



The Cabletow

Official Organ of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines

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DECEMBER, 1979



MW JOLLY R. BUGARIN HANDS OUT CHRISTMAS GIFT ENVELOPE

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Grand Master's Page



KNOWING CHRIST AT CHRISTMAS

The whole of Christendom is presently celebrating the birth anniversary of the Saviour. A traditional annual affair, no occasion is more relevant to the basic principles of Freemasonry than this one. For all the tenets of the Fraternity that we strive to live by are nothing more than the gems in the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Christmastime is not a mere festive season of gaiety and of merry-making. It is, more importantly, a moment for self-examination and soul-searching. For while the lessons in Christianity are simple, their observance requires depth and a great deal of determination and will power.

To appreciate the true meaning of Christmas, one has to devine the essence of Christianity; in the same manner that an appreciation of Freemasonry necessitates a deep understanding of its precepts.

In this spirit, I wish to greet everyone of you, Brethren, and wish you and your loved ones a Merry, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.


JOLLY R. BUGARIN
Grand Master

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THINK BEFORE YOU SPEAK THINK TWICE BEFORE YOU ACT



Clichés have since time immemorial been guiding principles in the lives of men. Some consciously, others unknowingly respond to the influence of such inspirational sayings acquired in early life from the home environment, from mother or father, from the influence of friends and associates in school, or from reading the works of writers who have created them to engrave indelible impressions in the mind of the readers.

One such cliché is “Look Before You Leap.” This has been restated in countless ways, one of the most used being: “Think Before You Speak.” A word once spoken cannot be retrieved. Like a bullet fired from a gun, it cannot be called back from its path of destruction. A word quickly spoken by one carried by the momentum of argument without the careful consideration of its ultimate consequences, like the bullet, may cause irreparable damage. How many times has this happened in our lifetimes?—how many more times will it happen again?—when shall we learn to think before we speak?

However destructive a word may be it can never attain the destructiveness of a destroying act. Therefore, be careful of your words spoken without careful thought and in the heat of passionate rage, but even more, be vitally careful of your acts: Think Twice Before You Act!

The careless word spoken hatefully can destroy the attributes of a man, his good name, his pride in himself, his value to his family, his worth in his community and forever more cause others to question his integrity and creditability. The overt act committed against another, even under provocation of sufficient force to cause action without thought, may constitute a legal justification for the results of that act in some cases, but it can never relieve the doer of that act from the continual self condemnation that follows.

Again we must examine our respective consciences and recall those acts which we ourselves have committed. Perhaps none have ever reached the magnitude of crime, or if they have the crime may not

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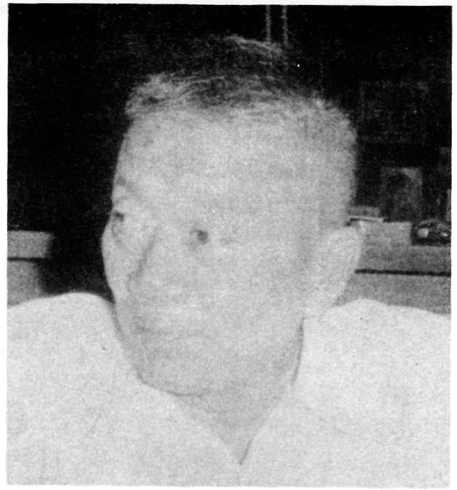


BASILIO NG TIAN KEE

BY: SAMUEL P. FERNANDEZ

Basilio Ng Tian Kee is an institution in Masonic District No. 6 which is composed of Cabanatuan Lodge No. 53, Nueve Ecija Lodge No. 73, Memorial Lodge No. 90, General Tiño Lodge No. 167, General Llanera Memorial Lodge No. 168, Narra Lodge No. 228 and Apolinario Mabini Lodge No. 235. His contributions to Masonry, the construction of the Narra Lodge Temple, the renovation of the Memorial Lodge Temple, the unstinting support for the above mentioned Lodges and, recently, the Pantabangan-Bonari Lodge No. 203 are merely a few of the mute testimonies of his love for the Craft.

When Oscar Fung broached the idea of my joining VW Rudy Bunda's entourage to Cuyapo, Nueva Ecija, to attend the constitution of



WB BASILIO NG TIAN KEE

the Apolinario Mabini Lodge No. 235, I readily agreed to go with the Junior Grand Warden hoping that I may get a chance to meet with Bro. Basilio to enable me to schedule an interview with him. As fate would have it, although I enjoyed, immensely, the fellowship of the Cuyapo Brethren I was not able to meet Bro. Basilio. I had to make another trip to Nueva Ecija, this time in the company of VW Simeon Rene Lacson, Senior Grand Warden to attend the 20th Annual Convention of Masonic District No. 6.

When VW Marcelino Dysangco informed me that Bro. Basilio was present at the convention I readied my tape recorder and camera, but was again unable to pull off the interview. The convention schedule was so tight we couldn't find enough time to sit together for a talk. Finally, at the insistence of Bro. Basilio, we agreed to meet at the Cabletow office, in Manila, for the interview.

Bro. Basilio's ambition was to be an architect, but then, the misfortunes of war dimmed his chances of becoming one. The 1941 Far Eastern University High School graduation ball was the last school social function he attended. That year there were no commencement exercises. War broke out. Taking over the business of his father, Bro. Basilio busied himself in the business world. In 1951 a close friend told him about Masonry and he became a member of the Craft that year.

"The Brethren told me not to eat too much and to prepare myself for any eventuality. Of course, I found out later that they were only pulling my leg. I should have known that it was their way of welcoming me." Bro. Basilio fondly recalls.

In July 18, 1964 Narra Lodge was constituted with Bro. Basilio as its treasurer. When the Brethren of the Lodge proposed the acquisition of a lot and a building, Bro. Basilio offered his property consisting of 1,000 sq. meters for the Lodge's use. At first the Narra Brethren did not want to accept the offer but when one Brother chided them and told them of the strategic location of the site they accepted.

Putting up a Temple became their next problem for though they envisioned the construction of a beautiful edifice the cash and pledges they had collected were just too meager for the realization of their dream. Bro. Basilio once more came to the fore and underwrote the major portion of the construction expenses making the dream of a concrete Temple a reality. Today, the Temple stands majestically and can easily be counted as one of the few big Masonic Temples except for

the Plaridel Masonic Temple.

In 1974 the Munoz and San Jose Brethren felt that they should have another Lodge in Pantabangan. Appointed as the first Worshipful Master of Pantabangan-Bonari Lodge, U.D., was Bro. Basilio. Since the constitution of the Lodge Bro. Basilio has continually served as its Worshipful Master.

"I guess the Brethren of that Lodge want me to be the Worshipful Master because, it is quite expensive to travel to that place. It takes patience and dedication to serve in that Blue Lodge."

Bro. Basilio, of course, has not confined his services to the Narra and Pantabangan Lodges but also to his mother Lodge. He was responsible for improving Memorial Lodge Temple. If he was not able to fulfill his dream of literally constructing buildings, in his own small way, he has erected edifices that have become living symbols of his aspirations.

Excited over the project of building a new Temple that will house the Grand Lodge of the Philippines, Bro. Basilio believes that the Grand Lodge officers should tap 1,000 Masons who can afford to contribute P10,000 or more each. Along with the Grand Master, he believes that if we must build a Temple, it has to be now, otherwise the cost of construction materials would be so prohibitive that the membership could very well not afford it.

"I do not think that some members can afford to pay P200 as their contribution to the Temple Building Fund, some cannot even pay their dues. But tapping the rich Brethren in our Fraternity can hasten the

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HISTORY OF:

BATAAN LODGE NO. 104, F. & A. M.

BY. ARTURO CAÑARE

I. THE LODGE'S NAME — ITS SIGNIFICANCE

Bataan is its own reason for having been chosen the name of Bataan Lodge No. 104, for even before the outbreak of the Second World War and the subsequent events that catapulted the peninsula to world fame, Bataan had already earned herself a secure place in the Philippine history.

II. EARLY BEGINNINGS

Masonry rooted early in Bataan shortly after Mother Lodge Nilad commenced her work in the Islands under the aegis of the Grande Oriente Español in 1892. It was not, however, until after some 30 years later, and about a decade after the historic fusion of Filipino and American Lodges in the Philippines, that a Lodge of Master Masons was successfully organized in Bataan.

Notwithstanding the campaign of persecution that was at the time being waged against Masons and sympathizers of Masonry, a number of prominent citizens of Bataan enthusiastically embraced Masonry and affiliated with the few Lodges and "*triangulos*" in Manila and the nearby provinces, where they breathed the air of freedom and brotherly love. Soon their presence began to be noticed with alarm by

the Spanish Governor of Bataan himself who reported on April 1895, the "presence of Masons in his province, especially in Pilar and Samal; that all those holding professional degrees were sympathizers of Masonry; that the Register of Real Estate and the Assistant of the Bureau of Forestry, both Filipinos were also Masons, and he, therefore, recommends their transfer to some other places." It is most significant, as later events would show, that those two (the Register of Real Estate and the Assistant of the Bureau of Forestry were largely responsible for the organization of Bataan Lodge No. 104).

III. INCREASE OF MASONIC MEMBERS IN BATAAN

When the Americans took over the administration of the Philippines and instituted more liberal policies, Masonry went public, open and multifarious. Moreover, the rapid Filipinization of the government during the incumbency of Governor General Francis Burton Harrison (1913-1921) gave further impetus to the growth of Masonry in the country.

Among the sons of Bataan who became Masons during the early American era were Governor and Assemblyman Maximo de los Reyes; Senate Chief Clerk (Secretary)

Leoncio Espino; Director of the Institute of National Language Julian Cruz Balmaceda; Provincial Fiscal Pablo Rivera; Norberto Gallardo; Governor Alberto Aquino; Gabriel Labog; Mariano T. SyQuimsiam; Teofisto Batungbacal; Daniel Bascarra; Mariveles Municipal President Jose Sarreal; Limay Municipal President Francisco Villafranca; Joaquin Banzon; Jose M. Banzon; Governor Sabino de Leon; Governor Teodoro Camacho ; Governor Gregorio R. Quicho and a host of others, many of whom became instrumental in the establishment of a Masonic Lodge in their own home provinces.

IV. EARLY ATTEMPTS TO ORGANIZE A LODGE

As the number of Masons in Bataan increased through the years, they began to feel the need for a Masonic Lodge in the peninsula. They found it difficult to attend Masonic functions in their respective Lodges in Manila, Cavite and elsewhere. Moreover they must have felt the desire to spread the light of Masonry and share its benefits with as many as their province-mates as were worthy among them. The Provincial Fiscal, Pablo Rivera initiated the move for the organization of a Lodge. In the early 1920's he sought out the Brethren in the province and enlisted their support for his plan. However, no sooner had he readied the petition than he was transferred to a distant post. Several other Brethren took up where Bro. Rivera had left off. They, too, met a similar fate.

Early in 1926, Cadwallader and Gibson Lumber Company established a sawmill on the outskirts of

Limay, Bataan. Owned by a member of the Craft, the firm employed a good number of soujourners. They established a close kinship among themselves and often held informal gatherings.

It was at this time that WB Julian Cruz Balmaceda, Past Master of Pintong Bato Lodge No. 51, a dedicated apostle of Freemasonry, spent his summer vacation in Orion, Bataan. WB Balmaceda provided the leadership that boosted the plan to establish a Masonic Lodge. He called the Brethren to a meeting in Limay where he presented his plan of helping them establish their own Lodge. Those present, most of whom came from the lumber company, Forestry Bureau and from the locality, enthusiastically agreed to his proposal.

Among those who signed the petition for a new Lodge were: Daniel Bascara, Tomas Geronimo, Leoncio Blanas, Felipe G. Fuentes, Norberto Gallardo, Joseph I. Hill, Tomas Fernando, Patricio Mistal, Catalino Razon, Lucio Tolentino, Vicente J. Villaflor and Francisco Villafranca.

WB. Balmaceda persuaded his own Lodge, Pintong Bato Lodge No. 51, in Bacoor, Cavite to vouch for and sponsor the new Lodge. He personally filed the petition with the Grand Lodge on his return to Manila.

Meantime, the organizers of the new Lodge prepared themselves well for their future labors. Under the patient guidance of WB Balmaceda, Grand Lecturer, and WB Jose Intal, the Brethren zealously trained themselves on the various aspects of the ritualistic work. On certain week-

ends, other members of Pintong Bato Lodge No. 51, among them WBs Federico Suavillo, PM, Rufing Tolentino, PM, and Teofisto C. Batungbacal, PM, came to share the benefits of their experience and extended their assistance to the local members of the Craft. They brought with them old jewels, working tools and other paraphernalia which they generously donated to the new Lodge.

On January 20, 1927, a dispensation was granted to Bataan Lodge. The officers name in the dispensation are: WB. Vicente J. Villaflor, *Worshipful Master*; WB Leoncio Blanas, *Senior Warden*; Tomas Fernando, *Junior Warden*; Silvestre Guanzon, *Treasurer*; and WB Lorenzo Pakingan, *Secretary*.

Barely a week after the granting of the dispensation, MW Joseph Schmidt, then Grand Master, signed and granted the charter which denominated Bataan Lodge as number 104 on January 25, 1927.

Among the first initiates of the new Lodge were: Jose F. Ditan, Gregorio Quicho, Jose Juinio, Marcos Jorge and Jesus E. Heras.

On April 17, 1927, at eight o'clock in the evening Bataan Lodge No. 104 was formally constituted by a team of Grand Lodge dignitaries led by MW Joseph Schmidt in appropriate ceremonies held publicly at the Limay Elementary School with the following officers installed: Vicente J. Villaflor, *Master*; Leoncio Blanas, *Senior Warden*; Tomas Fernando, *Junior Warden*; Joseph C. Hill, *Treasurer*; Lorenzo Pakingan, *Secretary*; Felipe Padoлина, *Chaplain*; Catalino Razon, *Marshal*; Felipe G. Fuentes, *Senior Deacon*; Jose Juinio, *Junior Deacon*;

Jose F. Ditan, *Senior Steward*; Salvador J. Banzon, *Junior Steward*; and Patricio Mistal, *Tyler*. The months that followed were busy months. In addition to the fore-going officers, the following were charter members of Bataan Lodge No. 104; Daniel Bascarra, Policarpio Castañeda, Norberto Gallardo, Tomas Geronimo, Silvestre Guanzon, Pedro Paulino, Lucio Tolentino and Francisco Villafranca.

V. THE SEARCH FOR A HOME – AN ODYSSEY

The need for fixed quarters was a problem that beset Bataan Lodge No. 104 from her very inception. During the time that it was still under dispensation, the fledgling Lodge was temporarily housed in the headquarters of the "Labi ng Katipunan", a local veterans organization in Limay. From there, the Lodge, in her vain efforts to find herself a home, moved from one place to another in a virtual odyssey that lasted for over forty years!

Meetings were held successively in various places; in the district office of the Bureau of Forestry; in the sala of Judge Tomas Geronimo; in the Office of Mayor Francisco Villafranca. On seeing the miserable plight of the Brethren, Bro. Cadwallader offered a spacious room on the upper floor of his company's communications building as provisional quarters for Bataan Lodge No. 104. Towards the middle of 1930, a big fire razed the sawmill at Limay and damaged its machineries and installation. With the shift of the operations of its logging activities to other provinces the company was forced to stop operations

in Bataan. With the sawmill went a good number of active members of the Craft, a sad development that almost extinguished the embers that kept the young Lodge alive, and as the remaining members either resided or worked in the northern part of the province, the transfer of Bataan Lodge No. 104 to a more convenient place became inevitable. That same year it moved to the capital town of Balanga. The transfer was not an easy one, however. There, the Brethren encountered serious difficulties in securing suitable quarters for their Lodge. The benevolence of Bro. Leoncio Espino, the Secretary of the Senate, saved them from further trouble when Bro. Espino granted them permission to hold labors in the house of the late Governor Conrado Lerma (his father-in-law) in nearby Sta. Rosa, Pilar.

November 1930 saw the election of WB Laureano Escalada as the Master for the ensuing year. On the second Saturday of the following year, January 10, 1931, Balanga witnessed for the first time the public installation of officers of a Masonic Lodge. The affair was capped by an installation ball late that same evening, held in the Provincial Capitol grounds — presently the abandoned Public Market opposite the town plaza. A complete team from the Grand Lodge, headed by the Grand Master himself, motored all the way from Manila to officiate at the ceremonies.

Bataan Lodge No. 104 was grateously sheltered a few years more in Governor Lerma's old house, even while the Brethren continued shopping around for an appropriate building for their Lodge. They

found one in Omboy, in the poblacion of Balanga—one large enough for the usual labors, which was willingly leased to the Lodge by its owner, a certain Jose Dalawangbayan. That house in Omboy served as the Lodge Temple for several years, until the outbreak of the Pacific War in 1941.

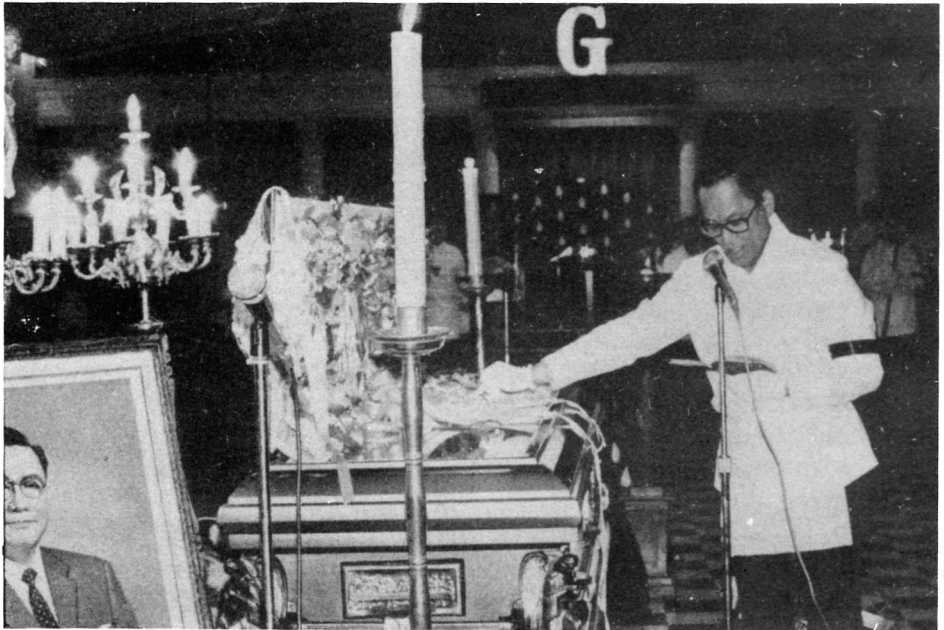
VI. THE WAR YEARS

Christmas 1941, was fast approaching, and the term of WB Amando Ylagan drew to a close. December 13th—the second Saturday of that month—should have been a stated and election meeting of Bataan Lodge No. 104. Five days before, however, war broke out in the Pacific. Early in the day of December 8, 1941, Japanese aerial squadrons bombed the cities of Baguio and Davao, after Pearl Harbor, Hawaii which had been subjected to an even worse fate a few hours earlier. Camp Nichols, and the fort in the city of Cavite, as well as Fort Stotsenberg in Pampanga soon followed the same tragic fate. On December 10, 1941, the enemy landed on the beaches of Pangasinan and La Union, and days later at Atimonan and Mauban, Quezon. By New Year, 1942, the enemy, practically unopposed in its sweep thru Luzon was ready to occupy Manila.

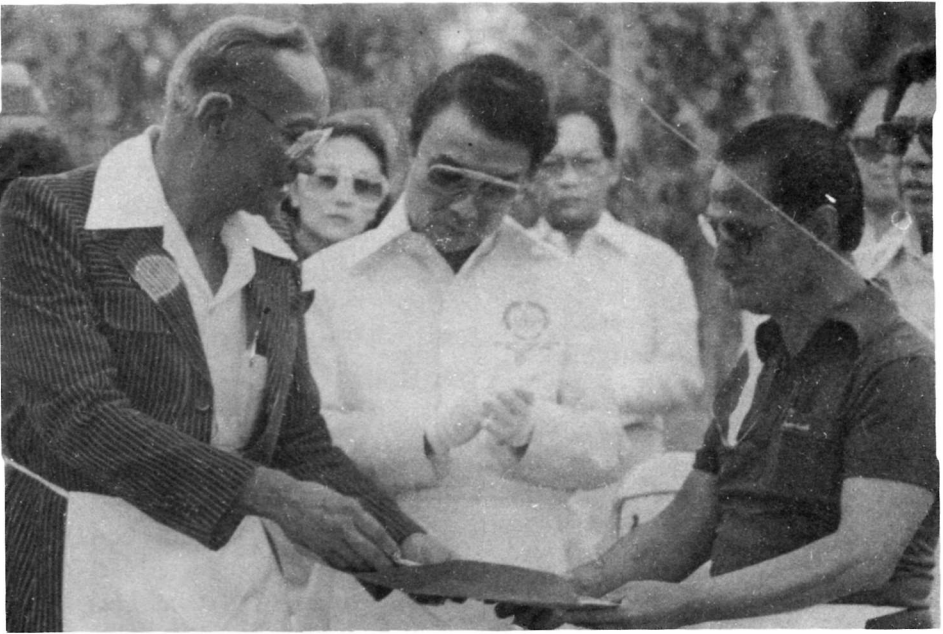
Christmas morning of 1941, no less than 65,000 Filipino troops and some 15,000 American soldiers began converging on Bataan, in a military maneuver that brought fame to the Peninsula. Bataan, it turned out, had the misfortune of having been chosen the locale of a final defensive stand against the pursuing Japanese.

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KALPIDOSCOPE



MW JOLLY R. BUGARIN, GRAND MASTER, PRESIDES OVER THE FUNERAL RITES FOR THE LATE MW CALIXTO O. ZALDIVAR, PAST GRAND MASTER.



MW TEODORO V. KALAW HANDS OVER DEED OF DONATION OF A LOT FOR THE SITE OF MABINI-KALAW LODGE NO. 195 TO WB LEOCADIO R. MAYO, SECRETARY OF THE LODGE.



VW JOSE B. PEREZ, GRAND LODGE DEPUTY FOR MASONIC DISTRICT NO. 9 WELCOMES MW RAYMOND E. WILMARTH, PGM, DURING THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE DISTRICT HELD NOVEMBER 30, 1979 AT THE PICC.

BATAAN LODGE ... From page 9

Throughout the world Bataan became a by-word, a battle cry and was hailed as a "symbol of the freeman's readiness to fight for his liberties to the bitter end."

The three years that followed the fall of Bataan were extremely difficult under the new imperialist masters. Finally in February 1945, the American forces came back.

VII. RESTORATION WORK

On April 1945, the surviving members of Bataan Lodge No. 104 began getting in touch with each other, and finally meeting in the house of Bro. Adriano R. Siason in Ibayo, Balanga to plan the reactivation of the Lodge. Among those present were: Salvador Banzon, Daniel Bascarra, Toribio David, Jesus E. Heras, Joseph C. Hill, Norberto Gallardo, Aniceto Reyes, Marcos Jorge, Lorenzo Pakingan, Roman A. Santos, Adriano R. Siason, Mariano T. SyQuimsiam and Stanley Tongco. The following were appointed interim officers: WB Roman A. Santos, *Worshipful Master*; Marcos Jorge, *Senior Warden*. On December 1945, the first post-war election of officers was held. The following were elected: Marcos Jorge, *Worshipful Master*; Daniel Bascarra, *Senior Warden*; Salvador Banzon, *Junior Warden*; Norberto Gallardo, *Treasurer*; Adriano R. Siason, *Secretary*. After the first meeting in Ibayo, Balanga, subsequent meetings were held in the house of Prudencio Salvador which was at the same time the seat of the provisional government, and later on at a room of the Balanga Elementary School in Talisay.

Meetings were also held in the

house of Bro. Salvador Banzon and Natividad Barcenas and in the spacious ancestral home of Vicente Reyes along Zulueta St. until Gabriel Labog offered the use of his house in Talisay, which had been vacated by the Provincial Government, as temporary quarters of the Lodge. That lasted up to 1949, when she finally got herself an edifice truly her own.

VIII. BUILDING THE TALISAY TEMPLE

During the term of WB Roman A. Santos as Master of the Lodge and throughout the incumbencies of WB Marcos Jorge (1946) and WB Stanley Tongco (1947-1949) the members of Bataan Lodge No. 104 embarked on a campaign to build a home for their ambulant Lodge. Donations were solicited, and a search for an appropriate site was made.

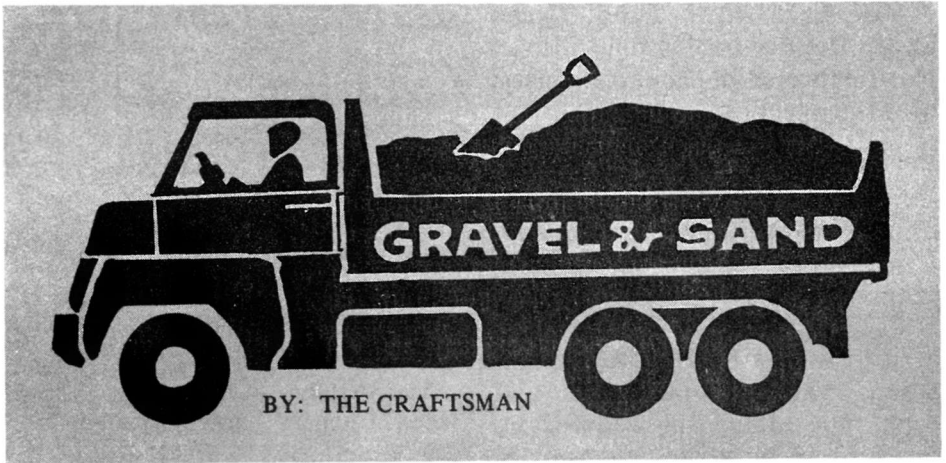
Donations were made by WB Lorenzo Pakingan, WB Joseph C. Hill and WB Stanley Tongco with 8,000 board feet of quality lumber. Bro. James Kines sent two trailers-full of construction materials, and Bro. Gabriel Labog leased out a portion of his vast holdings in Talisay at Balanga.

Finally under the supervision of WBs Claro Bagalso, Jose D. Forbes, Jesus E. Heras, Gabriel Labog and Oconer, the construction of the Temple was commenced and by November of 1949, the Brethren held their labors in the half-finished building. The first installation of officers in that Temple was held on January 1950.

IX. THE RETURN TO LIMAY

A decade and a half after the

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MASONIC DISTRICT NO. 6 20TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

The 20th Annual Convention of Masonic District No. 6 was held in Cabanatuan City on November 3, 1979 with Cabanatuan Lodge No. 53 hosting the affair.

The Lodges comprising the District are: Cabanatuan Lodge No. 53, Cabanatuan City; Nueva Ecija Lodge No. 73, Quirino; Memorial Lodge No. 90, Muñoz; Gen. Manuel Tinio Lodge No. 167, Guimba; Gen. Llanera Memorial Lodge No. 168, Gapan; Narra Lodge No. 171, San Jose; Pantabangan — Bonari Lodge No. 203, Rizal; Kapatiran Lodge No. 228, Cabanatuan City and Apolinario Mabini Memorial Lodge No. 235, Cuyapo.

RW Simeon Rene Lacson, accompanied by MW Esteban Munariz, PGM, Grand Secretary, VW Marcelino P. Dysangco, Assistant Grand Secretary, VW Renato S.

Puno, Grand Lodge Deputy for Masonic District No. 1, WBs Hilario G. Esquerra, Isaac I. Puno, Sr., Sammuel P. Fernandez and this writer motored to Cabanatuan City to attend the convention.

On their arrival at Cabanatuan City, the party was served breakfast at the residence of WB Eugenio Jongo, Master of the host Lodge.

At the convention hall, the party from the Grand Lodge with VW Eulogio Santamaria and other officers of the district were received in due and ancient form.

Bro. Jose P. Calderon gave the invocation after the flag ceremony.

WB Eugenio Jongo then turned over the gavel to VW Eulogio C. Santamaria who gave the welcome address.

After the roll call of Lodges, VW Marcelino P. Dysangco introduced the members of the party from Manila after which, a minute of silent prayer was offered in memory of the departed Brethren of the district.

VW Reynato S. Puno, Grand Lodge Deputy for Masonic District No. 1 delivered the keynote address of the convention.

The minutes of the convention, which were mimeographed and distributed to the delegates were approved. Bro. Danilo Angeles, convention secretary read the report of the committee on Charity Fund of the District for WB Doroteo M. Josen, who was indisposed and could not attend the convention. Resolutions pertaining to the district were presented and approved.

The convention was then called from labor to refreshment for lunch.

At the resumption of the labors of the convention, an open forum was held and a lively discussion regarding administrative procedures, plural membership, display of Masonic insignias and other subjects ensued.

VW Eulogio C. Sta. Maria, WB Anastacio Ortiz, Jr. and WB Benjamin P. Francisco were elected as nominees of the district for the position of Grand Lodge Deputy.

Nueva Ecija Lodge No. 73, in Quezon, Nueva Ecija was chosen as the host Lodge for the next District Convention.

Bros. Luciano Caparal, Benedicto M. Angeles, Antonio Bantug, Jaime I. Capule, Tereso de Belen, Mel Ablan, Jose S. Ocampo, Benedicto C. Mendino, Bertulo A. Mendoza and Lucas Andrada were presented with Certificates of Appreciation.

RW Simeon Rene Lacson, Senior Grand Warden, delivered the closing remarks.

OES CHAPTER CONSTITUTED

Cadena De Amor Chapter No. 16, Order of the Eastern Star in Cagayan De Oro City was constituted recently by Bro. Edward A. Bellis, Deputy to the Most Worthy Grand Patron, O.E.S. He was accompanied by Sis. Alice F. Bellis, Deputy to the Most Worthy Grand Matron, O.E.S.

The officers of the newly constituted Chapter were also installed. Those installed were: Charo V. Guerzon, *Worthy Matron*, Pete W. Guerzon, *Worthy Patron*, Diding Cinco, *Associate Matron*; Maning Lee, *Associate Patron*, Beth Bullecer, *Secretary*, Luisa Lee, *Treasurer*, Ethel Medel, *Chaplain*, Napoleon Lim, *Marshall*, Marian Pahares, *Organist*, Daisy Tiozon, *Adah*, Flor Tobias, *Ruth*, Carmen Acosta, *Esther*, Nene Escol, *Martha*, Ophie Lumpan, *Electa*, Briccio Bullecer, *Warden*, and Leonardo Panres, *Sentinel*.

MASONIC DISTRICT NO. 9 ANNUAL CONVENTION

The 26th Annual Convention of Masonic District No. 9 was held at Meeting Room No. 8, Philippine International Convention Center, Pasay City on November 30, 1979.

The theme of the convention was: "Temple Building-Physical and Spiritual Aspects."

VW Jose B. Perez, Grand Lodge Deputy for Masonic District No. 9, VW Reynold S. Fajardo, Junior Grand Lecturer and the Grand Lodge Inspectors of the various Lodges in the district were received in due and public form.

After the flag ceremony, WB Herman Aquino gave the invocation.

MW Raymond E. Wilmarth, PGM, Assistant Grand Treasurer was received in due and public form.

VW Jose B. Perez delivered the welcome address.

MW Raymond E. Wilmarth delivered the keynote address for the occasion. He was introduced by VW Reynold S. Fajardo.

After the keynote address the body was called to recess for lunch.

At the resumption of the session in the afternoon, the minutes of the previous convention was approved as printed.

The body was designated as a workshop to discuss the theme of the convention. Resource speakers were: WB Aurelio L. Corcuera, WB Eusebio Abella, Bro. Jose Hinlo and WB Guillermo Lazaro. WB Arcangel Cervantes and WB Ireneo P. Goce were moderator and recorder, respectively.

RW Simeon Rene Lacson, Senior Grand Warden, accompanied by RW Rudyardo V. Bunda, Junior Grand Warden, MW Estebban Munarriz, PGM, Grand Secretary, VW Marcelino P. Dysangco, Assistant Grand Secretary and VW Eduardo Gonzales, Jr., Senior Grand Deacon were received in due and public form.

Resolutions calling for the amendment of the ritual of the third degree to include a "Charge At Closing" to be delivered by the Worshipful Master during the closing ceremonies immediately preceding his inquiry to the Junior Deacon; urging the Acacia Mutual Aid Society, Inc., to exempt Brethren who are Life Members by longevity from further payment of their annual premium; that the Grand

Lodge publish a pamphlet or a primer which will contain the origin, moral teachings, and other particulars of interest about Masonry, including a short list of the most outstanding Masons here and abroad, dead or still living, to serve as a handbook for Masons and also as inspirational guide for outsiders interested in joining the Craft, to be sold at a nominal price, were approved by the convention members.

The chairmen of the various committees made brief reports. The Junior Grand Lecturer also made his report to the body.

Silanganan Lodge No. 169 was awarded the District Trophy. Having won it for three consecutive years they will keep the trophy permanently. The award was for the highest number of members attending the convention, computed as a percentage of the total membership of their respective Lodges.

Banners were also awarded to the first and second runner-ups in this category. Trophies were also awarded to the winners of the Golf and Bowling Tournaments held by the district.

Visiting Brethren from other districts were introduced.

RW Simeon Rene Lacson delivered the closing remarks.

MW CALIXTO O. ZALDIVAR FUNERAL RITES

MW Calixto O. Zaldivar, PGM, laid down his working tools on October 13, 1979, at the age of 75.

A Masonic funeral service in his

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MASONIC CASES:

AUTHORITY OF GRAND MASTER TO POSTPONE ANNUAL COMMUNICATION: QUORUM

SECOND OF A SERIES

State ex rel. Hundley et al. vs. Goodwyn; et al., (98 Southeastern Reporter 577)

FACTS: Grand Master A. L. Goodwyn issued a proclamation dispensing with or "calling off" the scheduled annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Colored Masons of West Virginia for 1918 because of war conditions then prevailing in the U.S.A. Notwithstanding his proclamation, the representatives of 10 of the 37 subordinate Lodges, several Past Masters, a Past Grand Master, Grand Senior Deacon, Grand Pursuivant, one of the three Grand Trustees, and a District Deputy Grand Master, met at the scheduled time and place, organized and held a grand communication and, among others, elected H.B. Hundley as Grand Master.

Goodwyn and the other Grand Lodge officers refused to surrender their offices to the newly elected officers, so the latter instituted mandamus proceedings.

HELD by the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia:

A Grand Master of Masons within his jurisdictions has no authority

to postpone, either temporarily or indefinitely, an annual communication of the Grand Lodge that elected him, where the Constitution of the Order designates the time and the last preceding annual communication selected the place therefor. According to Mackey: "The constitution of the Grand Lodge necessarily must designate a time and place for the annual communication which it is not in the power of the Grand Master to change." In the event of an emergency rendering undersirable or inadvisable the holding of an annual communication of a Grand Lodge at the time and place regularly appointed and selected therefor, the Grand Master may convoke a special communication of the Masonic Grand Lodge at such time and place as he may select, and, when so convoked, it alone may determine the feasibility and necessity for such postponement.

The constitution of the Grand Lodge, it is agreed, does not prescribe what shall constitute a quorum for the dispatch of business at an annual or special grand session. Masonic bodies are constantly changing; the membership seldom

remains the same - sometimes small, sometimes large. To avoid difficulty which may arise, it is usual to fix a quorum sufficient to constitute a Grand Lodge of Masons much smaller indeed than would be required in most organizations.¹ At any rate, the general rule is where an association is composed of an indefinite number of members, and subject to change from death, suspension, or expulsion, revocation of the charters of subordinate Lodges and the grant of additional charters, and the Constitution of such Grand Lodge, by-laws, edicts, rules and regulations do not prescribe a constitutional quorum, the members present at the time and place regularly appointed and selected

for such annual grand communication, and qualified and competent to transact the business thereof, constitute a quorum for that purpose, though less than a numerical majority of such body. Accordingly, it is held that the persons who convened in annual communication constituted a quorum empowered to do such acts which we must recognize as lawful and binding.

A writ of mandamus was granted and Goodwyn was ordered to vacate his Masonic office in favor of Hundley.

1/ Our Grand Lodge Constitution requires the presence of representatives of at least one-third of the chartered lodges to constitute a quorum.



GRAVEL & SAND... From page 15

memory was held under the auspices of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines and the Supreme Council of the Thirty-Third and last Degree, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of the Republic of the Philippines on October 17, 1979 at 7:00 P.M. at the Plaridel Masonic Temple.

Eulogies were delivered by Ill. Domingo C. Bascara, Ill. Raymond E. Wilmarth and MW Teodoro V. Kalaw on behalf of the YMCA, the Supreme Council, 33rd and last degree A.& A.S.R. and the Grand

Lodge of F. & A.M. of the Philippines respectively.

Bro. Enrique Zaldivar, son of the late Past Grand Master gave the response on behalf of the Zaldivar family.

The Scottish Rite Chorale rendered the musical numbers during the service.

Earlier, the Order of the Eastern Star held a funeral service under the auspices of the Sampaguita Chapter No. 3.

MW Zaldivar was interred at the Manila Memorial Park on October 20, 1979 after the high mass celebrated in the morning at the Cathedral of the Holy Child.

BATAAN LODGE... From page 12

construction of the Talisay Masonic Lodge Temple, the lease of the lot where the Lodge stood had expired. The new owners to whom the lot had passed from the family of WB Labog was against extending a new lease to the Fraternity, leaving the members no alternative but to vacate the area and acquire another site to start building another temple all over again. What further compounded the problem was the transfer of key officers of the Lodge, suspensions, deaths, demits and delinquencies. It was in this disconsolate situation that Bataan Masons had to labor again to build another temple.

Under the determined leadership of WB Santiago P. Blanco, WB Joel C. Joco, and others, a Temple was constructed at a site donated by WB Joel C. Joco at the booming Limay town. On the part of WB Joco, it was the ultimate display of dedication to Masonry. The site is a choice portion of Joco's lot near Fort Capinpin and the famous beach resort *Puting Buhangin*. This benevolent gesture lifted the morale of the members of the Lodge. Even members of other Lodges residing in Bataan generously extended assistance. Pending completion of the Temple at Joriz Farm, Bataan Lodge No. 104 returned to Lamao on September 16, 1967 after holding a meeting at the house of Bro. Primitivo Lacson in Samal. Through 1968 the Brethren conducted meetings and held labors in a building of the Lanao Experimental Station of the Bureau of Plant Industry in what is now a part of the AFP Ammunition Plant Site.

Then, on October 1967 the Lodge moved into the new Temple, even as the finishing touches were being made. On February 22, 1969, the modest edifice was inaugurated and dedicated, in conjunction with the installation of the Lodge officers for that year. Grand Master Manuel M. Crudo, presided over the rites, assisted by Grand Lodge dignitaries: VW Damaso Tria, Junior Grand Warden, MW Esteban Munarriz, PGM, Grand Secretary, VW Hermogenes Oliveros, VW Ruperto Demonteverde, and VW Desiderio Hebron, Grand Lodge Deputy for District No. 8. Brother Masons from Zambales and Olongapo City, Pampanga and the Greater Manila Area, — even long lost Brothers — came to witness the memorable event and to extend their felicitations to Bataan Lodge No. 104, F. & A.M.

X. MASONRY'S WORK IN BATAAN

Those prestigious individuals, professionals and men occupying the upper echelon of the province's socio-political pyramid have continuously sought out the light of Masonry, rather than shun the hated Fraternity, speaks of how well the Brethren have carried out their enlightening work.

★★★★★

EDITORIAL ... From page 3

have been discovered and the doer suffers eternal fear of discovery. Whatever the case may be, the doer will always regret the act he committed and unhappiness will follow all the days of his life.

There is no cure for words so spoken or acts so committed. At

Turn to page 20

Pitak Pilipina

IRINEO P. GOCE
Patnugot

PASKO' 79

Ni Dr. Cesar N. Gutierrez

Tahimik ang gabi, maganda ang langit,
Mga tala't bituin ay lubhang marikit;
Ang simoy ng hangin ay napakalamig,
At taglay ang dapyo na kaibig-ibig.

Kaya pala gayo'y sumilang ang Mesiyas,
Sa isang sabsabang ang banig ay hirap;
Sa atin ang handog at banal na hangad,
Magmahalan tayo ng lubos at ganap.

Narito ang diwa ng Paskong daratal,
Pagbigyan mo sila't bibigyan ka naman;
Siya, Ikaw, Ako; tayo'y tao lamang
Na dapat mabuhay sa pagmamahalan.

Sa Paskong darating tayo ay magsaya,
Limutin ang sama ng loob sa iba;
Magpatawad tayo at magsama-sama,
Pagsaluhan natin tamis ng ligaya.

Sumilang si Hesus nang upang angkinin,
Mga kasalanan na nagawa natin;
Bilang kabayaran sa kanyang hangarin,
Masasamang gawa ay ating baguhin.

Itanim sa puso gawang kabanalan,
Ilagay sa isip ang kapayapaan;
Sa ganyan ay atin siyang napagbigyan,
Sa banal na diwa ng kanyang Pagsilang.

BAKIT MALIGAYA ANG PASKO?

ni Elpidio A. Adalia

Maligayang Pasko ang ating pagbati,
Kasabay ang kaway, may kasamang ngiti;
Gayundin ang tugon ng ating binati,
Maligayang Pasko, sa ati'y maghari.

Pinakamasaya ang araw ng Pasko,
Lalung-lalo na sa mga Kristiyano;
Matanda at bata'y masayang totoo,
Pinakahihintay ang araw na ito.

Mga hinanakit at sama ng loob,
Sa araw na ito'y napapawing lubos;
Ito'y tanging araw nang tayo'y tinubos
Sa pagkakasala ng Poong si Hesus.

Magbuhat sa kubo hanggang sa palasyo,
Kinamamalasan ng diwa ng Pasko;
Ang pagbibigayan, mga aginaldo — —
Nagpapasalamat sa ngalan ni Kristo.

Maligayang Pasko, kay tamis pakinggan,
Ang Hukbo ng langit ay nag-aawitan;
Luwalhati sa Diyos sa kaitaasan,
At sa buong lupa ay kapayapaan.

Bakit maligaya ang araw ng Pasko?
Ano'ng katangiang tinataglay nito?
Hindi maitago at batid ng mundo,
Nasa ating puso, pag-ibig ni Kristo!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

EDITORIAL ... From page 18 BASILIO ... From page 5

least their destroying effects can be arrested. What is most essential, they can be prevented.

Think before you speak, think twice before you act!

One of the greatest gifts that anyone can give to his fellowmen at Chirstmas is to never speak or act against another, that there may always be peace on earth among all men of good will.

R.E.W.

realization of our project.”

Without much ado Bro. Basilio contributed a sizable amount to the Grand Master's project. Along with the Brethren it is also his dream that one day there will be a permanent building that will replace the present Plaridel Masonic Temple to house the precious documents for future generations to peruse. Bro. Basilio may be a dreamer but with one difference — he makes his dreams into realities.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS 1979-1980

DISTRICT NO.

- 1 - Reynato S. Puno
- 2 - Leon A. Banez, Jr.
- 3 - Eugenio S. Labitoria
- 4 - Jacinto B. Morales
- 5 - Jack E. Gesner
- 6 - Eulogio Sta. Maria
- 7 - Generoso Q. Sison
- 8 - Nestor N. Niguidula
- 9 - Jose B. Perez
- 10 - Cecilio S. Villanueva
- 11 - Ricardo C. Buenafe
- 12 - Cesario Villareal
- 13 - Ernesto Del Mundo
- 14 - Panfilo B. Enojas
- 15 - Santiago L. Chua
- 16 - Florentino B. Almacen
- 17 - Pedro W. Guerzon

DISTRICT NO.

- 18 - Ricardo V. Azarcon
- 19 - Antonio A. Espinosa
- 20 - Vincent A. Castro
- 21 - Kenneth M. Crabtree
- 22 - Clarence E. Grant, Jr.
- 23 - Pablo D. Baguioen
- 24 - Peregrino L. Cornel, Sr.
- 25 - Gervacio J. Riconalla
- 26 - Robert C. Yu
- 27 - Manuel V. Ko
- 28 - Buhay A. Medina
- 29 - Jesus V. Evangelista
- 30 - George F. Krause
- 31 - Wilfredo T. Mendoza
- 32 - Socrates G. Cesar
- 33 - Ruben J. B. Neri
- 34 - Ernest L. Albert

JUNIOR GRAND LECTURERS 1979-1980

DISTRICT NO.

- 1 - Eliseo A. Arandia, Jr.
- 2 - Leandro B. Resurreccion
- 3 - Paulino Corrales
- 4 - Juan F. Santos
- 5 - Pedro L. Fajardo
- 6 - Antonio Pascual
- 7 - Horacio S. Mendoza
- 8 - Antonio D. Salvador
- 9 - Reynold S. Fajardo
- 10 - Romeo B. Argota
- 11 - Carmelo M. Arrieta
- 12 - Apolinario A. Villaverde
- 13 - Jose Baccay
- 14 - Dominador H. Aujero
- 15 - Juanito C. dela Cruz
- 16 - Samuel K. Morgia
- 17 - Manuel T. Lee

DISTRICT NO.

- 18 - Samuel D. Pangan
- 19 - Jose R. Luna
- 20 - Donald Calvo
- 21 - John B. Davis, Jr.
- 22 - Ivan A. Miller
- 23 - Arsenio V. Maramag
- 24 - Peregrino G. Cornel, Jr.
- 25 - Rasuman Macalandong
- 26 - Froilan G. Tecson
- 27 - Enrique Maravilla
- 28 - Rosauo L. Magtibay
- 29 - Cosmo Antonio
- 30 - Anthony Vasconcellos
- 31 - Vicente M. Manginsay
- 32 - Sergio F. Dalisay
- 33 - Timoteo Uy
- 34 - William Bozel, Jr.

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