

No. 20

MAY, 1978

A WORD FROM OUR WORSHIPFUL MASTER

Brethren

By the time you read this we will have completed the work for the May meeting and thus half of our Masonic year will be over. In other sections of The Canute Tide you will read the reports from our Secretary and Charity Steward who will detail the relevant numbers, so I will not enlarge on them here but merely say that the support of members and their guests to our three meetings so far, and the support of the members to the R.M.B.I., has been encouraging.

Of the two social events that the Lodge mounted - the Mini Festival and the Ladies Festival - both of these were a success, and my wife and I were gratified by the favourable comments received both during the evening and for some time afterwards from members and their guests who had attended the Ladies Festival.

If there is any complaint from me, it could only be in the lack of support of the junior brethren at the Lodge of Instruction. For the first time since we started, the custom of holding a meeting at the Temple had to be abandoned because apart from those brethren who had already performed the task there was not one, who does not hold office in the Lodge, capable of taking the Master's chair.

At my Installation Banquet I stated my intention this year, for the Lodge, was that we should practise brotherly love, relief, and truth. The first two have and are being satisfied, and as part of my interpretation of the truth I decided to set up two standing committees. These committees were to report on the status of our finances and social activities. The objective of these committees was that a more open style of Lodge management could gradually be introduced and that the Lay Brethren would have a better understanding of the reasons by which certain decisions are taken. However, as is inevitable with any change, the Brethren have not yet grasped the opportunities afforded by these committees and consequently the purpose and potential of them has not yet been fully realised.

Before we meet again the majority of Brethren will have taken their annual vacation, and I wish each of you and your families a most enjoyable break from the normal routines.

EDITORIAL

Brethren, this copy of The Canute Tide is rather special in that it is the first edition to include reports from various senior officers of the Lodge. We felt this was a necessary function of The Canute Tide to render it more useful as an official organ of the Lodge although, in all truth, we must confess that we have never received any comments, either critical or otherwise, on any article we have so far submitted.

We hope that submissions from the officers will keep everyone up to date with Lodge business and that it will prove to be an acceptable format to all. However we still hope to include articles of general interest from all members of the Lodge, and therefore are keen to receive your literary contributions.

It has been decided, because of the lack of articles, that only two issues per annum are now possible, which will be published for our May or Viking Night meeting, and the Installation Meeting.

You will notice we are including again a cartoon, this time drawn by Bro John Cackett. This used to be a regular feature submitted by W Bro Angus Grant who now feels this should be taken over by another Brother to get more stimulus in the publication of The Tide.

Here's hoping for your support in the future editions.

EXTRA MURAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

The Worshipful Master and your Extra Mural Activities Committee would like to thank all those members who supported the Dance at Lindisfarne last year, and the Mini Festival. The profit from both functions was passed to the Ladies Festival Secretary, and enabled that committee to plan and spend on those little extras at the Ladies Festival without raising the ticket price very much.

Your Extra Mural Activities Committee is now trying to plan for the next year, and we would be pleased to receive suggestions from any Brother.

The proposed programme is as follows :-

May Viking Night
June)
July) Summer outing - such as a coach
August) or boat trip
September Bro Edgar Easlea is organising another Dance this year. The proceeds to go to the RMBI
October Coach trip run by the Ladies Circle
November Mini Festival. Another date for your diary - 10 November 1978
December Last year the Ladies Circle ran a superb dance at the Temple and they will repeat that this year - 18 December
January L of I night at the Temple
February Ladies Festival. Put a note in your diary - 23 February 1979, at Garons No 2
March Masonic Ball
April We hope to run a function such as a Chicken and Chip Supper, or a Social, or perhaps a special Dance.

ALMONER'S REPORT

Brethren, I have little to report in this issue, but I have to inform you regretfully of the death of Bro W E Hollins who died on 11 January 1978.

Bro Hollins was initiated into the Lodge on 10 March 1928, and thereby he completed almost 50 years as a Mason. We extend our deepest sympathy to his family.

Bro Bill Kent is making progress and spent some time convalescing at Clacton. He was taken and collected by Bro Bert Jones and myself.

Mrs Pitman went to the Christmas Dinner for the widows and was overwhelmed by the whole affair; she wrote a nice letter of appreciation.

Letters of appreciation have been received from all our widows for their Christmas gifts, which were distributed by Bro Bert Jones and myself.

W Bro Bert George and his wife enjoyed a week's stay at the Roslyn Hotel, Thorpe Bay, under the auspices of the Southend Masonic Welfare Trust, and as a result his health has greatly improved.

W. BRO. MORRIS WOOLF, P.S.G.D., P.A.P.G.M. Essex.

Although we deeply regret the passing of W. Bro. Morry Woolf, I feel sure that he would not wish for us to be sad, for above all, he was a happy man who enjoyed life to the full and encouraged others to do likewise.

His period of office as Assistant Provincial Grand Master was a happy one, both for him and all with whom he came into contact. His presence at a Lodge meeting was immediately felt, for he injected into the members that sense of pride in their Lodge. He hated sloppy work, but rarely interfered. "Do it to the best of your ability" was his familiar comment.

I well remember his words to many Masters, "Listen, son, if you live to be a hundred, you will never make as many mistakes as I have." Such words of encouragement in his usual humorous manner worked wonders. At the after proceedings Morry had that touch of magic when speaking. How often have we heard him say, "If you cannot come to a Lodge and be happy, stay at home and be miserable!" His ready wit was a delight to all, and although he told the same old stories over and over again, he still made us laugh.

Morry's great love was our Temple and there can be little doubt that he was the driving force behind both its purchase, alteration and opening, together, of course, with W. Bro. Bert Allen and W. Bro. Ted Beales. He was never afraid to make a decision and always looked to the future.

His second great passion was the R.M.B.I. Annuitants annual holiday, for which he organized collections from the various lodges, in order to entertain them during their stay in Southend. This work, incidentally, is being continued and the party will be arriving on Saturday, 5th August, staying as usual at the Roslyn.

We all regret that Morry has passed to the Grand Lodge above, but those of us who knew him so very well, have little doubt that he is already busy with some reorganization scheme or other!

As his D.C. for many years, I can honestly say I never had a dull moment, and learned much. After each meeting we attended he would remark "Ted, always leave them happy!"

Brethren, Morry has done just that!

He lived respected and died regretted.

Ted Lewis

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION

The Canute Lodge of Instruction continues to flourish, both financial and attendance wise. We have been fortunate in retaining the invaluable services of the last seven Masters and this, with the interest of several junior members, the Officers of the Lodge and two regular "other Lodge members", has resulted in some very interesting rehearsals. The work is of a very high standard, and the competitive spirit among the members is appreciated by all.

There are however several members (including stewards) who are very lax in attendance, and we would like to see them come along and take part in the exercise. We are unable to teach you to remember, but we can teach you how to 'put it over' and make the necessary movements for the floor-work. Why not come along and surprise us?

Financially we have been for many years self-supporting, and our efforts for the Hospital are the envy of many Lodges.

A fine healthy L of I; a fine bunch of enthusiasts; an L of I worth belonging to.

Once again we have had an interesting and stimulating year.

Our May meeting saw the Raising of Bro Ken Burrous, the ceremony being performed by the then Worshipful Master, W Bro Don Watkins, in a very impressive manner. Bro Mark Cockburn was Passed after an interval of one year and two months by the I.P.M. W Bro Geoff Bond, the Tracing Board being given by W Bro Sam Pollard.

In Spetember Bro Ian Browne was Raised by the W Master, W Bro Don Watkins. Ian had to wait a record time after Passing of one year and four months. I expect he thought we had forgotten him! Bro Eric Fiford, on the other hand, was speedily Passed after only two months when Bro Mark Kent was unable, through illness, to attend the meeting. Bro Eric had to do a bit of last minute swotting, but still managed to perform very well in the Lodge. W Bro Dave Howe was responsible for the Passing, which he did in a very sincere manner, and W Bro Frank Ellis presented a really outstanding Tracing Board.

The September meeting provided us with an unusual and poignant moment when W Bro Tom King presented a Grand Lodge Certificate to his son Peter John. Peter is a member of the Abercrombie Lodge No 2708, which meets in St Lucia and belongs to the District Grand Lodge of Barbados - English Constitution. By special permission Tom was allowed to perform this work at our meeting and the obviously sincere manner in which he made the presentation will long remain in the memory of the Brethren.

At our Installation Meeting in November, W Bro Don Watkins finished off a marvellous year by installing his successor, W Bro Bob Dillon, and performing this ceremony in a manner well up to his own high standards. W Bro Bob then appointed his Wardens and the Lodge offered its congratulations to Bro Bertie Jones S.W., and W Bro John Rundlett J.W. W Bro John is Reigning Master of Tabula Rotunda Lodge No 8607. At the Installation Meeting we were supported by the presence of fifteen Reigning Masters and three Secretaries, and the whole evening proved most enjoyable.

In January we welcomed our new Joining Member, Bro Bill Crossingham, who was introduced into the Lodge by W Bro Frank Ellis. Our W Master Initiated Bro Reg Frost and it was easy to see from the calm and impressive manner in which he performed the ceremony that the Lodge would enjoy yet another good year. Bro Bill Worship was another member who had to wait a long time to take his second step, a period of one year and four months. He must however have been especially pleased that the Past Master on duty was W Bro Bill Price, his sponsor, who gave an excellent performance.

At our March Meeting we were honoured by a visit from an Assistant Provincial Grand Master in the person of W Bro K C Brown P.A.G.D.C. This pleasure was enhanced by the fact that he is a member of our Daughter Lodge, Sweeney. I think he enjoyed the work he saw and he was kind enough afterwards to write a very pleasing letter of thanks after his visit. Our W Master, W Bro Bob Dillon, Initiated Bro Bob Crossingham in a ceremony that was keenly watched by the candidate's father, Bill. I'm sure neither Bob dared to put a foot wrong! The second ceremony of Raising Bro John Cackett was performed by W Bro Frank Ellis, and although John had to wait twelve months for this step he must have been impressed by the way in which the ceremony was given.

At this meeting W Bro Sam Pollard, the Secretary, spoke with pleasure of the achievement of W Bro Bill Price who received

the Acting Rank of Provincial Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies, a well merited honour. The meeting was also memorable for the late arrival of our Angus, minus kilt but plus a truly impressive 'Persil white' turban. He had come directly after an internal inspection of his brains by the most elevated boffins from the hospital, we were informed. He described the gory details in some depth, and to some effect judging by the response of two of our members!

Sadly, during the year we lost Bro John Mackintosh after a long and tragic illness, and also a Joining Member, Bro Eric Green. As we raise our glasses to Absent Brethren knowing we shall see so many of them at future meetings, let us also remember those who have graced our meetings in times gone by and whose character and effort have helped to raise our Lodge to its standards of today.

We were pleased to know that one of our Lodge widows, Mrs Jessie Hennis, now permanently in a Nursing Home and over ninety years of age, will be relieved to the extent of some £300 during the current year. Her husband, W Bro James Cedric Hennis, was initiated into Canute Lodge on 7 May 1921. Although he never attained the Chair of our Lodge, he became a founder Master of the Old Southendian Lodge and was a First Principal in our own Canute Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in 1932.

Altogether it was a busy, interesting year of good spirit and good working. Let us hope that my next annual report will again represent these qualities.

CALLING ALL OLD BUDDIES

The above heading caught my eye in the local paper the other day and I was about to direct my attention elsewhere when suddenly my interest was attracted by the fact, that reading further, it transpired this was an appeal for wartime members of 75 New Zealand Squadron, with whom I served in 1943.

It appears that in August this year, at least 150 veterans fly in from New Zealand and a Committee of ex-members of the Squadron who live in England have arranged what will no doubt be a truly wonderful reunion for the New Zealanders.

The reunion is arranged over a period of three days at Cambridge, commencing with a cocktail party on the Friday, a reunion dinner on the Saturday and concluding on the Sunday with a service in Ely Cathedral.

I well remember my flying days (and nights) with the Squadron, and since the war I have been fortunate enough to visit New Zealand on two occasions and enjoyed both the country itself, which is truly beautiful, and the friendship and hospitality of the New Zealanders.

Tragically all my New Zealand crew were killed at the time we were shot down over Germany, but who knows, I may be fortunate enough to meet some old friends.

If any of our circle of readers know of anyone who likewise served with 75 New Zealand Squadron during World War II, perhaps they would like to contact me and I can give them further details.

Although this article is not necessarily of a masonic nature, no doubt it will be appreciated that close associations of any kind, which bring men together whatever their calling, are both beneficial and well worth preserving.

Geoff Bond

The Canute Chapter, after a spell in the Doldrums, has like the Phoenix been reborn and is enjoying the pleasures of a larger gathering.

For the first time since 1962 the three Principals are members of Canute Lodge and it is their desire for the members of Canute to rally round and support them and the Chapter by joining the Chapter and infusing new blood into the stalwarts who have kept it going.

COME TO DINNER

"Come to dinner" said Bro Charlie Davis (The Baker of Leigh). "Thanks" I said, and in due course I attended The Worshipful Company of Bakers Dinner for members of The Court and Livery at Bakers Hall.

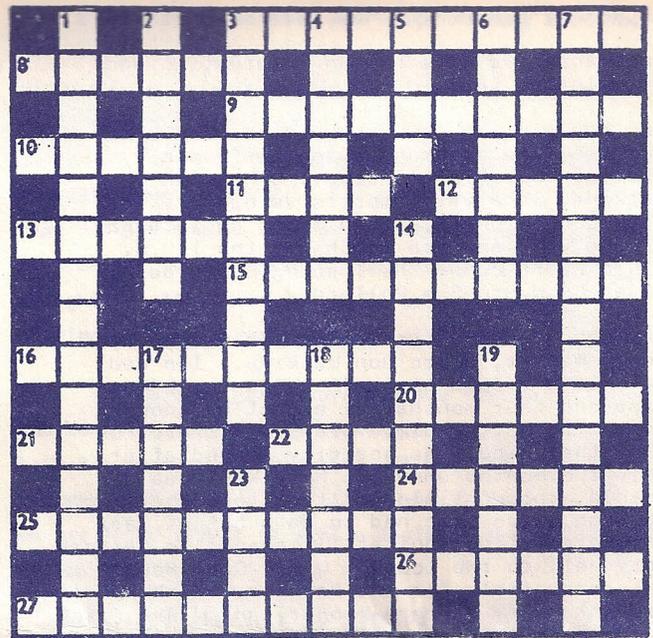
Bakers Hall is a very modern, attractive building standing on the same site as three of its predecessors: one destroyed by the Great Fire of London, one by a further conflagration after about 100 years, and the last one by enemy action during The Blitz.

Welcomed by the Clerk to the Company (who handed each one a menu and a dinner plan) we then mixed with the assembled company, consuming as per our individual tastes vast quantities of wines or spirits. At the call to dinner we all stood and welcomed to the table the Master, Wardens etc. The top table seated The Master, Upper Warden, Second Warden, Third Warden, Under Warden and The Clerk. The Master called for Grace and reminded the company that it is traditional in this Guild to break bread during Grace. This was carried out with the shortest Grace I have heard, namely, the heraldic motto of the Company "Praise God for all".

The meal comprised Consomme Chasseur with Falkenrone Traminer Hock, River Trout Pere Louis, Lamb Pommes Parisienne, Endives, Garden Peas, Crab-apple jelly and mint sauce, with Chateau Haut Renaissance Claret, Cherry pancakes with Delaforce Port, Coffee and Brandy. Grace was then sung. How nice it is to hear our own grace sung by others than our brethren. This was followed by The Loving Cup, Toasts to Her Majesty, The Royal Family, The Mayor and the Corporation of London, and the Sheriffs, Guests and The Worshipful Company. The Master then invited all to join him in the next room for coffee and brandy.

What an enjoyable group of people! What a feast! What an evening to remember!

Grateful thanks to my Host, and dare I say it "Please take me again".



CROSSWORD — Solution in next issue.

Across

- 3 Good for nothing with no interests (5,5)
- 8 Best in the long run (6)
- 9 Part of the theatre in which the man of figures plays a part (10)
- 10 Not shot in anger at billiards (6)
- 11 No bargain from a red (4)
- 12 Sycophant today is out of order (5)
- 13 Below par period - when it comes to returning to school, say (3-3)
- 15 Alice's pity, in one way, is a particular characteristic (10)
- 16 Fruitful projection bequeathed to man(5-5)
- 20 Country lovers, I find surrounded by birds (6)
- 21 Senseless, seen in a new setting (5)
- 22 Ten gallon hat? Leave it, boy (4)
- 24 One obviously different from No 25 (6)
- 25 The ordinary chap in the street (7,3)
- 26 Make a mistake and run for it (6)
- 27 How the Americans like their drinks (2,3,5)

Down

- 1 Start out of gear with car to a riverside place of homage (9,2,4)
- 2 Nice day for poisoning (7)
- 3 Spirited card game? It takes the biscuit
- 4 Binding in the Civil Service (3,4) (6,4)
- 5 The facts, little thanks to the District Attorney (4)
- 6 Disquiet of a disturbed spirit in labour(7)
- 7 Fourteen pounds on which to build (10,5)
- 14 They show some silent variations by the way (10)
- 17 Ruler of no charm (7)
- 18 U.S River urging on the Scot playing snooker (7)
- 19 Arcadian piper joins a girl to find the one with the box (7)
- 23 Borodin's prince observed in Vigo recently (4)

Solution to November 1977 issue -

- Across: 1. Designers 6. Perch 9. Eglantine
 10. Lemon 11. Sing out 12. Incisor
 13. Richard The Third 16. Henry the Seventh
 21. Anagram 22. Turmoil 25. Senna
 26. Realistic 27. Large 28. Make Haste

- Down: 1, 13. Dress Rehearsal 2. Salon
 3. Gondola 4. Evicted 5. Swedish 6. Polecat
 7. Remission 8. Hundredth 13. (see 1 down)
 14. Container 15. Tie 17. Yardage
 18. Humdrum 19. Set-back 20. Varnish
 23. Oaths 24. Lucre

Masonic Types

THE DIRECTOR

