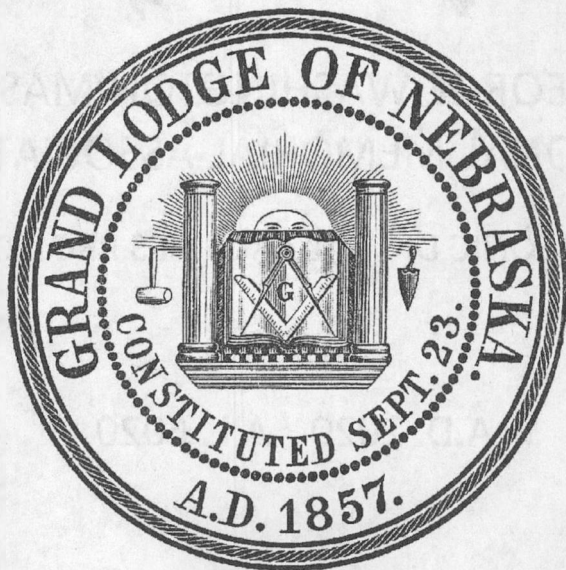


1966
PROCEEDINGS
of the
GRAND LODGE
of
Ancient Free & Accepted
MASONS
of the
STATE OF
NEBRASKA



A.D. 1966 / A.L. 5966

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A.D. 2020 / A.L. 6020

PROCEEDINGS

of the

One Hundred Ninth Annual Communication of the

GRAND LODGE

of the

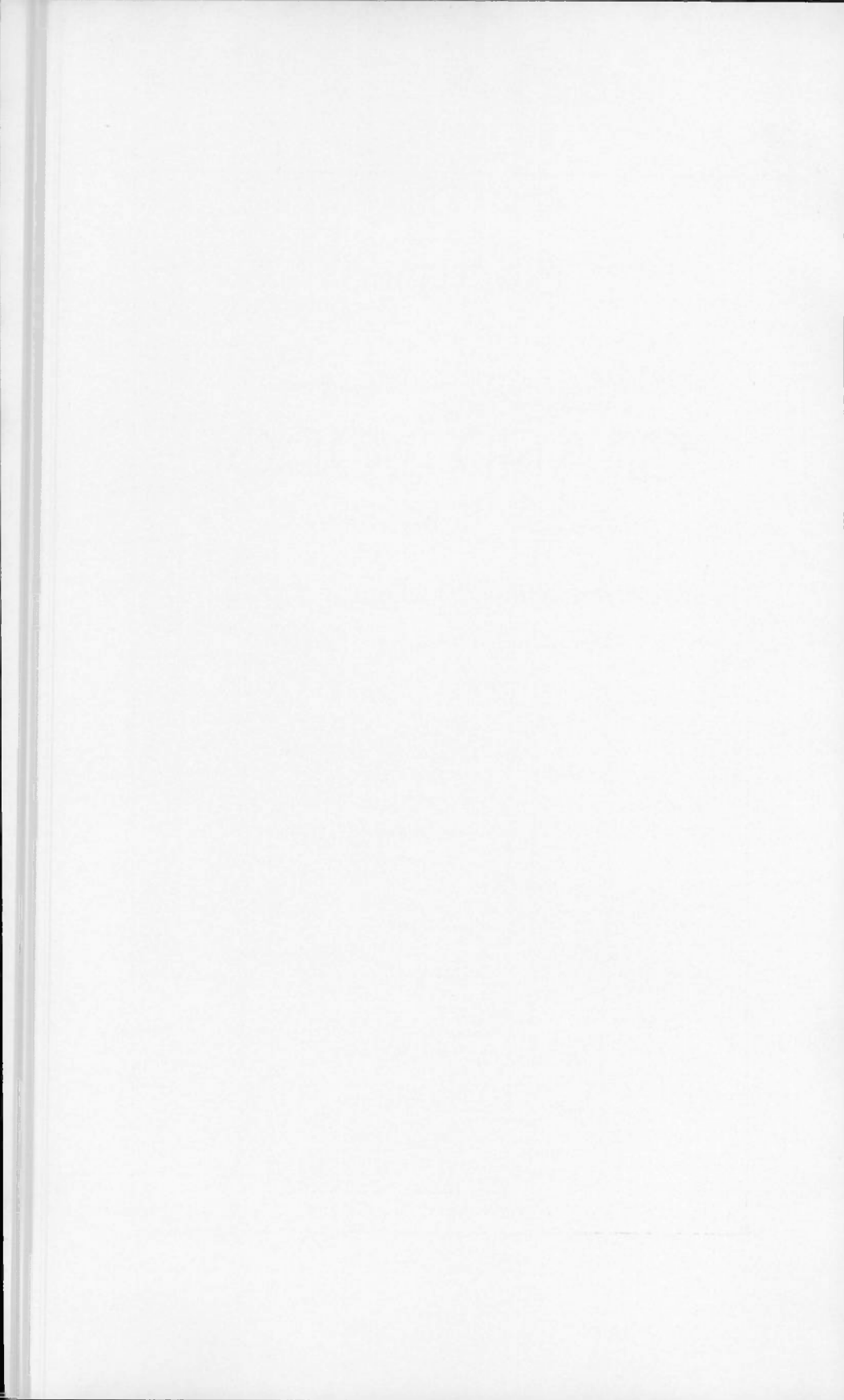
Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity
of Free and Accepted Masons
of Nebraska



Sheraton-Fontenelle Ballroom, Omaha
June 7, 8 and 9, 1966

Part II Volume 26

1966





Louis V. Sylvester

GRAND MASTER OF MASONS OF NEBRASKA
1965 — 1966

Biographical



Louis Vernon Sylvester

Louis Vernon Sylvester, 100th Grand Master, was born on July 2, 1907, at Omaha, Nebraska, the son of John William and Effie Mae Smith Sylvester. He has been a continuous resident of Omaha since that time, receiving his education in the public schools. On August 9, 1928, Brother Sylvester was united in marriage to Dorothy Genevieve Doedyn at Omaha.

M.·W.·Brother Sylvester, when a young man, entered the newspaper business as a reporter for the Omaha Daily News, remaining with that firm until its purchase by the Hearst Newspaper chain. Leaving this field he entered the collection business as an employee of the Mercantile Protective Agency and later the Associated Retail Credit Bureau of Omaha. In 1939 he founded a partnership with I. J. Kraft and established the Creditors' Collection Bureau, Inc., and later a subsidiary, the Doctors' Business Bureau, which has been in constant operation since then with offices in the Masonic Temple. Moderate success has been enjoyed in this field of endeavor which comprises the collection of delinquent and professional accounts, and today the Agency is the largest of its kind in the middle west. M.·W.·Brother Sylvester has been quite active both on a local level and nationally in the collection business as a member of the Nebraska Collectors Association which he helped form in 1940, serving as President in 1942, and the American Collectors Association, Inc., for ten years a director on the National Board representing the Nebraska Unit and was elected President of the National Association June 24, 1966.

He has long been an active member of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce and the Omaha Concord Club, a noon-day luncheon group. The Sylvesters are members of the Covenant Presbyterian

Church. He has held many offices, being a Ruling Elder for the past thirty-five years. He has been Superintendent of the Sunday School for forty years.

MASONIC RECORD

LODGE: Initiated May 13, passed June 10, raised September 30, 1935, in Florence No. 281, W. Master January 5, 1945.

GRAND LODGE: Appointed Assistant Custodian in December, 1945, by M. W. Benjamin F. Eyre; Grand Representative of Grand Lodge of Mississippi near Nebraska on September 8, 1953 by M. W. Benjamin F. Eyre. Appointed Grand Junior Deacon in June, 1960 by M. W. John F. Futeher. Elected and installed the 100th Grand Master June 9, 1965.

CHAPTER: Royal Arch Mason November 25, 1942. Order of High Priesthood on December 8, 1947, and installed High Priest of Florence No. 61 on December 12, 1947.

GRAND CHAPTER: Appointed Grand Master of the First Veil on December 9, 1948 by M. E. F. Plummer Martin, advancing through the line and was elected and installed Grand High Priest on December 6, 1957. Appointed Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Nevada near Nebraska on February 8, 1949, by M. E. F. Plummer Martin.

COUNCIL: Royal and Select Master December 2, 1947, Super Excellent in Omaha Council No. 1; installed I. Master on December 6, 1956. Appointed Grand Representative of the Grand Council of New Jersey near Nebraska on September 29, 1956. Nebraska Council of Thrice Illustrious Masters. Appointed Grand Steward, December, 1964 by M. I. J. Adolf Wensien, and now serving as I. Grand Conductor of the Council.

COMMANDERY: Order of the Temple March 16, 1951, in Mt. Calvary No. 1, Omaha, demitting on April 4, 1952, to Jordan No. 15, Blair, where he served as E. Commander in 1956. Past Commanders Association of Nebraska since February 6, 1957.

GRAND COMMANDERY: Appointed Grand Captain of the Guard on April 18, 1958, by R. E. William U. Hansen. Elected and installed Grand Commander, April 15, 1966. Grand Representative of Washington since February 7, 1959, having been appointed by R. E. William U. Hansen.

OTHER MASONIC BODIES: Allied Masonic Degrees, Sneh bo Aire Council No. 17, Past Sovereign, December 7, 1950; Grand Council Knight Masons, Dublin, Ireland; Order of the Bath; Order of the Cork; Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests; Royal Order of Scotland; Sir Galahad Priory No. 7, KYCH, Past Prior; Omaha Consistory, A.A.S.R., May 5, 1955; Tangier Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., December 11, 1953; Owaissa Chapter No. 296, O.E.S., Worthy Patron in 1949; Nebraska Veteran Freemasons Association June 6, 1956; Member of Board of Trustees of The

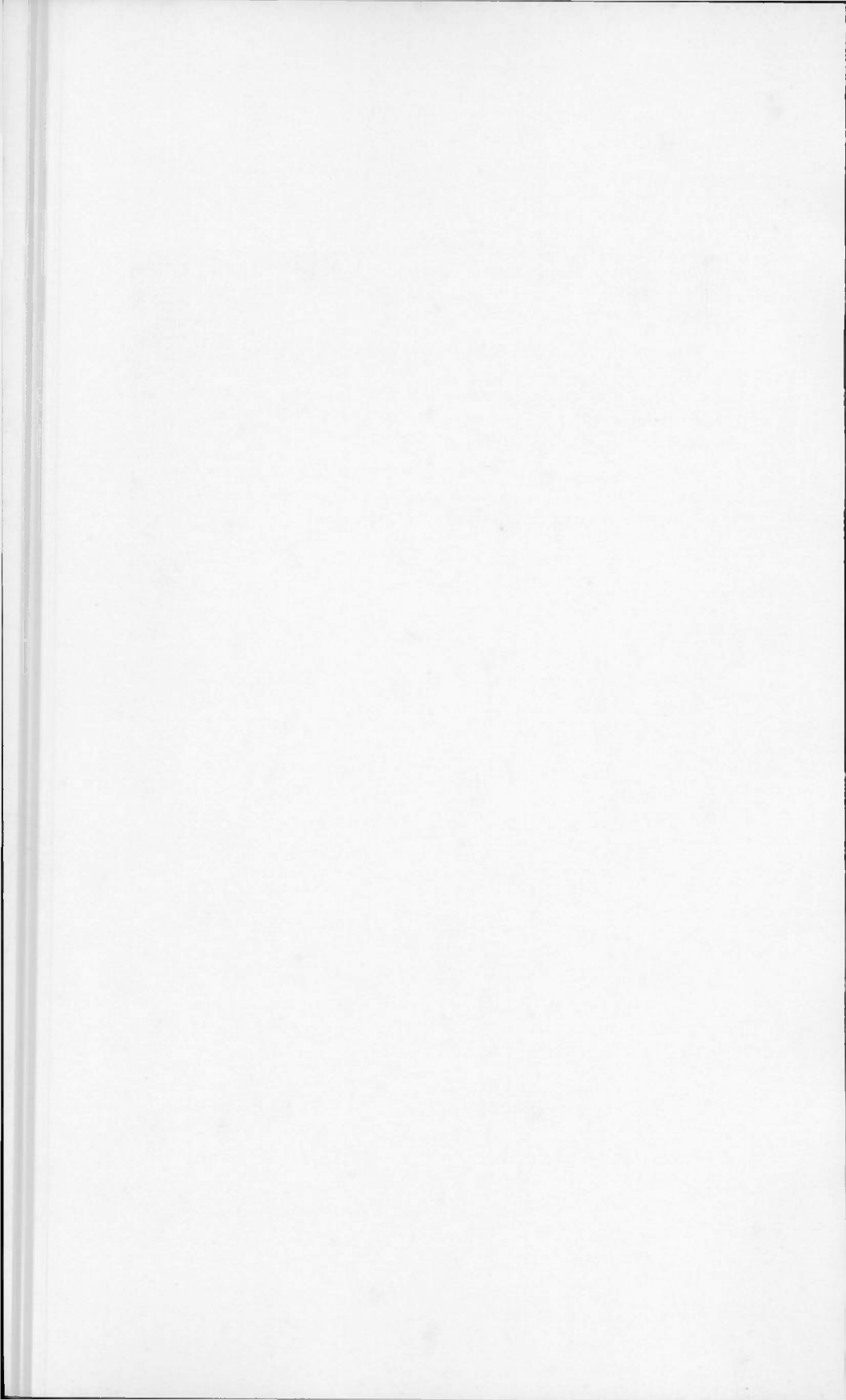
Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children from 1953 to 1957, serving as its President in 1956; Member of Board of Trustees of The Nebraska Masonic Home since November 9, 1965.

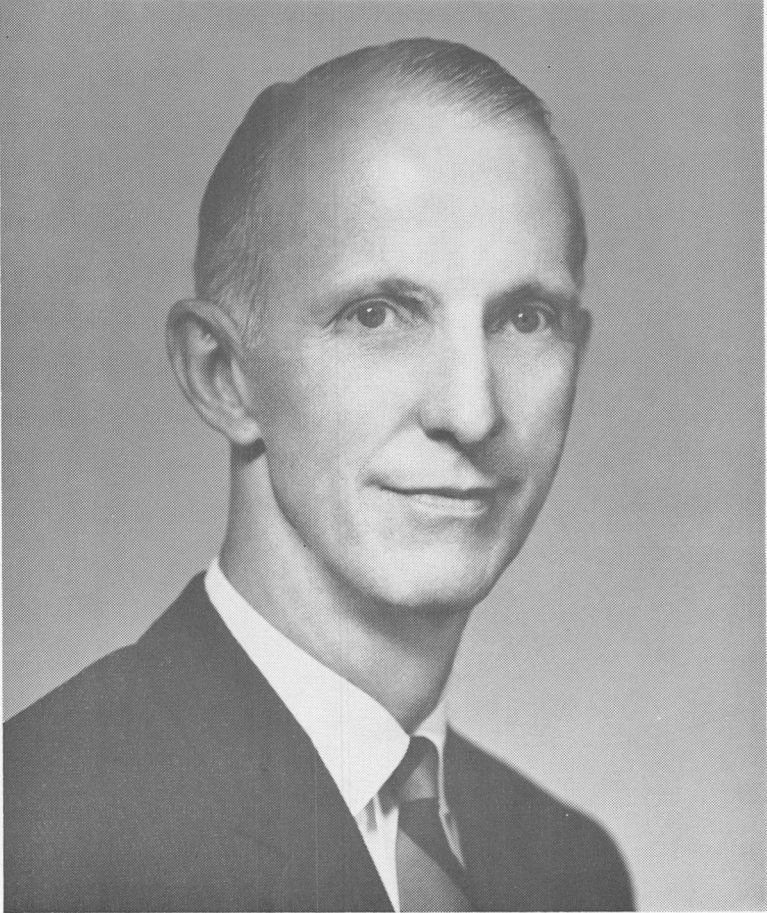
HONORARY MEMBERSHIPS: Past Grand High Priests Association of Kansas, Grand Chapters South Dakota and Colorado; Order of High Priesthood of South Dakota, Past Grand Masters Association Kansas and South Dakota.

Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction has been enriched by the services of M. W. Louis V. Sylvester as its Grand Master. Through many years of devotion he has endeared himself to all Masons. He has given generously of his time, talent and efforts to enhance the esteem of Masonry in the public mind.

His devotion to Masonic education and his attention and encouragement to all branches of Freemasonry and all allied bodies made him a Grand Master of Merit, virtue and value.

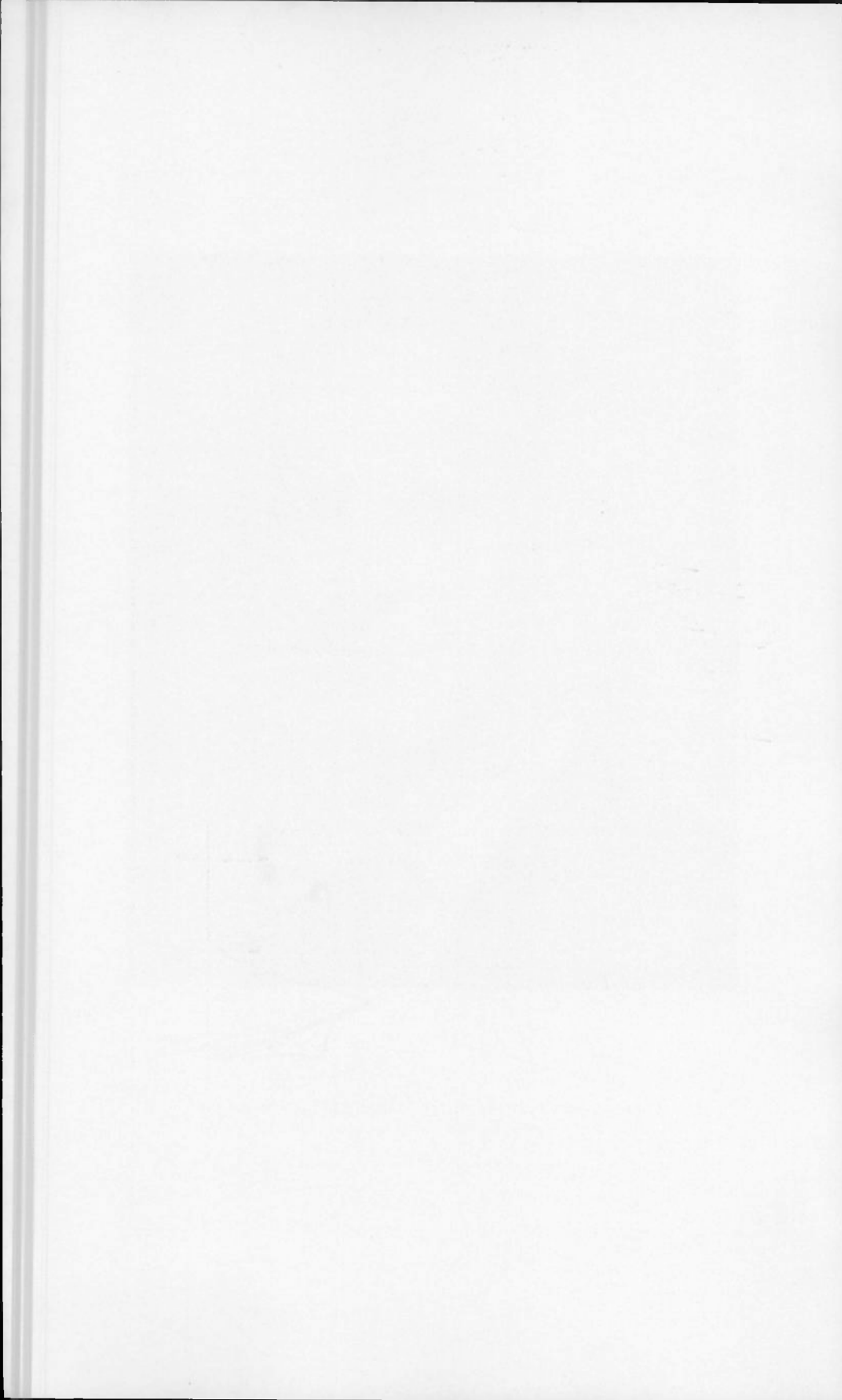
J.F.F.





Lewis R. Ricketts

GRAND MASTER OF MASONS OF NEBRASKA
1966 — 1967



PROCEEDINGS

of the

Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska

ONE HUNDRED NINTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

Held in Omaha, June 7, 8 and 9, 1966



FIRST DAY — MORNING SESSION

Tuesday, June 7, 1966

The Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska met in Annual Communication at the Sheraton-Fontenelle Hotel, Omaha, at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, June 7, A.D. 1966, A. L. 5966.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT

M. W. Louis V. Sylvester, 281	Grand Master
R. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, 19	Deputy Grand Master
R. W. John A. Bottorf, 49	Grand Senior Warden
R. W. Norris W. Lallman, 72	Grand Junior Warden
R. W. Carl R. Greisen, 32	Grand Secretary
V. W. Levi B. Williams, 1	Grand Chaplain
W. Walter O. Samuelson, 326	Grand Orator
W. George W. Rosenlof, 314	Grand Historian
W. Robert W. Cook, 33	Grand Custodian
W. C. Harold Edwards, 105	Grand Marshal
W. Hugh W. Eisenhart, 150	Grand Senior Deacon
W. John H. Brown, 1	Grand Junior Deacon
W. Charles H. Ninegar, 21	Grand Tyler

Promptly at 8:45 a.m. a Lodge of Master Masons was opened in form by R. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, Deputy Grand Master, the invocation being given by V. W. Levi B. Williams, Grand Chaplain.

M. W. Louis V. Sylvester, Grand Master, was escorted to the East by M. W. John F. Futcher, introduced and given the Grand Honors.

The Grand Master directed the Grand Secretary to call the roll of Chartered Lodges. There being a constitutional number of Lodges represented, the Grand Master declared the 109th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska opened in ample form and directed the Grand Marshal to make proclamation thereof.

The Grand Master directed the Grand Marshal to escort V. W. Levi B. Williams to the altar for the purpose of prayer.

PRESENTATION OF THE FLAGS

Presentation of the Flag of the United States and the Flag of Nebraska was made by Sir Knights of Mt. Calvary Commandery No. 1, K. T. .

RECEPTION AND WELCOME OF PAST GRAND MASTERS

W. Hugh W. Eisenhart, Grand Senior Deacon, presented the following Past Grand Masters, according to seniority:

Charles A. Chappell.....	(58th)	1923
Ralph O. Canaday.....	(68th)	1933
Edward F. Carter.....	(77th)	1941
George A. Kurk.....	(78th)	1942
William B. Wanner.....	(79th)	1943
Benjamin F. Eyre.....	(81st)	1946
Elmer E. Magee.....	(83rd)	1948
Thomas J. Aron.....	(86th)	1951
Edward M. Knight.....	(87th)	1952
Fay Smith.....	(88th)	1953
Charles F. Adams.....	(89th)	1954
Herbert T. White.....	(90th)	1955
Merle M. Hale.....	(91st)	1956
Roy I. Babbitt.....	(92nd)	1957
Joseph C. Tye.....	(94th)	1959
John F. Futcher.....	(95th)	1960
Herbert A. Ronin.....	(96th)	1961
Ernest O. Van Wey.....	(97th)	1962
Harry A. Spencer.....	(99th)	1964

The Past Grand Masters were given a most cordial welcome, conducted to the East and given Grand Honors.

M. W. Fay Smith gave the response.

RECEPTION OF DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

The Committee on Entertainment of Distinguished Guests introduced the following: R. W. Elmer W. Wagner, Grand Secretary and Personal Representative of M. W. A. Basey Vanlandingham, Grand Master of Missouri; M. W. Dorsey L. Andrews, Grand Master of Iowa; R. W. Joseph L. Seltzer, Deputy Grand Master of Minnesota; M. W. Charles S. McGinness, Grand Secretary of Kansas; M. W. Charles A. Mantz, Past Grand Master of Colorado; M. W. Albert C. Harding, Grand Master, W. Clark F. Perry, Jr., Grand Steward of Wyoming; R. W. Harold L. Tisher, Deputy Grand Master and Personal Representative of M. W. Robert H. Benton, Grand Master; M. W. John S. Rowe, Grand Secretary of South Dakota.

W. Robert L. Murphy, Worthy Grand Patron, Grand Chapter, O.E.S. of Nebraska; Brother William F. Patterson, President, Brother Raymond F. Evers, Superintendent, The Nebraska Masonic Home; Brother Oscar N. Young, President, Brother Donald Moul, Superintendent, The Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children; W. Robert E. Lund, Active Member, Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay and Executive Officer of Nebraska.

M. E. Lillard S. Jensen, Grand High Priest, Grand Chapter, R. A. M. of Nebraska; M. I. Earl W. Schultz, Grand Master, Grand Council, R. & S. M. in Nebraska; M. W. Charles F. Adams, General Grand Treasurer, General Grand Council, R. & S. M. International, Second Vice President of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association, V. E. Deputy Grand Commander and Personal Representative of Sir Knight Louis V. Sylvester, R. E. Grand Commander, Grand Commandery, K. T. of Nebraska.

GREETINGS AND MESSAGES

Greetings were received from the Grand Lodges of Maine, Wisconsin, Israel, Oregon, Masonic Relief Association of the U. S. and Canada, and the Masonic Service Association.

W. Robert L. Murphy, Worthy Grand Patron, presented a beautiful basket of flowers for and on behalf of the Grand Chapter, O.E.S., of Nebraska, with good wishes for a pleasant and profitable communication.

INTRODUCTION OF ASSISTANT CUSTODIANS

M. W. Louis V. Sylvester, Grand Master, requested the Grand Custodian, W. Robert W. Cook, to introduce the Assistant Custodians and Assistant Custodians Emeriti.

FRANK H. QUANTE, SR.

The Grand Lodge just received word of the passing of W. Frank H. Quante, Sr., wearer of the Gold Jordan Medal, and the Grand Master called the Grand Lodge to attention for a moment of silent prayer in memory of Brother Quante.

REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER GRAND LODGES NEAR THE GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA

M. W. Louis V. Sylvester, Grand Master, requested the Grand Secretary to call the roll of Grand Representatives of other Grand Lodges. The Grand Master extended to them a hearty welcome and suggested that they convey his greetings to the Grand Lodges they represent. All Grand Lodges that were in fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Nebraska were present except Austria, Ceara, Connecticut, Germany, Greece, Israel, New York, New Zealand, Norway, Oklahoma, Queensland, South Australia, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Turkey and Wisconsin.

Brother W. J. "Jack" Moeller, 290, Grand Representative of the York Grand Lodge of Mexico, gave the response.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME AND RESPONSE

W. Paul Sacks, 326, gave the Address of Welcome and W. Roscoe W. Bills, 306, gave the response.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMMITTEES

Application for Reinstatement: W. Brothers Earl H. Furman, 290, Chairman; Herbert Egerer, 303; Elmer E. Smith, 326.

Appropriations: W. Brothers Fred D. Moshier, 281 (1967) Chairman; Melvin E. Johnson, 112 (1966); Walter Truex, 55 (1968); Donald R. Swanson, 54 (1969); Alfred B. Saum, 46 (1970).

Charters and Dispensations: W. Brothers Harry M. Green, 25, Chairman; Melvin J. Kissler, 325; George F. Schell, 32.

Codification of the Law: W. Bernard T. Pipher, 31, Chairman; Nelson L. Hughes, 139; R. Wayne Wilson, 302.

Credentials: W. Brothers Pearl C. Hillegass, 81, Chairman; Clyde H. Jones, 173; Leonard B. Woods, 103; Glen F. Sperry, 139; Wayne W. Loftis, 222; John L. W. Nelson, 1; Albert B. Osborne, 318.

Doings of Grand Officers: W. Byron C. Jenkins, 325, Chairman; W. Dale Page, 15; Russell F. Richmond, 227.

Entertainment of Distinguished Guests: M. W. Brothers Ernest O. Van Wey, 249, Chairman; Joseph C. Tye, 46; Harry A. Spencer, 227.

Finance: W. Brothers Robert E. Lund, 323, Chairman (1969); Phillip G. Johnson, 19 (1967); Ralph R. Carleton, 306 (1968); Jess W. Wade, 290 (1970).

Fraternal Dead: W. Brothers Harvey A. Smith, 326, Chairman; William vonKroge, Jr., 3; Jack H. Wright, 11.

Fraternal Relations: R. W. Carl R. Greisen, 32, Chairman; M. W. William B. Wanner, 9, W. Edward J. Taylor, 150.

George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association: W. Cary W. Dresslar, 32, Chairman; M. W. Charles F. Adams, 68; Brother Robert L. Page, 1.

Grand Lodge Offices: W. Herman G. Reinholz, 3 (1966), Chairman; M. W. Merle M. Hale, 54 (1966); W. William A. Pettingill, 25 (1967); W. Vernon H. Wood, 290 (1968); W. James M. Paxson, 302 (1969).

Grand Trustees: M. W. John F. Futeher, 302 (1966); W. William E. Moor, 102 (1967); W. Harold E. Gabrielson, 302 (1968); W. Robert A. Wekesser, 54 (1969); W. Alfred E. Geschke, 25 (1970).

Grievances: W. Brothers Clarence M. Pierson, 19, Chairman; Otto Kotoue, 40; Jack M. West, 222.

Jurisprudence: M. W. Harry A. Spencer, 227, Chairman, and all Past Grand Masters present.

Masonic-Eastern Star Student Fund: W. Brothers Delbert H. Pinkerton, 314, Chairman; Lyle J. Bryant, 297; M. W. Elmer E. Magee, 227.

Masonic Education: W. Howard J. Hunter, 59 (1966), Chairman; M. W. Harry A. Spencer, 227 (1966); R. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, 19 (1968); M. W. Louis V. Sylvester, 281 (1968); W. John H. Brown, 1 (1967).

Nebraska Work: M. W. Brothers Edward F. Carter, 201, Chairman (1967); Herbert T. White, 11 (1968).

Public Relations: W. Brothers Joe H. Hartley, 54, Chairman; John S. Savage, 11; Brother William O. Wiseman, 11.

Relief and Care of Orphans: W. Brothers Paul L. Toombs, 290, Chairman (1967); W. John S. Burley, 300 (1968); M. W. Benjamin F. Eyre, 1 (1966); W. Brothers Otto Burkhardt, 55 (1970); Earl W. Schultz, 75 (1969).

Returns: W. Brothers Harold O. Swanson, 10, Chairman; Irvin L. Congrove, 33; Steve Fankhouser, 105.

Temple Building Advisory: W. Brothers Otto Nelsen, 300 (1967), Chairman; Donald G. Hafer, 306 (1968); E. Forrest Estes, 19 (1966).

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children: M. W. Brothers Thomas J. Aron, 37, Chairman; Edward Huwaldt, 318.

Retirement: W. E. Forrest Estes, 19, Chairman; M. W. John F. Fitcher, 302; Brother William F. Patterson, 25; M. W. Elmer E. Magee, 227; W. Robert A. Wekesser, 54.

Arrangements for 109th Annual Communication: W. Brothers Ralph W. Gerry, 281 and Byron C. Jenkins, 325, Co-Chairmen; Ralph Dingle, 281; William O. Blake, 290; Alfred G. Bates, 1; Charles W. Amidon, 281.

Lodge Advisory: M. W. Brothers Joseph C. Tye, 46 (1967), Chairman; Ernest O. Van Wey, 249 (1968); Herbert A. Ronin, 210 (1966).

ADDRESS OF THE GRAND MASTER

BRETHREN:

All too soon another year has passed and as a result we are privileged to gather in this our 109th annual communication. For more than eleven months it has been the sole responsibility of your Grand Master to conduct the affairs and to discharge the business of this Grand Lodge. Now you, the delegates of our subordinate Lodges, meet with me these next three days to review and assay the accomplishments of this past year or the lack of same, to correct the mistakes which may have been made, to build on the achievements and to plan for the future. First, let us give reverent thanks to Almighty God for the privilege of meeting in our character as Master Masons and for the rich heritage we enjoy provided by those who have passed this way before us, and to resolve that only through a rededication of ourselves to those noble principles and tenets of our order can we bask in the reflected glory of those of our Brethren who have made all this possible.

It is in this spirit of rededication and firm resolve that I bid you welcome to your Grand Lodge and charge each of you with the urgent need for active participation in the affairs which shall be discussed during these three days; that none of you shall return to your Lodges with the feeling that you had little, if any, opportunity to express your feelings and your wishes with respect, to any issue which may come before us.

To our distinguished visitors I am most pleased to welcome you and extend the right hand of fellowship with the sincere hope that your stay with us will not only be a pleasant one, but one of great profit which will provide you with rich memories in the future years. I trust that you will feel rewarded in some measure for the many courtesies and the great hospitality extended to us as we were privileged to meet in your Grand Lodge Communications.

This has been an extremely busy year. I have traveled more than 30,000 miles in the discharge of what I believed to be my duties and responsibilities. It has been a rewarding year and has provided untold enjoyment and yet in some respect it has been somewhat frustrating, and it has had its moments of great sorrow.

Frustrating, in that it has been impossible to carry out the entire program which one ambitiously embarks upon at the first of the year. There is not enough time and before one realizes it the year is over and many things seem to remain undone. Frustrating also, when one encounters lack of cooperation in any respect from those who fail to discharge their respective responsibilities as Committee members and other Officers of a few of our Lodges. Fortunately this is the case in only a relatively small number of our lodges and the great majority continue to take seriously the charge that they assumed when they accepted the position.

Enjoyment, in that I have been afforded the great privilege of renewing and making hundreds of new friends which has resulted in a real bond of fellowship and is the compensating feature for all the work which one does. Sorrow, in the loss of those of our number whom we have had the great privilege of associating and fellowshiping over a period of years.

NECROLOGY

We are grateful that our Grand Lodge line remains intact. It is, however, with heavy hearts and deep sense of loss that we take cognizance of the passing of so many of our Brethren in our own as well as other Jurisdictions. Especially are we saddened when we note the passing of several of our Grand Lodge family in the death of three of our Past Grand Masters, our Grand Custodian Emeritus, and a former Grand Marshal during the past year. All of these Brethren served this Jurisdiction with great distinction and honor. They left behind as a memorial a great list of endeavors for the promotion of Masonry in our state.

Shortly after our last Grand Lodge communication the entire Masonic world was plunged into sadness when early on the morning of July 10, word came that "Mr. Mason of Nebraska" had passed to his eternal reward. Although the death of M. W. Lewis E. Smith was not unexpected, he having been in failing health for some time, it was nevertheless a distinct loss to our Grand Lodge and a personal one to me. It can truthfully be said that no one had ever exerted such profound influence on Masonry both in Nebraska and throughout the Masonic world. He was an inspiration to this Grand Master, having given much of his time and wise counsel to me throughout my Masonic career. His honors and titles are legion and to attempt to recite them here would necessitate a volume in itself. He served our Grand Lodge as its 56th Grand Master in 1921 and at the time of his passing was our Senior Past Grand Master. In addition, he served as presiding officer of all the York Rite Bodies as well as the Grand Chapter, O.E.S., and many appendant bodies. He was an Honorary 33rd Degree Scottish Rite Mason, served as Grand Secretary-Grand Recorder from 1925 until his retirement in 1946. In addition, he served as Trustee of The Nebraska Masonic Home many years and was accorded the title

of Honorary President upon his retirement in 1946. He was accorded full Masonic Memorial services under the Grand Lodge with M. W. Herbert A. Ronin officiating. He was laid to rest in Wyuka Cemetery in Lincoln. As a tribute to the late Mr. Mason of Nebraska, I directed our Grand Secretary, who knew him best, to prepare and publish a suitable memorial booklet. This has been done and they have been mailed to all Lodges in Nebraska and all Grand Lodges.

While in attendance at the biennial session of the Masonic Relief Association of the United States and Canada, word reached us of the death of M. W. John E. Beaver on September 20, in Columbus where he made his home. Another dedicated and devoted Mason, he exemplified in his daily life the principles of Freemasonry and continued to serve the great Fraternity in whatever capacity he was called upon. He was our 93rd Grand Master, serving in 1958. At the time of his passing he was Second Vice-President of The Nebraska Masonic Home and serving as a member of Grand Lodge committees. His quiet humor and great ability to grasp any situation and quietly think through a correct solution was an inspiration to all who knew and loved him. His wise counsel and influences in all matters of Masonry were keenly felt. M. W. Brother Beaver, a Past President of Masonic Manor, recommended in his Grand Master's address to the Grand Lodge that a building, the type of Masonic Manor, be considered by the Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge conducted a memorial service with M. W. Herbert A. Ronin officiating on the afternoon of September 23rd and he was laid to rest in Pebble Cemetery at Scribner, Nebraska.

Our hearts were further saddened when word reached us that M. W. Ralph M. Carhart had passed away at his home in Wayne, Nebraska early on the morning of November 10. While the death of M. W. Brothers Smith and Beaver were not altogether unexpected because of their long period of illness, that of M. W. Brother Carhart was most shocking. He had been present with us on the day preceding his death in attendance as a Trustee and Third Vice-President of The Nebraska Masonic Home. At that time he was seemingly in good health and was his usual cheerful self. In addition to his many Committee assignments in the Grand Lodge, he was a past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter R. A. M. of Nebraska and was particularly active in the York Rite bodies of Freemasonry. He served our Grand Lodge as its 98th Grand Master in 1963. Masonic graveside services were conducted by our Grand Lodge with M. W. Herbert A. Ronin officiating.

W. Philip H. Robinson, Sr., served our Grand Lodge on a number of Committees but most recently served as Grand Marshal. Shortly after his retirement in June of 1965 he became seriously ill and following a short period of time we were saddened by his death on August 9 at his home in Hartington, Nebraska. His quiet and unassuming manner in which he went about his job as Grand Marshal endeared him to all, especially the Grand Lodge officers with whom he served. His

death creates another vacancy in the ranks of our Grand Lodge family. Services were conducted by the Lodge and he was laid to rest in the family plot at Hartington.

On Friday, January 7, 1966, we were again saddened by the death of W. Raymond C. Cook, for many years Grand Custodian of our Grand Lodge and at the time of his death Grand Custodian Emeritus. In addition to his many Masonic activities over a period of years, one of his outstanding accomplishments was the devotion he rendered to The Nebraska Masonic Home of which he was a former Second Vice-President until his retirement in 1958. Few men have ever devoted as much time and effort to promote the ritualistic and standard floor work of our Grand Lodge as did W. Brother Cook. His influence for Masonry as he exemplified it in his life was felt in the remotest section of our state. His passing is keenly felt by all Masons throughout Nebraska. Memorial services, which Masons from all over the state attended, were conducted in his beloved church at Mynard, Nebraska and he was laid to rest in the family plot just east of that community.

The passing of each of these Brethren creates a void in our ranks which can never be adequately filled. All were a definite part of Masonry in our great state. While we sorrow with their families in their loss, yet we know that they have gone on to accomplish the destiny of all men. It remains for us to cherish their memory by rededication of ourselves to the great principles and truths which were exemplified in their lives. More suitable tribute to our deceased brethren will be given by the Committee on Fraternal Dead.

VISITATIONS

It would be impossible to set out in detail the many visitations which were made during the year. It was my purpose to be officially received in as many of our Subordinate Lodges as possible and it was a humbling experience to be received in 80 of them. In addition, I was privileged to make 38 other visitations consisting of the Scottish Rite Consistory of Omaha, the York Rite Grand Bodies during their annual sessions and the three Shrine Temples; two installations of Daughters of the Nile, Job's Daughters, Order of DeMolay, and a number of Constituent Chapter, Council and Commandery meetings. At many of the Lodge meetings I presented an untold number of 50-year buttons, several Bronze Jordan medals, and as previously noted the Gold Jordan Medal. I delivered more than 100 addresses at various banquets and other functions either directly or indirectly associated with Masonry.

On Sunday, June 27th, my own Lodge, Florence No. 281, tendered me a reception which perhaps was the highlight of my year. It was a compliment to the Grand Master that all Grand Lodge officers were present and joined me in receiving more than 500 guests and friends. My own Eastern Star Chapter, Owaissa No. 296; Royal Arch Chapter

No. 61; and Bethel No. 33 Job's Daughters, participated with my Lodge in arranging this gala affair. The occasion shall always be a cherished memory.

Of special note was the visitation on June 30, 1965, to Falls City No. 9 where I was privileged to participate in their 100th Anniversary celebration. This was a gala occasion, very well attended and well planned. A beautiful history of the Lodge was compiled and published under the direction of M. W. William B. Wanner. The principal address of the evening was given by W. Walter O. Samuelson, Grand Orator. Covert Lodge No. 11 also celebrated, on September 29, their 100th Anniversary since being instituted under dispensation and are this year commemorating the 100th year of their charter.

Diamond Jubilee Celebrations were also held on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of Arcana No. 195, on June 22, and Purity No. 198, on October 14.

Several Lodges also celebrated their 50th Anniversary in a most fitting manner. Included among these were Euclid No. 97, Monument No. 293 and John J. Mercer No. 290.

In addition to the official reception by our lodges, in all other meetings I was officially greeted as Grand Master and privileged to bring greetings from the Grand Lodge and all courtesies were extended.

November 30, was another occasion which I shall never forget, when at the annual banquet and dinner dance of my own Lodge, I was presented with a portrait of myself. I was advised that the picture would henceforth hang in our Lodge room to honor the first Grand Master that No. 281 has ever had. Grand Lodge officers accompanied me on practically all of these visitations and the influence of Masonry has reached to the far corners of the entire state.

OUT-OF-STATE VISITATIONS

In addition to those out-of-state visitations which are noted separately in this report, I was privileged to attend the following Grand Lodge Communications: Canada, in the Province of Ontario; Wyoming, Iowa, Illinois, Colorado and Kansas. These were all delightful experiences, affording one an opportunity to enjoy the fraternal fellowship which always exists in these Grand Lodges. I was officially greeted on all occasions and courtesies far beyond those normally expected, were extended. Because of previous commitments, I was unable to accept the invitation of the Grand Lodge of Missouri.

CORNER-STONES

June 28, at the request of the Board of Education of State Normal Schools and Wayne Lodge No. 120, we laid the corner-stone for the new Dormitory Building being erected on the Campus of Wayne State College at Wayne. The new Dormitory will be an imposing structure,

the tallest one on the Campus upon its completion and is a welcome addition to the continuing growth of this fine College.

It is worthy to note that this corner-stone laying was a continuation of the policy of the College since its very inception. The corner-stone of every building has been laid by the Grand Lodge. Every Grand Lodge Officer was present for this occasion and in addition we were privileged to have W. Freeman B. Decker, Past Grand Orator, and Co-Ordinator for the several State Colleges to give the Oration.

At the request of Scotts Bluff No. 201 and the Board of Education of the Gering High School, the Grand Lodge laid the corner-stone of the new Gering Senior High School Building the afternoon of Thursday, August 26. This was a most impressive ceremony witnessed by a large audience.

The Grand Lodge was escorted by Sir Knights in full uniform provided by Bethlehem Commandery No. 18 of Gering. Of particular interest was the fact that the Trowel used by M. W. William A. Robertson, when as Grand Master he laid the corner-stone for the addition to the old high school building in 1938, was again used on this occasion. The new school is a million dollar educational plant and is an important addition to the school facilities of the city of Gering.

September 30, the Grand Lodge by invitation relayed through Rob Morris No. 46, was privileged to lay the corner-stone of the new William E. Bruner Hall of Science Building on the campus of Kearney State College. The ceremony was a most impressive one, with the college band and chorus taking part. Dr. William A. Brandenburg, president of Wayne State College and Past Grand Orator, gave the oration on this occasion. It is significant to note that the corner-stones for most of the buildings at Kearney State College have been laid by the Grand Lodge commencing with the original administrative building in 1904.

On a quiet Saturday afternoon in May of 1965, the small community of Primrose, was about its business as usual when suddenly out of the Southwest appeared a dark funnel swooping down at the South end of Main street then veering directly North demolishing everything in its path. The town was completely demolished, including the Masonic Temple. Subsequently, the businessmen were undecided about rebuilding and finally determined that they would wait until the Masonic Fraternity determined whether they should rebuild. Enthusiasm was high among our Brethren in the community and an appeal went forth from our Grand Lodge to our Subordinate Lodges requesting such financial assistance as they were able to give in an effort to assist our Primrose Brethren to rebuild. The response was most gratifying, and with the assistance of the Grand Lodge itself, the Brethren began the erection of a new Temple.

One of the most outstanding privileges of the Grand Lodge this year was the experience when on January 29, 1966 at the request of

Crescent No. 143, we laid the corner-stone of the new Masonic Temple. February 9, it was my pleasure to grant a special dispensation to move the charter of this Lodge from its temporary quarters in the local church basement to the Lodge room of the new Temple. The new Temple stands today in Primrose as a monument to the faith of a small group of dedicated Masons and an expression of Masonry in action on the part of the Brethren of Nebraska. All but three Grand Lodge officers were in attendance on this occasion and the oration was delivered by our Grand Orator, W. W. Walter O. Samuelson.

If ever the image of Masonry was projected properly such was the case when the Grand Lodge laid the corner-stone of the R. J. Barr Junior High School and Knickrehm School at Grand Island, on the afternoon of Saturday, April 23. The request to lay these corner-stones was made by the Board of Education, School District of Grand Island, to Ashlar No. 33 and Grand Island No. 318 which Lodges jointly opened and received the Grand Lodge before the ceremony. We are pleased to note that every Grand Lodge officer with the exception of one was in attendance for this occasion. This was the first time in the history of Nebraska Masonry, at least so far as can be determined, when two corner-stones were laid at the same time. The ceremony was kept in the singular throughout and each stone was properly tested and consecrated according to our time-honored ceremony and each in turn was decorated. We were assisted in the ceremony by the brass choir and a girls' vocal group from Barr Junior High School and girls from the Howard and Westlawn Elementary Schools served as flower girls.

A very stirring and timely oration was delivered by R. W. Freeman B. Decker, Co-ordinator State Colleges, and Past Grand Orator of our Grand Lodge. Mount Lebanon Commandery No. 6, K. T. furnished the escort for the Grand Lodge officers. Judging from comments the ceremony was a most worthwhile and impressive first. Following the closing of Grand Lodge the two Grand Island Lodges presented the Grand Master with a beautifully-engraved trowel commemorating the occasion and which trowel was used to spread the cement during the ceremony.

At the request of the Shelton School Board, the Grand Lodge was privileged to lay the corner-stone of the new Shelton Schools at the South edge of that thriving community on Friday, April 29. Members of Shelton No. 99 are to be complimented for their alertness in securing this request and the fine arrangements which they subsequently made for this occasion. The corner-stone was laid in the first of a complex of three buildings calling for an outlet of \$650,000 and when completed will be a most important addition to the educational facilities provided in the Shelton community. The ceremony itself was attended by a large crowd of people, the largest audience to witness such a ceremony to this date. Schools were closed and most business

establishments were likewise closed during the ceremony. We were assisted by the Shelton High School band and a number of young ladies from the same school served as flower bearers. Our Grand Orator, W. Walter O. Samuelson, gave the oration which was a most-spirited message.

The Stühr Museum of the Prairie Pioneer located on a 267-acre tract of land just south on the outskirts of Grand Island, Nebraska's third largest city, will, when completed, provide a cultural center for the county and a showcase of history of central Nebraska. Originally conceived by the late Leo Stühr it will stand as a Memorial to him and his pioneer parents as well as the dedicated efforts of many Hall County citizens. The Museum, organized in 1961, presently has a total investment of more than \$2½ million and when completed will be a complex of buildings housing thousands of items mostly of an historical nature all surrounded by vast recreational-picnic area. It will be one of the most outstanding educational, historical, and recreational areas to be found any place in the state and a testimony to all who had a part in its development.

The Grand Lodge was indeed privileged upon the request of the Hall County Museum Board of Trustees and the Hall County Board of Supervisors transmitted through Ashlar No. 33 and Grand Island No. 318 to lay the corner-stone of the main museum building on the afternoon of May 21. This was a most impressive ceremony attended by a large crowd. The oration was delivered by Dr. James C. Olson, Associate Dean of the Graduate College, University of Nebraska, and former director of the Nebraska State Historical Society.

At no time can the image of Masonry be projected more forcefully before those less informed than at a corner-stone-laying ceremony. We, therefore, urge all Brethren to take such initial steps as are necessary to invoke requests from the proper authorities when such buildings as we can properly lay corner-stones for, are about to be constructed in their communities.

W. C. Harold Edwards, our Grand Marshal, deserves a special commendation for the faithful manner in which he discharged his responsibilities in the vast amount of detail connected with the organizing and planning of the eight corner-stone ceremonies which the Grand Lodge conducted this past year. The Grand Master particularly is indebted to him for these services.

DEDICATIONS

As previously noted the Grand Lodge was privileged to lay the corner-stone of the new Masonic Temple housing Crescent No. 143 at Primrose. On May 21, it was our added pleasure to participate with our Brethren of that community in the fulfillment of their faith and courage by dedicating the new temple. M. W. Harry A. Spencer, Grand Master at the time the tornado destroyed the previous temple

and by whose action the Grand Lodge encouraged the Brethren to take heart and rebuild, gave the dedicatory address.

BY-LAWS APPROVED

During the year I approved 18 amendments to existing by-laws for sixteen lodges. Seven of these amendments provided for an increase in dues; three involved changing the date of regular meetings; two involved an increase in the remuneration for the Secretary; two provided for a change for one rather than two regular meetings each month; another provided for the distribution of dues, part of which was to be placed in a maintenance fund; another provided for a board of trustees; one provided for a different date when the regular meeting fell on a holiday or on the eve of a holiday; one provided for a decrease in the amount paid to the Temple Improvement Fund from the regular dues.

REINSTATEMENTS

Our Committee on Reinstatements continues to perform faithfully and diligently. Upon their recommendations and my personal considerations, I approved 46 applications for reinstatement.

DISPENSATIONS

I approved sixteen dispensations to confer degrees without regard to time in instances where candidates were either serving or about to be inducted into the military service. In eleven instances I granted dispensations to examine Brethren for proficiency in the Masters degree, the time under our Law for such examination being elapsed. In each of these twenty-seven cases I felt the circumstances justified waiving of the fee. In addition, I granted dispensation to Shiloh Lodge U. D. to move their dispensation from the Temple of Centennial No. 326 to the present location at 3505 Cottonwood Lane, Omaha.

Crescent Lodge No. 143 was granted dispensation to move their charter from the church basement where they were temporarily holding Lodge to the auditorium of the local school, for the purpose of receiving the Grand Lodge, preparatory to laying the corner-stone of their new Temple. Subsequently, a dispensation was granted to this same Lodge to move their charter to the new Temple.

Bloomfield No. 218 requested permission to hold an outdoor meeting and confer the Master degree in a secluded spot at a point near the Missouri River northwest of Bloomfield. I requested an inspection of the site by W. LaVerne A. Walker, Assistant Custodian, to ascertain if the proposed site was such that could be tiled and which would lend itself to this type of meeting. Upon his advice and recommendation, I issued dispensation to move the charter to the site selected for a meeting on August 19, 1965. I specifically stated that the dispensation was for that exact date and for that one meeting only.

In three instances dispensations were issued Lodges to elect one or more officers out of time, due to various circumstances over which the Lodge had no control. In two of these instances the fee was waived and in the third instance the fee of \$10.00 was ordered paid. In three additional instances special dispensation was granted to install officers who for good reasons had been unable to present themselves for installation at the regular time. The dispensation fee was waived in these instances.

MEMORIAL LODGE, U. D. U.

Memorial Lodge, U. D. U. continues to carry on a most necessary and vital work in the Metropolitan area of Omaha, under the very capable guidance of W. Robert D. Cresap, Master. This Lodge continues to fulfill its original purpose and through its officers and thirty-three brethren composing its membership, projects a most worthwhile image of Masonry in action. The annual report of the W. Master discloses that Memorial Lodge conducted the prescribed Masonic funeral service for twelve of our deceased sojourning Master Masons during this past year. It is noteworthy that such minor expenses as this Lodge's requirements are being taken care of by the Omaha Lodges and they are to be complimented on their interest.

The minutes of the Lodge disclose that they have received excellent cooperation from the funeral directors, ministers of the Gospel, and the home Lodges of the deceased Brethren. In addition they have received countless words of appreciation and hearty thanks from the bereaved relatives. Surely this is a labor of love on the part of the members of the Lodge and our Grand Lodge extends to them our sincere and deep appreciation.

MASONIC HOMES

It has been my pleasure to visit on many occasions during the year our two homes, The Nebraska Masonic Home at Plattsmouth and The Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children at Fremont, and to sit in on a number of meetings with the Board of Trustees. I attended the annual stockholders meeting of both Homes. These Homes are in excellent condition and our Superintendents continue to do outstanding jobs in the actual operation of these two Grand Lodge functions. The Superintendent, employees of the Homes, and the trustees are to be complimented and this Grand Lodge is deeply indebted to all for their faithfulness and dedication to a great Masonic purpose. It is always a joy and a thrill to see our children as they are reared in a home surrounded by a fine Christian atmosphere and provided with those advantages which would approximate those normally received in a child's own home. Especially is it a joy to note the fine facilities provided at Plattsmouth for those less fortunate than ourselves, our guests, as they live out their twilight years. Every convenience and comfort is provided. It makes one proud to be a Mason.

TRIAL COMMISSIONS

Trials for unmaſonic conduct continue to be a problem and it is regrettable that this year I found it neceſſary to appoint thirteen trial commissions. Eight of theſe caſes involved Moral Turpitude, five were in violation of Sec. 3-102-(D)-Sale of Intoxicating Liquor. Subſequent action reſulted in two expulſions, ſix indefinite ſuſpenſions, one definite ſuſpenſion and two trials are ſtill pending. In one of the remaining caſes, the commission impoſed a ſentence of probation, pro- viſion for which is not permitted under our Law. In the other caſe in- volving a charge of Moral Turpitude, I did not feel that a ſentence of indefinite ſuſpenſion, as handed down by the commission, was juſtified by the facts relating to the caſe. I appealed this ſentence alſo to the Committee on Grievances, recommending a ſentence of expulſion. Theſe two appeals will be handled at this ſeſſion by the Committee on Grievances.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES COMMISSIONED

I commissioned Grand Representatives of Nebraska near other jurisdictions, as follows:

Nathaniel Cook Dean, North Carolina; John H. Rehm, New York; Edward W. Knepper, Japan; and E. W. Nancekivell, Ontario.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES RECOMMENDED

I recommended the following Brethren to be Grand Representa- tives of other jurisdictions near Nebraska:

W. Brothers John H. Brown, 1, Michigan; C. Harold Edwards, 105, Montana; Ralph W. Gerry, 281, Philippines; Charles J. Black, 290, Quebec; Lillard S. Jensen, 232, Sweden; J. F. M. Heumann, 290, Germany; and Robert D. Cresap, 290, Grand Lodge Nationale Francaise.

GRAND CUSTODIAN

Shortly before our laſt Grand Lodge communication I was faced with the unpleaſant neceſſity of conſulting with W. Raymond C. Cook, Grand Custodian, concerning his retirement in view of his impaired health. It is difficult to ſee the neceſſity for retirement by one with and under whom I had ſerved for many years. However, he felt that in juſtice to the Brethren he could not continue and together we began to conſider his ſucceſſor. It would ſeem that the Supreme Architect himſelf had his hand in our every deliberation and led us directly to W. Robert W. Cook, whom we found not only ready but willing to aſſume the poſition and provide the continuity ſo neceſſary in this work. That our decision was a wiſe one has been borne out by the manner in which the duties of this office have been ſo capably diſcharged ſince laſt June following his installation. He has already endeared himſelf

to the Brethren of Nebraska and has provided the leadership for his assistants which has made possible the continued high-level of proficiency with respect to our work and has made our degree work the envy of many sister jurisdictions. W. Brother Cook has been cooperative not only in his presence at practically all of our meetings during the year, but also through his program of having present the Assistant Custodians assigned to any area where the Grand Lodge was conducting a meeting.

We are assured that through his continued service the activities of the office of the Grand Custodian is in good hands.

ASSISTANT CUSTODIANS

Upon the recommendation of W. Brother Cook, I had the pleasure of appointing and personally presenting commissions as Assistant Custodians to the following dedicated W. Brothers:

Augustus W. Clark, Grand Island No. 318.

Robert W. Boon, Ashlar No. 33.

Alton S. Mote, Alliance No. 183.

Ralph W. Gerry, Florence No. 281.

Arnold H. Mains, Fremont No. 15.

Nelson W. Rittenburg, East Lincoln No. 210.

Harold J. Oehlerking, Ogalalla, No. 159.

For many years W. Brothers Jesse P. Entrekin and Ward B. Schrack served our Grand Lodge as Assistant Custodians. We were saddened to learn of the death of Brother Entrekin on October 14, 1965 in Oxnard, California where he was making his home, and on February 17, 1966, we were advised of the death of Brother Schrack in Denver where he had lived since retirement. Both of these Brethren were Assistant Custodians Emeriti at the time of their passing.

COMMITTEE ON MASONIC EDUCATION

One of the greatest continuing activities of your Grand Lodge is the service being performed by the Committee on Education. During the year this Committee planned and presented eleven area meetings, each geographically located to the extent that every Lodge in the state had an opportunity to participate and learn the important aspects of Masonic Education in their own Lodges, as is being promulgated by our Grand Lodge committee.

That these meetings are proving more valuable each year is evidenced by the increased attendance and the enthusiasm of the Officers and Brethren of our subordinate Lodges. That they are proof of further help is reflected by the fact that because of matters of law being discussed in these meetings the Grand Master has been in receipt of only a few requests for decisions. The members themselves are making

these decisions according to the Law of the Grand Lodge as pointed out and discussed in these Educational groups. Constant research is made by the Committee to improve the format for these meetings and the program itself is being expanded as rapidly as is possible and consistent.

We note that a number of Grand Lodges have become interested in our particular program and inquired for information which they might incorporate in their own Educational program. It has been the purpose of your Grand Master this past year that officers and members throughout the state become better acquainted with the Grand Lodge Officers and accordingly the Officers were requested to be present and participate in these meetings. Because of their deep devotion and desire to be of service most of them were always present and it was a thrill to note the enthusiastic manner in which they were greeted by their Brethren. The Grand Master was the principal speaker at the banquet following each afternoon session and this brought opportunity to present a Masonic message to several thousand of our Brethren and their wives. Much credit for this fine program must go to our dedicated chairman, W. Howard J. Hunter, who has brought additional distinction to Masonry in Nebraska by his election last fall as President of the Mid-West Conference on Masonic Education in annual session at Cedar Rapids, Iowa. This conference is composed of twelve Grand Lodges in the Mid-West.

It is sad to advise the loss by death of Dr. and W. Roy W. Deal who was a member of the committee and had been such for many years. His contribution to Masonic Education was great and his services will be greatly missed.

A more complete resume of the activities of this committee will be presented by Brother Hunter later in this session.

MID-WEST CONFERENCE ON MASONIC EDUCATION

I attended the above-noted conference in annual session in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, October 21-23, 1965. This conference is composed of twelve Grand Lodges in the Mid-West and is always an enjoyable experience. Here members of the conference exchange ideas, discuss the programs of Masonic Education being carried on in the several jurisdictions, and canvass the entire field of Masonic Education. From this meeting always come additional ideas which have been incorporated in our own program of Education.

As previously noted the Chairman of our Committee on Masonic Education was elected President of the Conference for the current year.

SHILOH LODGE U. D. I.

One of my great concerns and which I have often mentioned has been the lack of effort towards establishing new lodges in the metropolitan areas which might compensate to some extent for the loss of

smaller lodges in rural areas. I, therefore, was thrilled when a group of interested and dedicated Omaha Masons approached me several months prior to our last annual communication seeking information relative to the formation of a new lodge in Omaha. It was their hope that such a lodge could be established in the western area of the city which has expanded through the construction of thousands of new homes within the past few years. Being convinced of their sincerity, I encouraged them as much as possible and subsequently they requested a dispensation to form a new lodge to be known as Shiloh Lodge U.D. After complying with the procedure set forth in our Law, and having been advised by the Grand Custodian, W. Robert W. Cook, that the Brethren were qualified and capable of conferring the degrees, I granted such dispensation on September 3, 1965, and constituted the Lodge at the Hall of Centennial No. 326 who had offered the facilities of their lodge. Subsequently, these Brethren found suitable quarters for a new Lodge at 3505 Cottonwood Lane, Omaha, which is a rapidly expanding new community in the northwestern area of Omaha. The Brethren completed all the remodeling and secured the necessary furnishings and upon being advised that the new quarters fulfilled all requirements of a lodge, I gave permission to move their dispensation to the new location. Since last September they have proved without any question that they are now well-established and quite capable of carrying on the business of a Masonic Lodge. When work was halted on April 30, and their records turned over to Grand Lodge, it was found that they had raised five Master Masons, and a number of degrees are pending at this time. Their finances are in excellent shape as is reflected by their financial statement. Enthusiasm runs high among the Brethren and it was not unusual to find 35 or more in attendance out of an approximate membership of 50 at their various meetings. Having complied with all requirements of our Law, demonstrated their ability and dedication, I strongly urge and recommend that their request for a charter, which now has been applied for, be granted at this annual communication.

TEMPLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

I have been guided all year by this committee, under the chairmanship of W. Otto Nelsen, with respect to a number of instances where Lodges were seeking approval for remodeling their present quarters, and in some instances the purchase of new facilities for Lodge halls. In each instance I have followed the recommendations of the Committee. The activities of our Lodges in this respect have involved a considerable amount of money, but in only one instance was a request made from the Grand Lodge to finance remodeling. I referred this request to the Grand Trustees. The activities of this committee are invaluable to the Grand Master, and we are deeply indebted to these members for the many hours spent and the thousands of miles traveled in their effort to guide the thinking of the lodges involved

and to provide the information for the Grand Master, upon which to make proper decisions. A complete report will be made by the Chairman of the Committee during this Communication.

GRAND TRUSTEES AND COMMITTEE ON GRAND LODGE OFFICES

No one can fully appreciate the great amount of service rendered our Grand Lodge throughout the year by these two Committees unless one has been privileged to sit in on their meetings. Such has been the opportunity of your Grand Master. It is an education in itself to note the thoroughness of our Grand Trustees as they handle our funds and particularly the investment program which they follow, which program has shown a continued increase in our income each year through the investments they wisely make. The Committee on Grand Lodge Offices is to be complimented for their continued service in watching over and guiding our Grand Lodge Office functions and the faithfulness in which they discharge their responsibilities.

During the year these two committees have been making a thorough study of the accounting and bookkeeping procedures of our Grand Lodge. Particularly have they been concerned with the existence of so many special funds which it would seem are unnecessary and only add to the accounting procedures presently being carried on. These Committees, following this thorough study and after consultation with our Certified Public Accountant will at this session make a report and specific recommendations with respect to these various funds. Having a first-hand knowledge of the situation and the further advantage of the thinking of these Committees with respect to these matters, I concur in their recommendations and strongly urge the adoption of same.

GRAND LODGE OFFICES

During our last annual communication the Grand Lodge authorized removal of our Grand Lodge offices from the fourth to the second floor of the Masonic Temple in Omaha, and at the same time provided funds for the remodeling of the new quarters. Work went forward immediately in this connection, and last March our offices were moved to the very spacious and beautiful new quarters. The new location is much more adapted to the necessary functions of our Grand Lodge and permits all functions of the Grand Lodge, such as the office of the Grand Secretary, the office of the Grand Custodian and The Nebraska Masonic Home to be housed within the same area. The new offices have been completely refurnished and we can take pride that here again the image of Masonry is felt most forcefully by the many visitors who enter the new quarters each day. In addition to the above mentioned activities the new quarters also provide for a new library and museum, which is rapidly being established under the direction of

our Grand Historian, W. George W. Rosenlof, where many historical items are being catalogued and properly displayed.

The Grand Lodge is indebted to the Chairman of the Committee on Grand Lodge Offices, W. Herman G. Reinholz, who served as liaison man between the architect, the Masonic Temple Craft, and our Grand Lodge. Through his untiring and unceasing efforts and those of others on his Committee, we have today the most modern and beautiful Grand Lodge offices that can be found anywhere in the country. In addition, he has spent countless hours working with W. Brother Rosenlof in establishing our fine library and museum. These offices are observing open house throughout this Grand Lodge Communication and before leaving all are urged to visit and inspect the new quarters.

CONSOLIDATIONS AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE GRAND MASTER

The Advisory Committee continues to be of inestimable help to the Grand Master and through their dedicated service we are rapidly moving to the point where many of our Lodges through consultation with this Committee are being strengthened and others are being guided towards an eventual consolidation where these Lodges find themselves unable to carry on and where such action is deemed advisable. Under their guidance the Brethren of Valley No. 157 at their regular meeting on March 8, voted to consolidate with Beaver City No. 93 and on March 14, Beaver City No. 93 voted to accept Valley No. 157 in consolidation. On March 16, I proclaimed the consolidation of these two Lodges. I am sure this action will not only strengthen Masonry in the communities affected, but will prove a happy solution for the continued enjoyment of each Brother's fellowship in the fraternity.

There are at present two or three additional instances where consolidations are the only answer to the problems confronting several of our Lodges and the efforts of our Committee will be of immense help in the future planning of these Lodges.

GOLD JORDAN MEDAL

On January 24, 1966 word was received that Brother William Manning, holder of the Gold Jordan Medal, had passed away at the Fillmore County Hospital following an illness of a week's duration. As Guy Williams would say—he was 97 going on 98 years. Thus ended the Masonic service of a most devoted and dedicated Mason who had served our fraternity in all phases since being raised as a Master Mason on April 26, 1890. His span of service to the Fraternity covers a period of more than 76 years. It was a great thrill for many of us to be present when his Lodge, Geneva No. 79, honored him in April of 1965 upon his 75th anniversary as a Mason. Brother Manning received his 50-year button May 21, 1940 and the Bronze Jordan Medal on August 20, 1955. At a most impressive ceremony he was presented the

Gold Jordan Medal on September 7, 1961, by our Grand Lodge which designated him as the oldest member in Nebraska in point of years of membership. The presentation was made by our then presiding Grand Master, M. W. Herbert A. Ronin. Appropriate memorial services were held January 26 in his church at Geneva, and he was laid to rest in the Geneva cemetery with Geneva No. 79 conducting Masonic graveside services.

Following the death of Brother Manning, diligent search was made to determine the next recipient of the Gold Jordan Medal. Records disclosed that W. Brother Frank Quante of Trestle Board No. 162, Brock, was the next oldest Mason in the state in point of years of membership. He was made an Entered Apprentice Mason on October 13, passed to the degree of Fellow Craft on November 10, and received his Master degree December 8, 1894. Thus he has been a Mason for almost 72 years. He received his 50-year button on November 22, 1944 and the Bronze Jordan Medal on October 7, 1958. It was a great privilege and a distinct thrill to be present at Trestle Board Lodge on the evening of March 15, where together with many of our Grand Lodge officers I had the pleasure of presenting our Gold Jordan Medal to Brother Quante. Although confined principally to his wheel chair and almost totally blind, Brother Quante is very alert and his quick wit and gay conversation endeared him to all of us on this occasion. Brother Quante has had a most active life in Masonry being Past Master of his Lodge, and he has been an inspiration to his Brethren throughout his life. Both his father and grandfather were members and Past Masters of Trestle Board Lodge and his four sons have followed in his footsteps and two of them were present and assisted in this memorable occasion.

TABLE LODGES

For the past two years we have been encouraging Table Lodge observance by our subordinate Lodges particularly on the traditional Saints John the Baptist and Evangelist Anniversaries. Because Table Lodges in some jurisdictions are conducted in the Entered Apprentice Degree I felt there could be some conflict between the opening and closing of these Lodges with our regular procedure. In this connection I directed the chairman of our Committee on Education to devise a new format which would not in any way conflict with our standard work. This format was completed early in the year and in those instances where Table Lodges have been held it has served its purpose very well.

Three Lodges, namely Bellevue No. 325, Wahoo No. 59, and Wisner No. 114 conducted a Table Lodge during the year. I was privileged to attend and take part in the one at Wisner. These are most impressive ceremonies and I heartily recommend that our Lodges be further encouraged to make these ceremonies part of their year's activities.

MASONIC RELIEF ASSOCIATION OF UNITED STATES AND
CANADA

Accompanied by R. W. Grand Secretary Carl R. Greisen and Mrs. Greisen, Mrs. Sylvester and I attended the biennial session of the Masonic Relief Association of United States and Canada in Reno, Nevada on September 23 through the 25th. It was a most interesting and worthwhile meeting and we were privileged to learn first-hand once again of the great amount of service being rendered to our less fortunate brethren, their widows and orphans through the many local Relief Associations and Employment Bureaus located throughout our two great countries. As is well known, this part of Masonry is very seldom made public in view of the fact that Masonry, because of its teachings inherent in its basic fundamentals has never believed, and rightfully so, that our broad benevolent program should be widely disseminated. In addition to the large charitable program being carried out, other matters processed through the Association disclosed that endless visits were made by Masons from local relief associations to the bedside of Masons in hospitals throughout the country; endeavors were made to locate some 67 missing persons and 306 lost receipts for dues had been reported. In addition, many cases of individuals attempting to fraudulently receive or secure monies from our Grand Lodges by non-Masons who had secured somehow or another paid-up dues receipts. All of this information is constantly channeled to our Grand Lodges and is most helpful to us in an effort to cope with the many situations which occur in each Grand Lodge during the year.

Of special note was the report given by the Grand Secretary of Washington on the great "Alaskan Earthquake." It was a most touching and emotional scene as colored pictures were shown depicting the havoc and subsequent great loss of property and life to many of our Brethren in that stricken area. The fact that Masons and Grand Lodges responded so generously through our association is evidence once again that the bonds of fraternal brotherhood are most meaningful and that all are willing to discharge their obligations for a worthwhile endeavor. Truly this is Masonry in action at its finest.

A fitting tribute to M. W. Lewis E. Smith, past President of the Association, serving through 1934-35, was presented by R. W. Carl R. Greisen.

I was the only presiding Grand Master present and as such was privileged to deliver an address on the subject "Masonry." I also served as Chairman of the Auditing Committee.

Nebraska continues to be recognized in this association through the re-election of Carl R. Greisen, past President, as Treasurer. The Grand Lodge of Nebraska not only is a member of this Association but has in its jurisdiction two relief boards located at Omaha and Lincoln which are rendering valuable relief services. That our Brethren may be more fully cognizant of the great work of these two boards, I have asked that each give a summary of their work in this connection.

Following the annual dinner, I had the great thrill of presenting to M. W. Harry H. Atkinson of Reno, Nevada, a beautifully engraved certificate in appreciation attesting to his service as the Grand Representative of Nebraska near the Grand Lodge of Nevada for a period of more than fifty years. Brother Atkinson is the oldest Grand Representative in point of years of service among our Grand Representatives near other Grand Lodges. He was appointed to his present position June 19, 1911 and has served continuously since. He responded in a most humble and sincere manner.

REMOVAL OF CORNER-STONE FROM OLD CITY HALL BUILDING, OMAHA

A most unusual and rare occasion this year was the recovery of the old corner-stone from the ruins of the City Hall building in Omaha. When the old City Hall was sold to the Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society our attention was called to the existence of this stone which had been laid June 10, 1890 by the then presiding Grand Master, M. W. John J. Mercer. Having received the consent of the Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society and with their full cooperation, we not only took possession of the stone, which incidentally weighs six tons, but also recovered the casket, which was found in the top of the stone rather than the bottom where it would customarily have been placed. The stone itself was removed to the grounds of the Masonic Manor in Omaha, where it has been suitably placed as an historical object. The copper casket has remained sealed and the contents will be brought to light when the box is opened at an appropriate ceremony during this Grand Lodge Communication.

GRAND HISTORIAN

We are indebted to our Grand Historian, W. George W. Rosenlof, for his continued efforts to uncover much of the historical background of our Fraternity in Nebraska. His latest contribution has been the preparation and publishing in book form of a number of the orations delivered in Grand Lodge Communications from 1857 to 1882. This monumental work involved a great deal of research and one must read them to appreciate their beauty and the inspiration provided therefrom. This work was commenced at the request of M. W. Harry A. Spencer, who foresaw in these orations the great possibilities of the educational value to our Subordinate Lodge Educational Committees. These orations are now being placed in the hands of our Lodges and in addition are available for distribution to the Brethren at this Communication.

In addition to completion of this monumental work, Brother Rosenlof is currently engaged in the establishment of our new Library and museum. He has brought forth many historical objects which have laid buried for years, and upon its completion our new Library and

museum will prove to be one of the most valuable adjuncts of our Grand Lodge.

At my request he will during the ensuing year endeavor to write a history of the formation and subsequent activities carried on through the office of the Grand Custodian. This project when completed should also add much to the historical background of our Grand Lodge.

GRAND MASTERS' CONFERENCE

This Conference continues to be a most worthwhile and educational meeting. It was held in Washington, D. C. February 23-25. It was inspiring to become acquainted and visit with all the Grand Masters of the North American continent together with a number of Grand Masters from other jurisdictions. While this Conference cannot bind any Grand Lodge nevertheless the various reports and discussions of the activities taking place in other Grand Lodges is most educational and for each one present to return to his Grand Lodge with a greater appreciation for the contribution which Masonry is making to unite all in a great bond of fraternal brotherhood. Here we listened to a number of debates on the more serious problems which are confronting Masonry and while the actions being taken in some Grand Lodges did not meet with unanimous approval, they were nevertheless stimulating and thought provoking. One of the most beneficial activities of the conference is the report of the Commission on Information for Recognition. This Committee constantly studies and makes available information regarding the situation in those countries where Masonry is undergoing internal difficulties. It is through this information that each Grand Master is enabled to make recommendations with respect to recognizing or withdrawing recognition of other Jurisdictions, if in his judgment such action is advisable.

Preceding the Grand Masters Conference I attended the Annual Meeting of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association. M. W. Charles F. Adams continues to bring recognition to Nebraska through his service as a Trustee of this Association. During this meeting I was appointed Chairman of a Committee of six Grand Masters to represent the Association at the Wreath Laying Ceremony at the tomb of George Washington at Mt. Vernon.

As chairman I gave the Memorial Tribute, which Tribute is made a part of this report.

Monday, February 21, was devoted to an all-day meeting of the Masonic Service Association, of which the Grand Lodge of Nebraska is a member. It was a revelation, in listening to the many reports of the great amount of service being rendered by this association particularly with respect to its hospital visitation program, relief work, and Masonic Education endeavors. I was privileged to serve during this meeting and throughout this next year as a member of the Committee on Hospital Visitations. I am pleased to advise I was able to place in

nomination M. W. Herbert A. Ronin as an executive commissioner of the Masonic Service Association for the Central States to succeed himself for another year. M. W. Brother Ronin will make a detailed report at this session of the Association's activities, which will contain a recommendation to this Grand Lodge. I heartily support the recommendation and sincerely trust that it will be adopted.

TRIBUTE TO WASHINGTON

By M. W. Louis V. Sylvester, Grand Master of Nebraska
On the occasion of laying a wreath on his tomb in the name of
The George Washington Masonic National Memorial
Association, February 22, 1966.

Under the All-seeing Eye of the Supreme Architect of the Universe, we are privileged to meet here today, once again to pay tribute to the memory of that greatest of all Americans, our Brother George Washington.

Within the walls of this tomb are enshrined the mortal remains of our Illustrious Brother. Although his voice has long been stilled, and he has gone on to accomplish the destiny of all mankind, his deeds of valor, his words of wisdom and counsel, his statesmanship, exemplary character, his high ideals as taught by Masonry, remain to inspire us to greater achievements in behalf of our government, all mankind, and our beloved Fraternity.

While all America pays homage to the Father of Our Country on this, the anniversary date of his birth, we as Masons especially revere his memory as one of our most distinguished predecessors in the Fraternity. However, for us rightfully to bask in his reflected glory we must truly emulate in our own lives the great tenets of our profession which were so beautifully portrayed in the pattern of his accomplishments.

Through his great devotion to his Country and to our Craft we have been bequeathed an immortal heritage. That we may justly claim this heritage, it remains for us, here and now, to rededicate our lives to the same measure of devotion which he rendered to his Country and his Brethren.

In the spirit of dedication we, on behalf of The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association, and through it the Masons of the North American Continent, deposit this wreath.

HURRICANE BETSY

On October 1, our Grand Lodge received an appeal from M. W. Woodrow Downs, Grand Master of Louisiana, relayed through the Masonic Service Association of United States, for help in alleviating the distress suffered by our Brethren and their families due to Hurricane Betsy as it swept throughout that state. Many of our Brethren

were left temporarily homeless, in need of food, clothing, and other necessities, all of which the Grand Lodge of Louisiana was attempting to furnish but found the load so heavy that they felt the necessity of appealing to their Brethren throughout the country. The need being so urgent, I authorized our Grand Secretary to forward from our Relief Fund the amount of \$500.00 through the Masonic Service Association to be used in this humanitarian effort.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Agreeable to action taken at our last annual communication, whereby I was directed to appoint a committee of not less than three nor more than five Past Grand Masters to re-evaluate the original purpose for the establishment of The Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children, to determine if it is fulfilling its original purpose and make such recommendations as they thought advisable at this Grand Lodge Communication, I appointed a committee consisting of M. W. Brothers Thomas J. Aron as chairman, together with Edward Huwaldt, John E. Beaver. Unfortunately M. W. John E. Beaver passed away, but being advised by the Chairman that the full committee had made its investigation prior to his death, I did not feel it necessary to make another appointment to fill the vacancy. This Committee has spent a great deal of time in carrying out the wishes of this Grand Lodge and it is my understanding that they have completed their re-evaluation and will make a report at this Communication together with their recommendations.

DECISIONS

1. A Lodge inquired as to the status of those members of its Lodge who had signed a petition for a dispensation to form a new Lodge, citing Section 2-101 and particularly the last paragraph under such Section. It was the Lodge's contention that those signing the petition had lost all their privileges in their Lodge. I ruled that Section 2-101 was not applicable in this case as no dispensation to form a new Lodge had as yet been issued and these members retained all their rights and privileges until such dispensation was granted with the exception that they were not permitted to vote on the request for such dispensation when it was presented to their Lodge for consideration and action.

2. The Master of a Lodge advised that an oral objection had been made to the passing of an Entered Apprentice Brother. He asked if this was a legal objection and whether or not the Brother objecting must give his reasons. I replied that Section 2-1101, Sub-section (E) fully covered this case and ruled that the objector must give his reason or reasons for such objection and the Master would then make his own decision and if he did not deem the reasons for the objection valid he must then advise the objector who would have the right of appeal.

3. Damascus Chapter No. 25, R. A. M., Norfolk, requested a ruling with reference to a Brother petitioning for the degrees of the Royal Arch without passing a Proficiency examination in the Master's Degree, the Brother being a member of a Wisconsin Lodge which Grand Lodge does not require an examination in this Degree. He had received his second and third Degrees in Illinois, which, likewise, does not require an examination in the third Degree. I ruled that the Brother was a Nebraska resident and, therefore, subject to our Code, that he could not petition for the Chapter Degrees until he complied with the provisions of Section 2-402. He should request a Nebraska Lodge to instruct and examine him as to his proficiency in the Master Degree and then petition such appendant body as he might desire.

4. McCook No. 135 advised that they had a petitioner with an artificial limb extending above the knee and requested a decision as to eligibility. They further requested an opinion as to what constitutes "practical control" as set out in Sec. 2-904 of our Law as amended in 1960. With reference to the first instance, I referred the Lodge to such Sec. 2-904 pointing out the decision in this case was for the Master and his Lodge rather than the Grand Master. In doing so, I pointed out that the decision must be based on whether or not the petitioner with his artificial limb could substantially comply and conform to our rites and ceremonies and that the Lodge would be held strictly accountable for its decision. As to the matter of what constitutes "practical control," I advised that in my opinion if the petitioner could walk without a cane, kneel and turn the foot in and out and could substantially comply with all other rites and ceremonies, this would constitute "practical control."

5. The Master of Lily No. 154 advised that upon news of a Brother's death in the East, the family had requested Masonic services for the deceased upon the return of the body. All arrangements were made with the family after which the Lodge learned that the deceased Brother's remains were being returned in the form of ashes. The ruling requested was two-fold; first, could the Lodge conduct the services in view of the fact the body had been reduced to ashes and secondly, could the word "ashes" be substituted for that of body as is contained in our regular service. A careful search of the Law revealed no ruling on any similar situation. I ruled that the condition of the remains of the Brother had no bearing on the situation, that the ashes constituted the earthly remains of our Brother and that they not only could, but must upon request of the family conduct Masonic services. I further ruled that no innovation in our work could be made and the Masonic service must be given exactly as adopted by the Grand Lodge.

6. A Lodge requested a ruling regarding the use of Lodge funds to purchase a calf for our Masonic Eastern-Star Home for Children at Fremont. I ruled that such funds could be used for this purpose inasmuch as this would be in the nature of a contribution to the support of the Home.

7. Rawalt No. 138 asked if it were possible to grant a dispensation waiving the requirement of twelve months residence within the jurisdiction of the Lodge and accept a petition from a prospective candidate. They cited the Petitioner's fine character, the fact that he had lived in or near their jurisdiction all his life, and that his father held membership in their Lodge. I advised that the Grand Master had no such authority, that Section 2-803 of our Law was quite clear and that irrespective of certain circumstances as related, they could not receive the petition until such time as the full twelve months requirement had been complied with.

8. The Secretary of Grand Island Lodge No. 318 advised that some of the Brethren of the various Lodges in and around Grand Island were taking pleasure in reporting that our Code, regarding disqualifications, had been changed with reference to the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors. These Brethren were of the opinion that one who operates a liquor store, but neither owns it nor does his name appear on the license, was eligible to petition. They asked for my opinion. I replied that Section 2-904 of our code as amended in 1960 had not changed in any way the qualifications of a petitioner with respect to this portion of our Law. I not only gave my opinion but ruled that one engaged in the sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, regardless of whether he was the licensee and/or the owner, was disqualified.

9. Mason City No. 170 advised that a petition for initiation had been requested by one whose left leg had been amputated six inches below the knee. They pointed out he had an artificial limb with a shoe and felt that the petitioner qualified. They asked my approval before proceeding further. I replied that my approval was not necessary and under Section 2-904 of our Code, the decision in this case was left to the Master and the Lodge. In doing so, I pointed out that the decision must be based on whether or not the petitioner with his artificial limb could substantially comply and conform to our Rites and Ceremonies, and that the Lodge would be held strictly accountable for the decision.

10. Friend No. 73 asked whether the requirement of Proficiency in the Master Degree on the part of one of their Brethren could be waived to permit his wife to petition for Eastern Star membership. They cited the fact that the Brother had been raised approximately two months prior to this request and that he was leaving for the armed services within a few days. Held in spite of the circumstances stated it is not possible to waive this requirement and that a certificate of good standing could not be issued for this purpose. Under Section 2-402 of our Code, a Brother must have completed his proficiency before his membership may be used for eligibility for any of the organizations as enumerated under Section 3-102 (N).

11. Several brethren of Shiloh Lodge U. D. requested demits in their favor for the purpose of petitioning as Charter members when

the Petition for Charter is made to Grand Lodge. Covert Lodge withheld granting these demits citing as their reason that certificates of transfer rather than demits should be issued in conformity with Section 2-1401 of our by-laws. I held that in my opinion this section was not applicable in this instance inasmuch as the petitioners for demits were not seeking to affiliate with another Lodge but were desirous of becoming charter members of a new Lodge if and when the Charter was granted. Under Section 2-203—Charter Members—it clearly provides that those who sign the petition for a charter must forward their demits therewith. I, therefore, held that these Brethren could not be refused their demits under Section 2-203 and directed that such demits be issued when requested in proper form.

WASHINGTON LODGE NO. 21

Following the annual election of officers of Washington No. 21, complaints alleging certain irregularities in connection with the election were lodged with the Grand Master. They were of such a nature that I felt called upon to make a personal investigation. This I did accompanied by our Grand Custodian, W. Robert W. Cook. I learned through this investigation that there were indeed irregularities and that they were of such magnitude that they could not be overlooked. I learned further that the entire Lodge membership, as a result of the irregularities, had become disunited and a spirit of antagonism had reached a point where the unity of the Lodge had been seriously disrupted. In fact, a number of the members indicated that if this was Masonry in action, then they wanted no part of same and were taking the stand that they would not again be in attendance at Lodge meetings. The image of Masonry had, through the action taken as a result of these irregularities, been severely damaged in this community as well as in neighboring communities where other Lodges are located. Under the circumstances, I felt that I had no alternative but to take such action as I believed necessary in an effort to restore unity and harmony in the Lodge. Therefore, acting under the authority which I felt was vested in me as Grand Master, I invalidated the election of the officers, declared such election null and void, and ordered a new election at a date which I would set as quickly as was convenient to do so. I further directed that during the interim period there was to be no electioneering for candidates nor the imposing of one brother's will upon another in respect to how or for whom he should vote. Subsequently, I set a date for the election of officers and with this notice summoned the resident members of the Lodge to appear at the Lodge hall on this occasion. A large majority of the Brethren responded to the summons and prior to the election I issued a severe oral reprimand to the Lodge for countenancing action which in my judgment was unmasonic and advising that by this action they had placed the charter of their Lodge in jeopardy. Assisted by other Grand Lodge officers, I then proceeded to preside at this election and what I felt had been a

complete injustice at the first election was righted. I am pleased to advise that peace and harmony once again prevail and that continuing progress is now being made.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. With respect to a ruling requested of me regarding the issuance of certificates of transfer or demits to those members of a Lodge desiring to become charter members of a new lodge, there appears to be some conflict in our by-laws. Section 2-203—Charter Members—requires that a petitioner for a Lodge charter must forward his demit therewith. While Section 2-1401—Demit—requires that one desiring to affiliate with another Lodge must apply in writing to his Lodge for a certificate of membership for the purpose of securing a demit. While I do not feel that these two sections are in conflict; one having to do with affiliation and the other having to do with a request to become a charter member of a new Lodge, yet, there is an area which provides for some controversy. I, therefore, recommend that this question of demits and certificates of transfer, under the sections above noted, be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence and they be directed to recommend such changes in our by-laws as may be necessary or advisable which will eliminate controversy in the future under a similar circumstance.

2. Section 2-513 of our Law provides that each Subordinate Lodge shall have a committee on membership. The name of this Committee in the opinion of many is somewhat of a misnomer and time and again has been referred to by Brethren attending Area Educational Meetings as a Committee to Secure New Members for the Lodge. Irrespective of the fact that the duties of this committee are specifically set out in our Law, yet the facts of life would indicate that very few are familiar with these duties and in many cases do not know that they are included in our Law. It is my opinion that this committee should have a more realistic title which in itself would signify its particular function. I, therefore, recommend that Section 2-513 of our Law be amended by adding the word "sustaining" in the title between the words "membership" and "committee," thus reading: Membership Sustaining Committee, and that similar insertion be made in line four of this section preceding the word "membership."

3. Except where our Law recognizes concurrent jurisdiction, territorial jurisdiction is generally that distance half-way in an airline to each surrounding chartered Lodge. Unfortunately, we have a considerable number of Lodges which due to circumstances beyond their control now find themselves in a position where their membership is such as to make it impossible for them to confer the degrees if they should receive a petition, and indeed it is difficult on occasions to even muster enough members to open a regular meeting. While the Grand Lodge is cognizant of this situation and is moving slowly but surely to

correct many of the resultant problems being thereby created, yet there exists the question of jurisdiction which would prohibit prospective petitioners joining a stronger Lodge and receiving in a proper and impressive manner their degree work. This, of course, could be overcome by the granting of a waiver but unfortunately, the Lodge retaining jurisdiction often refuses to grant such waiver, guarding jealously their rights, even though they know they are not in a position to adequately confer the degree work.

In addition, in many of these instances we find that the Temple and facilities of the Lodge are such that they would not attract a candidate if the potential were there.

Another situation involving jurisdictional lines, to which we have paid little or no attention, is that which we find developing in the large metropolitan areas. Hardly a day goes by but that these areas are becoming larger through annexation of large tracts of land. Each time one of these new housing developments is taken into the corporate limits, the jurisdictional lines of the Lodges within the area are increased and those of surrounding Lodges are proportionally decreased. It is conceivable that some of our smaller surrounding lodges near metropolitan areas could find their jurisdictional lines extending only to the corporate or village line. In an effort to provide some relief and a more equitable situation, I recommend that our Law now be changed to eliminate all jurisdictional lines, and this recommendation be laid over for consideration at our 110th Annual Communication.

4. With the shift in population from the rural to the metropolitan areas, many of our smaller communities are rapidly disappearing and with them our Masonic Lodges which are located therein. Regardless of the fact that every effort is made to sustain these small Lodges, we must look at the picture objectively and realize that over a period of time we will either be forced to consolidate or secure the charters of some of these Lodges. While this is most regrettable, yet I feel the most unfortunate aspect of the entire situation is that no new Lodges are being formed in the large areas to compensate for the loss in our rural communities. I feel strongly that the Grand Lodge itself must take a more active interest in the formation of new Lodges in these areas where the expanding population has reached the point where a new Lodge could be organized and supported. It appears to me that an area where the Grand Lodge could be most helpful would be that of providing limited financial assistance to an interested group of Brethren to the point where they could organize and rent suitable quarters for a lodge, such aid being for a period of possibly two or three months. I, therefore, recommend that the incoming Grand Master appoint a committee of three to work in conjunction with the Grand Trustees to determine the advisability and feasibility of establishing a revolving fund from which small sums could be borrowed to assist in the formation of new lodges where it is found to be desirable.

5. Section 2-1002 provides for a Questionnaire to be filled out in full, signed and returned to the lodge prior to the ballot on the petition. With our new Educational System in operation, where the Committee on Education call at the home of the petitioner, visit with him and his family and leave required booklets on Masonry, the Questionnaire seems obsolete. Our Grand Secretary has discussed this matter with the Secretaries at all of our eleven Area Meetings and it was the unanimous opinion of the Lodge Secretaries that the Questionnaire be discontinued and that some of the questions on the Questionnaire be added to the petition for the degrees of Masonry. This matter has been discussed with all Grand Officers and they concur. I therefore, recommend that the Grand Secretary be authorized to prepare a new form of petition including such questions as may be necessary from the Questionnaire and that Section 2-1002 be amended to eliminate any reference to the Questionnaire.

STATE OF THE CRAFT

In general the state of the Craft is good. From first-hand information and personal observation the Craft is making headway and with proper incentive and continued leadership, future improvement and advancement can be expected. There continues to be, however, a small minority of Lodges, which because of lack of leadership and the unwillingness to cooperate in the Grand Lodge program, find themselves in serious difficulty. This situation can and will be remedied only when these Lodges are willing to take the time and provide the leadership which will enable them to do an about-face.

It is encouraging to note the increased activity on the part of many of our Lodges seeking to improve their image through a program of remodeling; a number of other Lodges have purchased new quarters and currently are engaged in remodeling and refurbishing, looking forward to occupancy in the near future; and in one instance a Lodge is in the process of relocating in another and larger community. These activities are all for the good and cannot help but strengthen our Fraternity.

One area which continues to be of great concern is that where we find Lodges situated in those rural communities whose population is rapidly diminishing. A number of these Lodges with less than 30 or 40 members are fighting a losing battle. The potential is simply not there. The Grand Lodge is aware of these situations and is slowly but surely moving toward a solution, counseling with these Brethren; looking toward consolidations, and in a few cases, where the situation is hopeless, the outright voluntary surrender of a charter.

The day and age for Lodges in communities ten to fifteen miles apart has long since past. Modern transportation and the shrinking rural communities make it necessary that we take a long look at the

advisability of combining many of these Lodges. It is encouraging to note the attitude of some of the larger Lodges in extending invitations to the surrounding weaker ones to join with them in an effort to strengthen the Fraternity by the establishment of one much stronger Lodge and increasing the potential through the widening of jurisdictions through the abandonment of the smaller Lodges.

Our records reflect that at the close of the year we again showed a net loss of 328. This is not alarming, although we would be hopeful that this trend would be reversed in the near future. These figures do not take into account that some of the loss was occasioned by the granting of demits to those brethren belonging to Lodges which surrendered their charters, but who, after the close of the records for the year, affiliated with other Lodges.

While we feel that much has been accomplished, much remains to be done. It is my personal opinion that the Grand Lodge can accelerate the stability of the Craft by actively supporting a program looking to the solution of our present problems with regard to the small Lodges who find themselves in difficulty because of the shifting population, through the encouragement of the establishment of more Lodges in our metropolitan areas.

The overall picture is good and with the continued fine leadership which will be offered from the succeeding Grand Lodge Officers and the rededication of all of us to the lofty principles for which we stand, we can look forward to the continued growth of our fraternity.

APPRECIATION AND THANKS

It is with a sincere feeling of humbleness that I acknowledge my thanks and appreciation to the many who have worked so closely with me in our efforts this past year. When so many have been involved it is difficult to single out individuals or groups for fear that someone may be overlooked who is deserving of a special thanks. I must, however, express to M. W. John F. Fatcher my deep appreciation for the opportunity to serve this Grand Lodge through the appointment offered me in 1960.

Next, special thanks must be extended our Grand Officers and the many Grand Lodge Committees all of whom responded so willingly and actively when called upon for special duties. A special word of thanks to our Grand Secretary, Carl R. Greisen, and his office staff for their wise counsel during the year, without which I could not possibly have dealt with the many intricate problems which are always present and beset each Grand Master.

A special note of appreciation to my own Lodge, Florence No. 281, whose members have been so considerate and so willing to undertake any assignment requested of them. Any honors which may accrue to

me belong to my Lodge, as it was there I first saw the light of Masonry and the inspiration received at that time was the motivating factor in dedicating my life to a service of Masonry. W. David O. Kipling, Past Master of my Lodge, has provided me with a new gavel each time I have been privileged to preside over one of our Masonic bodies. I am indebted to him for another beautiful gavel presented on the occasion of my installation as Grand Master, and which I have used throughout the year.

To my dear wife, Dorothy, for her unceasing devotion and understanding and to all the Brethren of this jurisdiction to whom I am indebted for their consideration and understanding which was so evident at all times.

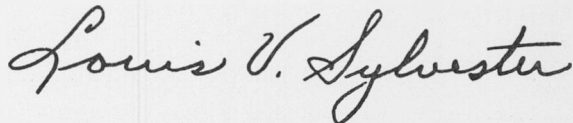
CONCLUSION

My year as Grand Master is now about to close. It has been a most rewarding experience which in future years will afford me many cherished memories. It has been my earnest desire to be of service and perhaps because of my zeal and enthusiasm I undoubtedly have made errors, but if so, they have been mistakes in judgment and I trust and know that your cloak of Masonic charity will be sufficient to cover any of these shortcomings. I only hope that through my efforts I have left something constructive imprinted upon the pages of the history of this Grand Lodge. The coincidence, or call it destiny, if you please, wherein I found myself serving as the 100th Grand Master of our Grand Lodge is a distinction which shall always be cherished. I shall be eternally thankful to Almighty God and Masonry for giving to an ordinary individual such as I the great privilege and honor of presiding over a Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons.

I find myself tired and looking forward to what I feel is a well-deserved rest, but to my successor in office and to all you Brethren, I pledge my continued full-hearted support in the work that lies ahead.

God bless you all.

Fraternally submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Louis V. Sylvester". The signature is written in dark ink and is centered on the page.

Grand Master

REPORT OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

The Grand Secretary presents his report as follows:

Complete returns have been received from 270 Lodges and all dues and fees for the year 1965 have been paid in full.

SURRENDER OF CHARTER

May 12, 1966, with the approval of the Grand Master, Doniphan No. 86 surrendered its Charter. The Lodge had 32 members, not enough living in the vicinity to hold meetings. The charter, all books and records are in the office.

CONSOLIDATION

Tuesday, May 8, Valley No. 157, Wilsonville, voted to consolidate with Beaver City No. 93. Monday, March 14, Beaver City No. 93 voted to accept Valley No. 157 in consolidation. This consolidation was approved by the Grand Master. The Charter is in the office, other items and records have been delivered to Beaver City, No. 93. Valley Lodge had 44 members, more than half of them living outstate.

SHILOH, U. .D. .

On the evening of September 3, 1965, the Grand Master instituted a Lodge U. .D. . in the Temple of Centennial No. 326, at the request of 52 brethren.

This Lodge is now located at 3505 Cottonwood Lane, Maple Village, Omaha. They have complied with the rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge, conferred degrees and have been certified.

There are 57 Brethren who have now petitioned the Grand Lodge for a charter. All records of Shiloh Lodge U. .D. . together with demits signed by the individual Brethren from seven Lodges and two jurisdictions, including Nebraska and Kansas, have been examined and found to be correct. These, together with all records, have been referred to the Committee on Charters and Dispensations for their consideration.

NEW QUARTERS FOR GRAND LODGE

During the week of March 21st, the Grand Lodge offices were moved from 401 Masonic Temple, Omaha, to 201 Masonic Temple. Our new quarters now include a library and museum, of which we are very proud, the office of the Grand Custodian and all of our machine equipment for Grand Lodge and The Nebraska Masonic Home. Our thanks to W. .Herman G. Reinholz and his Office Committee for advice and counsel. Brethren, thank you for the new offices, they are spacious and beautiful.

GRIEVANCES

Two petitions for restorations have been received and referred to the Committee on Grievances, as well as two appeals from the findings of Trial Commissions by the Grand Master. These for consideration and report at this Annual Communication.

FIFTY-YEAR BUTTONS

There were 351 buttons presented this year. Most of our Lodges make a special event of the occasion. You will notice that the Fraternity of Fifty-year Brethren is growing as we presented 126 more buttons this year than last. A number of these presentations were made in other jurisdictions as a courtesy to Nebraska. Again our thanks to all and especially to the Grand Lodge of California. We now have 1,445 Brethren who wear the Fifty-year button.

JORDAN MEDALS

Many special meetings and ceremonies were held this year for the presentation of the Robert Carrel Jordan Medal to the senior member of a Lodge in years of membership who was a resident of Nebraska.

GOLD JORDAN MEDAL

The Gold Jordan Medal has passed from Brother William Manning of Geneva No. 79 to W. Frank Quante of Trestle Board No. 162, Brock. Brother Manning died January 26, 1966. The medal was presented to W. Brother Quante March 15, 1966.

MEETINGS OF LODGE SECRETARIES

In cooperation with the Committee on Masonic Education we have held eleven Secretaries' meetings this year. All have been well attended. We were invited by our Grand Custodian, W. Robert W. Cook, to attend a number of Central Schools of Instruction. We attended one at which time a number of Secretaries were present with their books and records. Thanks, "Bob." By and large, our Secretaries are doing a "bang-up" job.

LOCAL MASONIC RELIEF ASSOCIATIONS

Again may we express our thanks to the Brethren of the Omaha and Lincoln Relief Associations. They continue to assist the out-state Lodges in hospital calls, etc., as well as sojourning Masons, their widows and orphans.

MEMORIAL LODGE OF OMAHA, U. D. D.

Memorial Lodge of Omaha, U. D. D., is called upon many times during the year to conduct the funeral of a sojourning Brother. Our thanks and appreciation to W. Robert D. Cresap, his Officers and Brethren.

CHARTERED LODGES

Hardy No. 117, Upright No. 137, Crystal No. 191, Blazing Star No. 200; Tyrian No. 243 and Oak Leaf No. 312 have failed to be represented at the last two Annual Communications and have been cited to appear before the Committee on Charters and Dispensations.

QUESTIONNAIRE

The Grand Master is making a recommendation to discontinue the Questionnaire and add such questions as may be necessary to the petition. This will ease the work of our Lodge Secretaries and we hope you approve.

Section 2-1002 provides for a Questionnaire to be filled out in full, signed and returned to the lodge prior to the ballot on the petition. With our new Educational System in operation, where the Committee on Education call at the home of the petitioner, visit with him and his family and leave required booklets on Masonry, the Questionnaire seems obsolete. We have discussed this matter with the Secretaries at all of our eleven Area Meetings and it was the unanimous opinion of the Lodge Secretaries that the Questionnaire be discontinued and that some of the questions on the Questionnaire be added to the petition for the degrees of Masonry. This matter has been discussed with all Grand Officers and they concur.

THANK YOU

Another twelve months and how quickly they pass. Many special meetings, corner-stones, anniversaries, Secretaries' meetings and Dedications. We have enjoyed all and especially the wonderful cooperation and fellowship.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Special Account

Receipts

44,897 Members @ \$4.00.....	\$ 179,588.00
910 Initiations @ \$10.00.....	9,100.00
2 Affiliations @ \$10.00.....	20.00
Surety bond premium.....	596.00
Supplies	2,893.11
Liability insurance	3,287.02
For George Washington Masonic National Memorial	
875 Master Masons @ \$1.00.....	875.00
Interest	1,752.57
Dues and fees in excess.....	123.46
Penalties	49.55
	<hr/>
Total.....	\$ 198,284.71

Disbursements	
The Nebraska Masonic Home.....	\$ 89,794.00
Relief Fund	8,979.40
Orphans Educational Endowment Fund.....	95,023.74
Supply Account	3,489.11
George Washington Masonic National Memorial.....	875.00
Refunds	123.46
Total.....	\$ 198,284.71

ORPHANS EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT FUND

May 10, 1966

Receipts

Cash, United States National Bank, May 10, 1965.....	\$ 53,213.21
Receipts	1,650,190.69
Total.....	1,703,403.90

Disbursements

Disbursements	\$1,581,436.80
Cash, United States National Bank, May 10, 1966.....	221,967.10
Total.....	\$1,703,403.90

SUPPLY ACCOUNT

May 10, 1966

Receipts

Cash, United States National Bank, May 10, 1965.....	\$ 6,030.54
Supplies sold	2,868.11
Bond premium	596.00
Interest on securities.....	263.45
Securities sold	34,908.52
Total.....	\$ 44,666.62

Disbursements

Bond premium	596.00
Supplies	4,973.48
Securities purchased	24,165.65
Cash on hand, U. S. National Bank, May 10, 1966.....	14,951.49
Total.....	\$ 44,666.62

RELIEF FUND

May 10, 1966

Receipts

Cash on hand, South Omaha Stockyards National Bank, May 10, 1965.....	9,948.25
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From Special Account.....	8,979.40
Securities sold	9,896.55
Interest on securities.....	1,423.45

Total.....	\$ 30,247.65
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Disbursements

Committee on Relief and Care of Orphans.....	\$ 6,003.60
Securities purchased	9,896.55
Cash, South Omaha Stock Yards National Bank, May 10, 1966.....	14,347.50

Total.....	\$ 30,247.65
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CENTENNIAL CONTINGENT FUND

May 10, 1966

Receipts

Cash, United States National Bank, May 10, 1965.....	\$ 692.33
Receipts	3.00

Total.....	\$ 692.33
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Disbursements

Disbursements	None
Cash on hand, United States National Bank, May 10, 1966	692.33

Total.....	692.33
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RETIREMENT FUND

May 10, 1966

Receipts

Cash on hand May 10, 1965.....	None
Receipts	1,294.64

Total.....	\$ 1,294.64
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Disbursements

Disbursements	\$ 3.88
Cash on hand, United States National Bank, May 10, 1966	1,290.76

Total.....	\$ 1,294.64
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RETURNS

Number of Chartered Lodges last year.....	271
Charters surrendered	1
	270
Number of Chartered Lodges.....	270
Number initiated	910
Number passed	884
Number raised	875
Number affiliated	250
Number dual members	23
Number reinstated	302
Number gained by other causes.....	8
	1,458
Total gross increase.....	1,458
Number demitted	346
Number deceased	971
Number suspended	445
Number expelled	4
Number lost by other causes.....	20
	1,786
Total loss	1,786
Net loss for year ending December 31, 1965.....	328
Number of Master Masons on rolls December 31, 1964.....	44,897
Number of Master Masons on rolls December 31, 1965.....	44,569

Fraternally submitted,

James R. Geisen

Grand Secretary

NAME OF LODGE	E. A. A.		F. C. C.		MASTER MASONS													No. of Lodge		
	No. of Lodge	No. Initiated	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1965	No. Passed	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1965	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1964	GAIN					Total	LOSS						No. on Rolls, December 31, 1965	
							By Raising	By Affiliation	Dual Men's ship	Reinstatement	Other Causes		By Demission	By Death	By Suspension	By Expulsion	Other Causes			
																				Total Loss
Nebraska	1	27	4	28	6	1090	23	5	0	2	0	1120	3	38	4	0	0	45	1075	1
Western Star	2	3	6	2	1	282	3	3	1	7	0	296	2	7	3	0	0	12	284	2
Capitol	3	11	6	10	3	782	8	1	0	5	0	796	6	29	16	0	0	51	745	3
Nemaha Valley	4	1	1	0	0	48	0	0	0	0	0	48	1	3	0	0	0	4	44	4
Omadi	5	0	4	1	1	111	1	0	0	0	0	112	0	0	0	0	0	0	112	5
Plattsmouth	6	5	3	5	0	348	5	2	0	0	0	355	2	6	1	0	0	9	343	6
Falls City	9	4	4	3	4	239	3	0	0	3	0	245	2	4	3	0	0	9	236	9
Solomon	10	6	5	1	0	107	2	0	0	0	0	109	1	2	1	0	0	4	105	10
Covert	11	43	12	41	5	1705	43	10	0	2	0	1760	11	42	2	0	0	55	1705	11
Orient	13	2	2	1	0	51	1	0	0	1	0	53	0	2	0	0	0	2	51	13
Peru	14	3	2	1	1	81	0	0	0	9	0	90	0	2	15	0	0	17	73	14
Fremont	15	13	7	13	3	634	11	4	0	8	0	657	4	14	0	0	0	18	639	15
Tecumseh	17	3	7	1	0	155	1	1	1	0	0	158	0	4	0	0	0	4	154	17
Lincoln	19	23	21	20	4	914	22	1	0	0	0	937	5	24	6	0	0	35	902	19
Washington	21	12	5	7	4	145	3	5	0	1	0	154	0	4	0	0	1	5	149	21
Pawnee	23	2	2	0	0	102	1	0	2	1	0	106	1	3	0	0	0	4	102	23
Saint John	25	23	4	25	4	937	25	1	0	2	0	965	3	26	4	0	0	33	932	25
Beatrice	26	7	6	6	2	374	4	2	0	3	0	383	1	10	7	0	0	18	365	26
Jordan	27	0	0	1	0	74	1	0	0	0	0	75	0	1	1	0	0	2	73	27
Hope	29	0	0	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	40	1	1	0	0	0	2	38	29
Blue River	30	4	1	4	0	92	4	1	0	0	0	97	0	0	1	0	0	1	96	30
Tekamah	31	4	3	3	3	185	2	1	1	0	0	189	2	2	2	0	0	6	183	31
Platte Valley	32	11	16	13	2	587	16	5	0	2	0	610	1	18	2	0	0	21	589	32
Ashlar	33	4	7	6	4	580	5	2	0	2	0	589	4	14	9	0	0	27	562	33
Acacia	34	2	8	3	1	180	2	0	1	0	0	183	1	7	0	0	0	8	175	34
Fairbury	35	1	0	3	0	227	3	4	0	0	0	234	4	9	3	0	0	16	218	35
Lone Tree	36	2	6	3	1	212	2	0	0	4	0	218	2	5	4	1	0	12	206	36
Crete	37	7	6	4	2	194	4	1	0	2	2	203	0	5	4	0	0	9	194	37
Oliver	38	1	2	3	0	173	3	1	0	1	0	178	2	4	0	0	0	6	172	38
Papillion	39	10	12	12	3	257	9	2	0	0	0	268	2	4	0	0	0	6	262	39
Humboldt	40	3	5	1	1	103	1	1	0	4	0	109	1	6	5	0	0	12	97	40
Northern Light	41	0	0	0	0	72	0	0	0	1	0	73	1	1	0	0	0	2	71	41
Hebron	43	2	2	1	1	120	0	0	0	1	0	121	0	1	1	0	0	2	119	43
Harvard	44	0	0	0	0	76	0	0	0	0	1	77	0	3	0	0	0	3	74	44
Rob Morris	46	13	6	9	2	364	9	0	1	1	0	375	0	5	7	0	0	12	363	46
Fairmont	48	0	0	0	0	90	0	1	0	0	0	91	0	0	0	0	0	0	91	48
Evening Star	49	3	1	3	1	99	2	0	0	0	0	101	0	1	1	0	0	2	99	49
Hastings	50	7	16	6	2	520	6	2	0	3	0	531	0	12	0	0	2	14	517	50
Fidelity	51	3	3	1	1	145	2	1	0	1	0	149	0	4	0	0	0	4	145	51

NAME OF LODGE	E.A.A.		F.C.C.		MASTER MASONS													No. on Rolls December 31, 1965	No. of Lodge	
	No. of Lodge	No. Initiated	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1965	No. Passed	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1965	No. on Rolls December 31, 1964	GAIN					Total	LOSS							
							By Raising	By Affiliation	Dual Mem's in	Reinstatement	Other Causes		By Demission	By Death	By Suspension	By Expulsion	Other Causes			
																				Total Loss
Hiram	52	0	2	0	0	89	0	1	0	0	0	90	0	1	0	0	0	1	89	52
Charity	53	4	1	3	2	140	1	2	0	4	0	147	1	2	0	0	0	3	144	53
Lancaster	54	24	7	29	3	907	28	3	0	8	0	946	12	22	15	1	1	51	895	54
Mosaic	55	5	7	3	3	336	2	0	0	4	0	342	0	16	5	0	0	21	321	55
York	56	5	6	5	0	273	4	1	0	6	0	284	3	8	2	0	0	13	271	56
Mt. Moriah	57	4	4	3	0	79	3	14	1	0	0	97	0	1	1	0	0	2	95	57
Wahoo	59	7	1	7	1	288	11	1	0	1	0	301	1	4	1	0	0	6	295	59
Melrose	60	1	0	1	0	74	3	1	0	0	0	78	0	1	1	0	1	3	75	60
Thistle	61	2	3	3	0	218	3	0	0	1	0	222	0	6	0	0	0	6	216	61
Keystone	62	1	2	1	0	49	1	0	1	0	0	51	0	1	0	0	0	1	50	62
Blue Valley	64	1	2	0	0	96	0	0	0	0	0	96	0	1	0	0	0	1	95	64
Osceola	65	2	4	1	1	87	0	2	0	0	0	89	0	2	0	0	0	2	87	65
Edgar	67	0	0	0	0	88	0	0	0	0	0	88	1	1	0	0	0	2	86	67
Aurora	68	3	0	7	2	143	6	2	0	2	0	153	2	1	1	0	0	4	149	68
Sterling	70	0	0	0	0	45	0	0	0	0	0	45	0	2	0	0	0	2	43	70
Trowel	71	3	0	3	1	102	2	1	0	0	0	105	0	3	0	0	0	3	102	71
Hooper	72	0	0	0	0	99	1	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	72
Friend	73	3	2	4	2	61	5	0	1	0	0	67	0	1	0	0	0	1	66	73
Alexandria	74	0	0	0	0	29	0	0	0	0	0	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	29	74
Frank Welch	75	4	0	5	2	263	7	0	1	2	0	273	0	3	5	0	0	8	265	75
Nelson	77	2	7	2	0	106	2	1	0	1	0	110	1	4	0	0	0	5	105	77
Albion	78	0	2	1	0	134	1	24	0	2	0	161	2	3	6	0	0	11	150	78
Geneva	79	4	1	3	1	134	6	1	0	1	0	142	2	2	1	0	0	5	137	79
Composite	81	2	4	1	1	91	0	0	0	1	0	92	0	3	0	0	0	3	89	81
St. Paul	82	0	5	1	1	179	1	2	0	0	0	182	0	3	4	0	0	7	175	82
Corinthian	83	1	1	1	1	75	2	1	0	0	0	78	1	2	2	0	0	5	73	83
Fairfield	84	0	0	0	0	47	0	0	0	0	0	47	1	1	0	0	0	2	45	84
Doniphan	86	0	3	0	0	34	0	0	0	0	0	34	2	0	0	0	0	2	32	86
Ionic	87	0	6	1	0	101	2	0	0	1	0	104	0	2	4	0	0	6	98	87
Star	88	3	0	3	0	104	3	0	0	2	0	109	0	3	2	0	0	5	104	88
Cedar River	89	0	8	1	0	97	2	1	0	1	0	101	0	1	0	0	0	1	100	89
Oakland	91	2	5	1	1	144	1	0	0	0	0	145	2	4	2	0	0	8	137	91
Beaver City	93	2	1	2	1	61	1	1	1	1	0	65	1	1	4	0	0	6	59	93
Bennett	94	3	2	2	2	58	1	1	0	0	0	60	0	2	0	0	0	2	58	94
Garfield	95	7	3	9	5	87	4	2	0	0	0	93	0	1	0	0	0	1	92	95
Utica	96	0	1	0	0	77	0	0	0	0	0	77	0	2	1	0	0	3	74	96
Euclid	97	1	4	1	0	107	1	1	0	0	0	109	0	1	1	0	0	2	107	97
Republican	98	3	4	0	1	45	0	0	0	0	0	45	1	0	0	0	0	1	44	98
Shelton	99	0	0	0	0	78	0	0	0	1	0	79	1	2	1	0	0	4	75	99

NAME OF LODGE	E. A. A.		F. C. C.		MASTER MASONS															
	No. of Lodge	No. Initiated	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1965	No. Passed	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1965	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1964	GAIN					Total	LOSS					Total Loss	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1965	No. of Lodge
							By Raising	By Affiliation	Dual Mem'ship	Reinstatement	Other Causes		By Demission	By Death	By Suspension	By Expulsion	Other Causes			
Creighton.....	100	0	0	1	0	97	1	0	0	3	0	101	1	4	2	0	0	7	94	100
Ponca.....	101	0	4	1	2	89	1	0	0	1	0	91	3	1	1	2	9	82	101	
Waterloo.....	102	3	1	5	1	158	4	2	0	0	0	164	0	3	0	0	0	3	161	102
Ord.....	103	1	1	1	1	153	1	2	0	0	0	156	0	8	0	0	0	8	148	103
Wymore.....	104	3	4	3	4	200	3	2	0	0	0	205	1	2	0	0	0	3	202	104
Stella.....	105	2	3	2	0	62	3	0	0	0	0	65	0	1	2	0	0	3	62	105
Porter.....	106	0	1	0	1	62	0	0	0	0	0	62	2	3	0	0	0	5	57	106
Table Rock.....	108	0	0	0	0	36	0	0	0	0	0	36	0	1	0	0	0	1	35	108
Pomegranate.....	110	3	5	5	0	210	8	2	0	0	0	220	1	4	0	0	0	5	215	110
DeWitt.....	111	1	1	0	0	44	0	0	0	1	0	45	0	1	1	0	0	2	43	111
Springfield.....	112	0	0	1	0	118	2	1	0	2	0	123	0	1	1	0	0	2	121	112
Globe.....	113	0	2	0	0	88	0	0	0	0	0	88	2	3	0	0	0	5	83	113
Wisner.....	114	2	0	2	2	101	0	0	0	0	0	101	0	5	2	0	0	7	94	114
Harlan.....	116	6	0	7	0	88	7	0	1	0	0	96	0	3	0	0	0	3	93	116
Hardy.....	117	2	0	3	0	45	3	0	0	0	0	48	0	1	0	0	0	1	47	117
North Bend.....	119	0	1	1	1	100	1	3	0	2	0	106	1	1	0	0	0	2	104	119
Wayne.....	120	0	5	2	2	203	2	1	0	1	0	207	1	5	2	0	0	8	199	120
Superior.....	121	0	1	3	1	180	4	0	0	2	0	186	5	2	1	0	0	8	178	121
Auburn.....	124	1	0	2	0	130	2	3	0	2	0	137	0	3	3	0	0	6	131	124
Mt. Nebo.....	125	2	3	2	1	96	2	0	0	0	0	98	0	1	0	0	0	1	97	125
Stromsburg.....	126	3	1	2	1	74	2	1	0	1	0	78	0	1	1	0	0	2	76	126
Minden.....	127	1	1	1	0	102	2	0	0	0	0	104	0	6	2	0	0	8	96	127
Guide Rock.....	128	4	3	5	4	71	1	1	0	0	0	73	0	1	1	0	0	2	71	128
Blue Hill.....	129	0	1	0	0	59	0	0	0	0	0	59	0	1	0	0	0	1	58	129
Scribner.....	132	0	0	0	0	53	0	1	0	1	0	55	0	1	0	0	0	1	54	132
Elm Creek.....	133	0	0	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	50	0	0	1	0	1	2	48	133
Solar.....	134	0	2	0	1	69	1	0	0	1	0	71	0	1	0	0	0	1	70	134
McCook.....	135	2	3	1	0	351	3	0	0	1	0	355	1	10	3	0	1	15	340	135
Long Pine.....	136	1	0	1	0	54	1	0	1	0	0	56	1	1	0	0	0	2	54	136
Upright.....	137	0	0	0	0	70	0	0	0	0	0	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	70	137
Rawalt.....	138	2	6	3	2	80	2	1	0	5	0	88	0	3	2	0	0	5	83	138
Clay Centre.....	139	0	0	1	0	58	1	0	1	0	3	63	0	1	0	0	0	1	62	139
Western.....	140	2	4	0	1	35	2	1	0	0	0	38	0	1	2	0	0	3	35	140
Crescent.....	143	0	1	0	1	37	1	0	0	0	0	38	1	0	1	0	0	2	36	143
Kenesaw.....	144	1	1	0	0	54	0	0	0	1	0	55	1	4	0	0	0	5	50	144
Bancroft.....	145	0	2	0	0	58	0	0	0	0	0	58	1	2	0	0	0	3	55	145
Jachin.....	146	5	4	4	0	193	5	1	0	0	0	199	1	7	0	0	0	8	191	146
Siloam.....	147	0	0	1	0	30	1	0	0	0	0	31	1	0	0	0	0	1	30	147
Emmet Crawford.....	148	8	5	7	2	198	6	2	0	4	0	210	2	7	2	0	0	11	199	148

NAME OF LODGE	E. A. A.		F. C. C.		MASTER MASONS											No. on Rolls December 31, 1965	No. of Lodge			
	No. of Lodge	No. Initiated	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1965	No. Passed	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1965	No. on Rolls December 31, 1964	GAIN				Total	LOSS						Total Loss		
							By Raising	By Affiliation	Dual Men'ship	Reinstatement		Other Causes	By Demission	By Death	By Suspension				By Expulsion	Other Causes
Jewel	149	0	0	0	0	45	0	0	0	0	0	45	0	2	2	0	0	4	41	149
Cambridge	150	0	0	0	0	109	0	0	0	1	0	110	1	0	1	0	0	2	108	150
Evergreen	151	0	1	0	0	62	0	0	0	0	0	62	0	1	0	0	0	1	61	151
Lily	154	2	1	3	0	63	3	0	0	0	0	66	0	1	0	0	0	1	65	154
Hartington	155	1	3	0	0	67	0	0	0	1	0	68	1	1	5	0	0	7	61	155
Pythagoras	156	0	0	0	0	32	0	0	0	1	0	33	0	1	0	0	0	1	32	156
Valley	157	1	0	1	1	45	0	0	0	0	0	45	0	1	0	0	0	1	44	157
Samaritan	158	1	7	1	0	264	2	1	0	1	0	268	1	4	4	0	0	9	259	158
Ogalalla	159	7	16	5	4	156	3	0	0	2	0	161	2	1	3	0	0	6	155	159
Zeredatha	160	3	3	1	0	39	1	0	0	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	160
Mount Zion	161	1	0	1	1	56	0	0	0	0	0	56	0	2	1	0	0	3	53	161
Trestle Board	162	4	1	3	0	77	3	1	0	5	0	86	0	2	2	0	0	4	82	162
Unity	163	2	9	1	1	86	1	0	0	0	0	87	0	4	0	0	0	4	83	163
Atkinson	164	0	2	1	0	50	2	0	0	0	0	52	0	2	0	0	0	2	50	164
Barneston	165	0	2	0	0	55	0	0	0	0	0	55	2	0	1	0	0	3	52	165
Mystic Tie	166	1	1	0	1	45	0	0	0	0	0	45	1	2	0	0	0	3	42	166
Elwood	167	0	0	2	1	52	1	1	0	1	0	55	0	1	0	0	0	1	54	167
Curtis	168	3	2	2	1	79	1	1	0	1	0	82	0	2	1	0	0	3	79	168
Amity	169	1	2	2	2	102	0	0	0	0	0	102	0	1	0	0	0	1	101	169
Mason City	170	1	1	0	1	32	0	0	0	0	0	32	0	2	0	0	0	2	30	170
Merna	171	0	0	0	0	60	0	0	0	0	0	60	0	2	0	0	0	2	58	171
Robert Burns	173	1	1	2	2	82	1	0	0	0	0	83	0	0	2	0	0	2	81	173
Culbertson	174	1	1	1	1	63	1	0	0	0	0	64	0	1	0	0	0	1	63	174
Temple	175	0	1	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	40	0	1	0	0	0	1	39	175
Gladstone	176	0	1	0	0	84	0	0	0	0	0	84	0	3	0	0	0	3	81	176
Hay Springs	177	1	2	2	0	118	2	0	0	1	0	121	0	1	0	0	0	1	120	177
Prudence	179	0	2	1	0	48	1	0	0	0	0	49	0	2	0	0	0	2	47	179
Justice	180	2	3	4	0	139	4	0	0	2	0	145	1	2	0	0	0	3	142	180
Faith	181	1	2	2	2	111	1	0	0	0	0	112	0	4	0	0	0	4	108	181
Alliance	183	5	8	9	4	376	9	2	0	5	0	392	1	9	0	0	0	10	382	183
Bee Hive	184	14	7	18	5	985	18	2	0	28	0	1033	3	13	17	0	0	33	1000	184
Boaz	185	0	1	0	0	70	0	0	0	0	0	70	0	5	1	0	0	6	64	185
Meridian	188	2	0	5	2	146	5	1	0	2	0	154	1	3	0	0	1	5	149	188
Granite	189	0	2	0	0	76	0	0	0	0	0	76	0	0	3	0	0	3	73	189
Amethyst	190	0	1	0	1	47	1	0	0	0	0	48	0	1	0	0	0	1	47	190
Crystal	191	0	0	2	1	80	1	1	0	0	0	82	1	2	0	0	0	3	79	191

NAME OF LODGE	E. A. S.		F. C. S.		MASTER MASONS													No. on Rolls December 31, 1965	No. of Lodge	
	No. of Lodge	No. Initiated	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1965	No. Passed	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1965	No. on Rolls December 31, 1964	GAIN					Total	LOSS							
							By Raising	By Affiliation	Dual Membership	Reinstatement	Other Causes		By Demission	By Death	By Suspension	By Expulsion	Other Causes			Total Loss
Minnekadusa	192	6	10	4	2	169	5	1	0	0	0	175	1	2	1	0	0	4	171	192
Signet	193	0	0	0	0	61	0	0	0	0	0	61	0	1	0	0	0	1	60	193
Highland	194	0	1	1	0	38	1	0	0	0	0	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	39	194
Arcana	195	2	2	0	0	157	1	0	0	0	0	158	0	2	0	0	0	2	156	195
Morning Star	197	1	0	1	0	60	4	0	0	0	0	64	1	2	0	0	0	3	61	197
Purity	198	3	3	3	2	139	2	0	0	2	0	143	1	6	0	0	0	7	136	198
Gavel	199	0	0	0	0	44	0	0	0	0	0	44	1	0	0	0	0	1	43	199
Blazing Star	200	2	6	1	0	85	1	0	0	0	0	86	0	1	0	0	0	1	85	200
Scotts Bluff	201	7	2	5	1	177	5	1	1	11	0	195	3	3	0	0	0	6	189	201
Golden Sheaf	202	1	2	1	1	83	1	0	0	0	0	84	0	1	0	0	0	1	83	202
Roman Eagle	203	1	2	0	0	73	0	0	0	1	0	74	2	0	0	0	0	2	72	203
Plainview	204	1	3	1	0	102	4	0	0	0	0	106	5	1	3	0	0	9	97	204
Golden Fleece	205	1	2	1	2	173	1	0	0	1	0	175	0	6	0	0	1	7	168	205
Naphali	206	0	0	0	0	53	0	0	0	0	0	53	0	0	0	0	0	0	53	206
Parian	207	0	3	0	0	54	0	1	0	0	0	55	0	1	0	0	0	1	54	207
Gauge	208	0	0	0	0	37	0	0	0	0	0	37	37	0	0	0	0	37	0	208
Canopy	209	2	1	2	0	113	2	0	0	0	0	115	1	4	2	0	0	7	108	209
East Lincoln	210	33	16	34	9	1239	36	4	2	4	0	1285	6	21	6	0	0	33	1252	210
Cement	211	0	0	1	0	84	2	0	0	0	0	86	2	2	0	0	0	4	82	211
Compass & Square	212	0	0	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	40	0	0	1	0	0	1	39	212
Plumbline	214	0	0	0	0	34	0	0	0	1	0	35	1	1	0	0	0	2	33	214
Occidental	215	1	2	0	0	70	0	0	0	1	0	71	1	2	0	0	0	3	68	215
Palisade	216	1	1	1	2	97	3	0	0	1	0	101	0	1	1	0	0	2	99	216
Wauneta	217	0	1	0	0	61	0	1	0	0	0	62	1	3	0	0	0	4	58	217
Bloomfield	218	13	7	10	0	71	11	0	0	0	0	82	0	1	0	0	0	1	81	218
Relief	219	0	2	2	2	57	2	0	0	0	0	59	0	2	4	0	0	6	53	219
Magnolia	220	3	3	1	2	58	0	0	0	0	0	58	0	2	0	0	0	2	56	220
Wood Lake	221	5	1	8	0	71	8	0	0	0	0	79	0	0	0	0	0	0	79	221
Landmark	222	1	1	2	0	99	3	0	0	0	0	102	0	3	2	0	0	5	97	222
Eminence	223	0	1	1	1	58	1	1	0	1	0	61	0	1	0	0	0	1	60	223
Silver Cord	224	11	13	4	2	125	3	0	0	1	0	129	3	3	5	0	0	11	118	224
Cable	225	2	3	3	0	89	3	0	0	0	0	92	0	0	0	0	0	0	92	225
Grace	226	0	2	0	0	64	1	0	0	1	0	66	0	1	0	0	2	3	63	226
North Star	227	12	8	9	4	509	13	4	0	2	0	528	4	11	3	0	0	18	510	227
Bartley	228	0	0	1	0	58	1	0	0	0	0	59	0	2	1	0	0	3	56	228
Comet	229	7	7	2	0	119	3	1	0	1	0	124	1	3	0	0	1	5	119	229
Delta	230	0	0	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	24	24	0	0	0	0	24	0	230
Mt. Hermon	231	0	0	0	0	37	0	0	0	0	0	37	0	0	0	0	0	0	37	231
John S Bowen	232	2	0	2	0	72	2	0	0	0	0	74	0	1	0	0	0	1	73	232
Gilead	233	0	1	0	0	54	0	0	0	0	0	54	0	2	1	0	0	3	51	233

NAME OF LODGE	No. of Lodge	E.A.A.		F.C.C.		MASTER MASONS													No. on Rolls December 31, 1965	No. of Lodge
		No. Initiated	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1965	No. Passed	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1965	No. on Rolls December 31, 1964	GAIN					Total	LOSS							
							By Raising	By Affiliation	Dual Membership	Reinstatement	Other Causes		By Demission	By Death	By Suspension	By Expulsion	Other Causes			
																		Total Loss		
Zion	234	4	2	4	2	99	4	0	0	0	0	103	1	2	0	0	0	3	100	234
Fraternity	235	0	1	0	0	60	0	0	0	2	0	62	0	0	2	0	0	2	60	235
Golden Rule	236	1	1	1	2	68	1	1	0	0	0	70	1	1	5	0	0	7	63	236
Cubit	237	0	1	0	0	47	0	0	0	0	0	47	0	0	1	0	0	1	46	237
Friendship	239	1	1	1	1	82	1	0	0	3	0	86	1	2	8	0	0	11	75	239
Pilot	240	4	4	2	0	112	2	2	1	0	0	117	1	4	1	0	1	7	110	240
George Armstrong	241	3	6	1	0	77	2	0	0	0	0	79	1	2	1	0	0	4	75	241
Tyrian	243	0	0	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	243
Hampton	245	0	0	0	0	48	0	0	0	0	0	48	0	2	0	0	0	2	46	245
Nehawka	246	3	2	1	1	115	1	0	0	0	0	116	1	3	0	0	0	4	112	246
Corner-Stone	247	2	0	2	3	23	1	0	0	0	0	24	0	1	0	0	0	1	23	247
Laurel	248	1	3	1	2	89	0	0	0	0	0	89	0	1	0	0	0	1	88	248
Gothenburg	249	5	5	3	2	157	2	1	0	0	0	160	0	3	0	0	C	3	157	249
Geo. Washington	250	4	4	5	2	353	3	3	0	1	0	360	0	4	10	0	0	14	346	250
Wausa	251	2	2	0	0	48	0	0	0	0	0	48	0	0	0	0	0	0	48	251
Beemer	253	1	0	1	0	46	1	0	0	0	0	47	0	2	0	0	0	2	45	253
Bassett	254	0	1	1	2	79	1	0	0	2	0	82	0	2	8	0	0	10	72	254
Hickman	256	1	2	1	0	61	1	0	0	0	0	62	0	0	0	0	0	0	62	256
Anselmo	258	1	1	1	0	89	2	0	0	0	0	91	2	0	0	0	0	2	89	258
Ornan	261	2	3	0	0	80	0	0	0	0	0	80	0	2	0	0	0	2	78	261
Endeavor	262	2	0	2	0	89	5	0	0	0	0	94	0	1	0	0	0	1	93	262
Mitchell	263	3	3	6	2	156	4	1	0	1	0	162	0	7	0	0	0	7	155	263
Franklin	264	0	0	0	0	102	0	1	0	0	0	103	0	1	1	0	0	2	101	264
Robert W. Furnas	265	11	9	8	2	445	7	1	0	3	0	456	2	8	4	0	0	14	442	265
Silver	266	3	1	2	0	64	2	0	0	0	0	66	0	0	0	0	0	0	66	266
James A. Tulleys	267	0	2	0	0	52	0	0	0	0	0	52	0	1	0	0	0	1	51	267
Geo. W. Lininger	268	2	0	3	0	264	3	0	0	0	0	267	0	6	0	0	0	6	261	268
Oasis	271	4	0	4	1	130	3	0	0	0	0	133	0	1	3	0	0	4	129	271
Lee P. Gillette	272	0	0	0	0	63	1	0	0	1	0	65	0	1	0	0	0	1	64	272
Crofton	273	0	0	0	0	49	0	0	0	0	0	49	0	2	5	0	0	7	42	273
Olive Branch	274	0	1	0	0	59	0	0	0	0	0	59	2	1	0	0	0	3	56	274
Ramah	275	1	2	2	0	61	3	0	0	0	0	64	0	3	1	0	0	4	60	275
Antelope	276	0	3	0	0	65	0	0	0	0	0	65	0	1	2	0	0	3	62	276
Sioux	277	0	1	0	0	48	0	0	0	0	0	48	1	0	0	0	0	1	47	277
Litchfield	278	0	0	0	0	35	0	0	0	1	0	36	0	1	0	0	0	1	35	278
Wallace	279	2	2	1	1	39	0	1	0	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	279
Swastika	280	2	4	3	3	86	0	0	0	0	0	86	0	4	0	0	0	4	82	280
Florence	281	17	9	16	1	973	17	4	0	7	0	1001	8	16	5	0	0	29	972	281
Mullen	282	2	1	1	1	70	0	1	0	0	0	71	2	4	1	0	0	7	64	282

NAME OF LODGE	No. of Lodge	E. A. A.:		F. C. C.:		MASTER MASONS											No. on Rolls December 31, 1965	No. of Lodge		
		No. Initiated		No. Passed		No. on Rolls December 31, 1964	GAIN					Total	LOSS							
		No. on Rolls, December 31, 1965		No. on Rolls, December 31, 1965			By Raising	By Affiliation	Dual Mem' ship	Reinstatement	Other Causes		By Demission	By Death	By Suspension	By Expulsion			Other Causes	Total Loss
		No.	No.	No.	No.															
Lebanon . . .	323	9	16	8	5	208	9	2	0	0	0	219	2	6	5	0	0	13	206	323
Cairo	324	1	2	0	0	76	0	0	0	0	0	76	0	0	1	0	0	1	75	324
Bellevue . . .	325	25	7	22	6	374	24	5	0	0	0	403	3	2	10	1	1	17	386	325
Centennial	326	35	22	31	8	396	32	11	0	1	0	440	2	1	1	0	0	4	436	326
Totals . .		910	822	884	285	44897	875	250	23	302	8	46355	346	971	445	4	20	1786	44569	

VETERAN SECRETARIES

Who have served 25 years or more.

Arvene C. Eisenhart.....	Culbertson No. 174.....	46 years
Fred R. Haggart.....	St. Paul No. 82.....	45 years
Fredolph C. Chalquist.....	Composite No. 81.....	37 years
C. Robert Carlson.....	Wauneta No. 217.....	37 years
Leon J. Cherny.....	North Bend No. 119.....	35 years
Carl H. Hoge.....	Lebanon No. 323.....	34 years
Roy T. Stiehl.....	Hay Springs No. 177.....	31 years
Elmer H. Seyfang.....	Potter No. 313.....	29 years
Fred R. Lamb.....	Papillion No. 39.....	28 years
William E. Edwards.....	Alliance No. 183.....	28 years
Harve I. Lang.....	Litchfield No. 278.....	28 years
Frank F. McMullin.....	George Armstrong No. 241.....	28 years
Charles F. Eberline.....	East Lincoln No. 210.....	27 years
Floyd Christy.....	Trestle Board No. 162.....	26 years
Warren C. Hall.....	Nelson No. 77.....	26 years

REPORT OF THE GRAND CUSTODIAN

Following is the report of the Grand Custodian:

CENTRAL SCHOOLS

Fourteen Central Schools were assigned this year. Two more than usual as we felt the need of this type of school in certain areas. Seven of these were 'Four Night Schools,' six were 'Two Day Schools' and one a 'Three Day School.' The average attendance was 146.

EXAMINATION SCHOOLS

This type of school makes it possible for the Assistant Custodian to instruct in the floor work in addition to examining the Lodge in the esoteric work of the three degrees. There were 151 of these schools held this year.

INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS

The individual school is usually held for a non-certified lodge and for only one group of officers in their own Lodge. There were 78 of these schools held. This is a decided increase as we felt more basic instruction was needed.

LODGE CERTIFICATION

Again this year, more than 50% of our Nebraska lodges have been certified. There were 151 certificates of proficiency issued.

INDIVIDUAL CERTIFICATION

This year we have had 38 'First Certificates.' An increase of 11 over last year. A total of 769 Individual Certificates of Proficiency were issued. An overall increase of 48.

STATISTICS

The following tables indicate the largest number and the highest percentage of certified men in our Nebraska lodges:

LARGEST NUMBER	HIGHEST PERCENTAGE
East Lincoln, 210.....38	Cable, 225 .....12.88%
Lancaster, 54 .....36	Merna, 171 .....10.00%
Bee Hive, 184.....25	Comet, 229 8.40%
Lincoln, 19 .....25	Sioux, 277 8.33%
Craftsmen, 314 .....20	Victory, 310 8.18%
Robert W. Furnas, 265.....17	Keystone, 62 8.16%
Victory, 310 .....17	Golden Rod, 306..... 6.83%
Ashlar, 33 .....16	George Armstrong, 241..... 6.76%
Liberty, 300 .....14	Beaver City, 93 6.72%
Bellevue, 325 .....14	Papillion, 39 5.44%
Papillion, 39 .....14	
Florence, 281 .....13	
John J. Mercer, 290.....13	
Alliance, 183 .....13	

TWENTY YEAR CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

This certificate is given in recognition of twenty years of continuous certification. The following Brethren were honored this year: Earl H. Furman, Jesse P. Wade, 290; Arthur Anderson, 146; Forrest Biggerstaff, 225; R. Lynn Sherwood, 302; Harry A. Spencer, 227; Ralph R. Carleton, 306; Merle M. Vilmer, 201; Harold J. Oehlerking, 159 and Orion A. Kennedy, 303.

SHILOH LODGE U. D. I.

On August 17, 1965, the Grand Custodian certified to the Grand Master that the proposed officers of Shiloh Lodge were able to confer the three degrees and give the lectures in a suitable and impressive manner. This examination was completed and reported to the Grand Master prior to their instituting.

ASSISTANT CUSTODIANS

Our Assistant Custodians have performed their duties this past year with the dedication which each of them possesses. Seven new Assistant Custodians were added to our staff this year, appointed by M. W. Louis Sylvester, recommended by the Grand Custodian and approved by the Committee on Nebraska Work. They are as follows: Robert W. Boon, 33; Augustus W. Clark, 318; Alton S. Mote, 183; Ralph W. Gerry, 281; Arnold F. Mains, 15; Nelson W. Rittenburg, 210 and Harold J. Oehlerking, 159.

ASSISTANT CUSTODIANS EMERITUS

Two of our beloved Custodians Emeritus passed from this life during the Grand Lodge year. W. Jesse P. Entrekinn passed away at his home in California on October 14, 1965 and W. Ward B. Shrack passed away in Denver, Colorado on February 17, 1966.

These dedicated and devoted Masons will be greatly missed by all who knew them. The mark they left behind will live forever in the memory of those who were privileged to benefit from their work.

M. W. Louis V. Sylvester has designated two of our Custodians as Custodian Emeritus. W. Cecil C. Gates has received this honor for his many years of faithful service to the craft. Brother "Cec" was first appointed in 1938. W. Mathias E. Mauel also received this honor for his diligent service to his Brethren. Brother "Mat" received his appointment in 1956.

CONCLUSION

Your Grand Custodian has been in attendance at all but one evening session of the Central Schools, at every Area Meeting of the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education, at every Grand Lodge function where his services were required and many where they were not and innumerable other Masonic functions. This report would not be complete without expressing our sincere thanks and gratitude to M.:W.:Louis V. Sylvester, to R.:W.:Carl R. Greisen, to the Committee on Nebraska Work, to all our loyal and devoted Assistant Custodians and to each and every one who had the smallest part in making the road a little smoother.

Fraternally submitted,

Robert H. Cook

Grand Custodian

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DOINGS OF GRAND OFFICERS

W. Byron C. Jenkins, 325, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Doings of Grand officers which was adopted.

The Committee respectfully submits as its report that the Address of M. W. Louis V. Sylvester, Grand Master, be referred as follows:

To the Committee on Fraternal Dead:

The Section on Necrology.

To the Committee on Jurisprudence:

The Sections on By-Laws Approved, Decisions, Dispensations, Washington Lodge No. 21, Recommendations Nos. 1, 2, 4, and 5. Recommendation No. 3 to lay over for consideration at the 110th Annual Communication.

To the Committee on Charters and Dispensations:

The Sections on Consolidations, Surrender of Charters, and Shiloh Lodge U. D. .

To the Committee on Grievances:

The Section on Trial Commissions.

The entire report indicates a whole-hearted devotion to the discharge of the duties of the Grand Master, and the fervency and zeal with which he has promoted the Craft wherever he has traveled. The Committee recommends that all matters not herein specifically referred to Committees be approved and ratified.

REVIEW OF THE REPORT OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

We recommend that the designated portions of the report of the Grand Secretary be referred as follows:

To the Committee on Charters and Dispensations:

The Sections on Surrender of Charter, Consolidation, Shiloh Lodge U. D. ., Chartered Lodges.

To the Committee on Grievances:

The Section on Grievances.

To the Committee on Jurisprudence:

The Section on Questionnaire.

To the Committee on Finance:

All financial and report schedules, relating to funds, also statistical tables and reports relating to membership.

As in the past our Grand Secretary continues to carry out the duties of his office in an efficient and capable manner. The Committee recommends that all matters not herein specifically referred to Committees be approved and ratified.

REVIEW OF THE REPORT OF THE GRAND CUSTODIAN

We recommend that the entire report be referred to the Committee on Nebraska Work. We are all indebted to the Grand Custodian and his Assistants for their unselfish service to the Craft.

The Committee further recommends that all matters not herein referred to Committees be approved and ratified.

At 11:45 a.m. the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

Buses were waiting in front of the Masonic Temple to transport all Master Masons and their ladies to The Nebraska Masonic Home at Plattsmouth where they were served a delicious lunch on the grounds and then spent the afternoon touring the Home. Buses returned to Omaha around 4 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8 SECOND DAY—MORNING SESSION

At 9 a.m. the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor as at the preceding session.

REPORT OF MASONIC MANOR

Brother Charles J. Black, 290, President, presented the report of Masonic Manor which was accepted.

The Masonic Manor, now that it is fully occupied, is the pride and envy of all who reside in it and even the outsider who can view it from any direction and for miles along the highways leading into Omaha. Here is a place any person can be justly proud to be privileged to have residence as long as they desire or to the end of their natural lives.

The Manor under the capable managership of Brother Clifford C. McGee and under the direction of a Board of Trustees, who have been responsible for the operation over the past years, has shown remarkable progress and to date is completely sold out. It was mentioned by a member of the Board some months ago that the time is close at hand when there will be no vacancies and we will have a waiting list of applicants. It seems that the prediction has come true.

Most of the credit for what has been accomplished since the first spade of dirt was turned to start the construction, is due to the untiring efforts and dedication of the various representatives of the Grand Lodge

and the willingness of the representatives from the Manor now serving on the Board to give of their time and efforts to insure its success.

The Board meets the third Thursday of each month to review the progress and conduct all regular business relative to the operation of the Manor, to dispose of all bills, to review the needs of the Manor incident to the efficient operation, to discuss new ways and means of operating efficiently and in a manner that will be most effective and satisfactory to the welfare of the residents.

As is true in any major operation such as this there has been problems but none of severe or serious nature. We are indeed fortunate to have on our staff a dedicated group of capable engineers, each of whom feel their responsibilities and perform their several duties with a great deal of pride and efficiency. Mr. McGee is to be highly commended for his careful selection in the hiring of these men. He has maintained a close relationship with them and as a result they have become dedicated to their task.

The Board feels very fortunate in having such a dedicated person as "Cliff" to manage the affairs of the Manor.

The cafeteria has had its ups and downs on occasions but presently is operating in an efficient manner, and as was intended, is now paying its way and indications are that it will continue to do so. This is a place we can all be proud to bring guests to enjoy with us the fine quality of food, which is home cooked. It is indeed a pleasure to relax in its home-like atmosphere and pleasant surroundings. Conservative buying has made it possible to maintain the required standard of operation. Continued patronage alone can further insure its future.

The Board of Trustees of the Manor are indeed grateful to the Grand Secretary R. W. Carl R. Greisen for his able assistance, for his wise counsel and advice he has offered at each regular meeting of the Board. We feel deeply indebted to him for the splendid manner in which he has kept us informed during the deliberations and for all that has been accomplished during the past years through his untiring efforts in our behalf.

We wish to thank all the members of the Grand Lodge and many others who have served on the Board or participated in any manner in bringing to a reality this fine residential facility for the benefit of all Masons who seek contentment and freedom from worries of maintaining a private residence. We thank you for your interest in our endeavor to make the Masonic Manor a place in which any Master Mason can be proud to call their home.

The members of the Board who reside in the Manor consider it a distinct privilege and pleasure to have the opportunity to serve on this Board.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL RELATIONS

M. W. William B. Wanner, 9, presented the report of the Committee on Fraternal Relations which was adopted.

Your Committee on Fraternal Relations respectfully reports that there has been no change in our fraternal relations with other Jurisdictions with whom we are now exchanging Representatives during the past Masonic Year.

This has been quite a strange year, in view of the fact that we have received no requests for fraternal recognition at all.

Cuba continues to be a puzzle. According to some reports the Grand Lodge of Cuba continues to work, show gains and claims they are not disturbed by the existing government. Castro, unlike most dictators, has allowed Masonry to continue but on his terms. Cuba claims there are 334 Lodges working, with four new ones formed. There are some 30,000 members in Cuba. Some thirteen Grand Lodges have broken off relations with Cuba. North Carolina recognizes neither the Exiles in Florida or Cuba itself. The Lodge at Guantanamo Bay surrendered their charter back to Cuba; they first attempted to get Florida to give them relief and failing that have been given a dispensation from Massachusetts, under which they are now working. Therefore, in view of the fact that only conflicting reports can be received, we recommend for another year, no change in our relations.

The Grand Lodges in Central America seem to be at peace within themselves since last year's report and we congratulate them. Some trouble has occurred in Peru, whom we recognize, but they seem to be able to handle their difficulties themselves in very good fashion.

The Grand Lodge of Belgium is continuing its course in splendid condition. They are now recognized by every American Grand Lodge. Maine, the only holdout, surrendered after the British Triumvirate joined in the general recognition of Belgium. They have now been recognized by 77 Grand Lodges around the world, Nebraska was the third one to do so.

The Grand Lodge of France loses more recognition in the United States each year, Wisconsin being the latest to resign. California, the District of Columbia, Kentucky and Louisiana are all that are left that do. The United Grand Lodges of Germany also changed and withdrew, as did Montana, Vermont, Michigan and Alabama. The National Grand Lodge of France has had a very good year, however. They raised about a thousand of their own, of whom some 850 were French, very commendable; they also received about a thousand deserters from the Grand Lodge of France besides. Thirty-four new lodges were also constituted.

The Grand Lodge of Turkey has had some trouble with the Scottish Rite and have reaffirmed their independence of that body. Efforts to revise their ritual in greater accord with most jurisdictions seem to have sparked the trouble. All of their 42 lodges were represented at

their Grand Lodge Communication. Their new Grand Master is incidentally not a member of the Rite. I believe they will win their battle eventually.

Holland, or more strictly speaking, the Netherlands, has 51 Lodges but I could find no membership listed at all. Their proceedings are printed in Dutch. Two new lodges were established last year, one being named for "Wolfgang A. Mozart", the great composer and Mason. Two Lodges celebrated their 50th anniversary.

Sao Paulo in Brazil had a satisfactory year with a gain of 141 and four new lodges constituted and one revived. They have compulsory insurance in this jurisdiction and all candidates, even former members, must present a health certificate with their petition. This jurisdiction along with that of Bahia, started the Grand Lodge of Mato Grasso in 1962, of which more later.

India held their latest meeting in March, 1965. They started 14 new Lodges during the year. In British-connected Lodges, the Mark degree is separate from the Royal Arch. The Royal Arch Chapter became a part of this Grand Lodge in 1963 and this past year the Mark Lodges were also introduced. There were nine old Mark Lodges belonging to old British Lodges and 28 new Mark Lodges were set up, giving them about 1350 members in this division. Their Grand Master made the announcement that the father of Pandit Nehru, Prime Minister of India, of whom you all have heard, Pandit Motilal Nehru was a Mason and Past Master of his Lodge. He reported he had recently unveiled a portrait of the elder Nehru in his Lodge. No membership statistics are given at all.

Rhode Island hopes that their trouble with Ireland similar to that we had a few years ago, that of representation near Ireland, would be cured with their withdrawal of relations with the Grand Lodge of France.

England is the largest Grand Lodge in the world, having over 7,000 Lodges and about 550,000 members. They are a little worried about the relations of G. L. Alpina of Switzerland with France. Although officially relations have been cancelled, intervisitation continues between the two countries in spite of this, so English members are forbidden to visit Swiss Lodges, but the Swiss are not forbidden to visit English, being rather a peculiar arrangement. The Swiss have 43 Lodges with about 3,100 members. Their charities are wide-spread, extending to nurseries, soup kitchens and collecting centers. They had a gain of 9 for the year.

The Grand Lodge of Scotland reports a good year. Their voluntary donations for charity were up by some 2,300 pounds sterling. They had almost 12,000 initiations, an increase over last year of nearly 500. Only four new Lodges however were started.

The Grand Lodge of South Africa was formed in 1961. They now have 94 Lodges with some 4,300 members. India, Germany, New York,

the British Isles have and this year at least Quebec have recognized them. We have never been requested to do so. They recently won a complete victory with a church sect in the Courts over various allegations made by the church group.

Only two new Lodges were started in Ireland. A petition to allow lower dues for retired members and those over 65 was denied by the Board of General Purposes.

Israel had one new Lodge, had their legal rights to the land whereon the Temple of Peace is to be erected confirmed. They have 52 Lodges and about 2,600 members. They had to elect a new Grand Secretary as the incumbent resigned.

Japan raised 234 during the year but only 16 were Japanese. This is their greatest weakness, but since their ritual has been translated into their native tongue, perhaps this will change. Of their 3,200 members only 114 are Nationals. Progress is being made to move their Lodge halls from military bases. Two Lodges were consolidated.

Greek Freemasonry is rather exclusive. High social standing and/or a college degree are essential for admission. This careful screening does create a closely knit body however. Candidates have to attend so many meetings, pass a written examination and a minimum of twelve months between each degree and excellent behavior both within and without. Their charities are outstanding. Their present Grand Master addressed the last Grand Lodge Session of Illinois. He was the first one ever to visit an American jurisdiction. He presented to the G. L. of New York a true copy of a Relief from one of their Greek Temples. This was a representation of the initiation of Triptopolemus into the mysteries of the Goddess Demeter and her daughter Persephone. He later became the founder of the Eleusinian Mysteries, of which some of you may have heard and what some claim to be the start of Freemasonry. He told of their difficulties since World War II and gave a cordial invitation to visit Greece.

Last year we reported that the Grand Lodge of Mato Grosso in Brazil had asked us for recognition. During the past year I have noticed that a great many G. L.s have recognized this G. L. and know of no good reason why we should not. We are already in amity with both their parents: Bahia and Sao Paulo. Just recently the Grand Orient of Italy, in special letter under date of 3-23-66 notified us that they had done so. I, therefore, move that we recognize the Serenissima (or Most Serene) Grande Loza Simbolica do Estado de Mato Grosso and exchange Representatives therewith.

This brief report of some of the Jurisdictions around the world is submitted with the hope that the information contained herein may be of interest to the membership of Nebraska.

There is one item in our own country that is disturbing. A couple of years ago I predicted that the Civil Rights issue might create more difficulty among our jurisdictions than the War Between the

States had done. For two years now, Lodges in Arkansas have petitioned their Grand Lodge to break off relations with New York and New Jersey, but have been deterred by the wise counsel of their Fraternal Relations Committee, who pointed out that withdrawal is a TWO-way street, that the relations between New York and New Jersey could never affect Arkansas; that present law protects against visitors; that G. L.s abroad who have many Negro Lodges might take exception to such action; that most U. S. jurisdictions were quite cool when notified of this contemplation; that Arkansas should try to uphold its own high standards and not restrict or embarrass their Grand Officers in their duties. And the Grand Lodge concurred in this advice. Now comes Oklahoma, who really should know better, seems to me, by action of their Grand Master only, not their Grand Lodge and under the date of April 15, 1966, charges that because New Jersey has a colored Chaplain and permits Alpha Lodge No. 116 to operate, (which they have done for over 100 years) they are disturbing the peace, harmony and concord of the G. L. of Oklahoma and, therefore, as of this date April 15, 1966, they withdraw fraternal relations from the Grand Lodge of New Jersey. Poor abused Oklahoma!

Your Committee now recommends that all other past applications for recognition be continued for further study, without prejudice, until the next Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge.

Printed copies of the Fraternal Review prepared by M. W. Brother Wanner were distributed to all the brethren present.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON GRAND LODGE OFFICES

W. Herman G. Reinholz, 3, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Grand Lodge Offices which was adopted.

We are happy to report that the idea which came over the horizon during July, 1964, and which took on substance at the Grand Lodge Communication in June, 1965, has become a reality when the Grand Lodge office moved from the fourth floor to the second floor of the Masonic Temple in Omaha.

The Committee takes this opportunity to express its sincerest appreciation to the many Brethren and others for the cooperation and assistance given us. To name all of these fine people would take too much time; but there are some who should be given special recognition. They are:

Mr. Ness Latenser of the firm of John Latenser and Sons, architects, who spent considerable time discussing the plans with us and giving us the benefit of his wide experience and knowledge.

The Lueder Construction Company for the fine workmanship they did when remodeling the second floor.

Miss Marjorie Langhorst of Contract Areas Incorporated, who did the interior decorating, and who spent a lot of extra time with us when it came to arranging furniture, hanging pictures, etc.

The Bekin Van and Storage Company, which furnished four hard-working men to do the actual moving, including five heavy safes.

Brother Warren W. Kelly, building superintendent, and his crew, who gave us so much assistance at all times.

And last, but not least, a special thank you to R. W. Carl R. Greisen, W. Robert W. Cook, W. Harold H. Thom, Miss Viola Guess, Mrs. Thelma McNeal, Mrs. Edna Randall and Miss Beverly Smith for the extra work they did and the long hours spent by them during moving time—they all put in a lot of real labor.

Although a separate report is being made by the Grand Historian, we wish to say that he had, and still has, a very tough assignment in connection with the new Museum and Library. We are deeply indebted to W. George W. Rosenlof for the important and wonderful job he is doing. The enormity of the task is more fully appreciated when we realize that the books and items on display were scattered all over the Masonic Temple building, many without any degree of order.

Before getting into the matter of appropriations we wish to compliment the office staff for the efficient manner in which they performed their duties. We couldn't find a finer group.

Recently M. W. John F. Futcher, of the Board of Grand Trustees, called our attention to the large number of Funds handled for the Grand Lodge and The Nebraska Masonic Home, eight for the former and six for the latter. He indicated that two Funds for each would be ample. Due to the fact that our present voucher and ledger system would be continued, and inasmuch as this system properly identifies all expenditures, this Committee agrees with the recommendation made by him.

In accordance with past practice budget statements have been submitted to the Committee on Appropriations for approval, covering salaries of the employees of the Grand Lodge, rent for the office, miscellaneous expenses in connection with other matters and this annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. The major changes in this statement, as compared with last year, are:

Electricity has been added in an estimated amount of \$1,000.00 (and approximately \$490.00 will be charged to other Masonic bodies).

Because of the increase in the number of Fifty-year Buttons, this item requires an additional \$372.30.

The printing of the Supplement to the Grand Lodge Law requires \$370.00.

The cost of the Grand Lodge dinner has been increased \$450.00.

The Retirement Fund is listed at \$4,600.00.

The budget for Grand Lodge Office Expense remains the same as last year, or \$4,000.00.

M. W. Sir, with this report I am ending my third year as Chairman of this Committee. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to have served under you and your two predecessors. To all of you, the members of my Committee, and the many Brethren who gave us so much assistance, my sincerest thanks.

REPORT OF GRAND TRUSTEES

M. W. John F. Futcher, 302, Chairman, presented the report of the Grand Trustees which was adopted.

Your Board of Grand Trustees respectfully submits the following report of its activities for the year ended May 10, 1966.

In our report to the Grand Lodge Communication of last year we advised that selected sales had been made of common stock and reported the profits that had been realized. At the beginning of this fiscal year there still remained in the Grand Lodge Funds \$159,485.75 of common stock based upon cost. In the Home General Fund there was \$102,290.51, and in the Endowment and Bequest Fund \$319,980.33 of common stock based on cost.

In the spring of 1965, measured by the Dow Jones Industrial Average, the stock market had reached the 900 level, and for the remainder of the year your Board of Trustees followed the upward trend of the stock market, until in January, 1966, it reached the 990 level. This was an increase of 450 points from the 1962 lows, and when in Mid-January the stock market began to retreat from its high of 994, your Board of Grand Trustees decided that it should aggressively pursue a program of disposing of the common stocks in the Grand Lodge Funds and in the Funds of The Nebraska Masonic Home.

In the latter part of January we sold all of the common stocks in Grand Lodge Funds for a price of \$269,834.52, which represented a profit of \$110,348.77 over the original cost. We also sold all of the common stock in the General Fund of the Home at \$206,509.46, representing a profit over cost of \$104,218.95. We likewise sold all of the common stock in the Endowment and Bequest Fund for \$452,606.32, realizing a profit over cost of \$132,625.95.

Except for a small purchase in December, 1964, these stocks which were sold have been carried in our portfolios for some years.

The funds derived from the sale of common stock have been invested in fixed income securities, both long and short term, to take advantage of the higher rate of interest we now experience, which historically is the highest in 40 years.

The assets of the Grand Lodge at the close of our year 1966 totaled \$983,242.27. The income received on investments was \$34,885.37. With respect to The Nebraska Masonic Home the assets at year-end 1966 totaled \$2,467,909.92. Return from investment of \$233,046.49 of these funds was \$91,531.18.

While some of the funds in both the Grand Lodge and The Nebraska Masonic Home derived from the sale of common stocks have been invested in long-term securities, the largest portion has been invested in relatively short-term securities so that your Board of Grand Trustees may take advantage of the retreat of the stock market in what now is termed a bear market. We anticipate that later in the year, or perhaps in early 1967, we will again reinvest in common stocks a good portion of the funds that are now in short term investments.

The audit prepared by our Certified Public Accountant containing statements of assets and liabilities and the analysis of surplus and Fund balances, reflecting the financial condition of both the Grand Lodge and The Nebraska Masonic Home, will be published in the Annual Proceedings as a part of this report.

During the year the Trustees approved mortgage loan applications of two of our Lodges to provide funds for improvement of their buildings. The total amount invested was \$15,000.

From time to time in the last few years members of the Board of Grand Trustees have brought up for consideration the numerous accounts of the Grand Lodge and The Nebraska Masonic Home and the number of checking accounts which either by law or by practice have been maintained for a number of years. According to the accounting procedures followed it was necessary to transfer funds from one bank account to another account on many occasions during the year to comply with the practices established and the provisions of our laws. In January of this year the Board of Grand Trustees adopted a resolution directing the Chairman and the Secretary to meet with our Certified Public Accountant to request of him a plan for consolidation so that some of the eight checking accounts in the Grand Lodge and the six in the Home could be eliminated and, if necessary, we seek changes in our laws for a consolidation of these Funds and accounts.

In 1957 the Grand Lodge created a new system of accounting and procedures affecting the Funds of the Grand Lodge, and it adopted an amendment creating the Committee on Appropriations which, among other things, provided that all officers, committees and individuals requiring funds for the operation of the Grand Lodge should make application to the Appropriations Committee, which should fix the amounts to be appropriated to carry on the functions of the Grand Lodge.

Since no funds of the Grand Lodge may be used without an appropriation, and since the financial limit and authority of the officers, persons or committees of the Grand Lodge is fixed, we are of the opinion that the Funds of the Grand Lodge may be consolidated effectively into two—The General Fund, which should constitute the operating Fund of the Grand Lodge and into which all income from whatever source should be deposited in accordance with the provisions of our laws, the surplus over that needed for operating expenses to be invested by the Grand Trustees in accordance with the provisions of the laws having to do with investing of Grand Lodge Funds; and a Grand

Lodge Retirement Fund established to comply with the retirement program adopted by the Grand Lodge, into which should be deposited the sums appropriated by the Grand Lodge from year to year with respect to the employees of the Grand Lodge and of The Nebraska Masonic Home.

It is the recommendation of the Board of Grand Trustees that the Trustees of The Nebraska Masonic Home should consolidate the funds of The Nebraska Masonic Home into two, namely, a General Fund and an Endowment and Bequest Fund. The General Fund to be the operating fund of The Nebraska Masonic Home, and the Endowment and Bequest Fund, as its name implies, to be an endowment fund into which all gifts and bequests to The Nebraska Masonic Home should be deposited. We are of the opinion this can be done by the Trustees of the Committee on Grand Lodge Offices and the Grand Master.

These matters have been discussed with and approved by members of the Committee on Grand Lodge Officers and the Grand Master.

To the purpose of simplification the Board of Grand Trustees therefore recommends that the following be adopted as a provision of our Grand Lodge laws and requests that unanimous consent be given to its adoption at this session:

Sec. 1-406—GENERAL FUND AND RETIREMENT FUND
(Amended).

That hereafter the Funds of this Grand Lodge shall be the following: General Fund and Retirement Fund.

The Orphans Educational Endowment Fund is hereby consolidated with the General Fund. The General Fund shall be the operating fund of this Grand Lodge, out of which the expenses of the Grand Lodge as appropriated by the Grand Lodge shall be paid. This fund with its net annual increase, shall, by the Board of Grand Trustees, be invested and reinvested and kept separate and distinct from all other funds. Into this Fund shall be deposited all income of this Grand Lodge from whatever source derived.

There is hereby established a Retirement Fund for the benefit of the employees of this Grand Lodge and The Nebraska Masonic Home. Into this Fund shall be deposited the amount appropriated by the Grand Lodge in accordance with the retirement program heretofore approved by the Grand Lodge and as may be subsequently amended by it. This Fund with its net annual increase, shall, by the Board of Grand Trustees, be invested and reinvested and kept separate and distinct from all other funds.

(Sec. 1-406 and subsequent amendments repealed 1966.)

As Chairman of the Board of Grand Trustees I have been authorized by the members to express our pleasure in the privilege of having served the Grand Lodge in our designated capacity during the past year.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

M. W. John F. Fitcher, 302, asked for unanimous consent to consider the following proposed amendment, which was granted. The Grand Secretary read the proposed amendment which was signed by five members of the Grand Lodge, and which was adopted by two-thirds majority.

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There is hereby established a Retirement Fund for the benefit of the employees of this Grand Lodge and The Nebraska Masonic Home. Into this Fund shall be deposited the amount appropriated by the Grand Lodge in accordance with the retirement program heretofore approved by the Grand Lodge and as may be subsequently amended by it. This Fund with its net annual increase, shall, by the Board of Grand Trustees, be invested and reinvested and kept separate and distinct from all other funds.

(Sec. 1-406 and subsequent amendments repealed 1966.)

GRAND LODGE A. F. AND A. M. OF NEBRASKA
ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

May 10, 1966

Assets

	Total
Cash on deposit with banks:	
General Account	\$ 46,445.42
Special Account	206.39
Exchange Account	645.30
Orphans' Educational Endowment Fund.....	187,484.27
Supply Account	14,951.49
Relief Account	14,347.50
Centennial Contingent Account.....	692.33
Retirement Account	1,290.76
	266,063.46
Accrued interest receivable.....	250.00
Bonds and Stocks.....	708,145.21
Stock in The Nebraska Masonic Home—nominal value.....	1.00
Stock in Masonic-Eastern Star Home—nominal value.....	1.00

Furniture and fixtures—nominal value.....	1.00
Supply inventory	8,780.60
	<hr/>
	\$983,242.27

Liabilities

Due to The Nebraska Masonic Home:	
General Fund	\$ 2,345.75
Endowment and Bequest Fund.....	405.11
Seal Fund	702.60
	<hr/>
	3,453.46
Other sundry payables.....	430.30
Balance of appropriations on 1965-1966 budget.....	2,700.00
Surplus or Fund Balance:	
Orphans' Educational Fund.....	884,070.22
Less unexpended on 1965-1966 budget.....	2,700.00
	<hr/>
Balance	881,370.22
Supply Account	23,732.09
Relief Account	47,309.11
Centennial Contingent Account.....	692.33
Retirement Account	23,554.76
	<hr/>
	976,658.51
	<hr/>
	\$983,242.27

GRAND LODGE A. F. F. AND A. M. F. OF NEBRASKA
Comparative Assets and Liabilities

ASSETS	May 10, 1965	May 10, 1966	(Decrease)
Cash on deposit with banks.....	\$ 79,007.04	\$266,063.46	\$187,056.42
Accrued interest receivable.....		250.00	250.00
Bonds and stocks.....	772,976.79	708,145.21	(64,831.58)
Stock in The Nebraska Masonic			
Home	1.00	1.00	
Stock in Masonic-Eastern Star			
Home for Children.....	1.00	1.00	
Furniture and fixtures.....	1.00	1.00	
Supply inventory	8,984.33	8,780.60	(203.73)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$860,971.16	\$983,242.27	\$122,271.11

LIABILITIES

Due to The Nebraska Masonic			
Home	\$ 657.88	\$ 3,453.46	\$ 2,795.58
Other sundry payables.....		430.30	430.30
Balance of appropriations on 1964-65 and 1965-66 budgets.....			
	2,150.00	2,700.00	550.00

Surplus or Fund Balance.....	858,163.28	976,658.51	118,495.23
	<u>\$860,971.16</u>	<u>\$983,242.27</u>	<u>\$122,271.11</u>

THE NEBRASKA MASONIC HOME
ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

May 10, 1966

Assets

	Totals
Cash on deposit:	
The Omaha National Bank:	
General Account	\$ 20,187.92
General Investment Account.....	108,218.92
Endowment and Bequest Fund.....	293,829.98
Plattsmouth State Bank, Plattsmouth, Nebraska.....	7,168.63
United States National Bank of Omaha.....	5,761.30
	<u>435,166.75</u>
Bonds and Stocks.....	1,981,607.25
Real estate mortgages and contracts.....	47,680.46
Buildings and grounds—Masonic Home.....	1.00
Furnishings—Masonic Home	1.00
Due from Grand Lodge A. F. and A. M. of Nebraska.....	3,453.46
Due from Seal Fund.....	NONE
	<u>\$2,467,909.92</u>

Liabilities and Net Worth

Balance in Entertainment Account	\$ 1,086.88
Balance in Memory Account	23,106.63
Balance in Thanksgiving Account	5,637.48
Balance in Perpetual Room Account	775.00
Balance in Room Furnishings Account	129.20
Balance in Edwards Memorial Account	284.00
Balance in Evers Memorial Account	599.00
	<u>31,618.19</u>
Due to Endowment & Bequest Fund.....	NONE
Balance of appropriations on 1965-1966 budget.....	29,671.65
Net Worth:	
Capital stock	1.00
Surplus or Fund Balances.....	NONE
Less unexpended on 1965-1966 budget.....	NONE
Balance	<u>2,406,619.08</u>
	<u>\$2,467,909.92</u>

THE NEBRASKA MASONIC HOME
Comparative Assets and Liabilities

ASSETS	May 10, 1965	May 10, 1966	Increase (Decrease)
Cash on deposit:			
The Omaha National Bank, Omaha, Nebraska:			
General Account	\$ 19,230.03	\$ 20,187.92	\$ 957.89
General Investment Account	60,054.95	108,218.92	48,163.97
Endowment and Bequest Fund	8,333.04	293,829.98	285,496.94
Plattsmouth State Bank, Plattsmouth			
Nebraska	13,381.57	7,168.63	(6,212.94)
United States National Bank of Omaha	5,502.79	5,761.30	258.51
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	106,502.38	435,166.75	328,664.37
Bonds and Stocks	1,994,859.53	1,981,607.25	(13,252.28)
Real estate mortgages	43,690.52	47,680.46	3,989.94
Buildings and grounds—Masonic Home	1.00	1.00	
Furnishings—Masonic Home	1.00	1.00	
Dues from Grand Lodge A. F. and A. M. of Nebraska	657.88	3,453.46	2,795.58
Accrued interest receivable	1,597.79		(1,597.79)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	\$2,147,310.10	\$2,467,909.92	\$320,599.82
 LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH			
Balance in Entertainment Account	\$ 3,073.47	\$ 1,086.88	(\$ 1,986.59)
Balance in Memory Account	19,798.28	23,106.63	3,308.35
Balance in Thanksgiving Account	5,637.48	5,637.48	
Balance in Perpetual Room Account	775.00	775.00	
Balance in Room Furnishings Account	119.20	129.20	10.00
Balance in Edwards Memorial Account	284.00	284.00	
Balance in Evers Memorial Account	4,883.00	599.00	(4,284.00)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	34,570.43	31,618.19	(2,952.24)
Balance of appropriations on 1964-65/1965-66 budgets	35,478.36	29,871.65	(5,806.71)
Net Worth:			
Capital stock	1.00	1.00	
Surplus or Fund Balances	2,077,260.31	2,406,619.08	329,358.77
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	\$2,147,310.10	\$2,467,909.92	\$320,599.82

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS

M. W. Louis V. Sylvester, Grand Master, announced that the hour had arrived for the election of Grand Officers and appointed as tellers the Assistant Custodians with W. Hal D. Weddell, 61, as Chairman.

The following Officers were elected :

Brother Lewis R. Ricketts, 19..... M. W. Grand Master
 Brother John A. Bottorf, 49..... R. W. Deputy Grand Master
 Brother Norris W. Lallman, 72..... R. W. Grand Senior Warden
 Brother Hugh W. Eisenhart, 150..... R. W. Grand Junior Warden
 Brother Carl R. Greisen, 32..... R. W. Grand Secretary

Later in the session appointment was made of :

Brother Levi B. Williams, 1..... V. W. Grand Chaplain
 Brother Vance D. Rogers, 314..... W. Grand Orator
 Brother George W. Rosenlof, 314..... W. Grand Historian
 Brother Robert W. Cook, 33..... W. Grand Custodian
 Brother C. Harold Edwards, 105..... W. Grand Marshal
 Brother John H. Brown, 1..... W. Grand Senior Deacon
 Brother Warren K. Urbom, 314..... W. Grand Junior Deacon
 Brother Charles H. Ninegar, 301..... W. Grand Tyler

GRAND LODGE COMMITTEES 1966-1967

Application for Reinstatement: W. Brothers Earl H. Furman, 290, Chairman; Herbert Egerer, 303; Elmer E. Smith, 326.

Appropriations: W. Brothers Fred D. Moshier, 281 (1967), Chairman; Walter Truex, 55 (1968); Donald R. Swanson, 54 (1969); Alfred B. Saum, 46 (1970); Melvin E. Johnson, 112 (1971).

Finance: W. Brothers Robert E. Lund, 323 (1969), Chairman; Philip G. Johnson, 19 (1967); Ralph R. Carleton, 306 (1968); Jess W. Wade, 290 (1970); Howard L. Patterson, 303 (1971).

Fraternal Dead: W. Walter O. Samuelson, 326, Chairman; Brother William F. Patterson, 327; W. Paul M. Erdman, 180.

Fraternal Relations: R. W. Carl R. Greisen, 32, Chairman; M. W. William B. Wanner, 9; W. Edward J. Taylor, 150.

George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association: W. Cary W. Dresslar, 32, Chairman; M. W. Charles F. Adams, 68; Brother Robert L. Page, 1.

Grand Lodge Offices: W. Herman G. Reinholz, 3 (1971), Chairman; W. William A. Pettingill, 25 (1967); W. Vernon H. Wood, 290 (1968). W. James M. Paxson, 302 (1969); M. W. Merle M. Hale, 54 (1970);

Grand Trustees: M. W. John F. Fatcher, 302 (1971), Chairman; W. William E. Moor, 102 (1967); W. Harold E. Gabrielson, 302 (1968); W. Robert A. Wekesser, 54 (1969); W. Alfred E. Gesehke, 25 (1970).

Grievances: W. Brothers Clarence M. Pierson, 19, Chairman; Otto Kotoue, 40; Jack M. West, 222.

Masonic-Eastern Star Student Fund: W. Delbert H. Pinkerton, 314, Chairman; W. Lyle J. Bryant, 297; M. W. Elmer E. Magee, 227.

Masonic Education: W. Howard J. Hunter, 59 (1969), Chairman; W. John H. Brown, 1 (1967); M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, 19 (1968); M. W. Louis V. Sylvester, 281 (1968); M. W. Harry A. Spencer, 227 (1969).

Nebraska Work: M. W. Brothers Edward F. Carter, 201 (1967), Chairman; Herbert T. White, 11 (1968); Louis V. Sylvester, 281 (1969).

Public Relations: W. Joe H. Hartley, 54, Chairman; W. John S. Savage, 11; Brother William O. Wiseman, 11.

Relief and Care of Orphans: W. Brothers Paul L. Toombs, 290 (1967), Chairman; John S. Burley, 300 (1968); Earl W. Schultz, 75 (1969); Otto Burkhardt, 55 (1970); James A. Bradley, 1 (1971).

Temple Building Advisory: W. Brothers Otto Nelsen, 300 (1967) Chairman; Donald G. Hafer, 306 (1968); E. Forrest Estes, 19 (1969).

Lodge Advisory: M. W. Brothers Joseph C. Tye, 46 (1967), Chairman; Ernest O. Van Wey, 249 (1968); Herbert A. Ronin, 210 (1969).

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Retirement: W. E. Forrest Estes, 19, Chairman; M. W. John F. Futeher, 302; Brother William F. Patterson, 327; M. W. Elmer E. Magee, 227; W. Robert A. Wekesser, 54.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

At this time the Grand Master stated that we would now vote on the two amendments which were proposed at our 108th Annual Communication and laid over until this 109th Annual Communication. The Grand Master instructed the Grand Secretary to read the proposed amendment to Section 2-412 to our membership.

That Section 2-412 of the By-laws of the Grand Lodge be amended to strike out the words beginning in the eighth line of the first paragraph, reading: "Provided that his parent and resident membership cannot be in Lodges having concurrent jurisdiction."

(This amendment was signed by six members of the Grand Lodge.)

It was moved by M. W. Elmer E. Magee that the amendment to Section 2-412 be adopted. The motion was seconded and carried by a two-thirds majority.

The Grand Secretary then read the proposed amendment to Section 3-102 as follows:

RESOLVED that Section 3-102 be amended by adding a new paragraph to be known as Paragraph (p), to read as follows:

"Petition the Scottish Rite, York Rite or the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine before one year has elapsed since being made a Master Mason."

(This amendment was signed by 137 members of the Grand Lodge.)

Several Brethren spoke in favor of the amendment including the Grand Master and several Brethren spoke against it.

M. W. LOUIS V. SYLVESTER, GRAND MASTER:

Brethren, if there are no further remarks we will proceed to vote by a written ballot and I will appoint the Assistant Custodians as tellers with W. Ross Van Sickle as Chairman.

(The Amendment was defeated for want of two-thirds majority.)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL DEAD

W. Harvey A. Smith, 326, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Fraternal Dead, which was adopted. W. Edward H. Lockwood, 265, played "Going Home" and V. W. Levi B. Williams, Grand Chaplain, read the Twenty-third Psalm, Revelations 2:7, 17, and offered Prayer.

"O Thou God, Who art the strength of Thy saints and Who redeemest the souls of Thy servants; we bless Thy name for all those who have died in the Lord, and who now rest from their labors, having received the end of their faith, even the salvation of their souls. Especially we call to remembrance Thy loving-kindness and Thy tender mercies to these Thy servants. For all Thy goodness that withheld not their portion in the joys of this earthly life, and for Thy guiding hand along the way of their pilgrimage; we give Thee thanks and praise. We bless Thee for Thy grace that kindled in their hearts the love of Thy dear name; that enabled them to fight the good fight, to endure unto the end, and to obtain the victory; yea, to become more than conquerors through Him that loveth us. We magnify Thy holy name that their trials and temptations being ended, sickness and death being passed, with all the dangers and difficulties of this mortal life, their spirits are at home in Thy presence, at whose right hand dwelleth eternal peace. And grant, O Lord, we beseech Thee, that we who rejoice in the triumph of Thy servants may profit by their example, that becoming followers of their faith and patience, we also may enter with them into an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and that fadeth not away.

Almighty and everliving God, we pray Thee to teach us day by day that we are but pilgrims and strangers upon this earth, that here we have no continuing city; as the ties of family are broken one by one, and kindred and friends pass from our sight, give us grace to place our affections more and more upon the things that are spiritual and enduring; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen."

After Prayer by the V. V. W. Grand Chaplain W. Deibert H. Pinkerton, 314, sang, "In my Father's House are Many Mansions."

We pause to honor the memory of those Masonic brothers whom death has taken from us during the past year; to contemplate our own approaching dissolution; and through the remembrance of immortality, to raise our souls above the consideration of our transitory existence and to proclaim again our faith in the wisdom and goodness of the Great Architect of the Universe.

In the midst of life, we are in death; and even the wisest cannot know what a day may bring forth. Today we recall those brothers who dwelt among us in pride and power of life, and resolve to emulate the beauty of their lives.

For all of us, death will some day become a reality. Man's life is like a flower which blooms today and which fades tomorrow, to be cast aside and trodden under foot. Many of us are approaching or have passed the meridian of life. Our sun is sinking in the west. We, too, shall someday be called upon to give an account of our stewardship. The declining years pass swiftly.

Centuries have passed away. Before us stretches an eternity of years to come. Upon the narrow boundary between the past and the future we build our lives.

As we grew to manhood we learned of the past. We saw flowers bloom and trees grow, as they had for centuries. We learned of the rotation of the earth around the sun and of the moon around the earth. We learned about the stars in the firmament. We learned of the recorded history of man until our own day. But only through the eyes of FAITH can we envision what comes hereafter, and only through reliance upon Divine promises can we satisfy the yearning of an immortal soul.

These reflections convince us that war, strife, jealousy, and bitterness are vain and foolish. The things that survive are the noble thoughts and actions, the words of truth, and the deeds of mercy and justice.

When we shall come to the end of our journey and God calls us home, let us look upon death as the natural consequence of life, and lay our heads softly down, like one "who wraps the drapery of his couch about him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

During the past year 971 Nebraska Masonic brothers have laid aside their working tools and passed into the silent land to receive their reward.

Included in the group are three who have served as M. W. Grand Master—Lewis E. Smith, John E. Beaver and Ralph M. Carhart—and one who served for many years as Grand Custodian, W. Raymond C. Cook.

(M. W. Elmer E. Magee presented the following tribute:)

On July 10, 1965, after sixty-seven years of service to his Masonic brethren M. W. Lewis E. Smith, Past Grand Master, Past Grand Secretary and Grand Secretary Emeritus of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, departed this life at Omaha at the age of 89 years, 9 months, and 4 days. Burial was in Wyuka Cemetery, Lincoln.

"Lew" was born in Pewaukee, Wisconsin, on October 6, 1875. When six years old, he came with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George A. Smith, to Exeter, Nebraska, and after a year to Long Pine, where his father was a wagoner, hauling material for the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad. Lew received his schooling in Long Pine, where he became a partner with his father in the general merchandising business. In 1922, he moved to Omaha. After retirement from Masonic duties in 1946, he moved to Lincoln to serve as president and as chairman of the board of the Lincoln Mutual Life Insurance Company.

Our esteemed brother first saw Masonic Light in Long Pine Lodge No. 136 in 1898. He served this lodge as Master. Then in June, 1917, he was appointed Grand Senior Deacon. Four years later he was elected M. W. Grand Master. At the conclusion of his term of office, he became Deputy Grand Secretary, and in this capacity he served for three years. From 1925 to 1946 he was Nebraska's Grand Secretary. He was also a Past Grand Officer of all the York Rite bodies and Grand Secretary-Grand Recorder Emeritus of all Grand bodies from retirement in 1946 until his passing. He was active in all appendant orders of Masonry, not only in Nebraska but in the nation and in Canada.

Our brother served for 37 years as secretary of The Nebraska Masonic Home at Plattsmouth. When we visit the home, we may see a picture of the cabin which he and his family of four children maintained in Hidden Paradise Park near Long Pine.

Nebraska owes much to Lewis E. Smith—his superb ability as a financial adviser, his far-sighted leadership in all phases of the craft, his fairness to all, his open-mindedness. We salute our late brother, Lewis Everett Smith, "Mr. Mason of Nebraska."

(M. W. Ernest O. Van Wey presented the following tribute:)

John E. Beaver, son of James and Cora Putnam Beaver, served as the 93rd Grand Master in 1958-59.

He was born on August 27, 1896, at Scribner, Nebraska, and there he attended high school before serving in the Navy in World War I. He was raised in Scribner Lodge No. 132 in 1919 and later was affiliated with Beemer Lodge No. 253. He served both lodges as W. Master and as secretary. In 1953 M. W. Fay Smith appointed him Grand Junior Deacon and five years later, he was installed as Grand Master. He

served for fourteen years on the Board of Trustees of The Nebraska Masonic Home, eight of them as Second Vice President, and four years as President of the Masonic Manor. He was a member of the York Rite bodies of Norfolk, the Scottish Rite bodies in Sioux City and then Omaha, and the Shrine in Sioux City and then Lincoln.

Our brother served his church, city, and state also. He was city treasurer of Scribner for five years and Mayor of Beemer for three terms. From 1951 to 1959 he represented the Twelfth Legislative District in Nebraska's Unicameral Legislature, and in 1927 he served as Speaker. In that year he was presented the Distinguished Service Award from the American Legion for American Citizenship. In 1960 he was named administrative assistant to Governor Dwight Burney. He was frequently mentioned as a possible candidate for Governor or for Congress, but he chose to devote his time to Masonry.

John E. Beaver had operated food stores before his retirement. Later he was a lobbyist for the Loup River Power District. He died at Columbus on September 20, 1965, survived by his wife, Adele. Burial was at Scribner.

One who new him best has given him this tribute: "Few there are who have exemplified in their daily lives the principles of Freemasonry as did M. W. John E. Beaver."

(M. W. Harry A. Spencer presented the following tribute:)

Ralph M. Carhart, son of Charles and Ethel Carhart, was born on May 14, 1900 at Des Moines. In 1914 he came with his parents to Wayne, Nebraska, and there he spent most of his life. He served in World War I and was graduated from the University of Illinois. Then after his marriage to Fauneil Senter in 1927, he lived in Randolph until 1939. He was president of the Carhart Lumber Company. He died at Wayne on November 10, 1965, and was laid to rest in Greenwood Cemetery, Wayne. His wife, a son and a daughter, and seven grandchildren survive him.

Our brother was raised in 1921 in Wayne Lodge No. 120. He served as Master in 1944-1945 and later was Assistant Custodian. In 1958 he was appointed as Grand Junior Deacon by M. W. John E. Beaver and was installed as M. W. Grand Master on June 5, 1963. For seventeen years he served on the Board of Trustees of The Nebraska Masonic Home, and at the time of his death was Third Vice President and Chairman of the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

Brother Carhart served as High Priest of Haggai Chapter No. 39 in Wakefield in 1946 and 1947 and as Grand High Priest in 1956. He was a member of Triangle Council and Damascus Commandery at Norfolk, and of the Scottish Rite consistory and Tangier Temple of the Shrine in Omaha. He was Puissant Sovereign of Coeur de Lion Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine in 1960, and was a member of numerous other Masonic bodies.

On the day before his demise, our brother attended a monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Masonic Home and reported for

W.·Harvey A. Smith, 326, Chairman :

Now in memory of our departed brothers, we deposit these red roses, emblematical of the life to which they have been called. Let them be for us a symbol of remembrance of the virtues of the brothers who have preceded us to the silent land and a token of the fraternal alliance which binds us on earth and which we pray will unite us in heaven.

(For M.·W.·Lewis E Smith (M.·E.·Elmer Magee)

M.·W.·John E. Beaver (M.·W.·Ernest O. Van Wey)

M.·W.·Ralph M. Carhart (M.·W.·Harry A. Spencer)

W.·Raymond C. Cook (M.·W.·Roy I. Babbitt)

W.·Phillip H. Robinson, Sr., 155, Past Grand Marshal and chairman of a number of Grand Lodge committees; W.·Jesse P. Entrekin of Gering and W.·Ward B. Schrack, Assistant custodians Emeritus; and all our brothers who have laid down their working tools during the past year (M.·W.·Louis V. Sylvester)

working in your time when
Christ, to Whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

At 11:50 a.m. the Grand Lodge was called from labor for refreshment.

SECOND DAY — AFTERNOON SESSION

M. . W. . Merle M. Hale presented the following representatives of Job's Daughters, Order of Rainbow for Girls and DeMolay. Darlene Holscher represented Job's Daughters; Mary Potter represented the Order of Rainbow for Girls, and Tom Siefken, State Master Councilor, represented the DeMolay.

Darlene Holscher :

M. . W. . Grand Master, it has been a real pleasure and privilege for me to be here and I am happy to present \$125 to you for use at The Nebraska Masonic Home.

Mary Potter:

M. . W. . Grand Master, it has been a privilege for all of the Rainbow Girls of Nebraska, under the leadership of Kathy Olsman, Past Grand Worthy Adviser, to present this contribution of \$100 to The Nebraska Masonic Home.

Tom Siefken:

We would like to thank all the Masons in the State of Nebraska for all the help that they have given in strengthening and improving DeMolay throughout the past year. We know that in the future, we all will get such help from the Masons. We will hope to return such help to them.

M. . W. . Louis V. Sylvester, Grand Master:

Honored Queen Darlene, Worthy Advisor Mary, Master Counselor Tom. It is a difficult thing for the Grand Master of Masons on behalf of the Grand Lodge to adequately acknowledge these wonderful gifts which you have presented to the Grand Lodge this afternoon for specific purposes and also for your presence with us and for the privilege of entertaining you for a few moments. I think that this is one of the things which we in the Grand Lodge look forward to each year as the opportunity of receiving representatives of our youth organizations during the Grand Lodge sessions. You mean a great deal to us because I can assure you that we are very cognizant of the fact that in the youth organizations, is the future of our great Masonic Fraternity as well as the Order of the Eastern Star. Your contributions certainly are deeply appreciated and we would ask that you take back to your respective organizations, the sincere thanks and appreciation of the Grand Lodge for the recognition and presentation and for the beautiful remarks which you have brought to us.

SECOND DAY — AFTERNOON SESSION

At 2 p.m. the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MASONIC EDUCATION

W. . Howard J. Hunter, 59, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Masonic Education which was adopted.

This Masonic year (1965-66) was a busy one for the Education Committee and the Grand Lodge officers. Eleven Area Meetings on Masonic Education were held during the year and we are at a loss to single out particular area meetings as being more fruitful than others as they were all well attended and we were especially pleased with the effort and consideration of the host lodge in each case. Grand Lodge officers, plus the Grand Secretary and the Grand Custodian, under the vigorous leadership of our Grand Master, M. W. Louis V. Sylvester, were present at each area meeting and took active parts therein. Their presence and zeal promise good years ahead for the Craft in Nebraska. The Masters, Wardens, Secretaries and Education Committees in each area meeting, plus other interested Master Masons, were able to meet with their Grand Lodge officers on a personal basis and in discussion groups in each of these categories which proved very interesting and brought out current problems of the Craft on the local level. Following the discussion groups, lodge was opened and the Grand Master was received and a short informative talk was given by the Grand Master. After a showing of the film "In the Hearts of Men", an exciting and informative mock lodge was conducted to point up matters of Masonic law, administration, etiquette, and other matters pertaining to Masonic work, except ritual. Ritual is not brought up in our area meetings. The meetings were closed promptly at 5:10 P. M. At 6:15 in each case the brethren and their ladies attended dinner together at which time our Deputy Grand Master, R. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, was Master of Ceremonies and introduced our Grand Master, M. W. Louis V. Sylvester, for his inspiring and provocative address. In no case did the meetings last past 8:30 P. M.

Your Committee started the year in full force, little dreaming that it would lose three of its most stalwart pillars during the course of the year in the persons of M. W. Brothers John E. Beaver, Ralph M. Carhart, and W. Roy W. Deal. All three of these brothers were men of great stature in the Fraternity and were well known, not only in Nebraska, but in the Midwest as leaders in Masonic thought and action. Their character and reputation in each case speaks for itself. We miss them sorely.

Our Grand Historian, W. George W. Rosenlof, has been diligently working in this past year to reproduce some of the outstanding orations of Grand Orators of prior years and has brought out a beautiful edition for our Craft which should form part of the library of each lodge. Under his direction and that of W. Herman G. Reinholz, our dedicated Chairman of the Committee on Grand Lodge Office, and our Grand Secretary, R. W. Carl R. Greisen, our new Grand Lodge Library is taking shape and for the first time we have a place in the Grand Lodge office for those who wish to come in and research material therein for their own or local lodge purposes. We have also been blessed with the continuation of the very fine Fraternal Reviews of M. W. William B. Wanner which afford a fine source of current Masonic information which we should all make use of.

Area Meetings were held last fall at St. Paul, Long Pine, Oxford, Crawford and Chappell, and spring meetings were held at Wymore, Nebraska City, Bloomfield, Stanton, Geneva and Blair. It will be noted that a great many of these meetings were in rather small lodges, some of which had never had a Grand Lodge meeting such as this before in their history. We feel that both the local lodges and their visitors have gained by these experiences and the hearty fellowship displayed in these small communities.

Our Grand Master encouraged the holding of three Table Lodges as Festivals for St. John, the Evangelist. These were to test their appeal and usefulness. They were held at Wisner, Wahoo and Bellevue. All followed the historical Table Lodge ceremonies modified by this Committee to conform to Nebraska requirements. The Education Committee plans to exemplify this Table Lodge ceremony in next year's area meetings. Our test programs show this ceremony is a fine vehicle for certain educational purposes or addresses and particularly those honoring the Holy Saints John, and lend a dignified, enjoyable and historical setting for these festival and educational communications when properly conducted as spelled out in the diagrams and ceremonies published by this Committee. We invite any of you who have not had occasion to witness a Table Lodge to attend next year's area meetings.

The Grand Custodian, W. Robert W. Cook, and his fine corps of Assistant Custodians have been particularly helpful in making our area meetings successful because of their hearty and willing cooperation.

More and more lodges are getting active education committeemen functioning in their lodges. Attendance at our Area Meetings of both education committeemen and officers of the lodge in greatly increased numbers this year indicates to us that our work is progressing and that we are providing the service that the lodges need generally, but we also see a present and future need for more intensive work, in addition to our present schedule, with individual or special small groups of individual lodges that need help and encouragement.

REPORT OF THE GRAND HISTORIAN

W. George W. Rosenlof, 314, Grand Historian, presented his report which was adopted.

The Grand Historian wishes in this brief report to refer to but two accomplishments of the year just drawing to a close. The first is the realization of a long hoped-for Grand Lodge Library where there might be available the best in Masonic literature and information brought together in a comfortable surrounding where brethren may come, spend some leisure time and go away refreshed. Here there will also be displayed many items and museum pieces of an historical nature to remind us of the very strenuous times in which our pioneer brethren established Freemasonry in Nebraska over one hundred years ago.

We are deeply grateful to all those brethren who assisted in bringing this project to its fulfillment, particularly to W. Herman G. Reinholz for his many hours of painstaking efforts, his generosity and his personal interest in securing beautiful flags and a square and compass insignia that add so much to the attractiveness of our new Library. These three items are the gifts of Nebraska No. 1, Western Star No. 2 and Capitol No. 3. Brother Reinholz did yeoman service in many other respects too numerous to mention in this brief report.

We must not fail to report the fine cooperation of Grand Lodge Officers—our Grand Secretary, R. W. Carl R. Greisen, and our Grand Custodian, W. Robert W. Cook, and their secretaries.

This new library is an answer to the dreams and hopes of many of our pioneer brethren. The Grand Secretary, R. W. J. N. Wise on April 20, 1868 proposed the establishment of a library and asked for donations of books from the various Jurisdictions. In one year he received Grand Lodge proceedings for a very considerable number of jurisdictions. Other Masonic materials were received, both bound and unbound. For the latter, he requested appropriations from our own jurisdiction. Brother Wise "foresaw great prospects of speedily building up a library for our Grand Lodge". He was thereupon designated as not only the Grand Secretary but also the Grand Librarian.

Progress was not easily forth-coming. One year later a special committee was appointed to give further impetus to the movement. In 1869 this committee made a report in these words: "While it favored the establishment of a 'Grand Lodge Library' believing it to be beneficial in the diffusion of Masonic light and intelligence among the craft, it did not believe that because of the present financial conditions of the treasury, very much could be done." Nevertheless the Grand Secretary was urged to continue his efforts and "carry forward to his best ability the good work he had begun".

The Grand Historian will sometime in the near future prepare a fuller historical account of the developments from 1869 to the present time and place these facts in our archives. Suffice it to say that in 1920 (circum) the Grand Lodge received a bequest of the entire personal library of Brother John J. Monell, together with his collection of ancient bronze vessels and other souvenirs. These latter items were placed in the University of Nebraska and/or Nebraska State Historical Museum. The large collection of books make up a considerable portion of the books now shelved in our new facility.

Our second accomplishment has been the publication of a volume of Grand Lodge Orations delivered during the first quarter of Grand Lodge History—the years 1857-1882. Each of the lodges within our Jurisdiction will receive a copy for their own libraries. Thirteen of the twenty orations delivered during this quarter of a century are included in this book, together with a comparatively brief biographical account of the orators. There is an introductory chapter relating to the office of "Grand Orator" which is of an historical nature. It is

hoped that much use can be made of this compilation in engendering a deeper interest in the teachings, work, and philosophy of Masonry.

It has been a privilege and an honor to have served as your Grand Historian during this past year and to have been associated with the other Grand Lodge Officers under the leadership of our M.'W.'Grand Master, Louis V. Sylvester.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REINSTATEMENT

W.'Earl H. Furman, 290, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Reinstatement which was adopted.

This year your Committee handled a total of 48 applications. This was eleven more than the previous year.

Of the 48 applications the Committee, after very careful consideration, approved the action of the local Lodge in all but four cases. These four were returned to the lodge in each case for more information. Two of these four were later returned to our Committee with the requested information and were approved by us.

Two have not been re-submitted to us and are therefore being held in abeyance.

The blanks submitted have generally been very well filled out and in good shape.

We thank the local Lodges for this fine cooperation in every case.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RETIREMENT

W.'E. Forrest Estes, 19, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Retirement which was adopted, including the amendments by a two-thirds majority.

During the past year, in accordance with the authority vested in it, the Grand Lodge Committee on Retirement has taken the following actions:

(1) It was the decision of the Committee that the Plan be self-insured by the Grand Lodge and The Nebraska Masonic Home through the Grand Trustees of the Grand Lodge.

(2) Provided for the establishment of a Retirement Account in the books of the Grand Lodge from which all retirement payments be made.

(3) Authorized monthly payments of \$312.50 to W.'Raymond C. Cook under the terms of the provisions of the Plan covering disability retirement. These payments were continued until W.'Brother Cook's death in January of 1966.

(4) Authorized retirement of Jennie Gray, Head Cook at The Nebraska Masonic Home, since she was over 72 years of age, such retirement to go into effect August 1, 1965. The amount of her monthly re-

tirement annuity was established at \$39.29 per month, in accordance with the terms of the Plan. However, in order that proper food service for the Home might not be placed in jeopardy by having her retirement occur on such short notice, permission was granted for her to continue in service until a suitable replacement could be obtained, with the understanding that this supplemental service period would not serve to increase the foregoing established retirement annuity.

(5) Authorized preparation of a brief printed description of the Retirement Plan, copies to be available to employees and prospective employees.

(6) Accepted the Chairman's actuarial report indicating the recommended 1966 addition to the Retirement Fund (or Reserve), which was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

(7) Authorized presentation, at this Communication of the Grand Lodge, of certain brief clarifying amendments to the Retirement Plan. In administering the Plan and answering some of the questions that have been presented, it has come to the attention of this Committee that a strict interpretation of the sections headed "Eligible Employees" and "Retirement Date" unintentionally excludes from coverage some of the present employees who should not be excluded; also, since the Plan contemplates coverage of permanent full-time employees only, the definition of "Employee" should be very specific in this connection. Accordingly the following amendments are proposed:

(a) In the section headed "Employee", at the end of the sentence change the period to a comma and add "ON A FULL-TIME BASIS". This amended section would then read (amended wording in capital letters):

Employee: "Employee" means and refers to a permanent, active, salaried person who, on or before the Effective Date of this Plan, is in or enters the employ of the Employer ON A FULL-TIME BASIS.

(b) In the section headed "Eligible Employees" substitute age 55 for age 56, and in (2) of the second sentence, after "55th birthday" add the words: "PROVIDED HOWEVER THAT UPON COMPLETION OF 10 YEARS' CONTINUOUS ACTIVE SERVICE ON OR PRIOR TO THE 72ND BIRTHDAY, SUCH EXCLUDED EMPLOYEE THEN BECOMES AN ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEE". This amended Section would then read (Amended wording in capital letters):

Eligible Employees: "Eligible Employees" refers to employees who are eligible to participate in the benefits provided by this Plan. With respect to those who are employees on the Effective Date of this Plan, Eligible Employees are (1) all Registered Nurses employed by the Home, (2) all other employees except those who, having less than 10 years of continuous active service, have also attained the 55TH birthday, PROVIDED HOWEVER THAT UPON COMPLETION OF 10 YEARS' CONTINUOUS ACTIVE SERVICE

ON OR PRIOR TO THE 72ND BIRTHDAY, SUCH EXCLUDED EMPLOYEE THEN BECOMES AN ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEE. With respect to persons who become employees after the Effective Date of this Plan, Eligible Employees are those who, at the date of employment, have not attained the 55th birthday.

(c) In the section headed "Retirement Date" substitute 55TH for 56th and "FIRST BIRTHDAY WHICH OCCURS 10 YEARS AFTER ENTRY INTO THE PLAN" for "birthday which occurs more than 9 years but not to exceed 10 years after entry into the plan". This amended section would then read (amended wording in capital letters):

Retirement Date: The Retirement Date for an Eligible Employee is as follows: (1) For an Eligible Employee who, at the time of entry into this Plan, had not attained his 55TH birthday, the Retirement Date is the first day of the month which next succeeds his 65th birthday.

(2) For other Eligible Employees the Retirement Date is the first day of the month which next succeeds the earlier of (a) the FIRST BIRTHDAY WHICH OCCURS 10 YEARS AFTER ENTRY INTO THIS PLAN, or (b) the 72nd birthday.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS

W. Pearl C. Hillegass, 81, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Credentials which was adopted.

Your Committee on Credentials report that all Lodges are represented except the following: Nos. 17, 23, 52, 57, 67, 73, 82, 99, 100, 104, 133, 137, 138, 149, 153, 154, 157, 160, 164, 171, 176, 188, 193, 202, 204, 206, 216, 234, 262, 264, 273, 275, 280, 284, 304, 305, 308, 311, 322.

Total number of Lodges 270, number not represented 39; Lodges not represented for the last Two Annual Communications: Nos. 17, 137, 188, 304. Lodge not represented for the last three Annual Communication: No. 137.

All Grand Officers are present and all Past Grand Masters except M. W. Brothers Chancellor A. Phillips, William C. Schaper and Edward Huwaldt.

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

LODGE	MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN
Nebraska ....No. 1	*C. Erwin Paulsen..	*Ernest E. James....	*Albin Bergstrom ..
Western Star.. " 2	Harold L. Johnson..	E. H. Hunter, Sr....	Victor D. Bremer...
Capitol " 3	Herman O. Hansen.	Howard J. Bohannon	Bobby C. McClinton
Nemaha Valley " 4	Clifford A. Vice....	.....	*J. Adolf Wensien..
Omadi " 5	*Oscar T. Olsen.....	*George Paulsen .....	.....
Plattsmouth .. " 6	Richard M. Glaze..	W. Earl Dyer.....	*Maynard S. Ramage
Falls City " 9	James R. Sefried...	Willis D. Corn.....	Rodney F. Knaup..
Solomon " 10	Glen C. Lund.....	H. W. Schneemeyer.	Howard E. Barnes..
Covert " 11	*Herbert T. White...	Glen A. Burbridge..	Harry G. Cookston..
Orient " 13	Charlie M. Simpson.	Orville H. Zoeller..	.....
Peru " 14	Guy R. Grafton....	Boyd A. Coatney...	Roy A. Grafton....
Fremont " 15	W. Dale Page.....	*Gerald A. Moller...	Earl A. Lipp.....
Tecumseh " 17	.....	.....	.....
Lincoln " 19	Bert E. Baird.....	Richard L. Loos....	Walker W. Gruttis.
Washington .. " 21	R. L. Holderness..	*Peter Stricklett .....	.....
Pawnee " 23	.....	.....	.....
Saint Johns .. " 25	*H. W. Langdon....	C. A. MacDonald..	*W. A. Pettengill..
Beatrice " 26	James D. Logan.....	.....	*F. W. Smith, Jr....
Jordan " 27	Roseoe B. Wood....	.....	.....
Hope " 29	Calvin R. White....	.....	Frank Clark
Blue River ... " 30	H. E. Simpson....	Kenneth D. Stahly.	Lyle Maye
Tekamah " 31	Edward I. Morrow.	John C. Gammel...	Donald L. Thomas.
Platte Valley.. " 32	Clifford L. Bonney.	Harold V. Reeves..	*Arthur A. Weeks..
Ashlar " 33	D. M. Petersen....	Alex H. Dietrich...	*Irvin L. Congrove..
Acacia " 34	Ernest J. Krejci...	*Godfrey A. Machal.	*Q. R. Enochson....
Fairbury " 35	F. Gaughenbaugh ..	Joseph E. Cerveny..	.....
Lone Tree " 36	Ben L. Stahl.....	.....	.....
Crete " 37	Edward Vasatka, Jr.	Joseph W. Kovarik.	Jerry F. Bespales..
Oliver " 38	.....	*Erwin J. Imig.....	.....
Papillion " 39	*Fred R. Lamb.....	*Fred R. Lamb.....	*Frank A. Pflug....
Humboldt " 40	Ronald P. Heim....	Wesley J. Stansbury	William H. Todd...
Northern Light " 41	D. Dean Dunham...	Walter A. Lamml.	*Fred R. Waring....
Hebron " 43	Richard D. Jiskra..	.....	.....
Harvard " 44	Gale L. Darling....	Harold J. Schultz...	Donald V. Nelson..
Rob Morris .. " 46	John G. Haerberle..	Thomas W. Tye....	*Alfred B. Saum....
Fairmont " 48	Leslie L. Miles....	Victor A. Jansen...	.....
Evening Star " 49	R. A. Schleicher...	*Gene W. Bauer....	Jack J. Arp.....
Hastings " 50	Lloyd V. Levander.	.....	.....
Fidelity " 51	*C. W. Walker.....	.....	.....
Miram " 52	.....	.....	.....
Charity " 53	.....	.....	.....
Lancaster " 54	Charles E. Connors.	Virgil L. Tubach...	*Donald R. Swanson

* Proxy.

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

LODGE	MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN
Mosaic .....No. 55	Marvin A. Moats..	*Marvin A. Moats...	*Marvin A. Moats..
York " 56	Robert M. Barrett..	Herbert R. Tracy..	Edward L. Larson..
Mount Moriah " 57	.....	.....	.....
Wahoo " 59	Delmar E. Dearson.	Merle D. Meyers....	Edgar F. Knox....
Melrose " 60	Gerald W. Dake....	Elmer J. Bennett....	Raymond E. Pyell..
Thistle " 61	Wayne S. Hodges..	Albert W. Shepard..	.....
Keystone " 62	James E. Dake....	.....	Keith W. Coffey...
Blue Valley .. " 64	Von J. Anthony....	Vern V. Anthony...	.....
Osceola " 65	John D. Wieseman.	.....	Robert E. Wieseman
Edgar " 67	.....	.....	.....
Aurora " 68	Phillip D. Wiltfong.	.....	.....
Sterling " 70	Ivan A. Lamb.....	*Landis A. Rulla....	*Charles Curtian
Trowel " 71	L. J. Rittscher....	Elmer F. Mahler, Sr.	Charles V. Carhart.
Hooper " 72	George N. Luther..	*Arthur F. Swartz...	*Irwin Osterloh
Friend " 73	.....	.....	.....
Alexandria .. " 74	Hugo L. Broeder...	.....	.....
Frank Welch.. " 75	LaVerne A. Draper.	*LaVerne A. Draper.	*J. L. Hettinger, Sr.
Nelson " 77	Robert M. Littrell.	*Harry E. Weekly...	.....
Albion " 78	Elmer C. Hansen...	S. D. Haakenstad..	Merlin L. Weber....
Geneva " 79	M. D. Bumgarner..	Leslie M. Newman.	.....
Composite " 81	M. D. Mortensen..	Stephen M. Ruth...	*Leonard C. Davis...
Saint Paul ... " 82	.....	.....	.....
Corinthian ... " 83	*V. H. R. Hanson..	Richard J. Pospisil.	Joe H. Beckenhauer.
Fairfield " 84	*Warren Wilson	*Warren Wilson.....	.....
Ionic " 87	Dale V. Jones.....	John E. Paulik....	.....
Star " 88	Paul A. Phelps....	Sam L. Morton, Jr..	Frank R. Conklin..
Cedar River .. " 89	Clifton H. Hosler...	.....	.....
Oakland " 91	L. Paul Johnson...	.....	.....
Beaver City.. " 93	Glenn W. Cornell..	*Paul D. Fleming...	*Glenn W. Cornell...
Bennett " 94	Clarence M. Ritter.	Wesley B. Meinen..	*Henry A. Thaden...
Garfield " 95	Frederic S. Gakle..	*Frederic S. Gakle...	*Frederic S. Gakle..
Utica " 96	Loren L. McNeil...	.....	Glen L. Eberspacher
Euclid " 97	Robert L. Domingo	*Eugene L. Domingo.	Lewis A. Baker.....
Republican ... " 98	*Louie L. Kammerer	*Louie L. Kammerer.	*Louie L. Kammerer.
Shelton " 99	.....	.....	.....
Creighton " 100	.....	.....	.....
Ponca " 101	Paul C. Peterson...	.....	.....
Waterloo " 102	Larry M. Smith....	Gerald F. Ulrich....	Denny L. Witt.....
Ord " 103	E. D. Ahlschwede..	.....	.....
Wymore " 104	.....	.....	.....
Stella " 105	Chet E. Henninger.	Edgar A. Bredimier.	*Clyde T. Argabright

* Proxy.

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

LODGE	MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN
Porter .....No. 106	.....	.....	Floyd D. Dunker...
Table Rock .. " 108	*Floyd P. Vrtiska...	.....	.....
Pomegranate .. " 110	Robert L. Bundy...	R. L. Johnson.....	*Carl F. Poggemeyer
De Witt " 111	Oliver W. Kassing..	*Carl W. Wilkens...	.....
Springfield .. " 112	*Harry N. Ahl.....	Franklin S. Evans...	Lonnie L. Blum....
Globe " 113	William H. Berrick..	*Harry L. Purdy....	.....
Wisner " 114	*Judson M. Meier...	Judson M. Meier...	*Judson M. Meier..
Harlan " 116	*Leonard J. Meredith	.....	.....
Hardy " 117	*Clyde Washington.	*Ezra Olsen.....	Keith Lance.....
North Bend .. " 119	*Harold Ristau.....	Duane E. Beebe....	*Paul R. Hamilton...
Wayne " 120	Ronald Milliken...	*Ronald Milliken...	*Ronald Milliken...
Superior " 121	A. D. Blankenship.	Elvin E. Pesek....	Frank C. Swaim....
Auburn " 124	*George F. Davis....	.....	Frank R. Orton....
Mount Nebo .. " 125	V. Keith Olson.....	Rolland Clark.....	.....
Stromsburg .. " 126	Gustav S. Peterson..	Orville Dodds.....	Herbert C. Olson Jr.
Minden " 127	Richard D. Wilson..	.....	.....
Guide Rock .. " 128	Gerald W. Gleason..	*Gerald W. Gleason.	*Richard Eby.....
Blue Hill " 129	*Nels D. Wenthal...	.....	.....
Scribner " 132	Alfred A. Ristow...	Harold L. Goodrich.	.....
Elm Creek ... " 133	.....	.....	.....
Solar " 134	Robt. H. Schlondorf	Robert J. Strickland	Neal A. Thomas....
McCook " 135	Robt. M. McDonald.	Doane O. Trail....	Henry R. Ruppert..
Long Pine ... " 136	*Lee Sinner.....	.....	.....
Upright " 137	.....	.....	.....
Rawalt " 138	.....	.....	.....
Clay Centre .. " 139	Nelson L. Hughes...	*Glenn F. Sperry....	*Nelson L. Hughes..
Western " 140	Ben L. Jiskra.....	.....	Cecil Compton.....
Crescent " 143	William T. Speich..	.....	.....
Kenesaw " 144	Harold A. Weaver...	.....	.....
Bancroft " 145	*Frank A. Wood....	John H. Busselman.	.....
Jachin " 146	Eldon K. Shield....	.....	*Arthur Anderson...
Siloam " 147	*Ora R. Yarges.....	.....	.....
Emmet Crawford " 148	Lyle E. Peltzer....	*Lyle E. Peltzer....	Wayne Clamp.....
Jewel " 149	.....	.....	.....
Cambridge ... " 150	Harold E. Day, Jr..	*Harold E. Day, Jr..	*Harold E. Day, Jr..
Evergreen " 153	.....	.....	.....
Lily " 154	.....	.....	.....
Hartington ... " 155	*Ralph E. Clements..	*Ralph E. Clements..	*Ralph E. Clements..
Pythagoras ... " 156	Gordon A. Harvey..	.....	.....

* Proxy.

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

LODGE	MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN
Samaritan ..No. 158	*George A. Stephens.	*George A. Stephens.	*Robert D. Cresap..
Ogalalla " 159	Karl R. Baumann...	.....	.....
Zeredatha " 160	.....	.....	.....
Mount Zion .. " 161	Robert L. Jones...	.....	.....
Trestle Board. " 162	J. Henry Brokens..	William J. Bohken	.....
Unity " 163	Kenneth H. Polenz..	Jack Lee Fritch....	Larry A. Pershing..
Atkinson " 164	.....	.....	.....
Barneston " 165	Vernon R. Straub..	*Vernon S. Hill.....	Robert A. Hinman..
Mystic Tie ... " 166	Roy Margritz.....	*Clyde Horrocks....	Dorran Wright.....
Elwood " 167	Winford Bossung...	.....	.....
Curtis " 168	Donald Ringstmeyer	*Donald Ringstmeyer	*Donald Ringstmeyer
Amity " 169	F. Wayne Walgren..	*F. Wayne Walgren..	*Stuart A. Johnson..
Mason City .. " 170	.....	*Francis D. Standage	.....
Merna " 171	.....	.....	.....
Robert Burns " 173	.....	*Clyde H. Jones....	*Clyde H. Jones....
Culbertson ... " 174	H. W. Mortholeis..	.....	.....
Temple " 175	*Henry R. Miller....	Henry R. Miller ...	.....
Gladstone " 176	.....	.....	.....
Hay Springs .. " 177	J. F. Vahrenkamp..	*J. F. Vahrenkamp.	Maurice Jones.....
Prudence " 179	Frank B. Smetter..	*Grant E. Hansen...	John Fox, Jr.....
Justice " 180	*Ward McGlashan...	Marvin E. Haines..	.....
Faith " 181	Roger D. Plooster..	*Roger D. Plooster..	*Roger D. Plooster..
Alliance " 183	Vincent Rosenberger	Marshall O. Culton..	Lyle Zimmerman...
Bee Hive " 184	Dole L. Allison....	M. Maldonado, Jr..	R. E. Tetrick, Jr...
Boaz " 185	John E. Gallatin...	*John E. Gallatin...	Tippo R. Harris....
Meridian " 188	.....	.....	.....
Granite " 189	*Jav Thompson.....	.....	.....
Amethyst " 190	John R. Cotton.....	.....	.....
Crystal " 191	*Roy Salter.....	.....	.....
Minnekadusa . " 192	George E. Walker..	*U. Wesley Fox.....	.....
Signet " 193	.....	.....	.....
Highland " 194	Eldon E. DeVries..	.....	*Keith A. Balderson.
Arcana " 195	C. Winfield Saults..	*C. Winfield Saults..	*C. Winfield Saults.
Morning Star. " 197	Billy G. Beebe....	Gail L. Gonnerman..	Gary B. Allison....
Purity " 198	H. Keith Radeliff..	Newton I. Lippitt..	*H. Keith Radeliff..
Gavel " 199	*Milford K. Brinegar	.....	.....
Blazing Star.. " 200	Jov M. Lathrop....	.....	.....
Scotts Bluff.. " 201	*Charles W. Yount..	*Charles W. Yount..	*Charles W. Yount..
Golden Sheaf. " 202	.....	.....	.....
Roman Eagle.. " 203	Donald Berg.....	Claus O. Malmberg.	*Stanford Drell....
Plainview " 204	.....	.....	.....

* Proxy.

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

LODGE	MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN
Golden Fleece No. 205	C. Russell Talbott..	.....	Earl R. Stalnaker..
Naphthali " 206	.....	.....	.....
Parian " 207	*Allston Asmus.....	*Allston Asmus.....	*Allston Asmus.....
Canopy " 209	J. Bryan McDonald.	*Orel B. Lupordus..	.....
East Lincoln.. " 210	D. A. Kyckelholm..	*N. W. Rittenburg..	William M. Hisey..
Cement " 211	P. Quisenberry, Jr.	.....	.....
Compass and Square " 212	Millard Graham ...	.....	.....
Plumblineline ... " 214	*Clarence D. Gottula.	.....	.....
Occidental ... " 215	E. Howard Thomsen	.....	.....
Palisade " 216	.....	.....	.....
Wauneta " 217	Gerald D. Usher....	.....	.....
Bloomfield ... " 218	*Clyde Anderson....	.....	.....
Relief " 219	Arnold L. Anderson.	.....	.....
Magnolia " 220	Billy D. Clements...	Ivan H. Mackling..	.....
Wood Lake ... " 221	Raymond F. Jones..	.....	Arthur J. Ferguson.
Landmark ... " 222	Jack M. West.....	William Trotter....	*William R. Hart...
Eminence ... " 223	Gerald D. Hunnicut.	Chas. C. Robertshaw	.....
Silver Cord ... " 224	Harold G. Prentice..	.....	.....
Cable " 225	Charles A. Blowers..	.....	.....
Grace " 226	Irving W. Brooks...	.....	*Clifford Rabe.....
North Star ... " 227	Russell F. Richmond	Charles T. Adams...	C. M. Vogles, Jr...
Bartley " 228	*William S. Baker...	.....	.....
Comet " 229	William E. Bundy...	.....	Delbert D. Lowell..
Mount Herman " 231	.....	*Douglas D. Brown..	.....
John S. Bowen " 232	Henry E. Sass.....	.....	Hans Sass.....
Gilead " 233	*Max O. Brown.....	.....	.....
Zion " 234	.....	.....	.....
Fraternity ... " 235	.....	Gail Axen.....	.....
Golden Rule... " 236	*Eldred Smith.....	.....	Garold M. Jewell...
Cubit " 237	Lloyd R. Brugman.	*Samuel Brownlee...	*Walter L. Hartman.
Friendship ... " 239	.....	Victor F. Gjerluff..	Plin L. Robotham..
Pilot " 240	Arnold Heideman...	*Gordon Chard	Charles Ebenspacher
George Arm- strong " 241	Jerry D. Davis.....	.....	Lloyd C. Hurrell...
Tyrian " 243	John W. Corman...	*Laron Jensen.....	.....
Hampton " 245	*William D. Gordan.	William D. Gordan.	.....
Nehawka " 246	Richard D. Mougey.	.....	.....
Corner-stone .. " 247	Ferd A. Blohm.....	.....	.....
Laurel " 248	*Howard Detlepsen..	.....	.....

* Proxy.

** Charter surrendered.

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

LODGE	MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN
Gothenburg No. 249	Wesley W. Stebbins		
George Wash- ington " 250	R. A. Bradsby	Ivan L. Armstrong	Harold H. Weeks
Wausa " 251	*Melvin Rosen	*Melvin Rosen	*Melvin Rosen
Beemer " 253	*Fred Buhk		
Bassett " 254	Vernon M. Jones		
Hickman " 256	John D. Ver Maas	Marvin A. Moser	
Anselmo " 258	*Lee Sinner		*G. L. Neubauer
Ornan " 261	C. Curtis Nelson		
Endeavor " 262			
Mitchell " 263	William C. Strey		
Franklin " 264			
Robert W. Furnas " 265	Harlan C. Fuehrer		*E. H. Lockwood
Silver " 266	William B. Wyman		*Chapin E. Peterson
James A. Tulleys " 267	*Russell M. Warren		
George W. Lin- inger " 268	E. S. Sibbernson		Ira L. Couch, Jr.
Oasis " 271	Edward G. Brownlee	Donald C. Smith	*Carl Thomas
Lee P. Gillette " 272	Raymond W. Roos	*Harry Moller	
Crofton " 273			
Olive Branch " 274	Ronald F. Moeller	R. G. Leitschuck	*Lester Hrdy
Ramah " 275			
Antelope " 276	A. Hawley Merchant	*A. Hawley Merchant	James F. Armstrong
Sioux " 277	Robert E. Mann		
Litchfield " 278	Jack R. Glidden		
Wallace " 279	Hobart D. Bancroft		
Swastika " 280			
Florence " 281	Robert D. Haas	Charles W. Amidon	Morton P. Steyer
Mullen " 282	James L. Anders		
Seneca " 284			
Camp Clarke " 285	H. W. Ledbetter	Daniel F. Neu	
Oshkosh " 286	Ernest H. Fischer		
Union " 287	Robert H. Pegler	B. D. Weatherhoff	*Robert R. Miller
Omaha " 288	Richard H. Scheef	*George E. Johnson	*Vivian O. Chinn
Lotus " 289	Howard K. Lausen	Linn Wyatt	
John J. Mercer " 290	Ralph W. Morton	Herbert L. Graham	Paul L. Toombs
Diamond " 291	Gordon Johnson	*Duard Dempster	
Wolbach " 292	Fred W. Frost		
Monument " 293	Gordon D. Francis		*Gordon D. Francis

* Proxy.

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

LODGE	MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN
Kimball ....No. 294	.....	James L. Eatmon..	.....
Minatare " 295	*H. E. Krumenacher.	H. E. Krumenacher.	*Roy I. Babbitt.....
Cotner " 297	Harold Fuller.....	L. R. Trunkenbolz.	Robert W. Mahoney
Chester " 298	*Paul W. Dry.....	.....	.....
Sutherland ... " 299	Gary M. Trego.....	.....	.....
Liberty " 300	Edward J. Nelsen...	Orland D. Hulbert..	.....
Bayard " 301	*Frank H. Smith....	.....	.....
Mizpah " 302	Ivan D. Anderson..	Vern L. Andersen...	Percy C. Brintnall.
Right Angle .. " 303	Wade E. Sheppard.	Barton S. Boles....	O. M. Bernhardt, Sr.
Ruskin " 304	.....	.....	.....
Newman Grove " 305	.....	.....	.....
Golden Rod .. " 306	Roscoe W. Bills....	Leonard B. Bond...	*Donald G. Hafer...
Perkins " 308	.....	.....	.....
Winnebago ... " 309	Lester M. Fischer..	*Art Melsen.....	*Keith Cople.....
Victory " 310	*Merlin R. Finlay...	John D. Johnson...	*John D. Johnson...
Polk " 311	.....	.....	.....
Oak Leaf " 312	*Wallace E. Moffett.	.....	.....
Potter " 313	Wendell E. Anderson	*Wendell E. Anderson	*Wendell E. Anderson
Craftsmen ... " 314	*Robert T. Wheeler.	*Curry D. Bryson...	*August W. Edding..
Alpha " 316	*E. D. Sappingfield.	Robert H. Hodges..	*Robert C. Howard..
Mid-West " 317	Dick G. Peyton....	Chester E. Anderson	Dale L. Schachtlen..
Grand Island.. " 318	Dorrell D. Lemke...	Marshall C. Spradlin	L. David Williamson
Bladen " 319	W. H. Van Kirk....	.....	.....
College View.. " 320	Claude J. Keller...	.....	Eugene W. Tedd...
Harmony " 321	J. Dale Flora.....	James F. Hinman..	*Clifford D. Webster
Pioneer " 322	.....	.....	.....
Lebanon " 323	.....	*Robert E. Lund....	*Earl B. Harrelson..
Cairo " 324	Everett W. Schwaitz	William M. Lindsay	.....
Bellevue " 325	.....	W. T. Grossman....	David C. Jones.....
Centennial ... " 326	Paul Sacks.....	*Earl E. Erwin.....	*Harvey A. Smith...
Shiloh U. D.	Donald R. White...	.....	F. Otis Meyer.....

* Proxy.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC NATIONAL MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

W. Cary W. Dresslar, 32, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association which was adopted.

To the 56th annual meeting of the Memorial came the leaders of Masonry in the United States. Their united efforts have kept Masonry and the Memorial alive, growing and alluring. This Memorial is one aspect of Masonry, that thousands of visitors view with wonder.

A member of this committee, M. W. Charles F. Adams, is serving on the Board of Directors of the Memorial Association. He is also its Second Vice President and a member of the Executive Committee. This requires time and dedication and it does give Nebraska a place of honor.

CONTRIBUTIONS

The Contributions for the year ending February 22, 1966, are as follows:

Maintenance Fund	\$ 22,236.25
Endowment Fund	131,196.00
Not Designated	30,245.00
Building Fund	30,101.00
	<hr/>
Total	\$213,778.25

NEW MUSEUM

The new George Washington Museum was completed and dedicated on February 22, 1966. This Museum is on the fourth floor of the Memorial and the arrangement of the room and decorations were provided for by funds contributed by the Supreme Councils of the Scottish Rites of the Northern and Southern jurisdictions. The Museum contains the most significant collection of Washington memorabilia to be exhibited in many years. The central feature and most valuable item in the Museum is Washington's family Bible. Many of the items on display were the gift of the Misses Anne and Patty Washington, collateral descendants of George Washington.

THE STORY OF THE MEMORIAL FROM PARTS OF ITS HISTORY

On Washington's Birthday, February 22, 1910, prominent Masons from several of our Jurisdictions gathered at Alexandria, Virginia, to discuss the feasibility of erecting a fitting and enduring Memorial to Washington, the Mason. As they met in the historical lodge room of Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22, the sacred environment and the hallowed memories of him who presided over the Lodge while he was Chief Magistrate and first President, fired them anew with the spirit of Masonry. Though fully conscious of the fact that the history of Washington, the

Mason, is a sacred heritage of the Republic, they strongly felt, as all Freemasons truly feel, that Washington's connection with Masonry and the inspiration he gave to the Fraternity are especially dear to the brethren. Remembering the invaluable services rendered by Washington to his country, and that to him and those Masons who were closely associated with him was due the fact the fundamentals of Freemasonry were made a part of the basic law of our land, they resolved to erect at Alexandria a memorial which should reflect the gratitude of the Masons of the United States to him in whose memory it should stand in the coming years.

Through more than fifty-six years, American Freemasons have labored towards the fulfillment of a majestic Temple to the memory of the Father of His Country. The vastness, the dignity, the atmosphere of this Memorial is unlike anything comparable in the world—if there is any comparable structure. It came into being not by government taxation, not by gratitude of country, but as a free-will offering of the Masonic Fraternity of the United States and possessions, a demonstration in enduring stone of the veneration and admiration in which George Washington is held by the Ancient Craft, and the brotherly love of Freemasons for their most distinguished Worshipful Master.

The Memorial will arouse in every true American a stronger determination to do his full duty in the preservation of the pure principles of liberty for which our great Brother, George Washington, gave his whole life's effort. It symbolizes Washington's unselfish love, the sweep of his vision, his devotion to duty. It expresses tolerance, high ideals and an enlightened citizenship. It stands as a protest against ignorance and prejudice. In its symmetry and strength our Memorial is a veritable expression of the stability of our Fraternity, the tenets of which are based on Holy Writ.

It has been truly said "nothing happens, unless, first a dream". The mind of man has a way with dreams. It can and does make a dream come true. It can make a vision become reality—when reality is put on a dream's trestle board—time will show us a finished structure.

We think of fifty-six years as being the time to accomplish a dream that was born in the minds of Masons who were the originators of the George Washington Memorial. Do you think that is a long time? If you do, let us look behind the pages of history.

Four thousand years ago a man had a dream and in it he sensed and believed that God was giving to him a vision of the needs for future generations. Then there began within the mind of man, a struggle and a crisis. Always appearing was a light, a light from God, pointing man to a destination, a place where he would be shown his needs and the needs of others who were to follow him. The light was centered upon a togetherness of fellowship and the one way to go.

From this dream of man, that became a vision, Masonry was born and began to build its Temples. Today it toils to build shelters for the Holy things of man.

Because of a dream and a vision, seen by Masons, fifty-six years ago, our Masonic National Memorial came into being. Each year it becomes more beautiful and revered by Masons.

The dream of man who lived two thousand years before Christ was born has come true. We have the Bible for proof. George Washington had dreams that have come true. We have the pages of history for proof. The Masons dream of fifty-six years ago has come true. We have the completed Memorial for proof.

Now, today, we Masons dream and have visions and can see the spirit of Washington and the spirit of Masonry, hovering over this famous Shrine, a Shrine that spells out our devotion to Masonry and gives to the World our reverence and gratitude for the life and deeds of George Washington.

ENDOWMENT FUND

In closing this report we would like to call the attention of the Grand Lodge to the Endowment Fund of the Association. As of December 31, 1965, the net assets were \$2,305,770.49. The goal is a fund of five million dollars which should provide sufficient income to properly maintain and operate the Memorial building.

At the 1959 Annual Convention of the Association, the Grand Master of Pennsylvania proposed a three-point program to bolster the finances. One was to encourage the contribution of \$1.00 from each newly raised Master Mason for the Maintenance Fund for current expenses. We have been doing this in Nebraska for many years. The other two parts of the proposed plan are related to building the Endowment Fund. First, a contribution from each Grand Lodge equal to \$10.00 for each Lodge and next a contribution from each Grand Lodge equal to \$1.00 per member. Using the December 31, 1965, figures, this would amount to a contribution from Nebraska of \$2,700 plus \$44,569 or a total of \$47,269. This money would not come out of the Treasury of the Grand Lodge but the funds would be raised by voluntary contributions by individual Masons and by subordinate Lodges and other Masonic organizations and appendant bodies. Thus far the Grand Lodges of Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, Nevada, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia and Wisconsin have either adopted or approved the principles of this so-called "Pennsylvania Plan". Five states, namely, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Vermont have actually completed the plan by raising the funds and paying them into the Endowment Fund of the Association.

We therefore recommend that the Grand Lodge of Nebraska approve and adopt this plan for raising the money for the Endowment Fund of the Association and that the Grand Master and Grand Lodge officers be authorized and directed to formulate plans for the solicitation of funds.

ORATION

By W. Walter O. Samuelson, 326, Grand Orator.

Permit me at the very beginning of this oration to express my sincere thanks to the M. W. Grand Master for the privilege of serving in the capacity of Grand Orator for the past year. Also, for the consideration given me by our Grand Master during my illness. I shall always cherish this kindness as the most outstanding demonstration of Masonic brotherhood ever extended to me during my forty-two years of Masonic affiliation.

To the other members of the Grand Lodge family I want to say a sincere "Thank You" for the deep friendship that has been exhibited during our sojourn together these past months. The fire of fraternal friendliness and brotherliness has always been a source of warming inspiration as I have had the pleasure of working with you in this most important undertaking.

Aeons ago God, the Grand Architect of the ages, scanning His trestleboard, beheld chaos and disorganization on every side. Searching for a redeeming quality, He said, "Let there be light, and there was light". Creative ideas fell into their pattern: With a sweep of His hand: chaos gave way to cosmos; disorder became order; stagnation turned into progress; involuntary action to orderly evolution. A whirling molten mass became the habitat of living organisms, surrounded by oceans of constellations and land divided by waters. Out of the most common things He created a world of vegetation, and animal kingdom. Out of the dust of the earth, a lump of clay, He formed man, and breathed into him the breath of life, and man became a living soul—a personality whose future was to associate himself with his Creator. Finished at last was the creative program of that great undying spirit whom we have come to know as God.

THUS THE CENTURIES UNFOLD

Down the lane of years there has been a "Light that never dies". A light that dispels the gloom, that disperses the shadows, ever moving from the eastern horizon of creation's morning toward the sunset hour of our earthly existence.

NEVER HAS THAT LIGHT EVER DIED

Over the checkered pavement of time has appeared the storms of disobedience in opposition to the will of the Creator. Atheistic forces have again and again trampled that LIGHT under their God-less feet, hoping to extinguish it forever. But ere they had taken many steps they beheld its brilliance, shedding forth His embracing power over the civilizations of the world.

The great light of Masonry has always been buried too deeply within the consciousness of man to be snuffed out by the passing fancies of individuals whose thoughts are alien to the purpose and the plans of the

Great Architect. Every great movement and turning point in humanity's long and winding career has been the manifestation of God, through an individual or group of individuals, commissioned or set apart for some specific task or purpose. The number of these is less than the centuries.

THUS MASONRY WAS BORN

A group of men who were destined to bring to the world the redemptive spirit which was to be inculcated into the lives of men everywhere the idea of God: The efficacy of prayer, the beauty of brotherhood, and the assurance of life after death.

TRUTH HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE LIGHT THAT HAS GUIDED THE FOOTSTEPS OF FAITHFUL MASONS

With truth on our side, we have been able to create a civilization that knows no equal. The dim ages of by-gone years speak loudly of their actions. They have always been the guardians of truth, the bearers of the eternal light which dispels superstition and brings man into a common knowledge of the power of the Living God. Truth tears asunder false dogmas, clarifies all mysteries, resurrects lost hopes and restores a broken faith.

We are apt to tremble at the word, "Truth". We too often think of it in relationship to that which is abstract and abstruse, that which has to do with more external authority, or that which is given to us in some crystallized form, the sum total of things handed down to us in a neat little package, already labeled, "Ready for Use".

To us, who are Masons, it is something very tangible, workable and livable. Truth—which is the commerce of our minds with reality, the correspondence of our thoughts with things, the bond of society, and the bloom of life, something which we feel as an indispensable worth to our life, and without which we cannot live, after having visioned it, convinced that we should seek it, accept it and obey it. That which answers the soul's demands, which enriches and immortalizes life—that is truth.

After all, the soul does not live by vision of bulk, but in the truth that proceeds from the heart of God, and is worked into the warp and woof of our everyday life. Truth is something more than that which is beaten out and condensed for us into creeds, however precious we may regard these. Aristotle said, "Pure thought alone is ineffectual".

Something more than intellectual power has built our civilizations. The drama of life has produced some outstanding giants, men who were willing to put into action that which their hearts knew was right. These have changed the course of human events, they have built empires, they have promulgated ideas which have broken the chains of bondage, unlocked prison doors and have swept away the cobwebs of religious intolerance, as well as social injustices. They have been the epoch makers of history, the forces which have helped to spread the light of truth, of which Masonry has not been among the least. The pages of the past are reddened with

the blood of those of our brethren who would rather die than yield one inch to the falsehood of their time.

See them as they pass in grand review: Europe trembled as these assailed the tyrannies under which they were expected to live, their hymns of praise rent the air as they faced the lions, or were burned at the stake. When our own nation was in the birth-pangs of its arrival upon the scene, our fraternal fore-fathers were the torch bearers which created a nation which was destined to become the greatest in the world. George Washington, leading an army through the winter's snow, put into practice the lesson of prayer; in the deep snows of winter he appealed to diety for succor and help. The signers of the Declaration of Independence were men who knelt at the same altar as you and I.

The results: Religious liberty, public schools, human equality, government via the ballot box.

The world is standing at the crossroads: "Which way shall I take?" shouts a voice in the night, "To the right—to the left?" Brother Masons, we have the answer, we have no right to hide our light under a basket . . . it must be carried high . . . we must support our institutions . . . once more re-inhabit our lodge rooms . . . practice our tenets in the market places of life.

Along the shores of hesitation lie the bleaching bones of countless millions who sat themselves down to rest, and resting—died. Whether our country lives or dies, survives or perishes, does not depend upon the encroachments from the atheistic philosophies from the outside—but rather from our indifference and our apathy toward the things which have made us great.

The light that never dies—do you have it?

"The Light That Never Dies"

Back in the dim dark ages,
Before the world began:
Long before there were any sages,
Before the advent of man—

A voice spoke out of the blackness,
"Let darkness give way to light".
Then chaos became organized progress,
And our world took its turn to the right.

As the Great Architect looked on His trestleboard,
He scanned all the plans He had drawn;
Each step had been divinely approved,
Thus came the world's first dawn.

Far above the brilliance of the sun,
More far-reaching than the gold of the moon;
Was the light in the minds of God's sons,
Who were to inhabit earth's dome.

With each century, as it passed on its way,
 Came clouds of sorrow and woe;
 Many doubted, if the light of the day
 Ever again would show.

Let the thundering heavens then roar,
 Let the storms descend o'er the world;
 This glorious light, I am sure,
 Will be shining, when death and destruction are hurled.

When the star of hope has faded,
 Behind the clouds of doubt;
 And the path of faith is o'er shaded,
 There's a light that will lead us out.

So, follow the light then, my brother,
 Never once falter, quail, nor fear—
 For there is never a danger to bother
 when the "Undying Light" is near.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RELIEF AND CARE OF ORPHANS

W. Paul L. Toombs, 290, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Relief and Care of Orphans which was adopted.

Your Committee has had a very quiet year. With the exception of the regular payments to Annuitants and the United Community Service payment we have made only one payment to a person as an advance to get him to Chicago. This amounted to \$10. No request from Lodges have come through our hands that required any payments. Two items were handled not requiring payments, one oral discussion and correspondence with a Lodge. Total payments of \$2,710 with a membership of 44,569 on December 31, 1965 averaged out to 6 cents per member. This we believe is a lowest recorded for some time.

Please do not forget our responsibility for Charity.

(There was some question as to one of the items in the report of the 109th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge A. F. &

M. W. Sir with your permission may we offer a short Resolution.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: M. W. Benjamin F. Eyre has served for a long period of time as a member of the Committee on Relief and Care of Orphans, with the greater portion of the time as Chairman, and

WHEREAS: He has, because of health and personal reasons, notified the incoming M. W. Grand Master that he does not desire re-appointment to the Committee, and

WHEREAS: His services have been invaluable to the members thereof for advice and counsel and the members desire to show their appreciation for his untiring work and help,

BE IT RESOLVED: That this Resolution act as the instrument of Thanks and that the M. W. Grand Master and the Grand Secretary be requested to sign this instrument and its contents be made a part of the minutes of this Grand Communication and a copy thereof be presented to M. W. Benjamin F. Eyre for his memoirs.

Signed at Omaha, Nebraska this 8th Day of June, 1966 at the 109th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M.

GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA

A. F. & A. M.

Louis V. Sylvester, Grand Master

Carl R. Greisen, Grand Secretary

COMMITTEE ON RELIEF AND
CARE OF ORPHANS

M. W. Louis V. Sylvester, Grand Master:

It has been regularly moved and seconded that this resolution as prepared by the Chairman of the Committee on Relief and Care of Orphans, be adopted. Is there any discussion, I am quite sure there isn't. All those in favor signify by the usual sign of a Mason when voting. Down hands, contrary same sign. Carried unanimously.

REPORT OF THE NEBRASKA MASONIC HOME

Brother William F. Patterson, 25, President, presented the Report of The Nebraska Masonic Home which was adopted.

First, may I tell you that we of The Nebraska Masonic Home sincerely hope that you enjoyed your visit on Tuesday as much as we enjoyed having you. Our Residents join with us in thanking you for coming. This is the first visit of this sort in several years, and we hope it might return to an annual affair as it was previously.

I stand here each year and try to give you a report of our stewardship, but it's like trying to describe paradise—you aren't going to know what it's like 'till you've been there. We try to entertain you with the picnic part of this visit but underneath it we hope to show you what we mean when we speak of "Next to Paradise." We hope

you share with us the pride of accomplishment in maintaining the finest Home of this kind in the country.

You probably had little opportunity to visit the cemetery that is nearby. If you did, you saw the completed Evers Memorial in all its beauty. You made it possible and it should endure forever for all to know the resting place of over 100 of our departed residents.

Your Home suffered losses in 1965. On July 10, M. W. Lewis E. Smith, Honorary President and Secretary Emeritus, passed away after years of devoted service to the Home and all of Masonry.

In September we lost our second Vice President M. W. John E. Beaver, and then in November our third Vice President M. W. Ralph M. Carhart. Both were faithful and beloved trustees and we mourn their loss.

At the December meeting these two fine brethren were replaced by M. W. Louis V. Sylvester, our Grand Master, and M. W. Joseph C. Tye. Both these brethren are exceedingly well known to you and bring distinguished backgrounds of accomplishments and devotion to the Home. Their strength will be invaluable in the years ahead.

We suffered the usual loss by death of members of our Home in 1965, yet our population is slowly growing back to the number it generally averages, which is between the high 80's and 100.

The conditions surrounding our Residents remain the same. A very high percentage of them will never be out of bed again, thus continuing the trend to more nursing and more bed care, because these Residents are entirely helpless and a great many can not even feed themselves. At the close of 1965, the cost of maintaining a resident in the Home was a little over \$2,500.00 annually.

The average stay at the Home is 6 years. Some are with us much longer and some are called Home sooner. You can see that this means \$15,000 per person in our care for the rest of their lifetime. We expect it to reach \$20,000 in the near future.

There has been some speculation as to what the Resident turns over to the Home when he enters. Again here is an average. It never averages more than enough to care for him for 6 months. Some, of course, nothing at all.

You know that we've told you each year that this is expensive care, but we would not wish to avoid it. Although we continue to operate inside our budget, it is not easy. The inflationary spiral that affects all of us has its effect on your Home also and cost of care continues to rise. Though we are as careful as prudent people can be, I see no cessation of a continued increase in our operating cost in the foreseeable future.

If you saw the kitchen, you saw the new food carts that are proving their worth. Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, gave us four of them. Your Home provided the additional equipment necessary

for their use. This now allows for the delivery of food to those unable to come to the dining room in a fashion we've never been able to do before. The hot food remains hot and the cold food cold. It is remarkable equipment and I hope you saw it.

Our two thermal baths are in constant and steady use and are a delight to those of our people who require that sort of therapy.

The food trucks from the Grand Island and Scottsbluff areas came again as they do each year. Those wonderful brethren outstate brought us supplies that our Superintendent estimates a value of about \$5,700.00.

The Seal Program, thanks to you, continues to grow in importance in our financial affairs. It has steadily, year after year, topped the year before. Keep it up. You know, I'm sure, how important it is and how very much your support of it is needed.

I hope you all read and retained the Thanksgiving and Christmas issue of The Nebraska Masonic Home News. That issue, for the first time, was an eight page issue and was full of items of interest and many pictures of things I try to tell you about.

In the December meeting of the Trustees, it was mentioned that there seems to be a considerable lack of knowledge of what we actually have at the Home and even the procedure necessary to enter the Home on the part of the membership as a whole. We try here to give you the highlights of those most outstanding items; but if you have this issue, I can recommend a re-reading of it.

We have reported to you the gift of the "Sunshine Buggy" from the Mobile Nobles of Tangier Temple. It is pictured in that issue and its constant use described. We put wheel chair and occupant both into this buggy and it is much enjoyed by all.

The newly-completed wing is shown in this issue and then under the heading "Some Questions Answered" our good Secretary, R. W. Carl R. Greisen, who is the editor of the news, has again repeated the requirements for eligibility to the Home. Again, may I suggest you dig out that copy and read it.

I would report once more that the store, the beauty parlor, barber shop and clothing store are all still operating outside the budget as a result of thoughtful friends who contribute to the Entertainment Fund out of which all this is carried so that our residents may have these facilities so necessary at no cost to them.

The up-dated film "Next to Paradise" is still proving to be popular. Those of you who haven't seen it, might remember that all your Lodge needs do is ask for it. It will serve to inform your new brethren of much that you saw Tuesday.

I cannot close this report without reminding you of endowments. Many fine friends have remembered the Home this way; and if we

are ever to reach total endowment, which is the dream of your Trustees, this is an excellent way to help your Home attain it.

Briefly here we wish to express our appreciation to so many friends and people without whom we could not function. There are the Lodges, Chapters, Commanderies, Masters and Wardens, Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, and youth groups, those wonderful brethren with the food trucks, and many, many others who faithfully remembered their obligation.

Our special thanks must go to our Grand Master, M. W. Louis V. Sylvester, for the time and energy he has given throughout his year in talking about the Home which is always uppermost in his mind. We are indeed proud to also welcome him as a Brother Trustee.

We are grateful to our Superintendent Raymond F. Evers for the fine job he continues to do in looking after our people.

Finally here we must record our affection for our faithful Secretary, R. W. Carl R. Greisen. He is never willing to admit he is tired yet he works long, hard hours in our behalf.

Although I give you this report, it actually is on behalf of all the fifteen Trustees of your Home. If you had the opportunity to know these fine men who labor long hours throughout the year representing you and me in the administration of the many affairs of our Home, you would agree with me that they all represent the finest that Masonry ever has had to offer in carrying out the fulfillment of our obligation to our distressed brethren, their wives, and widows, as well as to the female members of the Order of the Eastern Star.

My Brethren, this report ends as a report, illustrative of Brotherly Love which we are taught to have one for the other and to remember our worthy and distressed brethren. It is best stated by the following:

If from the beginning of time you took all the miracles created by Man.

If you added all the words spoken by philosophers, potentates, and kings, yea even Knaves.

And set it to all the music ever cast upon the air.

You could not add to nor detract from one millionth of the beauty of the words spoken by Him;

Love ye one another"

Thank you, my brethren.

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON MASONIC-EASTERN STAR HOME FOR CHILDREN

M. W. Thomas J. Aron, 37, Chairman, presented the report of the Special Committee on The Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children which was adopted.

We, your Special Committee on The Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children at Fremont, wish to report that the entire committee— M. W. John E. Beaver, M. W. Edward Huwaldt, and myself had a couple of meetings. Then due to the untimely death of M. W. John E. Beaver, this report is a condensed review of the remaining two members of the Committee.

This has been a very difficult assignment, comparing very easily with the difficult decisions that each of us have had to make in our own home about what you should wisely do, against what you emotionally would prefer to do.

We have carefully reviewed several annual reports first, the one for 1954, and then all the reports from 1959 through 1965. On October 12, 1965, we met with the Board at its regular monthly meeting at Fremont. On the same date we had a long visit with the then Superintendent, Cleo Schroeder. We feel that any study must consider both The Masonic-Eastern Star Home at Fremont, and The Nebraska Masonic Home at Plattsmouth, for which the Grand Lodge is solely liable. According to the records here, the last five years at Plattsmouth we have had an average of ninety-three residents, of which 70% were women and 30% men, and as the annual reports show, the average age of these residents is higher each year, and their demands for care are greater each year. The Grand Lodge per capita tax for the support of The Nebraska Masonic Home is approximately \$90,000.00 a year. The Grand Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star is not directly financially responsible, and it should also be stated here that they have no official representative on the Board of Trustees governing the activities of The Nebraska Masonic Home at Plattsmouth.

The original intent of The Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children at Fremont was to take proper care of the sons and daughters of Master Masons and Eastern Star members. Naturally, one would expect changes to be made. Unfortunately, these changes have never been recorded in the Grand Lodge proceedings, so that all might be advised that they were made. In the year 1943, we find that the Rule, Article 8, Section 1, was amended to provide for the admission of grand-children. In 1958 the regulations were changed admitting children to the Home from neighboring jurisdictions whose father, or grand-father, mother or grand-mother were in good standing in their respective Lodge or Eastern Star Chapter, providing that the neighboring jurisdiction took care of all charges incidental to the child's residence. Since that time we believe only three children were admitted from Colorado, for one year's period, and then they returned home and to the custody of their mother. In 1962, Article 8, Section 1 was again amended; the words "Uncle" and "Aunt" were added to those qualifying for residence in our Masonic-Eastern Star Home. We do not criticize the amendments, but we do most seriously urge that whenever these changes are approved they should be officially spread upon the records of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Nebraska at the next annual communication after the Home Board has made a change.

Your Committee was represented at the Golden Anniversary Celebration of The Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children at Fremont, Sunday, December 12, 1965, and enjoyed a most impressive program. The Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Nebraska has shared equally with the Grand Chapter Order of Eastern Star in the operating expense, averaging about \$30,000.00 per year. This Committee has never proposed to be cold-blooded, mercenary, or solely dollar-conscious, but we believe the following facts are very pertinent:

Costs of operation are going up each year. The resident membership has been from a low of 31 to 43 September 15, 1965, and of these 43 residents, 88%, or 38 of them, had grand-parental affiliation. Furthermore, as found in the 1965 annual report, investments totalled \$232,615.72, and bequests total considerable each year. We, your Committee, feel that the fourteen-member Board, seven Masons, and 7 Eastern Star ladies, is trying to do a real conscientious job. According to the Grand Secretary, Mrs. Wilma Harms, the Grand Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star has a membership of 43,609, of which 34,396 members are ladies, and 9,213 members are men. We, therefore, have come to this conclusion, and offer these recommendations for the Grand Lodge's most serious consideration for the operation of The Masonic-Eastern Star Home at Fremont:

1. That a definite financial policy be adopted by the Board; that unless specifically stated in a bequest, a fixed percentage of every gift be placed in a definite endowment fund, and only a fixed percentage be used for the current operations and buildings;

2. That the Grand Lodge of Nebraska continue to lend its moral and financial support to the operation of the Home. However, with the ever-increasing obligations that we have solely obligated ourselves for in The Nebraska Masonic Home at Plattsmouth, and since the total membership of the Grand Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star is about equal to the total membership of the Grand Lodge, that we give serious consideration to lowering our total support from 50% to 25% towards the financial assistance needed to operate The Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children at Fremont.

It should be noted here that none of the neighboring jurisdictions has a specific home for children, and one or two have been closed.

3. If the Grand Lodge gives serious consideration to the recommendations of this Committee, then maybe the membership of the Fremont Home Board should also be changed, giving a greater representation to the Grand Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star, if that be the desire of the two grand bodies.

In conclusion, your Committee repeats that this was a most difficult assignment. We have no criticism of the present fourteen members of the Board governing The Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children at Fremont. They were most cooperative in supplying us data and information that we requested, and yet we come to the point where we must be realistic, as we note a decline in our Grand Lodge membership each year,

and all the responsibilities and obligations that we have assumed are increasing each year.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPLE BUILDING ADVISORY

W. Otto Nelsen, 300, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Temple Building Advisory which was adopted.

Your Temple Building Advisory Committee submits herewith the following report of its activities during the past Grand Lodge year, regarding recommendations made by this Committee on new construction or remodeling plans and financing.

The number of cases coming before this Committee have been numerous and varied in scope. Local conditions in many of our Lodges are such that something should be done, but our Committee would not be doing its duty if we did not differ in the manner in which some Lodges are trying to correct this situation. For instance, we take a long look before subscribing to the purchase of old business buildings, churches, etc., to be remodeled for lodge purposes. Most of these buildings have out-lived their usefulness and are a liability on the ground where they stand, and otherwise do not lend themselves at any price for Lodge purposes. After remodeling is completed, they still have an old building, and always a source of continued expense that the brethren cannot afford. Masonry in Nebraska has been on a steady decline in membership since January 1, 1958, and the turning point to correct this situation has to be at the local level, and improvements in Lodge facilities and comforts will help to alleviate this situation.

Herewith some of the cases coming before this Committee this year:

In May 1965, our Committee was contacted by members of Evergreen No. 153, relative to construction and financing of a new Temple for their membership. Nothing has materialized regarding this project. Our Committee has been able to work out a plan and type of construction for small Lodges that may prove popular and in the cost range that small Lodges can handle. We can subscribe help in financing if the Lodge itself will do its part.

In September, 1965, our Committee received a request from Globe No. 113 to inspect a vacated business building located on main street. The building was for sale to close an estate. Upon inspection of this building, our Committee was less than enthusiastic about the possibilities in this building in light of the cost of the building and the ensuing cost of remodeling, estimated to cost a total of \$7,000. Approval was granted upon terms of a debt-free building.

In November, 1965, an inquiry was received from a member of Mitchell No. 263 regarding available plans and procedure for financing a new Temple for the membership.

In January, 1966, tentative plans were supplied this Committee and also the members of Wayne No. 120 calling for construction of a one-story building with fully finished basement for social purposes, the dimensions to be 40x80' and estimated to cost \$45,000. Our last report was that a drive for funds was underway and that the response has been gratifying. This program has been a long time in the making.

In August, 1965, we received word of renewed interest in a program for construction of a new Temple for Kimball No. 294. Incidentally, this program for a new temple originated back in 1955 by Brother Charles M. Fisher who was Secretary of the Lodge at that time. The proposed sketches call for a building 40x88' which is no small building. Preliminary plans are in the making. It is hoped that the whole program proceeds without further interruptions. They have waited too long.

December, 1965, Granite No. 189, being desirous of obtaining a new and different location for their Lodge, contacted this Committee regarding permission to purchase the former Baptist Church, to be converted into a Lodge facility. A member of this Committee made an inspection of the church, found the church to be 80 years old, with an addition to the church 25 years old. This building did not lend itself for remodeling purposes, and because of the cost of the building and the remodeling cost, this Committee recommended abandonment of the idea temporarily, at least, to work at some other angle to secure a new meeting place for Granite Lodge. Portions of this would not be used, but would still command expenditures in upkeep.

On March 23, 1966, the Grand Master approved a recommendation made by this Committee regarding purchase and remodeling of a business building in Scotia by Crystal No. 191. Because of the hazardous condition of the old building it was very essential that the members delay no longer. It has been three years since this program was started.

May, 1966. Preliminary plans for a new lodge building for Amethyst No. 190 have been prepared by an architect. No further progress has been reported.

May, 1966. Guide Rock No. 128, upon their request was granted permission to construct an addition to their Lodge building to accommodate a dining area, kitchen, rest rooms and cloak room, estimated to cost \$4,000. This much-needed addition will be on a debt-free basis when completed, and the Brethren are to be congratulated.

On April 29, this Committee recommended to the Grand Master that Crofton No. 273 be granted permission to borrow funds for the purpose of remodeling the lower floor of their present building to accommodate the U. S. Post Office, who are now the tenants, but are desirous of extensive improvements. Minor changes and improvements will also be made to the Lodge portion of the building.

May, 1966. Alpha No. 316 are working on plans for an extensive addition to their building to accommodate a utility company, and also new quarters for the Lodge itself, which are badly needed. The program

involves considerable money, possibly in the area of \$80,000. This addition will command considerable rental income when completed.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NEBRASKA WORK

M. W. Herbert T. White, 11, presented the report of the Committee on Nebraska Work which was adopted.

The 1966 report of the Grand Custodian to the Grand Lodge has been examined by your Committee. We not only approve it but we think it reflects the fine work being done by our Grand Custodian and his Assistant Custodians. We take this opportunity to commend our Grand Custodian, W. Robert W. Cook, for the efficient manner in which he has performed his duties during the first year he has served us in the office.

All vouchers covering the expenses of the Grand Custodian and his assistants have been submitted to the Chairman of the Committee on Work. These vouchers have been approved when in accordance with the law of this jurisdiction and when charged to the proper fund in which appropriated funds exist for their payment. All the expenses of the department have been paid.

We approve the budget request for the operation of the office of the Grand Custodian and the Assistant Custodians in the amount of \$6,900, the same amount that was appropriated in 1965. The Committee itself requests an appropriation of \$100 to meet possible expenses, even though we expended no funds from our 1965 appropriation.

Your committee had the following request for determination, to which we made the ruling shown: What is the proper disposition of the Apron in our Funeral Service when the service is in conjunction with the American Legion service for a military veteran?

In the Flag service for a veteran the Flag is placed over the casket and completely covers it. The military funeral service provides: "The casket is covered with an American Flag. In case the deceased served under an Allied Flag, that Flag shall also be displayed on the casket."

The rule that brings up this question is also a part of the military funeral service rule: "The flag shall never have placed on it, or any part of it, any mark, insignia, letter, word, figure, design, picture or drawing of any nature." The question then is what do we do with the Masonic Apron in our service in such instances.

RULING At the time the Masonic Service is to begin, the Flag shall be shortened by folding it back from the Head of the Casket a sufficient length to permit the deposit of the Masonic Apron on the exposed portion of the Casket. The Apron shall then be placed upon presentation on this exposed portion of the casket. Care should be exercised to have the exposed portion of sufficient length so that no portion of the Apron will rest upon any portion of the Flag."

Your Committee has recommended the following brethren to the Grand Master for appointment as Assistant Custodians: Robert W. Boon, 33; Augustus W. Clark, 318; Alton S. Mote, 183; Ralph W. Gerry, 281; Arnold F. Mains, 15; Nelson W. Rittenburg, 210; and Harold J. Oehlerking, 159. All were approved and commissioned by the Grand Master.

We, too, are saddened by the passing of two of our Assistant Custodians Emeriti, W. Brothers Jesse P. Entrekin and Ward P. Schrack. These two Brethren were dedicated Masons and contributed much to the welfare of the Fraternity. We regret the termination of their services and commend their services to Masonry as an example to other members of the Craft.

Our sub-committee which is working to establish the floor work as it is presently being taught in our degree work as the floor work henceforth to be used has not been able to report, although it hopes to do so shortly. We have lost the original chairman, M. W. Ralph M. Carhart, by death, which has slowed down the work. Your Committee designated M. W. Herbert A. Ronin to replace Brother Carhart as chairman of the sub-committee. The Committee also suffered a loss in the death of W. Raymond C. Cook, Grand Custodian Emeritus. Due to the fact that the Committee was nearing the end of its labors, we did not undertake his replacement on the Committee.

Your Committee also suffered the loss of one of its members, M. W. John E. Beaver. The vacancy has not been filled and the Committee functioned the latter part of the year with only two members.

It is not an easy task to continue our work after losing three such dedicated workmen as Past Grand Masters Beaver and Carhart, and Grand Custodian Emeritus Raymond C. Cook. We briefly, but nonetheless most sorrowfully, regret their passing. They were great Masons and their places among us will be missed. Their memories will remain with us for many years. We knew them for what they were and we point to each of them with pride for the services they rendered to Freemasonry, and particularly to the services they have contributed to the work of the Committee.

We think this Committee and the Grand Custodian have done their work well and to the benefit of Freemasonry in this Jurisdiction. While we submit this report with some pride, we close it on a note of sadness, the memory of these three great Masons whom we knew so well.

REPORT OF THE MASONIC-EASTERN STAR HOME FOR CHILDREN

Brother Oscar N. Young, 32, President, presented the report of the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children which was adopted.

Greetings from the fourteen members of the Board of Trustees of the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children at Fremont and thanks

for the invitation to visit this Grand Lodge Communication. It is a pleasure to have the opportunity to inform you about the activities at your Home.

It has been an important year. On December 12, 1965, the fiftieth anniversary was held which was quite extensively attended. Considerable attention was drawn to the occasion by letters and communications to Masonic Bodies and to individuals. The response was quite gratifying, resulting in the Board of Trustees placing \$7,500.00 of the funds received into the Building Fund.

Last November, Cleo and Virginia Schroeder left us as Cleo resigned to accept a position with a local construction firm. They both had given untiring service and devotion to the Home, and they will be greatly missed.

The Trustees were most fortunate in obtaining Mr. Donald R. Moul as Superintendent. He previously was associated with the Lancaster County Juvenile Court at Lincoln. Donald, his wife, Sonja, and the three children moved into the Superintendent's home last December. The Board of Trustees have been very favorably impressed with Mr. Moul's leadership.

When Cleo P. Schroeder left the Home, the middle of last November, Mr. Earl Lipp who had been Assistant Superintendent was appointed Acting Superintendent until Mr. Moul could arrive at the Home. Mr. Earl Lipp later resigned to accept employment at the Fremont postoffice. Mr. Dale Ray of Fremont made application to become the Assistant Superintendent and was so appointed by the Board of Trustees. Mr. Ray's qualifications were presented to the Board at our November meeting and considered satisfactory.

Naturally, improvements and replacements are always under consideration. Physical improvements the past year include a new kitchen in the Senior Girls' home, also repair of the Senior Girls' home porch deck. A new living room rug was placed in the Junior Girls' home. Repair was made of all eaves, gutters and down-spouts on the buildings. Some painting and some furnishings were completed in the Superintendent's home. Civil defense provisions have been placed in the homes designated as shelters which includes the Senior Boys', Senior Girls' and Junior Girls' homes.

The Board of Trustees have given considerable thought and study relative to plans for improvement of living conditions for our Junior Boys. This home is the oldest and many problems prevail. Substantial improvements will be necessary or a new home built. Substantial gifts have been received for providing another building for them, and additional funds are in evidence.

Publicity letters have been sent out and we trust they receive your consideration. Various mediums of advertisement are very essential. This statement is made knowing that many of our Masonic members are not aware of our Home and what we are endeavoring to

accomplish, which is to furnish the nearness of a home atmosphere to those who would not otherwise have it. Also it is our way of keeping you informed of activities and happenings at Fremont. Your response to appeals for gifts and money has been very gratifying. To provide a normal life for the children at the Home, renovation and upkeep requires substantial expenditures.

At present, there are thirty-eight children residing at the Home, most of them are of school age and attend the Public Schools. Participation in school extra-curricular activities has been high. School work and grades have shown improvement the past year.

Participation in 4-H club work has substantially increased due to assistance from local well-qualified men assisting our staff. This endeavor has been substantially increased, and the results have been most satisfactory and gratifying. It is most difficult to place a "dollar and cent" value on this endeavor. It certainly evidences complete interest of those participating and a pleasure to observe. Thanks go to those who have given considerable livestock for the program. Our farm operation is providing considerable feed for the 4-H club endeavor. Also, the farm operation provides garden vegetables and other produce for use at the Home.

Reports of standing committees have been very thorough at our monthly meetings. Each member of the Board has become more intimately informed and better acquainted with the many problems and over-all operation of the Home. The members of the Board are dedicated, loyal people genuinely interested in the Home and the children residing there. They have made a particular effort to provide a Home for the children as near like a normal home as possible. My personal sincere thanks to the committees for the efficient manner in which they are discharging their responsibilities. Their cooperation has been most satisfying in my endeavors to carry out the duties of President. I am most thankful for their sincere cooperation.

The Endowment Fund is \$231,792.71 invested and \$612.64 cash on hand. It is hoped this will increase. The income therefrom is essential to assist in operating the Home. In time it could provide the expense of care for the Masonic-Eastern Star children. In so doing, we demonstrate to the world that we do "care for our own."

Recently the Board of Trustees designated \$7,500.00 of funds received from publicity the past year to the building fund. Additional funds of \$14,600.00 were later so designated. Some bequests will furnish additional funds.

The members of your Board thank the Grand Master of Masons and the Worthy Grand Matron of the Eastern Star for their assistance and advice. We greatly appreciate their attendance at our meetings. The Board also thanks our efficient Wilma Harms, Grand Secretary, and Superintendent Mr. Moul, his Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Ray, and all the house-parents and employees. The great responsibility

for the daily care and needs of the children at the Home rests with these people. We believe they are equal to the task and dedicated to the welfare of the children.

Personally, I want to thank the employees, and the members of the Board of Trustees; also our efficient, faithful Secretary, Wilma Harms, for the assistance she has given me. The members of the Board are most definitely dedicated people and have functioned by recognizing their duties as the members of each committee to which assigned.

A sincere invitation is extended to all of you to visit the Home at Fremont. Mr. Moul will be most happy to show you about and discuss with you anything you desire to be informed about. We ask the blessing of our Heavenly Father upon the Superintendent, the staff, the children at the Home and the members of the Board of Trustees.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CHARTERS AND DISPENSATIONS

W. Harry M. Green, 25, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Charters and Dispensations which was adopted.

Your Committee on Charters and Dispensations submits the following report regarding those Lodges cited to appear before it relative to their failure to have representation at the Annual Grand Lodge Communication for the years 1964 and 1965, the 107th and 108th Communications.

Hardy No. 117. Represented at this Grand Lodge Communication By Brother Clyde Washington, proxy for W. Master Alfred E. Christensen, Brother Ezra Olsen and Brother Keith Lance for the Senior and Junior Wardens. Satisfactory explanation received.

Upright No. 137. Failed to be represented at the 107th and 108th Grand Lodge Communications and was cited to appear before this Committee at the 109th Grand Lodge Communication to show cause why its Charter should not be forfeited for violation of Section 2-514 of the law. Recommended Charter be forfeited for failure to appear.

Crystal No. 191. Represented at this Grand Lodge Communication by W. Ray Salter acting as proxy for W. Master Raymond W. Toogood. Lodge holds regular business communications and assured that it would not happen again. Satisfactory explanation received.

Blazing Star No. 200. W. Master Joy M. Lathrop represented the Lodge at this Grand Lodge Communication. Lodge holds regular business communications. Assured it would not happen again. Satisfactory explanation received.

Tyrian No. 243. Represented at this Grand Lodge Communication by W. Master John W. Corman. Lodge holds regular business communica-

tions. Assured it would not happen again. Satisfactory explanation received. Contemplating consolidation.

Oak Leaf No. 312. Represented by W. Wallace E. Moffett, Secretary, acting as proxy for W. Master Leslie E. Stewart. Lodge holds regular business communications and assured us that it would not happen again. Satisfactory explanation received.

Your Committee on Charters and Dispensations recommends that the following named Lodges be cited to appear before this Committee at the Annual Grand Lodge Communication, the 110th to be held in 1967, to show cause why their Charter should not be forfeited for failure to be represented at the 108th and 109th Grand Lodge Communications.

The following named Lodges failed to be represented at the 108th and 109th Annual Grand Lodge Communications and should be cited to appear before this Committee at the 110th Annual Grand Lodge Communication to show cause why their Charters should not be forfeited. Tecumseh No. 17, Doniphan No. 86, Meridian No. 188 and Ruskin No. 304.

On May 12, Doniphan No. 86 voted to surrender their Charter and we recommend that the action of Doniphan No. 86 be approved.

We approve the Consolidation of Valley Lodge No. 157 Wilsonville, with Beaver City No. 93, on Monday, March 14, 1966.

Your Committee on Charters and Dispensations respectfully submit the following report on the request of Shiloh Lodge U. D., 3505 Cottonwood Lane, Maple Village Addition, Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska that it be granted a Charter.

The last Charter granted by the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Nebraska was on July 7th, 1956 to Centennial No. 326, 7125 Pacific Street, Omaha. Since this Charter was granted the population of Omaha and Douglas County has increased over 100,000 in the past ten years.

The location of Shiloh Lodge U. D. is some distance from any other Masonic Lodge and being in a new highly-developed subdivision is excellently located to attract high-class men to petition our Fraternity.

Land development for residential building in the immediate location of Shiloh Lodge U. D. means that hundreds of homes are now under construction and thousands will be built in the near future. The Interstate Highway offers fast transportation to downtown Omaha or any other direction to the residents of this locality.

The Charter Members of Shiloh Lodge U. D. represent the finest in Masonry and have been posted by Assistant Custodian W. Ross Van Sickle and are ready to pass their Lodge proficiency examination for the Grand Lodge.

For the good of Masonry it is the recommendation of this Committee on Charters and Dispensations that Shiloh Lodge U. D. be granted a Charter and that it be known as Shiloh Lodge No. 327 Ancient, Free & Accepted Masons.

It has been a pleasure to serve on this Committee for the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Nebraska.

PRESENTATION OF FIFTY-YEAR CERTIFICATE
TO W. GEORGE A. STEVENS, 158

M. W. Louis V. Sylvester, Grand Master :

W. Brother George, you were commissioned an Assistant Custodian of the Grand Lodge July 14, 1916, almost fifty years ago. You have been certified continuously since that time and you are the Senior living certified man in the jurisdiction of Nebraska. You have the distinction of having in your possession Commission No. 28 by M. W. "Uncle Bob" French who at the time was serving as Grand Custodian. In addition you have attended 42 annual communications.

W. Brother George, the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska, presents this certificate to you, Assistant Custodian Emeritus, Chadron, Nebraska in recognition of your continuous certification for 50 years. It bears the seal of the Grand Lodge, it is signed by our Grand Custodian Robert W. Cook; our Grand Secretary, Carl R. Griesen, and myself. With the certificate I wish to shake your hand and pay tribute to you, George, for this long period of service to the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. My brethren, will you rise and pay tribute to this fine brother.

At this time W. Robert W. Cook, Grand Custodian, had the following to say:

W. Brother George, many things have given me pleasure, but today it is my pleasure to present to you the official apron of the Assistant Custodian. It is a thing of beauty, George, you notice the emblem on the front is two squares with the trowel in the center. The two squares are for the purpose of squaring the work and squaring your action, the trowel in the center to point up the work for those less informed. Now, Brother George, will you turn around here and let me properly clothe you? My brethren, will you greet our properly-clothed distinguished Brother from Chadron.

PRESENTATION OF CENTENNIAL CERTIFICATES

M. W. Louis V. Sylvester, Grand Master, requested the Representatives of Solomon No. 10 and Covert No. 11 to approach the altar.

W. Brethren, the Grand Lodge is cognizant of the fact that the wonderful Lodges which you represent and preside over as Master, are currently celebrating their 100th Anniversary. You Brethren can understand how old they are, not only by that but by the fact that they carry the Numbers 10 and 11 in this jurisdiction. W. Brethren, the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska, present to you and to your Lodges this Centennial Certificate in commemoration of their 100th Anniversary and in token and appreciation of the contributions which it has made to the work of this

Grand Lodge during the past 100 years. This done at this 109th Annual Communication in the city of Omaha, this 8th day of June, 1966. It is signed by the Grand Master, attested to by the Grand Secretary and bears the seal of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.

My heartiest congratulations to you and the brethren of Solomon No. 10 and Covert No. 11 and I know you have some real plans ahead of you for your celebration this year. I am delighted to recognize you and the many years of existence of Solomon and Covert Lodges.

PRESENTATION OF CHARTER TO SHILOH LODGE NO. 327

M. W. Louis V. Sylvester, Grand Master:

W. Brother Donald A. White, will you, your Officers and Members approach the Altar.

W. Brother "Don", Officers and Members of Shiloh U. D. You have just witnessed the action of this Grand Lodge in concurring in the recommendation, not only of your Grand Master, but of the Chairman of the Committee on Charters and Dispensations, that you be granted a charter to do business as a regular Lodge. This is one of the most thrilling moments of my year, because, as you brethren know, I have been tremendously interested in the work and the establishment of Shiloh since its inception a year ago. I am pleased that this has come about during the year that I have been privileged to serve as Grand Master. It carries out an exemplified idea which I have tried to the best of my ability to promulgate in this Grand Lodge during this year. We need to expand and in our metropolitan areas to compensate the loss which we are suffering in some of our rural communities. I am delighted that you proved yourself proficient and that by action of this Grand Lodge, W. Brother "Don", I am presenting to you and to your officers and members, this charter designating you as Shiloh No. 327. I must with this presentation call your attention to the fact that this is the original, you will not be permitted to keep it, it will be on file in the office of the Grand Secretary for the future. You will receive a duplicate and in the meantime, I must also caution that you can not begin to work as a chartered Lodge until such time as your officers are installed and your Lodge constituted which I know will be done immediately by the incoming M. W. Grand Master, Lewis R Ricketts, who is looking forward with pleasure to it. Thank you.

Brethren, would you like to greet the new Lodge, Shiloh No. 327?

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON GRIEVANCES

W. Clarence M. Pierson, 19, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Grievance, which was adopted.

Your Committee on Grievances reports that an investigation was made into the merits of the Petition for Restoration of a former member

of Humboldt No. 40 and recommends that the Petition be granted and that he be restored to good standing as a Mason.

Your Committee finds from its investigation that this former member was expelled from membership on October 30, 1954; that he petitioned for restoration in Humboldt No. 40 on May 12, 1966; that the investigating committee voted favorably for restoration and his Petition was granted and your Committee offers the following Resolution and moves its adoption:

"BE IT RESOLVED that the Petition of a former member of Humboldt No. 40 for restoration be granted and that he be restored to good standing as a Mason."

Your Committee reports that an investigation was made into the merits of a Petition for Restoration of a former member of Bee Hive No. 184 and recommends that the Petition be granted and that he be restored to good standing as a Mason.

Your Committee finds from its investigation that this former member was expelled from membership on March 28, 1962; that he petitioned for restoration in Bee Hive No. 184; that the investigating committee reported favorably for restoration on January 6, 1966 and his Petition was granted, and your Committee offers the following Resolution and moves its adoption:

"BE IT RESOLVED that the Petition of a former member of Bee Hive No. 184 for restoration be granted and that he be restored to good standing as a Mason."

Your Committee reports that a member of Lancaster No. 54 was suspended indefinitely on September 23, 1965, and that the trial held on said date on a complaint of un-Masonic conduct, that an appeal was taken from the decision of the Trial Commission to the Committee on Grievances by the Grand Master; that on February 8, 1965, said member was found guilty by the District Court of the First Judicial District of Nebraska on a charge of having committed a felony; that the findings of the Trial Commission of indefinite suspension is not commensurate with the severity of the offense committed and should be modified and your Committee offers the following Resolution and moves its adoption:

"BE IT RESOLVED that the findings of the Trial Commission be modified and that the former member of Lancaster No. 54 be expelled."

Your Committee reports that a member of Oshkosh No. 286 was placed on a period of probation of one year commencing November 10, 1965 by the Trial Commission; that by order of the Grand Master entered on January 31, 1966, the said former member was suspended and the matter referred to the Committee on Grievances of the Grand Lodge; that a hearing was held on June 7, 1966, the former member appearing with counsel, evidence was adduced and the Committee being fully advised finds that the order entered by the Grand Master on January 31, 1966

should be, and it hereby is, affirmed. Your Committee offers the following Resolution and moves its adoption:

"BE IT RESOLVED that the order of the Grand Master indefinitely suspending the former member of Oshkosh No. 286 be, and it hereby is, affirmed."

At 5:10 p. m. the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

THIRD DAY — MORNING SESSION

Thursday, June 9, 1966

At 9 a. m. the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor, Officers and Members being present as at the preceding session.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MASONIC-EASTERN STAR STUDENT FUND

M. W. Elmer E. Magee, 227, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Masonic-Eastern Star Student Fund which was adopted.

Your Committee on Masonic-Eastern Star Student Fund is pleased to make the following report:

During the 1965-66 school year we have sponsored and assisted financially two boys and one girl from the Children's Home in Fremont in their education beyond high school. One of the boys has now completed his second year at Michigan State University where he is majoring in electrical engineering and electronics. He is doing very satisfactorily in school and your Committee proposes to continue to sponsor him again this coming school year.

The other boy has been studying barbering here in Omaha and will finish his training this month. The girl has been attending a beauty school in California and will complete her training in August. Both have done well and will now be enabled to become self-supporting by having mastered a trade.

Because there were only two high school graduates at the Children's Home this spring, neither of whom were capable or desirous of further education at this time, we will be sponsoring only the one boy in university this coming year.

Your Committee estimates the cost of this sponsorship to be \$1,300.00, of which the Grand Chapter O.E.S. and the Grand Lodge are being requested to appropriate one-half each. The Grand Chapter has approved their share and we herewith request the Grand Lodge to appropriate the sum of \$650.00 as their half to enable us to continue this work through the coming year.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC RELATIONS

W. Joe H. Hartley, 54, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Public Relations which was adopted.

Your Committee on Public Relations can report excellent co-operation by the state's newspapers, radio and television stations in publicizing the activities of the Grand Lodge, its Officers and Committees.

Stories were written and released in advance covering the following activities:

Area meetings of the Committee on Masonic Education held at Oxford, Crawford, Chappell, Long Pine, St. Paul, Wymore, Nebraska City, Bloomfield, Stanton, Geneva and Blair.

Corner-stone Ceremonies by the Grand Lodge at Gering high school, Wayne State College, Kearney State College, Crescent Lodge at Primrose, two Grand Island public schools, the public school complex at Shelton, and the Stuhr Museum of the Prairie Pioneer at Grand Island.

Dedication of the new lodge building at Primrose.

Attendance by the Grand Master and other Grand Lodge representatives at the Annual Conference of Grand Masters of Masons of North America at Washington in February.

The awarding of the Gold Jordan Medal.

The announcement of this year's Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, which was made two weeks ago and has been given state-wide coverage.

The story covering the election and appointment of new Grand Lodge officers was released yesterday to 221 newspapers, 41 radio stations, 13 television stations and to the wire services. Printing mats of our new Grand Master were furnished to all newspapers, while the television stations were provided with portrait photographs for newscast purposes.

The Committee also released stories for the York Rite bodies announcing meetings of the Grand Chapter, R. A. M., Omaha and of the Grand Commandery, K. T., at Lincoln.

In total, the foregoing report represents 1,289 separate mailings during the past twelve months.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RETURNS

W. Harold O. Swanson, 10, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Returns which was adopted.

Your Committee on Returns has examined the annual returns of the subordinate Lodges for 1965. The members of the Committee wish to commend the Secretaries for their diligence in preparing these reports. We found most of the reports satisfactory and well prepared. The Secretary of a Masonic Lodge is burdened by the heaviest and most vital tasks. Although he is outranked by the Master, Wardens and Treasurer, the im-

portance of his work is second to none. The duties of the Secretary require many hours of dedicated labor within and without the confines of the lodge hall. To the dedicated Secretary, his is a labor of love. It is incumbent upon the Secretary to make a full and correct return annually to his Grand Lodge. Emphasis must be placed upon the necessity of accuracy in compiling these annual reports as they provide the basis for the true records of the individual lodge and for the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

There were many irregularities in the returns that could and should be avoided. There were omissions in the returns that a little more care in preparation could prevent. More than 22 returns contained incomplete information. The recapitulations were inaccurate on many returns, more than 49 to be exact. Fifteen returns lacked either the Secretary's or Master's signature, or both. Thirty-nine did not bear the Lodge Seal.

We noticed several returns did not report complete information on the holder of the Jordan Medal. We would like to recommend that all Secretaries pay more attention to the instructions of the Grand Secretary's office in order that the monthly reports and annual returns be more accurately and promptly received. Legibility is a problem with some returns. The Committee strongly recommends that all Secretaries use a typewriter to complete their returns, or print very plainly. The 1965 annual report should list the 1965 officers, and should be signed by the 1965 Master and Secretary. In many cases the Secretaries listed the 1966 officers on the 1965 report.

We learned from personnel in the Grand Secretary's office that monthly reports are not submitted on schedule. These reports are due in the Grand Secretary's office by the 10th of each month. One Lodge has not submitted a monthly report this year; several have not submitted March reports, and many are delinquent with their April reports, which were due on May 10th.

We want to remind all W. Masters and Secretaries that the annual returns of their lodges are due February 10th of each year, and the payment of Grand Lodge dues and fees by April 10th each year.

We commend the Grand Secretary and his staff for the excellent and efficient records maintained in the office, and sincerely thank that office for the courtesy and fine cooperation extended to this Committee during our examination of the returns.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON JURISPRUDENCE

M. W. Harry A. Spencer, 227, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, which was adopted section by section then as a whole.

Your Committee on Jurisprudence submits the following report on matters referred to it by the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers, as follows:

The Address of the Grand Master:

1. We recommend that the paragraph of the Grand Master's address under the heading of By-laws be approved. (Adopted).

2. We recommend that the paragraph of the Grand Master's address under the heading of Dispensations be approved. (Adopted).

3. We recommend that Decision No. 1 relating to the status of those members of a Lodge who had signed a petition for a dispensation to form a new Lodge be approved. (Adopted).

4. We recommend that Decision No. 2 relating to an oral objection to the passing of an Entered Apprentice Brother be approved. (Adopted).

5. We recommend that Decision No. 3 relating to the requirement of a proficiency examination for a member of a Wisconsin Lodge before he could petition for the Royal Arch be disapproved. At our last Annual Communication we amended Section 2-403 to provide that its provisions would not apply to a Brother whose only Lodge membership is in a Lodge in a Masonic Jurisdiction other than Nebraska. (Adopted).

W. Paul Sacks, Master of Centennial No. 326:

M. W. Sir, may I request a clarification of exactly what the intricacies of this ballot are. By adopting the recommendation of the Committee we are, in effect, reversing the Grand Master's decision. Is that correct, Sir?

M. M. Louis V. Sylvester, Grand Master:

This is correct and also a similar decision which was made a year ago and approved at the time by the Committee on Jurisprudence which subsequently now with this decision have given additional study to it and it is their opinion that both of these decisions or this decision should be disapproved, which in substance will also reverse the decision which was made a year ago. They have consulted with me and I am perfectly in accord with the recommendation which they are making.)

6. We recommend that Decision No. 4 relating to the request of McCook No. 135 be approved. (Adopted).

7. We recommend that Decision No. 5 relating to the inquiry from Lily No. 154 relative to Masonic services for a deceased Brother who had been cremated be approved. (Adopted).

8. We recommend that Decision No. 6 relative to the use of Lodge funds to purchase a calf for The Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children be approved. (Adopted).

9. We recommend that Decision No. 7 involving the inquiry by Rawalt No. 138 about the waiver of the requirement for a twelve-month's residence within the jurisdiction be approved. (Adopted).

10. We recommend that Decision No. 8 relating to an inquiry by Grand Island No. 318 as to the effect of Section 2-904 of our Code be approved. (Adopted).

21. We recommend that Decision No. 9 concerning the inquiry by Mason City No. 170 as to a petitioner with an artificial limb be approved. (Adopted).

12. We recommend that Decision No. 10 being the inquiry submitted by Friend No. 73 asking whether the requirement of proficiency in the Master degree on the part of one of their brethren could be waived to permit his wife to petition for Eastern Star membership be disapproved. We call your attention to the fact that your approval of this recommendation will reverse the action taken at our last Grand Lodge Communication which was followed by the Grand Master in his decision. (Adopted).

13. We recommend that Decision No. 11 relating to the issuance of demits to several Brethren of Shiloh Lodge U. D. G. be approved. (Adopted).

14. We recommend that the action of the Grand Master concerning the annual election of officers of Washington No. 21 be approved. (Adopted).

15. We recommend the approval of recommendation No. 1. (Adopted).

16. We recommend the approval of Recommendation No. 2. (Adopted).

17. We recommend the approval of Recommendation No. 4 but observe that in doing so we do not want to be understood as passing on the merits of the proposal to be studied by the Committee. (Adopted).

18. We recommend the approval of Recommendation No. 5. (Adopted).

19. Pursuant to the Grand Master's Recommendation No. 5 which you have just approved we recommend that Section 2-1002 be amended as follows: by deleting the entire last sentence of said section so that Sec. 2-1002 will then read as follows: SPREAD OF BALLOT—A ballot should be spread only for one candidate and not for several collectively. The ballot cannot be divided and but one ballot box can be used in voting on a petition. (Adopted).

20. We recommend pursuant to the adoption of the Grand Master's Recommendation No. 1 that Section 2-1401 be amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 2-1401—APPLICATION for any Brother desiring to affiliate with another Lodge of Freemasons must apply in writing to his Lodge for a certificate of membership for the purpose of securing a demit. Such application must be reviewed and read at a regular meeting of the Lodge, and if no charges are preferred against the petitioner, and if he has complied with Section 2-2402 of the law, is clear on the books and is not an installed officer of the Lodge, the Master shall order such certificate issued, and the Secretary shall make a record of such action.

"Upon notice by another Lodge through the return of that portion of the certificate which officially certifies as to his election to membership therein, the Master shall order a demit be issued and mailed to the Lodge which elected him to membership. The Secretary shall make record of the issuance of such demit; provided, however, no demit shall be issued by the parent Lodge for a Brother who has signed a petition for a charter of a new Lodge who desires dual membership in both the parent Lodge and the new Lodge."

That the original Sec. 2-1401 be repealed, (Adopted)
and further

That Section 2-203 be amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 2-203—CHARTER MEMBERS—The charter members of a new Lodge shall consist of those Masons wherever residing, who sign the petition therefore, but they must forward their certificates of membership therewith. Petitioners who are members of Lodges in other Jurisdictions shall forward such evidence of membership or demits as required under the law of that Jurisdiction for transfer.”

That the original Sec. 2-203 be repealed. (Adopted). and further That Section 2-513 be amended to read as follows: By adding the word “sustaining” in the title between the words “Membership” and “Committee” thus the title when amended: “Membership Sustaining Committee”. (Adopted.)

Pursuant to the Grand Master’s recommendation the Grand Secretary submitted an amended petition form to the Committee on Jurisprudence. We recommend that the proposed amended petition form, which is hereto attached, be adopted. This petition takes precedence over all others. (Adopted)

(No form of Petition except the following can be used in the Jurisdiction of Nebraska)

(Fill out all blanks on this side)

TO THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER
WARDENS AND BRETHREN OF

..... LODGE NO. A. F. & A. M. .
....., NEBRASKA

The subscriber respectfully represents that he has long entertained a favorable opinion of your Ancient Institution and is desirous of becoming a member thereof, if found worthy. He therefore petitions that he may be initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry and become a member of your lodge.

He declares that he is free by birth, unbiased by friends, and uninfluenced by mercenary or other improper motives; that he is prompted solely by a favorable opinion conceived of the Institution, a desire for knowledge, and a sincere wish to be serviceable to his fellow creatures, and freely and voluntarily offers himself as a candidate. He further declares that he believes in the existence of a Supreme Being. He promises, if accepted, to cheerfully conform to all the regulations and ancient usages of the Fraternity.

He furthermore promises that he will not apply to any lodge, society or institution that shall provide as a condition precedent that one shall be a Master Mason in good standing as enumerated in Section 3-102(n) until he has passed the proficiency examinations as provided in Section 2-402.

Signature.....
(Sign with ink, one given name in full)

NOTE—Section 2-402 of the Grand Lodge Law provides that candidates shall become proficient in the lectures of the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason degrees, and shall prove their proficiency by examination in open lodge.

Have you ever made application to or been rejected by any lodge of Freemasons? Answer definitely on the blanks below.

I have never made application to or been rejected by any Lodge of Freemasons.

Signature.....
(Sign with ink, one given name in full)

Residence Address..... Residence Telephone.....

Occupation..... Employed by.....

Business Address..... Business Telephone.....

Date of Birth..... Place of Birth..... Duration of residence in place of birth..... years. Where did you last reside?..... How long?.....

What is your main object in seeking admission to the Fraternity?.....

What pecuniary benefit, if any, do you expect to receive from the Fraternity?

Are you financially able to care for yourself and those dependent upon you?

Duration of residence here..... years. Are you married or single?..... If married, are you living with your wife?.....

What is the condition of your health?.....

Give as references, names and addresses of two men, preferably Masons, in last place of residence.

.....
Give names and addresses of two men, Masons, residents of this city, other than signers of your petition.

.....
Give names of near relatives, if any, members of Masonic fraternity
....., Nebraska,, 19.....

Signature.....
(Sign with ink, one given name in full)

We recommend Mr. and certify that he has resided within the jurisdiction of Lodge No. since (more than twelve months)

Master Masons of Lodge No.

Total Serial Number

Annual Number, 19.....

PETITION OF

Mr.

FOR INITIATION

Received, 19.....

Referred, 19.....

To Committee consisting of

Balloted on, 19.....

and the petitioner

....., Nebr., 19.....

To the W.M., Wardens and Brethren, of

..... Lodge No.

A.F. & A.M.

....., Nebraska.

We, your committee to whom was referred the within petition, respectfully report that we have carefully considered the same and recommended that the prayer of the petitioner be* granted.

..... } Committee

*If unfavorable insert the word "not." If favorable, fill in space with a dash.

MEMORANDA:

(Here show when and how the petitioner was notified of the action on his petition, etc.)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ADVISORY TO THE GRAND MASTER

M. W. Joseph C. Tye, 46, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee Advisory to the Grand Master which was adopted.

The Grand Master's Advisory Committee has tendered its services and advice throughout the year to Lodges giving consideration to consolidation or to surrendering their charters. We have also conferred with Lodges having contacted the W. Master or the Grand Secretary. As a result of this activity, we report the following:

Crystal No. 191, purchased a building on Main street, remodeled it into a beautiful Lodge room on the street level and have several new petitions. This Lodge is therefore continuing with renewed interest and activity.

Seneca No. 284, having only two resident members, voted in April to transfer their Charter to Theford. A Brother in Theford donated a brick building to the Lodge. The Brethren donated sufficient money to remodel the building and are now improving it. It will also be on the ground level. It is anticipated that this Charter will be moved this fall.

Valley No. 157 voted on March 8, to consolidate with Beaver City. Beaver City No. 93 voted to accept them. Authority for the transfer was granted by the Grand Master.

Doniphan No. 86 voted on May 12, to surrender their charter. The Brethren were not in accord with reference to consolidating with another Lodge. Therefore, their Charter has been surrendered and the Brethren of this Lodge will affiliate with the Lodges of their choice.

Amethyst No. 190 are in the process of purchasing a new lot upon which they expect to build a new building. This indicates progress and a renewal of Masonic activity in this Lodge.

Globe No. 113 has purchased a building and are now remodeling it. It is anticipated that this Lodge will be moved to the new Temple this Fall.

Ruskin No. 304 contemplates a consolidation this fall.

There are nine Lodges presently considering consolidation. Some of them have appointed committees and are meeting with neighboring Lodges in an attempt to agree upon consolidation. The Committee congratulates the Brethren of these Lodges and is appreciative of their understanding of their respective conditions and their endeavor to reach a conclusion which will be beneficial not only to the members of each of the Lodges, but to Freemasonry in general.

Your Committee, and we feel certain each of the Grand Lodge officers, extend our appreciation to the Brethren coping with these difficult problems and we each offer our earnest and sincere services and advice in any way possible.

REPORT OF MASONIC SERVICE ASSOCIATION

M. W. Herbert A. Ronin, 210, Commissioner of the Masonic Service Association, presented a report of the Masonic Service Association which was adopted.

Our Grand Lodge joined the Masonic Service Organization in 1960. Forty-two of our Grand Lodges now comprise and support this Association. Its purpose is to serve Freemasonry in many ways, and it will respond to any inquiry of a Masonic nature which may be directed to it.

The 47th Annual Meeting of the Association was held on February 21, 1966 at Washington, D. C. just prior to the time of the Grand Masters' Conference. Reports were made on the Association's activities, including the popular Short Talk Bulletins, and the publications of the various research projects carried on by the Association. The Grand Lodge of Louisiana requested financial assistance from other jurisdictions because of the great loss and distress to Masons caused by the hurricane of 1965. Information, solicitation, and distribution of funds were handled by the Association without charge.

There is another important area of service of the Field Agents of the Association which is the Hospital Visitation Program for Army, Navy, Marine and Veterans Hospitals which is now being enhanced by reason of the Vietnam War. This service is supported by voluntary contributions from most Jurisdictions, but Nebraska does not participate in this separate activity of the Association. Our Grand Master was a member of the Committee on Hospital Visitation which rendered an outstanding report. The M.S.A. is a member of the Veterans Administration Voluntary Service National Advisory Committee. The M.S.A. will train and certify representatives for all Jurisdictions including those who are not contributing as ours. This a splendid opportunity for service to Masons who are hospitalized in military and Veterans' Hospitals. An accredited representative of the M.S.A. will be glad to assist us by training Masons of Nebraska without charge, and certifying them so that they will be accepted in Nebraska Hospitals.

I recommend to this Grand Lodge that we participate in this program to the extent of sending any volunteer Nebraska Mason to be approved by the Grand Master, for training by the M.S.A. at no expense to this Grand Lodge except necessary traveling expenses of such trainee or trainees as the Grand Master may authorize and that the sum of not to exceed \$500 be appropriated for this purpose.

The neighboring states of Iowa, Kansas and South Dakota have accredited Field Agents and arrangements can probably be made for any prospective Nebraska trainees to take a short on-the-job training program in one of these neighboring government hospitals. Even such limited participation in this important program should initiate a new concept in hospital service to Nebraska Masons and their families which will be most beneficial and in furtherance of our Masonic obligations of relief and fraternal love to the members of our Craft.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

W. Robert E. Lund, 323, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Finance, which was adopted.

Your Committee on Finance is pleased to make the following report:

We have examined the books and accounts of the Grand Secretary, Grand Custodian and other Committees that have a part in the financial program of this Grand Lodge.

We wish to commend particularly the excellent records of expenditures kept by the Grand Secretary, the Grand Custodian, and the Chairman of the Educational Committee, all of whom are very diligent in the matter of seeing that all their expenditures are properly signed and vouchered.

We have also reviewed the Audit submitted by Mr. L. A. Nelson, Certified Public Accountant, and have discussed the scope of the Audit with him.

We submit the following information for those interested in the receipts and expenditures of this Grand Lodge and for the guidance of the Budget Committee in what amounts of income are available for the operation of this Grand Lodge without spending invested capital.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES OF GRAND LODGE FUNDS

	Orphans Educational Endowment Fund	Supply	Relief	Centennial Contingent Fund
RECEIPTS:				
Per Capita dues.....	\$ 81,306.00	\$	\$ 9,034.00	
Fees	10,520.00			
Affiliations	30.00			
Investment Income	29,212.65	182.50	1,262.60	
Liability Insurance	3,252.24			
Supplies and Bond Premium..		4,087.12		
George Washington Memorial	943.00			
All other Income.....	460.65			
Gain from Sales of				
Investments	47,334.85			\$ 45.06
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$173,059.39	\$ 4,269.62	\$10,296.60	\$ 45.06
DISBURSEMENTS:				
General Expenditures	76,825.26			
Masonic-Eastern Star				
Home for Children.....	30,040.00			
Supplies		5,451.13		
Relief			5,000.00	
George Washington				
Masonic Memorial	943.00			
Centennial Contingent Fund..				\$686.68

TOTAL			
EXPENDITURES..	\$107,808.26	\$ 5,451.13	\$ 5,000.00 \$686.68
Excess or (Deficit).....	65,251.13	(1,181.51)	5,296.60 (641.62)
Overall Excess	68,724.60		

UNEXPENDED FUNDS

AND REFUNDS:

Orphans Educational	
Endowment Fund	65,251.13
Committee on Relief Refund	69.25
Grand Custodian for Grand	
Lodge Functions Refund	70.00
Grand Custodian Office	
Expense Refund	213.19
Assistant Custodian Travel	
Expense Refund	355.66
Assistant Custodian's Travel	
Expense Collections	705.00

Sub Total\$ 66,664.23

ANTICIPATED INCOME:

Per Capita Dues.....	80,814.60
Initiation and Fees.....	9,500.00
Investment Income	29,000.00

Sub Total\$119,314.60

TOTAL AVAILABLE

FOR BUDGET\$185,978.83

TOTAL BUDGET

APPROPRIATIONS

REQUESTED\$144,311.84

THE NEBRASKA MASONIC HOME
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

RECEIPTS:	General	Endowment & Bequest	Seals
Per Capita dues.....	\$ 90,340.00		
Cash from Residents.....	142,416.64		
Miscellaneous Income	4,265.60		
Investment Income	11,584.69	65,853.62	
Gains from Sales of Investments....	39,484.82	120,708.10	
Other Sundry Receipts.....			49,516.49
Total Receipts	\$288,091.75	\$186,561.72	\$49,516.49
DISBURSEMENTS:			
General Operation	265,474.23		14,185.21
Overall Excess or (Deficit).....	\$ 22,617.52	\$186,561.72	\$35,331.28

UNEXPENDED BALANCES:

General Fund	10,989.56
General Investment	60,054.95
Purchasing Account	12,883.36

Sub Total\$ 83,927.87

ANTICIPATED INCOME:

Per Capita dues.....	89,794.00
Investment Income	12,000.00
Miscellaneous	10,000.00
Cash from Residents.....	120,000.00

Sub Total\$231,794.00

TOTAL AVAILABLE

FOR BUDGET\$315,721.87

TOTAL BUDGET

APPROPRIATIONS

REQUESTED\$314,260.00

The following is a summary of the results of the Seal Fund Program.

SEAL FUND PROGRAM SUMMARY

Seal Fund, balance on hand May 10, 1965	\$10,052.31
Income during the year.....	49,516.49

Total Receipts	\$59,568.80
Less Expense of operating Seal Fund.....	14,185.21

Excess of Receipts over expenses.....	\$45,383.59
Transferred from Seal Fund to Endowment	

and Bequest Fund.....\$30,000.00

Cash on hand in Seal Fund May 10, 1966.....\$ 5,383.59

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

W. Fred D. Moshier, 281, Chairman presented the report of the Committee on Appropriations, which was adopted.

GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA, A. F. & A. M.
BUDGET FOR 1966-1967

a. Expense of Annual Communication	
1. Payroll 1966 Session.....	\$ 10,100.00
2. Recording and Transcribing 1966 Session.....	150.00
3. Grand Tyler	25.00
4. Grand Organist	10.00
5. Grand Master's Dinner for Past Grand Masters	
and Guests, 1967.....	600.00

6. Printing Proceedings 1966 Communication.....	3,000.00
7. Grand Lodge Dinner for Delegates, 1967.....	1,200.00
8. Entertaining of Distinguished Guests, 1967.....	500.00
9. Printing Fraternal Reviews, 1966.....	350.00
10. Preparing Fraternal Review, 1966.....	300.00
11. Printing Secretary's Book, 1966.....	500.00
12. Grand Lodge Law Supplement Printing.....	370.00
13. Grand Lodge Dinner Speaker, 1967.....	200.00
14. Auditorium expense, 1967.....	100.00
	\$17,405.00
b. Expense of Grand Lodge Committees	
1. Masonic Education	\$ 4,000.00
2. Relief and Care of Orphans.....	400.00
3. Appropriations	75.00
4. Grand Lodge Office and Business Affairs.....	75.00
5. Masonic-Eastern Star Student Fund.....	650.00
6. Finance	75.00
7. Work	75.00
8. Grand Trustees	2,000.00
9. Grand Historian Research Expense.....	350.00
	\$ 7,700.00
c. Traveling Expense	
1. Grand Master	\$ 3,000.00
2. Grand Secretary	1,000.00
3. Grand Custodian for Grand Lodge Functions.....	500.00
4. Grand Custodian, Assistant Custodians and Annual Custodian's Meeting	6,500.00
5. Assistant Custodian's Additional Expense 1965-1966...	110.00
6. Grand Lodge Officers and Committee under direction of the Grand Master.....	1,500.00
7. Deputy Grand Master to Grand Master's Conference..	450.00
8. Grand Masters Conference and Grand Secretaries Conference, Dues and Miscellaneous expense.....	300.00
9. Masonic Service Association Training Program.....	500.00
	\$ 13,860.00
d. Salaries	
1. Grand Secretary	\$ 8,600.00
2. Grand Custodian	7,500.00
3. Grand Secretary's Clerical.....	12,800.00
4. Social Security	1,200.00
e. Fixed Expense	
1. Rent; Grand Lodge Offices.....	\$ 6,350.00
2. Electricity; Grand Lodge Offices.....	1,000.00
3. Grand Secretary's Office Expense.....	4,000.00

4. Jewel, Apron, and Card for Retiring Grand Master....	230.00
5. Grand Custodian's Office Expense.....	600.00
6. Fifty year Buttons (500).....	1,575.00
7. One new Typewriter for Grand Custodian.....	250.00
8. Retirement Program, Grand Lodge Employees.....	4,753.00
9. Library Fixtures and Furniture.....	650.00
10. Additional Grand Lodge Offices remodeling, furniture and decorations (This item recommended and approved by the Grand Master and the Committee on Jurisprudence)	10,000.00
	\$ 29,408.00
f. Insurance, Assessments and Contributions	
1. Workmen's Compensation and Liability Insurance to June, 1967	\$ 34.00
2. Dues to Masonic Relief Association on 44,897 members to May 31, 1967.....	287.00
3. Surety Bonds for Grand Lodge Officers and Employees	692.00
4. Grand Master's Car Insurance and Employees' Car Insurance	28.00
5. Masonic Service Association for 44,897 members.....	1,148.00
6. Comprehensive Liability Insurance on Subordinate Lodges expiring June, 1967.....	2,956.00
7. Office Contents and Liability Insurance.....	55.00
	5,200.00
Total Grand Lodge Operations.....	\$103,673.00
g. Grand Lodge Responsibilities	
1. Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children (Grand Lodge Portion 1966-67) (Total to be matched by Grand Chapter, O.E.S.) (Total Budget for 1966-67 \$89,300).....	31,250.00
2. The Nebraska Masonic Home.....	269,575.00
3. The Nebraska Masonic Home Building Maintenance, Repair and Equipment.....	4,675.00
4. Nebraska Masonic Home Seal Program.....	16,000.00
5. Nebraska Masonic Home Retirement Program.....	28,322.00
	\$349,822.00
Grand Total	\$453,495.00

MASONIC RELIEF ASSOCIATION

The Grand Master called on Brother W. "Jack" Moeller, Secretary of the Masonic Relief Association of Omaha, and W. August W. Edling, President of the Masonic Relief Association of Lincoln, for a brief report on the activities of their Associations

during the year. Both brethren responded briefly with some interesting facts.

M. W. Louis V. Sylvester, Grand Master:

Brethren, it is now 10:50, the Grand Lodge will be in recess during the opening of the casket found in the corner-stone of the old City Hall. Brother Senior Deacon, you will now invite in the ladies, Officers of the Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society, members of the City Council and others who may be interested.

Brethren and ladies, I would like to have your attention while the ceremony of opening this casket is going on. We are all familiar with the fact that the old City Hall in the City of Omaha, has been purchased by the Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society, and was to be demolished to make room for a new office building. Some time after the announcement was made the attention of the Grand Lodge was called to the fact that in the northeast corner of the old City Hall Building, which as many of you know, was in the alley and very few of us ever had occasion to go up and down that alley, I am sure, but in this northeast corner approximately 15 to 18 feet from the level of the alley, there was a corner-stone in the building which had been laid by the Grand Lodge back on June 18, 1890. We took such steps as we thought proper to secure the stone and recover the casket which we knew was deposited in the corner-stone.

We made request of the Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society for permission to secure the stone and recover the casket therein which would permit us to preserve it for such historical value as it would be to our Grand Lodge and to the City of Omaha. Our request was granted by the Officers of the Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society and I am very pleased this morning that officers and Directors of the Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society are pleased to have present, and it is my pleasure to present Mr. Nick T. Newberry, Director and Secretary; Mr. C. W. Goodwin, Treasurer, and M. W. John F. Fatcher, Vice President. We also have a representative of the City Council of Omaha in the person of Mrs. Betty Abbott, as well as the representative of the Press, TV and Radio here with us this morning.

The gentleman who is operating the screw driver is one of the hardest-working Masons that we have in the City of Omaha. He is the Superintendent of the Masonic Temple at 19th and Douglas, and takes care of our facilities up there in this great building, Brother Warren W. Kelley. The one with the chain about his neck is none other than our Grand Junior Deacon who is experienced with this sort of thing, I believe he is having trouble now, W. Brother John H. Brown. It is quite evident to me and I am sure it is to you folks that back in 1890, they took no chances that the box would be easy to get into, and apparently when they sealed it they really sealed it.

We will proceed now to observe what is contained in the box: Annual report of the Board of Education, 1889; roster of the troop of the Department of the Platte, Brig. John R. Brooks command with headquarters in Omaha; Omaha Board of Trade Articles of Incorporation and by-laws, annual reports for 1887, 1888 and 1889; portrait of Albert H. Sander, 8th Ward Councilman; article from newspaper dated March 2, 1889, with general instructions to the architect proposing to offer designs for the new City Hall to be erected in Omaha; copy of the Grand Master's address delivered at the Corner-stone ceremony; copy of Omaha Republican Newspaper dated June 19, 1890; copy of the Omaha Daily Democrat; proceedings and constitution of the Nebraska Humane Society dated 1888; a box of small coins dated 1890, contribution of Byron Reed; annual report of the Omaha Public Library of 1889; proceedings of the Grand Lodge, 1888; copy of Omaha Daily Bee dated June 19, 1890; annual reports of the City of Omaha; small box of false teeth with gold on them, contribution of Dr. J. C. Whinery, and many other items. The contents of the box will be placed in the Museum of the Grand Lodge and will be on display at 201 Masonic Temple.

Thank you all for coming.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CODIFICATION OF THE LAW

W. Bernard T. Pipher, 31, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Codification of the Law which was adopted.

Your Committee on Codification of the Law submits its report and recommends as follows:

That Section 1-406 of the By-Laws be amended to read as follows, and that the original Section 1-406 be repealed:

Sec. 1-406—GENERAL FUND AND RETIREMENT FUND.

That hereafter the Funds of this Grand Lodge shall be the following: General Fund and Retirement Fund.

The Orphans Educational Endowment Fund is hereby consolidated with the General Fund. The General Fund shall be the operating fund of this Grand Lodge, out of which the expenses of the Grand Lodge as appropriated by the Grand Lodge shall be paid. This fund with its net annual increase, shall, by the Board of Grand Trustees, be invested and reinvested and kept separate and distinct from all other funds. Into this Fund shall be deposited all income of this Grand Lodge from whatever source derived.

There is hereby established a Retirement Fund for the benefit of the employees of this Grand Lodge and The Nebraska Masonic Home. Into this Fund shall be deposited the amount appropriated by the Grand Lodge in accordance with the retirement program heretofore approved by the Grand Lodge and as may be subsequently amended by

it. This Fund with the net annual increase, shall, by the Board of Grand Trustees, be invested and reinvested and kept separate and distinct from all other funds.

That Sec. 2-203 of the By-Laws be amended to read as follows, and that the original Sec. 2-203 be repealed:

Sec. 2-203—CHARTER MEMBERS.—The Charter Members of a new lodge shall consist of those Masons wherever residing, who sign the petition therefore, but they must forward their certificates of membership therewith. Petitioners who are members of lodges in other Jurisdictions shall forward such evidence of membership or demits as required, under the law of that Jurisdiction for transfer.

That Sec. 2-412 of the By-Laws be amended by striking out the following words which now appear in said section in the first paragraph beginning in the eighth line, and by placing a period after the words "such Lodge" in the eighth line:

"Provided that his parent and resident membership cannot be in Lodges having concurrent jurisdiction."

That Sec. 2-513 of the By-Laws be amended by adding the word "sustaining" in the title between the words "membership" and "committee" so that said title shall read "Membership Sustaining Committee" and that the word "sustaining" also be inserted in line four of said section preceding the word "membership."

That Sec. 2-1002 of the By-Laws be amended by deleting the last sentence, so that said Sec. 2-1002 shall read as follows:

Sec. 2-1002—SPREAD OF BALLOT.—A ballot should be spread only for one candidate and not for several collectively. The ballot cannot be divided and but one ballot box can be used in voting on a petition.

That Sec. 2-1401 of the By-Laws be amended to read as follows, and that the original Sec. 2-1401 be repealed:

Sec. 2-1401—APPLICATION FOR.—Any brother desiring to affiliate with another lodge of Freemasons must apply in writing to his lodge for a certificate of membership for the purpose of securing a demit. Such application must be received and read at a regular meeting of the lodge, and if no charges are preferred against the petitioner, and if he has complied with Section 2-402 of the law, is clear on the books and is not an installed officer of the lodge, the Master shall order such certificate issued, and the Secretary shall make a record of such action.

Upon notice by another Lodge through the return of that portion of the certificate which officially certifies as to his election to membership therein, the Master shall order that a demit be issued and mailed to the Lodge which elected him to membership. The Secretary shall make record of the issuance of such demit; provided, however, such demit shall not be issued by the parent Lodge for a brother who

has signed a petition for a charter for a new Lodge, who desires dual membership in both the parent Lodge and the new Lodge.

The decisions of the Grand Master which have been approved by this Grand Lodge should be placed as annotations to the proper sections of the Grand Lodge By-Laws.

Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master-Elect:

M. W. Grand Master and Brethren, may I fraternally request that the 110th Annual Communication be held in the City of Lincoln, and I want you to know that I have arranged for the Auditorium which will be entirely rent-free to the Grand Lodge. I would, therefore, like to move that the Grand Lodge, the 110th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge be held in Lincoln, in June of 1967.

(Motion seconded and carried unanimously)

MINUTES APPROVED

W. Robert W. Cook, Grand Custodian:

M. W. Grand Master, I move that the published proceedings of the 108th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, A. F. & A. M. of Nebraska held June 8 and 9, 1965 and all previous proceedings of the Grand Lodge published and distributed by the Grand Secretary, be ratified and approved. (Seconded and Carried.)

THANKS AND APPRECIATION

W. George W. Rosenlof, 314, Grand Historian:

M. W. Grand Master and Members of the Grand Lodge, I move that this Grand Lodge go on record as expressing its appreciation and gratitude to the Officers and Members of the Omaha Lodges and the Sheraton-Fontenelle Hotel for their many courtesies, arrangements and kindnesses that they have extended to us and our visitors in making this Communication not only successful, but most pleasant. (Seconded and carried.)

OPEN INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

M. W. Louis V. Sylvester, Grand Master:

Brethren and Ladies, we are very happy to welcome you to this Installation of the Officers of the Grand Lodge for its new year.

At this time it is my pleasure to introduce the Installing Officers, M. W. Herbert A. Ronin, Installing Officer; M. W. Harry A. Spencer, Installing Marshal; W. Edward H. Lockwood, 265, Installing Organist.

M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master:

My brethren of the Grand Lodge and charming and gracious ladies, I am extremely grateful to the Installing officers and to the Installing Organist for the most impressive and proficient manner in

which they have conducted this installation ceremony. I am particularly grateful to M. W. Herbert A. Ronin for giving me the opportunity which is now mine. I hope that I shall be able to vindicate his judgment. I am emotionally overcome by the large number of my Sisters and Brethren who have come all the way from Lincoln to see me installed. All I can say is thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Certainly no one can sincerely approach the duties and responsibilities of this high office without encountering a feeling of awe and a deep sense of humility. But I have been bouyed up by the many expressions of encouragement and offers of help from my brethren and from my Sisters, especially those in Lincoln, many of whom have honored me by being here today. With your assistance and inspiration, I pledge to you that I will exert my utmost endeavor toward the cultivation and advancement of Masonry in Nebraska.

My dedicated and devoted predecessors have done their work exceedingly well. The foundations have been solidly laid, the designs upon their trestle board are accurate and geometrically perfect. Consequently, I do not intend to attempt any innovations during this year. The strong emphasis will continue to be on Masonic information and education through the Grand Lodge Committee on Education and the Committees of the subordinate Lodges. In my judgment the ultimate success of this important program depends to a great extent upon the strengthening of the leadership of the subordinate Lodges.

Already much has been accomplished in this direction through the instrument of the Area meetings. This is a never-ending process which will need constantly to be reviewed, renewed and improved. Only as the Lodge leaders and Committeemen are trained to convey and communicate the Masonic message will this program meet the success that it so richly deserves.

The Grand Custodian's office through diligent and devoted effort has efficiently promoted the development of proficiency in our ritual. But this proficiency, important as it is, needs to be balanced with a strong and inspiring program in education of the things which support and lie behind the ritual—The philosophy, the precepts, the symbolism and the history of Masonry. Not only do we need to give lip service to the beauties of the ritual, but also to devote soul service to the ultimate and meaningful lessons which are intended to be conveyed by it.

As speculative Masons, character building is our task today just as it has been in ages past. May I suggest that the Great Light in Masonry furnishes a theme and inspiration which I think particularly appropriate in the words of the Apostle Paul, who was that great patron saint of Masonry, when he wrote to the Christians of Phillippi. "Finally brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."

My, brethren, let us be about our labor. Thank you.

PRESENTATION OF PAST GRAND MASTER'S JEWEL

M. .W. .John F. Futcher, Past Grand Master:

I have the privilege and the honor of presenting to you your Past Grand Master's Jewel. For some reason during this Grand Communication, our then Grand Master seemed to emphasize the fact that he hoped that he was conducting this Grand Lodge with satisfaction of the Officers and the Brethren. I don't quite understand why he had some doubts, for five years ago when I appointed him I knew that he would perform this function with honor to himself and respect of all of us. M. .W. .Brother "Lou," it has. We have now arrived at this stage when the Grand Master who appointed you has the privilege of presenting to you this badge. I would say to you that my information and from my observations that you and Dorothy, as you have traveled around the state, have done honor to this Fraternity. You have improved the good opinion which Masons have of our Fraternity and which the outside world has.

This Grand Communication was concluded with dispatch, efficiently and this behind you, I am sure that you have the satisfaction that comes to all persons in a job well done. I want to say to you, finally that I am very happy that I had the privilege of appointing you as Grand Junior Deacon.

PRESENTATION OF PAST GRAND MASTER'S APRON

R. .W. .Carl Greisen, Grand Secretary:

M. .W. .Sir, the Brethren and the Grand Lodge of Nebraska would like to have you properly clothed. They have delegated the Grand Secretary to present to you, on their behalf, a beautiful Past Grand Masters Apron which I know you will wear with pleasure and with honor to this great Fraternity. "Lou," we have had a wonderful time together this year and it is my pleasure to present to you now on behalf of the brethren of the Grand Lodge this beautiful Past Grand Master's Apron.

M. .W. .Louis V. Sylvester, Past Grand Master:

M. .W. .Grand Master, seems strange to call you that at this moment, but I do so with a great deal of respect. M. .W. .Brother John, I don't know how one can express in words the gratitude which he has for the great privilege of having been appointed to serve in the Grand Lodge line, ultimately to reach that very exalted station as Grand Master of this Grand Lodge.

I can only say to M. .W. .Brother John that I sincerely hope that my actions this year have reflected and will reflect credit on the judgment which you had almost six years ago now in June, 1960 and I shall be eternally thankful to you for this real privilege which you extended to me at that time. I also would, at this moment, like to

express not only to you, but to Leona, the great sincerity of our appreciation and thanks for the companionship which both of you have offered to Dorothy and me since that appointment, and I am deeply grateful for the privilege of calling you and Leona our most personal friend, Brother and Sister.

To the Brethren of this Grand Lodge and particularly to the officers who served with me during this past year, I express to you once again my deep appreciation and thanks for this privilege which is now mine of being a Past Grand Master and to thank you sincerely for the cooperation which has been extended to me throughout the year in an effort to advance the cause of Freemasonry in this state.

I am very happy, at this moment, to join the ranks of the distinguished Brethren who have preceded me in this exalted office and to be a member now of the Past Grand Masters of our Grand Lodge.

M. W. Brother "Dick," I don't know how to express to you, my thanks and appreciation for the assistance and help which you rendered as my Deputy Grand Master this past year. I know that on many occasions I have seen fit to exercise the prerogative of a Grand Master and to needle you and some of the other Grand Lodge officers. I pledge to you that after I am through here, the needling shall desist in so far as I am concerned. I expect to get a little in return now that you have the opportunity, but before I do, I can not resist once more the opportunity to needle the M. W. Grand Lodge at this moment. I would have you to know that when you were installed by M. W. Brother "Herb" Ronin a few moments ago, he presented you and he said, "I now present you with your gavel of authority." I have news for you, M. W. Sir, that isn't your gavel, it belongs to me and my name is engraved thereon.

R. W. Brother Carl, I say my sincere thanks to you for presenting me with this beautiful Past Grand Master's apron and to also express our deep appreciation to you and Cathy for the friendship and fellowship which we have enjoyed over the years, and as I office right next door to you, I don't think that you will see me quite as often as you have this past year, but I assure you that you will still see me often.

I pledge my continued aid and support in whatever undertaking you may assign to me, M. W. Grand Master, I know we are going to have a wonderful year under your leadership. God Bless you as you seek to direct the activities of this Grand Lodge. Thanks to you and to all of you.

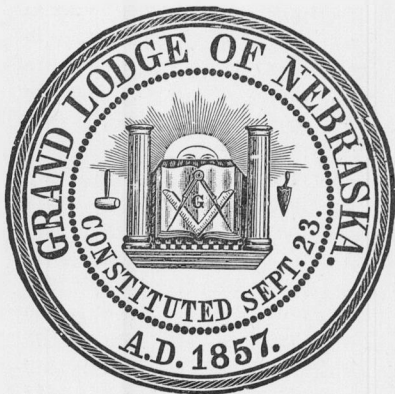
We are most grateful that the ladies and visitors came. We have been emphasizing, as you know, open installation in all the constituent lodges around the state, and this is the second year that we have had an open installation of the Grand Lodge. I hope it shall continue in all the years to come.

Thank you for coming.

At 1:30 p.m. no further business appearing, after prayer by the V. W. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Lewis R. Ricketts

Grand Master



Attest:

It is hereby certified that the above and foregoing is a full, true and complete record of the Proceedings of the One Hundred Ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska, held at Omaha, Nebraska, June 7, 8 and 9, 1966, and printed under my direction.

Witness my hand and the Seal of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Nebraska this 23rd day of July, 1966.

Frank Feisen

Grand Secretary

WE HAVE SET APART THIS PAGE DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY
OF THE PAST GRAND MASTERS WHO HAVE PASSED
BEYOND THE VEIL.

NAME	Died	Lodge	Year Served
ROBERT C. JORDAN.....	Jan. 9th, 1899..	3..(1st)..	1857-58-59
GEORGE ARMSTRONG.....	Nov. 12th, 1896..	3. (2nd)..	1860-61-62
DANIEL H. WHEELER.....	Nov. 27th, 1912..	6....(3rd)..	1863-64
ROBERT W. FURNAS.....	June 1st, 1905..	4....(4th)..	1865-66
ORSAMUS H. IRISH.....	Jan. 27th, 1883..	5....(5th)..	1867-68
HARRY P. DEUEL.....	Nov. 23rd, 1914..	11....(6th)..	1869-70
WILLIAM E. HILL.....	Dec. 29th, 1917..	2....(7th)..	1871-72
MARTIN DUNHAM.....	Feb. 18th, 1915..	3.....(8th)..	1873
FRANK WELCH	Sept. 4th, 1878..	27.....(9th)..	1874
ALFRED G. HASTINGS.....	July 10th, 1894..	19.....(10th)..	1875
GEORGE H. THUMMEL.....	Feb. 5th, 1932..	33.....(11th)..	1876
GEORGE W. LININGER.....	June 8th, 1907..	3.....(12th)..	1877
EDWARD K. VALENTINE....	April 11th, 1916..	27.....(13th)..	1878
ROLLAND H. OAKLEY.....	Feb. 2nd, 1904..	19.....(14th)..	1879
JAMES A. TULLEYS.....	Jan. 21st, 1901..	53.....(15th)..	1880
JAMES R. CAIN, SR.....	Nov. 24th, 1920..	9.....(16th)..	1881
EDWIN F. WARREN.....	July 9th, 1923..	2.....(17th)..	1882
SAMUEL W. HAYES.....	Nov. 15th, 1913..	55.....(18th)..	1883
JOHN JAY WEMPLE.....	May 28th, 1943..	50.....(19th)..	1884
MANOAH B. REESE.....	Sept. 28th, 1917..	59.....(20th)..	1885
CHARLES K. COUTANT.....	Aug. 23rd, 1910..	11.....(21st)..	1886
MILTON J. HULL.....	Sept. 18th, 1923..	67.....(22nd)..	1887
GEORGE B. FRANCE.....	Aug. 16th, 1914..	56.....(23rd)..	1888
JOHN J. MERCER.....	Feb. 25th, 1915..	4.....(24th)..	1889
ROBERT E. FRENCH.....	Feb. 16th, 1927..	46.....(25th)..	1890
BRADNER D. SLAUGHTER..	May 8th, 1909..	89.....(26th)..	1891
SAMUEL P. DAVIDSON.....	Dec. 8th, 1928..	17.....(27th)..	1892
JAMES P. A. BLACK.....	Nov. 12th, 1918..	76.....(28th)..	1893
JOHN A. EHRHARDT	Nov. 1st, 1925..	41.....(29th)..	1894
HENRY H. WILSON.....	June 28th, 1941..	19.....(30th)..	1895
CHARLES J. PHELPS.....	Aug. 24th, 1915..	34.....(31st)..	1896
JOHN B. DINSMORE	Oct. 6th, 1915..	49.....(32nd)..	1897
FRANK H. YOUNG.....	Dec. 24th, 1917..	207.....(33rd)..	1898
WILLIAM W. KEYSOR.....	Aug. 17th, 1922..	25.....(34th)..	1899
ALBERT W. CRITES.....	Aug. 23rd, 1915..	158.....(35th)..	1900
ROBERT E. EVANS.....	July 8th, 1925..	5.....(36th)..	1901
NATHANIEL M. AYERS.....	Nov. 19th, 1913..	93.....(37th)..	1902
FRANK E. BULLARD.....	Jan. 31st, 1933..	32.....(38th)..	1903
CHARLES E. BURNHAM.....	May 29th, 1933..	55.....(39th)..	1904
MELVILLE R. HOPEWELL...	May 2nd, 1911..	31.....(40th)..	1905
ZUINGLE M. BAIRD	Dec. 17th, 1916..	155.....(41st)..	1906
ORNAN J. KING.....	Dec. 26th, 1927..	54.....(42nd)..	1907
WILLIAM A. DE BORD.....	May 17th, 1916..	3.....(43rd)..	1908

NAME	Died	Lodge	Year Served
MICHAEL DOWLING.....	May 5th, 1921.	119.....	(44th)..1909
HARRY A. CHENEY.....	June 27th, 1948.	100.....	(45th)..1910
HENRY GIBBONS.....	Aug. 22nd, 1923.	46.....	(46th)..1911
JAMES R. CAIN, JR.	Sept. 3rd, 1950.	105.....	(47th)..1912
ALPHA MORGAN	April 17th, 1924.	148.....	(48th)..1913
THOMAS M. DAVIS.....	Aug. 12th, 1919.	93.....	(49th)..1914
SAMUEL S. WHITING.....	Aug. 11th, 1931.	54.....	(50th)..1915
ANDREW H. VIELE.....	May 9th, 1941.	55.....	(51st)..1916
FREDERIC L. TEMPLE.....	Aug. 13th, 1944.	61.....	(52nd)..1917
AMBROSE C. EPPERSON.....	Mar. 16th, 1944.	139.....	(53rd)..1918
JOHN J. TOOLEY.....	July 31st, 1934.	258.....	(54th)..1919
JOSEPH B. FRADENBURG....	June 14th, 1950..	3.....	(55th)..1920
LEWIS E. SMITH.....	July 10th, 1965.	136.....	(56th)..1921
EDWARD M. WELLMAN.....	Aug. 31st, 1922..	1.....	(57th)..1922
ROBERT R. DICKSON.....	June 18th, 1941.	95.....	(59th)..1924
JOHN WRIGHT.....	Oct. 29th, 1936.	19.....	(60th)..1925
EDWIN D. CRITES	Nov. 7th, 1953.	158.....	(61st)..1926
ALBERT R. DAVIS.....	Mar. 7th, 1929.	120.....	(62nd)..1927
FRANK H. WOODLAND.....	Oct. 23rd, 1940.	25.....	(63rd)..1928
IRA C. FREET.....	Oct. 13th, 1944.	56.....	(64th)..1929
ORVILLE A. ANDREWS.....	Oct. 16th, 1936.	19.....	(65th)..1930
JOHN R. TAPSTER.....	Mar. 21st, 1954.	119.....	(66th)..1931
EDWIN B. JOHNSTON.....	Feb. 11th, 1933.	33.....	(67th)..1932
ARCHIE M. SMITH.....	May 8th, 1950.	203.....	(69th)..1933
VIRGIL R. JOHNSON.....	Aug. 7th, 1956.	26.....	(70th)..1934
WILLIAM C. RAMSEY.....	May 19th, 1938.	268.....	(71st)..1935
WILLIAM A. ROBERTSON....	July 3rd, 1944..	6.....	(73rd)..1937
WALTER R. RAECKE.....	April 9th, 1960.	36.....	(74th)..1938
WILLIAM J. BRECKENRIDGE..	Nov. 16th, 1951.	317.....	(75th)..1939
EARL J. LEE.....	Dec. 15th, 1963.	15.....	(76th)..1940
ROSCOE POUND.....	July 1st, 1964.	54.....	(Honorary)..1949
ERNEST S. SCHIEFELBEIN...	April 20th, 1959.	59.....	(84th)..1949
JOHN S. HEDELUND.....	Jan. 30th, 1962.	268.	(85th)..1950
JOHN E. BEAVER.....	Sept. 20th, 1965.	153.....	(93rd)..1958
RALPH M. CARHART.....	Nov. 10th, 1965.	120.....	(98th)..1963

PAST GRAND MASTERS
 PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE GRAND LODGE
 A. F. & A. M. of Nebraska

CHARLES A. CHAPPELL	(58th) ..	1923
Minden 68959		
RALPH O. CANADAY	(68th) ..	1933
733 North Hastings St., Hastings 68901		
CHANCELLOR A. PHILLIPS	(72nd) ..	1936
Cambridge 69022		
EDWARD F. CARTER	(77th) ..	1941
State House, Lincoln 68509		
GEORGE A. KURK	(78th) ..	1942
4435 So. 45th, Lincoln 68516		
WILLIAM B. WANNER	(79th) ..	1943
2017 Stone St., Falls City 68355		
WILLIAM C. SCHAPER	(80th) ..	1944-1945
1009 South D St., Broken Bow 68822		
BENJAMIN F. EYRE	(81st) ..	1946
2001 Douglas Street, Omaha 68102		
EDWARD HUWALDT	(82nd) ..	1947
Commercial National Bank, Grand Island 68801		
ELMER E. MAGEE	(83rd) ..	1948
1201 O Street, Lincoln 68508		
THOMAS J. ARON	(86th) ..	1951
Crete State Bank, Crete 68333		
EDWARD M. KNIGHT	(87th) ..	1952
Alliance National Bank, Alliance 69301		
FAY SMITH	(88th) ..	1953
801 So. 52nd, #2013, Omaha 68106		
CHARLES F. ADAMS	(89th) ..	1954
Box 167, Aurora 68818		
HERBERT T. WHITE	(90th) ..	1955
643 Omaha National Bank Bldg., Omaha 68102		
MERLE M. HALE	(91st) ..	1956
1440 M St., Lincoln 68508		
ROY I. BABBITT	(92nd) ..	1957
609 Bluff Street, Scottsbluff 69361		
JOSEPH C. TYE	(94th) ..	1959
Box 636, Kearney 68847		
JOHN F. FUTCHER	(95th) ..	1960
5224 Crown Point, Omaha 68104		
HERBERT A. RONIN	(96th) ..	1961
Court House, Lincoln 68508		
ERNEST O. VAN WEY	(97th) ..	1962
802 11th Street, Gothenburg 69138		
HARRY A. SPENCER	(99th) ..	1964
State Capitol, Lincoln 68509		
LOUIS V. SYLVESTER	(100th) ..	1965
801 South 52nd, Apt. 2105, Omaha 68106		

GRAND SECRETARIES

- *GEORGE ARMSTRONG.....Sept. 23, 1857 to June 2, 1858
*ROBERT W. FURNAS.....June 2, 1858 to June 4, 1862
*ROBERT C. JORDAN.....June 4, 1862 to June 24, 1863
*STEPHEN D. BANGS.....June 24, 1863, to June 24, 1865
*J. NEWTON WISE.....June 24, 1865, to Oct. 27, 1869
*ROBERT W. FURNAS.....Oct. 27, 1869, to June 21, 1872
*WILLIAM R. BOWEN.....June 21, 1872, to May 6, 1899
*FRANCIS E. WHITE.....June 9, 1899, to June 11, 1925
*LEWIS E. SMITH.....June 11, 1925, to June 6, 1946
CARL R. GREISEN.....June 6, 1946
*Deceased
-

LIST OF GRAND LODGES AND THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES
OF THE GRAND SECRETARIES

GRAND LODGE	GRAND SECRETARY	ADDRESS
Alabama	Gordon L. Evatt	Box 6195, Montgomery 36106
Alberta	Edward H. Rivers	330-12 Avenue S. W. Calgary
Argentina	Carlos Wilson	Cangallo 1242 (R28), Buenos Aires
Arizona	Gerald I. Craig	Masonic Temple, 4th Ave. & Monroe, Phoenix 85033
Arkansas	Leland L. McDaniel	Albert Pike Memorial Temple, Little Rock 72202
Austria	Fritz Blum	Wien I. Dorotheergasse 12, Vienna
Belgium	Andre Saccasyn	265 Rue Royale, Brussels
Bolivia	Teofilo Aguilar Lopez	Obispo Cardenas, 1480 Casilla, Postal 564, La Paz
Brazil, United Grand Lodge of Bahia ..	Ivo Lopes da Silva	Masonic Temple Rua Carlos Gomes, N. 21, Salvador
Brazil, Ceara	Luis Nepomuceno de Mattos	Box 76, Fortaleza
Brazil, Matto Grasso ..	Acylineo P. Baptista	Caixa Postal 130, Campo Grande
Brazil, Minas Gerais ..	Sergio Alexandre Ivanenko	Avenida do Brasil, 478, Box 5, Belo Horizonte
Brazil, Rio Grande do Sul	Dr. Carlos Barcellos Fagundo	Box 683, Paraca Garibaldi 21, Porto Allegro
Brazil, Grand Lodge of Guanabaro ..	Dr. Sylla Ribeiro	Box 2215, Rio de Janeiro
Brazil, Santa Catarina ..	J. Luetiaul	Caixa Postal 536 Florianopolis Catarina, Brazil
Brazil, Sao Paulo	Erwin Seignemartin	Av Brigadeiro Luis Antonio 1195, Apt. 72, Sao Paulo,
Brazil, Grand Lodge of Paraiba	Napoleon Grispem	Box 3, Paraiba
British Columbia	J. H. N. Morgan	Freemason's Hall, 692 Seymour St., Vancouver
California	Edward H. Siems	California Masonic Memorial Temple, 1111 California St. San Francisco 91408
Canada	Ewart G. Dixon	Box 217, Hamilton, Ontario
Chile	Oscar Pereira H.	Casilla 2867, Santiago
China	Pu Ching Hu	Box 758, Taipei, Taiwan, Formosa
Colorado	Dean C. Settle	Suite 300, Masonic Temple, Denver 80202
Colombia National Grand Lodge	Emerito de Lima	Apartadox Postal No. 333, Baranquilla
Connecticut	Earle K. Haling	201 Ann Street, Hartford 06103
Costa Rica	Enrique Chaves B.	P. O. Box Y, San Jose
Cuba	Alfredo Aguilar Menendez	Apartado 72, La Habana, Fla.
Delaware	Chester R. Jones	818 Market Street, Wilmington 19801
Denmark Nat'l Grand Lodge	A. Nyvang	Blegdamsvej, 23, Copenhagen
District of Columbia ..	Paul R. Mattix	Masonic Temple, 801 - 13th St., N. W. Washington 20005
Ecuador	Dr. Luis W. Garcia Moreno	Box 932, Guayaquil
England	James W. Stubbs	Freemason's Hall, Great Queen St., London, W. C. 2
Finland	Martii V. Mustakallio	P. Esplanaadikatu 35, E. Helsinki
Florida	William A. Whitcomb	220 Ocean St., Jacksonville 32202
National Grand Lodge France	Jean P. Muet	65, Boulevard Bineau, Neuillyur, Seine Paris
Georgia	Daniel W. Locklin	811 Mulberry, Macon 31202
Germany, United Grand Lodge	Carl Nuckells	P. O. Box 16288 A. M. Care of Chancellory, Frankfurt
Greece	A. G. Maratos	Tektonikon Idrma, 39 Ypsilantou St. Athens-140
Honduras	Juan Rees	Apartado 336, Tegucigalapa
Iceland	Olafur Gislason	Freemasonry Hall, Borgartun 4, Reykjavik
Idaho	Herbert H. Eberle	Box 1677, Boise 87301
Illinois	Paul R. Stephens	Box 110, Rushville 62681
India	P. M. Sundaram	Freemasons Hall, Janpath, Post Box No. 681, New Delhi
Indiana	Dwight L. Smith	Masonic Temple, Indianapolis 46204
Iowa	Ralph E. Whipple	815 1st Avenue S. E., Box 271 Cedar Rapids. 52406
Ireland	J. O. Harte	Freemasons Hall, Dublin
Israel	J. Bar Nar	P. O. B. 2080, Tel Aviv
Italy	Umberto Genova	Palazzo Giustiniani Via, Giustiniani 5, Rome
Japan	George B. Morgulis	Masonic Bldg., Sakae-Cho, Minatoku, Tokyo
Kansas	Charles S. McGinness	320 W. 8th. Topeka 66601

LIST OF GRAND LODGES AND THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF THE GRAND SECRETARIES—(Concluded)

GRAND LODGE	GRAND SECRETARY	ADDRESS
Kentucky	James W. Elam	1000 S. 4th Street, Louisville 40203
Louisiana	D. Peter Laguens, Jr.	Masonic Temple, New Orleans 70301
Maine	Earle D. Webster	415 Congress Street, Portland 04111
Manitoba	Thomas C. Jackson	Masonic Temple, Winnipeg
Maryland	Gerald M. Pine	Masonic Temple, Baltimore 21201
Massachusetts	Earl W. Taylor	Masonic Temple, Boston 02116
Mexico (York Gr. Lg.)	Cantwell C. Brown	Hegel 416, Mexico 5, D. F.
Michigan	Charles T. Sherman	Masonic Temple, Grand Rapids 49502
Minnesota	David E. Palmer	Masonic Temple, St. Paul 55102
Mississippi	Cecil A. Thorn	P. O. Box 1030, Meridian 39302
Missouri	Elmer W. Wagner	3681 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis 63108
Montana	Lyman E. Smith	Box 1158, Helena 59601
Nebraska	Carl R. Greisen	201 Masonic Temple, Omaha 68102
Netherlands	Dr. P. J. Van Loo	22 Fluwelen Burgwal, The Hague
Nevada	Royal D. Crowell	Box 186, Gardnerville 89410
New Brunswick	A. C. Lemmon	P. O. Box 430, Saint John
New Hampshire	Harold O. Cady	Box 299, Concord 03302
New Jersey	Harvey E. Whildey	Masonic Hall, Trenton 08608
New Mexico	Chandler C. Thomas	Box 535, Albuquerque 87103
New South Wales	James S. Miller	The Masonic Hall, 279 Castle- reagh Street, Sydney
New York	Edward R. Carman	Masonic Hall 71 W. 23rd St., New York 00010
New Zealand	F. G. Northern	Box 6439, Wellington, C. 2
Nicaragua	Greg A. Tapia	Box 102, Managua
North Carolina	Charles A. Harris	P. O. Box 6506, Raleigh 27608
North Dakota	Clifford E. Miller	Box 1269, Fargo 58103
Norway	Odd Lie Davidson	Freemasons Hall, Nedre Vold- gate 19, Oslo
Nova Scotia	Harold F. Sipprell	Freemasons Hall, Halifax
Nuevo Leon, Mexico	Lic Serges Meno Trevino	Apt. Num. 309, Monterrey
Ohio	Andrew J. White, Jr.	634 High St. P. O. Box 208, Worthington 43085
Oklahoma	J. Fred Latham	Masonic Temple, Guthrie 73044
Oregon	Harry D. Proudfoot	1119 S. W. Park Ave., Portland 97205
Panama	Julio A. Ramos	P. O. Box 84, Panama
Pennsylvania	Ashby B. Paul	Masonic Temple, Philadelphia 19107
Peru	Jorge A. Butler M.	Box 587, Lima
Philippines	Esteban Munarraz	1440 San Marcelino, Manila
Prince Edward Island	Floyd Drake	Box 337, Charlottetown
Puerto Rico	Juan L. Matos-Cintron	Box 8385, Ferndon's Junce Sta- tion, Santurce
Quebec	J. McL Marshall	2295 St. Mark St., Montreal 25
Queensland	V. I. Carter	Box 675, Brisbane
Rhode Island	Arthur R. Cole	Freemasons Hall, 127 Dorrace St., Providence 02876
Saskatchewan	T. M. Spencer	P. O. Box 246, Regina
Scotland	Alexander F. Buchan	Freemasons Hall, 96 George St., Edinburgh
South Australia	F. J. Ellen	Freemasons Hall, North Terrace, Adelaide
South Carolina	Henry F. Collins	901 Palmetto State Life Bldg., Columbia 29209
South Dakota	John S. Rowe	Box 468, Sioux Falls 57101
Sweden	Sven Svedin	Frimurareorden Blasieholms- gatan 6, Stockholm
Switzerland	Ernst Hagmann	16 Leonard-Ragazweg Zurich 55
Tamaulipas	Ruben Marquez Romo	F. A. de Olmos No. 101 Nte. Altos, Tampico
Tasmania	H. A. Wilkinson	119 Macquarie St., Hobart
Tennessee	Thomas E. Doss	Box 216, Nashville 37202
Texas	Harvey C. Byrd	Box 446, Waco 76703
Turkey	Nafiz Ekemen	Nuriziya Sak. No. 25, Istanbul.
Utah	Clarence M. Groshell	Masonic Temple, Salt Lake City 84102
Vermont	D. Burleigh Smalley, Jr.	Masonic Temple, Box 443, Burlington 05402
Victoria	C. W. Davis	Freemasons Hall, 25 Collins St. Melbourne, Australia
Virginia	Archer B. Gay	Masonic Temple, Richmond 23220
Washington	Daniel T. Simmons	Masonic Temple, Tacoma 98403
Western Australia	N. J. Munro	Box D 177, Gen. P. O. Perth
West Virginia	Julian B. Hollingsworth	P. O. Box 2346, Charleston 25328
Wisconsin	Paul W. Grossenbach	1123 N. Astor St., Milwaukee 53202
Wyoming	Marcus R. Nichols	Box 459, Casper 82602

VETERAN GRAND LODGE ATTENDANTS
WHO HAVE ATTENDED GRAND LODGE 21 YEARS OR MORE.

Charles A. Chappell, 55 Years	1912-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27- 28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42- 43-44-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58- 59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66
Chancellor A. Phillips, 47 Years	1914-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28- 29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42- 43-44-46-47-48-49-50-51-53-56-57-58-59-60-61- 63
Benjamin F. Eyre, 44 Years	1923-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38- 39-40-41-42-43-44-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54 55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66
Carl R. Greisen, 43 Years	1922-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39 40-41-42-43-44-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55 56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66
George A. Stevens, 42 Years	1917-18-19-20-21-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33- 34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-46-47-48-49- 51-54-55-57-58-59-60-63-65-66
William B. Wanner, 40 Years	1926-27-28-29-30-31-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41- 42-43-44-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57 58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66
Ralph O. Canaday, 39 Years	1922-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-39-40- 41-42-43-44-46-47-48-51-52-53-54-55-57-58-59- 60-61-62-63-64-65-66
Pearl C. Hillegass, 38 Years	1927-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44- 46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60- 61-62-63-64-65-66
Herbert T. White 36 Years	1931-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-46-47- 48-49-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63- 64-65-66
C. Ray Macy, 34 Years	1924-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39- 40-41-42-43-44-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55 56-57
George A. Kurk, 34 Years	1930-32-33-34-35-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-46-47-48- 49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63- 65-66
Earl W. Dean, 31 Years	1914-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29 30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-46-47- 48
Harold H. Thom, 32 Years	1925-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-46-47-48-49-50- 51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66
Otto Nelsen, 32 Years	1935-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-46-47-48-49-50-51- 52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66

Edward F. Carter, 31 Years	1932-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-46-48-49- 50-51-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-61-62-63-64-66
Elmer E. Magee, 31 Years	1927-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-46-47-48-49-50- 51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-65-66
William C. Schaper, 28 Years	1929-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-46-47-48-49-50-51-52- 53-54-55-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64
Merle M. Hale, 29 Years	1936-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-46-47-48-49-50-51-52- 53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-65-66
Robert E. Lund, 28 Years	1937-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-46-48-49-50-51-52-53-54- 55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66
Fay Smith, 27 Years	1936-37-38-43-44-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56- 57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66
Edward M. Knight, 26 Years	1938-39-40-41-42-43-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55- 56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-66
Thomas J. Aron 26 Years	1930-31-32-33-39-40-42-44-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54- 55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-65-66

(No Grand Lodge Communication in 1945, however Credit is given.)

REPRESENTATIVES NEAR AND FROM OTHER GRAND LODGES

REPRESENTATIVE	ADDRESS	DATE OF APPOINTMENT	GRAND LODGE	REPRESENTATIVE	ADDRESS	DATE OF APPOINTMENT
E. Jonah Shipp	Northport	Mar. 27, 1956	Alabama	Herman G. Reinholz, 3	Omaha	July 7, 1966
F. Whitfield	Edmonton	Mar. 7, 1944	Alberta	Edward H. Lockwood, 265	Hastings	Dec. 15, 1959
Jose Gonzalez Ledo		Jan. 10, 1964	Argentina	Pearl C. Hillegass, 81	Rising City	Sept. 15, 1954
John Fletcher Sills, Jr.	Prescott	April 13, 1956	Arizona	Erwin J. Imig, 38	Seward	Aug. 6, 1960
Frank A. Smith	Little Rock	Jan. 27, 1958	Arkansas	Elmer E. Magee, 227	Lincoln	Aug. 24, 1944
Hugo Barber	Vienna	Mar. 22, 1951	Austria	O. Robert H. Beezley, 250	Lincoln	April 21, 1965
Rene Desgain		Nov. 13, 1962	Belgium	Leonard B. Waads, 103	Ord	Nov. 6, 1962
Raul Ballalai de Carvalho	Val. do Salvador	Sept. 19, 1936	Bolivia	Harold A. Tilton, 71	Neligh	Dec. 1, 1963
Roumundo Nonata do Vale	Ceara	Sept. 21, 1949	Brazil, Bahia, United	Alfred E. Geschke, 25	Omaha	Sept. 23, 1964
Jose Cesario Horla	Minas Gerais	Sept. 21, 1949	Brazil, Ceara	George O. Sizemore, 32	North Platte	Nov. 7, 1949
Guilherme Wittine	Rio de Janeiro	Dec. 2, 1944	Brazil, Matto Grosso	Ernest E. James, 1	Omaha	Jan. 7, 1950
Ewald Helmuth Langweiler	Rio Grande do Sul	Feb. 18, 1965	Brazil, Minas Gerais	Cecil C. Gates, 227	Lincoln	Sept. 19, 1941
Joao Bento	Joo Pessoa	Oct. 23, 1957	Brazil, Guanabara	Clarence G. McNamee	Norfolk	Sept. 23, 1964
Dr. Walter Pinto	Sao Paulo	Nov. 14, 1951	Brazil, Rio Grande do Sul	Benjamin F. Eyre, 1	Omaha	Jan. 3, 1936
Nicholas Mussallem	Vancouver	April 13, 1965	Brazil, Paraiba	Wallace E. Moffett, 312	Lynch	Sept. 17, 1963
Maurice Coffey		Sept. 13, 1959	Brazil, Santa Catarina	Clyde D. Worroll, 59	Wahoo	Jan. 9, 1962
E. W. Nance Kivell		Dec. 16, 1965	British Columbia	Thomas J. Aron, 37	Crete	July 10, 1947
Jorge A. Wachholtz		Jan. 10, 1962	California	Herbert T. White, 11	Omaha	July 26, 1958
TzeTsing Tuan	Taiwan	Sept. 14, 1962	Canada	Edward F. Carter, 201	Lincoln	June 22, 1937
Jose Maria Serna	Barranquilla	July 31, 1951	Chile	Ralph O. Canaday, 50	Hastings	Feb. 17, 1930
Thomas H. Cox	Olathe	Feb. 20, 1932	China	Earl H. Furman, 290	Omaha	April 13, 1960
George S. Hull	Clinton	Sept. 22, 1948	Colombia Nat'l Grand Lodge	Clifford D. Webster, 321	Sidney	July 30, 1957
Cecilio Nieto Casobo	San Jose	Dec. 10, 1918	Colorado	Carl R. Greisen, 32	Omaha	June 24, 1943
V. H. Francisco Enrique Garcia		Nov. 5, 1952	Connecticut	Chancellor A. Phillips, 150	Cambridge	Jan. 2, 1929
Fagan Simonton	Wilmington	July 27, 1954	Costa Rica	George W. Rosenoff, 314	Lincoln	Nov. 9, 1962
Mogens Millertz		Nov. 19, 1956	Cuba in Exile	Joseph C. Tye, 46	Kearney	June 25, 1954
W. Marion Falls	Washington	Nov. 24, 1963	Delaware	E. Forrest Estes, 19	Lincoln	April 23, 1965
Fernandos Gayangos Araya	Guayaquil	June 17, 1953	Denmark	Herbert A. Ronin, 210	Lincoln	May 13, 1954
William R. S. Bathurst	Wiltshire	May 18, 1950	Dist. of Columbia	Clarence M. Pierson, 19	Lincoln	Sept. 14, 1962
Orville A. Clark	Jacksonville	Dec. 17, 1960	Ecuador	Fay Smith, 198	Omaha	June 17, 1954
Edward Jeannonod	Paris	Sept. 14, 1954	England	Byron C. Jenkins, 325	Bellevue	Aug. 8, 1966
Otis E. Dixon	Macon	Jan. 15, 1957	Finland	Robert D. Cresop, 158	Omaha	Oct. 5, 1966
Heinz Zieme	Frankfurt au Main	Dec. 26, 1963	Florida	Raymond F. Evers, 6	Platts-mouth	Aug. 3, 1960
George Sakellariou	Athens	April 10, 1954	France Nat'l Grand Lodge	J. F. M. Heumann, 290	Omaha	July 28, 1965
Angel Gabriel Guzman		Aug. 13, 1963	Germany	Stephen W. Beck, 43	Hebron	Sept. 3, 1960
Bjarne Bjarnason	Helgafell	Jan. 7, 1953	Greece	Gordon Chard, 240	Lyons	Nov. 3, 1962
George A. Spangenberg	Nampa	June 28, 1960	Honduras	George A. Stevens, 183	Chadron	Sept. 23, 1964
Harry L. Kline	Decatur	July 11, 1950	Iceland	James M. Paxson, 302	Omaha	Aug. 11, 1960
John P. Lippincott	South Bend	Feb. 26, 1949	Idaho	Warren W. Kelley, 290	Omaha	May 13, 1959
Thomas M. Gick	Dublin	June 17, 1963	Illinois	Norris W. Lallman, 72	Hooper	May 21, 1959
Israel Levin	Tel Aviv	Sept. 14, 1954	Indiana	Warren K. Urbom, 314	Lincoln	Sept. 7, 1966
Edward W. Knepper		Sept. 17, 1965	India	Richard L. Ely, 128	Guide Rock	June 17, 1958
Richard K. Hart	Topeka	Jan. 6, 1964	Ireland	William Gradinsky, 11	Omaha	July 26, 1954
C. James Hyde	Louisville	Sept. 18, 1962	Israel, State of	Lewis R. Ricketts, 19	Lincoln	Sept. 14, 1962
Philip O. McLaughlin		Jan. 23, 1961	Italy	Delbert H. Pinkerton, 314	Lincoln	Jan. 31, 1958
James A. Sanker	Belfast	Sept. 14, 1948	Japan	Howard J. Hunter, 59	Wahoo	Jan. 13, 1950
Nathan Rothstein	Winnipeg	Mar. 22, 1951	Kansas	Ralph S. Tully, 25	Omaha	Jan. 23, 1958
Clifford S. Hubbard		Apr. 19, 1961	Kentucky	John A. Butoff, 49	Omaha	Feb. 24, 1958
James E. Roy	Worcester	Aug. 20, 1964	Louisiana	Robert W. Cook, 33	Omaha	Aug. 1, 1960
			Maine	Harry Ahl, 112	Louisville	Sept. 14, 1962
			Manitoba	George A. Kurk, 54	Lincoln	June 22, 1937
			Maryland	William B. Wanner, 9	Falls City	June 22, 1937
			Massachusetts			

REPRESENTATIVES NEAR AND FROM OTHER GRAND LODGES

JUNE, 1966

GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA

REPRESENTATIVE	ADDRESS	DATE OF APPOINTMENT	GRAND LODGE	REPRESENTATIVE	ADDRESS	DATE OF APPOINTMENT
Francisco Madero	Mexico City	June 3, 1966	Mexico York Rite Grand Lodge	W. J. (Jack) Moeller, 290	Omaha	May 26, 1964
Willard Souer	Sparta	Feb. 14, 1958	Michigan	John H. Brown, 1	Omaha	Nov. 1, 1965
Herbert S. Ramberg	Ada	Jan. 16, 1953	Minnesota	Merle M. Hale, 54	Lincoln	Feb. 14, 1952
Orman Rinehart Smith	Corinth	June 21, 1957	Mississippi	Louis V. Sylvester, 281	Omaha	Sept. 8, 1953
Etson E. Jackson	Springfield	July 23, 1963	Missouri	William F. Patterson, 327	Omaha	June 3, 1964
I. R. P. Reineimer	Circle	Feb. 3, 1953	Montana	C. Harold Edwards, 105	Lincoln	Oct. 21, 1965
J. F. A. Graevenberch	Reno	Dec. 14, 1960	Netherlands	W. Upton Dawson, 135	McCook	May 6, 1965
Harry H. Atkinson	St. John	June 19, 1911	Nevada	Alfred B. Saum, 46	Kearney	Jan. 30, 1958
Kenneth Roberts Nelson	St. John	Oct. 21, 1955	New Brunswick	Frank H. Smith, 301	Bayard	Jan. 31, 1958
John O. Lovejoy	Littleton	June 14, 1962	New Hampshire	Clyde H. Jones, 173	Stratton	Sept. 27, 1956
John A. Stecker	Maplewood	Aug. 11, 1947	New Jersey	John F. Fletcher, 302	Omaha	July 21, 1955
Howard M. Sleeper	Santa Fe	Apr. 9, 1953	New Mexico	Harold D. Weddel, 208	Lexington	Oct. 18, 1943
Frederick J. Hayward	Mosman	Mar. 10, 1950	New South Wales	Harry A. Spencer, 227	Lincoln	Apr. 8, 1957
John H. Rahm	Mangaweka	Aug. 31, 1965	New York	George R. Porter, 11	Omaha	Oct. 19, 1931
T. W. Peirman	Mangaweka	Dec. 4, 1956	New Zealand	Carl D. Ganz, 209	Lincoln	Oct. 19, 1962
Nathaniel C. Dean	Mangaweka	July 26, 1965	Nicaragua	Paul D. Fleming, 93	Beaver City	Dec. 9, 1941
Calvin E. Rustad	Grand Forks	Sept. 7, 1955	North Carolina	Levi B. Williams, 1	Omaha	Sept. 17, 1962
Ole Kristofer Roed	Oslo	Feb. 8, 1956	North Dakota	Hugh W. Eisenhart, 150	Cambridge	April 28, 1965
C. Fraser Larimer	Stellarton	July 28, 1952	Norway	Einar Hoel, 11	Omaha	June 9, 1964
Juan L. Arocha	Monterrey	Oct. 23, 1950	Nova Scotia	Edmund D. Shaw, 254	Bassett	Sept. 2, 1960
Robert L. Troeschler	Youngstown	April 26, 1965	Nuevo Leon	Winston C. Swanson, 120	Wayne	Aug. 10, 1960
Aubrey R. Erhart	Guymon	July 23, 1963	Ohio	Otto Nelsen, 300	Lincoln	Feb. 17, 1958
Norman W. Oliver	Burns	May 5, 1964	Oklahoma	Rolph R. Carleton, 306	Sidney	Feb. 6, 1958
Elias S. Mizrachi	Panama	Jan. 12, 1953	Oregon	Fred D. Moshier, 281	Omaha	Sept. 4, 1963
Franklin A. Zumaelo	Lima	Oct. 23, 1957	Panama	Arthur S. Dye, 317	Hastings	July 28, 1965
Aurelio B. Aquino	Manila	Jan. 23, 1944	Peru	La Verne A. Walker, 55	Norfolk	Feb. 8, 1958
Chester R. Martin	Caledonia	May 1, 1959	Philippines	Ralph W. Gerry, 281	Omaha	Oct. 17, 1945
A. G. Lightbourn	Fajardo	May 3, 1945	Prince Edward Island	Donald C. Smith, 1	Omaha	Jan. 17, 1945
G. Diamond	Fajardo	July 13, 1959	Puerto Rico	Roy I. Babbitt, 295	Scottsbluff	Aug. 23, 1957
W. R. Gailey	Cranston	Feb. 29, 1960	Quebec	Charles J. Black, 290	Omaha	Nov. 10, 1965
Grafton H. Willey, Jr.	Edinburgh	Jan. 24, 1947	Queensland	Edward Huwaldt, 318	Grand Island	Oct. 31, 1940
Gaylord C. Wright	Regina	April 13, 1965	Rhode Island	Edward A. Hoagland, 25	Omaha	July 3, 1947
William Sloss	Edinburgh	Aug. 30, 1963	Saskatchewan	Robert E. Lund, 323	Columbus	Sept. 17, 1962
Cyril W. C. Peaks	Edinburgh	Sept. 9, 1959	Scotland	Harold H. Thom, 1	Omaha	Sept. 17, 1962
Horace Greeley Adams	Charleston	Aug. 7, 1942	South Australia	Frank F. McMullin, 241	Craig	Jan. 2, 1957
Robert F. Patterson	Vermillion	Feb. 3, 1955	South Carolina	Mark Mitchell, 138	Oxford	Jan. 1, 1962
Hj. August Lind	Linkoping	Apr. 4, 1958	South Dakota	Charles A. Chappell, 127	Minden	Aug. 26, 1918
Andre' Starvo	Berne	Jan. 14, 1958	Sweden	Lillard S. Jensen	Omaha	Nov. 17, 1965
V. H. Samuel Rodriguez	Tampico	Sept. 8, 1940	Switzerland	Ralph I. Berry, 256	Hickman	Nov. 5, 1965
S. V. Tilley	Hobart	Mar. 27, 1957	Tamaulipas	Homer C. Dovey, 317	Hastings	Aug. 3, 1960
C. Cecil Broadwell	Jackson	Nov. 30, 1956	Tasmania	Lloyd I. Edwards, 110	Ashland	Sept. 8, 1960
Harold A. Bateman	Dallas	July 28, 1960	Tennessee	William C. Schaper, 148	Broken Bow	May 4, 1939
Nebil Sarpel, Istanbul	Istanbul	July 19, 1963	Texas	Donald A. Keys, 300	Lincoln	Dec. 20, 1961
John J. Greiner	Ogden	Sept. 10, 1959	Turkey	Melvin E. Johnson, 112	Ralston	Aug. 27, 1963
David A. Smith	Shelburne	May 16, 1962	Utah	Richard L. Wait, 19	Lincoln	Jan. 23, 1958
Farrin Webb	Melbourne	Mar. 23, 1946	Vermont	Cary W. Dresslar, 32	North Platte	Nov. 14, 1956
P. O. Shepherd, Jr.	S. Arlington	Jan. 2, 1952	Victoria	Mathias E. Mauel, 173	Stratton	Aug. 2, 1960
Stewart E. Perry	Puyallup	July 18, 1946	Virginia	Ernest O. Van Wey, 249	Gothenburg	Jan. 28, 1952
Frederick George Hatcher	Puyallup	Dec. 17, 1960	Washington	Edward M. Knight, 183	Alliance	June 27, 1941
James K. Ferguson	Puyallup	Sept. 28, 1961	West Australia	Charles F. Adams, 68	Aurora	July 10, 1947
George J. Schreiber	Milwaukee	Mar. 23, 1946	West Virginia	Willard I. Lewis, Jr., 9	Falls City	Mar. 15, 1960
			Wisconsin	Harlan W. Cane, 227	Lincoln	Dec. 30, 1964

MASONIC CALENDAR

Ancient Craft Masons commence their era with the creation of the world, calling it Anno Lucis (A.'.L.'.) "In the year of light."

Royal Arch Masons date from the year the second temple was commenced by Zerubbabel, Anno Inventionis (A.'.I.'.) "In the year of the Discovery."

Royal and Select Masters date from the year in which the Temple of Solomon was completed, Anno Depositionis (A.'.Dep.'.) "In the year of the deposit."

Knights Templar commence their era with the organization of the order, Anno Ordinis, (A.'.O.'.) "In the year of the Order."

Order of High Priesthood dates from the year of the blessing of Abraham by the High Priest Melchizedek, Anno Beneficio, (A.'.Beo.'.) "In the year of the blessing."

Scottish Rite, same as Ancient Craft, except the Jewish chronology is used, Anno Mundi, (A.'.M.'.) "In the year of the world."

RULES FOR MASONIC DATES

Ancient Craft Masons—Add 4,000 years to the current year, thus: 1966 and 4,000—5966.

Royal Arch Masons—Add 530 to the current year, thus: 1966 and 530—2496.

Royal and Select Masters—Add 1,000 years to current year, thus: 1966 and 1,000—2966

Knights Templar—From the Christian era take 1,118; thus 1,118 from 1966—848.

Order of High Priesthood—To the Christian era add 1913, the year of the blessing, thus 1966—3879.

Scottish Rite—Add 3,760 to the current year; thus 1966 and 3,760—5726.

1966

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