



No. 11

JANUARY, 1975

ALMONERS REPORT

In spite of the present rate of inflation we were still able to provide a very substantial Christmas Hamper for each of our widows. Needless to say they were very well received, and we have had numerous letters of appreciation.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Bro. Les Barber and his wife again for the time and effort in wrapping the widows hampers so beautifully.

I am very pleased to report that Bro. Chum Mimpress and Bro. Chris Buckland are both making excellent progress after their recent illnesses. Bro. Bill Caton has not been at all well recently, but when I last saw him he stated he was on the mend. We wish all three a speedy recovery to full health, and we extend that wish to all unfortunate Brethren, wherever they may be.

May I wish you all a very happy and successful 1975.

Almoner.

THE INSTALLATION MEETING

On Saturday, 23rd November, 1974, we held our 70th Installation Meeting, at which W. Bro. Frank Ellis was duly installed as Master of Canute Lodge for the ensuing year. It was, as usual a happy meeting and no doubt one which W. Bro. Frank will never forget.

The Installing Master, W. Bro. Bill Butterfield, performed the ceremony with the same commanding dignity and sincerity that has marked his progress through the Lodge and which resulted in his most creditable year as Master.

W. Bro. Clarry Garnett was presented with a silver tray to mark his retirement as Treasurer of the Lodge, an Office which he filled for many years with ability and patience, resulting in such sound management of our financial affairs, no easy task in these difficult times. W. Bro. Bert George undertook to fill this vacant Office by moving two chairs up.

We then welcomed W. Bro. Sam Pollard as the new Assistant Secretary. It is a pleasure to see W. Bro. Sam taking an active post again after his recent illness, and we wish him well and many happy years in Office.

In recognition of a really magnificent achievement the Lodge presented a Tankard to Bro. Bernard Guiver, who last September celebrated 40 years as a member of Canute Lodge; our congratulations to Bro. Bernard.

The Spiritual well being of the Lodge is now in the capable hands of W. Bro. Dave Howell, a most suitable appointment for such a dedicated Mason as W. Bro. Dave.

Another highlight of the evening was the tremendous effort on the part of W. Bro. Angus Grant, our new Charity Representative who, at the first meeting in this capacity extracted, apparently without too much pain, the princely sum of £170.00 on behalf of our Charities, from the members of the Lodge; a truly wonderful effort by W. Bro. Angus, an equally generous response by the Members of Canute and with out doubt an encouraging prospect for the future.

We now look forward to a wonderful year under the Mastership of W. Bro. Frank, who can count on the support and loyalty of his Officers and all the Brethren of Canute Lodge.

THE END OF THE RAINBOW

S.W.

I entered the Temple at 12.30 on Tuesday, 17th December, for a lunchtime drink, and at the door, met two ladies who enquired the situation of the "Ladies Lunch". I spoke to Reg Brown, and as a consequence, led the two ladies to the Regency Room, where they joined about 30 others, who were seated at the tables enjoying aperitifs. At 1.15, answering the "Dinner is served" call, they all entered the Dining Room.

MENU

Egg Mayonaise
Lobster Thermidor
Sorbet
Chicken Chasseur - New Potatoes - Peas
Cream Caramel - Fresh Cream
Cheeses - Biscuits
Coffee

In addition there were Red/White wines, etc., to see them through the meal. Christmas Crackers were on the tables, and each lady received a leather purse, 3½ lbs Tin of Biscuits and a box of chocolates.

It was about the most sumptuous meal I have seen at the Temple and I regretted that I was but an onlooker. Speeches were few, but I made a few notes of Morrie Woolf's which I think bear repetition:

"This dinner has been held annually for thirteen years, and two ladies present now attended the first one. Mrs. Tibbles, now approaching ninety years of age. One lady from each of the 47 Craft Lodges meeting at the Temple are invited".

Liqueurs followed the meal, and I was privileged to shake hands with a number of the ladies present. Later on I offered to run two of them home, and guess what? Although widows of Masons from other Lodges, it transpired that both their fathers had been members of Canute Lodge - W. Bros. Jackaman and Oates.

I congratulated Morrie Woolf on the obvious success of the day, and mentioned that I would be writing an article for the 'Tide'. He asked if I would include the following, which I quote verbatim:

"I have spoken to a widow today whose husband died nineteen years ago. Since then she has been contacted but twice. On both occasions by the Almoner at Christmas, who asked her if she needed any assistance, to which she replied, "No, I need company".

I have wiped my eyes writing this article, and I hope to be able to assist at this dinner next year. I observed Brethren of other Lodges who conveyed their ladies to the Temple and returned for them later on. Others, like me, served drinks, peanuts, olives, cheeses and crisps around.

The lady guest from Canute was unable to attend due to having "the plumber in". We must see that someone attends next year, as it is an occasion of which we can be truly proud.

I conclude with the reason I have headed this article in the words that I have selected. Have a guess?

One widow with whom I had the pleasure to pass a word or two, on leaving the Temple, thanked me for taking the time to speak to her. I was choked. Quite genuinely and unashamedly choked! I did not realise until she carried on speaking, that to be taken from her home by car, given a couple of drinks, wine and dined, handed one or two presents at the Yuletide Season, was for her, very definitely, the Pot of Gold - AT THE END OF THE RAINBOW.

J.B.

THE 2nd MAMMOTH MASONIC BALL
IN AID OF
SOUTHEAST MASONIC WELFARE TRUST
WILL TAKE PLACE
ON
THURSDAY 6th MARCH 1975
AT
CLIFFS PAVILION, WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA.
RUNNING BUFFET - 8 p.m. - 12 m.n.
TWO BANDS
TOMBOLA - CHAMPAGNE RAFFLE - ETC.
TICKETS £5.25 EACH
YOUR SUPPORT
WILL HELP US TO HELP YOUR
DEPENDANTS
LIMITED NUMBERS
ENORMOUS DEMAND
BOOK YOUR TICKETS
NOW
WITH YOUR LODGE
SECRETARY

MINI FESTIVAL

On Friday, 1st November, 1974, many of the Brethren, their wives and guests enjoyed a very pleasant evening on the occasion of the annual Lodge of Instruction, Ladies Mini Festival.

The President on this occasion was Worshipful Master Elect, Bro. Frank Ellis, and his wife Olive was a very charming First Lady.

The evening commenced with a truly excellent 6 course dinner, during which we were entertained with suitable recorded music presented by Bro. Bill Caton. Also during the meal each lady received a gift of a 1975 diary and a pen.

After the meal the toasts began with Bro. Edgar Eastlea proposing the ladies toast and W. Bro. Bill Butterfield fulfilling the pleasant task on behalf of the L of I, by presenting Mrs. Ellis with a beautiful china bowl. Mrs. Ellis responded most capably to the ladies toast and also thanked the Brethren for the gift.

Bro. Bob Dillon proposed the toast to the President, and Bro. Frank Ellis replied in his usual eloquent way.

W. Bro. Bill Butterfield was presented with a tankard from the members of the L of I, in appreciation of his year as Worshipful Master.

During the speeches it was noticed that the German Oompah Band had arrived. It could hardly be missed, as each player was dressed in National Costume, and within a few minutes of the tables being cleared they were on stage delivering their own special brand of music; and so began the dancing.

Throughout the remainder of the evening each ladies name was drawn, and they all received a second gift. These presents were of varying nature, too numerous to be described here, but the final lady to be drawn, who happened to be Bro. John Flatt's sister in law, was overwhelmed at being the recipient of a gold wrist watch, which incidentally had been donated by Bro. Eric Thomas of Prittlewell Lodge.

Several prizes had been donated to a most successful raffle, which raised a gratifying sum of over £75.00.

All too quickly it was time to join hands for Auld Lang Syne and the evening was over.

To sum up; for most the evening was very enjoyable, but I understand a few criticisms have since been made, and which we hope to have rectified by the next time. However I have been asked to say that if new ideas are not tried no progress would ever be made. I would add to that by asking that if you have any ideas of your own for making these Festivals more entertaining, then please let the Extra Mural Committee know in good time for them to be discussed and included in the programme.

R.J.H.

THE TYLER'S TOAST - A RUSSIAN VERSION

Freemasonry was outlawed in Russia by Czar Alexander in 1822, since then it has existed only in exile, apart from a surprising but short lived revival under the White Russians at the end of the First World War. Some Lodges still exist, working their Russian Rituals in their native tongue, e.g. those in Paris under the Grand Loge Nationale Française. The following is a translation of their Tyler's Toast:-

" Brethren, according to ancient custom among Freemasons, before rising from this festive board, let us turn our thoughts to those of our Brethren who are scattered over the face of the earth. Let us wish solace to those who suffer, a speedy recovery to those in sickness, an improvement in their lot to those in misfortune, humility to the fortunate, and to those who stand before the Gates of Death, firmness of heart and peace in the Eternal East."

From the Coronati Lodge Book of Transactions, 1972.

D.C.

MEAT

Recently we suffered the loss of close on £40 worth of deep frozen meat. At the time I could have wept, now, although it still hurts in my pocket, I can look back and laugh.

It was one Wednesday evening that Olive arrived home from work tired out. I was working in the garden at the time, and although I can't be sure, she probably left her car unlocked. We keep the freezer in the garage and both these were unlocked too.

My wife later told me that during that particular evening, our dog created a racket, but she put it down to cats, which all dogs, and ours in particular, hate.

The following morning I went to get my car out of the garage at 6.30 a.m., as is my usual practice, only to find Olive's car right across the driveway, and certainly not where she had left it. I put it back where she had left it, and locked it up, thinking that kids had probably been playing about with it, and warning her to be more careful. On getting to my

own car, I noticed one of the baskets from the deep freeze by the front wheel. I called Olive and once more told her to be more careful. Still nothing had aroused my suspicions.

On Saturday morning we were going to help an elderly friend move some china, and to assist my mother, had put a couple of large cartons by the deep freeze ready to take; they had gone. Quite a row blew up, each of us blaming the other, and on the way to our friends I kept asking myself why anyone would want two empty cardboard cartons, and what did they want to pack into them.

Suddenly the penny dropped, 'The deep freeze'. As soon as the china was moved we headed home at a high rate of knots, where I immediately checked the freezer - all our meat, some £40 worth, was gone.

We reported the theft to the police, and had the C.I.D. and Fingerprint Dept., searching for clues. I haven't heard if they have caught anyone, and I haven't got my meat back. I have put in a claim with the Insurance Co., and I haven't heard from them either.

Why am I telling you this? Hopefully that you will be more careful than myself and take notice of the Police Ads - If it opens, lock it!

I can't help laughing though, when I think how helpful we were, even providing the boxes for them to take the meat away, but Oh! how it hurts.

S.W./M.E.

THE PERMANENT GUEST'S REPORT

On Saturday, 9th November, 1974, as a guest of W. Bro. Daniels, I attended Tudor Lodge, as did 54 other Brethren.

I thoroughly enjoyed the "Universal" workings, this being borne out by some one who obviously knows my reputation, by remarking that I had not closed my eyes during the whole proceedings.

In addition to my undoubted interest in the Degree being worked, there was another factor. In Canute, we are Polo Munchers, whereas in Tudor I was seated with the 'Trebor-fruit Set', and I didn't want to miss anything.

The present Master of Tudor travels from Germany to attend each meeting, and has not been able to attend 1 of 1. for seven years. His performance therefore thoroughly deserved the commendations which he subsequently received.

My particular memory is that of the Secretary stating; "The next meeting of the Coronati Lodge will be on Friday, 8th November - Oh dear, that's yesterday."

A very friendly Lodge.

Tuesday, 19th November, saw me at the Lodge of True Friendship, No. 160, together with 79 other Brethren. This Lodge is oldest in the Southend-on-Sea area. As my host, W. Bro. R. Farrin so rightly says, "All you lot are daughter, or great-great-grand-daughter Lodges of ours". Canute Lodge certainly is.

The furniture and other accoutrements used during their ceremonies, are the property of the Lodge, and are antique.

My host occupied the Chair for a First Degree; I didn't sleep, hoping to spot a few mistakes. In retrospect, I suppose I must have dozed off, since I do not recall a single error, or omission.

The meeting commenced at 5pm, which is usual, as they perform single ceremonies, and meet seven times a year, each coinciding with a full moon.

An unusual feature was a visiting P.G.I.O. asking for an insertion to be made into the Minutes, stating that a True Friendship Lodge Brother had made mauls for his Lodge from the timbers of the Westminster Hall. This wood being centuries old, the mauls made would thus be similarly antiquated.

At the Festive Board, a joining member from Dorset, sang the Entered Apprentices Song, the Brethren joining in the last two lines of the five verses printed. It was slightly different wording to the version held by Canute, but the import was the same.

My memory of this particular evening is that of my

host insisting I get up to drink the then current toast. Subsequently I found I had saved his legs, as in error he had detailed me to join in the "Toast to the visitors". No wonder it is such an old Lodge, full of well preserved members.

PERMANENT GUESTS REPORT (Cont.)

Wednesday 4th December, saw your stalwart at St. Margaret's Lodge, as a guest of the Preceptor W. Bro. W. Meddle. Once again it happened that my host was asked to occupy the chair, this time to raise a Brother, which he did in a manner well worthy of a Preceptor.

My memory of this particular evening however must be of W. Bro. Ossie Thornton. Immediately prior to the Third Rising a knock came at the door, and at that late hour, in walked Ossie. He had departed some twenty minutes earlier. On his return he admonished some Brothers for not sending in their guest lists, which had meant him having to go to the kitchen to twist someone's arm to prepare a total of 55 meals, instead of the number originally ordered. A Brother seated alongside me commented on the 'bread shortage', and as my mind flashed to the parable of the five loaves and the two little fishes, I wondered how we would proceed. In fact, at the meal, I had around 100 little fishes, for the first course was the St. Margaret special - whitebait. During the meal a raffle was held in aid of the widows at Christmas, and I was given a bottle of wine. Ossie led the Brethren in some carol singing, and I recall that two Brethren made their maiden speeches, Bro. J. Cresswell making his after 4 years and Bro. S. Lawrence making his after two years.

A Most enjoyable evening and I really loved the piscatorial course. I must confess I nibbled twice at the bait - (white).

I wonder if any of our Brethren from Canute have yet to make their maiden speech? Worshipful Master, how about a list of such, if indeed there be any? I feel that for the "traditional" Masonic fee, such a speech could be "ghost" written. (Scot's type ghost??)

Prittwell Lodge was visited on 7th December, and there were 174 Brethren present. It was the occasion of their "Old English Night", and to mark the occasion 5 Grand Lodge members were present, including our Morrie.

The meeting involved a double Passing, and was performed in an excellent manner. I noted there were three other members of Canute Lodge present, and I am certain they noticed some subtle differences in the ritual, which meant that even yours truly kept his eyes open.

On entering the Festive Board, the tables were fully laden, and the subsequent delivery of beer came from barrels. The meal was eaten by candlelight, and all the toasts were sung. I recall that Morrie replied to the toast of "Chairman of the Memorial Temple Committee", and his song was extremely well received. A Most noteworthy evening.

I happened to visit the 'small room' at the same time as W. Bro. Ron Hillman, and I expressed the view that his Lodge had a lovely atmosphere, and that the Festive Board seemed to derive every ounce of pleasure from the various activities. He remarked that as a Lodge Member, it was difficult to notice this, but that visitors seemed to do so. I remarked that fortunately I was a member of a Lodge that enjoyed a similar aura. Please let US keep our Festive Boards FESTIVE.

PILLARS OF BRASS OR BRONZE

The word which appears in the very early Bibles in connection with the story of the Temple Pillars is Nehoshet, and which is mentioned in Kings 1, chap. 7, and also in the Geneva Bibles and in the authorised version, the word being translated as brass.

Brass is an alloy consisting mainly, if not exclusively, of copper and zinc, but in its older use the term was applied rather to alloys of copper and tin, now known as bronze.

The brass of the Bible was in all probability bronze, and so also was much of the brass of later times, until the distinction between zinc and tin became clearly recognised, as defined in the 14th edition of Ency. Brit.

The use of bronze is believed to date back before 2000 B.C. in Egypt and the near east, and it is fairly certain therefore, that despite the use of the word brass in our Biblical accounts today, the Temple Pillars were in fact made of bronze.

D.C.

EBB AND FLO ~ TIME AND TIDE WAIT FOR NO WOMAN!



SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD No. 10.

Across. 1. Busier. 4. Embryo. 7. Inn. 8. Ice cap. 9. Tasted. 10. Eve. 11. Honour. 13. Rumour. 15. Grandfather. 18. Asleep. 20. Nieces. 22. Pam. 23. Thrill. 24. Errata. 25. Eon. 26. Recess. 27. Temple.
Down. 1. Blight. 2. Steer. 3. Ripe red apple. 4. Entertaining. 5. Ratio. 6. Orders. 12. Ovate. 14. Mohne. 16. Castor. 17. Estate. 19. Lyric. 21. Cramp.

MASONIC GOODNIGHT SONG

I am very pleased to report that the last appeal for the music to the Masonic Goodnight Song, was successful. You will recall that we already had the words.

W. Bro. R.S. Buck located the music at Colchester, and forwarded it to our secretary. In addition Bro. Bob Dillon handed me a copy of the music at our last meeting, which was written out by Bro. Frank Flavelle.

To date we have had one rehearsal at Lodge of Instruction, and I hope it will not be too long before we are able to give the first rendition at the Festive Board.

J.B.

YOUR PART

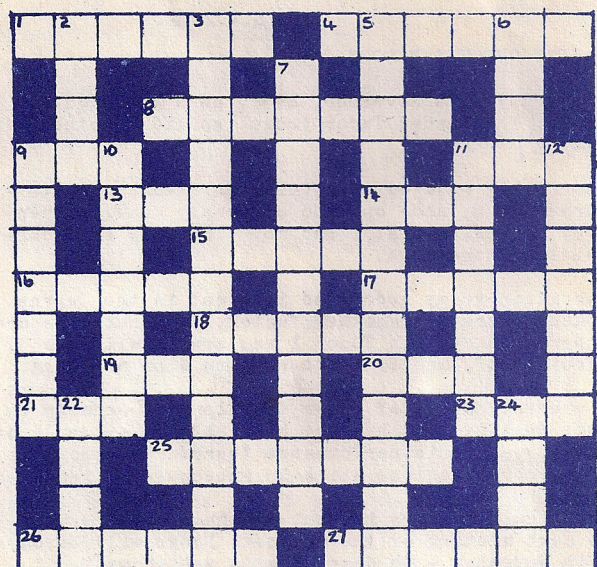
Although horizons we may scan - the future
is not ours to plan,
The most that we can do is pray - that God
will light the unknown way.

So trust in Him and have no doubt that He
will work His purpose out
Your part is this: to work, to pray - and
do your best from day to day.

Patience Strong.

MASONIC RESOLUTIONS FOR 1975

1. To attend Lodge as often as I can.
2. To serve in whatever capacity I may be asked.
3. Not to leave my "Masonry" in the Lodge.
4. To give my full support and pull my weight at all times in all Masonic activities.
5. To give whatever help I can to any Brother who is in need of physical, mental or financial assistance.
6. To make my Lodge a better Lodge in whatever way I can.



CLUES

- Across.
1. Masticator - on the plain-sticky!
 4. Incalculably random.
 8. A charge on income, we hear!
 9. Art's reward?
 11. Bishop's observation?
 13. Alternative to propel the boat we hear!
 14. A short appointment!
 15. In no sense possible!
 16. A shadow figure.
 17. A shared flat in Roman terms.
 18. State a personal preference.
 19. Uncertain rest - Hawaiian fashion.
 20. See Naples and?
 21. Quakers approval.
 23. A small deserter.
 25. Confused oration to a Canadian.
 26. Get together with B.R.
 27. No entry.
- Down.
2. Angelic like bird.
 3. Operates between countries.
 5. Admitting they now lack edging!
 6. Holds up the wheels of industry.
 7. Oarsman and angler often do this.
 9. Our Mary holds the gunman's arms.
 10. The numbers racket?
 11. Spread widely.
 12. Serious home for the deaf?
 22. Lohengrin's girl friend.
 24. Aid for a gamble.
- Solution next issue.
- Once again we are indebted to Bro. Stan Brown, Old Southendians Lodge, for this issues crossword.

The solution to the little problem we set you in the last edition is E T. The answer is arrived at by simply taking each letter as the initial letter of the numbers 1 - 12. Thus O = 1, T = 2, T = 3, etc. Bro. Bob Dillon was first with the correct answer. Well done Bro. Bob. Incidentally he refused to accept the prize, and W. Bro. Angus Grant has donated the cost of it to one of the Charities.