

No. 19

NOVEMBER, 1977

OUR NEW MASTER

W. Bro. Robert W.W. Dillon was born at Poona, India. However he spent most of his young life in the British Isles at schools in England and Ireland.

On leaving school he was conscripted into National Service to serve in the Royal Navy. Later he served in the Army where he gained a commission, and served his time out in West Africa until 1948.

Perhaps the best this he ever did was to marry Avril, who unlike W. Bro. Bob, seems to get younger every year, and it is hard to believe they have three grown-up children, two daughters and a son, of whom they are extremely and justly proud.

Recently he has taken on a new venture within his firm in which we wish him every success. This coincides with his acceptance of the office of Master of Canute Lodge, which comes to him prematurely through the untimely death of our Senior Warden, Bro. Leslie Barber, and it behoves his great sense of duty and his love and esteem of Canute Lodge, that in spite of the many responsibilities in his new job, that he accepted the high office of Master without the slightest hesitation.

W. Bro. Bob may I, on behalf of all the members of Canute Lodge and of your many friends both in and out of Masonry, wish you every success and happiness during the coming year and assure you of our undivided loyalty and support.

R.J.H.

THE MINI LADIES FESTIVAL

The annual Mini Ladies Festival was held on Friday, 11th November, at the Temple, Woodgrange, Drive, Southend-on-Sea.

As is usual this was a fabulous evening commencing with a first class meal followed by dancing to Direct Sounds.

It is difficult to pick out any particular feature of the evening and therefore I shall not attempt to do so, suffice it to say that a wonderful time was had by all, and no doubt each of us has our own little highlight to remember.

R.J.H.

THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

Saturday, 10th September, 1977, saw the 339th Regular Meeting of Canute Lodge No. 3104, at The Masonic Temple, Woodgrange Drive, Southend-on-Sea.

Unfortunately there was but a small gathering of Lodge members. Unfortunate for two reasons: first it was the election meeting and it is such a pity that such an important meeting is always invariably poorly attended. More about this in another issue of the Tide. Secondly those who did attend enjoyed one of the finest meetings for many a long year, inasmuch as the work in Lodge was of an extremely high standard.

The ceremonies performed were the Raising of Bro. Ian Browne, which was conducted in its entirety by our Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Don Watkins, and he is to be congratulated on his very fine work, and the Passing of Bro. John Cackett by W. Bro. Dave Howell, who is also to be highly complimented on his very sincere rendering of this degree. The Second Degree Tracing Board was given by W. Bro. Frank Ellis in as near perfect a manner as possible. But the high light of the evenings work was undoubtedly that of Bro. Ken Osbourne, our Senior Steward, who performed the Senior Deacons work in both degrees faultlessly. Not only was he word perfect, but his movements were accurate and his guidance of the candidates was a joy to watch. Well done Bro. Ken.

Bro. Bob Dillon was elected to serve as Master of the Lodge for the ensuing year. He suitably thanked the brethren for the trust placed in him and promised to perform the duties of Master faithfully and to the best of his ability.

W. Bro. A. W. George was re-elected to serve as Treasurer, and he is to be sincerely thanked for accepting this office again in spite of his recent serious illness. Bro. Bert Weatherston was re-elected as Tyler.

The Festive Board was up to the usual very high standard, and the meal provided was as heartily eaten and enjoyed as the speeches were received.

Summing up, a thoroughly enjoyable meeting and one can only feel sorry for those members who did not attend.

R.J.H.

HERE AND THERE

Dispensations for seven outdoor meetings were granted in Oregon, a practice which is quite common in the United States. Eight or more grand jurisdictions have done this recently.

At the latest report there were seven Masonic Lodges in China with a membership of about 800 members. Fifty-two delegates attended the annual communication of Grand Lodge.

Despite troubles in Ireland, there is but one Grand Lodge for the island, with several Provincial Grand Lodges. Masonic work has been greatly curtailed due largely to the difficulty of travelling in the evening. The Grand Master reported steady progress being made, nevertheless, with a continuing flow of candidates and charity contributions being well maintained.

Navy Lodge was founded in London in 1896 with the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII) as first Worshipful Master. The late King George VI and his brother, the late Duke of Kent, were members, as is the Duke of Edinburgh.

A Candidate in Argentina must wait for a period of not less than one year between degrees, in addition to attending 80% or more of all meetings of the Lodge during the year.

Bro. Charles Sherwood Stratton, the famous 'Tom Thumb' of circus fame, was initiated in St. John's Lodge No. 3, Bridgeport, Connecticut, in 1862. He later joined the Royal Arch and Knights Templar.

The first English postage-stamp was the famous 'Penny Black' issued in 1840. It was engraved by Bro. Jacob Perkins.

(We are indebted to Stanley W. Lovell P.A.G.D.C. for the above).

R.J.H.

"TAKE A WALK AROUND YOURSELF"

When you're criticizing others
And you're finding here and there
A fault or two to speak of
Or a weakness you can tear;
When you're blaming some one's meanness
Or accusing some of pelf -
It's time that you went out
To take a walk around yourself.

There's a lot of human failures
In the average of us all,
And lots of grave shortcomings
In the short ones and the tall;
But when we think of evils
Men should lay upon the shelves,
It's time we all went out
To take a walk around ourselves.

We need so often in this life
This balancing of scales,
This seeing how much in us wins
And how much in us fails;
But before you judge another
Just to lay him on the shelf -
It would be a splendid plan
To take a walk around yourself.

Anon.

A C.... T.. A.... T.. N....

Somewhere along the line the composers of ritual have got slightly mixed up. To begin with, a c.t. is something of fairly hefty proportions and would never be used for the purpose with which we are dealing.

The object to be applied for this use is obviously a h....r and this should be stated. The h....r is again a very ancient outward and visible sign of submission. In some of the ancient mysteries the candidate was led by a h....r. In more vital circumstances, that is to say, in real life, captives and slaves were made to wear them.

The symbolism of this object is that a man comes into Freemasonry in a state of complete submission, yet offering himself voluntarily in that condition, but trusting in the assurances that are given to him, that no harm will come to him if he is true to his commitments.

We may take a lesson from the Irish Freemasons, in which, as soon as the candidate declares his willingness to take the Ob. the h....r is taken from him and flung to the floor, and his conductor informs that only free men can be accepted. He is therefore at that moment put in the position to take the Ob. of his own free will and not as a captive.

The procedure for removing the object before the Ob. has been adopted in a Lancashire Lodge and is to be recommended to others, as it bears the test of logically carrying out what has been indicated to the candidate.

Extract from the Coronati Book of Transactions for 1971, page 287.

D.C.

TIME WASTED

Time wasted is existence; when used, it is life. It is your ability to know what is a waste of time that enables you to use it correctly. Dreaming is not a waste of time if you strive to make the dream come true.

Playing games is no waste of time if you find in them relaxation and delight. Dancing is no waste of time if you listen to the music and renew the harmony in your soul by keeping the rhythm.

Movie-going is no waste of time if it permits you to escape from yourself, and to return to reality with renewed vigour. Reading is no waste of time if you choose your literary menu wisely. Motoring is no waste of time if it allows you to accomplish more and, or, it takes you to clear, fresh air.

Talking is no waste of time if you think and evaluate before you speak.

Feasting is no waste of time when you do it with joy and good sense.

Work is no waste of time if in your work there is an element of art - something to make the world a better place for your fellow man.

Envy is a waste of time! Revenge is a waste of time! For envy saps your vitality and revenge hinders progress. Envy retards and revenge weakens.

The great do not envy. And the successful are too busy for revenge.

(Acknowledgements to Masonic Record, September, 1973)

R.J.H.

ARTISTS ANONYMOUS

All of us are artists, according to Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, who spent some ninety years finding out about such things.

"Life is a romantic business," he said, "it is painting a picture." Each day we add a few strokes to the "picture" we are painting. We ought to wake up to the fact that we are painting a picture before it is too late to doctor it up a little.

Our picture may not turn out to be a masterpiece; it probably won't be anything like as good, but good or bad we ought, if possible, to make it one we will not be ashamed to sign. And while we still have the brush in our hands we ought to ask ourselves whether we are leaving out things that should go into it - whether the colours are as lively as they could be - whether our artistic endeavour reflects the things we really stand for, the things we truly believe in.

The Little Gazette

KNOWLEDGEABLE MASONS ARE BETTER MASONS

We invite our readers to sharpen their pencils and wits by trying this multiple choice quiz.

Select the letter of the response that BEST satisfies the opening statement and place it in the blank before the number.

- 1. Which of the following best describes the role of Master in the Masonic Lodge?
 - A. He is the ceremonial head of the Fraternity.
 - B. Within the framework of the Grand Lodge he is literally Master of all proceedings, discussions, and actions of the Lodge.
 - C. He is strictly bound by Masonic Law in all his actions on behalf of the Lodge.
 - D. The Master can adjust the schedule of the Lodge to fit his prerogatives.
- 2. Which of the following is not a term with application to the Masonic Lodge?
 - A. Adjournment.
 - B. Trial.
 - C. Refreshment.
 - D. Communication.
- 3. Which of the following is a false statement?
 - A. Parliamentary Law governs the proceedings of a Masonic Lodge.
 - B. The Master must respect the right of a brother to propose a motion at any time.
 - C. The Master cannot terminate debate until all have been heard.
 - D. All of the above.
- 4. The reason a Master opens his Lodge in 'due form' and the Grand Master opens the Grand Lodge in 'ample form' is:
 - A. The Grand Master is often heavier than the Master of a Lodge and this is a polite way of recognising the fact.
 - B. The Grand Master has more authority than the Master of a Lodge.
 - C. The Grand Master may shorten proceedings because his power and authority are 'ample enough' to do so.
 - D. The Grand Master is not bound by ancient usages and customs.
- 5. A "moon" Lodge is:
 - A. A Lodge that met at the time of a full moon.
 - B. A Lodge that recognises the moon in part of the ritual.
 - C. A Lodge that is no longer in existence.
 - D. A Lodge that meets at 12 midnight.
- 6. The Masonic Lodge is referred to as the "Blue Lodge" because:
 - A. "Blue" has from ancient times been associated with truth.
 - B. Our ancient brethren met on hills and in vales over which the Blue Vault of Heaven was a ceiling.
 - C. The colour was adopted by an early Grand Lodge as an attempt to imitate the nobility and fame of an order of knighthood.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
- 7. The language of Masonry requires some study to be properly understood. In the early days of the Fraternity word pairs of similar meaning were used for purposes of "clarity". For example, 'stand to' and 'abide by'. Which of the following words means to 'conceal'?
 - A. Hele.
 - B. Hail.
 - C. Hale.
 - D. Heal.
- 8. In ancient operative Masonry it took a great deal of time to become an entered apprentice. That time was generally considered to be:
 - A. One year.
 - B. 15 years.
 - C. 3 years.
 - D. 7 years.
- 9. The reason the youngest entered apprentice stands in the N.E. corner of the Lodge is:

- A. He stands there as a cornerstone of the Lodge which will be, meaning that the entered apprentice of today is the veteran Mason and Lodge member of tomorrow.
 - B. That the N.E. corner is one of the places in the Lodge which is always vacant.
 - C. That the N.E. is half-way between the North and the East.
 - D. That the first Grand Master of Masons designated that spot as the appropriate place for entered apprentices.
- 10. The transition from the 'rough ashlar' to the 'perfect ashlar' in the Masonic ritual can best be applied to a Mason in which of the following ways?
- A. By adding Masonic virtues to 'rough ashlar' (newly made Mason's), they become 'perfect ashlar'.
 - B. Masons by their nature work with stone, therefore, the ashlar is a fitting symbol of Masonry.
 - C. The 'rough' only becomes 'perfect' by removing all the vices and superfluities of life, thus developing the perfect man from the rough man.
 - D. The Kingdom of God can be found within each man.

The Correct answers can be found on the last page.

ANSWERS TO MASONIC QUIZ

1-B; 2-A; 3-D; 4-C; 5-A; 6-D; 7-A; 8-D; 9-A; 10-C

Source of questions and answers - "101 Questions about Freemasonry". Published by the Masonic Service Association.

WE'RE ALWAYS WRONG

Getting out the TIDE is no picnic.

If we print jokes, people say we are silly;

If we don't we are too serious.

If we stick close to the office; we ought to be around getting material;

If we get out... we should be on the job in the office.

If we don't print contributions, we don't appreciate genius;

If we do, the paper is full of junk;

If we edit the fellows write-up, we're too critical.

If we don't, we're asleep;

If we clip items from other papers, we are too lazy;

If we don't we are stuck with our own stuff! Now, likely as not, some brother will say we swiped this from another magazine.

We did.

With acknowledgements to:- Grand Lodge Bulletin, Grand Lodge of Iowa, U.S.A. November, 1974.

HOW MANY SUMMERS

While reading through a Masonic Journal, I ran across these thoughts on growing old, and I would like to share them with you.

"Nobody grows old by merely living a number of years. People grow old only by deserting their ideals. Years wrinkle the skin, but to give up your enthusiasm wrinkles the soul.

You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubt; as young as your self confidence, as old as your fear; as young as your hope, as old as your despair.

In the central place of your heart is a wireless station; so long as it receives messages of beauty, hope, cheer, grandeur, courage and power from God and your fellowmen, so long are you young"

R. J. H.

WHY WORSHIPFUL?

Probably no word in Freemasonry is more respected, but less understood, than Worshipful.

It is given to Freemasonry's most important officers. The Master of a Lodge is called "Worshipful Master", Grand Lodge officers are called "Right Worshipful", while the Grand Master, with great respect, is called "Most Worshipful".

It comes from the fact that Freemasonry developed here in England. Even today the Judge is called "Your Worship". In the Wycliff translation of the Bible it says, "If any man serve Him, my Father shall worship him...."

Even as long ago as 1390, a poem (modernised) said -

"Furthermore yet that ordained he,
Master called so should he be;
So that he were most worshipped
Then should he be so called"

So "Worshipful" means honoured. A Worshipful Master is a Master Mason, honoured by his Brethren by electing him to lead them. Just so, a Grand Master has been given the greatest honour that Freemasonry can bestow - that of being "Most Worshipful" or "Most Honoured" among all.

(Our thanks to Grand Lodge Bulletin of New Jersey, U.S.A.)

WISE WORDS

If all our misfortunes were laid in one common heap, whence everyone must take an equal portion, most people would be content to take their own and depart.

Socrates

PLACING THE BLAME by Virginia Walker

We read in the papers and hear on the air,
Of killing and stealing and crime everywhere.
We sigh and we say as we notice the trend,
"This young generation, where will it end?"
But can we be sure that it's their fault alone,
That maybe a part of it isn't our own?

Are we less guilty who place in their way,
Too many things that lead them astray;
Too much money to spend, too much idle time,
Too many movies of passion and crime,
Too many books not fit to be read,
Too much evil in what they hear said,
Too many children encouraged to roam
By too many parents who won't stay at home?

Kids don't make the movies, they don't write the books,
That paint gay pictures of gangsters and crooks;
They don't make the liquor, they don't run the bars,
They don't make the laws, they don't buy the cars;
They don't peddle the drugs that addle the brain,
That's done by older folks, greedy for gain.

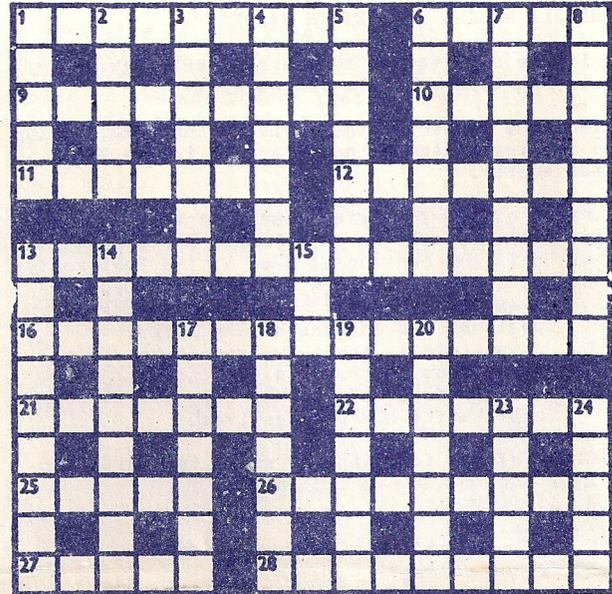
Delinquent teen-agers, - Oh, how we condemn
The sins of the nation and blame it on them.
By the laws of the blameless the Savior made known,
"Who is there among you to cast the first stone?"
For as in so many cases it's sad, but it's true,
The title of "delinquent" fits older folk too.

(Extracted from Grand Lodge Bulletin, Grand Lodge of Iowa, April, 1975.)

R.J.H.

SOLUTION TO LAST ISSUE'S X-WORD

Across: 1. Jobs of work. 6. Split. 9. Horsewoman.
10. Frau. 12. Halo. 13. Spotlight. 15. Haystack.
16. Advent. 18. Quaker. 20. Speed-cop. 23. Espionage.
24. Ague. 26. Ogre. 27. Matchmaker. 28. Kilt.
29. Master-keys.
Down: 1. Jehu. 2. Barbary. 3. One for the pot.
4. Woolsack. 5. Reason. 7. Perigee. 8. True to type.
11. Sledgehammer. 14. Cheque-book. 17. Uppercut.
19. Apparel. 21. Chuckle. 22. Banana. 25. Iris.



ACROSS

- 1 They work to form (9)
- 6 Resting place - over 5 yards long (5)
- 9 Inelegant twister (9)
- 10 Sole supporting fruit (5)
- 11 Become vocal in the open air? (4,3)
- 12 Cutting tooth (7)
- 13 Highest ever bidder in the bloodstock market? (7,3,5)
- 16 He deposed 13 across in battle (5,3,7)
- 21 Mixed-up word formed by a horse and sheep (7)
- 22 Excessive agitation (7)
- 25 Anne's back with the medicine (5)
- 26 It is clear for a change (9)
- 27 Extensive part of Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay (5)
- 28 Get Moving! (4,5)

DOWN

- 1, 13 It shouldn't be a very prompt performance (5-9)
- 2 Fashionable place to obtain loans, oddly enough (5)
- 3 Craft of Marco or Giuseppe in G. & S. opera. (7)
- 4 Driven from home (7)
- 5 Language that precedes the drill (7)
- 6 This animal doesn't come from frozen parts, however (7)
- 7 Pardon, but it seems a job for the sapper (9)
- 8 Last leg of a centipede? (9)
- 13 See 1 down
- 14 Receptacle to hold a royal monogram (9)
- 15 Neck and neck as it were, between 13 and 16 across (3)
- 17 Makes a Red gay, in a measure (7)
- 18 A low sound on a booming instrument becomes monotonous (7)
- 19 Suffered by a rigid defender (3-4)
- 20 Gloss over (7)
- 23 Sworn by Athos on arrangement (5)
- 24 Filthy, some call such sordid gains (5)