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OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE GRAND LODGE OF THE PHILIPPINES



VW JOLLY R. BUGARIN, SENIOR GRAND WARDEN AT THE CONVENTION OF MASONIC DISTRICT NO. 11.

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1977



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1977-1978**

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Grand Master's Page



ACCENT ON YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

In my inaugural address as Grand Master I emphasized on the need for more youth organizations like the Order of DeMolay, the Order of the Rainbow for Girls and International Order Job's Daughters. I share the view that the future of our country depends on the orientation of our youth on matters that are related to Masonic principles that would make them better sons, better daughters, — and better citizens. Masonry should contribute in the endeavors to bring up the youth of our country such that they become men and women who are God-fearing, freedom-loving, and jealous in the preservation and protection of their individual dignity and honor.

It is my observation that in our country today there are insidious moves from some quarters to so influence and to so indoctrinate our youth such that it is being emphasized in them certain beliefs that make them forget the basic elements of human dignity and personal honor, love of God and country, and the proper attitude towards our institutions. It is my observation that in the endeavors to instill discipline among our people, and to achieve material progress in our country, there are moves to distort intellectual and spiritual values to our youth.

The youth organizations under the auspices of the Masonic Fraternity seek to train the youth in a manner that will make them men and women who are God-fearing, men and women with dignity, with intellectual integrity, and men and women who are seekers of truth and who will not be afraid to face the challenges of truth.

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WHEN DOES A MASON BECOME A MASON?

Perhaps an equally interesting question is: When does a Mason become a member of a Lodge?

There seems to be little dispute regarding the fact that upon taking his obligation, an Entered Apprentice becomes a Freemason. But is he entitled to all the rights, prerogatives, and benefits of a Mason? The answer is a relative, "yes." He is entitled to the rights, prerogatives and benefits of an Entered Apprentice Freemason. He is not entitled to any of the rights, prerogatives, and benefits reserved for Fellowcraft Freemasons, or for Master Masons.

At this point we are confronted with a question, however, that the entire Masonic World does not view with the same opinion: When does a Mason become a member of a Lodge and entitled to sit and participate in its business and other affairs, not related to work in degrees? Our Constitution spells this out very clearly in Paragraph 540 on page 52: "By receiving the degree of Master Mason." In European Jurisdictions, notably England, Ireland, and Scotland upon becoming an Entered Apprentice Freemason, one becomes a member of the Lodge and entitled to attend and participate in its business affairs, but not in the work of the degrees of Fellowcraft or Master Mason.

"The right of every Mason to be represented in all general meetings of the Craft, and to instruct his representatives, is a *twelfth Landmark*." In earlier times "all the fraternity, even the youngest Entered Apprentice, were permitted to be present." It is from these earlier traditions, the European and British Jurisdictions continue to open and close all regular meetings in the First Degree, doing in the First Degree all work other than election of officers, installation of officers, funeral ceremonies, the conferral of the Fellowcraft and Master Mason degrees. It is their firm belief that when the Entered Apprentice takes his obligation as such, he is henceforth a Freemason and entitled to be a member of his Lodge.

We in the Grand Lodge of the Philippines have followed the concepts of Symbolic Grand Lodge Masonry in the United States, which generally permits membership in the Lodge only upon attaining the degree of Master Mason.

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LIVING UP TO OUR IDEALS

By

AMANCIO S. DONATO
District Deputy Grand Master
Masonic District No. 1

Masons are said to be men of high ideals, imbued with laudable sense of self-discipline and morality with a heart that is only benevolent and compassionate. Since ages past our worthy brethren who preceded us in the Craft blazed the path we are now treading with achievements far beyond the comprehension perhaps of ordinary mortal. Their dedication to the noble ideals of Masonry was beyond question because it withstood the crucible of experience and the test of circumstances.

Today, as we gather again in convention, we ask in silence with deference and trepidation: **Must we live by those unchanging ideals which our Noble Order stood for in those times?** The answer may remain mute and muffled for a long time until we shall have live the lives we ought to live guided perhaps by the precepts and ideals of the Fraternity. Not till then can we

rightfully say: **Yes, I lived by those ideals and I am glad to have lived the life Masonic!** For indeed, as Masons, we are imbued with ideals of paramount importance to human existence far beyond the understanding of a larger segment of the community where we live. Yet these ideals, no matter how lofty they are, still humbles us and makes us seem utterly inadequate to its challenges and trials, since there is a constant shifting even in our basic attitudes toward life itself. But so long as we do not desert our ideals and do not abdicate the grounds already won in our Masonic journey, we are sure to have ourselves counted as belonging to this group of Craftsmen who remained faithful to their trust and dedicated to those masonic ideals.

Amidst the ruins of civilizations, our Fraternity stood as champion of human greatness in terms of the

spirit; of human perfection and redemption, and above all — our Noble Order advocated the Unity of the One Life! As Masons, we must always remember that we are heirs to these great heritage of mankind; that we too are trustees to great truths and custodians of a divine secret for the helping of humanity. We have thus, upon acceptance of this trust, become a Co-Worker of God for the blessing of His creation! We may, lack of adequate study, dimly perceive the sacred wisdom enshrined in our Craft yet with a resolute will and fidelity to its ideals will surely enable us to remember and know one day.

Such then, my brethren, is our goal and our endeavors which must necessarily be predicated upon sublimer motives and nobler purposes. We could say that our Fraternity demands too much from us but what else can we offer before the Altar except the best in us. Masonry is a taskmaster when it comes to this way of life or else let us altogether leave its precincts and go back into the world ever drifting in the sea of chance and circumstances!

Each officer and members of our Lodges worthy of their wages must realize this inexorable implication — that as a keeper of an awful secret for the helping of humanity, we must all bind ourselves together in a cooperative spirit to spread the Light we have seen in the context of life eternal. We must be ever aware that the Chair where the Master of the Lodge is seated is also the seat of the immortals and that all Masters of Lodges who take these seats must therefore be

worthy successors to those Masters before him in the remote ages.

The qualifications of a Master of a Lodge must likewise be measured and equated in terms of the profundity of their thoughts, the purity of their lives, and the loftiness of their ideals and aspirations. He must likewise remember that he is actually a link in the long line of heirophants who occupied those seats entrusted with the eternal lore of a secret path that can only lead to the feet of God.

And so as we convene today, may we be ever mindful to rededicate and strictly bind ourselves to the ideals, principles, and precepts of our noble order! These ideals are written in the annals of our history as an Ancient Order — a history of noble struggles and glorious martyrdom in the cause of truth; Ideals that are etched in our emblems, working tools, furnitures, Rituals, signs, and symbols presented to us in the form of splendid messages written in glyphs in a language of allegories.

Masonry, my Brethren, is our school to train us in lessons of harmony, order, unity, cooperation and self-mastery. In this school, we hope we cannot be considered dropouts lest we go back to ther earlier steps we have already taken in the unfoldment of our divine possibilities. Within the confines of our Lodges, there should be no room for personal animosities, selfishness, personal ambitions, or even likes and dislikes. When we enter our tyled Lodges, and take our seats among the brethren, we are simply a Mason engage in one work with our fellow-craftsmen.

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LET US LIVE WITH GOD

BY: Bro. SIMEON T. GARCIA
NARRA LODGE NO. 171
SAN JOSE CITY 2331

God created man and commanded him to subdue the earth and ever since he has been subduing this planet conquering even the forces of nature. With his acquired knowledge, the world grows in development with marvelous feats in science and technology enabling him to discover riches embedded between the rocks far below the depths of the earth and to set foot on the moon and maybe in a few more years he may reach other stars and planets. He may be able to make more transplants in the human body. All these should make man happy because they are the slow decoding process by which God is allowing him to discover the mysteries of His creations as drawn on the Trestleboard of a Divine Plan. Man should therefore realize that being a creation of God his intellect is God's gift to him and that his knowledge which enabled him to make those marvelous feats and discoveries is a divine revelation. He, therefore, owes it only to God to dedicate to Him all those great and important undertakings.

But man, in stead of dedicating and using his knowledge to probe

deeper into the mysteries of God and His Creations, has concentrated on his material development and progress only, believing, as promised by the industrial and economic world, that it would bring peace and happiness. This made man conscious of the self-making the society in which he lives in one of self centeredness – everything for the self. Science and technology, with all its inventions that made men and nations rich, are really doing wonders for men but it failed to bring the promised peace and happiness because all its inventions are for the material growth and development intended for the satisfaction of the self only. Peace and happiness is not made in the self and cannot thus be found without a sincere concern for the needs of others which is outside of the self. Man needs bread as badly as he needs words of truth from God to make him truly happy.

Science and technology are of proven facts as its basis for all its accomplishments. This taught man to believe that there is no truth outside what the human mind can perceive. This eroded his belief

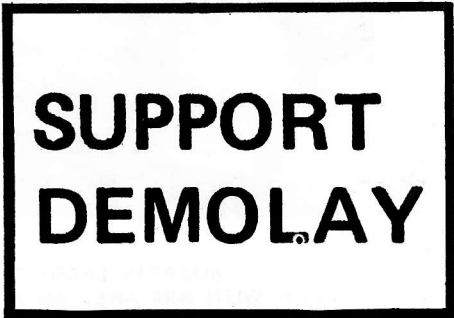
in the existence of a Supreme Being which is only of faith and beyond the reach of human reason and understanding. It failed to instruct man on his culture and morals as effectively as it did his material wants. Man became rich in material wealth but a pauper in principles.

Man's knowledge has also made him to believe that as the world grows in its development so man has naturally to outgrow his ancient belief in God. The ancients believed that a Supreme Being created all things and that He handed His Ten Commandments to Moses which formed the ancient landmark of all Christian religion. The world's development cannot outgrow this ancient belief neither can the modern man improve it because belief in the existence of a Supreme Being is not the object of reason or understanding but only of faith which is a gift from God. The Son of God Himself came down to earth already and explained to men the existence of God and His Kingdom, but the will to believe of the human mind is not yet ready to accept the truth about God, or that God in His Wisdom has not yet willed to give the gift of faith to the masterpiece of His Creations or that God is still in the process of creating a perfect man in a body and soul.

By and large, many learned men of science and technology even ridicule the Ten Commandments believing that it is a hindrance to the progress of the individual – even going to the extent of denying the existence of a Supreme Being which, to a Christian mind, is the height of blasphemy. If there is no God, man will be supreme with the baser instinct of his nature being

pulled down by the satisfaction of his senses. Its satisfaction produces pleasure, the principle of survival of the fittest will prevail making the formation of a genuine human society impossible. There could be no peace, love and brotherhood to shield society from greed. The present unrest of many peoples of the world, the hunger of many poor nations because of the lack of meaningful and sincere efforts for their concern of the many rich nations, the threat of a nuclear war that might destroy civilization which science and technology failed to solve are not only deep symptoms of a grave global social disorder but also an indictment that men cannot live with his fellowmen because of greed and selfishness.

Man keeps dreaming of a better world to live in with the prevalence of peace, love and abundance where justice and freedom reigns. But he is far from attaining the realization of his dreams unless his endeavors are first conceived and dedicated for the service of God and humanity. To this end, men and nations must tirelessly work to attain not by force and economic domination but by love and service to humanity. To serve and love humanity is to serve and live with God. LET US LIVE WITH GOD.



**SUPPORT
DEMOLAY**

NEWS

IN

PICTURES

DISTRICT NO. 11 CONVENTION



RW JOLLY R. BUGARIN LEADS THE CONVENTION DELEGATES AS THEY MARCH TO THE PLAZA: WITH HIM ARE: WB JUANITO C. RODIL, VW RICARDO C. BUENAFE, DDGM, AND BRO. RUSTICO DE LOS REYES.



RW JOLLY R. BUGARIN LAYS A BOUQUET AT THE FOOT OF THE RIZAL MONUMENT AT THE STA. CRUZ TOWN PLAZA.



THE CONVENTIONISTS POSE IN FRONT OF THE RIZAL MONUMENT.



RECEPTION OF RW BUGARIN AND HIS PARTY INTO THE LODGE.



MARIETTA BONZA REGALES THE CONVENTION DELEGATES WITH HER SONGS, AS MW ESTEBAN MUNARRIZ LOOKS ON APPROVINGLY.



MASONIC DIGNITARIES SIT IN THE EAST DURING THE 19TH CONVENTION OF DISTRICT NO. 11.

ZALDIVAR from page 1

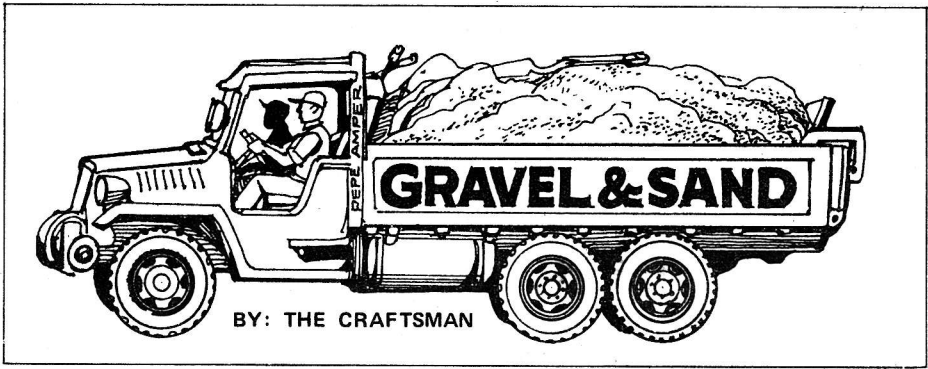
I, therefore, urge the organization of chapters of the Order of DeMolay for boys, the Order of the Rainbow for Girls, and Bethels of the Job's Daughters by the different Masonic Lodges in our country. In every Masonic District there should be several of these youth organizations. I am urging the District Deputy Grand Masters to give special attention to this project. I appeal to the Lodges that are well situated financially, and to affluent brother Masons, to sponsor the organization of the Order of DeMolay and the other Masonic-related youth organizations in their respective localities. This is one Masonic activity that should interest all Masons.

CALIXTO O. ZALDIVAR
Grand Master

EDITORIAL from page 3

Which is correct? This has never been universally declared. It remains for each Jurisdiction to decide for itself. Although we have decided this question in the past, perhaps we should review once again the basis of our decision and consider the possible benefits that might arise from change.

R.E.W.



MASONIC DISTRICT NO. 6 HOLDS CONVENTION

Masonic District No. 6 composed of Cabanatuan Lodge No. 53, Nueva Ecija Lodge No. 73, Memorial Lodge No. 90, Gen. Manuel Tinio Lodge No. 167, Gen. Llanera Lodge No. 168, Narra Lodge No. 171, and Pantabangan Bo-na-ri Lodge No. 203 held its annual convention on October 29, 1977 in San Jose City with Narra Lodge No. 171 as host Lodge.

RW Manuel D. Mandac, Junior Grand Warden, MW Esteban Munariz, Grand Secretary and party were received with grand honors. The flag ceremony followed the reception. Bro. William A. Ramos, Chaplain of Narra Lodge No. 171 gave the invocation after which WB Ruben O. Azarcon turned over the gavel to VW Eulogio C. Sta. Maria, District Deputy Grand Master to preside as Chairman of the convention. He welcomed the guests and all the brethren of the District and thanked them all for coming.

The roll call of the Lodges was made. There were 166 Master Masons in attendance with Narra Lodge 171 having the biggest attendance with 48 members.

RW Manuel C. Mandac in his speech said among other things that the strength of Masonry depends on the individual Mason to make Masonry grow and become strong. He further stated that while all Masons are given the opportunity to serve, those who give their time and effort for the sake of Masonry should be supported and that those elected to positions must have the diligence in the performance of their duties.

Lunch was served at the residence of WB Anselmo Solis.

The session was reconvened at 1:30 in the afternoon.

The discussion regarding the District Charity Fund of Masonic District No. 6 attracted the interest of the Conventionists. The brethren of the district contributed toward the fund. It was conceived to aid brethren who are sick and needs hospitalization. WB Doroteo M. Joson, Chairman of the Committee of the District Fund reported that the guidelines for the disposition of the fund was already released; that, so far the Committee has not

WAY OF FREEMASONRY

The way of 'Freemasonry' is teaching not driving. Freemasonry believes that if the divine and eternal principles of truth, honor, justice, love and charity are voluntarily accepted by a man and then incorporated into his life, it should not be necessary to force him to do what is best for him and his fellows.

— Masonic Record, London

yet received any applications: that, contributions to the Fund are still coming in from the brethren of the district.

MW Teodoro V. Kalaw, Jr., PGM gave from his personal fund the amount of ₱1,000.00. WB Basilio Ng Tian Kee, Master of Pantabangan Bo-na-ri Lodge No. 203, also donated the amount of ₱1,000.00 and RW Manuel C. Mandac, Junior Grand Warden gave the amount of ₱200.00 to bolster the fund.

One of the resolutions approved was to request to the Grand Lodge that the Installation of the District Deputy Grand Master be done in their respective Districts. It is the belief of the Conventionists that the Installation of the District Deputy Grand Master in their respective District will underline the importance of the duties of these worthy brethren to the fraternity and give them the honor which is due them.

Awards of the District level were given to many brethren of the District. RW Manuel C. Mandac with the assistance of the District Deputy Grand Master handed the awards.

The Convention was adjourned at 4:30 P.M.

October 1977

DISTRICT NO. 1 CONVENTION

The Annual Convention of Masonic District No. 1, was held October 8, 1977 at the Jose Abad Santos Hall of the Plaridel Masonic Temple, 1440 San Marcelino St., Manila.

The Lodges comprising District No. 1 are the 27 Lodges holding their meetings in Manila.

At 8:45 in the morning VW Amancio Donato, DDGM for District No. 1, assisted by WB Rosendo Herrera, Chairman of District No. 1, led the brethren in the floral offering at the statues of Bros. Jose Rizal, Marcelo H. Del Pilar and Graciano Lopez-Jaena at the foyer of the temple.

The National Customs Police Band provided the musical numbers.

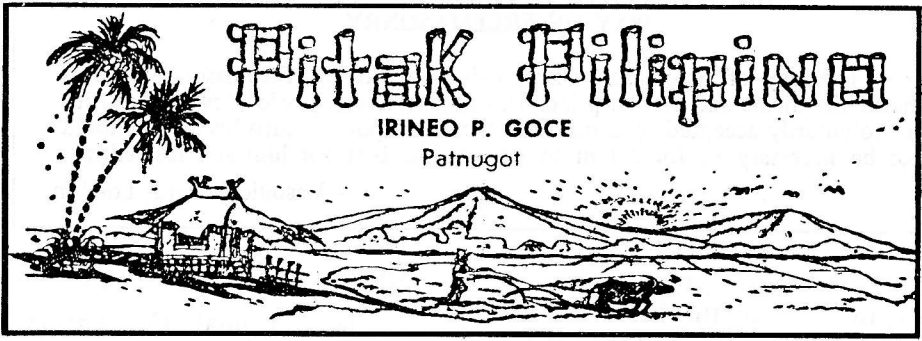
At 9:00 a.m., the delegates repaired to the Jose Abad Santos Hall for the plenary session.

The District Deputy and Grand Lodge Inspectors were received in due and ancient form.

The Grand Master and his party were received in due and ancient form.

WB Pedro P. Aguda of Araw Lodge No. 18, gave the invocation. WB Remedio E. Racela, District Secretary made a roll call of the Lodges. All the Lodges in the District were represented.

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ANG WIKA, AT KALAYAAN – II

IRINEO P. GOCE

(KARUGTONG)

Ipagpapatuloy natin ngayon ang pagtalakay sa paksa ukol sa kaugnayan ng wika sa ganap na kalayaan ng isang bansa. Sa pagkakataong ito ay iuukol ko ang pagsusuri sa kalayaan ng ating bayan, ang bansang Pilipinas.

Ang patuluyang paggamit natin ng Ingles bilang wikang opisyal at sa pamamaraan ng pagtuturo at komunikasyon ay nakasasakit sa kapakanan ng mga karaniwan at dukha nating mamamayan. Lubhang napakarami sa kanila ang hindi nakauunawa ng ating mga batas at patakaran ng pamahalaan. Ang mga dayuhan ay higit pang nakikinabang at naginhawahan sa kalagayang ito kaysa karamihan ng ating mga mamamayan. Ang mga Pilipino, kung nakikinig sa mga pagtalakay sa ating mga patakaran, ay para bagang nangingibang-lupa.

Ang isa pang laging ikinakatuwiran ng iba ay hindi umano maisasagawa ang ating mga relasyong panlabas kungdi sa wikang Ingles, maging sa larangan ng pangangalakal at komersiyo, at sa diplomasiyang pulitikal at pandaigdig. Datapuwa't isang katotohanan naman na maraming mga bansa ang hindi gumagamit ng Ingles, subali't higit pang matagumpay kaysa atin sa pagpapalakad ng kanilang relasyong panlabas.

Nagpapatunay ang kasaysayang pandaigdig na ang mga bansang nagpapalago at gumagamit ng kanilang likas na wika ay higit pang mauunlad. Isang kahibangan na kailanganin pa muna ang ating mga anak na matuto ng isang wikang banyaga bago tuluyang tumuklas ng karunungan. Ang dunong na natamo sa pamamagitan ng sariling

wika ay lumalago habang nagtatagal. Ang kaalamang tuklas sa wikang hiram ay madaling malimot, at kailangan pang gumugol ng yaman upang papagdalubhasain ang ating mga anak sa ibang mga lupain.

Sa sariling wika, mapayayabong ang likas nating karunungan. Sa salitang banyaga, maghihintay lamang tayo ng mga tiratirahan sa pananaliksik sa ibang lupa, at ang bansa natin ay patuloy na gagapang sa likod ng mabilis na pag-unlad ng daigdig.

Isang kasamaang-palad kaya ang kasalukuyang suliranin ng wika sa ating bansa? Iyan ang aking palagay. Subali't wala tayong ibang dapat na sisihin. Hindi ang ibang bansa, o ang mga dayuhang nagsipagkamal ng yaman at kinamkam ang taba ng ating lupa sa gitna ng pagdaralita ng ating mamamayan! Mayroon silang kani-kanilang mga kapakanan na dapat pagyamanin at pangalagaan. Tayo mismo ang nagkukulang. Hindi natin nakilala sapul nang ang wikang Ingles ay ipinagpilitang ituro sa atin, na sa kalaunan

ay ito ang magiging sanhi ng pagkalugami nitong ating bansa.

Mga kapatid: ang tinalakay kong ito ay isang impit na tinig ng isa ring naghihinagpis na mamamayan; isang sigaw mula sa ilang ng ating lugaming Inang Bayan. Nagsumakit ako simula pa sa mga silid-aralan, sa high school at sa kolehiyo, at sa mga kolum ng puslong-mamamayan sa mga pahayagan ng ilang mga taong nakalipas. Ang tanging mithiin ko'y ipaglaban at ipakilala ang pagiging makatuwiran na gawing isang salitang opisyal sa bansa at ng mga mamamayan ang *isa lamang* katutubong wika. Ang tinig na ito ay kalimitang natatabunan ngagahamang lakas na ang layon ay manatiling nananaig ang sistemang kolonyal sa ating bansa.

Habang naniniig tayo sa patuloy na pagpapabaya sa sariling wika ay mananatili rin lamang ang pag-unlad ng iilan nating mga kalahi, at ang walang-hanggang kapakinabangan para sa mga tira-tirahan ng dati nating mananakop na nag-ugat sa lupang Pilipinas.



GRAVEL & SAND . . . from page 13

After the disposition of the business of the Convention, VW Hermogenes P. Oliveros, Senior Grand Lecturer delivered a talk on "More Light In Masonry and Its Symbolism".

The closing remarks was delivered by MW Calixto O. Zaldivar, Grand Master.

The following morning the brethren motored to the Holiday beach resort in Naic, Cavite to relax and unwind.

VW Amancio Donato delivered the welcome address.

The members of King Solomon Lodge No. 150 exemplified the Fellowcraft Degree.

Bro. Florentino Flor, Assistant Chief State Prosecutor of the Department of Justice delivered the keynote address. He was introduced by WB Bayani B. Sabater.

Lunch was served at the Social Hall.

In the afternoon, the plenary session was held.

Acts and thoughts of disunity must all drop away and must never be allowed to interfere with our desire to be of greater service to our fellowmen. In this way, we can rightfully say, we are living up to our ideals in Freemasonry. The old refrain of Oliver Wendell Holmes' Chambered Nautilus fall squarely in our theme today:

“BUILD THEE MORE
STATELY MASIONS, O MY
SOUL!

AS THE SWIFT SEASONS
ROLL!
LEAVE THY LOW-VAULTED
PAST!
LET EACH NEW TEMPLE,
NOBLER THAN THE LAST,
SHUT THEE FROM HEAVEN
WITH A DOME MORE VAST,
TILL THOU AT LENGTH ART
FREE,
LEAVING THINE OUTGROWN
SHELL BY LIFE'S
UNRESTING SEA!”



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