodoro E. de Jesus, Junior Warden; Candido Perez, P. M., Treasurer; Vicente Quijano, P. M., Secretary; Angel C. Lazaro, P. M., Chaplain; Julian Sogueco, P. M., Auditor; Jose L. Cahiwat, Senior Deacon; Casimiro M. Santos, Junior Deacon; Pablo S. Tablante, Marshal; Pacifico J. Pagdanganan, Senior Stewart; Vicente San Mateo, Junior Stewart; and Placido Pacunayen, Tyler.

This Lodge held a fraternal gathering on January 19, 1946 at the Malabon, Rizal residence of W. B. Candido Perez in honor of Bro. Amado Jacinto, Past Master of this Lodge, to celebrate his appointment as Director of the Bureau of Printing. Most Wor. Brothers, Michael Goldenberg and Antonio Gonzalez attended as special guests. All the members of the Lodge were present and heartily contributed to the success of the gathering.

"HIGH TWELVE" NO. 82
Manila

The installation of Officers of this Lodge and Official Grand Lodge Visitation were held at the Grand Lodge Hall, 138 Gunao, Manila on Saturday, January 12, 1946.

The roll of officers elected and appointed is as follows:
Worshipful Master—Regino G. Padua
Senior Warden—Pedro J. Arcilla
Junior Warden—Mauro Baradi
Treasurer—Pio Salomon, P.M.
Secretary—Dominador R. Escosa, P.M.
Chaplain—Jose L. Intal, P.M.
Marshal—Severino C. Karganilla
Senior Deacon—Hermogenes P. Oliveros
Junior Deacon—Domingo Del Callar
Almoner—Florencio Asiddao
Senior Steward—Vicente Caguioa
Junior Steward—Andres Sionil
Organist—Ysabelo Umila
Tyler—Eutiquiano P. Tagba

HIRAM NO. 88
Manila, Philippines

Extract from a letter dated at Tulsa, Oklahoma, October 25, 1945 received from Lt. Col. Wade A. Eskridge, member of Hiram Lodge No. 88.

"I visited my father's Lodge since coming back home and it was a real pleasure. They gave me a thorough examination before admitting me but I came through it OK and was admitted without question. Upon completion of the Lodge work, they asked me to tell them about Masonry in the Philippines and I did. Then they all asked questions about it and we had two-hour discussion on the different points. I learned their ways and they learned about ours. I have never been sorry that I took my degrees there in Manila and I will always appreciate being admitted to Hiram No. 88."

COMMITTEE ON ENTERTAINMENTS, PUBLIC FUNCTIONS AND MONTHLY MASONIC DINNER

Prompt attendance is earnestly requested.

Sincerely and fraternally,

ANTONIO GONZALEZ, P.G.M.
Grand Secretary

Report of the Committee on Correspondence

TO THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE F. & A. M., OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS:

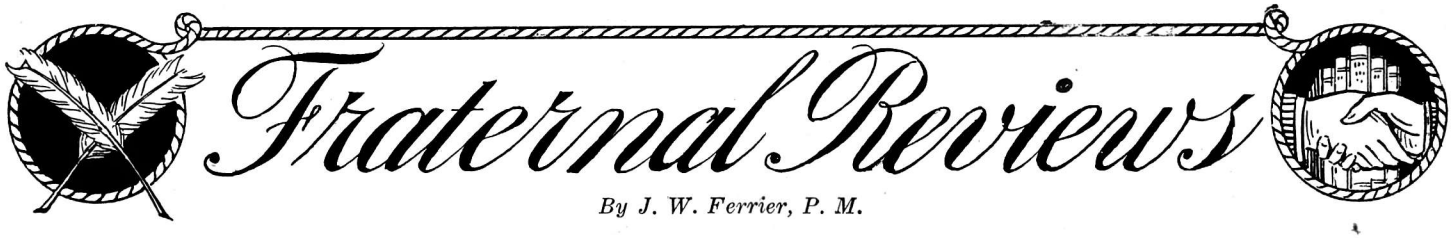
Your Committee on Correspondence has received the proceedings of the following Grand Lodges: Maryland, 1944; Michigan, 1944; Minnesota, 1945; Kansas, 1945; Utah, 1945, and Virginia, 1945, such proceedings being the only ones submitted to it for that purpose. All such reviews have been or will be published in the Cabletow and after such publication are to be considered as a part of this report.

All the Grand Lodges whose proceedings were reviewed reported a steady increase in membership and all Grand Masters thereof in their addresses cautioned and warned the lodges and their officers against the admission of new members except after a most painstaking, careful and complete investigation as to their qualification and their eligibility as applicants for the degrees. All such Grand Masters in their addresses likewise stressed the necessity of rendering all possible assistance to the armed forces; expressed gladness at the increase of membership; insisted on a very careful investigation of all candidates for admission; gave a note of warning regarding the failure to give instruction to new members in the principles, objects, laws and customs of the craft; called attention to the danger in the granting of dispensations waiving or setting aside the regulations adopted in earlier times, after mature consideration, with the object of protecting the fraternity and preventing the admission of unworthy or unfit men to its membership, and have strongly advocated all possible support to the public schools.

Nearly all Grand Masters of those jurisdiction whose proceedings we have reviewed appear to be disturbed about prospective losses of membership in the immediate postwar period, basing this upon what happened after the first World War; doubtful as to whether all who had recently knocked at the portals of Masonry had done so of their own accord; disturbed about the use of ciphers other than the official ones in the ritualistic work; worried about what should be done as regards membership in bodies admitting only Masons, some Grand Lodges having gone so far as to regulate and supervise all such societies, clubs, etc., and strongly stressing the necessity for Masonic instruction of all members and work along Masonic lines by and with every Mason.

As seen in the reviews of other Grand Lodges published as a part of the 1945 proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, it is noted that the Grand Master of New Hampshire, as shown in the proceedings of that grand jurisdiction for 1944, commenting on the increase in membership, considered that a great part of it was due to the war, stating that "Women in times of great stress and worry turn to their church and

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By J. W. Ferrier, P. M.

Minnesota—1945

The 92nd annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota was held in the Masonic Temple at St. Paul on January 17 and 18, 1945, under an Acting Grand Master, this being the third time in the last ten years during which the same thing had occurred. One hundred ninety-nine out of 295 active lodges were represented. All living Grand Lodge officers were present except the Junior Grand Deacon, as were also 12 out of the 17 living Past Grand Masters. G. M. Dick A. Mitchell, who had been elected at the communication in 1944, died July 25, 1944, and William F. Holman, Deputy Grand Master, acted as master during the remainder of the year, and at the communication under review, was elected to the Oriental Chair.

This Grand Lodge has the usual committees, and in addition, one on Ancient Landmarks and another on Masonic Research and Instruction, while Appeals and Grievances are combined in one committee.

There were present at this communication five Past Grand Masters, one Deputy Grand Master, four Grand Masters and one Senior Grand Warden of other Masonic jurisdictions.

In the Acting Grand Master's address, which by a regulation of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, is required to be read in each subordinate lodge in that Grand Jurisdiction, he gave a word of admonition on the great increase in membership and strongly advised that each petition should be scrutinized with utmost care and to be sure that the applicant, if elected, will become a true and faithful brother and cautioned all newly admitted brethren against inviting anyone to join the fraternity. He stated that he believes ciphers other than the official one were being used and strongly objected to such use. This is the same belief and objection which appears in the addresses of other Grand Masters which we have reviewed.

During the year, 98 fifty-year buttons were presented to the members of various subordinate lodges within the jurisdiction, the Acting Grand Master himself presenting nine of them.

He stated that during the year, he visited 52 subordinate lodges, attended the meeting of the Grand Chapter of the Eastern Star, visited three other Grand Lodges, attended two Grand Lodge funerals of deceased brethren, as well as the usual four Masonic meetings held annually in Washington during the month of February of each year.

He further stated that there had been a net gain of 1,936 members, and that the total membership on January 1, 1945, was 48,662. Likewise, that the outstanding indebtedness of members to subordinate lodges had been reduced during the year from $68,469.75 to $53,072.00, and urged that all subordinate lodges make strenuous efforts to collect unpaid dues.

The Grand Lodge of Minnesota maintains a Masonic Home in which it is taking care of 182 people whose average age is 75 years, and is doing same under very trying conditions owing to the increase in prices of commodities and the difficulties in securing labor. The following are excerpts from the closing paragraphs of the Acting Grand Master's Address:

> "Masonry as a fraternity permits no discussion in a lodge of matters of sectarian or political character, but each of us Masons has a very definite responsibility as a citizen. * * * In the lessons of the first three degrees of Masonry, we have a firm foundation upon which to build the strongest, and at the same time, the gentlest and the most just nation in the world. * * * I implore each one of you once more to read carefully the charge of the first degree, the charge of the second degree, and the charge of the third degree. These, together with the Divine Book, will be a beacon light which will direct you and those who come in contact with you, to the goal of good citizenship. Masonry will continue to grow and to prosper only so long as we follow its ancient customs, traditions and usages, and the ancient landmarks. Masonry is great today because we have not deviated, because we have not had to modernize, and because in our ancient customs, traditions and landmarks, we have the philosophy and the law which can be liberally interpreted and applied to our present situation. From time to time, I believe that we as individual Masons should be militant, aggressive citizens, standing firm for what we believe to be right and having done all, to stand. 'My life you can have, my integrity never,' should apply today.

The Grand Treasurer's report shows a balance on January 11, 1945, in all funds, of $320,424.52.

The Grand Orator, R. W. Frank A. Wildes, delivered a stirring oration from which we quote:

> "Masonry, like all worthy organizations, to justify existence, must serve the best interest of the community, the state and the nation. In the community, it must stand as a rallying point for men of good repute; in the state, as a staunch guardian of public education and as the champion of civic and moral decency, and in the nation as the defender of free speech, free press and free religious worship. All these duties have engaged our serious attention in past times, and now, we must take up new and onerous tasks devolving upon this nation and all humanity. We will win this fighting war, but we must also win the thing we are fighting for, a world-wide peace."

The report of the Committee on Masonic Research and Instruction shows it had done great and good work during the year, and that it is preparing to do even more.

The Grand Master ruled that lodge funds could not be appropriated for civic or commercial associations, nor could the lodge as such become a member thereof, and that the use of lodge funds must be for distinctly Masonic purposes. This ruling was approved by the Jurisprudence Committee, whose report was adopted.

R. W. William F. Holman, Deputy and Acting Grand Master, was elected Grand Master for the ensuing year.

The proceedings include, among other things, a copy of the Auditor's report, a list of the Grand Lodge Officers year by year from the date of its organization to the present, which statement shows that during the 29 years of its existence, it has had but six Grand Treasurers and nine Grand Secretaries.

This is followed by a 1945 Directory of subordinate lodges with the names of all the officers thereof and the dates of meeting; an abstract of all lodge returns for 1944, a list of the Grand Secretaries of 90 Grand Jurisdictions, a list of Grand Representatives to and for other jurisdictions; a memorial to M.

Fraternal Reviews

W. Grand Master Dick A. Mitchell, who died during his term of office in 1944, and to M. W. Albert Fenderson Pray, Grand Master in 1926, who also died in the same year; a list of distinguished dead from other jurisdictions.

All this is followed by the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, of which P. G. M. Edmund A. Montgomery is chairman, who reviews the proceedings of 54 Grand Jurisdictions in 108 pages of the proceedings in the foreword to which he states that he has reviewed all the proceedings received by him and that such report is his 23rd annual report as chairman of such committee and invites attention to the fact that all Grand Lodges are reporting steady increases in membership and all Grand Masters are cautioning the lodges and the officers thereof against admitting new members without making an unusually careful investigation as to the qualification and eligibility of petitioners for the degrees.

VIRGINIA—1945

The One Hundred and Sixty-Seventh Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Virginia was held on February 13, 1945, in the Masonic Temple in Richmond, with all grand lodge officers present except the Grand Chaplain, with six of its Past Grand Masters in attendance, and enough representatives from the 321 existing subordinate lodges in the Grand Jurisdiction to bring the meeting within the limit of 50 persons as prescribed by regulations of the United States Government, all in accordance with an edict of Grand Master John Malcolm Steward issued under date of January 31, 1945, which limited its action to the reception of reports, the approval of a budget for 1945, the advancement of Grand Officers, except that no election shall be held for Grand Junior Deacon.

The Grand Master in his address at the annual communication stated that he had attended the national conference of Grand Masters, had welcomed the 34th annual convention of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association to Virginia, visited as many subordinate lodges and schools of instruction (58), as well as 72 other Masonically affiliated bodies, as it was possible to reach under prevailing conditions; visited the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, New York, West Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia, and was represented by other Grand Lodge officers at the Communications of the Grand Lodges of Kentucky, Tennessee, South Carolina, New Jersey, Wisconsin, and Delaware; suggesting the issuance of 50-year buttons to those members of the order who were entitled to the same, and named 45 brethren as worthy of this distinction; gives the gain in membership during the year as approximately 2,200, and the membership at the end of the year as 43,075 (a Comparative Study of Lodges and Membership and a Summary of Lodges Alphabetically Arranged, both appearing later in the proceedings show the increase in membership during the year to have been 2,190 and the total membership at the end of the year to be 43,086), and states that time alone can tell if this growth is a healthy one; says 4 of the subordinate lodges have a membership of over 700 each, one of them having more than 1000; rejoices that 412 were restored to membership during the year, and regrets that 751 died during the same period; says the Grand Lodge is now out of debt, and has $135,000.00 invested in War Savings Bonds; recommends the devising of some way by which the "Masonic Herald," a publication probably of a similar nature to our "Cabletow," can be sent to every member of the Craft in the Grand Jurisdiction; specifically mentioned the death of three Past Grand Masters and four brothers who had rendered distinguished services to Virginia Masonry, with eulogies for all of them; gave unswerving support to the continued maintenance of the Virginia Masonic Home for Children; emphasized the value of the Schools for Masonic Instruction and suggested that in addition to the study of the ritual, a period be set aside for instruction in how to "rule and govern a lodge," as well as for a study of the Methodical Digest and "Masonic law and usages," which digest had been recently annotated by R. W. Harold R. Stephenson, Grand Junior Warden; reported that in response to a proclamation issued by him, more than 80% of the lodges within the jurisdiction had held Thanksgiving services during the week, November 23 to 30, 1944; commends the work of the Masonic War Service Commission, the Veteran's Service Commission; recommends the printing and distribution of the 1943 proceedings which appears not to have been done as yet; regrets that there were 7 Masonic trials during the year; reported that he had granted 38 and refused a number of dispensations.

Among the dispensations which were refused were two which sought permission to open and hold Masonic Communications in the absence of the Master and both wardens, on the ground that "it is a fundamental of Masonry older than the Grand Lodge of Virginia that no Masonic Lodge may be opened or stand open in the absence of its Master and Wardens."

In another lodge, several Past Masters thereof undertook, with the knowledge and consent of the Master, to hold a Masonic communication in the absence of all of its three indispensable officers, and proceeded to confer the degree of Master Mason upon two fellowcrafts of the particular lodge, and, by comity, upon a fellowcraft from the Grand Lodge of South Carolina. The Grand Master declared the whole proceedings void, declared the alleged Master Masons to still be Fellow Crafts only, directed that all record of the alleged meeting be expunged from the minutes of the lodge, and that those responsible for the proceedings taken be reprimanded. The three Fellow Crafts were later raised in a just and legally constituted lodge.

The Grand Master made some decisions not covered by previous rulings, among which may be mentioned:

(a) A petition for initiation may be entertained from a person, otherwise eligible, who has been sterilized by the surgical operation known as vasectomy.

(b) The Secretary and not the Treasurer (of a subordinate lodge) is the proper person to receive all dues or other monies due the lodge, the Treasurer being a custodian and not a primary receiving officer.

(c) Persons residing on military reservations and whose military service is limited to the war emergency period only, and who have actual residences in other states to which they expect to return upon the conclusion of their temporary military duties, are ineligible to petition Virginia lodges.

(d) A lodge cannot by its By-Laws prescribe the time for the annual election of its officers, since this time

FRATERNAL REVIEWS

is fixed by the laws of the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

In the report regarding the By-Laws approved by the Grand Master, he states his happiness at the general tendency to increase the fees for the degrees. He further enumerates certain By-Laws disapproved by him, among which were —

(1) A By-Law exempting Ministers of the Gospel from paying dues.

(2) A By-Law providing that Lodge dues should be paid direct to the Treasurer.

He also cautions and warns against attempts to "modernize" Masonry, and specifically regrets the tendency to "streamline" Masonry's ancient rituals and particularly objects to the practice of mass production in the making of Masons in classes. His conclusion is too long to quote in full here, but your reviewer believes it would be helpful if every brother in this Grand Jurisdiction would read it.

The proceedings, among other things, continue with the Report of the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence in which the proceedings of six of the Grand Jurisdictions of the United States for 1943 and 41 of those for 1944, as well as 3 for 1943 and 9 for 1944 of foreign jurisdictions are reviewed in a very interesting and painstaking manner, the report concluding with the following paragraph:

> "Masonry is a philosophy of life. It is a way of living. Its tenets are sound when measured by the highest moral and spiritual standards. To be good men and true is among the first lessons taught, and if so practiced as to be made real, might well be the last as readily as the first. On this foundation Masonry stands, and so long as Masonry is true to her highest ideals and purposes, she will not only not permit but will not desire any other."

The proceedings finally conclude with the Report of the Board of Governors of the Masonic Home of Virginia.

We note the claim of ownership by the Grand Lodge of Virginia to all copies of its proceedings as appears on the title page of the one under review, reading as follows:

"Resolution adopted February 13, 1929:

"That the book containing the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodge is the property of the Grand Lodge, and is issued for the exclusive use of Grand and Subordinate Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters, and others as designated in Section 50, Methodical Digest. This book is to be used for Masonic purposes only, and if used by a Mason for any other purpose it shall be considered a Masonic Offense and subject such Mason to trial for un-Masonic conduct. If used by, or found in possession of persons other than those designated in this resolution, the Grand Secretary shall assert the right of ownership for and in behalf of this Grand Lodge.

"This resolution shall be printed on the cover and the title page of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge hereafter published."

This seems to your reviewer to be a precaution well taken, but it would be interesting to know what caused its enactment.

(Continued from page 5)

lodge for that peace of mind and comfort that can no where else be found."

We feel that there are many things appearing in the various proceedings which should be brought to the attention of all members of the fraternity. One of these in particular is a portion of the introductory statement to a speech delivered at the conference of Grand Masters of the Grand Jurisdiction of Colorado, entitled "Readjustment Problems of Freemasonry in the Post War Period," as follows:

> The activities of Freemasonry are restricted by the ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry and by the Constitution and Laws or regulations of the Grand Lodge. The ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry which have existed from a time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary, may never be altered or disturbed. Freemasonry, its activities titles, ceremonies, symbols, and emblems, are not to be used for political or commercial purposes. It repudiates all solicitation for its degrees, all advertisements, all unseemly publicity. It tolerates no foreign meddling in its affairs. It interferes with no man's religion, and will not concern itself with matters of political and legislative policy.
>
> "The fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man is the ideal of Freemasonry. The existence of God is its great landmark, the immortality of the soul is its great doctrine. It is a system of morality. It is a philosophy of life. It is a secret society. Its membership is exclusive. It does not seek initiates, nor does it boast of its membership. Its mission is to improve the character of the individual Mason, the better to enable

(Continued on page 14)

Evolution of Merchandizing Standard

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A PLEDGE OF SERVICE

BROTHERLY LOVE, RELIEF, AND TRUTH.

BY GEORGE R. HARVEY, P. G. M.

Brotherly Love:

The Holy Scriptures are the Great Light in Masonry. We have been taught that the Holy Bible is dedicated to God, it being His inestimable gift to man as the rule and guide of his faith. With this Great Light before him, a repentant individual may turn from his evil ways and, with his gaze fixed upon the goal of high character, he may build for himself a superior type of manhood, and the reward thereof may be the sweetest joy to himself, and his life and example may be a benediction to mankind.

We learn from the Holy Scriptures that Jesus of Nazareth, in addressing his disciples, said:

"A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."

(John 13: 34, 35.)

Again, in preaching to his disciples, Jesus said:

"If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in His love.

"These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

"This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

"These things I command you, that ye love one another."

(John 15: 10, 11, 12, 13 and 17.)

The Saviour also taught his disciples as follows:

"After this manner therefore pray ye:

"Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name."

(Matthew 6: 9.)

These words of the Lord's Prayer, "Our Father who art in heaven," clearly expresses the relationship between God and man created by Him in His own image and likeness; that is to say, the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man.

We have all been taught in our ceremonies to "regard the whole human species as one family, the high and the low, the rich and the poor, who, as all created by one Almighty Parent, and inhabitants of the same planet, are to aid, support, and protect one another, and we have learned that on this principle Masonry unites men of every country, sect, and opinion, and causes true friendship to exist among those who might otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance.

The Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons has exemplified the fraternal idea, as it is the mother of the great fraternities which have spread over the world and entered into almost every avenue of life, and where it has existed in strength it has had great influence in unifying men and nations in harmonious relations. In accordance with the teachings of the Holy Bible, the Fatherhood of God is not only a theme upon the lips of the members of our beloved Fraternity, but it has been an expression in the lives of those who are true to its teachings. With this spiritual relation between God and man created by Him in His image and likeness, we are able to realize that all men are our brothers, not merely because they are human, but because we are all bound together by an indissoluble spiritual tie which has its springs in the Infinite. With this background of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man, we are able to understand why Freemasonry is the foe of strife and discord and consistently pursues the paths of peace; that is to say, that the teachings and practices of our Fraternity are conducive to peace, harmony and concord. We have all learned from Masonic tradition that during the erection of King Solomon's Temple there was not heard the sound of ax, hammer, or any tool of iron, for the reason that iron was the metal used in making weapons of warfare, and it was believed that nothing having relation to war, in which the vilest passions of men are excited, should be used in erecting a temple of worship to a God of love. Thus, besides the symbolic meaning taught in our ceremonies, we have the symbolism of peace and concord which the Mason must endeavor to establish and help to maintain among men and nations. We should, on all proper occasions, be found seeking to establish and maintain brotherly love and friendship among the peoples and nations of the earth. Surely the great need of the world to-day is a love that is big enough and inclusive enough to encircle all men, regardless of race or creed.

At the present time, when the thoughts of men of all races and creeds are turning from the contemplation of war to the contemplation of unity and peace, it is only natural that the cry for peace should be heard in the land, even peace at any price. It is a widespread belief among men that war is necessary to the production and maintenance of a strong and efficient race. This theory is based upon the idea of some people that war between nations is a necessity and that might makes right. Some good may come out of war as far as it serves the interests of peace by awakening mankind to the realities below the surface. The acuteness of a crisis is at once an inspiration and an illumination to a nation as well as an individual. It acts as a revealer of the true self and a clarifier of mental vision which brings with it an adjustment of values and a correction of judgment. Despite the hideousness of war, men discover themselves and the good which enables them to emerge successfully from their trial and discord and find peace and harmony.

We should try with all our might and main to promote peace and brotherly love among men and nations. There is no conduct of men or nations more despicable than constant effort to stir up trouble between other peoples and nations, whether it be done for mere personal glory or for material aggrandisement.

We may be able to do very little in our time or generation toward the end that war between nations shall become a thing of the past, but let us hope that our efforts will not have been in vain. Every Mason should realize his responsibility and make use of every opportunity to serve the interests of humanity in general, and thus we may have some part, however small, in working out the designs drawn upon the Masonic trestle board for the happiness and betterment of mankind.

Relief:

We have been taught in Masonry to relieve the distressed. This is a duty incumbent upon all men, and particularly Masons who are linked together by an indissoluble chain of fraternal affection. It is our duty to soothe the unhappy, to sympathize with their mis-

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fortunes, to compassionate their miseries, and to restore peace to their troubled minds, which is the great aim that we have in view. On this basis we form our friendship and establish our social connections and relations.

In the First Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Corinthians he said:

"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

"And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

"And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

"Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,

"Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;

"Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

"Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

"And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three, but the greatest of these is charity."

(1 Cor. 13: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 13.)

Charity is the preeminent virtue, the possession of which in its fullest signification marks the perfect Mason. Charity, in its highest and noblest sense, includes all the other virtues, and in its exercise all right thought and action are employed. But the thought of charity is too often associated with almsgiving. Charity, in its true meaning, is affection and love, an active as well as a sentient force in all that pertains to our mortal existence. The nations of the earth, if they are to enjoy the blessings of peace with one another, must first be able to exhibit toward one another that charity in thought, word, and deed without which we may not demonstrate either brotherly love or the brotherhood of man.

Emphasis is placed on charity in our ceremonies and obligations—not mere almsgiving, but charity in the broadest sense of love for our brethren. One cannot be charitable without loving, and one cannot love his fellowman without serving him. We may be indifferent to the activities of our Fraternity, and yet be filled with faith in God and hope of immortality; but we cannot be filled with charity, love, without being active in the service of humanity. Masonry impresses upon its votaries the lessons of charity inculcates benevolence and the practice of mutual helpfulness, and under the powerful influence of these agencies the threads of brotherly love may be woven into the mystic cord of fraternity which now encircles the world and in a great measure holds the human race in unity of spirit and in the bonds of peace. This ever-growing spirit of brotherly love will surely "beat swords into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks; nation will not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

May we not hope that the time has come when Freemansonry can be joined by all the peoples of the earth in the glad acclaim: "Peace on earth, good will toward men." Masonic teachings and influence are wise and strong enough to correct the evils of our time, if we but do our duty as individual Masons. But we must act in the name of Him in whom we have put our trust, banish apathy and indifference, put on the whole armor of righteousness, and fight the good fight for purity, honor, right thinking and right living.

As may be already known to the members of this Grand Lodge, my wife and I left for the United States on vacation on November 20, 1941, with the expectation of returning to Manila in May 1942. We arrived on a Pan American plane at Treasure Island, San Francisco, on November 27, 1941. Ten days after our arrival in San Francisco the war broke out in the Pacific. We spent about four months in California, and then made a tour to Texas and Mexico City and surrounding country and returned to Berkeley, California, in June, 1942, to await the termination of the war, as it was impossible for us to return to Manila at that time. The war lasted much longer than I had expected at the beginning. I wrote letters to some of my friends who were interned in the Sto. Tomas Internment Camp, in Manila, but my letters were not delivered until a year or two later, and I did not receive a single reply to my letters until the internees were liberated in February, 1945. I received letters in February and March, 1945, from Past Grand Masters Seldon W. O'Brien and Christian W. Rosenstock, in which they gave me a brief and concrete statement of the devastation wrought by the enemy in Manila and other parts of the archipelago and of the starvation and killing of men, women and children by the thousands in the destroyed and burned areas of the cities, towns and villages of that unfortunate country. After receiving these letters, I went to the office of the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of California and showed him the letter from Past Grand Master Rosenstock. As soon as he read it, he exclaimed that these Philippine brethren are entitled to immediate assistance, and as the Grand Lodge of California is the Mother Grand Lodge of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippine Islands, he would present the letter to the Grand Master of California, who was due to arrive in San Francisco the following morning. As soon as the Grand Master read the letter the following morning he called a meeting of the Relief Committee of the Grand Lodge of California for that afternoon at 1:00 o'clock and invited me to attend the meeting. The Relief Committee of the California Grand Lodge met pursuant to the call of the Grand Master, and I have never seen a more enthusiastic response to such a call of duty than was shown in that meeting. They had divergent opinions as to the amount that should be appropriated for immediate relief. One brother suggested a preliminary appropriation of $5,000.00; another suggested $10,000.00, and another said that it ought to be $50,000.00; but they finally agreed upon a preliminary sum of $10,000.00, with the understanding that additional amount would be contributed as might be deemed necessary when they were advised of the needs of the situation in the Philippines. Under date of March 27, 1945, the Grand Master of California Grand Lodge sent a letter to all the Grand Masters of the Masonic Grand Lodges of the United States inviting their attention to the situation in the Philippines as reported by Past Grand Master Rosenstock, leaving the action to be taken by each Grand Lodge and the manner and means of extending relief to the brethren of the Philippines to be determined by each Grand Lodge or its authorized officers or committees. Responses were received very promptly from some Grand Masters, but others had to wait for a special or regular communication of their respective

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Grand Lodges before they could make their contributions. The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana sent out an urgent appeal to the Masons of his Grand Jurisdiction "on behalf of our financially helpless, suffering, and distressed brethren of the Philippines and Europe", and in his letter of appeal to each Mason of his jurisdiction he said: "It is up to 'us', their brethren in the United States, to lend financial assistance in the rehabilitation of Freemasonry, as well as to feed the starving and clothe the naked." And the Grand Master of Louisiana later sent to the Grand Master of California the sum of $12,000.00 for the relief of the Philippines. Among the other Grand Masters who sent contributions to the Philippine Relief Fund, I shall mention a few more with their comments: The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York, in acknowledging the receipt of the first letter of the Grand Master of California on this subject, said: "You may be assured of our deep sympathy, and as soon as you learn of their needs, I will be glad to have you communicate with me again." He then asked for certain information, and said: "We will then give the matter our utmost consideration and you may be assured of our desire to cooperate in every reasonable way." Later, on May 19, 1945, after receiving the second letter dated May 5, 1945, the Grand Master of New York replied as follows: "The Grand Lodge of the State of New York is tremendously interested in its brethren in the Philippine Islands. Word has already come to us of what the Masons were doing for the prisoners when they could be helped in no other way."... "I am enclosing herewith a check in the sum of $10,000.00 to 'Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of California, Philippine Relief Fund' with the understanding that it will be used for the purposes outlined in your letter." The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, in his letter of May 15, 1945, enclosed a check for the sum of $5,000.00 as a donation from that Grand Lodge for the relief of Masons in the Philippine Islands, and he said: "We are pleased to have a part in this most laudable undertaking, and if further assistance is required, do not hesitate to call upon us." The Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Washington enclosed a check for $1,500.00 for the Philippine Relief Fund, and in his letter said: "I am requested by our Grand Master to express our concern over the very unfortunate circumstances existing in the Philippine Islands relative to Freemasonry, and will tender you his and our Grand Lodge appreciation for the splendid work which the Grand Lodge of California is doing in this behalf." And he further stated: "In behalf of our Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of Washington, I tender you a willingness on our part to cooperate to the fullest extent. Whenever convenient it would be appreciated by us if you or the Grand Secretary would advise us from time to time as to conditions of the Masonic Fraternity in the Philippine Islands." The Grand Lodge of Iowa, by the Grand Master, sent to the Grand Master of California a check for $2,000.00 as a contribution for the Philippine Relief Fund, and in his letter he said: "We are glad to be able to help you a little in such a worthy relief campaign. May God be with you in helping our Masonic brethren and their families through this hour." The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, under date of May 25, 1945, wrote to the Grand Master of California, as follows: "Enclosed is a check in the amount of $1,000.00 from the Grand Lodge of Arkansas to be used in the Philippine Masonic Relief Fund. We are happy to make this contribution for this worthy cause, and, as stated in former correspondence, if it so develops that additional funds are needed, I am sure that the Grand Lodge of Arkansas can be depended upon." The Grand Master of Texas, in his letter of May 12, 1945, stated at the Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas last December, the Grand Lodge anticipated the condition which now exists in the Philippines, and, after giving consideration to the deplorable condition, appropriated $1,000.00 to be sent to the proper authorities when it could be used to relieve suffering and distress among our brother Masons, and he also added the following: "It is with a feeling of sympathy and understanding on behalf of the Masons of the Grand Lodge of Texas that I, as Grand Master, enclose a check in the sum of $1,000.00 to be used toward the relief of the conditions that exist in the Philippines." The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Oregon sent to the Grand Master of California a warrant for $500.00, and in his letter said: "We should be pleased to be informed as this matter progresses, and should additional funds be needed, we would be happy to assist."

The foregoing extracts have been quoted from some of the letters received

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COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES
Department of Public Works and Communications
BUREAU OF POSTS
Manila

SWORN STATEMENT
(Required by Act No. 2580)

The undersigned, A. D. Rosario, Managing Editor of THE CABLETOW, published monthly in English and Spanish at Manila, after having been duly sworn in accordance with law, hereby submits the following statement of ownership, management, circulation, etc., which is required by Act No. 2580, as amended by Commonwealth Act No. 201:

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(Sgd.) A. D. ROSARIO

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31st day of January, 1946, at Manila, P. I., the affiant exhibiting his Residence Tax Certificate No. A-65530, issued at Manila, on April 20, 1945.

Year 1946
Doc. No. 14
Page No. 5
Book No. 15

(Sgd.) ANTONIO GONZALEZ
Notary Public
My commission expires December 31, 1946

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by the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of California, and they are given as samples of the replies received from nearly all the Grand Lodges in the United States, but some Grand Masters are awaiting the action of their respective Grand Lodges which are members of the Masonic Service Association, and some have already made their contributions through that Association for the Philippine Relief Fund. These letters show Freemasonry in action in extending relief to their distressed brethren in the Philippines.

Truth:

What is truth? Jesus prayed to his heavenly Father: "Sanctify them through thy truth; thy word is truth." (John 17: 17.)

We have been taught in our ceremonies that "Truth is a divine attribute and the foundation of every virtue. To be good and true is the first lesson we are taught in Masonry. On this theme we contemplate, and by its dictates endeavor to regulate our conduct. Hence, while influenced by this principle, hypocrisy and deceit are unknown among us; sincerity and plain dealing distinguish us; and with heart and tongue we join in promoting each other's prosperity."

Masons know the sweet freedom of truth and the joys of unfettered opportunities. No ears have been more open to catch the sad cry for liberty of conscience and opportunity than have those of true Masons. The unwritten history of the Fraternity is filled with noble deeds and mighty inspirations looking to the liberty and freedom of the human race. The history of these beautiful isles of the Pacific will show that heroic and self-sacrificing Masons have been courageous in laying the foundations of government deep and strong upon the basic principles of Liberty of conscience, Equality of opportunity, and Fraternity of men in doing their Father's work.

And finally, my brethren, the glory of Freemasonry has not been dimned by the procession of years. Nations, governments and men have risen and fallen into oblivion, but the principles of Freemasonry have endured throughout the ages. Its votaries have found in its teachings and practices just cause for pride, and they have been ever ready to give a reason for the faith that is in them and for their devotion to this brotherhood. It has weathered every storm of antagonish and hostile criticism, and it has been a ministry of good for those who have passed within its portals and to the countless millions who have been the recipients of blessings vouchsafed to them by the lives and services of its adherents. Masonry dispenses charity, but it never exacts from its members enforced contributions for that purpose. The teachings of Masonry are of a religious character, but it never demands a sacrifice of religious principles, and around its altars the Christian, the Jew, and the Mohammedan meet in fraternal intercourse. Freemasonry is patriotic, but not political; religious, but not sectarian; charitable, but not eleemosynary. Any attempt to change or alter the purpose or plan of government of this Institution will never succeed as long as it holds to its present principles and teachings.

CITY OF BAGUIO

(By Felixberto C. Sta. Maria)

The story of Baguio has never been told. How she gallantly took the punishment of months of terrible bombardment; how she was mercilessly and systematically reduced from her pinnacle of grandeur as Queen City of the Philippines to the rags of a pauper — all these have not been told.

This is the story of Baguio. Three years of oppressive Japanese rule failed to subjugate the city. True, her lavish pre-war beauty did not remain unsullied. The graceful roads, the elegant parks, the clean market and even the perceptibly high scale of living suffered considerably, but stayed. Epicurian people continued to talk of Baguio as their summer retreat, in ostentatious tones.

That was before January 6, 1945. On that fateful day the city saw the prelude to a drama — a tragedy — in which she was to play inevitably the role of the luckless heroine. On that day American planes appeared in her skies to release a volley of machine-gun fire experimentally. Two days later they were back, this time with bombs. And for the next three months Baguio was flayed and beaten into a shapeless pulp. When the airplanes and cannons got through with their job, Baguio was a local edition of the famous flattened cities of Germany. But that is anticipating the story. Wave after wave of ferocious bombers came and went, unloading their cargoes unopposed. Ugly craters gaped where trim, picturesque landscape stood. Then on the fifteenth of March the climax came. What was spared from previous raids was relentlessly levelled to the ground in a "carpet bombing." The city was "wiped out".

The toll in lives and property was enormous. A neat portion was slashed off the Jap ranks, no doubt, but civilians also perished. One leaflet belatedly warned: "Remember—bombs cannot tell friends from foe". It was the truth. Shell-shocked, impoverished, and starved, survivors sought routes of escape. It was a risky business at best, but the people knew it was better to die trying. The surrounding hills were heavily infested with Japanese soldiers, turned scavengers and bandits. Some chose to stay, most of them dying or wounded. Those who could walk dared the tortuous cliffs and ravines, every minute exposed to savage Jap patrols and enemy as well as friendly fire, to liberated areas in the lowlands. Many died in the venture. In Baguio the Japs held on. There was more bombing. More shelling. Finally, on April 25th, the liberation forces clawed their way up, freeing the city. It was all over. But for the beginning of another struggle. Worst ravished city, she had to scrub off the grime and dirt of battle from her hands and face, to start literally from nothing. Among the structures that still stand are the cathedral and a dozen odd houses, all badly damaged; these, out of hundreds of first-class office buildings, apartment houses, and residences. Timidly, shacks rose out of the ruins: shabby, shameful, uncouth. No one could expect more, with nothing but burned-out roofings and a crestfallen people. The story pauses here.

On how Baguio will fare in the rehabilitation program depends the rest of the story. As she is now, Baguio is not much improved from the sick person found by the liberation forces in April. She is broken in body and spirit. What is more lamentable, there is no visible signs of aid, which she needs as badly as a wounded soldier needs plasma.

SCOTTISH RITE PAGE

Published for, by and in the interest of the members of the PHILIPPINE BODIES, A. & A. S. R.

As a result of the arrangements made by our Ill. Bro. Michael Goldenberg, 33°, Acting Deputy of the Supreme Council in the Philippines, and present Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands, with the Editor of The Cabletow, Most Wor. Bro. Antonio Gonzales, 32°, Grand Secretary, Scottish Rite News will be regularly published in this official organ. In this issue is included an account of the last Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge held last month, the first after liberation. Our congratulations to the Officers of the Grand Lodge who are rest assured of our whole-hearted cooperation.

Since our reorganization last 17 May 1945, 293 have been invested with the Scottish Rite degrees from the 4th to the 32nd, and more applications are being received by our Secretary. The last conferall was done at Batangas, Batangas, on 2 February 1946, by special dispensation of the Illustrious Acting Deputy who headed the delegation; 29 candidates received the Scottish Rite degrees at the Hall of Batangas Lodge No. 35. The three-hour journey was indeed on a rough and rugged road but the Batangas Class lavishly entertained the party. The Brethren wish to express their profound gratitude to the Batangas Square and Compass Club as well as to Bro. William Stewart Dodge, 32°, of 3232 Noriega St., San Francisco, California, Captain of SS "James Lick" who entertained us aboard his ship.

Several interesting letters have been received from our Brethren of the Armed Forces who are now reverted to civilian status. Having seen the utter destruction of our cities and towns and, as they have taken an active part in the liberation of our country, they can now play the role as our Masonic Ambassadors in the United States.

Writing from Walnut Creek, California, Bro. (Lt. Col.) Albert B. Camp, 32°, who "had a very enjoyable trip back to the States" and feels "certainly wonderful to be back after almost four years of war," assures us that the Brethren he has met are "very much interested in our welfare." Bro. Camp became a Shriner on 22 December 1945.

From Texas, Bro. Cecil B. Guthrie, Jr. 32°, sent us his check for dues and contribution to the Almoner's Fund. Judging from the letter head, Bro. Guthrie is now in the furniture business, and he has "the biggest little store in Corpus Christi." From the same state, we heard from an old timer, Bro. Edgar C. Cox, 32°, who is still at the Anti-Aircraft Artillery School at Fort Bliss. Very encouraging is Bro. Kenneth N. Thurmond's letter from 206 East Broadway, Johnston City, Illinois, where he has a jewelry store. We are pleased to know that he has no intention of moving his membership from the Philippine Bodies as he considers it a privilege to be one among us. He notes that while with the Navy traveling all over the Philippines, he acquired a broader sense of what Masonry means and through his association with the Brethren in Manila, he learned valuable lessons upon which our organization is based.

Our Illustrious Bro. Leo Fischer, 33°, writes us from 28 S. El Molino St., Alhambra, California, saying among other things that he is now "a gentleman of leisure again." He did his bit during the last war in the Office of Censorship where he was employed as an examiner and translator. Bro. Fischer, speaks several languages, and we can very well imagine the hard and responsible work he has rendered for the cause. We are happy to learn that his four sons-in-law returned from the war safe and sound; 2 were officers in the Navy, 1 in the Army and 1 with the British Government service. Bro. Fischer is himself a Major of the USAR.

"I want you to give my regards to all my friends and Brothers and to tell them all to write me, and if any of them should come over this way to be sure to look me up..." so writes our good Bro. Bert Moen, 32°, of 2762 Woodmere Avenue, Detroit, Michigan, where he has established the Star Radio Sales and Service.

Bro. Mauro Baradi, 32°, showed up at the office hale and hearty. He has just been confined for one month at the Hospital de Santiago in Makati, Rizal, after attending a Lodge meeting. We really missed him at some of our reunions. As an outstanding speaker, he always gave the lecture of the degrees from the 4th to the 32nd with conviction, mastery and clarity. Bro. Baradi is one of our great orators, and is much sought as a public speaker throughout the country. It is indeed a privilege to hear him lecture or speak.

Bro. (Capt.) Guy E.M. Steacy, 32°, writing from 752 21st Avenue, San Francisco, California, commends Masonry in the Philippines not only for the masonic principles which were practised during the occupation but for the rapid strides made thru hard work since the liberation. "All of you who have accomplished so much in so little time deserves all the credit. True Masonry can never be crushed under the heels of any persecutors. All of you who have fought so gallantly to preserve and carry on Masonic ideals in the Philippines add further proof to that truth for Masonic history. I shall carry back to the Masons of the United States, and particularly to my own blue Lodge, Sequoia #349 of Oakland, the accomplishments that have been achieved by the Masonic bodies in the Philippines under extreme hardships... Men and Masons everywhere will know and be proud of what you did here."

Ill. Bro. E. G. Wendling, 33°, Secretary of the Scottish Rite Bodies of Portland, Oregon, one of the many interested in our welfare, has written us recently that he has caused the printing in the Scottish Rite News, a monthly publication in that Valley, of a portion of our letter requesting for Masonic literature, "to induce Brethren with Masonic libraries, to part with books which they may feel would prove of interest to your Brethren." To fellow philatelists, we quote "I was very pleased to receive the Victory postage stamp on your letter, as I am a stamp collector, and this is the first I have received from the Islands." Ill. Bro. Wendling will certainly appreciate receiving stamps you have no use for.

From the land of the "setting sun," Yokohama, Japan, Bro. Benjamin F. Hawkins, 32°, of the 1629th Engineer Construction Battalion, sends us a few lines about a most cheerless country and thoroughly crushed and beaten people. Again the Masons of the Armed Forces, "started a Masonic Club, Tokyo Bay, and hope to eventually charter a lodge to disseminate Truth and Knowledge and to devote it to virtue and good works, wherein the lessons of wisdom, philantrophy, patriotism and toleration shall ever be inculcated." We hope Bro. (Capt.) Hawkins has now rejoined his family at 1516 East Alder St., Walla Walla, Washington.

We have finally contacted Bro. Willie Bell Grider, 32°, at Albany, Kentucky, an old timer then with the US Navy, thanks to a communication we received from the Grand Secretary General forwarding us his check for 1946 dues. *Mabuhay* Bro. Grider. May your ship strike port again. Letters forwarded to us were from Bro. John T. Land, 32°, of

SCOTTISH RITE PAGE

1082 Ocean Gate Avenue, Inglewood, Cal., and Bro. Aaron J. Fine, 32°, of 812 E. Mason St., Green Bay, Wisconsin. Both Brethren wish to be remembered. The shortest letter we had, however, came from our good Bro. James Keith Airy, 32° of 2248 Julian Avenue, San Diego, who sent in his dues. One worthy brother who is sorry to miss our meetings is Bro. Joseph Brooks, 32°, now at 3718 S. St., N. W., Washington, D. C. We are indeed very sorry to learn that he lost all his souvenirs in transit, but as he is looking forward to the time when he will again be with us, we hope we can help him get better ones. He wishes to be remembered to the members of Lincoln Lodge especially to our Bro. Foo Ying, 32°.

The President of the Philippines has seen fit to appoint to various positions of responsibility in the government service, prominent members of the Philippine Bodies. Bro. Francisco Benitez, 14°, who was Chairman of the National Council of Education was appointed Secretary of Instruction with Bro. Florentino Cayco, 32°, as under Secretary; Bro. Manuel L. Felizardo, 32°, as member of the Petroleum Products Control Board, and of the Building Code Committee for the City of Greater Manila; Bro. Marciano Guevara, 14°, as Treasurer of the Philippines; and, Bro. Mauro Mendez, 32°, as Press Secretary to the President. Elected President of the Philippine Society of Economists, Statisticians, and Accountants, is our active Bro. Francisco Santiago, 32°. Congratulations to each and every one of you.

At our last stated Meeting, the Brother Acting Deputy announced to the Brethren that Ill. Bro. Frederick H. Stevens, 33°, Deputy of the Supreme Council in the Philippines, now in the United States, was recently married. The Lodge approved to send our message of congratulations to the newlyweds whom we hope to meet soon.

We hope the Brethren will send us more news about themselves and the good work they are doing. Remember to address your letters to the Secretary, Philippine Bodies, A. & A. S. R., 138 Gunao, Manila. All remittances must be made by U. S. postal money order to avoid delay of exchanges with banks in the United States. Here is hoping you are all well and active in your respective blue Lodges.

(Continued from page 8)

him to assume his place in society, and to perform the duties which devolve upon him as a citizen. It is an organization of men, by men, for men. Its purpose is to exact the dignity of man.

"Freemasonry does not attempt to solve the specific problems of a nation, a state nor those of a community. It should not assume, nor should it undertake to do, the work that primarily belongs to the church, the home, or the school. It is not a Y. M. C. A.; it is not a welfare organization. It should not attempt to duplicate the work being done by organized charities or by governmental agencies. It should first contribute to the relief of worthy distressed brother Master Masons, their widows and orphans. Its charity begins at home."

Fraternally submitted,

J. W. FERRIER, SR.
GREGORIO NARVASA
MAURO BARADI

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Committee on Entertainment, Public Functions, and Monthly Masonic Dinner of the Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands, wishes to announce that there will be a convention of all elective officers and Past Masters of the different lodges, on February 22, 1946, at 2:00 A.M. at the Grand Lodge Hall.

Lectures will be given by the Finance Committee and Custodian of the Work in connection with Ritualistic Work, proper administration and finances of our lodges.

All the different lodges, elective officers and Past Masters are earnestly requested to attend.

On the same day, at 12:00 o'clock, the monthly Masonic Dinner, managed by Nilad Lodge No. 12 and Luz Oceanica Lodge No. 85, will be given. This will coincide with George Washington's Birthday and orations befitting the occasion will be delivered by Grand Chaplain, Worshipful Brother Ernest Earl Voss, is English, and by Grand Orator, Worshipful Brother Jose Gutierrez David, in Spanish.

All master masons are invited to attend, and, for proper accommodation, please make your reservations with Worshipful Brother Ramon Ramos.

The charge will be ₱3.00 per cover.

Fraternally yours.

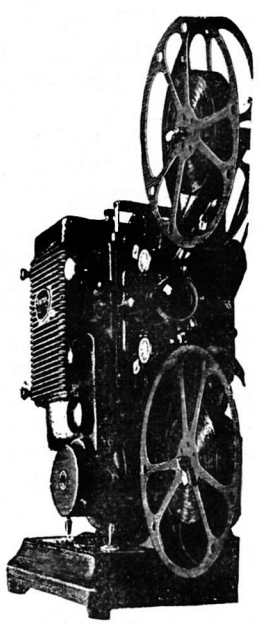
COMMITTEE ON ENTERTAINMENT, PUBLIC FUNCTIONS AND MONTHLY MASONIC DINNER

By:

ANDREW D. GRUBER
Chairman

ATTEST:

MACARIO M. OFILADA
Secretary



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SECCION CASTELLANA

NOTAS EDITORIALES

LA TRIGESIMA REUNION DE LA GRAN LOGIA DE LAS ISLAS FILIPINAS

Después de cuatro años de receso forzado la Gran Logia de las Islas Filipinas se ha reunido en convención anual que duro tres días, o sea, del 22 al 24 del presente mes y año. Al rededor de ochenta logias quedaron restablecidas y una gran mayoría de representantes de las mismas estuvieron presentes. Con más de quinientos masones venidos de todas partes de Filipinas la reunión fue de las mas trascendentales en la historia de nuestra Gran Logia.

Ciertas enmiendas constitucionales recomendadas por el M. I. Gran Maestre fueron aprobadas para resolver ciertos difíciles problemas que han surgido a raíz de la pasada emergencia. El estado de las finanzas de la Gran Logia fue bastante halagueño no obstante las difíciles circunstancias económicas que prevalecen. El socorro a los Hermanos ha sido bien atendido gracias a la benévola actitud de las Grandes Logias de América que han contribuido en largas sumas a estos fondos de caridad y beneficiencia. La Gran Logia ha aprobado un voto de gracias a estas Grandes Logias Hermanas.

En memoria de los muertos se celebró una tenida pública que fue de las mas solemnes, habiéndose pronunciado oraciones y eulogías por varios de ellos.

Se recibieron varios mensajes de Hermanos ausentes de Filipinas que fueron recibidos con satisfacción y plácemes.

En una palabra, la Gran Reunión fue de lo mas exitoso.

NUESTROS GRANDES OFICIALES

Van desde estas páginas nuestros parabienes para los Grandes Oficiales elegidos y nombrados para el presente año masónico de 1946. Desde el M. I. Her. Michael Goldenberg hasta el Guarda Templo son todos bien conocidos por los Hermanos como obreros infatigables de esta fraternidad en Filipinas.

Como hemos dicho antes de ahora, la Gran Logia puede estar confiada en los entusiasmos del presente Gran Maestro que, con el celo y desinterés demostrados durante el año pasado para el restablecimiento de la masonería en Filipinas, promete dar cima a esta labor de reorganización durante su año de incumbencia.

Del delegado Gran Maestro podremos decir otro tanto. Humilde en todas sus cosas, pero enérgico en sus actuaciones y en la disciplina de la organización, la Gran Logia tiene en él al material que ha de complementar y suplementar la brillante actuación del Gran Maestro.

Tenemos sangre moza y joven en el Gran Primer Vigilante electo, el Her. A. Gruber que aún es nuevo en esta Gran Jurisdicción de las Islas Filipinas, pero muy versado en las labores de la fraternidad. Venido de la jurisdicción de la Gran Logia de Ohio, pronto se ha identificado con nuestros usos y tradiciones y tiene en la mente y en el corazón los problemas que nos confrotan en estas difíciles circunstancias de reorganización y restablecimientos masónicos.

Y en el Gran Segundo Vigilante la Gran Logia cuenta con el obrero que detesta el ruido de los grandes acontecimientos, prefiriendo una labor anónima, callada, sin ostentaciones ni alharacas. Fue el paño de lágrimas de muchos Hermanos durante la pasada invasión, a quienes muchos acudían para poder subsistir. Es como esas flores que perfuman el ambiente escodiéndose en su propio ramaje.

De los demás oficiales diremos que todos participan de una u otra virtud. Su selección fue de la más acertada y bien acogida por los Hermanos.

A todos enviamos nuestros plácemes.

AL HERMANO PAUL V. McNUTT

Estas líneas están dedicadas al Hermano Paul V. McNutt en sincero y profundo agradecimiento al honor que se nos ha otorgado visitándonos, dirigiéndonos la palabra e instalando a los altos Oficiales de la Gran Logia.

Como al mas alto representante de los Estados Unidos en Filipinas le dirigimos desde estas columnas nuestros saludos y le enviamos nuestros mejores deseos para el éxito de su labor en Oriente. Sabemos que viene como ilustre obrero para el pronto restablecimiento de nuestra Mancomunidad y su debida preparación para la próxima República de Filipinas.

No obstante sus múltiples ocupaciones, el Hermano McNutt ha encontrado un hueco en el calendario de sus compromisos oficiales y sociales para dedicar a los masones en Filipinas algunos ratos de fraternal camaradería.

Sus palabras llenas de sabia admonición y masonismo intenso aún repercuten en nuestros oídos como digno broche de una instalación que vino a ser la primera de la Gran Logia de las Islas Filipinas desde nuestra liberación y la última bajo el régimen de la Mancomunidad, pues, estamos seguros, y así nos ha asegurado el Hermano McNutt, que la próxima y siguiente Gran Reunión habrá de ser bajo el régimen de le República Filipina.

Discurso Pronunciado por el Ven. Her. José Gutiérrez David en la instalación de los Oficiales de las Logias NILAD No. 12, BATONG-BUHAY No. 17 Y LUZ OCEANICA No. 85.

Muy Ilustre Gran Maestre,
Ilustres Oficiales de la Gran Logia,
Venerables Maestros y Oficiales de
las Logias NILAD, BATONG-BUHAY Y
LUZ OCEANICA,

Hermanos:

Hallándose entre los numerosos masones aqui reunidos, me siento como quien está en el seno de su familia. Con ser hombre humilde, tambien he tenido la suerte de desbastar en algo la piedra tosca, de participar en los trabajos dentro del Templo de Salomón y de conocer la simbólica rama de acacia. Me siento, pues, feliz y orgulloso por habérseme brindado esta oportunidad de estar hoy con vosotros y de poder dirigir la palabra a mis hermanos.

Considero como mi primer deber en estas ceremonias el felicitar cordial y vehementemente, como así lo hago, a los Dignatarios y oficiales recién instalados de las Venerables Logias Nilad, Batong-Buhay y Luz Oceánica deseándoles todo género de éxitos durante su incumbencia. Han recibido de sus hermanos el merecido galardón de sus virtudes. Su elección habla muy alto de la justicia que se dispensa en sus respectivos talleres. Cábeme el placer de conocer personalmente a varios de dichos dignatarios y oficiales por ser compañeros míos en la vida oficial; y he tenido la ocasión de apreciar y aquilatar sus virtudes masónicas. Con su exaltación, por tanto, se vé que en sus respectivos talleres las mejores luces son colocadas en los más altos candeleros.

Permitido me sea hoy, dentro de mi pequeñez, dirigir mi débil voz a los francmasones en general.

La Humanidad acaba de pasar por una prueba durísima. Aún parecen resonar los ecos de la guerra mas grande y sangrienta que se ha registrado en la historia. Es reciente el cése de la matanza y de la destrucción. Apenas pasaron algunos meses desde el venturoso día en que el hombre dejó de ser lobo para con su prójimo.

Durante la pasada conflagración global, se creía que los benditos frutos espirituales de la Masonería, acumulados pacientemente a través de los siglos, se habían echado a perder completa e irremisiblemente. Pero no fué así. Los triunfos del mal no son mas que pasajeros. Con el triunfo definitivo y final de las Naciones Aliadas, triunfaron los principios de libertad, igualdad y fraternidad. Constituyendo tales principios la gigantesca trípode masónica, bien se puede decir que la victoria de las Potencias Unidas es tambien la victoria de la institución masónica.

Con ser partícipes en dicho glorioso triunfo de la Civilización, nosotros, los masones, no debemos dormir sobre los laureles. Hemos llegado a apreciar mejor el valor de la libertad, igualdad y fraternidad cuando, en su lugar, prevalecieron el despotismo, la arrogancia y la crueldad. Parece ser verdad que para saber apreciar la felicidad es preciso haberla perdido. Para que la Humanidad pueda disfrutar de nuevo y de modo duradero dichas tres insustituibles riquezas masónicas (libertad, igualdad y fraternidad), es menester que, con la dolorosa pero útil experiencia adquirida en la noche tenebrosa, nosotros, los masones, renovémos nuestros bríos en este amanecer esplendoroso, uniéndonos estrechamente, como antes, en la misma forma como estan unidas las pepitas de la simbólica granada.

"Trabajémos por que nuestra augusta Orden se extienda a todos los confines de Filipinas" dijo el ínclito Marcelo H. del Pilar. Para lograr tal propósito, volvamos a predicar con ahinco los sagrados principios de la Masonería. Afortunadamente han enmudecido los cañones. Hoy la palabra humana puede ser bien escuchada.

Cuanto más apóstloes tengan, las ideas se extenderán mejor. Reanudemos de un modo incesante la delicada labor de proselitismo. Nuestra labor no se reduce a meros trabajos ritualisticos o diversas actividades dentro de nuestras Logias. Debemos atraer a dignos elementos, aún profanos, con la palabra persuasiva y el buen ejemplo.

El mason, para entrar en el corazón del prójimo, cuenta con una llave principal, guardada en una caja de coral con subllaves de marfil. No es de metal esa llave: es la lengua, siempre sumisa a la razon, que no se mueve sino para hablar con dulzura y sinceridad. Se convence mejor cuando se habla dulce y sinceramente.

Para atraer con el buen ejemplo, no debemos echar al olvido la significación simbólica de las joyas masónicas. La ESCUADRA, nos dice que todas nuestras acciones deben ser justas. El NIVEL, que todos los hombres son iguales y que debe reinar entre todos los hermanos la más perfecta unión. La PERPENDICULAR, que la estabilidad de nuestra Orden depende de las virtudes de sus miembros. Y la PIEDRA CUBICA, que solo velando constantemente podrémos huir de los vicios....

Recordémos siempre que la Masonería erige Templos a la Virtud y construye calabozos para el Vicio. Tengan siempre nuestros sentimientos la rectitud del COMPAS. Que no se abra nuestra boca sino para pronunciar palabras agradables y útiles al prójimo. Que nuestra conceincia se conserve pura y sin reproche. Que todas nuestras acciones tiendan al conocimiento de la verdad. Estémos siempre animados de sentimientos de unión, de fraternidad, de paz y de amor a la Humanidad. No permitamos jamás que nos dividan el egoismo, la mentira o la discordia. Portémonos siempre humildes sin bajeza; dignos sin altivez. Hagamos el bién sin esperar recompensa. Ejerzamos la caridad sin dar nuestro nombre y difundámos enseñanzas sin vanas ostentaciones.

Llevémos el consuelo al triste, la luz al que no vé, la fé al que no cree en la virtualidad del propio esfuerzo, la esperanza al desesperado y la caridad al desvalido.

Conservémos siempre ardiente el fuego vivificador de la Francmasoneria. Presentémos sin mancha, sin mácula siempre, nuestro mandiles, em-

blemas del trabajo. El delantal blanco del mason no es menos honroso que el manto de un rey.

Si todos los masones en el orbe se portaran de acuerdo con las enseñanzas de su augusta Orden, su numero progresaría asombrosamente, las guerras se minimizarían y la paz estaría mejor asegurada. "Masonizar al Mundo" debe ser el lema de hoy para evitar futuras guerras y luchas fratricidas.

Hago votos por que estas Logias, que ahora honran a sus nuevos dignatarios, tengan una vida fructífera, esplendorosa y duradera, para gloria del Gran Arquitecto del Universo y de la Patria en que alientan!

He dicho.

DE LA GRAN LOGIA DE PANAMA

A todos los Masones Regulares
que la presente vieren:

SALUD, FUERZA, UNION

HERMANOS:

Es con verdadera pena que llevo a conocimiento vuestro, que el Muy Venerable Hermano

VICTOR JESURUN
Ex-Gran Maestro

y miembro de la Respetable Logia PACIFIC No. 5 de este Oriente de Panamá, pasó a la Logia de lo Alto en la ciudad de Willemstaad, Isla de Curazao, Antilla Holandesa, el día

7 de Septiembre de 1945,

a los 53 años, 10 meses y 8 días de edad, con 32 años y 8 meses de su iniciación Mosónica.

Nuestra Orden en Panamá ha perdido con la desaparición de este Muy V. Hermano a uno de sus más entusiastas obreros que estuvo ligado por modo intenso a las labores de nuestra profesión, a la cual consagró múltiples energías.

Nació en la misma Isla de Curazao donde falleció, el día 25 de Octubre del año de 1891. Hizo sus estudios en la ciudad de Bogotá, de donde vino joven al Istmo para residir por plural número de años hasta llegar a adoptar la ciudadanía panameña. Aquí ejerció como abogado, comerciante y propietario. Contrajo matrimonio con la distinguido señorita Emma Valencia el día 2 de Marzo de 1920, de cuyo hogar son frutos sus dos hijos Abraham e Ivanhoe, y su hija Elaine, quienes le acompañaron en su lecho de dolor hasta sus últimos momentos.

Su carrera masónica fue de lo más activa, desde su ingreso en nuestra Orden, el día 6 de Enero de 1913 y su elevación y exaltación los días 11 y 16 del mismo mes, en la Respetable Logia *Cosmopolita* No. 55 (hoy Número 2), que trabajaba a la sazón bajo el Supremo Consejo Neogranadino—Colombiano—pasando luego a la jurisdicción de nuestra Gran Logia el año de 1916.

En su Madre-Logia ocupó numerosos puestos, de Maestro de Ceremonias, Secretario, Orador, Segundo y Primer Vigilante, y finalmente Venerable Maestro en el período de 1920 a 1921.

En Gran Logia prestó importantes servicios como Gran Secretario, desde el año de 1919 hasta el de 1924, siendo luego electo este mismo año para ocupar la Gran Maestría, que sirvió de 1924 a 1925, y seguidamente por reelección de 1925 a 1926 y de 1926 a 1927.

Fue Gran Representante de las Grandes Logias de Colombia en Barranquilla y de Alabama, EE. UU., ante la Gran Logia de Panamá.

El Hermano Jesurún con gran perseverancia y actividad llegó a realizar una vieja aspiración de los masones panameños; con la decidida cooperación de los Grandes Oficiales de que estuvo rodeado, logró colocar la primera piedra del edificio para Templo de la Gran Logia, lo dedicó y consagró solemnemente. Así fue como el día 27 de Julio de 1924 se llevó a cabo con toda solemnidad la colocación de la primera piedra, en presencia de numeroso público, autoridades de la República, y de la Masonería de la Zona del Canal; y antes de un año, el 7 de Marzo de 1925, se llevó a efecto la inauguración solemne y oficial a todo ritual, del hermoso Templo de la Gran Logia que le da realce al barrio de la Calle 13 Oeste de nuestra capital, con general beneplácito de nuestra población masónica que así pudo ver realizado uno de sus más anhelados empeños.

En la Masonería Escocesa, o sea dentro del Rito de los 33 Grados, avanzó este obrero infatigable hasta ser coronado con el título de S.G.I.G. de la Orden en el Supremo Consejo del Grado 33 para la República de Panamá, del cual ha sido miembro activo sin interrupción. Transitó también por los senderos del Rito de York como "Royal Arch Mason" en la Zona del Canal, donde igualmente fue admitido en la Orden Mística de los *Shriners* en el templo "Abou Saad".

Fue condecorado con la medalla de "Henry Price" mientras ocupaba la Gran Maestría en 1925, por el Gran Maestro Dudley H. Farrel, de la Gran Logia de Massachusetts, en memorable reunión con motivo de la consagración del nuevo Templo.

La vida del M.V. hermano Jesurún desde el punto de vista masónico fue muy activa. En la balanza de los actos individuales del hombre, hemos de recordar la ceremonia de los antiguos egipcios para sus muertos: elevemos un pensamiento puro a su memoria, una plegaria dedicada a su espíritu, y respeto a su tumba, donde simbólicamente reverdecerá la rama de acacia, cuyas múltiples hojas nos hablan de una eterna primavera espiritual.

Hasta el enlutado hogar donde esposa e hijos lloran la desaparición del jefe de familia, hacemos llegar nuestras palabras de sincera condolencia, con nuestra profunda simpatía por tan luctuoso acontecimiento.

Oriente de PANAMA, Rep. de Panamá,

Enviamos nuestro pésame a la Gran Logia de Panamá.

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