

MOSTLY



MASONRY

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

Vol. 9

Spring 1993

No. 1

A MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND MASTER

Brethren, once again it is a pleasure to bring you greetings from your Grand Lodge through the medium of Mostly Masonry, and I hope that 1993 will bring health, happiness and peace to all.

It is a well documented fact that Masonry in New Brunswick has been under attack by the church, particularly by some Baptist pastors. In some areas, these attacks have been most vociferous and have caused great concern in the lodges and their communities.

I am a member of the United Baptist Church in Harvey and I have been assured that these attacks are not the policy of, or mentioned by, the Northern Baptist Conven-

This fact then indicates that the Pastors involved are either acting on their own or have been influenced by other sources. I find it difficult to believe that men of their ilk would mount these attacks based on misinformation and hearsay without seeking the truth.

It is my personal opinion that such groundless action demeans their intelligence; and I pass along to you excerpts from a book of Masonic addresses, dated 1966, by Dr. Thomas Sherrard Roy, D.D., L.H.D., D.S.C., Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts in 1951-52-53.

Dr. Roy was born in Newcastle, N.B. on August 31, 1884. He was educated in N.B. and N.S., studied Theology at Newton

Theological Institute, Newton, Mass. He was Pastor of the great First Baptist Church in Worcester, Mass for 23 years, having previously served in churches in Canada and the U.S.A. He retired from the Worcester church in 1951 and since then has been Interim Pastor in many churches.

In the preface of this book he states, "I have never thought of Freemasonry as being in any sense a mystery, or related even remotely to the occult. I have, therefore, tried to indicate its relevance to life; to reveal it as a way of life; and to make it so plain that "he who runs may read".

In his address, "Dare We Be Masons?" he closes with the following:

"Freemasonry is religious but it is not in any sense a religion. The Freemason who tries to make his Masonry a substitute for an active and creative participation in the work of a church is fooling himself and trying to fool others. But Freemasonry is, and of necessity must be, a tool for the building of a stronger religion. Wherever religion needs help in asserting itself as the truth that would destroy falsehood; wherever religion seeks to release the right that by its inherent power will ultimately break down all that is wrong, there the true Mason must go into action to prove that that we belong together in our ultimate goals".

Need I say more, Brethren?

Sincerely and fraternally,
O. H. Mason, Grand Master

Fredericton Mason Becomes Centenarian



Edward Estabrooks Burden, Hiram Lodge #6, Fredericton, reached the age of 100 on April 29, 1992. He was initiated into Hiram Lodge in 1914.

Brother Burden is presently living in York Manor, Fredericton. His lodge brothers look forward to presenting Bro. Burden his 80 year bar in March, 1994.

Submitted by
R. Wor. Bro. W. W. Steeves, P.D.D.G.M.

CONFERENCES ADDRESS SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION ISSUE

Two Grand Lodge Masonic conferences have recently addressed the "investigation" of Freemasonry, mandated by the Southern Baptist Convention in June 1992. About 100 Masons gathered in Knoxville, TN, on September 15, and nearly 300 met in Guthrie, Okla. on September 26.

Subjects covered included the history of anti-Masonic movements, the charges of the religious fundamentalists today, and Masonry's response. Most importantly, each conference addressed how individual Masons can help resolve this issue.

The large majority of representatives at each conference, many of them Grand Line officers, expressed enthusiastic support. At the Guthrie conference, for instance, 16 states were represented. Among tentative plans for a united Masonic response is the formation of a committee to act as a center for Masonic information regarding the Southern Baptist Convention.

The *Masonic Service Ass'n* has offered

its support to this effort and it is hoped that Freemasons will rally to this important cause. Unless Freemasons break the Craft's tradition of silence, Freemasonry stands to suffer from misleading, inaccurate and untrue charges.

Emessay Notes . . . Nov. '92

ED. — Each lodge in the Province receives monthly communications from the *Masonic Service Association* of the U.S. (Grand Lodge motion, 1991). The envelope contains two items; the Short Talk Bulletin; points of view and research papers by distinguished authors, and Emessay notes; news from hither and yon throughout the world. The December 1992 issue addresses the problem of "attacks" on Freemasonry, and there have been "incidents" in the Province recently. Ask your secretary to display *Masonic Service Association* communications at lodge. They make for interesting and informative reading.

RE-DEDICATION

On October 13, 1992, the M.W. Grand Master, accompanied by Officers and members of Grand Lodge, was in Steven Lodge #37, Petitediac, N.B. to re-dedicate the Lodge and its members on the occasion of their 1000th regular communication.

After a roast beef banquet at 6:30 p.m. and a short business meeting, W. Bro. I. Fillier caused R. W. Bro. John Jefferies, D.D.G.M. #7, to be informed that the lodge was prepared to receive the M. W. Grand Master and Grand Lodge.

Grand Lodge entered in regular fashion, the stations filled by Grand Lodge Officers, and the remaining entourage were invited to seats in or near the East.

The Grand Directors of Ceremonies introduced members of Phil Drader-Coronation Chapter, Order of DeMolay, who were welcomed and conducted to seats in the Northeast corner.

After an invocation by V. W. Bro. Gerald Gray, P.G.C., a procession of the Officers and Past Masters of Steven Lodge, as well as the Officers of Grand Lodge, accompanied the Grand Master to the Ashlar that

symbolized the Lodge and its cornerstone.

The Grand Master first spread corn upon the Ashlar, an emblem of Nourishment. The corn was presented to him by R. W. Bro.

Maurice Linkletter, Acting J.G.W. and carried by R. W. Bro. Delbert Alward.

Following a second procession, Wine was poured upon the Ashlar as an emblem of Refreshment. It was presented by R. W. Bro. Phillip Hovey, S.G.W. and carried by W. Bro. Gerald Smith.

The procession moved around the Altar for a third time and the Ashlar was anointed with Oil, emblematic of Joy. It was presented by R. W. Bro. Carr Graham, D.G.M., and carried by W. Bro. Gerald Wilson.

Finally, the Gr. Director of Ceremonies proclaimed from the South, West and East, each in its turn, that this Masonic Hall had been solemnly re-dedicated according to antient form and usage, and after each proclamation the Grand Master led the brethren in Grand Honors.

Following the ceremony, Bro. James Pike, Sr. Warden of Acacia #49, presented Steven Lodge with a Ballot box which he had hand-crafted.

The M. W. Grand Master was conducted to the East where he received Honorary Life Membership in Steven Lodge. W. Bro. Linkletter presented M. W. Bro. Mason with a framed certificate and Life membership card.

Maurice (M.J.) Linkletter Jr. brought greetings from Phil Drader-Coronation Chapter before the group retired.

At the close of the meeting, coffee and a commemorative cake were served in the banquet hall.

Contributed by: R.W. Bro. Mike Swetnam,
Secretary, Steven Lodge #37

ANOTHER EVENTFUL YEAR IN BATHURST

The year started with the purchase of a piece of land adjacent to our Lodge, seventy five percent of the purchase price paid by donations from our own Brothers.

When M. W. Bro. Orville Mason paid his official visit to Lodge St. John #27 in Sept. '92, he had the opportunity to witness, and participate in, the presentation of twenty (20) widow pins to the ladies present at our banquet, which was held prior to our meeting.

During this meeting Wor. Bro. Byran Harris, with assistance from M.W.P.G.M. Oulton presented Wor. Bro. Eugene Spence with his fifty year pin and certificate. Receiving their 60 year pins were Wor. Bro. Garfield Stratton, Bro. Huntly Ferguson and Bro. Ralph Tuzo. (Wor. Bro. Emerson Smith received his 50-year pin and certificate at a later meeting.)

Past Master's night was held at our November meeting, (work was on the Fellowship Degree) and as one Past Master said after, "Not bad for a bunch of has-beens". We're a little older, but not short in memory.

Wor. Bro. Robert Martin, Secretary

CHURCH PARADE WELL ATTENDED

The Annual Masonic Church Parade for Districts 2 & 7 of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick was held on November 1 at 3 p.m. in St. Andrew's United Church, Rexton, N.B.

The parade assembled at the Masonic Temple and the brothers marched to St. Andrew's Church, led by members of the band of 773 Squardon Air Cadets of Richibucto. About 80 masons attended from the lodges in the districts although the afternoon was very cold and windy.

The service was conducted by V.W.B. Rev. David C. Jackson, Minister of St. Andrew's United Church and a Past Grand Chaplain. The guest speaker was V.W.B. Rev. Gerald Gray, the Immediate Past Grand Chaplain. Music was supplied by W.B. Rodney Girvan on the organ and W.B. Albert Crossman on the piano. (Both are members of Lodge St. Andrew #16, Rexton). Bro. Ashley Lloyd, a member of Keith Lodge #23, was soloist. The scriptures were read by R.W.B. Carr

Graham, Deputy Grand Master and W.B. Gary Little, W.M. of Lodge St. Andrew #16, Rexton.

V.W.B. Rev. David C. Jackson thanked the members of the band and informed them that Lodge St. Andrew #16, Rexton would be sending them a cheque in the amount of \$225.00 to be used to purchase a musical instrument.

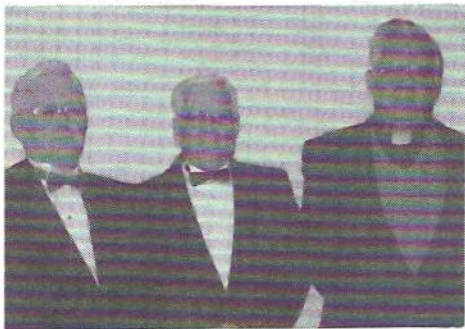
The offering taken at the service was donated to Camp Goodtime.

Submitted by,
R.W.B. Earl Murray
D.D.G.M. District #2

A FAMILY REUNION

In 1948, W. Bro. Isaac Gray of Acacia Lodge #8, Amherst, N. S. raised 3 new Brothers of the Craft. This is not a noteworthy event in itself until you realize the 3 Brothers were, in fact, brothers and the Presiding Master was their father.

That was the last time the 3 brothers sat together in lodge until November of last year in Salisbury.



Pictured are W. Bro. Peter Gray, Acacia Lodge #8, Amherst; V. Wor. Bro. Gerald Gray, Salisbury Lodge #20; V. W. Bro. David Gray, St. Martin's Lodge #30.

Both Rev. Grays have served as Grand Chaplains in the Grand Lodge of N.B. Peter Gray is a retired machinist.

CAMP GOODTIME BENEFITS FROM RAFFLE

In March, 1992, the members of Westmorland Lodge #44, presented a cheque

for \$434.00 to Masonic Charities and Housing Corporation for Camp Goodtime. The money was raised from the sale of raffle tickets on an oak antique wash stand that was made and donated by Bro. Hugh Urquhart.

Submitted by
W.Bro. Rod Johnson
Secretary

Thank you for your time and generosity,
Bro. Urquhart.

LAST NIGHT I KNELT WHERE HIRAM KNELT

*Last night I knelt where Hiram knelt
And took an obligation,
Today I'm closer to my God
And I'm a Master Mason.
Tho' heretofore my fellow men
Seemed each one like the other,
Today I search each one apart;
I'm looking for "my brother".
And, as I feel his friendly grip,
It fills my heart with pride;
I know that while I'm on the square
That he is by my side.
His footsteps on my errand go
If I should such require;
His prayers will plead in my behalf
If I should so desire.
My words are safe within his breast
As though within my own;
His hand forever at my back
To help me safely Home.
Good counsel whispers in my ear
And warns of any danger;
By square and compass, Brother now!
Who once would call me stranger.
I might have lived a moral life
And risen to distinctions
Without my Brother's helping hand
And fellowship of Masons.
But God, who knows how hard it is
To resist life's temptations,
Knows why I knelt where Hiram knelt
And took that obligation.*

(From Cecil's Copybook)

LANDMARK LODGE PRESENTS



At the November meeting of Landmark Lodge #51, Boiestown, time was set aside to honour twenty-two Masonic widows with a banquet and presentation of broken Column pins and certificates. The presentations were made by M. W. Bro. Orville Mason, W. Bro. John MacGillivray, and R. W. Bro. Douglas Scott, D.D.G.M.

One of the highlights of the evening was a skit put on by the officers of the Lodge. There were fine words of appreciation expressed afterward by the ladies who attended.

Submitted by

R. W. Bro. Douglas Scott, D.D.G.M., Dist. #16

CAMPBELLTON LODGE ACTIVE

On the evening of Nov. 3rd, 1992, 22 widows of former members of Campbellton Lodge #32 were treated to a delicious roast beef dinner prepared and served by members of the Downstairs Boys (a social group of Campbellton Lodge members). Following the meeting the ladies were presented with Widow's Pins by Wor. Master Brian Firth and Wor. Bro. James Davis, Secretary. Entertainment for the evening consisted of a sing-along led by Wor. Bro. John Wood and his guitar. The ladies were very appreciative of the evening and for the remembrance.

In support of Camp Goodtime, Campbellton Lodge has sent a donation of \$200.00 to N.B. Masonic Charities and Housing Co. Ltd. This will be augmented by a donation of \$1,000.00 from the Downstairs Boys. This money was raised by holding a "smelt fry" on Jan. 30/93. We are pleased to be able to lend our support to such a worthy cause.

Fraternally,

Wor. Bro. E. J. Davis
Secretary

WAGES OF A MASON

Masonic labour is purely a labour of love. He who seeks to draw Masonic wages in gold and silver will be disappointed. The wages of a Mason are earned and paid for in their dealings with one another.

Sympathy begets sympathy, kindness begets kindness, helpfulness begets helpfulness — these are the wages of a Mason.

*The Mahoning Mason
Ohio, U.S.A.*

BARN DANCE

Nobody can say that R. W. Bro. Earl Murray, D.D.G.M. Dist #2, doesn't know how to throw a party after attending the barn dance at his farm in MacDougall's Settlement last Victoria Day weekend.

Bro. Murray was retiring from a lifetime of dairy farming and turning the operation over to his daughter, Nancy. To help matters, he built a 6000 sq. ft. barn of cement and steel and outfit it with the best of equipment

(yes, he even painted the barn red.)

Brother Murray and his wife, Linda invited Masons and Eastern Star members to attend a barn dance before the cows "moved in". Over 350 people attended the event that ran well into the night. There was singing and dancing and enough food to feed Patton's army.

Thanks for the hospitality, R.W.Bro. Murray.



Pictures courtesy of:
W. Bro. Fraser Hale, Coverdale #52

SEE YOU AT GRAND LODGE

The annual Communication of Grand Lodge will be held May 14, 15 beginning on Friday, with opening ceremonies at 2 p.m. An evening of entertainment is on the agenda, Friday at 7 p.m.

Every principal Grand Lodge office will be open to election.

A new Grand Master will be elected Saturday afternoon as M. W. Bro. Orville Mason concludes his tenure after 2 years.

Your lodge secretary will be receiving the itinerary and notices of motion very soon. Make a date to attend your Grand Lodge.

TO THE BUILDERS OF A MASONIC LODGE

*"An old man, going a lone highway,
Came at the evening, cold and grey,
To a chasm vast and deep and wide.
The old man crossed in the twilight dim,
The sullen stream had no fear for him;
But he turned when safe on the other side,
And built a bridge to span the tide.
'Old man,' said a fellow pilgrim near,
'You are wasting your strength when
building here
Your journey will end with the ending days;
You never again will pass this way.
You've crossed the chasm, deep and wide,
Why build you this bridge at eventide?'
The builder lifted his old grey head;
'Good friend, in the path I have
come,' he said,
'Thou followeth after me to-day,
A youth whose feet must pass this way
This chasm, that has been as nought to me
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be;
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim—
Good friend, I have built this bridge
for him.' "*

Anon.

Contributed by
M. W. Bro. Charles Hollett

*Items for Mostly Masonry to be sent
to:*

RON CAINES
369 McAllister Rd.
Riverview, N. B.
E1B 1T9