The Appeal of Freemasonry

Elsewhere in this issue we have noted with pride that our President III, Gerald R. Ford, 33°, is a Mason and wished him well as he assumes the heavy responsibilities of his high office. We welcome this opportunity to honor him as he honors us.

This also prompts us to reflect on the many great men, past and present, who have been members of our Ancient Craft. The list is virtually endless—George Washington and 13 other Presidents; John Marshall, Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court and many other members of that court; Benjamin Franklin, Paul Revere, Patrick Henry, John Hancock, Henry Clay, DeWitt Clinton, and a host of our early statesmen; General John J. Pershing, Douglas MacArthur, George C. Marshall, Omar N. Bradley, Mark Clark, Captain Edward Rickenbacker, Admiral Richard L. Byrd, and scores more of our military heroes; Rev. John Peter Muhlenberg, Rev. John Witherspoon, Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, Rev. Joseph Fort Newton, Dr. Daniel A. Poling, Dr. Thomas Sherrard Roy, Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, and a multitude of other distinguished clergymen; leaders in the arts including Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain), Edgar Guest, Edwin Markham, John Philip Sousa, Irving Berlin, George M. Cohan, Al Jolson, Lauritz Melchior, and many others.

Equally illustrious are those of other lands who have knelt at our altars and assumed our vows—Garibaldi and Giuseppe Mazzini of Italy, Simon Bolivar of South America, Francisco de Miranda of Venezuela, General Aga
dlao of the Philippines, Bernardo O'Higgins of Chile, Winston Churchill of England, Marquis de Lafayette of France, Cecil Rhodes of South Africa, to name only a small fraction of our Brother Masons who have played leading roles in the affairs of their countries.

We might go on and on. The list is almost endless of statesmen, religious and military leaders, writers, poets, musicians, actors, and other artists, educators such as Dean Found of the Harvard Law School, business leaders such as John Wanamaker, Thomas B. Watson, Henry Ford, J. C. Penney, and Andrew Mellon.

What attracted these men to Masonry? What was its appeal? Why were so many of them ardent and active members throughout their lifetimes?

Why has it attracted men of so varied cultural, racial, and ethnic backgrounds?

Certainly it was not due to solicitation. No man is ever asked to join. The initiative must be his. It scarcely could be the mere desire for companionship. There always have been organizations by the hundreds that could provide that. Nor could it have been a desire for business gain or other selfish interests. This diverse membership is ill adapted for the pursuit of any such purpose.

What then is its appeal?

We believe the answer will be found in its lofty idealism. Its stress has always been on character. Membership in Masonry has been a universally recognized badge of honor, of uprightness and decency. The planks in its platform—love of God, loyalty to Country, a high standard of personal morality, and a belief in the universal brotherhood of man—are ones that all good men can accept and seek to further.

We of our generations have a rich heritage in Freemasonry. It is ours to profit by during our lifetimes and then to pass on to future generations. Let us cherish and preserve its rich idealism that its appeal to men will continue strong and compelling. As we reflect on this precious inheritance we would do well to heed the advice of a devoted Mason, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe:

"That which has been bequeathed to us must be earned anew if we would possess it."
The scenic view overlooking the Wisconsin River Valley was captured by Mendez Hanson of Madison, Wisconsin. The photo was taken at Gibraltar Rock, a county park near Okeef, Wisconsin, about 20 miles from Madison.
Six Survived

By GERALD D. FOSS, 33°

Six survived! Therein lies a story of great tragedy and heroism. The United States Navy, under command of Commander Winfield S. Schley, performed a daring and successful rescue of seven men in the summer of 1884. These men were near death when found on Cape Sabine June 22, 1884. One died before rescue ships reached Disco, Greenland, on the return trip. The six survivors were aboard the now famous ship, Bear, as it approached Portsmouth Harbor, accompanied by the Thetis and Alert, August 1, 1884.

The six who returned alive were Lt. Adolphus W. Greeley, U.S.A., leader of the Arctic expedition and a member of the Masonic fraternity; Sgt. David L. Brainard, who would become a Mason after his rescue; Sgt. Julius Frederick, Sgt. Francis Long, Pvt. Henry Biederbeck and Pvt. Maurice Connell. The bodies of twelve other men were returned for burial in their native land.

At least one of the crew of the Bear was a Mason, for Joseph B. Fletcher, Chief Carpenter, U.S.N., was on the Bear in 1884 and went ashore to gather the living and dead. He was a life-long member of St. John's Lodge No. 1, Portsmouth, N.H., having been raised February 12, 1869.

Lt. Greeley was appointed to command an all-volunteer expedition of 25 men on an Arctic expedition to study climate and weather in conjunction with similar parties from other nations. They sailed from St. John's, Newfoundland, July 7, 1881. They were prepared to remain in the Arctic for two years. A ship with food tried to reach them in the summer of 1882 but was unable to penetrate the ice field. It deposited some food at Cape Sabine. Another ship, the Proteus, tried to pick them up in 1883 for the return voyage but it was crushed by ice and sank, Its crew reaching Greenland in open boats. At this time all of Greeley's men were alive and healthy, but according to prior arrangement if Greeley and his men were not picked up in 1883, they were instructed to march southward where there were supposed to be food caches. Although they reached the spot, only a little food was found. They spent the long dark winter starving and dying. If Commander Schley and his relief expedition had arrived a few days later, none would have survived.

The crew of the ship Bear, commanded by Lt. William H. Emory, U.S.N., actually effected the rescue while the ship Thetis, commanded by Cmdr. Winfield S. Schley, backed up the Bear. The Alert, commanded by Cmdr. George W. Coffin, U.S.N., brought up the rear in event the Bear or Thetis or both were unsuccessful.

The Bear had an unusually long and successful career while a commissioned ship in the United States Coast Guard and in the United States Navy. It was built in Scotland in 1874, purchased specifically for this expedition by the United States Navy in 1884. After the rescue mission, it was commissioned a Revenue Cutter in 1885 and made many more trips to the Arctic until 1929 when it was sold to the city of Oakland, California, for a museum. Admiral Richard E. Byrd used it as the Bear of Oakland during his Antarctic voyage of 1933-34. Repurchased by the United States Navy, she was commissioned the Bear and made two more voyages to the Antarctic. During World War II, the Bear served with the Northeast Greenland Patrol.

Lt. Greeley, leader of the Arctic expedition, was barely alive when rescuers lifted his emaciated body and carried it to the Bear. Greeley was born in Newburyport, Mass., March 27, 1844. He served in the Civil War and rose from a private to become commissioned a major. He was wounded three times. After the war, he chose to make a career as an army officer. Upon his return from the Arctic, he was commissioned a brigadier-general in 1887 and a major.

ILL.  "GERALD D. FOSS, 33°, is Grand Historian of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, a lawyer-accountant, and a Past Master of St. John's Lodge No. 1, Portsmouth, N.H. He has written numerous Masonic articles, is an active member of numerous historical societies and research lodges, and has received both the Sullivan and Cross medals from the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire.
general in 1906. He saw service in Cuba, China, the Philippines, and Alaska. He was placed in charge of relief operations in San Francisco after the terrible earthquake which nearly destroyed that city in 1906.

Greeley was the author of several books, among which was *Three Years of Arctic Service*.

Greeley was a member of St. Mark's Lodge, A.F. & A.M., Newburyport, Mass., prior to 1867, for he was knighted in Newburyport Commandery, K.T., June 17, 1867. He attended the dedication of the Masonic Temple in Boston, June 24, 1867.

After Greeley returned from the Arctic expedition, he was made an honorary member of Kane Lodge, No. 454 (the explorer's lodge), New York City. This lodge held a reception in his honor April 28, 1885.

While in the Arctic 1882-1884, Greeley made a Masonic flag which was carried by Lt. Lockwood and Sgt. Brainard to the northwest shores of Greenland. The flag was brought back and presented to Kane Lodge, New York City.

Major-General Greeley died in Washington, D.C., in 1935.

Sgt. Brainard was on his second expedition to the Arctic in 1881 having been there in 1880. With Greeley's expedition, he went farther north than anyone had been at this time, having reached the north latitude of 83° 20' 30". He became a member of Marathon Lodge No. 438, Marathon, N.Y., in 1885. He was author of a book, *Six Came Back*, based on a diary he maintained while on this Arctic expedition. Brainard, too, chose a career with the United States Army. He was commissioned a second lieutenant of cavalry in 1886 "as a recognition of the gallant and meritorious services rendered by him in the Arctic." He served in the Spanish-American War, the Philippine, Cuba, and World War I, retiring with the rank of brigadier-general in 1918. He died in 1946.

Friday, August 1, 1884, was a beautiful summer's day in Portsmouth, N.H., when the relief ships arrived about noon. Thousands lined the shores of the Piscataqua River waving flags and banners and shouting, "Welcome Home!" Many other naval ships were in the harbor, for the North Atlantic Squadron was on summer maneuvers.

Members of the families were allowed brief visits with their kin on Friday afternoon. Saturday was a day of rest for the men on the Navy Yard. Sunday, the churches of Portsmouth conducted thanksgiving services for the survivors.

The City of Portsmouth arranged a reception and parade on Monday, August 4, 1884. The procession of 2000 men began a three-mile march about noon accompanied by seven bands of music among which was one from the USS Tennessee. The DeWitt Clinton Commandery, K.T., with Andrew P. Preston as Commander, and Newburyport Commandery, K.T., with J. C. Kimball acting as Commander, were in the third division to honor Sir Knight Adolphus W. Greeley. The survivors and many government officials were on a reviewing stand in Market Square. Among the officials were William E. Chandler, Secretary of the Navy, a New Hampshire man and one who is credited with persuading Congress to organize a relief expedition when others had given up hope that the men would be found alive; Governor Samuel W. Hale of New Hampshire, and Mayor John S. Treat of Portsmouth. Hale was a member of Social Friends Lodge No. 42, Keene, N.H., while Treat was a member of St. John’s Lodge No. 1, Portsmouth.

In the evening, exercises were held at Music Hall, Portsmouth. The principal speaker was Rev. Henry E. Hovey, Rector of St. John’s Church, Portsmouth, an active member of St. John’s Lodge No. 1, and a 32° Scottish Rite Mason.

Commander Schley also addressed the crowded theater. Born October 9, 1839, in Maryland, he graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1860. During the Civil War he served on several ships of the Navy among which two were well known as the USS Monongahela and USS Richmond, both being in Farragut’s West Gulf Blockading Squadron of Mobile. In the Spanish-American War he played a prominent role in the destruction of the Spanish fleet in Santiago, Cuba, in 1898. He was promoted to Rear Admiral in 1899.

Masonically, he was one of few men who have been made Masons at sight but the record shows that he was made by the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia on October 21, 1899; received the 32° in the Southern Jurisdiction on February 10, 1903; invested KCCH on October 19, 1905, and coronated 33° on October 10, 1907. He died in New York in 1911.

Modern inventions spare explorers from much of the hardship borne by those men of Greeley’s expedition. Let anyone believe the rescue was not without hardship, it should be mentioned that no ship had ever penetrated as far north as early as June. The last few days of the journey, the crews faced severe storms, wind, snow, ice, and freezing rain.

Members of the rescue party were volunteers from the enlisted men and commissioned officers of the United States Navy. They were selected for some knowledge of the Arctic and for their strong constitutions. They performed their mission with great credit and honor to the United States Navy.
HIGHLIGHTS OF 1974 ANNUAL MEETING

The 162nd annual session of the Supreme Council for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, Sept. 19-26, in Atlantic City, N.J., brought several changes in the official tableau. Changes included the election of two Emeriti Members, two new Deputies, and three new Active Members of the Supreme Council.

* * *

III., John H. Van Gorden, 33rd, of New York and III., Byard H. Smith, 33rd, of Indiana were granted status as Emeriti Members of the Supreme Council.

III., Brother Van Gorden, an Active Member since 1960, was a member of the Special Committee on History and had been chairman of the Museum and Library Committee which was responsible, to a great degree, in getting the magnificent Scottish Rite Masonic Museum of Our National Heritage under construction. He also served on the Committee of Investment and Finance for the Museum and Library and on the Committee for the Development and Operation of the Museum and Library. A Mason for 51 years, he has been active in many branches of the Craft and is widely recognized as an author and speaker.

A graduate of Bliss Electrical School, he took advanced studies at the University of Maryland and spent his entire working life with International Business Machines Corp., primarily as a field engineer and national service manager. He retired in 1959 after 42 years in executive posts with IBM. He also served as chairman of the board for Mutual Designers of Owego, N.Y., and Mutual Electronics of Johnson City, N.Y. He was a trustee for the Wyoming Conference Methodist Home for the Aged and was building chairman for a $400,000 addition.

II., Brother Van Gorden was made a Master Mason in Binghamton Lodge No. 177 in 1923; is a member of the York Rite, the Royal Order of Scotland, and Kalurah Shrine Temple. He entered Scottish Rite in 1950 at Binghamton, served as Thrice Potent Master in 1956-57, received the 33rd in 1957, and was a corporal in the Infantry in WW I. He received the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from Keuka College in 1966 and is a former trustee of Alfred University. He and his wife, Emma, are now residing in Florida.

III., Brother Smith, also an Active Member since 1960, was a member of the Committee on Unfinished Business and also had served on the Special Committee on Taxation. He has had a distinguished career in both education and law and, before his retirement a few years ago, served as a security broker and business adviser.

He attended Earlham College at Richmond, Ind., received the A.B. degree from Indiana University in 1919 and the LL.B. degree from Yale University in 1923. He served as principal of High Schools at Monroe and Decatur, Indiana, before entering the practice of law. He was vice president of the Medical Protective Company of Ft. Wayne for many years and served as its president, 1952-56. He was a sergeant in the Student Army Training Corps at Indiana University in 1918.

III., Brother Smith has been an active Mason since being raised in Deacon Lodge No. 571 in 1919. He served as Master of Maumee Lodge at Ft. Wayne in 1945, High Priest of Ft. Wayne Royal Arch Chapter in 1948, Thrice Illustrious Master of Ft. Wayne Council, 1949-50, Eminent Commander of Ft. Wayne Commandery in 1948, Thrice Potent Master of Ft. Wayne Lodge of Perfection, 1952-54; received the 33rd in 1950 and the K.Y.C.H. in 1951. He also is a member of the Northern Light/November 1974

Committee Cites Need to Support Blue Lodge

The Special Committee to Encourage Support of Symbolic Freemasonry is developing a concerted program of activities for the coming years and made its first report at Atlantic City.

The Supreme Council is conscious of the responsibility of its members to their symbolic lodges and concerned lest many are becoming neglectful of their duty to the Lodges where first they saw light in Masonry. Cognizant of the fact that it is the Blue Lodge which is the foundation of our Craft, the repository of the philosophy of Masonry, the guardian of its basic teachings, and the primary force of its service to our Brethren and to mankind, we believe it to be the duty of every Mason, and especially of every member of our Rite, to be faithful in attendance and in service to his own lodge.

The sole purpose and entire effort of this program is to secure greatly increased support by Scottish Rite Masons in Blue Lodge Masonry. In every instance our members must seek to help, not to supercede.

It is our hope that thousands of Scottish Rite Masons will support their own lodges by reasonably regular attendance, will bring to the lodges the inspiration of their presence and their willingness to help, and will, in turn, strengthen the foundation of the Craft.
of the Mizpah Shrine and its Royal Order of Jesters Court No. 27. He served as chairman of the Industrial Rationing Appeal Board for Allen County in WWII and resides in Ft. Wayne.

... Charles E. Daniels, 33°, was elected Deputy for Delaware and III. George E. Burow, 33°, was elected Deputy for Illinois.

III'. Brother Daniels succeeds III William H. Cantwell, 33°, who resigned as Deputy but continues as an Active Member and Grand Treasurer General. An Active Member since 1968, III Brother Daniels received the 33° in 1960. He has been active in many branches of Masonry since 1928 and served as Worshipful Master of Temple Lodge No. 11 at Wilmington, 1940-41. He long has been active in the Grand Lodge of Delaware and served as Grand Master, 1960-61. He also is a member of all York Rite Bodies.

He became a member of the Scottish Rite in 1929, has served as Most Wise Master of Rose Croix, and was a trustee and First Lieutenant Commander of Consistory when he became an Active Member. III'. Brother Daniels is the recipient of the Christopher Champlin Medal from the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island and the Henry Price Medal from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, is a charter member of Nur Temple of the Shrine and Wilmington Court of Royal Order of Jesters. He is a retired assistant chief engineer of the DuPont Company with 40 years service. He is a valuable member of the building committee for the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library and of the Committee for Buildings and Properties.

III'. Brother Burow succeeds III'. Myron K. Lingle, 33°, who resigned as Deputy but continues as an Active Member for Illinois. III'. Brother Burow, an Active Member since 1966 and editor of The Northern Light since 1970, received the 33° in 1956. He has been active in Masonry since 1939 and served as Worshipful Master of Olive Branch Lodge No. 38, Danville, 1944-

45. As a past presiding officer of all York Rite Bodies, he is a Knight of York Cross of Honour, a Past Sovereign of Red Cross of Constantine, and Preceptor of Holy Royal Arch Knights Templar Priests. He also is a member of Ansar Shrine Temple, Springfield, Ill.

He became a member of the Scottish Rite in 1940 and has served as Sovereign Prince, Most Wise Master, and Secretary. III'. Brother Burow is a retired educator and newspaper editor, is a member of the Fraternal Relations and Benevolences Committees as well as chairman of the Editorial Board, and is active in promoting the drive for funds for the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library.

... New Active Members are III'. Robert T. Jones, 33°, of Pennsylvania, III. George E. Gullen, Jr., 33°, and III. Wilfred E. Adams, 33°, both of Michigan.

III'. Brother Jones is co-owner of the Ellwood Stone Co. and the Stonecrest Golf Course at Ellwood City, Pa. He has been active in Masonry since 1939 and served as Worshipful Master of Ellwood Lodge No. 599 in 1948. He also has been a Representative to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

III'. Brother Jones joined the Scottish Rite in 1939, served as Most Wise Master of the Valley of Newcastle, 1952-53, and received the 33° in 1969. He is a member of Syria Shrine Temple in Pittsburgh. In civic life he was a member of the board of education for 11 years, of the Lawrence County school board two years, is a founder and past president of his local chapter of American Field Service which hosts foreign students in American high schools, and a past president of Rotary Club. He served as Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy in WWII and is a graduate of Bucknell University.

III'. Brother Gullen is President of Wayne State University at Detroit and a Past President of the National Board of YMCA's. He has been active in Masonry in Detroit for many years as a member of Northwestern Lodge No. 529, the Detroit York Rite Bodies, and Scottish Rite Bodies. He received the 33° in 1965.

(Continued on page 9)
MEETIN' NIGHT

The following is an excerpt from the Allocution of the Sovereign Grand Commander delivered at the Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council, 33°, at Atlantic City, N.J., on Sept 24, 1974

By GEORGE A. NEWBURY, 33°

Picture a country Lodge of a century ago—shortly after the Civil War. We start with a dialogue such as might have occurred in many country Lodges of that period.

"Hi, there, Clarence! Come on in and get warm. The boys were wondering if you would make it tonight. It must have been a cold ride down from the farm."

"It wasn't bad, Jim. Old Prince trotted right along. He won't feel as frisky on the way home—uphill most of the way. Say, we've got a good crowd at lodge tonight. There are Bert and Jerry. They came a good mile farther than I did. Hi, boys! And there's old Andy, and Ralph, and Maurice, and Fred. With this cold snap and the snow I thought we might be a bit thin on the sidelines tonight. Guess the boys wanted to be here when Jimmy Frazier's boy, Ned, gets his first degree. There's a mighty fine lad. His father will be proud to have him in the lodge."

It was "meetin' night" in Hiram Lodge. Despite a heavy snow and near zero weather, the members were flocking in. Some had driven a good five miles with their horses and cutters over roads that were beginning to drift with falling snow. Young Ned Frazier had just passed his 21st birthday and petitioned the lodge, and old Jim's friends were going to be there to help welcome him into his dad's lodge. A little thing like a mildwinter snow storm and bone-chilling weather wasn't going to stop them.

Scenes such as this were commonplace in our great-grandfathers' and great-grandfathers' time out in the farm country where many of us were privileged to grow up. I daresay that some of you recall seeing your fathers and grandfathers leave for lodge on "meetin' night" under just such circumstances as we have described. No one thought of it as a burden. The lodge was held high in their esteem. Membership in it was a privilege. Few pleasures could equal that of seeing their sons and their friends' and neighbors' sons enter the fold of lodge membership.

Today some men get that kind of a thrill when their sons become junior members in their exclusive City Club or Country Club, or join their old college fraternity. Regrettably this remains true in all too few Masonic lodges today. True, we are proud of our Masonic membership. We like to see our sons and our friends' sons join. But the vibrant exhilaration experienced by our forebears on these occasions is woefully lacking, except in a few rare instances.

There are a myriad of reasons to explain why this has happened. We have no intention of discussing them. As we have said before, it would only be an exercise in futility. What we would urge, however, is that each of us as leaders in the Craft give serious thought to how we can regenerate that kind of enthusiasm.

One obvious answer is for each of us to start setting an example, take an active interest in our lodge, attend its meetings with reasonable regularity, help to develop an interesting and constructive lodge program, and lend enthusiastic encouragement to our lodge leadership. It wouldn't take many such examples by those of us who have received the highest honors of our Masonic fraternity to bring any lodge alive—to arouse enthusiasm and interest in its work—and make attendance at meetings a keenly anticipated pleasure and a rewarding experience. Numbers generate interest and enthusiasm just as surely as the waters of many streams combine to make a mighty river.

The real secret of the old lodge of our fathers' and grandfathers' time lay in its members taking a healthy interest in each other. There was a sense of community and a realization, though subconscious, that the well-being of each was bound up in the welfare of all.

One of the great weaknesses of today's society is that such a high percentage of its members are so completely self-centered—each concentrating on his or her own interests and desires with almost total indifference to the welfare of the group whether that group be his family, a social or fraternal organization, the community, the state, or the nation. In fact, this is especially and tragically true of so many modern families, whose members go their several ways with little show of interest in each other's activities. What a striking contrast this is to the situation so dramatically pictured by Macaulay as he related how Horatius held the bridge in the days of Rome's ascendency.

"Then none was for a party; Then all were for the state; Then the great man helped the poor; And the poor man loved the great; Then lands were fairly portioned, Then spoils were fairly sold; The Romans were like brothers, In the brave days of old."

The surest indication of a fine character is to see one taking a healthy interest in those about him, living up to our Masonic concept of a universal brotherhood of man under the fatherhood of God. One of the most loved Americans of our time was Will Rogers. The secret of his success and of the love all Americans had for him can be found in his favorite expression "I never met a man I didn't like."

He is reputed to have once said "When I die the writing on my gravestone is going to say, 'I never met a man I didn't like.' I am so proud of that I can't hardly wait to die so it can be carved." We can be proud of the fact that he was a Mason.

The future of the United States as a great nation well may depend on our ability to create a national character among our citizens approaching that of Will Rogers where all Americans will take a healthy interest in all of our fellow Americans—where there will be mutual respect of all for all and mutual concern of all for all—where there will
be a universal pride in our nation, in its history, in its people, all its people—and a sincere love of our country, its flag and its people, all its people.

It will be only through the development of that kind of a citizenry that we can hope to suppress crime, to make our streets and the countryside safe for our children and ourselves, and to uphold and to perpetuate the noble principles on which our nation was founded two hundred years ago. It is to that end that we are sponsoring the Museum and Library at Lexington, Massachusetts, and it is to that end that it will be dedicated.

The Masonic lodge played that kind of a role in our fathers', our grandfathers', and our great grandfathers' time. It provided the setting and the philosophy for men to take a healthy interest in each other leading to a healthy family life, to healthy communities, and a healthy, a proud, and an inspiring nation. The role of the Masonic lodge in early America, as suggested by the homily with which we opened these reflections, is one we well might strive to emulate.

The Masonic lodge cannot reform the world. But it can do much to help if we will it. Putting some of the enthusiasm and hearty good fellowship of our fathers' and grandfathers' times back into “meetin’ night” at our Masonic lodge would be a commendable start. Let us say with Longfellow in his “Psalm of Life”:

"Let us then be up and doing
With a heart for every fate
Still achieving, still pursuing
Learn to labor and wait."

HIGHLIGHTS OF 1974 ANNUAL MEETING

He has served as Thrice Potent Master and Commander-in-Chief in the Valley of Detroit. A graduate of Wayne State in 1936, Ill., Brother Gullen received his Distinguished Alumni Award in 1963. As an attorney and outstanding worker in industrial relations he is a former vice president of American Motors Corp., a past president of Detroit Employment Managers Club, a past chairman of the executive board of the Michigan Society for Mental Health, and a director and past president of the YMCA for Metropolitan Detroit. He has also been active as moderator for the board of trustees for the First Congregational Church of Detroit.

Red Cross of Constantine, and Elf Khurafeh Shrine Temple at Saginaw. He has served as secretary and chairman of the board of trustees, chairman of the building committee, and moderator of the Michigan Avenue Baptist Church and is active in civic groups in Saginaw.

* * *

Two outstanding Masons were elected Emeritus Members of Honor of this Supreme Council. They are Ill., R. Lee Lockwood, 33°, Past Grand Master of the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay, and Past Deputy Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, Southern Jurisdiction, and Ill., Heinz Lott, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council for Germany. Ill., Brother Lockwood was presented his medal at Atlantic City and Ill., Brother Lott will receive his at an appropriate time.

M., W., Malcolm B. Wernik, 32°, Grand Master of Masons in New Jersey, delivered the address of welcome at the opening session and was seated at the right hand of Grand Commander Newbury. The Presiding Grand Masters of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana were received in the official retalia of their office and accorded places of honor during the sessions.

Our Supreme Council was honored by the presence of four Sovereign Grand Commanders of other Supreme Councils: Harvey R. Doane, 33°, Canada; Carlos Rodriguez-Jimenez, 33°, Venezuela; Antonio Guerrero Peytono, 33°, Dominican Republic, and Rodolfo Glaser, 33°, El Salvador. Present representing their Sovereign Grand Commanders were Gen. Julio U. Gutierrez R., 33°, Active Member of Nicaragua, and Felix A. Lenhart, 33°, Active Member of France. Also welcomed were Past Grand Commander Donald L. Witter, 33°, Lieutenan Grand Commander Walter C. McDonald, 33°, and Grand Secretary General Wilbert G. Bebby, 33°, of Canada, and Past Grand Commander Waldemar Haiti, 33°, of Venezuela.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Museum Prepares for 1975 Opening

By CLEMENT M. SILVESTRO

Neither photographs nor artist drawings do justice to the recently completed museum and library in Lexington. It is a magnificent building, one certain to be recognized as a significant architectural landmark. In time, it is also destined to become one of the important museums and libraries in the United States.

With the bricks and mortar in place we are working rapidly to schedule exhibits, build collections, order equipment, hire a professional staff, and to make plans for the dedication and opening. It will require tremendous thrust to put the operation in orbit by April 20, 1975. The mere opening of our doors will be just the beginning. Developing quality programs and discriminating collections will require time, patience and adequate financial resources. But we are starting out fresh without self-defeating legacies. Every opportunity exists to make our museum a "Tiffany" of American history museums in this nation.

Several exhibits have been planned for the April opening. In the main hall will be a lively and attractive orientation exhibit that will tell visitors what are the purposes of the museum and library, why the Masonic Fraternity launched the project, what kinds of exhibits visitors can expect to see in the future, and a preview of our long-range educational program. Visitors will find that our museum policy is to have constantly changing exhibits and that though we will not neglect the colonial period of American history, we plan to emphasize the historical events of the 19th and 20th centuries—the period of spectacular growth and achievement.

A second exhibit, a cooperative project with the Lexington Bicentennial Committee, is entitled: "The Hand and the Eye: Historical Survey of American Quilts and Coverlets, 1700-1900." These colorful decorative objects will be displayed with the implements that produced them (a loom, quilting frame, spinning wheel) and with period furniture. Residents from the Lexington area and the Merrimack Valley Textile Museum are making loans.

Another exhibit entitled "Civil War Drawings" is from a recently acquired collection owned by American Heritage Publishing Company. Some 100 of these exceptionally fine drawings, originally commissioned in the 1880's by Century Magazine, have been selected for a special show that will tour museums and historical societies. Important artists represented include Edwin Forbes, Alfred R. Waud, and Theodore R. Davis. For this exhibit we are borrowing some unique Civil War presentation caribes from a private collector and Union and Confederate flags and Civil War uniforms from the Chicago Historical Society. If it can be arranged we will also have a special slide show of contemporary views and photographs.

These three shows are well along; others are in the planning stage. We thought it appropriate for the bicenten-
nial to have a small exhibit on "The Loyalists of the American Revolution" to recognize the difficult decision a number of American colonists had to make at the outbreak of hostilities. Those who remained loyal to the Crown were often imprisoned and dispossessed of their property; many were exiled. Many American loyalists settled in St. John, N.B.; the New Brunswick Museum and the Provincial Archives have agreed to loan documents and objects of these displaced colonists. Other materials will come from historical societies in this country.

We have taken the initial step to build a collection of American historical prints by purchasing a fine selection of them in New York in August. Prints are ideal exhibition pieces. Before the widespread use of the camera we relied upon them for our visual representations of important historical events, likenesses of our heroes and leaders, views of our towns, cities, and villages. These views are becoming increasingly more difficult to acquire. A few are illustrated in this article.

Let us turn briefly to some long-range plans. First, about the quality of exhibits we plan to develop. It is our fervent hope that we utilize the most up-to-date exhibit techniques. Science and industry museums and many natural history museums have been far more innovative than most history museums to incorporate automation, sound, visual aids, and other eye-catching devices in their exhibits. In this television-electronic age it is essential that we too adopt these devices. It is what will attract the visitor; it is what will make an impact and get across the educational message: it is what will bring visitors back to the museum.

Also, we wish to develop an important exhibit on the history of Freemasonry in the United States, and in this presentation, tell the international story as well. The average American would be amazed to learn the number of world leaders who have been associated with the Fraternity. The Masonic symbol has been used extensively by a variety of American craftsmen. It would be appropriate for our museum to collect objects incorporating such designs, and eventually plan an exhibit: "Use of the Masonic Symbol in the American Decorative Arts."

We plan to give special attention to educational programs for young people, relying initially on the traditional type programs for school visitors (guided tours and slide lectures) and later, publishing projects.

On our beautifully landscaped grounds is a natural amphitheater where we hope we can stage special patriotic programs such as Fourth of July celebrations where people can gather on the nation's birthday to hear a good band play rousing patriotic music, listen to the reading of the Declaration of Independence, and hear a patriotic oration delivered by a prominent citizen of the community. We would like to see the museum offer to members of the fraternity and their families opportunities to take guided tours to the major historic sites in the United States. According to one nationally renowned historian, these historic shrines "constitute a vast textbook across the land, wherein millions of people may deepen their experience and renew their acquaintance with the roots of their institutions and occasionally encounter those rare moments of understanding and insights that regenerate our strength."

The concept of a new museum and library of American history in Lexington, Mass., as a gift to the American people is imaginative, noble, and unselfish. In the next two years, millions of dollars will be spent to commemorate our national heritage, but unfortunately, much will go toward ephemeral projects that will be all too soon forgotten. We are convinced that of the few enduring projects, the new Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library will be one of the most spectacular and visionary, and, at a future date, be counted among the most worthwhile of the entire bicentennial celebration.
Today's Master Mason is the heir
to the timeless geometrical attainment
of all mankind.

Geometry and Architecture in Freemasonry

by MERVIN B. HOGAN, 33°

Architecture and the tools of the builder's craft are utilized by speculative Freemasonry as its ultimately basic symbols. The implications related thereto underlie its entire philosophy and its unique practice of instruction. In addition, the Fraternity employs the science of geometry symbolically as the comprehensive, figurative representation of Man's knowledge.

Since geometry is the foundation of the builder's art and skill, this choice follows naturally. The horizontals, perpendiculars, and right angles of geometry are the obvious requisites of every designed structure. The selection is also made because of the well-established and long-recognized, traditional rationale underlying the universal, formal, educational curricula of the human race.

The intangible rewards inherent to the pursuit of learning are stressed by the motto of the Pythagorean Brotherhood: "A figure and a step onward; not a figure and a florin." The school of Pythagoras attracted large numbers of students. Some of these attended as auditors, while the more qualified were eligible to be initiated into an inner circle of advanced and mystical learning. The school continued actively for at least a century after the death of Pythagoras, and it preserved its esoteric character as a society of fellows searching for the divine laws of knowledge.

The rigorous of learning are recognized in several anecdotes which history has recorded. Tradition informs us that Euclid once stated to his king Ptolemy, who found the demanding study of the Elements to be irksome, "There is no royal road to geometry." History also tells us that Alexander the Great requested Menaeachmus to teach him geometry concisely, but got for his answer: "O king, through the country there are royal roads and roads for common citizens, but in geometry there is but one road for all."

Euclid's geometry grew out of the methods utilized for building, surveying, and other applied work in ancient Egypt. The roots of mathematics lie in the common experiences of daily life, and the first mathematicians were practical men—carpenters, masons, bricklayers, and surveyors. Mathematics is similar to a cabinet of tools; before trying to master each tool thoroughly, a skilled craftsman should know the purpose of each, when to use it, how to use it, and what to use it for.

The Great Pyramid was built in 3900 B.C. presumably using rules of thumb based on practical experience. Euclid wrote his classical text on geometry in 300 B.C., or 3600 years later. Consequently, it is not really surprising that many students find it rather difficult to suddenly bridge such a span of years and start studying geometry in the logical, concise form Euclid presented it.

If one has a problem which challenges or puzzles him, the first thing to do is to try a few experiments. By analyzing the determined results, it is hoped that an interpretation of the studies will indicate some features which lend insight into the problem. The desired goal is clearly a comprehensive grasp of the problem. Finally, on the basis of these successively related efforts, one may justifiably start to reason about the various data encountered.

When one has established a method that appears to work, he may proceed to the possible discovery of a logical, exact, or rational demonstration (or proof) of the method. This perfecting of the study or analysis of the problem follows; however, at the end of the chain of events; experiment and observation are at the beginning. It is important to understand that mathematics is truly an experimental science.

Many authorities consider Sir Isaac Newton to have been the most profound intellect yet produced by the human race. His monumental and highly erudite volume, the Philosophiae Naturalis
Principia Mathematica, which is ordinarily identified simply as the Principia, was published in 1686, when he was 44 years old. On May 8 of that year, at Trinity College, Cambridge, he wrote his “Preface” to this complex yet brilliant work.

When the Grand Lodge of England was founded in 1717, Newton was president of the Royal Society of London and was at the height of his fame. Freemasonry’s distinguished third Grand Master, Dr. John Theophilus Desaguliers, was a younger colleague of Newton’s as a Fellow of the Royal Society. Newton’s “Preface” is of special interest to Freemasons as it clearly presents the significance of geometry in the early period of the Age of Reason and the indispensable value placed on it by the superior intelligence of Newton:

“I have in this treatise cultivated mathematics so far as it regards philosophy, . . . But as artificers do not work with perfect accuracy, it comes to pass that mechanics is so distinguished from geometry, that what is perfectly accurate is called geometrical; what is less so is called mechanical . . . for the description of right lines and circles, upon which geometry is founded, belongs to mechanics. Geometry does not teach us to draw these lines, but requires them to be drawn; for it requires that the learner should first be taught to describe these accurately, before he enters upon geometry; then it shows how by these operations problems may be solved. To describe right lines and circles are problems, but not geometrical problems. The solution of these problems is required from mechanics; and by geometry the use of them, when so solved, is shown; and it is the glory of geometry that from these few principles, fetched from without, it is able to produce so many things. Therefore, geometry is founded in mechanical practice, and is nothing but that part of universal mechanics which accurately proposes and demonstrates the art of measuring.”

The noted French mathematician Lagrange clearly pointed out the inter-relationship of geometry and numbers, or arithmetic:

“An ancient writer said that arithmetic and geometry are the wings of mathematics; I believe one can say without speaking metaphorically that these two sciences are the foundation and essence of all the sciences which deal with quantity. Not only are they the foundation, they are also, as it were, the capstones: for, whenever a result has been arrived at, in order to use that result, it is necessary to translate it into numbers or into lines; to translate it into numbers requires the aid of arithmetic, to translate it into lines necessitates the use of geometry.”

One of the world’s greatest mathematicians, Gauss, expressed the opinion:

“Mathematics is the queen of the sciences and arithmetic the queen of mathematics. She often condescends to render service to astronomy and other natural sciences, but in all relations she is entitled to the first rank.”

From the extensive field of geometry itself, Freemasonry further selects one specific theorem or proposition to be employed as one of the esoteric symbols of the sublime degree. This is the renowned Pythagorean Theorem or 47th Proposition of Euclid. The very aim of the third degree pointedly emphasizes that the Master Mason should anticipate a lesson or communication of profound significance to be concealed within the emblem.

Following his raising, today’s Master Mason generally indicates little or no personal concern over the 47th Proposition. Such common indifference to this significant symbol is likely the consequence of nothing more obscure than the fact that almost all Freemasonry’s contemporary candidates have had very little or no mathematical education and most likely have no formal knowledge of geometry at all. Without question, this beautiful and intricate symbol, as presented by Euclid, reminded our ancient Brethren of many fundamental truths of life.

The renowned mathematical physicist, Lord Kelvin, concisely relates arithmetic to the goals of modern science:

“I often say that when you can measure what you are speaking about, and express it in numbers, you know something about it; but when you cannot measure it, when you cannot express it in numbers, your knowledge is of a meagre and unsatisfactory kind; it may be the beginning of knowledge, but you have scarcely, in your thoughts, advanced to the stage of science, whatever the matter may be.”

Lord Kelvin’s obvious concern is to establish techniques for the quantitative measurement or determination of values or parameters in a completely objective and reproducible manner. However, in spite of our frequent inability to adequately measure a given value or quantity and to express it numerically, concepts are very real things, and decisions based on an intuitive evaluation of worth have always been utilized and are continually being made. We must use whatever knowledge we can secure in the most intelligent manner possible. In his search for the Lost Word, Man’s evolutionary experience has not enabled him to successfully anchor his efforts on a precise scientific foundation.

The invention of the arch is one of the magnificent geometrical achievements of Man. It stands with the invention of the wheel as the two most vital and far reaching technical discoveries of the human race. The arch offered the same vast realms of possibility to the architect that the wheel provided the mechanical engineer. The arch presents the designer of edifices the opportunity to embellish a structure with curves of every imaginable proportion or degree of curvature, including the basic geometrical circle itself. Without the arch, architecture was essentially limited to straight lines—horizontals and perpendiculars—and the intrinsically related right angles.

Without this fundamental concept, the design and implementation of such apertures as doors and windows in all buildings were stringently limited, both artistically and dimensionally. With the arch as an architectural attainment, the size and proportions of doors and windows became much more a matter of the designer’s fancy rather than being solely dependent on the availability of suitable structural materials possessing the requisite physical strength properties.

The arch freed the architect’s creative talents and enabled those talents to unfold according to his genius. In turn, the impressiveness of the edifice is enhanced by the beauty of proportion and disposition of the vital functional elements of every building. In particular, the arch enabled the architect to design his structure so as to utilize the degree of internal daylight deemed compatible with his concept of the building.

The keystone is that masterpiece of functionality which not only surmounts the arch but dominates its design. From this element comes the artistic balance and symmetry so vital to true beauty and the harmony of parts. The arch and the column are the two principal building elements with which the architect fashions the geometry of his edifice as a time resisting structure.

The Master Mason is the heir to the timeless geometrical attainment of all mankind.
And then there was . . .

A New Jersey ‘Tea Party’

By HAROLD V. B. VOORHIS, 33°

A year after the “Boston Tea Party,” a second such “party” was held in Greenwich, New Jersey, a small village on Cohansey Creek, about four miles upstream from Delaware Bay. On this occasion the tea was burned instead of being tossed into the water.

The reason for this tea burning was the same as it was in Boston—taxation. However, some of the circumstances were different, and in this instance a monument to the “Tea Burners” was erected at Greenwich.

The whole matter originated when the residents of Greenwich on December 12-14, 1774, noted the unloading of tea from a British brig named Greyhound, said tea belonging to the East India Tea Company. The cargo was being put in the cellar of the house of Dan Bowen, a Tory.

The circumstance was “heralded” about the countryside and a week later the inhabitants of Cumberland County held a general meeting and appointed a committee of 35 to look into the tea situation and some other matters they thought needed investigation.

They were to meet the day following this meeting (i.e. December 23) at 10 o’clock in the morning. But by that time it had been discovered that the tea had been removed from the cellar and burned in an open lot by “unknown” persons the night before.

From remarks and notes in letters and journals which have survived, the names of 23 “burners” have been ascertained. There must have been many more in the “Party” to be able to remove and burn a whole shipload of tea. We feel sure that several of them must have been Freemasons, too. Just how many has not been discovered but two are definitely identified as members of the Craft. These two were prominent residents at the time of the burning.

One was Richard Howell, who was born October 23, 1754, in Newark, Delaware, and who was a twin of Lewis Howell, also a “burner.” Richard died in Trenton, N.J., April 28, 1802. It was in his father’s house (Ebenecr Howell) near the village of Silloth that the Tea Party was hatched.

Richard Howell had a military career, was Clerk of the Supreme Court of New Jersey, declined the position of Judge Advocate of the Army, and finally became the second Governor of New Jersey, 1792-1801. He was made a Master Mason in Trenton Lodge No. 5 on May 11, 1789, and served as Senior Warden, 1790-93. There are several references in the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey which note his presence.

Another “burner” was Rev. Andrew Hunter, Jr., who was born April 30, 1750, in Virginia and died February 24, 1823, in Washington, D.C. He was made a Master Mason on January 27, 1780, in Lodge No. 19 of Pennsylvania. He became Charter Master of a Military Traveling Lodge in Jersey Huts which was warranted on September 2, 1782. It was numbered 36 to correspond with the 36th New Jersey Line.

He was installed at a meeting of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia on December 11, 1782. The Warrant was surrendered on December 20, 1784. Nothing further is known of him Masonically until January 13, 1802, when, although a visitor at the Grand Lodge of New Jersey meeting, he was appointed Grand Chaplain. He was appointed again on November 9, 1809, but was not listed as being present.

The Greenwich Tea Burners incident was the subject of a Philatelist Cover by the SOJEX 1974 Postage Stamp Exhibit & Bourse in April 1974. The cover features a sketch of the brig Greyhound and an Indian.
IN A NOOK WITH A BOOK

‘Masonic Americana’

Reviewed by ALPHONSE CERZA, 33


For several years each issue of the Knight Templar Magazine has had articles related to the coming bicentennial anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. There have been so many requests for copies of these articles that it was decided to compile them in one volume.

This book contains 55 interesting articles of about two pages each, written by able and distinguished authors. The articles have been logically classified under the following headings: Masonic Presidents; Leaders of Independence; Early Fraternal Leaders; Era of Expansion; Masonic American History; The Flag; Buildings, Monuments, Statues; 20th Century Masons; and Dedication and Inspiration. There are many illustrations in the book including the pictures of the Presidents who have been Masons, some of our early flags, Paul Revere, and others. From a consideration of these descriptive headings one can readily see that there is a variety of material such as biographical sketches, description of events during the War of Independence, events that stir our deep respect for our nation’s history.

The authors of the articles were selected for their special talent as researchers and writers. Here are some examples: One of the articles “More Flag-Waving Needed” was written by our late Brother Everett M. Dirksen of Illinois; “Washington at Valley Forge” was written by our late Brother Wilbur M. Brucker of Michigan; “Landmark of America” an article about the Washington monument, was written by Brother Paul R. Rodenhausen and gives the details of how the monument was built as well as other vital details; “Dr. Joseph Warren” was written by Brother James R. Case of Connecticut; and “Flag Day” was written by Brother Thomas F. Pollock.

This is a fine volume to have handy to read an article or two at a time for information and for sheer enjoyment. The Masonic speaker seeking material will find much of value here.

ILL.”ALPHONSE CERZA, 33”, noted Masonic scholar, researcher, and author, is a member of the Valley of Chicago and a past president of the Philatelists Society. He is an avid reader and translator and has written columns for many Masonic publications.

‘BLUE ENVELOPE’ TO BE USED FOR BOTH VOLUNTARY APPEALS

The 1974-75 voluntary appeal for funds to support Supreme Council activities in the benevolent and patriotic fields will have a two-fold purpose this year.

It will be a joint effort of the Benevolent Foundation and the Museum-Library Fund with the customary “Blue Envelope” as the means of transmittal.

Each Scottish Rite member will be given the opportunity of deciding how his gift is to be used by marking his remittance slip—for the Benevolent Foundation, for the Museum-Library, or to be apportioned between both funds.

As in the past, the appeal is to be made between Thanksgiving and Christmas with all mailing being done from Supreme Council headquarters via data processing facilities and all returns will be handled by the Supreme Council staff. Thus, the individual Valleys will be spared time, effort, and expense.

The budget for fiscal 1974-75, adopted at Atlantic City, calls for the expenditure of $517,500 by the Benevolent Foundation; about 90 percent of this is for research in Schizophrenia. It also set up a budget of $400,000 for the first year of operation of the Museum and Library. It should be remembered that both of these items are outside the regular Supreme Council budget but our Supreme Council is responsible for providing funds for these two projects.

All contributions, bequests, legacies, devises, or transfers to either the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library, Inc., or the Supreme Council Benevolent Foundation are deductible in computing taxable income or the value of an estate in accordance with applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. Your cooperation and support is urgently needed and requested.
SCOTTISH RITE IN BELGIUM

By JEAN FIVE, 33°

On a map of the world, Belgium is a very small country (a little larger than Vermont), with a population of about ten million people. French is the language of about 45% of the population; Dutch is spoken by 55% of the people, and a small minority speaks German. Most Belgians are Catholic; a bare 1% of the population is Protestant, although there is a fairly large number of agnostics, atheists, and men who, while not professing to follow any established religion, have some sort of spiritual philosophy.

The capital of this kingdom—one of the few remaining kingdoms on earth—is Brussels, which is also the capital of the Common Market. Politically, the country follows the regime of a parliamentary democracy. Belgium became an independent state in 1830, following a revolution in which it separated from the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Belgium has a long history of being the site of numerous invasions, “the battlefield of Europe.” As a result, Freemasonry became known there long ago, since there were Masons in the military service of the English and French armies, which confronted each other on Belgian soil during the 18th century. The Lodge known as “The Perfect Union” to the East of Mons (presently under the jurisdiction of the Grand Orient Lodge of Belgium) cites 1721 as the year of its founding.

Masonic degrees higher than that of Master have been known in this country since the mid-1700’s. It is recorded that in 1759, in Tournai, a brother was invested with the title “Knight of the Eagle.” In 1765, a certificate was awarded to a Mason from Verviers which contained the titles: Most Respected, Grand and Excellent Architect, Knight of the Orient, Most Wise and Perfect Knight of the Eagle.

In 1766, other designations were added to the title Knight of the Eagle (one of the titles conferred upon the Marquis de Gages, Grand Master of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Austrian Netherlands), namely “Rose Croix” and “Perfect Mason.”

The Rose Croix orders, which during that period were considered to be at the top of the hierarchy in Belgium, were very few in number. They enjoyed particular privileges in the symbolic lodges. They did not start to spread until 1773, and did not have organized chapters until some ten years later. Even the oldest Rose-Croix chapter in Belgium was not established until 1783.

A Supreme Council of the 33°, under Dutch rule, was formed in Brussels in 1817 by II., General Rouyer, 33°, a French political refugee living in that city. He elevated a number of brethren, most of them French, to the 33°, and he granted them a “license of constitution” on March 12, 1817.

At almost the same time, III., de Grasse-Tilly, in Paris, delivered a license dated April 1, 1817, to a few Belgian brethren, including General de Saxe-Weimar and General Daine, for the purpose of creating a Supreme Council.

This duality might have created problems; fortunately, however, the two groups merged on December 6, 1817, as a result of which the Supreme Council of Belgium has the privilege of having two licenses of constitution.

In that era, the Supreme Council ruled over all 33 Scottish Rite degrees. It was not until 1880 that it gave up the administration of the few symbolic lodges remaining under its jurisdiction; this occurred on the occasion of the signing of a treaty with the Grand Orient Lodge of Belgium which was, at that time, the only symbolic order in the country, and which was recognized by several Grand Lodges in America.

Let us now review the primary events which have marked the history of the Supreme Council of Belgium since its foundation.

In 1829, some initial steps were taken toward creating a special Council of the 32° at La Haye (Netherlands); but the revolution of 1830 caused this project to be abandoned. On April 6 of the same year, the Supreme Council conferred powers upon Brother Montezuma for the purpose of creating a Supreme Council in Brazil. The Belgian people revolted against Dutch rule in 1830 in an uprising which led to their separa-

ILL.: JEAN FIVE, 33°, of Brussels, is Lieutenant Grand Commander for the Supreme Council of Belgium and has held this office since 1965. He is general manager of Maison J. Five, a machine-tools industrial firm and a past vice president of INEMO (Importers and Dealers in Tools and Machine-Tools). He was initiated into Masonry in Antwerp in 1925, received the Scottish Rite in 1937, served as Most Wise Master of Rose Croix in Brussels, 1952-55, received the 33° in 1957, and was Grand Chancellor and Secretary General, 1968-65.
tion from the Netherlands.

In 1833, the Grand Orient Lodge of Belgium was created; it included several Belgian lodges and thus competed with the symbolic lodges of the Supreme Council of Belgium.

The year 1835 brought with it the ratification in Paris of a treaty of union, alliance and confederation between the Supreme Councils of France, Brazil, Belgium, and that of the Eastern Hemisphere of the Count of Saint-Laurent. Although the union was never manifested in a tangible manner, the signing of this treaty had an important consequence for the entire Scottish Rite; namely the production by the Count of Saint-Laurent of an integral, Latin-language version of the Grand Constitutions of 1786 and of the Secret Institutes.

In December of 1837, a pastoral letter from the Belgian Archbishop and Bishops was read throughout the Catholic churches in the country. It contained papal condemnations directed against Freemasonry, forbidding Catholics to attend the Lodges and admonishing priests not to conduct religious funerals for Masons who had not renounced Masonry. The consequences of this ostracism were considerable, and the repercussions have not totally died down even today. In 1854, the intolerance of the Catholic political party and of the clergy led the Grand Orient Lodge of Belgium to suppress an interdiction against lodges that were concerned with political or religious questions. However, certain lodges assumed the appearance of political clubs, while others left the Grand Orient Lodge due to the severe restrictions against conducting regular meetings.

Under these circumstances, the position of the Supreme Council, very concerned with regularity, became almost untenable. In 1862, it enacted a decree specifying that it is forbidden to Masonic bodies to engage in activities dealing with political questions, other than their relationships with philosophy and the social sciences, from the standpoint of human destiny, and never may they participate in the politics of a particular state. It is further prohibited for them to attend to religious questions, except from the general viewpoint of the relationship of men with God, scrupulously avoiding all discussion of the dogmas, the organization and the ceremonies of established cults.

In 1880, the Supreme Council wrote a treaty in which the Grand Orient Lodge would administer the first three degrees and would cease to create higher-order workshops, while the Supreme Council, on its part, would be limited to conferring the 4th through 33rd and would cease to create symbolic lodges, maintaining a purely symbolic link with the three lodges which would combine the Modern Rite and the Scottish Rite.

An unusual international event marked the year 1888 with the meeting in Brussels of a conference of the Rose Croix Knights, dedicated exclusively to the study of Masonic problems. Organized by two Brussels Chapters, it was patronized by the Supreme Council of Belgium and encouraged by Grand Commander Pike.

At that time, many Scottish Rite Masons were expressing a desire to return to the principles of the Order and to react against the tendencies of certain lodges to act as political clubs. During the same period, along with Grand Commander DeMot, elected in 1891, Ill. Eugè Goblet d'Alviella became prominent as Lieutenant Grand Commander; he was an eminent, well-educated Mason who participated actively in the works of the Conference of 1888. He later became Grand Commander, and over the course of 25 years, from 1900 to 1925, he presided over the destiny of the Supreme Council, enduring it with seven revised rituals which were subsequently adopted by several foreign Supreme Councils.

Another accomplishment of Grand Commander Goblet d'Alviella, thanks to his tenacity, his relationships and his diplomacy, was the meeting in Brussels in 1907 of the highly successful International Conference of Supreme Councils. It was marked by several recommendations, notably that of holding such meetings every five years. The delegates unanimously affirmed that the Grand Constitutions of 1786 were the basis of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite. Ever since that meeting, the Supreme Council of Belgium has participated regularly in International Conferences.

Finally, in 1913, Grand Commander Goblet d'Alviella enjoyed the honor of installing and consecrating the Supreme Council of the Netherlands.

The activity of the Scottish Rite in Belgium was interrupted during the German occupation from 1914 to 1918.

In 1940, when Belgium was again invaded, the Nazis tried to destroy Masonry; they occupied and devastated the Temples, pillaged the Masonic libraries and museums, and Masons became the butt of attack by both German and Belgian Nazis. Many were those who fell because of their Masonic affiliation; among these martyrs were Grand Commander George Petre and Lieutenant Grand Commander Lartigue.

Of the Grand Commanders who have presided since WW II, we would like to cite two who played significant roles. First, Grand Commander Fernand Clément (1948-1950), a worthy historian whose writings have preserved for us many of the important events of the Order. This article is based on one of his works, dedicated to the history of the Scottish Rite in Belgium.

His successor was Grand Commander Paul Erculisse. A former professor at the University of Brussels, a man of science and philosophical spirit, highly cultured and known for his tact, he was entrusted with the direction of the Supreme Council during an unsettled period in history. Fortunately his Masonic experience was extensive and, through his participation in the International Conference in Havana in 1956, as well as in Conferences of the European Grand Commanders, he reinforced the fraternal relations of the Supreme Council of Belgium with the directors of other Supreme Councils, contacts which proved to be extremely useful during the events that occurred in Belgium at the end of 1959. Indeed, it was December 4, 1959, when five Lodges seapared from the Grand Orient Lodge of Belgium to found a regular Grand Lodge, under the name Grand Lodge of Belgium. The Supreme Council denounced the treaty drawn in 1880 with the Grand Orient Lodge, but it found itself divided between partisans of the new Grand Lodge and partisans of the Grand Orient Lodge. Grand Commander Erculisse, who had previously been a Grand Master of the Grand Orient Lodge, was very conscious of Masonic regularity. He knew that it would be possible to save the Scottish Rite, which eventually lost 50% of its following. He resigned his functions in 1965 for reasons of health.

The Supreme Council of Belgium has now entered an era of consolidation. It is improving its organization (in 1969, it completely rewrote its General Statutes), and it is reinforcing its fraternal relationships through its participation in International Conferences and through its personal contacts with the directors of many Supreme Councils.
A Salute from The Northern Light
To the President of the United States

ILL. GERALD R. FORD, 33°
14th Masonic President

The facts of his professional and public life are well known. He has performed with distinction to himself and to the great good of those he has served both professionally and as a statesman. Readers of this publication will be interested in his Masonic career:

1. Initiated in Malta Lodge No. 405, Grand Rapids, Michigan, Sept. 30, 1949.

2. Fellowcraft and Master Mason degrees conferred by Columbia Lodge No. 3, Washington, D.C., as a courtesy to Malta Lodge.

3. Received the Scottish Rite degrees in the Valley of Grand Rapids, October 1957.


6. Member of Court No. 11, Royal Order of Jesters.

7. Honorary Member, DeMolay Legion of Honor.
We tip our hat to the Grand Lodge of New York and its Committee on Library and Museum for sponsoring reading courses for the enlightenment of Masons. Nine courses have been arranged, free of charge, to members in good standing in a lodge under the Grand Lodge of New York. A Mason's obligation is to return or renew promptly, the book sent. Course titles are: Standard, Brief, Advanced, Recreational, Junior Warden, Senior Warden, Past Master, Royal Arch, and District Deputies, and can be ordered by title. There are 10 books in the Junior Warden course and 21 in that for District Deputies. The first book is sent by mail and as soon as it is returned the next book in one's chosen course is forwarded. We say this is a splendid answer to "What came you here to do?"

* * *

Our Scottish Rite Brothers who travel abroad as well as those who correspond abroad are warned of the fact that an organization which calls itself "The Supreme Council for Australia" does not have recognition. Its headquarters are in New South Wales.

This body is not recognized by the Supreme Councils of England and Wales, of Scotland, or of Ireland, which have subordinate bodies of the Rite in Australia, or by any other regular Supreme Council.

* * *

Our Brothers in Arizona have done it again! Sun City Lodge No. 72, F & A.M., was chartered this year, approved by the Grand Lodge of Arizona in May, and officially presented on June 1 by Grand Master S. C. "Woody" Parish. He complimented Worshipful Master Leo J. Wilson for Sun City's 189 charter members, believed to represent the greatest number ever to be included on the charter rolls of any lodge in the United States. This lodge consists of Masons from 26 states and 3 foreign countries; 30 Past Masters, 37 of 50-year members and a 60-year member; and there were 7 in the process of taking degrees this fall. Officers include former members of Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois lodges, too.

We sincerely hope that our Brothers, now residing in relatively new suburban communities, will profit from such examples of our retired Brothers and form new lodges near their new homes! We assure one and all that "pride of accomplishment" is well worth the effort necessary to form a new lodge and sincerely trust that some will accept this challenge.

* * *

Our kudos to Dr. David H. Porter, who retired as superintendent of Harrisburg, Pa., schools this summer after some 38 years as an educator there. We, and many others, are highly pleased that he has just "changed his hat." He is continuing his service to youth, his community, his beloved Scottish Rite, and humanity in several ways. Among these:

He is the new president of the Keystone Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, which covers four counties and serves more than 12,000 youths in 450 units.

He is general chairman of the Harrisburg Valley's fund drive for our Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library in directing approximately 1,000 workers in contacting that Valley's 18,000-plus members with a goal of $312,000 to surpass.

He continues as an active worker and director of the United Fund in which he has served as president of four different agencies, as a leader for Harrisburg Area Community College and educational television station, and as chairman of the budget committee for the Valley of Harrisburg.

We are pleased that he received the 33rd at Atlantic City this fall and wish him many, many more years of good health and strength as he labors for his fellowman.

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We are the happy recipient of a piece of calligraphy from Bro. G. Harvey Petty of Indianapolis and wish to pass on to you a definition attributed to Bro. James B. Gale, Chaplain of Mystic Tie Lodge No. 398 of Indianapolis: "Masonry is a wonderful amalgamation of legend, symbols, morality, and philosophy, fitted together with such meticulous care that it becomes a lovely mosaic, reflecting in its bits and pieces a pattern of the people, the customs and mores, the societies and institutions, and the enduring thought of every age."

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We continue to marvel at the great humanitarian work done annually in the 22 Shriners Hospitals in the United States, Canada, and Mexico in the treating of crippled children and those who have suffered critical burns. There are approximately 9,100 young patients of every race, creed, and color served annually in these hospitals.

Each hospital handles 6,000 new cases annually, plus more than 70,000 outpatient clinic visits per year. Most amazing is the fact that in more than 51 years, Shriners Hospitals have cured or materially helped more than 169,300 children. And the service at Shriners Hospitals is free even though the average cost per patient is $1,905 and some Buras Institute cases have cost as much as $100,000.

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A pine tree planting ceremony was held this year on the grounds of the Iowa Masonic Library in Cedar Rapids in honor of the late H. L. Haywood, noted Masonic writer. The project was sponsored by the Midwest Conference on Masonic Education, Iowa Committee on Masonic Education, and Iowa Research Lodge No. 2, Brother Haywood devoted his time to the study and writing about Freemasonry from 1915-56. He was a skilled researcher and a prolific writer on Masonic subjects. He edited several Masonic journals, worked for the Masonic History Company, and spent his last years at the Iowa Masonic Library.
MEMBERS: Please send your change of address directly to your Valley Secretary.

Will Your Name Appear on the Founders’ Scroll?

The Founders’ Scroll for the Museum and Library must be closed at the time of the dedication on April 20, 1975. The names of all those who have pledged or contributed prior to the dedication will be listed on the Founders’ Scroll, which will have a permanent place of honor in the building. Time is running short. If you would like more information, write for an extra copy of the Museum-Library Supplement that appeared in the September 1973 issue of The Northern Light.