

MOSTLY



MASONRY

## The Grand Lodge of New Brunswick F. & A. M.

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### EDITOR'S NOTE

The Masonic Fraternity has suffered from many attacks both direct and indirect over the centuries. Recently such criticisms have come largely from representatives (both clerical and lay) of various denominations within the Christian Church. It is therefore most fitting that an address given by M. W. Bro. J. William Murray during his visitation to Keith Lodge, No. 23 in Moncton on April 14th, 1987 be printed for the benefit of our readers. We are most appreciative of M. W. Bro. Murray's cooperation in making a copy available to MOSTLY MASONRY.

### MASONRY AND RELIGION

It is sad and puzzling that there are from time to time criticisms and even denunciations of Freemasonry, from some people who suggest that member-

ship of the Craft is incompatible with the doctrine of a particular church, or church group. It is sad because the spirit of Freemasonry is to support a man in whatever religion he chooses to follow. Among our ranks are ministers and worshippers of various denominations whose Freemasonry is a joy to them, and who do not see any difficulty in approving the Masonic ideals of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth and seeing those ideals as but one aspect (though a worthy aspect) of the deeper religious truths to which they are dedicated.

There have been numerous attacks on Freemasonry from Christian writers over the past 200 years. Many of these critiques have been based on a literal reading of Masonic rituals and have lead to a great deal of correspondence and debate in national and ecclesiastical journals and church councils.

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### GRAND MASTER'S VISITATION SCHEDULE SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER, 1987

Sept. 10	Victoria Lodge No. 26	St. Stephen	8:00 P.M.
Sept. 17	Ashlar Lodge No. 36	McAdam	8:00 P.M.
Sept. 28	St. Martin's Lodge No. 30	St. Martins	8:00 P.M.
Oct. 1	Benjamin Lodge No. 31	Andover	8:00 P.M.
Oct. 7	Hartland Lodge No. 46	Hartland	8:00 P.M.
Oct. 8	Carleton Lodge No. 35	East Florenceville	8:00 P.M.
Oct. 14	Corinthian Lodge No. 13	Hampton	8:00 P.M.
Oct. 21	Albion Lodge No. 1	Saint John	7:30 P.M.
Nov. 2	Campbellton Lodge No. 32	Campbellton	7:30 P.M.
Nov. 3	Restigouche Lodge No. 25	Dalhousie	7:30 P.M.
Nov. 10	Hibernia Lodge No. 3	Saint John	7:30 P.M.
Nov. 17	Union Lodge of Portland No. 10	Saint John	7:30 P.M.

Your presence will be appreciated.

I do not believe that anything is to be gained by entering into doctrinal controversy in this matter or in giving dignity to the misconceptions postulated on this subject. Let it be simply stressed that the Judeo-Christian ethic which underpins Freemasonry also undergirds the laws and morals of our society generally.

It has been argued regularly that Freemasonry is inconsistent with religion. The opposite is also said: that Freemasonry claims to be a religion itself. Both of these statements are false.

Whether or not a man should join Freemasonry is a matter of individual conscience. Whether he should remain in Freemasonry is a matter of personal integrity. All that Freemasonry requires, is that each member should have a lively faith in the existence of God, and equally important, that he should live out his profession in practical worship and service.

By so doing, Freemasons should have no fear of the effect of sectional attacks upon our great institution.

These things of which I have spoken Brethren, are the sort of replies we can give to critics. Remember that there is no need to be defensive about Freemasonry. It stands as a beacon of hope in a world of much hatred and division. We are proud to be on the side of optimism, despite so many terrible and tragic events in the world, and we are proud to profess our belief that friendship, trust, and help among mankind will little by little prevail.

### THE MENTOR PROGRAM

The ink from the printers has not dried on the mentor program and we are swamped with requests for more information from the lodges. If the initial reaction is any indication of the acceptance of this new educational package then we are certainly headed in the right direction.

The lodge mentors and the District Educational Officer (D.E.O.) for each district should be appointed by now and the Grand Lodge Educational Committee will be visiting each district to meet

### FRATERNAL CONDOLENCES

We extend our deepest sympathy to all those who have been bereaved recently, including R. W. Bro. Peter Whittaker and family of Harvey Station, in the death of their son, Lulu, in a drowning accident on May 9th; R. W. Bro. Basil Prescott and family of Saint John, in the sudden death of Mrs. Prescott on June 16th and to the family of V. Wor. Bro. Roy B. Evans, our Grand Chaplain, who was summoned to the Celestial Lodge Above on June 30th.

May that Peace which passes all understanding be with these families and all others who mourn.

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with the appointees and the masters of the lodges to discuss the proper implementation of the program.

The mentor program, if used properly, will be one of the greatest assets to the new master mason in learning what to expect from masonry and what masonry expects from him. Some of our brethren have held masonic membership for many years and have still not learned their responsibilities to the craft. Most of the masters will want to use the mentor program as educational tool in open lodge to enlighten all the brethren and in speaking to many of our brethren throughout the jurisdiction most feel that we all can benefit from this program.

Since this is a completely new approach to education in New Brunswick we ask that you give it your full support. YOU CAN DO THIS BY ATTENDING YOUR LODGE. Listening to the mentor program and then let us know what you think of it. Put your comments, good or bad, in writing and have them forwarded to the D.D.G.M. We need your help to improve the start we have made.

Submitted by:

R.W. Bro. M.J. Linkletter, Chairman,  
Masonic Education Committee

## **MASONIC CHARITABLE FOUNDATION**

Our new charitable foundation has been formed under the name of the New Brunswick Masonic Charities and Housing Company Limited. The letters patent and the by-laws of the company have been approved and we expect to receive a tax number for charitable donations by mid-September. Progress is being made with respect to senior citizens housing with the announcement that the government intends to build 130 units this year.

The company is operated by a board of 21 directors with each district being represented. Each year the Grand Master appoints 7 new directors for a three year term. The executive is elected from the directors and presently consists of Donald Gruchy, President; Myles Chown, 1st Vice President; Len Desormeau, 2nd Vice President; Thomas Winter, Secretary; and James McKenna, Treasurer.

The new company is now looking for members and in that regard a motion was passed at the last meeting of the board of directors that charter membership in the company be available to those masons who subscribe on the form in "Mostly Masonry" prior to Dec. 31, 1987. This will give all masons who wish, a chance to be a charter member of the company and not just a select few. After Dec. 31, 1987 only regular membership will be available.

Remember, there are no Dues, but you must make a donation of \$20.00 or more to be eligible for life-time membership. Please help us in this project and give your application form and donation to your lodge secretary who will forward them to the treasurer of the company. Receipts for income tax purposes will be issued for all donations.

## **MASONIC CALENDAR**

Shortly after our Spring Edition was printed and distributed, your Editor was informed that a splendid Masonic Calendar had been prepared by mem-

bers of Northumberland Lodge No. 17, Newcastle. He was able to purchase a copy in April and found that he had much more than a calendar. Each month contains the dates of meetings for each Lodge and Chapter in New Brunswick. There are seventeen photographs of Lodge buildings, and a complete list of the Eastern Star Chapters and Craft Lodges with locations and other information. Northumberland Lodge is to be commended for this interesting endeavour.

## **DR. HETHERINGTON HONOURED**

Westmorland Lodge No. 44, Port Elgin was the collective host for a banquet held on June 10th to honour R. W. Bro. (Dr.) H. G. Hetherington, P.D.D.G.M., for more than thirty-five years of devoted medical service to the region, also his contribution to the Fraternity during this period. Wor. Bro. Stephen Cameron presided at the brief session of the Lodge which preceded the banquet, with upwards of 70 persons in attendance. Wor. Bro. John Baxter was the Toastmaster and tributes were paid by Bro. David Jones, S.W. Lebanon Lodge No. 28, Sackville, for the West Botsford Public Health Council, Dr. Marilyn Purdy, Bro. (Rev.) Dana Cochran, and Fort Monckton Chapter O.E.S., and C.A. Pincombe D.D.G.M., District No. 2 for the Fraternity. Several gifts were also presented. Both Dr. and Mrs. Hetherington responded to the tributes, the former in a somewhat humorous vein, recalling how he once delivered twins during a power outage. Wor. Bro. Austin Oulton, assisted by Chapter and Lodge members, served a lobster stew, for which he is justly famous, to round off a very special evening for Westmorland Lodge.

## **P.G.M. MURRAY HONOURED**

Tweedie Lodge No. 41, Moncton, honoured one of its own in the person of M.W. Bro. J. William Murray, P.G.M., during its regular communication on June 16th. R.W. Bro. Lloyd W. Vincent, P.D.G.M., presented the P.G.M.'s jewel on behalf of the

lodge. R.W. Bro. Garth R. Elliott, P.S.G.W., and formerly G.D. of C. to M.W. Bro. Murray, presented a P.G.M.'s apron on behalf of Mrs. Murray and his sons, John and Chris. R.W. Bro. Maurice J. Linkletter, Chairman of the Grand Lodge Education Committee, presented our P.G.M. with the first copy of THE GRAND LODGE MENTOR PROGRAMME, of which he has been a strong supporter. The Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Charles N. Hollett, and other visitors spoke briefly; to all of which M.W. Bro. Murray made a most suitable acknowledgement. A delicious buffet was greatly enjoyed. Earlier in the day a bouquet of yellow roses was delivered to Mrs. Murray as a token of appreciation for her constant support and practical assistance during Bill's term of office.

#### 60 YEARS A MASON

On June 2, 1987 at the regular communication of Howard Lodge No. 15 F. & A. M. in Hillsboro, N. B. Wor. Bro. E.W.N. Bradley was conducted to the East and presented with his 60 year bar and pin as a member of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick. The presentation was made by Bro. Armand G.J. Steeves who is a long time friend and former student of Wor. Bro. Bradley.

On presenting Wor. Bro. Bradley with his pin Bro. Steeves recalled, while attending school in Hillsboro, Mr. Bradley was "the strictest but best teacher that he ever had." He read Wor. Bro. Bradley a poem entitled, "I'm fine" and congratulated him with his years of faithful service in the Masonic Fraternity.

Having been made a member of Howard Lodge in 1927 and serving as Worshipful Master in 1933, on receiving the award, Wor. Bro. Bradley recalled the early days in Hillsboro when going to Lodge in Moncton you would have to bring 4 Masons with shovels because the roads were not plowed.

Wor. Bro. Bradley is the second oldest living Past Master of Howard Lodge and still attends quite often. In 1971 he wrote a history of Howard Lodge.

Wor. Bro. Bradley is a member of the First Baptist Church in Moncton, a Past First Principal of Botsford Chapter R.A.M., of which he is a great ritualist, and a member of Ivanhoe Preceptory No. 36 Knights Templar. A member of Luxor Temple A.A.O.N.M.S. Saint John, N.B. and prepares the bulletin for the Moncton Shrine Club of which he is a member. Wor. Bro. Bradley is also an avid golfer which he still enjoys and was a great curler as well.

Wor. Bro. Bradley joined the staff of the Aberdeen High School in 1932 and transferred to the Moncton High School when it opened in 1935. In 1958 he was appointed Vice Principal and became the Principal in 1962. Ill health forced his retirement in 1970. During his years at Moncton High he was very active in No. 560 Army Cadet Corps, and held the rank of Major on retirement.

When his son Bro. Ernest Bradley Jr. from Truro Lodge No. 43 in Truro, N.S. was asked to speak, he informed the members of Howard Lodge that the more work you give his father to do in Lodge the longer he will live.

Submitted by: H. Wayne Bannister, P.M.  
Secretary.

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*Let me but do my work from day to day,  
In field or forest, at the desk or loom,  
In roaring market-place or tranquil room,  
Let me but find it in my heart to say,  
When vagrant wishes beckon me astray,  
This is my work; my blessing not my doom;  
Of all who live I am the one by whom  
This work can best be done in the right way,*

*Then shall I see it not too great, nor small,  
To suit my spirit and to prove my powers.  
Then shall I cheerful greet the laboring hours,  
And cheerful turn when the long shadows fall  
At eventide to play and love and rest,  
Because I know for me my work is best.*

Submitted by: G. W. Coffey, P.G.M.