

MOSTLY



MASONRY

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

Vol. 4

Spring 1988

No. 1

A DIFFERENT VIEW

A rather different look at Freemasonry was given in the Autumn 1987 Reunion Program of the New Brunswick Consistory of the Scottish Rite.

Ill. Bro. Steeves has graciously consented to having his message printed in this edition of MOSTLY MASONRY.

One of the most impressive and touching things in human history is that all people have set apart and venerated certain interests. Guilds or societies have been formed to cultivate an interest in art, science, philosophy, fraternity or religion. This interest conserves the hard-won precious inheritance of humanity; trains men in their service; and sends through the common life of mortals the light and glory of the ideal. Of such is masonry which unites all these high interests and brings to their service a vast world-wide fraternity of free and devoted men. Built upon a foundation of spiritual faith and moral idealism, its mission is to make men friends, and to refine and exalt their lives. More than an institution, more than a tradition, more than a society, masonry is one of the forms of divine life upon earth.

How fitting that the idea and art of building should be made the basis of a great order of men which has no other aim than the upbuilding of humanity in Faith, Freedom and Friendship. Thus Masonry labours, linked with the constructive genius of mankind, and so long as it remains true to its ideal it cannot be overcome.

W. W. Steeves 33°, Commander-in-Chief,
New Brunswick Consistory

IN MEMORIAM

Our senior Past Grand Master, Dr. Donald Andrew Somerville of Bristol, passed away suddenly on October 28, 1987. M. W. Bro. J. W. Murray led the delegation from Grand Lodge attending the funeral on October 31, 1987. A summary of Dr. Somerville's 60 years in Masonry appeared in this publication last Spring.

DEADLINE EXTENDED

A newsletter from the New Brunswick Masonic Charities and Housing Company Limited has given an update of its activities and the following may be of interest to our readers.

The deadline for becoming Charter members has been extended from December 31, 1987 to March 31, 1988. Your Lodge Secretary can assist you with application forms, etc., including the correct address.

The Solicitor has made application for our Registration number as a charitable organization under the Income Tax Act and it should be received in the near future.

Two studies have been prepared by committees under the chairmanship of Wor. Bro. Les Brown in Moncton and Bro. Bob Stokes in Woodstock covering the Upper St. John River Valley.

Appreciation is extended to R. W. Bro. Thomas L. Winter, Secretary of the Board of Directors, for making this Newsletter available.

GRAND LODGE NOTICE

Grand Lodge will be held in Saint John on Friday and Saturday, May 13 and 14, 1988.

FLOOD DAMAGE

Benjamin Lodge No. 31, Andover, had the misfortune of having the basement completely filled with water on April 2, 1987. The basement was used for a social area and was insulated, walls were panelled also.

Everything in the basement was a complete loss as the oil tank upset making it impossible to salvage anything. The damage was assessed over \$10,000.00 and a claim was sent to the Emergency Measures Organization but we were notified that the Lodge was a "Service Club" and not eligible for assistance.

The Lodge basement had to be completely cleaned out, insulation, walls, oil furnace, 2 refrigerators, chesterfields, tables and chairs. Lodge Members have donated many working hours and have started to restore the basement, new insulation and walls covered with gyproc, the ceiling is not covered at the present time, a new stairs had to be built also.

Benjamin Lodge has received donations from Masonic Lodges in N.B. as well as a donation from the Order of The Rainbow For Girls across Canada, also a collection was taken at the Grand Lodge communication at Saint John in May 1987. We have had a few donations from Benjamin Lodge Members as well as members from 3 Masonic Lodges in District No. 4.

The Benjamin Lodge building was erected in 1905 and has been kept in good condition over the years, the Worshipful Master, Officers and Members of Benjamin Lodge are confident that the true Masonic spirit and cooperation will result in having the basement restored and refurbished in the not too distant future.

All assistance has been and will be sincerely appreciated.

Submitted by George H. Brooks P.M. (Secretary)
P.O. Box 713, Perth-Andover, N.B. E0J 1V0.

70 YEAR MASON MOURNED

Benjamin Lodge No. 31, Andover, lost a most respected member and 70 year Mason in the death of Bro. William Hough Gaunce, April 25, 1987. Bro. Gaunce was born in Upper Kent, New

Brunswick September 21, 1893 and became a Mason in 1917.

He received a 60 Year Bar in January 1978 and was made a Life Member of Benjamin Lodge September 2, 1982. In January 1987 he was presented with Year Bar by the Immediate Past Master of his Mother Lodge, Wor. Bro. Garth W. Dingee, who was accompanied by Bro.D. Budge Jewett, who received his Life Membership at the same time as Bro. Gaunce and has been a Mason in Benjamin Lodge for 64 years.

A Masonic Funeral Service was conducted by Worshipful Master Dale V. Hitchcock, assisted by Wor. Bro. Lewis E. Finnamore, and was held in Kilcollin's Funeral Home, Bath, N.B. on April 26, 1987. The service well attended by Masons from District No. 4.

Bro. Gaunce was a faithful member of Benjamin Lodge until recent years when his health began to fail. His memory of Masonic and local history was a source of pleasure to his brethren, who were privileged to have known him.

Submitted by Wor. Bro. George H. Brooks,
Secretary

70 YEAR BAR PRESENTATION

An event which, to the best of our knowledge and based upon the records available, was without precedent southeastern New Brunswick took place on September 22, 1987 in the Moncton Hospital when Bro. Allison S. Geddes received his 70 year Bar, signifying 70 years of continuous service in the Masonic Fraternity.

Bro. Geddes was initiated in Tweedie Lodge on June 8, 1917 and received his Master Mason's Degree on September 14, 1917. The presentation was made by M.W. Bro. J. W. Murray, Past Grand Master, in the presence of Bro. Geddes' immediate family. Other Past Masters of Tweedie Lodge present were Robert Livingstone, Secretary and Benson Stymiest, Immediate Past Master, along with Alex Pincombe, District Deputy Grand Master for District No. 2.

Bro. Geddes was most appreciative of

the honour conferred upon him and recalled several events in Tweedie Lodge, which he attended regularly, until failing health prevented such attendance. He was 92 years of age when the presentation was made and has been a Life Member of Tweedie Lodge since 1960, the same year in which he retired as a locomotive engineer with the Canadian National Railways.

CHESLEY BATEMAN NIGHT

A prominent Mason in southeastern New Brunswick was honoured December 10, 1987, when upwards of 50 Masons, Eastern Star and other guests gathered in Shediac Cape as Zetland Lodge paid tribute to R.W. Bro. Chesley R. Bateman for his many years of service to the Fraternity.

Chesley Bateman became a Mason in 1946 and served as Master of Zetland Lodge in 1956. Wor. Bro. Bateman was the last District Deputy Grand Master to serve a four year term in District No. 2, and on its completion in 1961, was elected Senior Grand Warden, R.W. Bro. Bateman concluded his services to Grand Lodge by serving as Deputy Grand Master in 1970. Among his achievements was the first District Workshop for Districts 2 and 7, which was held in Tweedie Lodge on April 18, 1959. Grand Lodge also honoured him by his appointment as Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of Missouri.

R.W. Bro. Charles N. Hollet, Deputy Grand Master, brought Greetings from Grand Lodge and a letter from M.W. Bro. J. W. Murray was read. Several presentations were made by Zetland Lodge No. 24 and Zetland Chapter No. 26, after which a social hour was enjoyed by all.

60 YEAR MASONS HONOURED

On Friday evening March 27, 1987 Fownes Lodge No. 45 in Havelock honoured three 60 year Masons.

Approximately 70 Masons, friends and family assembled to honour Wor. Bro. William Corey, Bro. J. Blois Corey and Bro. Winston Keith on this occasion as

they received their 60 year bars from The M/W THE Grand Master J. William Murray.

A fourth member Bro. Gordon Corey who was unable to attend that evening due to his health received his 60 year bar on May 22nd.

All four brothers joined Fownes Lodge 60 years ago. Although Wor. Bro. William Corey demitted to Salisbury Lodge in 1931 where he was Master in 1967 the other three have remained members of Fownes Lodge for these 60 years.

It is interesting to note that besides being fraternal brothers, Wor. Bro. William Corey and Brothers Blois Corey and Gordon Corey are also brothers in the same family.

Submitted by R.W. Bro. Horace Dimock, PDDGM

A Salute to the Rainbow Girls

Westmorland Assembly No. 23

1978 - 1988

Charitable contributions given to:
Issac Walton Killam Hospital, Halifax
Moncton Hospital-Burn Unit
-Cancer Unit
Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

C.A.M.R.
CKCW Christmas Miracle Fund (2)
Canadian Cancer Society, Moncton
C.N.I.B. (2)
School for the Deaf, Amherst
S.P.C.A., Moncton
Moncton Shrine Club (6)
Albert County Hospital
O.E.S. Home, Sussex (2)
Multiple Sclerosis Society, Moncton
Ronald McDonald House, Halifax
Spina Bifida & Hydrocephalus, Moncton
Give Them A Chance, Riverview
Alzheimers Association, Moncton
Totalling over \$13,954.00

RAINBOWS

*Have you noticed how rainbows
make everything bright
As they cover the world
with a warm glowing light,
Freely giving their blessings
for our hearts to share
As they paint us a portrait
Of God's love and care.*

(Copied from their Installation folder)

BRETHREN - TAKE NOTE

It has been brought to our attention that more often than many of us might realize Masonic regalia and/or memorabilia is:

- (a) thrown away
- (b) placed with a dealer for sale.

This may occur when a house is being cleared for sale, quite often in the settlement of an estate. The family member or agent, either doesn't know what to do with such items as an apron, certificate, pins, etc., or will ask a second hand dealer to sell the "lot" for whatever he can get for such items.

Please do not throw such items away.

Contact R.W. Bro. Maurice J. Linkletter, P.O. Box 51, Hillsborough, N.B. E0A 1X0. Telephone 734-2709.

He will be happy to arrange for the pick up of such material, which could have significance to a particular lodge. In other words - DON'T SELL IT OR THROW IT AWAY - JUST LET HIM KNOW. You will be glad you did.

THE APRON THAT WENT HOME

Bro. Dale Garland, Acacia Lodge No. 49, Moncton, is a collector of coins as well as Masonic memorabilia. Over a year ago, he learned that a Masonic apron was being offered for sale and through a local dealer he procured the apron through purchase. It was dark blue with gold braid and on checking the flap, he found a name and discovered the apron came from a lodge in Nova Scotia. Bro. Garland is in the hardware business and so he made enquiries from some of his business associates and then through a fraternal contact, learned the name of the lodge and the story. An elderly brother, since deceased, on entering a nursing home, had his effects packed, but somehow, his Masonic apron was missing. This story has a happy ending, Bro. Garland had the Apron cleaned and returned to St. George's Lodge, No. 20, A.F. & A.M., in Wolfville last June and needless to say, the Lodge was not only pleased to have the Apron but warmly

commended Bro. Garland in purchasing and searching for the Lodge from whence it had come.

A MEMORABLE EVENING

Friday evening January 22nd was a very special evening for Fownes Lodge. In the 65 year history of the Lodge this was the first open or semi public installation.

In excess of 150 Masons and invited guests were on hand to witness the installation of Wor. Bro. Gerald Tingley as Worshipful Master with installation ceremonies under the direction of Rt. Wor. Bro. Delbert Alward and Rt. Wor. Bro. Horace Dimock.

The Most Worshipful the Grand Master and his wife were in attendance along with several other Grand Lodge Officers. 19 Lodges were represented and 13 presiding Masters.

Following the ceremonies a reception was held in banquet hall provided by the ladies of Gloria Chapter of the Eastern Star.

Submitted by R.W. Bro. Horace Dimock, PDDGM

PRAISE INDEED

We have received a fragment of an article which appeared in THE FREEMASON a number of years ago.

... Thirteen of our Presidents were Masons and include Washington, Jackson, McKinley, Theodore and Franklin Roosevelt, while Truman was a Grand Master in his native State of Missouri. Four million of our citizens, mostly Protestant Christians, with a sprinkling of Jewish men, make the 16,000 Lodges in the United States.

The Roman Catholic Church's principal objection is that it is another religion, without any reference to Jesus Christ, although it is known that an applicant for membership must profess a belief in the Deity, and in the Immortality of the soul. I have been a Roman Catholic Priest for 42 years, Pastor of a suburban Philadelphia Parish for over 25 years, and the VERY BEST FRIEND THAT I HAD IN LIFE WAS A MASON.

Signed: (Rev.) Henry A. Evans,

Morton, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

Submitted by: Bro. S. Spear, Keith Lodge No. 23