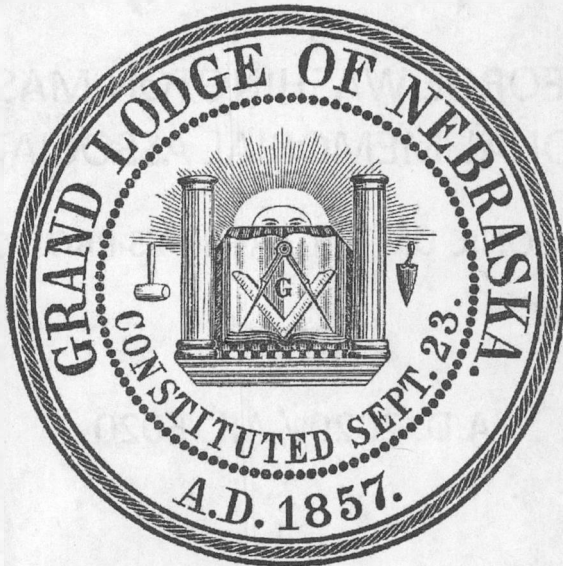


1967
PROCEEDINGS
of the
GRAND LODGE
of
Ancient Free & Accepted
MASONS
of the
STATE OF
NEBRASKA



A.D. 1967 / A.L. 5967

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PROCEEDINGS

of the

One Hundred Tenth Annual Communication of the

GRAND LODGE

of the

Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity

of Free and Accepted Masons

of Nebraska



Pershing Municipal Auditorium

June 6 and 7, 1967

Part III.....Volume 26

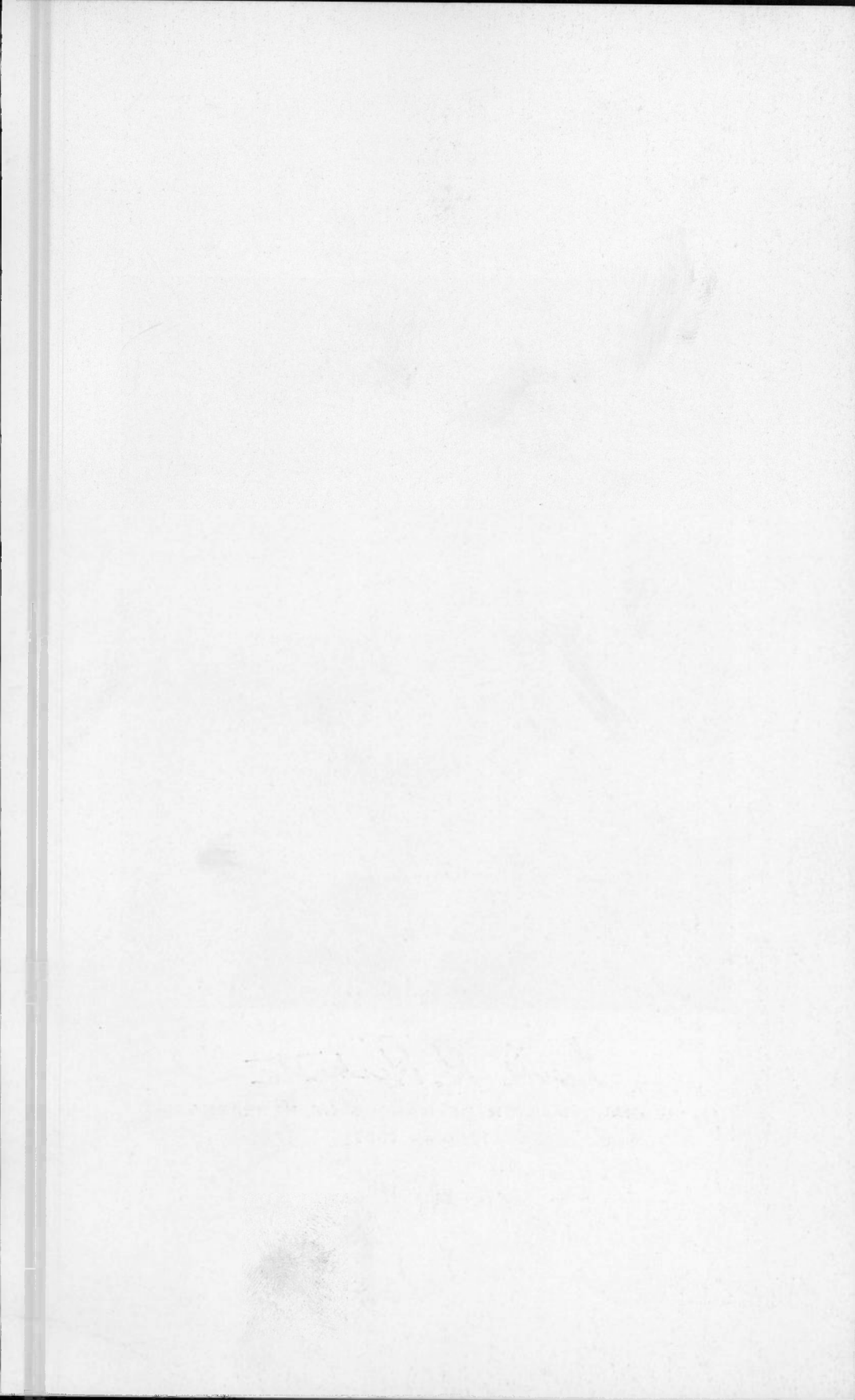
1967

GRAND LODGE



Lewis R. Ricketts

GRAND MASTER OF MASONS OF NEBRASKA
1966 — 1967



Biographical



Lewis R. Ricketts

Lewis R. (Dick) Ricketts, 101st Grand Master, was born on September 4, 1910 at Lincoln, Nebraska, the son of Lowe A. and Mabel Richards Ricketts. He attended the Lincoln Public schools, graduating from the University of Nebraska with an A.B. in 1931, Phi Beta Kappa; L.L.B. 1933, cum laude, Order of the Coif.

M.:W.: Brother "Dick" and Miss Charlotte L. Cornell were married May 17, 1934. Mrs. Ricketts passed away August 11, 1964. Brother Ricketts has been a member of Westminster Presbyterian Church at Lincoln since 1923. He was twice member of the Board of Trustees and ordained as Elder in 1953.

From 1933 to 1961 he was a member of the law firm of Field, Ricketts and Ricketts. Presently he is a member of Mattson, Ricketts and Gourlay. He was Acting County Judge of Lancaster County from 1961-63.

He has been a member of the City of Lincoln Board of Zoning Appeals since 1953, and a member of Lincoln, Nebraska State and American Bar Associations.

He served in the U. S. Army during World War II and in the Korean engagement as Captain in Judge Advocate General Corps on Staff of Judge Advocate Generals School.

MASONIC RECORD

LODGE: Initiated May 12, 1936, passed June 16, 1936, raised September 22, 1936, in Lincoln No. 19. He served as W.:Master in 1948. He served for six years on the Temple Board. (Editor Joseph H. Hartley of the "Word of 54" (Lancaster No. 54) credits M.:W.: Brother Ricketts and another brother with devising the original plans for converting a Temple liability into a growing asset.)

GRAND LODGE: Appointed Grand Junior Deacon by M.W. Herbert A. Ronin on June 7, 1961, advancing in the line and on June 9, 1966 he was elected and installed Grand Master. On September 14, 1962 he was appointed Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Italy by M.W. Ernest O. Van Wey.

CHAPTER: Mark Master and Past Master January 24, 1961; Most Excellent Master January 31, 1961; and Royal Arch Mason February 28, 1961, in Lincoln No. 6.

COUNCIL: Royal and Select Master March 21, 1962, Super Excellent October 24, 1964 in Lincoln No. 4.

COMMANDERY: Order of the Red Cross and Malta April 9, 1962; Order of the Temple April 16, 1962 in Mt. Moriah Commandery No. 4.

OTHER MASONIC BODIES: Elected Trustee of The Nebraska Masonic Home in 1949 and serving as First Vice President; Lincoln Consistory, A.A.S.R.; Sesostris Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., Nebraska Veteran Freemasons Association and member of Temple Chapter No. 271, OES.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIPS: Past Grand Master of South Dakota, Montana and Kansas.

M.W. Lewis R. Ricketts, as Grand Master, has served Masonry in Nebraska with distinction and great devotion to the furtherance of the principles of our Craft. He has given unstintingly of his time and energy to his many responsibilities of his high office.

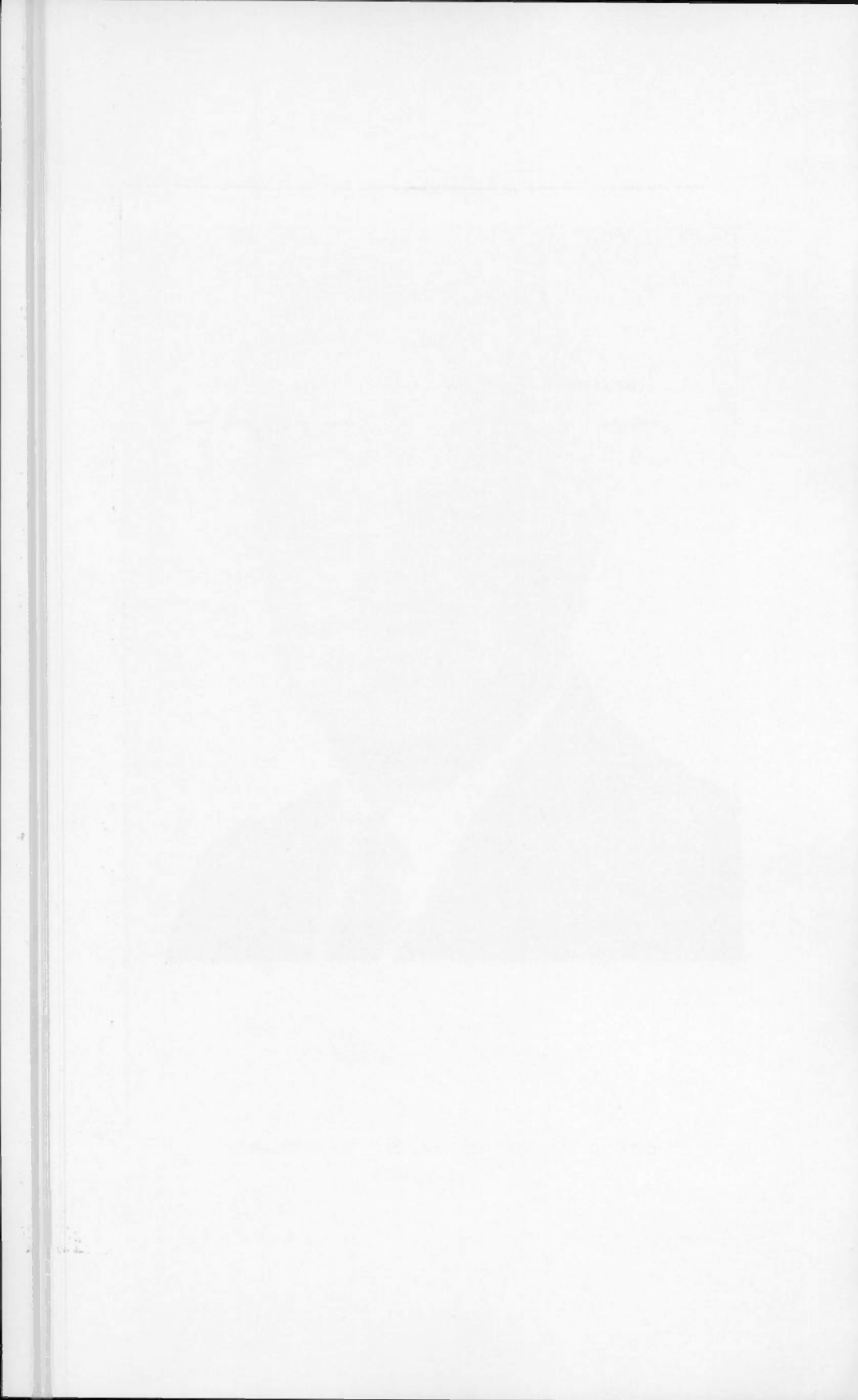
His many years of active service as an officer and member of Board of Trustees of The Nebraska Masonic Home are deeply appreciated and signify his true dedication to the Golden Tenets of our Beloved Fraternity. The entire Fraternity of Masonry holds him in high esteem and genuine affection as he continues to serve the cause of Freemasonry.

H.A.R.



John A. Lottorf

GRAND MASTER OF MASONS OF NEBRASKA
1967 — 1968



PROCEEDINGS

of the

Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable
Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons
of Nebraska

ONE HUNDRED TENTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

Held in Lincoln, June 6 and 7, 1967



FIRST DAY — MORNING SESSION

Tuesday, June 6, 1967

The Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska met in Annual Communication at the Pershing Municipal Auditorium, Lincoln, at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, June 6, A.D. 1967, A.L. 5967.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT

M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts	Grand Master
R. W. John A. Bottorf	Deputy Grand Master
R. W. Norris W. Lallman	Grand Senior Warden
R. W. Hugh W. Eisenhart	Grand Junior Warden
R. W. Carl R. Greisen	Grand Secretary
V. W. Levi B. Williams	Grand Chaplain
W. Vance D. Rogers	Grand Orator
W. George W. Rosenlof	Grand Historian
W. Robert W. Cook	Grand Custodian
W. C. Harold Edwards	Grand Marshal
W. John H. Brown	Grand Senior Deacon
W. Warren K. Urbom	Grand Junior Deacon
W. Charles H. Ninegar	Grand Tyler

Promptly at 8:45 a.m. a Lodge of Master Masons was opened in form by R. W. John A. Bottorf, Deputy Grand Master, the invocation being given by V. W. Levi B. Williams, Grand Chaplain.

M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master, was escorted to the East by M. W. Herbert A. Ronin, introduced and given the Grand Honors.

The Grand Master directed the Grand Secretary to call the roll of Chartered Lodges. There being a constitutional number of Lodges represented, the Grand Master declared the 110th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska opened in ample form and directed the Grand Marshal to make proclamation thereof.

The Grand Master directed the Grand Marshal to escort V. W. Levi B. Williams to the altar for the purpose of prayer.

PRESENTATION OF THE FLAGS

Presentation of the Flag of the United States and the Flag of Nebraska was made by Sir Knights of Mt. Moriah Commandery No. 4, K. T. .

Following the seating of the Flags and the Pledge of Allegiance, Brother Harold Osborn, 19, sang the "Star Spangled Banner" accompanied by W. Jess Williams, 210.

RECEPTION AND WELCOME OF PAST GRAND MASTERS

W. John H. Brown, Grand Senior Deacon, presented the following Past Grand Masters, according to seniority:

Charles A. Chappell.....	(58th)	1923
Ralph O. Canaday.....	(68th)	1933
Edward F. Carter.....	(77th)	1941
William B. Wanner.....	(79th)	1943
William C. Schaper.....	(80th)	1944-1945
Benjamin F. Eyre.....	(81st)	1946
Elmer E. Magee.....	(83rd)	1948
Thomas J. Aron.....	(86th)	1951
Edward M. Knight.....	(87th)	1952
Fay Smith.....	(88th)	1953
Charles F. Adams.....	(89th)	1954
Herbert T. White.....	(90th)	1955
Merle M. Hale.....	(91st)	1956
Roy I. Babbitt.....	(92nd)	1957
Joseph C. Tye.....	(94th)	1959
John F. Fatcher.....	(95th)	1960

Herbert A. Ronin.....	(96th)	1961
Ernest O. Van Wey.....	(97th)	1962
Harry A. Spencer.....	(99th)	1964
Louis V. Sylvester.....	(100th)	1965

The Past Grand Masters were given a most cordial welcome, conducted to the East and given Grand Honors. The following Past Grand Masters were unable to be present because of illness or illness in their families: Chancellor A. Phillips, George A. Kurk and Edward Huwaldt.

M. W. Herbert A. Ronin gave the response.

RECEPTION OF DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

The Committee on Entertainment of Distinguished Guests introduced the following: M. W. Thomas S. Roy, Past Grand Master of Massachusetts; William W. Brubaker, Grand Master, Iowa; William E. Bradford, Grand Master; Charles S. McGinness, Grand Secretary of Kansas; W. Clark F. Perry, Senior Grand Steward and Personal Representative of M. W. J. Drew Prugh, Grand Master of Wyoming; M. W. Harold L. Tisher, Grand Master; John S. Rowe, Grand Secretary of South Dakota, and Executive Secretary of the Masonic Relief Association of the United States and Canada; W. Clifford M. Glenn, Personal Representative of M. W. J. Blan Loflin, Grand Master of Oklahoma.

Brother Richard A. Jones, Worthy Grand Patron, Grand Chapter, OES of Nebraska; Ill. Joseph W. Secrest, Inspector General of Nebraska, and Supreme Almoner, Supreme Council, A.A.S.R.; Brother William F. Patterson, President; Raymond F. Evers, Superintendent, The Nebraska Masonic Home; W. Clyde D. Worrall, President; Brother Donald Moul, Superintendent, The Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children; W. Harvey A. Smith, Associate Supreme Guardian, International Order of Job's Daughters; R. E. U. Wesley Fox, Deputy Grand High Priest and Personal Representative of M. E. Howard J. Hunter, Grand High Priest, Grand Chapter, R. A. M. of Nebraska; M. I. Harley G. Lofton, Sr., Grand Master, Grand Council, R. & S. M. in Nebraska; Sir Knight Charles F. Adams, R. E. Grand Commander, Grand Commandery, K. T. of Nebraska.

GREETINGS AND MESSAGES

Greetings were received from the Grand Lodges of Colorado, Maine, Indiana, Israel and Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Brother Richard A. Jones, Worthy Grand Patron, presented a beautiful basket of flowers for and on behalf of the Grand Chapter, OES of Nebraska, with good wishes for a pleasant and profitable communication; also checks in the amount of \$3,000 for The Nebraska Masonic Home.

INTRODUCTION OF ASSISTANT CUSTODIANS

M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master, requested the Grand Custodian, W. Robert W. Cook, to introduce the Assistant Custodians and Assistant Custodians Emeriti.

REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER GRAND LODGES NEAR THE GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA

M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master, requested the Grand Secretary to call the roll of Grand Representatives of other Grand Lodges. The Grand Master extended to them a hearty welcome and suggested that they convey his greetings to the Grand Lodge they represent. All Grand Lodges that were in fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Nebraska were present except: Ceara, Brazil; Matto Grasso, Brazil; Santa Catarina, Brazil; Connecticut, Finland, Germany, Idaho, Illinois, Ireland, Kansas, Kentucky, New Mexico, New York, New Zealand, Norway, Nova Scotia, Nuevo Leon, Oklahoma, Prince Edward Island, Queensland, Rhode Island, South Australia, South Carolina, Sweden, and Victoria.

W. Clarence M. Pierson, 19, Grand Representative of Ecuador, gave the response.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME AND RESPONSE

W. Richard L. Wait, 19, gave the Address of Welcome and W. Robert Imig, 38, gave the response.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMMITTEES

Application for Reinstatement: W. Brother Earl H. Furman, 290, Chairman; Herbert Egerer, 303; Elmer E. Smith, 326.

Appropriations: W. Brothers Fred D. Moshier, 281 (1967), Chairman; Walter Truex, 55 (1968); Donald R. Swanson, 54 (1969); Alfred B. Saum, 46 (1970); Melvin E. Johnson, 112 (1971).

Charters and Dispensations: W. Brothers Harry M. Green, 25, Chairman; George F. Schell, 32; Richard Popisil, 83.

Codification of the Law: W. Brothers Bernard T. Pipher, 31, Chairman; Virgil L. Tubach, 54; Thomas W. Tye, 46.

Credentials: W. Brothers Pearl C. Hillegass, 81, Chairman; Clyde H. Jones, 173; Glen F. Sperry, 139; Albert B. Osborn, 318; Leonard B. Woods, 193; Wayne W. Loftis, 222; Curry D. Bryson, 314.

Doings of Grand Officers: W. Byron C. Jenkins, 325, Chairman; W. Dale Page, 15; Russell F. Richmond, 227.

Entertainment of Distinguished Guests: M. W. Brothers Louis V. Sylvester, 281, Chairman; Merle M. Hale, 54; Harry A. Spencer, 227.

Finance: W. Brothers Robert E. Lund, 323 (1969), Chairman; Philip G. Johnson, 19 (1967); Ralph R. Carleton, 306 (1968); Jess W. Wade, 290 (1970); Howard L. Patterson, 303 (1971).

Fraternal Dead: W. Walter O. Samuelson, 326, Chairman; Brother William F. Patterson, 327; W. Paul M. Erdman, 180.

Fraternal Relations: R. W. Carl R. Greisen, 32, Chairman; M. W. William B. Wanner, 9; W. Edward J. Taylor, 150.

George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association: W. Cary W. Dressler, 32, Chairman; M. W. Charles F. Adams, 68; Brother Robert L. Page, 1.

Grand Lodge Offices: W. Herman G. Reinholz, 3 (1971), Chairman; W. William A. Pettingill, 25 (1967); W. Vernon H. Wood, 290, (1968); W. James M. Paxson, 302 (1969); M. W. Merle M. Hale, 54 (1970).

Grand Trustees: M. W. John F. Futcher, 302 (1971), Chairman; W. William E. Moor, 102 (1967); W. Harold E. Gabrielson, 302 (1968); W. Robert A. Wekesser, 54 (1969); W. Alfred E. Geschke, 25 (1970).

Grievances: W. Brothers Clarence M. Pierson, 19, Chairman; Otto Kotouc, 40; Jack M. West, 222.

Jurisprudence: M. W. Louis V. Sylvester, 281, Chairman; and all Past Grand Masters present.

Masonic-Eastern Star Student Fund: W. Brothers Delbert H. Pinkerton, 314, Chairman; Lyle J. Bryant, 297; M. W. Elmer E. Magee, 227.

Masonic Education: W. Howard J. Hunter, 59 (1969), Chairman; W. John H. Brown, I, (1967); M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, 19 (1968); M. W. Louis V. Sylvester, 281 (1968); M. W. Harry A. Spencer, 227 (1969).

Nebraska Work: M. W. Brothers Edward F. Carter, 201 (1967), Chairman; Herbert T. White, 11 (1968); Louis V. Sylvester, 281 (1969).

Public Relations: W. Brothers Joe H. Hartley, 54, Chairman; John S. Savage, II; Brother William O. Wiseman, II.

Relief and Care of Orphans: W. Brothers Paul L. Toombs, 290 (1967), Chairman; John S. Burley, 300 (1968); Earl W. Schultz, 75 (1969); Otto Burkhardt, 55 (1970); James A. Bradley, 1 (1971).

Returns: W. Brothers Jerald J. Pomajzl, 37, Chairman; Edwin C. Maricle, 78; Clifton H. Hosler, 89.

Temple Building Advisory: W. Brothers Otto Nelsen, 300 (1967), Chairman; Donald G. Hafer, 306 (1968); E. Forrest Estes, 19 (1969).

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Retirement: W. E. Forrest Estes, 19, Chairman; M. W. John F. Fatcher, 302; Brother William F. Patterson, 327; M. W. Elmer E. Magee, 227; W. Robert A. Wekesser, 54.

Arrangements for 110th Annual Communication: M. W. Herbert A. Ronin, 210, Chairman; W. Brothers Robert L. Zink, 19; Robert A. Metcalf, 210; Ralph Harlan, 256; William M. Hisey, 210; Donald R. Swanson, 54; E. Forrest Estes, 19.

Lodge Advisory: M. W. Brothers Joseph C. Tye, 46 (1967), Chairman; Ernest O. Van Wey, 249 (1968); Herbert A. Ronin, 210 (1969).

ADDRESS OF THE GRAND MASTER

TO THE GRAND LODGE OF THE MOST ANCIENT AND HONORABLE FRATERNITY OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS: BRETHREN:

I extend a cordial welcome to the 110th Annual Communication of your Grand Lodge. There is special significance in the fact that it occurs during the Centennial Year of the State of Nebraska. Many of the stalwarts in the three lodges which instituted our Grand Lodge in 1857 held important offices in the local and Territorial governments and were instrumental in securing the admission of Nebraska to the Union on March 1, 1867. We have every reason to be proud and grateful for this fine heritage. They indeed built well and as the State enters its second century and our Grand Lodge commences its 111th year, we ought to be challenged and inspired by their example.

Ours is a truly representative form of government. Your Grand Lodge, despite its rather grandiose title, exists solely for the purpose of assisting the subordinate Lodges and promoting the welfare, harmony and progress of Masonry in Nebraska. Each lodge, large or small, is entitled to three representatives at these annual communications, and these, plus a relatively small number of Grand Lodge Officers and Past Grand Masters, comprise our Grand Lodge. I, therefore, urge you to be constant in your attendance at our session and to exercise your voting privileges with the good of Masonry uppermost in your minds.

We want to convey a very special and warm fraternal greeting to our distinguished guests who have honored and gratified us by their presence. Many come from outside of our borders and have travelled considerable distance to be with us. Our sincere wish is that their stay with us will be pleasurable and rewarding.

This year has been for me a very busy and an extremely pleasant experience. Because of the necessary space limitations in a report such as this, I shall set forth only such matters as may need the action or approval of this Grand Lodge plus some of the happenings and events which I consider to be of more than usual interest and importance.

NECROLOGY

We are humbly grateful for the fact that since our last Communication, the Scythe of Time has spared our Past Grand Masters and the members of the Grand Lodge Family. However, during the year just passed, 1,013 of our Brethren laid down their working tools and entered into the Celestial Lodge Above. Later in our Communication appropriate tribute will be paid to them by the Committee on Fraternal Dead.

VISITATIONS

I was able to accept invitations to visit more than 80 of our subordinate Lodges. I was received officially and formally on 65 of these occasions; the remaining visitations either involved talks at dinners or open meetings, or were for various types of presentations. My highest pleasures of the year were the warm and cordial fraternal fellowship of these meetings at the grass roots of Masonry.

I attended the annual communications of the Grand Lodges of South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, Iowa, Missouri and Kansas, and in all instances I was overwhelmed with the hospitality and courtesies extended to me. The Montana Centennial was a particularly outstanding and inspiring experience.

Because of previous commitments, I was unable to attend the Illinois, Colorado and Minnesota Grand Lodges. The Deputy Grand Master was my personal representative at Illinois; M. W. Brother Louis V. Sylvester at Colorado, and the Grand Senior Warden at Minnesota.

I shall long remember the thrill of attending the Imperial Session of the A.A.O.N.M.S. which was held in San Francisco. In addition, I attended ceremonials of all three of our Shrine Temples in Nebraska and each instance was graciously received and extended every courtesy.

I was invited to speak at the Spring Reunion of the Hastings Consistory of the Scottish Rite. Unfortunate conflicts in my schedule prevented my acceptance of invitations to either the Fall or Spring Reunions of my own Consistory at Lincoln. I also was a guest at the Spring Reunion of the Omaha Consistory.

Perhaps the pinnacle of the year for me was the Conference of Grand Masters of North America which was held at Washington, D.C. The annual meetings of the Masonic Service Association of the U.S. and of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association are also held in conjunction with this Conference. Nebraska was well represented. Accompanying me were the Deputy Grand Master, R. W. John A. Bottorf; the Grand Secretary, R. W. Carl R. Greisen; M. W. Herbert A. Ronin, our District Director of the M.S.A.; M. W. Charles F. Adams, Vice President and Trustee of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association, and M. W. Louis

V. Sylvester. These Conferences are of incalculable value in affording an opportunity for exchanging information and inspiration. It was truly a remarkable demonstration of the universality of Masonry. Not only were there Grand Masters or their representatives present from all of the United States and the Provinces of Canada, but also from many of the jurisdictions in Europe, Central and South America, and the Philippines. I cannot emphasize too much the advantage derived from sending our Deputy Grand Masters to the Conference. They thus have the opportunity of becoming well acquainted with the men with whom they will be serving and meeting as Grand Masters at the conference the following year.

Another memorable experience was the meeting of the Midwest Conference on Masonic Education which was held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and which was under the able leadership of W. Howard J. Hunter, Chairman of our Masonic Education Committee. This was the second of these annual Conferences that I have been privileged to attend. It is obvious that Nebraska's program is highly regarded in Masonic Education circles and in this respect much of the credit is due to the ability and untiring labors of Brother Hunter.

Following my installation, Lincoln No. 19, my home Lodge, held a reception for me and the Grand Lodge Officers, and a few days later they invited me to be the guest speaker at a banquet given in my honor. The Lincoln Consistory of the Scottish Rite also held a reception for all of the Grand Lodge Family. These were memorable occasions and I shall be forever grateful for the thoughtful and gracious courtesies which were extended to me and the other officers of the Grand Lodge.

I was formally received and accorded honors at the Centennial Celebration of the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Nebraska, held at Omaha, on December 6 and 7, 1966. In addition I was received and extended all possible courtesies at the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Nebraska, the Annual Assembly of the Grand Council, Royal and Select Masters in Nebraska, and the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Nebraska.

Perhaps one of the most memorable visitations was to the Annual Conclave of the Nebraska State Chapter, Order of DeMolay, which was held at Grand Island on August 4 to 7, 1966. I was honored by being invited to make one of the addresses at the Banquet. It is very obvious that DeMolay leadership and sponsorship in Nebraska is in good hands. I cannot too strongly urge the Brethren of Nebraska to participate actively in the encouragement and sponsorship of our affiliated youth organizations, not only DeMolay, but also Jobs Daughters and Order of Rainbow for Girls.

I had the unique and very pleasant opportunity of receiving visiting Grand Masters in three of our subordinate lodges. On November 7, 1966, I received and accorded honors to M. W. Harold L. Tisher, Grand Master of South Dakota, in Platte Valley No. 32, the lodge where he was made a Master Mason. I again had the opportunity of receiving M. W. Brother Tisher in Corinthian No. 83 at Wakefield, on March 10, 1967, at an Area Meeting. On January 31, 1967, we received and accorded honors to M. W. William W. Brubaker, Grand Master of Iowa, in Nebraska No. 1, Omaha.

It was also my great pleasure and honor to be invited to attend the Grand Chapter of the Eastern Star to bring our greetings and to extend our best wishes to the members of that Order.

ANNIVERSARIES

On Wednesday, June 22, 1966, Solomon No. 10, at Ft. Calhoun, celebrated its 100th birthday with an impressive and memorable Centennial banquet and program. Past Grand Orator Walter O. Samuelson gave the address. The Grand Lodge Officers turned out en masse for this very special occasion. It was beautifully planned and executed.

A Seventy-fifth Anniversary was celebrated by Golden Fleece No. 205, at Chappell, on June 17, 1966. I was privileged to give the address on this fine occasion.

And on June 18, 1966, Scotts Bluff No. 201, at Gering, celebrated its Seventy-fifth Anniversary with a very splendid banquet and program. M. W. Edward F. Carter, a member and Past Master of this Lodge, was the principal speaker at the banquet and delivered a most inspiring address.

On May 17th, the 75th Anniversary of East Lincoln No. 210, was held at which M. W. Brother Charles A. Chappell, our Senior Past Grand Master, was present, he having been the one who laid the corner-stone and dedicated the lodge in 1922.

CORNER-STONES

On Saturday, July 19, the Grand Lodge Officers conducted the time-honored Corner-Stone Ceremony for the Elementary School Building at Cambridge. The oration was delivered by our Junior Past Grand Orator, W. Walter O. Samuelson. Arrangements were under the capable direction of the Brethren of Cambridge No. 150. Many members of the Cambridge community were in attendance and I am certain were impressed with the dignity and solemnity of the ceremony. This new \$369,000 educational plant is an outstanding addition to the assets of Cambridge. It is good for Masonry to be identified with public education in this manner.

On May 2, 1967, the corner-stone was laid for the new Junior Boys Home which is being built at the Masonic-Eastern Star Home at Fremont. This is a most necessary addition to the Home facilities. It is being financed out of the Endowment and Bequest Fund of the Home without the necessity of requesting appropriations from either of the Grand Bodies. We are indebted to Fremont Lodge No. 15 for being the gracious host of this ceremony. This was one of the special projects of the Worthy Grand Matron, Mrs. Helen E. Morton. She and a number of her Grand Chapter Officers were present and participated in the ceremonies. Our Grand Orator, W. Vance Rogers, delivered the address.

The corner-stone for the new Court House for Cheyenne County at Sidney, was laid on May 19, 1967. Frank Welch No. 75, Sidney, was in charge of the arrangements for this very special and outstanding occasion. The many members of the Sidney community who were present were made more aware of Masonry's strong identification with and close support of good government. W. Walter O. Samuelson was again the speaker for this fine event.

The following day, May 20, 1967, the corner-stone for the new Masonic Temple of Mitchell Lodge No. 263 was laid in due and ancient form. The dedication of this fine new Temple followed the same evening. This cannot help but stimulate a renewed surge of Masonic interest in the Mitchell area.

DEDICATION

It has been my privilege to dedicate five new temples this year. It was most gratifying to observe the stimulation and inspiration which Masonry in these communities received as a result of the construction of these fine new Temples. There are many other Lodges in Nebraska which could well profit and benefit from a rebuilding or a renewal program for their temples.

All of these dedicatory ceremonies were arranged by and were under the direction of our Grand Marshal, W. C. Harold Edwards. It is impossible adequately to compliment him for his very capable and diligent services in this respect.

On November 10, 1966, the new Temple of Crystal No. 91 at Scotia, was dedicated.

The new Temple of Globe No. 113, at Madison, was dedicated on January 19, 1967.

The dedicatory ceremonies for the new temple of Silver Cord No. 24 at Ainsworth, were conducted on January 27, 1967.

On April 28, 1967, the new temple of Seneca Lodge No. 284, at Thedford, was dedicated.

And on May 20, 1967, the dedication of the new Temple of Mitchell No. 263 was accomplished.

All of these ceremonies were conducted in the usual and time-honored form. Very special thanks are due to our Past Grand Orator, W. Walter O. Samuelson, who so ably delivered the dedicatory addresses on all of these occasions.

SHILOH LODGE NO. 327

My year as Grand Master started out on an unusually high note! On June 10, 1966, just one day after my installation, I constituted Shiloh Lodge No. 327 in accordance with the action taken by the 109th Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge granting this Charter. Immediately following the constitution of the Lodge I proceeded to install its officers. It was indeed a thrill and inspiration for all of the Grand Lodge Officers who were present. This was the first new lodge to be chartered in ten years. There should be many more of these, particularly in the metropolitan areas where a large number of the lodges are much too big for proper Masonic fellowship.

UPRIGHT LODGE NO. 137

One of the most sad and disagreeable tasks to befall me during my year as Grand Master was the duty of carrying out the action of this Grand Lodge, taken at its 109th Annual Communication, forfeiting the Charter of Upright Lodge No. 137 for its failure to show cause why it had not been represented at the previous two annual communications.

Accompanied by the Grand Secretary, the Grand Custodian and M. W. Herbert A. Ronin, a member of the Lodge Advisory Committee, I visited this Lodge on July 20, 1966, for the purpose of receiving a surrender of the Charter. At the same time the Grand Secretary took custody of all records and assets of the Lodge.

I had previously directed the Master of the Lodge to summon all resident members to the meeting. Nineteen of the approximately 30 resident members were in attendance and all of them signed a written petition to this Grand Lodge respectfully requesting restoration of their Charter. Because of the seriousness and gravity of the occasion I had directed that a Lodge of Master Masons be opened under my supervision.

I was strongly impressed by the sincerity of the Brethren who signed the petition for restoration of the Charter, and in addition I was surprised to discover that one of the members of this Lodge was, in fact, in attendance at the 109th Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, although not in an official or representative capacity. I could not help but reflect upon how easy it would have been to avoid this disaster.

Under these circumstances, and after this Lodge had been in Masonic darkness for more than six months, I issued a decree on December 23, 1966, temporarily restoring the Charter until this Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, directing that all officers previously installed should continue in office until this Communication, and, if their Charter is now permanently restored, until their successors are duly installed.

I am convinced that this action is in the best interests not only of Upright Lodge No. 137 but also of Freemasonry in Nebraska. If the Grand Lodge Committee on Charters and Dispensations to which this matter undoubtedly will be referred, recommends permanent restoration of the Charter I sincerely hope that this Grand Lodge will give its approbation. Should the Brethren of Upright Lodge ultimately determine that they do not have the strength to carry on, this action will at least afford them the opportunity to consider whether consolidation with one of their neighboring Lodges might not be desirable and advantageous.

CONSOLIDATIONS

During the year two consolidations of Lodges occurred. There are a number of other Lodges who should be thinking about the benefits of such an action. The attrition of population in the rural areas still goes on apace. We have 39 Lodges in these areas whose total membership is less than 50. The Lodge Advisory Committee stands always ready to help Lodges who may be considering this move.

Effective September 9, 1966, I proclaimed the consolidation of Jewel No. 149, Tobias, with Geneva No. 79, Geneva.

And on September 23, 1966, I approved the consolidation of Ruskin No. 304, Ruskin, with Nelson No. 77, Nelson.

MEDALS

As most of you are aware, the Gold Jordan Medal, named after our first and greatly revered Grand Master, is awarded to the resident Nebraska Mason having the longest period of membership in our order. The former holder of this medal, W. Frank Quante, of Trestle Board No. 162, Brock, passed to his reward on June 6, 1966. After due investigation and inquiry, it was ascertained that Brother John D. Sprague, a member of Fidelity No. 51, David City, was entitled to wear this Medal. It was my very great pleasure and honor to make the presentation to him in Fidelity Lodge on September 15, 1966, in the presence of a large number of the Grand Lodge Officers and a goodly representation of the Brethren of that Lodge. We were all thrilled by the inspiring Masonic response which Brother Sprague made to the formal presentation of the Medal. Although he has now been a Mason for more than 73 of his 96 years, he is very spry and in full and complete possession of all of his faculties. It is my hope that he will be able to make an appearance at this Communication.

In addition, I had the pleasure of presenting one Bronze Jordan Medal and participating in the presentation of another.

During the year nothing gave me greater pleasure and satisfaction than recognizing and honoring veteran Masons for their long and faithful service by the presentation of Fifty Year Badges. I was afforded this opportunity on more than 35 occasions. In addition, I presented one Seventy-Year and two Sixty-Five Year.

DISPENSATIONS

Nine dispensations were granted to confer the degrees without regard to time elapsed in cases of candidates who were either in or about to enter military service. Sixteen special dispensations were granted to post and examine Brethren for their proficiency in the Degrees where the required time for examination had expired. Six Lodges were granted permission to move their Charters to new locations and six Lodges were granted permission to elect or install officers on irregular dates either because of weather conditions or on account of illness.

Bloomfield No. 218 again presented a request for special permission to hold an outdoor meeting to confer the Master Mason Degree in a secluded spot. I was most happy to grant the request. This has become a fine and successful custom and has created much interest among Masons in Northeast Nebraska.

In complete concurrence with the Grand Master of Missouri, I granted permission to a Nebraska Lodge to confer the Masters Degree on a Nebraska candidate in a Missouri Lodge, and, reciprocally I granted permission to a Nebraska Lodge to invite a Missouri Lodge to confer the Masters Degree on a Missouri candidate in the Nebraska Lodge. I regard these visitations back and forth between Lodges of adjoining Jurisdictions to be very much in the interest of Masonry.

BY-LAWS APPROVED

Two entirely new sets of by-laws were approved and in addition approval was given to twenty-two amendments to Lodge by-laws. Most of these amendments dealt either with increases in dues or changes in regular meeting dates.

TRIAL COMMISSIONS

During the year it was necessary to appoint only two trial commissions. Unfortunately each of these cases involved very serious criminal offenses. Both cases have been completed and satisfactorily disposed of.

REINSTATEMENTS

Thirty-six applications for reinstatement were received, of which I approved thirty-five and disapproved one. In each instance I followed the recommendation of our efficient and hard working Committee on Reinstatements.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES RECOMMENDED

I recommended the following Brethren to be Grand Representatives of other jurisdictions near Nebraska: W. Brothers Byron O. Jenkins, Florida; Warren K. Urbom, India; and T. Leo Stines, Delaware.

ASSISTANT CUSTODIANS APPOINTED

Following the always reliable recommendations of W. Robert W. Cook, our outstanding Grand Custodian, I appointed three new Assistant Custodians as follows: W. Brothers Ward L. McGlashan, Parks, Gwynne L. Neubauer, Brewster, and Curtis J. Griess, Sutton. It was my personal good fortune personally to present the commissions of Brothers McGlashan and Griess.

I also was pleased to name W. Brothers Matthias E. Mauel and Richard L. Wait as Assistant Custodians Emeritus.

MASONIC HOMES

Full reports will be presented by the Presidents of the Boards of The Nebraska Masonic Home and The Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children. I shall attempt to do nothing further here than to say that the Masons of Nebraska have every reason to be proud of the magnificent way in which these Homes have been fulfilling their purposes and to be extremely grateful to the Superintendents and Trustees for their untiring and devoted labors. Every possible effort is expended to assure the comfort, welfare and dignity of our "guests."

I attended the annual meetings of both Homes in my capacity as representative of the stock in the corporations held by Grand Lodge. In addition, in my capacity as Trustee of The Nebraska Masonic Home, I was able to attend all but one of the Board of Trustees monthly meetings during the current Masonic year. Unfortunately the monthly meetings of Trustees of the two Home corporations coincide.

MEMORIAL LODGE, U. D. I.

During 1966, for reasons of health, it became necessary for W. Robert W. Cresap to relinquish the duties of Master of Memorial Lodge, U. D. I. W. Albin Bergstrom, a Past Master of Nebraska No. 1, agreed to assume the duties of this important office on September 9, 1966, pursuant to my appointment. Brother Bergstrom reports that Masonic Funeral Services were conducted during 1966 for seven deceased Brethren. We are indeed grateful to the officers and brethren of this Lodge for the thoughtful, unselfish and dignified services which they perform for deceased sojourning Masons in the Omaha metropolitan area. We are particularly appreciative of the devoted and faithful service which W. Brother Cresap rendered.

DECISIONS

It was necessary for me to make only two formal rulings on points of Masonic law during my term of office. Instruction on the Masonic Code at our Area Meetings has gone a long way toward enabling the Brethren to look up their own answers without requesting rulings from the Grand Master.

1. The Secretary of Oshkosh No. 286 inquired about the possible disciplinary status of a brother who was contemplating applying to the Nebraska State Liquor Commission for a "Bottle Club" license. The Brother informed the Secretary that he had been advised that such a license, if granted to him by the Commission, would not legally permit him to sell liquor as such, but would merely allow him to issue membership cards in his "Club," and then to dispense soft drinks or mixes to his customers for the purpose of mixing their own drinks, or allowing him or his help to mix drinks for the members and serve them.

The applicable State Statute is Subdivision (22) of Section 53-102, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement of 1965, which sets forth a lengthy definition of "Bottle Clubs," and which provides in pertinent part: "The words bottle club shall mean an operation * * * * keeping and maintaining premises where persons who have made their own purchases of alcoholic liquors congregate * * * * including among other services * * * * the storage of alcoholic liquors belonging to such persons and facilities for the dispensing of such liquors through a locker system, card system, or pool system, **which shall not be deemed or considered a sale of alcoholic liquor.** * * *" (Underscoring supplied.) Under these circumstances, and in the face of the plain and clear wording of the Statute, I ruled that the holder of such a license would not be in violation of Subdivision (d) 2, of Section 3-102 of the Nebraska Masonic Code.

2. The Secretary of Covert Lodge No. 11 made inquiry about the proper handling of a petition for the degrees of Masonry of a man who had resided in Omaha for only two months but who had previously resided in Carter Lake, Iowa, for a period of 18 years. Based upon the implication and assumption that the petitioner's former residence in Carter Lake was geographically nearer to a Nebraska Lodge than to an Iowa Lodge, it was suggested that the petition could be handled under Section 2-807 of the Nebraska Masonic Code, having to do with concurrent jurisdiction of Lodges in adjoining States, rather than under Section 2-803 which contains the twelve months residence requirement. In view of the fact that the petitioner had permanently changed his residence to Nebraska, I expressed the opinion that Section 2-807 was no longer applicable to the situation since the petitioner was not now a citizen of Iowa. I also expressed the opinion that after the permanent change of residence, the Iowa Lodge having jurisdiction of the Carter Lake area lost the power and authority to waive jurisdiction over the petitioner. Consequently, it was by ruling

that the petition could not be received and acted upon by Covert Lodge No. 11 until the full twelve months residential period required by Section 2-803 had elapsed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. In his report to the 1965 Annual Communication M. W. Harry A. Spencer recommended that a special committee be appointed to determine if The Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children "is presently fulfilling its original intent, and, if not, to make recommendations to our next Grand Lodge as to whether or not we should continue to occupy the new field." He noted that there had been some difficulties in the administration of the Home and that at the time of the report there were no orphaned children living in the Home.

The special committee was accordingly appointed. Thereafter it proceeded to make a detailed and extensive investigation of the Home. Its carefully prepared report is printed in full in the 1966 Proceedings. Among other things, it recommended that the "Grand Lodge of Nebraska continue to lend its moral and financial support to the operation of the Home," but that serious consideration be given "to lowering our total support from 50% to 25% towards the financial assistance needed to operate" the Home, and, in the event of a decrease in assistance, consideration should also be given to changing the membership on the Board of the Home so that the Grand Chapter of the Eastern Star would have greater representation.

I have the very strong feeling that the present uncertain situation needs to be resolved and that it can be settled by this or some subsequent Communication of this Grand Lodge without the necessity of further committee investigation. I concur heartily in the recommendation of the Special Committee that we continue to lend our moral and financial support to the operation. But I am opposed to decreasing our financial support of this very worthy undertaking, which is so especially dear to the hearts of the members of the Eastern Star, and I am especially concerned that no attempt be made to withdraw our support unilaterally, even in part, without notice to and consent and acquiescence by the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star.

The administrative problems and difficulty existing in 1965 have long since been removed. A new and expert Superintendent, skilled in the care and handling of children, has efficiently taken over the management duties. The already fine Board of Trustees, augmented by the appointment of several new and dedicated members, has done an outstanding job of administration particularly with respect to admissions. In my opinion the Home has never been more efficiently and harmoniously operated. It is indeed a credit to Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter.

Although the Home at the present time is not caring for Masonic-related orphaned children, I am far from certain that this was its

exclusive original purpose and intent, or that it should be our present sole aim. Any dependent child should have a claim on our care and concern. Where there is need, "Masonic charity and benevolence should be equally extensive."

My thinking has been influenced and guided by the extensive report of the Joint Committee of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter on the Childrens' Home which was approved at our Annual Communication in 1925, and which was also approved by Grand Chapter the same year. In my judgment this report constitutes a legal compact between these two Grand Bodies with respect to the administration and financial support of the Home.

Concerning the financing of the operation of the Home, the Joint Report stated that "It is the opinion of your committees that the expense of conducting the Home and caring for the children should be **equally divided** between the Grand Lodge and the Grand Chapter. It is recognized, however, that the financial resources of the Grand Chapter may not permit it to assume one-half of the expense of future additions to the cottages and other permanent improvements as the number of children entitled to admission to the Home shall increase." The Report also specified that "all properties are the joint possession of the two Grand Bodies, irrespective of present ownership." During the intervening forty-two years, in strict accordance with the approved recommendations of this Joint Report, these two Grand Bodies have equally shared the operating expenses of the Home and the stock of the corporation created to administer this operation has been issued and held in equal amounts by them. Certainly no radical change in these arrangements should be attempted by our Grand Lodge without the knowledge, acquiescence and consent of Grand Chapter.

With respect to the matter of handling admissions to the Home, the Joint Report stated that "We recommend that the matter of admission to the Home be continued under the supervision and control of the Committee on Relief and Care of Orphans, of the Grand Lodge, as to children claiming Masonic relationships, and to a similar committee of the Grand Chapter as to children seeking admissions into the Home **without Masonic relationships but because of their affiliation with the Order of the Eastern Star.**" Clearly the original requirements for eligibility were much broader than orphaned children of Masons.

Accordingly, I recommend that our long-standing practice and policy of equally sharing the financial support of the operation of the Home be continued without change. Not only is it an obligation based upon a solemn contract with Grand Chapter, but, in my opinion, it also should be regarded as a need to be fulfilled within the broad reaches of Masonic concern and benevolence. I further emphatically recommend that under no circumstances should a partial withdrawal

of financial support be undertaken by Grand Lodge without full consultation with and consent by Grand Chapter.

2. I recommend that Section 1-311 of the Code, relating to the composition of the members of the Board of Grand Trustees, be repealed. Section 1-401, as amended, provided fully for the membership of this Board and its duties with respect to handling of Grand Lodge funds.

3. In 1965 a Retirement Plan for salaried employees of the Grand Lodge was approved and adopted pursuant to the recommendation of the Special Committee on Retirement. Certain amendments to the plan were adopted in 1966 and a recommendation of the Special Committee approved by which the Plan would be self-insured by the Grand Lodge through the Grand Trustees. Accordingly it is my recommendation that the entire administration of the Plan be lodged with the Grand Trustees and to accomplish this that Section 1-401 (a) be amended by adding the following language just prior to the last sentence of said subsection:

“Said Grand Trustees shall administer the employee retirement plan of the Grand Lodge with benefits to be payable from the Retirement Plan of the Grand Lodge A. F. and A. M. of Nebraska, and The Nebraska Masonic Home as provided in Section 1-406. Changes in eligibility or rates of benefits shall be recommended by the Grand Trustees and approved by the Grand Lodge prior to adoption.”

4. In connection with the administration of the Employees Retirement Plan, I also recommend that the Grand Trustees retain the services of W. E. Forrest Estes on a consultative basis. He was the principal author of the original plan and has been the Chairman of the Special Committee on Retirement for three years. He is an acknowledged expert in this field.

5. For purposes of a permanent record, I also recommend that the full text of the Employee Retirement Plan, as amended in 1966, be printed as a part of the proceedings of this Communication of the Grand Lodge. The 1965 Proceedings contained only a synopsis of the Plan.

6. At the 1960 Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, recommendations were adopted approving the incorporation of Masonic Manor, Omaha, Nebraska. Among other things these approved recommendations provided for the designation of the Deputy Grand Master, the two Grand Wardens, the Grand Secretary and three residents of the apartment building as members and directors of the proposed corporation and directed that no financial responsibility be assumed by Grand Lodge. Articles of Incorporation were accordingly filed and the corporation commenced business on July 7, 1960. In Article III it was provided that after July 1, 1964, the Deputy Grand Master, the

two Grand Wardens and the Grand Secretary should serve on the Board of Directors with three members to be elected as provided by the By-Laws.

In my judgment this latter provision has not worked to the advantage of the Masonic Manor. Not all of such Grand Officers are expert in the field of multiple housing and apartment administration, and many of them reside a considerable distance from Omaha making it inconvenient if not impossible for them to attend all of the monthly meetings of the Board of Directors. It thus works a hardship on such officers and at the same time may not give the corporation the best administrative leadership obtainable.

In addition, recent operational experience has demonstrated the desirability and advantage of amending the Articles of Incorporation broadly permitting some type of individual ownership by the residents of the apartment units so that they will be entitled to deduct an apportioned amount of real estate taxes for Federal tax purposes. The original contemplation was that the entire building would be exempt from real estate taxes. It subsequently transpired that such exemption was not legally possible.

Consequently, it is my recommendation that:

(a) The Board of Directors of Masonic Manor be authorized to accomplish an amendment to the Articles of Incorporation and By-laws of such corporation to provide that such Board shall be composed of seven members. The Grand Master installed in June, 1967, shall immediately appoint three members from among the residents of the Manor, one to serve for one year, one to serve for two years and one to serve for three years. Thereafter, commencing June, 1968, the Board of Directors shall appoint a nominating committee from the residents of the Manor who shall nominate three or more residents for election to fill the expiring one-year term and the Board of Directors shall appoint an election committee to conduct such election. The first election shall be held on the first Saturday after the first Monday in June, 1968 and thereafter one director shall be elected each year to serve for a term of three years. Residents in the Masonic Manor shall be entitled to cast but one vote for each apartment represented.

(b) Each year the Grand Master shall appoint three additional members of the Board of Directors, who need not necessarily be residents of the Manor, said appointees to serve for one year and until their successors are appointed and qualified. The Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge shall be the seventh member of the Board. The terms of all directors shall commence on July 1st of the year of their appointment or election.

(c) That the Board of Directors be further authorized to amend the Articles of Incorporation in such a manner as will best protect the investment of and provide maximum tax advantage to the residents by permitting some type of individual ownership of the apartment units.

STATE OF THE CRAFT

Despite diligent and sustained effort on many fronts, we were again unable in 1966 to stem the slow tide of attrition in membership which has been going on now for more than six years. While I do not view this trend as a present cause for alarm or panic, I do believe that it is a matter deserving of our most careful attention and concern to discover and to attempt to correct the underlying conditions which may be at the root of the problem. These are indeed difficult to pinpoint and identify. For what little, if any, consolation it may give us, practically all of the other North American Grand Jurisdictions have been attempting to cope with the same situation and so far as I am aware no pat solution has been discovered. And practically all other fraternal organizations have been experiencing a similar if not worse slide in membership.

It is naive, and no solution at all, to attempt to lay the blame on a social revolution involving the many competing interests of the swift current of modern living. This type of competition, to a greater or lesser extent, has always existed and always will exist, and, rather than discouraging us, it should act as a challenge. Masonry, when properly portrayed and practiced, has always managed to meet this challenge by inspiring and retaining the interest of good men. As I see it, the real crux of the matter is the portraying and practicing of Masonry, and this inevitably involves the securing and training of dedicated and devoted officers in the constituent lodges. This is indeed a difficult and never-ending task but it can be done; I have seen it accomplished in many of the Lodges which I have visited during the past year. In almost every instance if the Master and Wardens were diligent and industrious, the Lodge was prospering, petitions were being received, work was being done in a proficient and impressive manner, and many special events and occasions were on the trestle-board to put the craft to work and to maintain their interest and involve them in the program. In this area our Grand Lodge Educational Program has been of inestimable value to those Lodges that have seriously and conscientiously attempted to follow the techniques recommended. Admittedly it takes labor, but this is something that a true Mason should know something about.

It has been said, and possibly with some justification, that not enough qualified young men have been knocking at our West Gate. To the extent that this may be true, we should face the fact that it may be mostly our fault. Without in the least violating the spirit of our Landmarks and customs, it is possible, with proper planning and approach, to create situations in which it will be easy and simple for qualified young men to express their interest in Masonry. Even more important, we should never overlook how important it is to cultivate and sponsor our allied youth organizations, particularly the Order of

DeMolay. And I am very happy to report that the DeMolay program in Nebraska is prospering and progressing under the able leadership of the present Executive Officer.

It should have come as no surprise to us that the records for 1966 show that a substantial part of the attrition in membership occurred in our large metropolitan lodges, and a considerable proportion of this was due to suspension for nonpayment of dues. This points up pretty plainly the fact that when there are too many laborers to be gainfully occupied in the quarry, those who are unemployed will soon lose interest and migrate elsewhere to find work. Undoubtedly some fine leadership material has been forever lost in this manner. In Masonry, the large size of a Lodge can in many instances be more of a liability than an asset. It seems to me that this is an area which should have our concentrated attention and study.

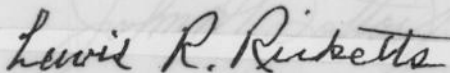
APPRECIATION

In a proper attempt adequately to express my appreciation for the help and encouragement I have received in performing the duties of my office there is literally no place to begin and certainly no place to stop. I have truly been surrounded with a crew of able and willing workers; all I had to do was suggest or ask and they would immediately proceed to accomplish the necessary tasks. This has been true on every level from Past Grand Masters and Officers of the Grand Lodge to officers and brethren in the subordinate lodges. I can assure you that Grand Lodge leadership will be in good hands for a long time to come. To the continuing officers I pledge my wholehearted support and assistance in all ways possible.

I cannot help but single out our devoted veteran Grand Secretary, R. W. Carl R. Greisen, who has now served this Grand Lodge faithfully and efficiently for twenty-one years. He has been a tower of strength and support to me. At the time he accepted election as Grand Secretary he had been Grand Junior Warden of this Grand Lodge. Among his many other duties he has become a supreme educator, stabilizer and encourager of Grand Masters. I express the fervent hope that in the near future this Grand Lodge will see fit to deliver the orchids in person by conferring upon him the much deserved recognition of Honorary Past Grand Master.

It has been a great honor and pleasure for me to be selected to serve this Grand Lodge as its Grand Master. I sincerely hope that my performance of duty has in some degree measured up to expectations.

Fraternally submitted,



Grand Master

REPORT OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

The Grand Secretary presents his report as follows:

Complete returns have been received from 268 Lodges and all dues and fees for the year 1966 have been paid in full.

CONSOLIDATION

June 13, 1966 Jewel No. 149, Tobias, voted to consolidate with Geneva No. 79; June 7, Geneva No. 79 voted to invite Jewel No. 149 to consolidate with them. This consolidation was approved by the Grand Master. The Charter of Jewel No. 149 is in the office. Other items and records have been delivered to Geneva No. 79.

Jewel Lodge had 41 members, half of them living in other states and only 8 or 10 living within the jurisdiction.

On May 13, 1966 Ruskin No. 304 voted to consolidate with Nelson No. 77. September 1, Nelson No. 77 voted to accept Ruskin No. 304 in consolidation. This consolidation was approved by the Grand Master. The Charter of No. 304 is in the office, other items and records have been delivered to Nelson No. 77. Ruskin had 31 members, half of them living in other states and not enough in the jurisdiction of 304 for a quorum.

FORFEITURE OF CHARTER

On July 20, 1966 accompanied the Grand Master to Burchard to secure the Charter of Upright No. 137 which had been forfeited. On January 4, 1967 I accompanied the Grand Master to Burchard where charter of Upright No. 137 was restored.

GRIEVANCES

No petitions for restoration have been received this year and no appeals from findings of the Committee.

FIFTY-YEAR BUTTONS

There were 364 Buttons presented this year, thirteen more than last year. The number of our fifty-year brethren is growing.

JORDAN MEDALS

Many special meetings and ceremonies were held this year for the presentation of the Robert Carrel Jordan Medal to the senior member of a Lodge in years of membership who was a resident of Nebraska.

GOLD JORDAN MEDAL

The Gold Jordan Medal has passed from W. Frank Quante of Trestle Board No. 162, to Brother John D. Sprague, Fidelity 51. The medal was presented to Brother Sprague on September 15, 1967.

SECRETARIES' MEETINGS

Eleven Secretaries meetings were held this year in co-operation with the Committee on Masonic Education. They were well attended. We have about thirty new secretaries each year and these meetings are most helpful. We have a real fine group of secretaries.

Again this year we were invited by our Grand Custodian, W. Robert W. Cook, to attend a number of Central Schools of Instruction. Thanks, "Bob," we appreciate the invitation and the co-operation.

LOCAL MASONIC RELIEF ASSOCIATION

Again may we express our thanks to the Brethren of the Omaha and Lincoln Relief Associations. They continue to assist the out-state Lodges in hospital calls, etc., as well as sojourning Masons, their widows and orphans.

MEMORIAL LODGE OF OMAHA, U. D. .

Memorial Lodge of Omaha, U. D. ., is called upon many times during the year to conduct the funeral of a sojourning Brother. Our thanks and appreciation to W. Brothers Robert D. Cresap and Albin Bergstrom, their Officers and Brethren.

CHARTERED LODGES

Tecumseh No. 17 and Meridian No. 188 have failed to be represented at the last two Annual Communications and have been cited to appear before the Committee on Charters and Dispensations. Ruskin No. 304 was also cited but consolidated with No. 77 at Nelson.

It has been a most pleasant but extremely busy year. We have enjoyed the wonderful co-operation and fellowship of the Brethren.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund Receipts

Cash U. S. National Bank, May 10, 1966.....	\$ 64,020.99
44,569 members @ \$4.00.....	178,276.00
849 initiations @ \$10.00.....	8,490.00
1 affiliation @ \$10.00.....	10.00
Surety Bond premium.....	747.10
Supplies	3,321.05
Liability insurance	3,208.97
George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 728 Master Masons @ \$1.00.....	728.00
Interest	38,535.22
Refunds from various committees.....	1,129.99
Total.....	\$298,467.32

Disbursements

George Washington Masonic National Memorial.....	\$ 728.00
Supplies	5,771.19
Relief	3,100.00
1966-67 Budget	131,435.54
Securities purchased	61,489.10
Cash, U. S. National Bank, May 10, 1967.....	95,943.49
	<hr/>
Total.....	\$298,467.32

RETIREMENT FUND

Receipts

Cash, U. S. National Bank, May 10, 1966.....	\$ 1,290.76
From Grand Lodge and The Nebraska Masonic Home.....	33,075.00
Interest	1,821.40
	<hr/>
Total.....	\$ 46,070.76

Disbursements

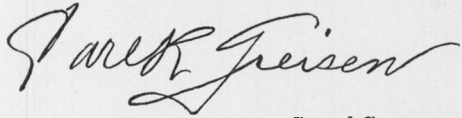
Securities purchased	\$ 45,223.19
Cash, U. S. National Bank May 10, 1967.....	847.57
	<hr/>
Total.....	\$ 46,070.76

RETURNS

Number of Chartered Lodges last year.....	270
Lodges Chartered	1
	<hr/>
	271
Charter surrendered	1
Charters consolidated	2
	<hr/>
Number of Chartered Lodges.....	268
Number initiated	849
Number passed	765
Number raised	728
Number affiliated	396
Number dual members.....	17
Number reinstated	237
Number gained by other causes.....	22
	<hr/>
Total gross increase.....	1,400
Number demitted	389
Number decreased	1,013
Number suspended	575

Number expelled	4
Number lost by other causes.....	19
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Total loss	2,000
Net loss for year ending December 31, 1966.....	600
Number of Master Masons on rolls December 31, 1965	44,569
Number of Master Masons on rolls December 31, 1966	43,969

Fraternally submitted,



Grand Secretary

NAME OF LODGE	MASTER MASONS																							
	E. A. A.				F. C. C.				GAIN												LOSS			
	No. of Lodge	No. Initiated	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1966	No. Passed	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1966	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1965	GAIN						Total	LOSS						No. on Rolls, December 31, 1966	No. of Lodge			
							By Raising	By Affiliation	Dual Mem'ship	Reinstatement	Other Causes	By Demission		By Death	By Suspension	By Expulsion	Other Causes							
Nebraska	1	16	3	17	2	1075	20	5	0	1	0	1001	7	36	6	0	1	50	951	1				
Western Star	2	7	7	6	1	284	6	0	0	1	0	291	1	3	0	0	0	4	287	2				
Capitol	3	17	5	17	4	745	16	2	0	6	0	769	1	34	15	0	0	50	719	3				
Nemaha Valley	4	1	2	0	0	44	0	0	0	0	0	44	0	2	0	0	0	2	42	4				
Omadi	5	2	2	0	0	112	0	0	0	0	0	112	0	1	0	0	0	1	111	5				
Plattsmouth	6	6	4	5	0	346	5	1	0	1	0	353	0	10	2	0	0	12	341	6				
Falls City	9	1	3	1	0	236	3	3	0	1	0	243	5	9	1	0	1	16	227	9				
Solomon	10	2	2	5	0	105	5	0	0	0	0	110	0	1	4	0	1	6	104	10				
Covert	11	38	12	38	4	1705	39	7	0	1	0	1752	0	54	45	0	0	99	1653	11				
Orient	13	3	4	0	0	51	0	0	0	1	0	52	0	1	0	0	0	1	51	13				
Peru	14	2	0	4	0	73	5	0	0	23	0	101	1	2	0	0	0	3	98	14				
Fremont	15	17	2	22	3	639	22	2	0	13	0	676	2	13	24	0	0	39	637	15				
Tecumseh	17	3	6	3	0	154	3	0	0	1	0	158	1	4	0	0	0	5	153	17				
Lincoln	19	8	20	9	3	902	10	0	0	1	0	913	6	19	11	0	0	36	877	19				
Washington	21	2	6	2	2	149	4	2	0	1	0	156	1	2	5	0	0	8	148	21				
Pawnee	23	4	3	4	1	102	3	1	0	0	0	106	1	4	1	0	0	6	100	23				
Saint John	25	18	6	16	3	932	16	0	0	0	0	948	6	29	7	0	0	42	906	25				
Beatrice	26	9	7	8	3	365	7	3	0	3	0	378	0	5	0	0	0	5	373	26				
Jordan	27	1	0	1	0	73	1	0	0	0	0	74	0	2	0	0	0	2	72	27				
Hope	29	0	0	0	0	38	0	0	0	0	0	38	0	3	0	0	0	3	35	29				
Blue River	30	1	1	0	0	96	0	0	0	0	0	96	0	3	0	0	0	3	93	30				
Tekamah	31	3	5	1	2	183	2	0	0	0	0	185	2	1	0	1	0	4	181	31				
Platte Valley	32	15	18	11	4	589	9	6	0	1	0	605	2	10	2	0	1	15	590	32				
Ashlar	33	5	8	2	4	562	2	3	0	2	1	570	3	17	4	0	0	24	546	33				
Acacia	34	3	7	3	3	175	1	1	1	0	0	178	0	10	0	0	0	10	168	34				
Fairbury	35	3	1	2	0	218	2	5	0	1	0	226	2	5	0	0	1	8	218	35				
Lone Tree	36	1	4	1	1	206	1	1	0	2	0	210	2	4	3	0	0	9	201	36				
Crete	37	3	1	6	2	194	5	3	0	2	0	204	0	6	9	0	0	15	189	37				
Oliver	38	2	1	3	0	172	3	1	0	0	0	176	1	1	0	0	0	2	174	38				
Papillion	39	13	14	8	2	262	14	2	0	0	0	278	1	3	2	0	1	7	271	39				
Humboldt	40	0	2	3	1	97	3	0	0	3	0	103	0	4	3	0	0	7	96	40				
Northern Light	41	0	0	0	0	71	0	0	0	0	0	71	0	2	1	0	0	3	68	41				
Hebron	43	0	2	0	0	119	1	0	0	0	0	120	0	4	5	0	0	9	111	43				
Harvard	44	5	0	5	0	74	5	0	0	0	0	79	0	2	1	0	0	3	76	44				
Rob Morris	46	7	8	5	3	363	4	5	0	0	0	372	2	8	7	0	0	17	355	46				
Fairmont	48	1	0	1	0	91	1	0	0	0	0	92	0	2	2	0	0	4	88	48				
Evening Star	49	1	1	1	0	99	2	1	1	1	0	104	0	2	0	0	0	2	102	49				
Hastings	50	6	14	5	3	517	6	1	0	1	0	525	5	10	5	0	0	20	505	50				
Fidelity	51	0	1	2	3	145	0	0	0	0	0	145	1	3	0	0	0	4	141	51				

NAME OF LODGE	E.A.A.		F.C.C.		MASTER MASONS													No. of Lodge	
	No. of Lodge	No. Initiated		No. Passed		No. on Rolls December 31, 1965	GAIN				Total	LOSS					No. on Rolls December 31, 1966		
		No. on Rolls, December 31, 1966		No. on Rolls, December 31, 1966			By Raising	By Affiliation	Dual Mem'ship	Reinstatement		Other Causes	By Demission	By Death	By Suspension	By Expulsion			Other Causes
		No. on Rolls, December 31, 1966	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1966	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1966	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1966															Total Loss
Hiram.....	52	0	0	1	1	89	1	0	0	0	90	1	3	0	0	0	4	86	52
Charity.....	53	2	1	2	0	144	4	2	0	0	150	0	2	0	0	0	2	148	53
Lancaster.....	54	37	13	28	2	895	29	3	0	3	930	4	20	13	0	0	37	893	54
Mosaic.....	55	6	6	7	6	321	4	0	0	2	327	3	6	4	0	0	13	314	55
York.....	56	1	4	3	1	271	3	3	0	2	279	2	11	4	0	0	17	262	56
Mt. Moriah.....	57	2	5	1	1	95	0	2	0	0	97	0	4	0	0	0	4	93	57
Wahoo.....	59	2	3	0	1	295	0	2	0	0	297	1	4	0	0	0	5	292	59
Melrose.....	60	0	0	0	0	75	0	0	0	0	75	0	1	0	0	0	1	74	60
Thistle.....	61	2	1	4	3	216	1	1	0	0	218	1	4	1	0	0	6	212	61
Keystone.....	62	1	1	1	0	50	1	0	0	0	51	0	0	0	0	0	0	51	62
Blue Valley.....	64	1	2	0	0	95	0	2	0	0	97	0	4	1	0	0	5	92	64
Osceola.....	65	3	6	2	0	87	2	0	0	0	89	0	1	0	0	0	1	88	65
Edgar.....	67	0	0	0	0	86	0	0	0	0	86	0	2	0	0	0	2	84	67
Aurora.....	68	1	1	1	2	149	1	0	0	0	150	3	3	0	0	0	6	144	68
Sterling.....	70	1	1	0	0	43	0	0	0	0	43	2	2	0	0	0	4	39	70
Trowel.....	71	2	1	1	0	102	2	0	0	1	105	1	1	0	0	0	2	103	71
Hoopers.....	72	6	4	2	0	100	2	0	0	0	102	0	1	0	0	0	1	101	72
Friend.....	73	0	2	1	3	66	1	1	0	0	69	0	1	0	0	0	1	68	73
Alexandria.....	74	0	0	0	0	29	0	0	0	0	29	1	0	0	0	0	1	28	74
Frank Welch.....	75	0	0	0	0	264	0	2	0	2	268	0	5	2	0	0	7	261	75
Nelson.....	77	0	2	0	1	105	0	31	0	0	136	1	2	0	0	0	3	133	77
Albion.....	78	2	1	2	0	150	2	0	0	2	154	1	2	0	0	0	3	151	78
Geneva.....	79	4	3	2	1	137	2	40	0	1	181	5	5	0	0	0	10	171	79
Composite.....	81	7	4	5	0	89	6	0	0	1	96	0	2	0	0	0	2	94	81
St. Paul.....	82	1	4	1	0	175	2	3	0	0	180	1	6	0	0	0	7	173	82
Corinthian.....	83	1	1	1	1	73	1	0	0	0	74	0	2	0	0	0	2	72	83
Fairfield.....	84	0	0	0	0	45	0	0	0	0	45	0	1	0	0	0	1	44	84
Doniphan.....	86	0	0	0	0	32	0	0	0	0	32	32	0	0	0	0	32	0	86
Ionic.....	87	4	7	3	2	98	1	0	0	0	99	0	2	0	0	0	2	97	87
Star.....	88	3	1	2	0	104	2	1	0	2	109	0	2	0	0	0	2	107	88
Cedar River.....	89	1	9	0	0	100	0	1	0	0	101	0	1	2	0	0	3	98	89
Oakland.....	91	7	12	0	1	137	0	0	0	0	137	1	2	0	0	0	3	134	91
Beaver City.....	93	1	2	0	0	59	1	48	0	1	109	4	1	0	0	0	5	104	93
Bennett.....	94	2	2	2	1	58	3	0	0	0	61	0	1	1	0	0	2	59	94
Garfield.....	95	2	5	0	3	92	2	1	0	0	95	1	2	1	0	0	4	91	95
Utica.....	96	3	1	2	1	74	1	0	0	0	75	0	1	0	0	0	1	74	96
Euclid.....	97	2	6	0	0	107	0	2	0	3	112	1	1	0	0	0	2	110	97
Republican.....	98	1	2	3	3	44	1	0	0	1	46	0	2	0	0	0	2	44	98
Shelton.....	99	1	0	1	1	75	0	0	0	1	76	1	2	0	0	0	3	73	99

NAME OF LODGE	No. of Lodge	MASTER MASONS														No. on Rolls December 31, 1966	No. of Lodge			
		E.A.A.		F.C.C.		GAIN						LOSS								
		No. Initiated	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1966	No. Passed	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1966	No. on Rolls December 31, 1965	By Raising	By Affiliation	Dual Mem ship Reinstatement	Other Causes	Total	By Demission	By Death	By Suspension	By Expulsion			Other Causes	Total Loss	
Creighton.....	100	1	0	1	0	94	1	0	0	1	0	96	2	1	3	0	0	6	90	100
Ponca.....	101	1	2	1	3	82	0	0	0	1	0	83	0	1	0	0	0	1	82	101
Waterloo.....	102	6	3	3	2	161	2	0	0	1	0	164	1	3	3	0	0	7	157	102
Ord.....	103	0	1	0	1	148	0	3	0	0	1	152	2	1	0	0	0	3	149	103
Wymore.....	104	2	5	0	0	202	0	1	0	1	2	206	3	7	4	0	0	14	192	104
Stella.....	105	0	3	1	1	60	0	1	0	0	0	61	0	0	0	0	0	0	61	105
Porter.....	106	0	1	0	1	57	0	11	1	0	0	69	0	1	0	0	0	1	68	106
Table Rock.....	108	0	0	0	0	35	0	0	0	0	0	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	108
Pomegranate.....	110	1	0	2	0	215	2	0	0	0	0	217	0	6	0	0	0	6	211	110
DeWitt.....	111	1	0	2	0	43	2	0	0	1	0	46	0	2	0	0	0	2	44	111
Springfield.....	112	0	0	0	0	121	0	0	1	0	0	122	0	3	1	0	0	4	118	112
Globe.....	113	0	2	0	0	83	0	1	0	0	0	84	0	0	0	0	0	0	84	113
Wisner.....	114	1	0	1	0	94	3	0	0	3	0	100	1	1	1	0	0	3	97	114
Harlan.....	116	1	0	1	0	93	1	0	1	0	2	97	3	0	0	0	0	3	94	116
Hardy.....	117	0	1	0	0	47	0	0	1	0	0	48	0	0	0	0	0	0	48	117
North Bend.....	119	3	3	1	1	104	1	0	0	0	0	105	0	3	0	0	0	3	102	119
Wayne.....	120	1	5	0	2	199	0	2	0	0	0	201	0	3	2	0	0	5	196	120
Superior.....	121	4	5	1	0	178	1	1	0	0	0	180	0	1	1	0	1	3	177	121
Auburn.....	124	0	0	0	0	131	0	1	0	1	0	133	1	0	5	0	0	6	127	124
Mt. Nebo.....	125	1	3	0	0	97	0	1	0	1	0	99	0	5	3	0	0	8	91	125
Stromsburg.....	126	2	2	2	2	76	1	2	0	0	0	79	0	1	0	0	0	1	78	126
Minden.....	127	2	0	2	0	96	2	0	0	0	0	98	0	4	3	0	0	7	91	127
Guide Rock.....	128	2	5	0	1	71	0	3	0	0	0	74	0	0	1	0	0	1	73	128
Blue Hill.....	129	0	0	1	1	58	0	0	0	0	0	58	0	1	0	0	0	1	57	129
Scribner.....	132	0	0	0	0	54	0	0	0	0	0	54	0	2	0	0	0	2	52	132
Elm Creek.....	133	0	1	0	0	48	1	0	0	0	0	49	0	0	0	0	0	0	49	133
Solar.....	134	1	1	0	1	70	0	0	0	0	0	70	0	1	0	0	0	1	69	134
McCook.....	135	7	5	5	2	340	4	2	0	0	0	346	11	4	0	0	0	16	330	135
Long Pine.....	136	0	0	0	0	54	0	1	0	0	0	55	0	4	0	0	0	4	51	136
Upright.....	137	0	0	0	0	70	0	0	0	0	0	70	1	1	0	0	0	2	68	137
Rawalt.....	138	2	8	0	0	83	2	0	0	2	0	87	0	1	0	0	0	1	86	138
Clay Centre.....	139	13	8	6	4	62	2	0	0	0	0	64	2	0	0	0	0	2	62	139
Western.....	140	0	3	1	1	35	1	0	0	1	0	37	0	0	0	0	2	35	140	
Crescent.....	143	1	0	2	1	36	1	0	0	0	1	38	0	4	1	0	0	5	33	143
Kenesaw.....	144	0	1	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	2	52	0	2	0	0	0	2	50	144
Bancroft.....	145	0	2	0	0	55	0	0	0	0	1	56	0	0	2	0	0	2	54	145
Jachin.....	146	1	2	2	1	191	1	2	0	0	0	194	0	4	0	0	0	4	190	146
Siloam.....	147	0	2	1	0	30	1	0	0	0	0	31	0	1	0	1	0	2	29	147
Emmet Crawford.....	148	5	7	3	2	199	3	0	0	2	0	204	0	5	3	0	0	8	196	148

NAME OF LODGE	E.A.A.		F.C.C.		MASTER MASONS													No. on Rolls December 31, 1966	No. of Lodge		
	No. of Lodge	No. Initiated	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1966	No. Passed	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1966	No. on Rolls December 31, 1965	GAIN					Total	LOSS								
							By Raising	By Affiliation	Dual Mem'ship	Reinstatement	Other Causes		By Demission	By Death	By Suspension	By Expulsion	Other Causes				
																				Total Loss	
Jewel.....	149	0	0	0	0	41	0	0	0	0	0	41	40	1	0	0	0	0	41	0	149
Cambridge.....	150	1	3	1	0	108	1	1	0	0	0	110	0	4	1	0	0	0	5	105	150
Evergreen.....	153	1	0	1	0	61	1	0	1	0	0	63	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	62	153
Lily.....	154	0	1	0	0	65	0	1	0	0	0	66	1	3	0	0	0	0	4	62	154
Hartington.....	155	0	3	0	0	61	0	0	0	1	0	62	1	2	0	0	0	0	3	59	155
Pythagoras.....	156	0	0	0	0	32	0	0	0	0	0	32	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	30	156
Valley.....	157	0	0	0	0	44	1	0	0	0	0	45	45	0	0	0	0	0	45	0	157
Samaritan.....	158	6	4	7	0	259	7	1	1	0	0	268	0	5	6	0	0	0	11	257	158
Ogalalla.....	159	4	14	3	2	155	4	2	0	2	0	163	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	159	159
Zeredatha.....	160	3	2	3	1	40	2	0	0	0	0	42	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	41	160
Mount Zion.....	161	2	1	2	0	53	3	0	0	0	0	56	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	56	161
Trestle Board.....	162	1	0	1	0	82	1	0	0	1	0	84	0	3	4	0	0	0	7	77	162
Unity.....	163	4	10	3	2	83	2	0	0	0	0	85	0	3	1	0	0	0	4	81	163
Atkinson.....	164	3	2	3	0	50	3	0	0	0	0	53	0	2	1	0	0	0	3	50	164
Barneston.....	165	3	0	4	2	52	2	0	0	1	0	55	1	2	0	0	0	0	3	52	165
Mystic Tie.....	166	0	1	0	1	42	0	1	0	0	3	46	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	44	166
Elwood.....	167	0	0	1	0	54	1	1	0	0	0	56	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	56	167
Curtis.....	168	0	1	1	1	79	1	1	0	1	0	82	0	3	3	0	0	0	6	76	168
Amity.....	169	2	3	1	1	101	2	0	0	0	0	103	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	101	169
Mason City.....	170	1	2	0	0	30	0	0	0	1	0	31	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	29	170
Merna.....	171	0	1	0	0	58	0	0	0	0	0	58	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	56	171
Robert Burns.....	173	0	1	0	1	81	1	0	0	2	0	84	0	5	1	0	0	0	6	78	173
Culbertson.....	174	2	1	1	3	63	1	0	0	0	0	64	0	2	2	0	0	0	4	60	174
Temple.....	175	4	2	3	3	39	0	0	0	0	0	39	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	38	175
Gladstone.....	176	0	0	0	0	81	0	0	0	0	0	81	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	81	176
Hay Springs.....	177	2	2	1	0	120	1	0	0	0	0	122	0	3	4	0	0	0	7	115	177
Prudence.....	179	0	1	0	0	47	0	1	0	0	0	47	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	46	179
Justice.....	180	3	5	1	1	142	0	0	1	0	0	144	2	0	1	0	0	0	3	141	180
Faith.....	181	0	1	1	2	108	1	0	0	1	0	110	1	1	1	0	0	0	3	107	181
Alliance.....	183	13	8	11	4	382	7	0	0	0	0	389	1	13	7	0	0	0	21	368	183
Bee Hive.....	184	34	9	29	6	1002	26	8	0	7	0	1043	7	19	28	0	0	0	54	989	184
Boaz.....	185	0	1	0	0	64	0	0	0	0	0	64	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	61	185
Meridian.....	188	1	1	0	1	149	1	1	0	3	0	154	0	5	1	0	0	0	6	148	188
Granite.....	189	0	1	0	0	73	0	0	0	2	0	75	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	72	189
Amethyst.....	190	0	1	0	0	47	0	1	0	0	0	48	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	47	190
Crystal.....	191	2	2	0	0	79	1	0	0	2	0	82	1	1	2	0	0	0	4	78	191

NAME OF LODGE	MASTER MASONS																			
	No. of Lodge	E. A. A.		F. C. C.		GAIN							LOSS					No. on Rolls December 31, 1966	No. of Lodge	
		No. Initiated	No. on Rolls December 31, 1966	No. Passed	No. on Rolls December 31, 1966	No. on Rolls December 31, 1965	By Raising	By Affiliation	Dual Membership	Reinstatement	Other Causes	Total	By Demission	By Death	By Suspension	By Expulsion	Other Causes			Total Loss
Minnekadusa	192	10	12	8	2	171	7	2	0	0	0	180	2	3	4	0	0	9	171	192
Signet	193	1	1	1	0	60	1	0	0	0	0	61	0	1	0	0	0	1	60	193
Highland	194	1	1	1	1	39	0	0	0	0	0	39	0	0	1	0	0	1	38	194
Arcana	195	1	3	0	0	156	0	0	0	0	0	156	0	5	0	0	0	5	151	195
Morning Star	197	2	2	0	0	61	0	0	0	0	0	61	1	1	0	0	0	2	59	197
Purity	198	3	4	2	1	136	3	0	1	0	0	140	1	1	0	0	0	2	138	198
Gavel	199	0	0	0	0	43	0	0	0	0	0	43	0	3	0	0	0	3	40	199
Blazing Star	200	0	0	1	0	85	1	0	0	1	0	87	0	3	0	0	0	3	84	200
Scotts Bluff	201	1	2	3	1	189	3	0	0	0	0	192	0	1	0	0	0	1	191	201
Golden Sheaf	202	0	2	0	1	83	0	0	0	0	0	83	1	3	3	0	0	7	76	202
Roman Eagle	203	5	3	3	2	72	1	0	0	0	0	73	0	1	0	0	0	1	72	203
Plainview	204	2	3	2	0	97	2	0	0	0	0	99	0	2	3	0	0	5	94	204
Golden Fleece	205	1	1	2	1	168	2	0	0	0	0	170	1	3	0	0	0	4	166	205
Napthali	206	0	0	0	0	53	0	0	0	0	0	53	0	3	1	0	0	4	49	206
Parian	207	0	3	0	0	54	0	0	0	0	0	54	1	2	0	0	0	3	51	207
Canopy	209	0	1	0	0	108	0	0	0	0	0	108	0	3	3	0	0	6	102	209
East Lincoln	210	17	16	17	7	1252	17	6	0	8	0	1283	8	27	15	1	0	51	1232	210
Cement	211	0	0	0	0	82	0	0	0	0	0	82	1	2	0	0	0	3	79	211
Compass & Square	212	0	0	0	0	39	0	0	0	1	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	212
Plumbline	214	0	0	0	0	33	0	0	0	1	0	34	0	2	0	0	0	2	32	214
Occidental	215	0	1	0	0	68	0	0	0	0	0	68	1	0	1	0	0	2	66	215
Palisade	216	3	5	0	1	99	0	1	0	1	0	101	0	0	1	0	0	1	100	216
Wauneta	217	2	3	0	0	58	0	0	0	0	0	58	0	1	0	0	0	1	57	217
Bloomfield	218	1	7	1	0	81	1	2	0	0	0	84	0	2	1	0	0	3	81	218
Relief	219	0	2	1	2	53	1	0	0	0	0	54	1	1	0	0	0	2	52	219
Magnolia	220	2	5	0	1	56	0	0	0	0	0	56	0	4	0	0	0	4	52	220
Wood Lake	221	2	1	1	0	79	1	0	0	0	0	80	2	2	2	0	0	6	74	221
Landmark	222	0	0	1	0	97	1	0	0	1	0	99	1	1	0	0	0	2	97	222
Eminence	223	0	0	1	0	60	2	1	0	1	0	64	0	1	0	0	0	1	63	223
Silver Cord	224	2	6	7	4	118	7	1	0	10	0	136	1	4	0	0	2	7	129	224
Cable	225	0	0	0	0	92	0	0	0	0	0	92	1	4	5	0	0	10	82	225
Grace	226	0	2	0	0	63	0	0	0	0	0	63	0	1	2	0	0	3	60	226
North Star	227	11	7	12	4	510	10	0	0	0	0	520	1	8	12	0	0	21	499	227
Bartley	228	2	1	1	0	56	1	0	0	0	0	57	1	0	0	0	0	1	56	228
Comet	229	2	6	4	2	119	1	1	0	0	0	121	0	1	0	0	0	1	120	229
Mt. Hermon	231	0	0	0	0	37	0	0	0	0	0	37	0	0	2	0	0	2	35	231
John S. Bowen	232	3	1	3	0	73	3	0	0	0	0	76	1	1	1	0	0	3	73	232
Gilead	233	0	1	0	0	51	0	0	0	0	0	51	1	1	0	0	0	2	49	233
Zion	234	0	1	2	4	100	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	2	0	0	0	2	98	234
Fraternity	235	0	0	0	0	60	0	1	0	1	0	62	0	1	1	0	0	2	60	235

NAME OF LODGE	E. A. A.		F. C. C.		MASTER MASONS													No. on Rolls December 31, 1966	No. of Lodge	
	No. of Lodge	No. Initiated	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1966	No. Passed	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1966	No. on Rolls December 31, 1965	GAIN					Total	LOSS							
							By Raising	By Affiliation	Dual Mem' ship	Reinstatement	Other Causes		By Demission	By Death	By Suspension	By Expulsion	Other Causes			
																				Total Loss
Golden Rule.....	236	2	3	0	2	63	0	0	0	0	0	63	0	2	2	0	0	4	59	236
Cubit.....	237	0	1	0	0	46	0	0	0	0	0	46	0	2	1	0	0	3	43	237
Friendship.....	239	0	1	0	1	75	0	0	0	2	0	77	1	1	10	0	0	12	65	239
Pilot.....	240	2	3	2	0	110	2	4	0	0	0	116	0	3	0	0	0	3	113	240
George Armstrong	241	1	0	3	2	75	1	0	0	1	0	77	0	0	0	0	0	0	77	241
Tyrian.....	243	0	0	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	243
Hampton.....	245	1	1	0	0	46	0	0	1	0	0	47	0	2	1	0	0	3	44	245
Nehawka.....	246	3	1	4	1	112	4	0	1	0	0	117	0	4	0	0	0	4	113	246
Corner-Stone.....	247	0	0	0	3	23	0	0	0	0	0	23	1	1	0	0	0	2	21	247
Laurel.....	248	1	2	2	1	88	3	1	0	0	0	92	2	4	1	0	0	7	85	248
Gothenburg.....	249	3	3	4	2	157	4	0	0	0	0	161	3	3	1	0	0	7	154	249
Geo. Washington.	250	15	8	12	1	346	13	0	0	2	0	361	0	10	4	0	2	16	345	250
Wausa.....	251	0	0	2	0	48	2	1	0	2	1	54	0	2	2	0	0	4	50	251
Beemer.....	253	1	0	1	0	45	1	0	0	0	0	46	0	3	0	0	0	4	42	253
Bassett.....	254	0	0	0	0	72	0	0	0	9	0	81	0	3	1	0	1	5	76	254
Hickman.....	256	5	4	2	1	62	2	0	0	1	0	65	1	1	1	0	0	3	62	256
Anselmo.....	258	1	1	1	1	89	0	0	0	0	0	89	0	1	1	0	0	2	87	258
Ornan.....	261	0	3	0	0	78	0	0	0	0	0	78	1	1	0	0	0	2	76	261
Endeavor.....	262	0	0	0	0	93	0	0	0	0	0	93	0	2	1	0	0	3	90	262
Mitchell.....	263	3	1	5	3	155	4	1	0	1	0	161	1	4	4	0	0	9	152	263
Franklin.....	264	0	0	0	0	101	0	0	0	0	0	101	0	2	0	0	0	2	99	264
Robert W. Furnas	265	3	9	3	1	442	4	1	0	1	0	448	2	10	2	0	0	14	434	265
Silver.....	266	0	0	1	0	66	1	0	0	0	0	67	1	2	0	0	0	3	64	266
James A. Tulleys.	267	0	1	1	0	51	1	1	0	0	0	53	0	0	0	0	0	0	53	267
Geo. W. Lininger.	268	3	1	2	0	261	2	0	0	1	0	264	1	3	1	0	0	5	259	268
Oasis.....	271	2	0	2	1	129	2	2	0	0	0	133	0	1	0	0	0	1	132	271
Lee P. Gillette.	272	0	0	0	0	64	0	0	0	1	0	65	0	0	0	0	0	0	65	272
Crofton.....	273	0	1	1	0	42	1	0	0	0	0	43	0	0	0	0	0	0	43	273
Olive Branch.....	274	0	1	0	0	56	0	0	0	0	0	56	2	1	0	0	0	3	53	274
Ramah.....	275	0	2	0	0	60	0	0	0	0	0	60	1	4	0	0	0	5	55	275
Antelope.....	276	2	5	0	0	62	0	0	0	0	0	62	0	1	0	0	0	1	61	276
Sioux.....	277	1	1	0	0	47	0	0	0	0	0	47	0	2	0	0	0	2	45	277
Litchfield.....	278	7	4	3	1	35	2	0	0	0	0	37	1	0	1	0	0	2	35	278
Wallace.....	279	1	1	2	0	40	2	0	0	0	0	42	0	0	2	0	0	2	40	279
Swastika.....	280	1	3	0	0	82	3	0	1	0	0	86	1	3	1	0	0	5	81	280
Florence.....	281	13	6	14	2	972	11	0	0	3	0	986	18	15	31	0	0	64	922	281
Mullen.....	282	1	2	0	0	64	1	0	0	0	1	66	0	2	0	0	0	2	64	282
Seneca.....	284	2	0	2	1	65	3	0	0	1	3	72	0	0	2	0	0	2	70	284
Camp Clarke.....	285	1	0	1	3	154	1	1	0	2	0	158	1	4	1	0	0	6	152	285

NAME OF LODGE	No. of Lodge	E. A. A.		F. C. C.		MASTER MASONS													No. on Rolls December 31, 1966	No. of Lodge
		No. Initiated	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1966	No. Passed	No. on Rolls, December 31, 1966	No. on Rolls December 31, 1965	GAIN					Total	LOSS					Total Loss		
							By Raising	By Affiliation	Dual Mem' ship	Reinstatement	Other Causes		By Demission	By Death	By Suspension	By Expulsion	Other Causes			
Oshkosh.....	286	0	2	1	1	106	2	0	0	0	0	108	0	2	3	0	1	6	102	286
Union.....	287	0	0	0	0	62	0	1	0	0	0	63	0	3	1	0	0	4	59	287
Omaha.....	288	6	5	6	1	532	7	2	0	5	0	546	3	15	11	0	0	29	517	288
Lotus.....	289	1	3	3	3	164	2	0	0	1	0	167	1	4	0	0	0	5	162	289
John J. Mercer...	290	40	16	37	6	1562	40	10	0	5	0	1617	3	29	22	0	1	55	1562	290
Diamond.....	291	1	2	0	1	68	1	0	0	0	0	69	0	0	0	0	0	0	69	291
Wolbach.....	292	1	1	0	0	46	0	0	0	0	0	46	0	2	0	0	0	2	44	292
Monument.....	293	2	1	4	3	66	1	0	0	2	0	69	2	3	4	0	0	9	60	293
Kimball.....	294	5	5	4	3	195	1	0	0	2	0	198	2	3	4	0	0	9	189	294
Minatare.....	295	0	1	0	0	88	0	0	0	4	0	92	1	2	7	0	0	10	82	295
Cotner.....	297	8	6	8	2	285	7	1	0	1	0	294	0	4	4	0	0	8	286	297
Chester.....	298	0	2	0	1	50	0	0	0	0	0	50	1	0	1	0	0	2	48	298
Sutherland.....	299	2	3	3	1	85	2	0	0	0	0	87	0	1	2	0	0	3	84	299
Liberty.....	300	4	4	3	1	475	4	4	0	6	0	489	6	9	1	0	0	16	473	300
Bayard.....	301	2	1	2	4	83	0	0	0	0	0	83	1	0	0	0	0	1	82	301
Mizpah.....	302	17	7	19	4	1204	20	3	0	5	0	1232	5	31	25	0	0	61	1171	302
Right Angle.....	303	6	2	7	1	565	6	0	0	2	0	573	3	12	1	0	0	16	557	303
Ruskin.....	304	0	0	0	0	31	0	0	0	0	0	31	30	1	0	0	0	31	0	304
Newman Grove...	305	0	3	1	1	65	1	0	0	0	0	66	0	1	0	0	0	1	65	305
Golden Rod.....	306	0	0	0	0	86	1	1	0	0	0	88	0	0	0	0	0	0	88	306
Perkins.....	308	2	2	1	1	104	1	0	0	1	0	106	1	4	5	0	0	10	96	308
Winnebago.....	309	1	7	0	2	53	0	0	0	4	0	57	1	0	4	0	0	5	52	309
Victory.....	310	3	3	2	1	209	3	0	0	3	1	216	0	3	8	0	0	11	205	310
Polk.....	311	1	1	1	0	66	1	0	0	0	0	67	0	1	2	0	0	3	64	311
Oak Leaf.....	312	0	0	0	1	53	0	0	0	0	0	53	0	1	5	0	0	6	47	312
Potter.....	313	1	3	0	1	101	1	1	1	1	0	105	1	5	0	0	0	6	99	313
Craftsmen.....	314	11	4	10	2	611	8	6	1	0	0	626	6	17	3	0	0	26	600	314
Alpha.....	316	1	10	2	2	190	4	0	0	2	0	196	2	4	2	0	0	8	188	316
Mid-West.....	317	18	15	14	7	512	11	19	1	2	0	545	3	7	2	0	2	14	531	317
Grand Island....	318	7	10	4	2	352	3	1	0	1	0	357	6	6	5	0	0	17	340	318
Bladen.....	319	1	0	1	0	39	1	0	0	0	0	40	0	2	0	0	0	2	38	319
College View....	320	4	7	3	0	169	3	2	0	3	0	177	2	4	11	0	0	17	160	320
Harmony.....	321	1	1	0	0	64	0	0	0	1	0	65	3	1	0	0	0	4	61	321
Pioneer.....	322	3	2	3	2	74	1	0	0	0	0	75	0	3	1	0	0	4	71	322

NAME OF LODGE	No. of Lodge	E. A. A.		F. C. C.		MASTER MASONS														No. on Rolls December 31, 1966	No. of Lodge
		No. Initiated		No. on Rolls, December 31, 1966		No. on Rolls, December 31, 1966		No. on Rolls, December 31, 1965		GAIN					LOSS						
		No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	By Raising	By Affiliation	Dual Membership	Reinstatement	Other Causes	Total	By Demission	By Death	By Suspension	By Expulsion	Other Causes	Total Loss		
Lebanon . . .	323	11	14	12	11	206	6	0	0	4	0	216	1	3	5	0	0	9	207	323	
Cairo	324	0	1	1	1	75	0	0	0	0	0	75	1	0	0	0	0	1	74	324	
Bellevue . .	325	17	9	15	6	386	14	2	0	2	0	404	0	2	7	1	0	10	394	325	
Centennial	326	23	14	28	9	436	27	12	0	1	0	476	0	6	5	0	0	11	465	326	
Shiloh . . .	327	14	0	14	3	0	11	52	1	0	0	64	0	0	0	0	0	0	64	327	
Totals . . .		849	798	765	292	44569	728	396	17	237	22	45969	389	1013	575	4	19	2000	43969		

VETERAN SECRETARIES

Who have served 25 years or more.

Fred R. Haggart.....	St. Paul No. 82.....	46 years
Fredolph C. Chalquist.....	Composite No. 81.....	38 years
C. Robert Carlson.....	Wauneta No. 217.....	38 years
Leon J. Cherny.....	North Bend No. 119.....	36 years
Carl H. Hoge.....	Lebanon No. 323.....	35 years
Roy T. Stiehl.....	Hay Springs No. 177.....	32 years
Elmer H. Seyfang.....	Potter No. 313.....	30 years
Fred R. Lamb.....	Papillion No. 39.....	29 years
William E. Edwards.....	Alliance No. 183.....	29 years
Harve I. Lang.....	Litchfield No. 278.....	29 years
Frank F. McMullin.....	George Armstrong No. 241....	29 years
Charles F. Eberline.....	East Lincoln No. 210.....	28 years
Floyd Christy.....	Trestle Board No. 162.....	27 years
Warren C. Hall.....	Nelson No. 77.....	27 years
John V. Maddox.....	Crystal No. 191.....	26 years
Claude A. Rennau.....	Aurora No. 68.....	25 years
Donald D. Hill, Sr.....	Scribner No. 132.....	25 years
August W. Teter.....	Bartley No. 228.....	25 years
James C. Bierbower.....	Eminence No. 223.....	25 years

REPORT OF THE GRAND CUSTODIAN

Following is the report of your Grand Custodian:

CENTRAL SCHOOLS

Fifteen Central Schools were held this year. One more than last year in order to cover a greater area of the state. Sixty-seven sessions were held with a total attendance of over eighty-five hundred.

EXAMINATION SCHOOLS

The Examination School enables the Assistant Custodian to instruct the lodges in the floor work in addition to the esoteric portion of the three degrees. One hundred fifty-four of these schools were held this year.

INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS

The Individual School is still very much in demand for the non-certified lodge. Eighty such schools were conducted by the Assistant Custodians with a total attendance of over fifty-five hundred.

LODGE CERTIFICATION

Again more than fifty percent of our Nebraska lodges were certified. Certificates of Proficiency have been issued to one hundred fifty-four lodges. This number remains the same as last year.

INDIVIDUAL CERTIFICATION

Our Assistant Custodians held one hundred three examination sessions with an overall total of seven hundred fifty-two Nebraska Masons receiving renewal certificates. Thirty-eight of our Brethren received their 'First Certificate.'

TWENTY YEAR CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

This certificate is given in recognition of twenty years of continuous certification. The following Brethren were honored this year: John H. Brown and George F. Spencer, 1, S. Hugh Dillon, 19, Jack Clark, 38, Joe F. Brown, 54, Charles M. Frederick, 136, Alva B. Jennings, 210, Francis W. Poast and Eugene M. McCoy, 281, Roy I. Babbitt, 295, Eugene L. Bumsted, 303, Roy W. Farmer and Elmer J. Hansen, 314.

ASSISTANT CUSTODIANS

These dedicated and devoted Brethren have performed their duties this past year with the usual intense interest and concern for the well-being of the lodges in their districts. We are indeed fortunate to have this group of talented and well informed Brethren. Three new Assistant Custodians were added to our staff, recommended by the Grand

Custodian, approved by the Committee on Nebraska Work and Commissioned by the Grand Master. They are: Gwynne L. Neubauer, 258, Ward L. McGlashan, 180, and Curtis J. Griess, 49. Our new Custodians are doing a splendid job in this new assignment.

ASSISTANT CUSTODIANS EMERITUS

All our Custodians Emeritus continue to be very active in their own communities. This service to the Grand Lodge is invaluable. Our grateful thanks to them. Richard L. Wait, 19, was added to this list of distinguished Masons this year.

ROSS VAN SICKLE

On July Fourth, our beloved W. Ross Van Sickle was called by the Supreme Architect of the Universe to His Home. The many years that Brother Ross served the Grand Lodge will live forever in the memory of those who were privileged to benefit from his instruction. His record of service will probably never be equaled. "His death was untimely and his Brethren mourn."

CONCLUSION

Your Grand Custodian has conducted every session of every Central School this year, has been in attendance at every Area Meeting of the Committee on Masonic Education and at all Grand Lodge functions except one where a Central School date was in conflict. We have also been in attendance at innumerable other Masonic functions throughout the year.

This report would not be complete without expressing my deep gratitude to our Grand Master, M. W. Lewis R. 'Dick' Ricketts, to R. W. Carl R. Greisen our Grand Secretary and to the Committee on Nebraska Work, M. W. Edward F. Carter, M. W. Herbert T. White and M. W. Louis V. Sylvester. Our sincere thanks and appreciation to our Assistant Custodians and to each and every one who has given us help and encouragement throughout the year.

Fraternally submitted,

Robert H. Cook

Grand Custodian

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON DOINGS OF GRAND OFFICERS

W. Byron C. Jenkins, 325, chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers which was adopted.

The Committee respectfully submits as its report that the Address of M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master, be referred as follows:

To the Committee on Fraternal Dead:

The Section on Necrology.

To the Committee on Jurisprudence:

Recommendations No. 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

The Section on By-Laws approved.

The Section on Dispensations.

The Section on Decisions.

To the Committee on Charters and Dispensations:

The Sections on Shiloh Lodge No. 327, Upright Lodge No. 137, and Consolidations.

To the Committee on Grievances:

The section on Trial Commissions.

To the Grand Lodge:

Recommendation No. 1, and the Section in Appreciations relating to R. W. Carl R. Greisen.

The entire report shows an untiring devotion to the Fraternity and capable leadership in all the activities of this Grand Lodge. The Committee recommends that all matters not herein specifically referred to Committees be approved and ratified.

REVIEW OF THE REPORT OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

We recommend that the designated portions of the report of the Grand Secretary be referred as follows:

To the Committee on Returns:

The Section on Returns.

To the Committee on Charters and Dispensations:

The Section on Consolidation.

The Section on Forfeiture of Charter.

The Section on Chartered Lodges.

To the Committee on Finance:

All financial and report schedules relating to funds.

As we have all come to expect, the Report of the Grand Secretary indicates a diligent and faithful discharge of the duties of his Office. The Committee further recommends that all matters not herein referred to Committees be approved and ratified.

REVIEW OF THE REPORT OF THE GRAND CUSTODIAN

We recommend that the entire report be referred to the Committee on Nebraska Work. The years pass by, but one thing remains constant, the unselfish service to the Craft on the part of the Grand Custodian and his Assistants.

The Committee further recommends that all matters not herein referred to Committees be approved and ratified.

M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master:

R. W. Grand Secretary, I think there is a resolution on your desk that I am going to want. Normally resolutions are filed with and read by the Grand Secretary, but in this instance since it involves the Grand Secretary. I am going to usurp his prerogative.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS R. W. BROTHER CARL R. GREISEN, GRAND SECRETARY OF THE GRAND LODGE A. F. & A. M. OF NEBRASKA, HAS RENDERED DISTINGUISHED AND DEDICATED SERVICE AS GRAND SECRETARY TO THE MASONIC CRAFT IN NEBRASKA FOR MORE THAN TWENTY-TWO YEARS, AND HAS DESERVEDLY RECEIVED HIGH HONORS AND RECOGNITION FROM OTHER GRAND JURISDICTIONS AND ALLIED MASONIC BODIES IN NORTH AMERICA;

AND WHEREAS BROTHER GREISEN WAS GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN OF THIS GRAND LODGE AT THE TIME HE WAS ELECTED TO OFFICE AS GRAND SECRETARY AND WOULD OTHERWISE UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE SERVED THIS GRAND LODGE AS GRAND MASTER;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GRAND LODGE A. F. & A. M. OF NEBRASKA THAT IN RECOGNITION OF SUCH SERVICE BY THIS DISTINGUISHED MASON THE TITLE OF "HONORARY PAST GRAND MASTER" BE BESTOWED AND CONFERRED UPON HIM FORTHWITH,

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE GRAND MASTER BE AND HEREBY IS AUTHORIZED AND DIRECTED TO CAUSE A SUITABLE AND APPROPRIATE CERTIFICATE TO BE PREPARED EVIDENCING THIS RECOGNITION.

Elmer E. Magee

Past Grand Master

This resolution was filed on May 29 by M. W. Elmer R. Magee. Since the matter of my recommendation on this appointment was referred to the Grand Lodge, this is for the Grand Lodge to decide. Is there a second to the resolution?



**Grand Lodge
Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska**

The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska in regular communication assembled in Lincoln, on the sixth day of June, A.D. 1967, A. L. 5967, by a unanimous vote bestowed and conferred on

Brother Carl Roy Greisen

the title of

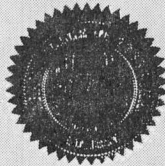
"Honorary Past Grand Master"

in recognition of distinguished and dedicated service as Grand Secretary to the Masonic Craft in Nebraska for more than Twenty-two years, and as Grand Junior Warden at the time he was elected Grand Secretary, and having deservedly received high honors and recognition from other Grand Jurisdictions and Allied Masonic Bodies in North America.

Presented at Lincoln, Nebraska on this sixth day of June in the year of our Lord, nineteen hundred sixty-seven, in the Year of Light 5967.

Attest:

Robert A. Cook
Grand Custodian



Lewis R. Ricketts
Grand Master

Presentation on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Masons of Nebraska of Certificate of election as Honorary Past Grand Master of the M. W. of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Nebraska to M. W. Carl Roy Greisen by M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts.

M. .W. . Merle M. Hale, Past Grand Master:

M. .W. .Grand Master, I would appreciate the privilege of seconding this resolution. As many of you know I was Grand Master during the Centennial Year, when there was much extra work to be done. Most of this work fell upon the shoulders of W. .George W. Rosenlof, Chairman of our Centennial Committee, and our most efficient Grand Secretary. He was my strong right arm and he has been to many other Grand Masters. I heartily seconded this motion.

M. .W. .Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master:

Thank you, M. .W. .Brother Hale. Is there any discussion with respect to this resolution. Are you ready for the question? All in favor will signify by the usual sign of a Mason when voting, down hands, contrary the same sign. It is unanimously adopted.

Brethren, nothing could give me greater pleasure than asking you to join with me in saluting our new Honorary Past Grand Master with the grand honors by three times three.

M. .W. .Carl R. Greisen, Grand Secretary:

Thank you, M. .W. .Grand Master, M. .W. .Brother Magee and M. .W. .Brother Hale and all the brethren of Nebraska. You are wonderful. I could cry, not because I am sad, but because I am very happy and very proud. You have conferred upon me many honors and I appreciate them, but this is the frosting on the cake, and I am deeply grateful and thank you from this heart of mine. I know that two brethren will be very happy this morning, my predecessor, M. .W. .Lewis E. Smith, who perhaps is looking down on this Annual Communication, and M. .W. .George A. Kurk, now a resident of California, who appointed me in line in 1942. Thank you very much, I am very humble.

M. .W. .Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master:

Brethren, nothing could have given me greater pleasure than the unanimous action which you have just taken. No honor could have been more deserved.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL RELATIONS

M. W. William B. Wanner, 9, presented the Report of Committee on Fraternal Relations which was adopted.

Your Committee on Fraternal Relations respectfully reports that there has been no change in our fraternal relations with other Jurisdictions with whom we are now exchanging Representatives, during the past Masonic Year.

During the past Masonic Year, your Committee has received requests for recognition and exchange of Representatives from the following Grand Lodges:

Grande Loza do Parana—Curitiba, Brazil

Grande Oriente Do Brasil—Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Cuba continues to be a puzzle. Conditions are far from improving and may perhaps be deteriorating, but who can tell? So far eleven states have broken off relations with Cuba, among them was New Jersey to whom Cuban Circular No. 37 under date of July 30, 1966 was addressed. This has an English translation and contains a lengthy letter from the present Grand Master of Cuba, denouncing in the strongest terms those, who he claims deserted the homeland in its hour of need. G. M. Tarajano, the Grand Master at the time of the takeover by Castro, under date of December 20, 1966, resigned his position and placed the Grand Lodge of Cuba in recess darkness as from December 31, 1966. He placed its seal and records in the care of Florida. The Grand Lodge of Florida followed this up with an Edict that no lodge should admit any visitor pretending to be of Cuban origin, unless they present a certificate signed by the Florida Committee of Avouchment. The American Lodge at Guantanamo Bay, now working under dispensation from Massachusetts, continues. The Grand Lodge of Cuba denies that this lodge has surrendered its Cuban charter. Since only conflicting reports continue to be received, we recommend no change in our relation with Cuba for the coming year.

Nebraska was the third state to recognize Belgium, who are now recognized by almost every jurisdiction, 95 in all. They were recognized by Israel this past year. Belgium seems to be progressing quite smoothly. They now have 18 lodges.

Two years ago we recognized Finland. They are doing well and have recently moved into a new Grand Lodge Temple in Helsinki. They now have about 1,600 members in 39 lodges. Their average age per member is less than fifty, in fact the largest group (35%) fall in the 35-45 age, which is good. 33% is in the 45-55 age. Most of their members are business or professional men.

The Philippines had a good year in 1965, but show a loss of 130 in 1966. They now have 12,000 members in 126 lodges. They are now engaged in remodeling their Temple property in Manila.

Last year I reported that the troubles between the Grand Lodge of Turkey and their Scottish Rite had been settled, but it would seem that the issue of sovereignty has flared up again. The regularity and authority of Turkey was again demonstrated when Lord Bruce, the then Grand Master of Scotland consecrated it in April 1965. In a meeting held in December 1965, attended by all but 19 of all possible delegates, the Grand Lodge confirmed the principles upon which it operated as the sole and undivided authority in Turkey. After extended correspondence between both sides during 1965 and 1966, Turkey under date of June 14, 1966, informed us of a rupture of relations with the Supreme Council. Throughout all this the Grand Lodge seemed temperate and conciliatory, while the Rite is demanding. Under date of September 15, 1966, we were informed by the Grand Lodge that the Rite has formed another Grand Lodge, which is presently meeting in the Supreme Council building. So far as can be determined the membership of this group is only 88. We move that no change be made in our relations with the regular Grand Lodge of Turkey.

In Greece, one lodge maintains eleven night schools, another two, another one. Another lodge has a primary school, another a night gymnasium. Still another has a fine arts and handicraft school for boys and an orphanage. Still another conducts rural clubs for the regeneration of farm boys and also a school to train mechanics, electricians, carpenters and bookkeepers. These schools have some 26 professors conducting these classes.

Japan had a net gain of 250 with a total membership of 3,500. It is hoped that most of these gained were Japanese, but we sincerely doubt it. Their troubles with the Philippines have been ironed out.

The last report from China shows a loss of one. They recognized India. Their membership is a little over 1,200 in five lodges. They did not like what I wrote about them a year ago, although they credited me to Nevada. Only the first degree has been translated into Chinese. This is a hard job since there is no real Chinese language officially, but only many dialects, unintelligible in many areas of China.

Israel holds quarterly communications in Tel-Aviv. They have eliminated all mention of penalties in their obligations. Also, a peculiar regulation, no Masonic titles are to be mentioned in the presence of women. They denounced Nasser, the Egyptian dictator, for a slanderous article on Freemasonry. They were recognized by New Brunswick. One new lodge was constituted. They now have 52 lodges with a gain of 150 and nearly 3,000 members. Their Grand Secretary never fails to send greetings to every Grand Lodge in the world on the occasion of its Annual Communication.

France still has its three Grand Lodges. The Grand Lodge of France, since its practical unity with the Grand Orient continues to lose friends. The District of Columbia and Louisiana are the only two U. S. jurisdictions who still recognize the Lodge of France. The

National Grand Lodge of France, whom we recognize has gained some 1,000 members of the Grand Lodge of France, who have been re-obligated in all three degrees. They have also gained about a thousand of their own, of which and most important, almost 850 were native Frenchmen. Thus they are overcrowding the critics of this Grand Lodge as not being really French at all. The Supreme Council of France has also left the quarters which they shared with the Grand Lodge of France and organized a new Supreme Council. Last year I reported that England had enjoined their members from visiting Swiss lodges because the Swiss still recognized in principle at least the Grand Lodge of France. Well, the Swiss have withdrawn completely now any recognition and the English Constitution has dissolved their injunction against Swiss visitation. There were 34 new lodges instituted by the National Grand Lodge of France too. A successful year!

The Grand Lodge of Sao Paulo in Brazil now has 47 lodges; 19 in the city of Sao Paulo, described in a recent "Life" Magazine article as "the fastest growing city in the world," and 28 in the country. They lost some lodges in forming the Grand Lodge of Mato Grosso, which we recognized last year.

A new Grand Lodge has been formed in Brazil called the Grand Lodge of Brazilia. This Grand Lodge was organized by charter from the Grand Lodge of Goias, which is located in the Federal District of Goias. As a result of moving the capitol from Rio de Janeiro to Goias, this Federal District became a state within a state. In the city of Brazilia, there are seven lodges, which comprise this new Grand Lodge. It works according to the Ancient Landmarks and in strict conformity to the tenets of regular Freemasonry. It has been recognized by the rest of the Grand Lodges in Brazil. The masonic setup in Brazil is quite confusing, but they all seem to be regular, except for the Grand Orient.

India has a very young Grand Lodge, but the institution is old in this country. They added 11 new lodges and increased their membership to 8,300 members. There were casualties incurred in their small war with Pakistan, so a war relief fund was started. They have their own ritual now and the Grand Master said: "I would therefore exhort every member of every lodge to possess himself with a copy of the Grand Lodge of India ritual and study it every day, contemplate on its symbolism and mastering it, so that the foundation laid in the North East corner on the day of his initiation may actually prove to be well and truly laid. With these words, I take pleasure in releasing the Ritual." The ritual was then blessed in a short ceremony.

England recognized Belgium after a lapse of nearly a hundred years. They, together with Ireland and Scotland, joined with the Grand Lodge of South Africa in a Concordat concerning membership. The English lodges, which were in Egypt, part of which were moved to London and the remainder (10) were erased. A new Grand Master,

Major Ronald O. Ewing, was installed for the first time in twenty years succeeding the Earl of Scarborough, who retired for health reasons. The 250th Anniversary of English Masonry will be observed on June 27, 1967. There will be a contribution of some sort made to the welfare of the country. Ireland like England and Scotland has lodges scattered in the four corners of the earth. Scotland is the only one of the three who gives any membership data, in 1965 they had 1,022 lodges with 287,824 members, with a gain of 2,256, which is the largest gain of any Grand Lodge in any country, for this year. Their Grand Master Mason was present in New York City at the Consecration of Lodge Britannica, the only foreign lodge in any of our United States. Members are mostly British, including pilots of the B.O.A.C. air fleet. Scotland now has 47 guests in their Home, with a long waiting list.

In regard to the requests for recognition, we hold that the Grand Orient of Brazil is an irregular organization and is not recognized by any Grand Lodge in the United States and recommend that its request be denied. We recommend the recognition and exchange of Representatives with the Grande Loza de Parana, Curitiba, Parana, Brazil. For some time we have held for investigation an application from the Grand Lodge of Luxembourg. This Grand Lodge was formed in December, 1858 and is certainly the smallest in the world. It consists of only three lodges as follows: Perfect Union, started in 1770; Enfants de la Concorde Fortifice in 1803 and St. John de l'esperance in 1848, all very old and venerable institutions. Their membership is very small, less than 400 in all. It is independent and conforms to all requirements of any sort that could be demanded. It has no relationship with any irregular or spurious Masonic Organization. We can see no real reason for withholding recognition and since report has it that quite extensive constructive operations will occur in the Dutchy, perhaps already started, we reluctantly recommend recognition and exchange of representatives with the Grand Lodge of Luxembourg, whose address is Case Postale No. 260, Luxembourg-ville, Luxembourg.

The latest report of the Commission for Recognition of the Grand Master Conference in Washington calls attention of the Universal League of Freemasons. This is the first mention of this organization I have noticed for several years. They are again trying to recruit members. This group claims to be regular and perhaps once was, but now it would seem that they accept members from any group regular or irregular indiscriminately. It was founded in 1905 but did not attract much attention until in the period between World Wars I and II. We find warnings against this group in the reports of the Grand Master of Texas; India; England and New York. We recently received a pamphlet from this group.

England is becoming concerned over the Masonic situation in Italy. The Board of General Purposes report that they are at present, far from satisfied that there is any organization in that country

exerting sole Masonic authority or that any one claiming such sovereignty has more justification than another for its claims. They are being joined by Ireland and Scotland in their investigation. Frankly our recognition of the Grand Orient of Italy has always worried me somewhat, but the pressure at that time was heavy for recognition and I yielded to the pressure. Thus I am very much interested to learn the result of the above action by England.

In this country we are not immune from dissent also. I have to report three areas of discord. Strained fraternal relations exist between Arkansas and New York; between Mississippi and New Jersey and between Oklahoma and New Jersey. All three of these conditions stem from the racial issue. The Grand Master of New Jersey points out in a scholarly manner that history has repeated itself; that in 1909, Mississippi broke off relations with New Jersey for 18 years, until 1927, when Mississippi itself asked that the ban be lifted. Various Grand Lodges have written New Jersey, support them in their action. In most jurisdictions, no action has been taken either way, but as I have said before, this is an explosive matter and could lead to much trouble. What would happen if in our next series of national conferences, should one side or the other object to the seating of the so-called opposition. We hope and pray that this situation can be solved without doing further harm to our weakened structure.

Your Committee now recommends that all other past applications for recognition be continued for further study, without prejudice, until the next Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge.

I move the adoption of this report and the recommendations contained therein.

Printed copies of the Fraternal Review prepared by M. W. W. Brother Wanner were distributed to all the brethren present.

REPORT OF MASONIC MANOR

R. W. Norris W. Lallman, 72, President, presented the report of the Masonic Manor which was accepted.

Another year has passed in the operation of Masonic Manor. This past year has been a most eventful one but as in any operation of this magnitude, it has presented some problems. These problems have been evident in the past and probably will be a challenge to the future. However, we believe that these problems have been resolved to the satisfaction of the great majority of the residents of the Manor.

The real estate valuation placed on the Manor and the subsequent 24% increase in valuation, imposed upon the residents of Douglas County, were a matter of great concern to the board. The proportionate fee paid by the residents had to be raised to cover the increased tax burden. We are happy to report that the valuation has been reduced to a figure comparable to the 1965 valuation and we will again be able to balance the budget.

At the present time, because of deaths and some removals, we have a few choice apartments available.

The board regrets the resignation of our able superintendent Brother Clifford C. McGee. He has moved to California to be the superintendent of a large housing project. This new position is an advancement for "Cliff." We wish him well in his new position.

Mr. Donald H. McMichael, Jr. was selected by the board to be the new superintendent and we are sure he will serve Masonic Manor with the same dedication as we have had in the past.

The cafeteria is now operating in an efficient manner, due principally to the efforts of Brothers Charles J. Black and Jacob Riefschneider.

The resident members of the board, Mrs. Pierce, Wray Scott and Jacob Riefschneider, have rendered yeoman service to the Manor and are to be commended for their dedication.

We are grateful to our Grand Master for his guidance in helping us to solve the problems that have arisen during the past year. The board heartily concurs with the recommendations of the Grand Master concerning Masonic Manor. These recommendations will benefit and unify the Board of Trustees of the Manor.

The board is most grateful to our Grand Secretary, R. W. Carl R. Greisen, who has been untiring in his efforts in behalf of the Manor. He is always available and ever willing to attend to the detail work that an operation of this magnitude entails.

The Masons of Nebraska should be mindful of the potential of Masonic Manor. As the years pass and the financial obligations have been met, the income from the Manor could substantially benefit our Grand Lodge and The Nebraska Masonic Home at Plattsmouth.

Masonic Manor was built by Masons, for Masons, and deserves the wholehearted support of Masons.

At 12 noon the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

TUESDAY, JUNE 6

FIRST DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION

At 1:30 p.m. the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor as at the preceding session.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON GRAND LODGE OFFICES

W. Herman G. Reinholz, 3, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Grand Lodge Offices which was adopted.

We hereby submit the Report of the Committee on Grand Lodge Office.

We are happy to report that the plans made prior to the office remodeling program of 1965-66 have materialized 100%. The staff is able to perform its duties with less interruption, and as a result with increased efficiency. It is now possible to take care of visitors in surroundings which are comfortable and pleasant, and to take care of their needs in one part of the office without interfering with the business being transacted in other parts of the office. This was almost impossible in the old office.

There is a lot of work to be done in the Museum and Library such as indexing the books and locating a number of pictures of Past Grand Masters. We presently plan to write to the home Lodge of these Past Grand Masters whose pictures are missing with the thought that such pictures may be available. During the past year we have received a number of items and books which have been, or will be, made part of our Museum and Library. To those Brethren who were so kind to send us these articles, our sincere thanks.

We wish to compliment and commend the staff of the Grand Lodge Office for the efficient manner with which they performed their duties during the past year. Every Mason in Nebraska should be justly proud of each of them.

The new system of handling the funds of the Grand Lodge through two bank accounts instead of through a large number of them, which change was approved at last year's Communication, has worked out in a very satisfactory manner. This is also true in connection with the funds for The Nebraska Masonic Home at Plattsmouth.

In accordance with past practices this Committee has submitted a Budget to the Committee on Appropriations for approval. The Budget in the main is the same as submitted last year with these differences:

1. In the Grand Lodge Office we have two of the hardest workers to be found anywhere in our great Fraternity. They do not consider personal desires in the performance of their duties. In addition to the many hours they spend in the performance of their regular duties, they give freely of themselves to assist the Lodges and Brethren throughout the State. All of us should feel deeply indebted to R. W. Carl R. Greisen, Grand Secretary, and W. Robert W. Cook, Grand Custodian, for the services they render to all of us. For this reason we recommend that each one be granted an increase of \$500.00 per year.
2. On the Office staff we have two secretaries receiving basic salaries of \$286.66 and \$370.00, respectively, per month, which salaries are way below those paid to similar employees in the business world. We also have a part-time worker who is paid according to the hours she puts in. A survey of the salaries paid similar workers in the business world indicate that they are paid from \$350.00 for a typist, \$400.00 for a receptionist,

\$400.00 for an office clerk, to \$425.00 to \$500.00 for secretary. For this reason we recommend that \$900.00 per year be granted as an increase for these employees, which amount shall be allotted at the direction of the Grand Secretary.

3. Because of a misunderstanding concerning the rent for the new Grand Lodge Office, this item was shorted by \$358.34 on the Budget. This is the amount representing the additional rent for the months of April and May, 1966. Earlier, during the 1965-1966 year, the rent for the old office space was increased and a special appropriation was made to cover same. The above amount is for the new office which carries a higher rate per square foot.
4. Earlier this year, in February or March, the Masonic Temple Craft presented the Grand Lodge with a bill for approximately \$2,000.00 which represented the Grand Lodge share of the last payment made on the remodeling program. Discussions on the subject with members of the Temple Craft Board resulted in a correction of the amount, reducing it to \$1,305.00. It is recommended that this amount be paid.
5. The Grand Lodge Office expense has been increased from \$4,000.00 to \$4,250.00, the additional amount to cover increased postage and miscellaneous office expense.
6. Two items eliminated from this year's Budget concern the purchase of Fifty Year Buttons, because sufficient Buttons were purchased last year at a discount to last two or three years; and the elimination of Bus Transportation, which is not needed this year.

Beginning with June 1, 1967, the Grand Lodge Office is covered with a lease drawn up with the Masonic Temple Craft, spelling out a monthly rent of \$529.17, which on a yearly basis amounts to \$6,350.04. We favor this method of payment as it permits us to put out the unpaid funds on short term paper.

In conclusion, M. W. Sir, may I express to you and your officers, and to the members of the Grand Office staff, and to the members of this Committee my most heartfelt thanks for the assistance given me during the past year.

REPORT OF GRAND TRUSTEES

M. W. John F. Futch, 302, Chairman, presented the report of the Grand Trustees which was adopted.

At our annual Communication last year the Grand Trustees reported that during the months of January and February, 1966, they had sold all of the common stock out of the Grand Lodge Funds and all of the common stock out of the Funds of The Nebraska Masonic Home.

In this report we stated that it was our plan as of that time to give consideration to investment of funds in common stock during the latter part of 1966 or early 1967; however, in our opinion the market did not justify investment in common stocks, and during the year the Board of Grand Trustees at its regular meetings has invested in debt securities, most of the money going into short-term investments, all of which would mature during the year 1967.

In 1966 and 1967 we have experienced a very satisfactory rate of return on short term investments, so that the investment income of the Funds in the Grand Lodge and The Nebraska Masonic Home would not be impaired.

In February, 1967, at a special meeting of the Board of Grand Trustees it authorized a modest investment in common stocks amounting to 800 shares, and we had anticipated a considerable further investment later on this year.

It is necessary to prepare this report prior to the receipt of our annual audit, therefore the figures stated herein are on a preliminary basis, to be adjusted upon receipt of the audit.

The assets of the Grand Lodge at the close of the year May 10, 1967, totaled \$1,143,079.41. The net worth was \$1,014,519.62. Income received on investments during the year was \$40,202.64. The assets of The Nebraska Masonic Home for the same period totaled \$2,537,643.72, the net worth \$2,474,145.20. The return from investment on invested funds was \$101,946.32.

We were particularly pleased at our special February meeting to have our Grand Master present and also W. Carl D. Ganz, former member of the Grand Trustees.

There will be attached to this report the figures taken from the audit showing the assets and liabilities and an analysis of surplus and Fund balances reflecting the financial condition of both the Grand Lodge and The Nebraska Masonic Home. It is requested that the Grand Trustees be authorized to incorporate these figures as a part of the annual proceedings.

The Board of Grand Trustees again expresses its pleasure and satisfaction in serving the Grand Lodge in this capacity.

GRAND LODGE A. F. AND A. M. OF NEBRASKA
ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

May 10, 1967

ASSETS

	Total	General Fund	Retirement Fund
Cash on deposit with banks...\$	97,265.03	\$ 96,233.68	\$ 1,031.35
Bonds and Stocks.....	806,186.98	806,186.98	57,605.45
	57,605.45		
Corporation notes	163,310.65	163,310.65	
Stock in The Nebraska Masonic Home—nominal value ...	1.00	1.00	
Stock in Masonic-Eastern Star Home—nominal value ...	1.00	1.00	
Furniture and fixtures— nominal value	1.00	1.00	
Supply inventory	8,708.30	8,708.30	
Due from The Nebraska Masonic Home—General Fund	10,000.00	10,000.00	
	<u>\$1,143,079.41</u>	<u>\$1,084,442.61</u>	<u>\$58,636.80</u>

LIABILITIES

Due to The Nebraska Masonic Home:			
General Fund	\$ 91,259.79	\$ 91,259.70	
Endowment and Bequest Fund	35,000.00	35,000.00	
	<u>126,259.79</u>	<u>126,259.79</u>	
Balance of appropriations on 1966-1967 budget	2,300.00	2,300.00	
Surplus or Fund Balance:			
General Fund	881,763.46	881,763.46	
Less unexpected on 1966-1967 budget	2,300.00	2,300.00	
	<u>879,463.46</u>	<u>879,463.46</u>	
Supply Account	21,976.45	21,976.45	
Relief Account	54,442.91	54,442.91	
	<u>955,882.82</u>	<u>955,882.82</u>	
Retirement Fund	58,636.80		\$58,636.80
	<u>1,014,519.62</u>	<u>955,882.82</u>	<u>58,636.80</u>
	<u>\$1,143,079.41</u>	<u>\$1,084,442.61</u>	<u>\$58,636.80</u>

COMPARATIVE ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
ASSETS

	May 10, 1966	May 10, 1967	Increase (Decrease)
Cash on deposit with banks..	\$266,063.46	\$ 97,265.03	(\$168,798.43)
Accrued interest receivable..	250.00		(250.00)
Bonds and Stocks.....	708,145.21	863,792.43	155,647.22
Corporation notes		163,310.65	163,310.65
Stock in The Nebraska			
Masonic Home	1.00	1.00	
Stock in The Masonic-Eastern			
Star Home for Children.	1.00	1.00	
Furniture and fixtures.....	1.00	1.00	
Supply inventory	8,780.60	8,708.30	(72.30)
Due from The Nebraska			
Masonic Home		10,000.00	10,000.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$983,242.27	\$1,143,079.41	\$159,837.14

LIABILITIES

Due to The Nebraska			
Masonic Home	\$ 3,453.46	\$ 126,259.79	\$122,806.33
Other sundry payables.....	430.30		(430.30)
Balance of appropriations on			
1965-66, 1966-67 budgets.	2,700.00	2,300.00	(400.00)
Surplus or Fund Balances...	976,658.51	1,014,519.62	37,861.11
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$983,242.27	\$1,143,079.41	\$159,837.14

THE NEBRASKA MASONIC HOME
ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

May 10, 1967

ASSETS

	Totals	General Fund	Endowment & Bequest Fund
Cash on deposit:			
The Omaha National Bank:			
General Account	\$ 1,712.91	\$ 1,712.91	
Endowment and Bequest			
Fund	1,891.76		\$ 1,891.76
Plattsmouth State Bank,			
Plattsmouth, Nebr. ...	7,207.84	7,207.84	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	10,812.51	8,920.75	1,891.76
Bonds and Stocks.....	2,326,832.73	252,877.97	2,073,954.76
Real estate mortgages.....	32,906.76		32,906.76

Note receivable—			
Masonic Manor	40,000.00		40,000.00
Buildings and grounds—			
Masonic Home	1.00	1.00	
Furnishings—Masonic Home.	1.00	1.00	
Due from Grand Lodge			
A. F. and A. M. of			
Nebraska	126,259.79	91,259.79	35,000.00
	<u>2,536,813.79</u>	<u>\$353,060.51</u>	<u>\$2,184,583.21</u>

LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH

Balance in Entertainment			
Account	\$ 1,311.73	\$ 1,311.73	
Balance in Memory Account...	25,234.79	25,234.79	
Balance in Thanksgiving			
Account	5,637.48	5,637.48	
Balance in Perpetual			
Room Account	775.00	775.00	
Balance in Room Furnishings			
Account	139.20	139.20	
Balance in Edwards			
Memorial Account	284.00	284.00	
Balance in Evers			
Memorial Account	599.00	599.00	
	<u>33,981.20</u>	<u>33,981.20</u>	
Due to Grand Lodge			
A. F. & A. M. of Nebraska	10,000.00	10,000.00	
Due to Endowment &			
Bequest Fund		829.93	
Balance of appropriations on			
1966-1967 budget	18,686.39	18,686.39	
Net Worth:			
Capitol stock	1.00	1.00	
Surplus or Fund Balances	2,492,831.59	308,248.38	\$2,184,583.21
Less unexpended on			
1966-1967 budget ..	18,686.39	18,686.39	
Balance	<u>\$2,474,145.20</u>	<u>289,561.99</u>	<u>2,184,583.21</u>
	<u>\$2,536,813.79</u>	<u>\$353,060.51</u>	<u>\$2,184,583.21</u>

THE NEBRASKA MASONIC HOME
COMPARATIVE ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

ASSETS

	May 10, 1966	May 10, 1967	Increase (Decrease)
Cash on deposit:			
The Omaha National Bank,			
Omaha, Nebraska:			
General Account	\$ 20,187.92	\$ 1,712.91	(\$ 18,475.01)
General Investment			
Account	108,218.92		(108,218.92)
Endowment and			
Bequest Fund	293,829.98	1,891.76	(291,938.22)
Plattsmouth State Bank,			
Plattsmouth, Nebr.	7,168.63	7,207.84	39.21
United States National			
Bank of Omaha	5,761.30		(5,761.30)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	435,166.75	10,812.51	(424,354.24)
Bonds and Stocks	1,981,607.25	2,326,832.73	345,225.48
Real estate mortgages	47,680.46	32,906.76	(14,773.70)
Note receivable—			
Masonic Manor		40,000.00	40,000.00
Buildings and grounds—			
Masonic Home	1.00	1.00	
Furnishings—Masonic Home	1.00	1.00	
Due from Grand Lodge			
A. F. and A. M.			
of Nebraska	3,453.46	126,259.79	122,806.33
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	\$2,467,909.92	\$2,536,813.79	\$ 68,903.87
	<hr/>	<hr/>	

LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH

Balance in Entertainment			
Account	\$ 1,086.88	\$ 1,311.73	\$ 224.85
Balance in Memory			
Account	23,106.63	25,234.79	2,128.16
Balance in Thanksgiving			
Account	5,637.48	5,637.48	
Balance in Perpetual			
Room Account	775.00	775.00	
Balance in Room			
Furnishings Account	129.20	139.20	10.00

Balance in Edwards			
Memorial Account ...	284.00	284.00	
Balance in Evers			
Memorial Account ...	599.00	599.00	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	31,618.19	33,981.20	2,363.01
Due to Grand Lodge			
A. F. and A. M.			
of Nebraska		10,000.00	10,000.00
Balance of appropriations			
on 1965-1966/			
1966-1967 budgets	29,671.65	18,686.39	(10,985.26)
Net Worth:			
Capital Stock	1.00	1.00	
Surplus or Fund			
Balances	2,406,619.08	2,474,145.20	67,526.12
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$2,467,909.92	\$2,536,813.79	\$ 68,903.87

M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master:

Brethren, on the agenda next is the Proposed Recommendation which was made by M. W. Louis V. Sylvester last year, having to do with statewide concurrent jurisdiction. I have been informed by the members of the Jurisprudence Committee that they have had a discussion of this matter and that it will come in as a part of the report of the Jurisprudence Committee, so we do not have to consider it at this time.

ORATION

W. Vance D. Rogers, 314 Grand Orator:

M. W. Grand Master, Brethren of the Grand Lodge: I am sure that I speak as a representative of Masonry in declaring enthusiastically, openly and publicly, our sincere gratitude to M. W. Grand Master Lewis R. Ricketts and the others who have been identified in the important leadership positions for contributions they have made to the cause of Masonry during their period of service. For it seems to me that we come together in very serious times in the development of American life and culture. Certainly this an intensely interesting and frustrating period in relationship to that which is taking place in the world. I want to say to my Brothers in a direct manner and yet characterized by humility, sincerity and honesty, that there are no guarantees that Masonry as such, is going to be a part of the American way of life in the next 100 years. Like everything else of value,

the extent to which this movement grows, develops, advances and increases in stature and influence, is directly related to our involvement and our participation.

When men of the caliber of our W. Master and brethren in the leadership position are willing to be identified with Masonry and willing to give the long hard hours of service required in this identification we express our gratitude and appreciation. I believe in Masonry or else I would not publicly and enthusiastically identify myself as a member of the Craft. I believe in the tradition that we have to uphold, it is something that is terribly significant. I believe the demands and challenges of the future are probably going to increase in intensity as the years go before.

But let me remind you that man has consistently been exposed to serious revolution. The United States of America is the result of a revolutionary movement. But go back many, many decades and centuries, and realize there were groups of people who lived on a simple level, who earned and accomplished their livelihood largely by the ability to capture and kill wild game. Thus man, the hunter, evolved around the world-wide scene. And the extent to which he could perpetuate his own existence and of his family was directly related to his ability to provide the necessities of food and shelter, clothing and the very basic medical attention that could be secured. Many centuries ago man, the hunter, made progress and there were those who undoubtedly said, "This is a revolution."

The hunter no longer relied upon his ability to catch and kill wild animals, but he discovered that he can plant seed in the ground and under proper conditions, moisture and top soil, these seeds will somehow respond and they will one day grow to maturity and thus man, the hunter, became man, the farmer, and the agricultural revolution gained a great deal of momentum and the whole perspective was broadened and increased. Well, man, the hunter, and man, the farmer, continued the program of development, and again there must have been warnings and observations that people were living in the revolutionary period. Even in my lifetime, I have recalled the enthusiasm and the conflicting reactions to those who broke way insisting that X number of bushels of corn could be produced and hybrid corn was developed in such a manner that the crop could be improved.

Just a few weeks ago I was in North Africa and visited one of the A.I.D. projects of our Nation. An agricultural economist was part of our group who told of the work that is being done in the desert area in Africa and how a whole new concept of farming was being brought into that Arab country. Dr. Charles Malek, former head of the Security Counsel of the United Nations and the Ambassador of Lebanon, now a Professor of the University in Beirut, stood before a group of people representing several Nations in the world, and told these people that with the possible use of nuclear energy there might

even one day be twenty Mississippi rivers in the Sahara Desert and that these twenty Mississippi rivers could transform that whole surface of the earth and man would no longer starve and x percentage of people would no longer go to bed hungry every night. So that revolution you see is taking place, and thus man, the hunter, became man, the farmer. Thus, this was established.

But then, of course, we are all familiar with the Industrial Revolution, and the great Protestant Reformation, and the new importance placed on human beings as individuals of value. And it was in this kind of a climate that Masonry was born, where an individual was looked upon, not as some one to be subservient to someone else, not as a commodity to be used, not as a chattel or a piece of property, but as a sacred person with eternal qualities that could be creative and productive and developmental. In this kind of a climate the mind of man gave birth to the Industrial Revolution. And man, the hunter, becoming man, the farmer, became man, the mechanic. We don't know the ultimate impact of the Industrial Revolution, do we? For we are still on the tail end of it. And you and I meeting together here as part of this great body, we along with hundreds of millions of thinking people realize that once again we're standing on the threshold. It doesn't take any great insight to remind you that once again we are in a revolution, and the revolution is gathering together all of these things: the hunter, the farmer, the mechanic and we're moving into the new space age, the nuclear energy revolution with cybernetics and data processing to be used in computers, a technological revolution that at its highest is the most frustrating and complex level of all.

Now where is Masonry going to fit in to this kind of a society? For we cannot assemble today, I mean today figuratively, although it could be literally this day, without, first of all, responding to the revolutionary movements that are gaining momentum all across the land, all across the world. We have to be sensitive to the fact of war in Southeast Asia. And many of you, my brothers, served in European Theaters and the Pacific Theaters as I did. And you know the futility of it all. And you know how cheap human life can be when a person or persons are expendable. And our hearts, individually and collectively, go out to those men wearing the uniform of your nation and mine in Vietnam. But before we can even accommodate this conflict we find ourselves being forced into a corner in the Middle East. I alluded to Dr. Charles Malek. I was with him two days and had ample opportunity to visit with him privately. In asking him about the Israeli-Arab problems, he refused to respond, and he would look in a pensive, reflective mood; great, big man that he is, and he said, "This problem is so great that one can't talk about it, one must only meditate, pray and be contemplative about it in the privacy of one's own life." Then I saw the martial response, the military music, the

emotional enthusiasm being built up along those countries in North Africa, and young Arabs shouting, "We will drive the Jews into the sea until everyone is dead."

We meet here intent upon preserving the traditions of a great past, and we cannot close our minds to the fact that people are being shot at and are shooting, are being killed, are being victims of war, not desired by any large segments of the populace. Paul Douglas probably will be evaluated as one of the great Congressional leaders of our country. For Senator Paul Douglas, from the state of Illinois, possibly is ahead of his time. He has been identified with so many movements that are now coming into fruition that very likely he was an extremely progressive person. He always stood above party label, and tried to identify himself with that which was right according to his own convictions.

I was a resident of Illinois following the war when he returned from the Pacific. He has a tremendous story. He was fifty years old when he joined the United States Marines as a private. He worked himself up in rank on the battlefield until he was a lieutenant colonel. He went ashore with the Marines on Easter Sunday, 1945 at Okinawa with his group. When he came back to the United States, he came to Washington and greeted his wife who was then a member of the House of Representatives, and in a very thrilling and emotion packed scene, expressed his interest in his nation and ours. Paul Douglas was defeated for the Senate in the state of Illinois by Charles Percy. And he gave a speech not long since in which he was asked a question. What have you learned in the years that you have served in public and in private? What lessons have been meaningful? Here's what Senator Paul Douglas said in part: "That which is most needed in the world is love, or energized good will, which if given a chance and practiced with devotion can in most cases melt antagonisms within a democratic society and reconcile us. Truth has at once a compulsive and healing power. And in its larger aspect, truth is not simple, but subtle."

He goes on to quote the words of Thomas Jefferson, "We should not be afraid to tolerate error, as long as reason be left free to combat it. That when a dragon stops either a community or the world, resistance to it is both necessary and noble lest it become all pervasive. That human courage in defense of an ideal is an ultimate virtue."

Then he goes on to comment upon the citizens of ancient Athens, for they made the owl and the olive tree their symbols. The owl to denote wisdom and the olive tree peace. But what did we learn over the years. Certainly we would respond to love and truth, freedom, the right to quest for knowledge, these are basic.

But in a larger sense may I suggest one or two that we can consider. At the outset we should have learned by this stage that the most important force that we work with here and now is a lone in-

dividual, a single person, if you will. Let us not forget that. A life is lost in Vietnam. It is a life that has meaning that is identified with someone or some group of people. That the value of a lone individual is a religiously based conviction. It is indigenous to Masonic teaching for it is the individual who rises to perfection. It is the individual who can respond to the basic habits of the order. It is the individual who is the object of concern, and the object of love.

I want to remember an experience during the Second World War in the South Pacific. It never received much publicity and it was quite controversial at the time, but the Japanese had taken a lot of the Islands and one on which there was a mission of the Roman Catholic Church. There were some nuns and sisters of the Roman Catholic Church that were imprisoned on that island. Admiral Halsey made the decision, I suppose alone, but at any rate it came from Halsey's headquarters that at a given time contact was made with certain people on the island and the submarine would go to that particular island and rescue these nuns, these Roman Catholic sisters. And war was going on, but the value of a life, you see, proved terror insignificant. We must not forget that. And it can be carried about as far as an individual wants to carry it. Then, too, we must remember the necessity of preserving the moral and spiritual heritage that is ours. General Omar Bradley puts it better than anyone else has ever put it, I believe. He says "We have grasped the mystery of the atom but we have forgotten the Sermon on the Mount. We possess brilliance without wisdom, power without conscience. Our knowledge of science has outstripped our power to control that knowledge. We are the world of nuclear giants and ethical infants. We know more about war than about peace, more about killing than about living. This is the twentieth century's claim to distinction."

I tell you my brothers let us preserve the finest of Masonry which calls for the preservation and the extension of our moral and our spiritual heritage. Last summer my wife, our younger daughter and I were in Europe and they had not seen the wall in Berlin. This is a twentieth century phenomenon and I wanted them to see it, so we went to Berlin. We stayed in the West, inside the wall of West Berlin. It was a beautiful day when we arrived so right away I made the arrangements and we decided to go into East Berlin. A lot of red tape getting across Check Point Charlie, being examined by our personnel and then the Russians and East Germans, it took a couple of hours, I suppose, to get through the Wall. Then as we made the tour which was planned and conducted for us in East Berlin, we came back and it was a very sobering experience, especially for a teenage girl and her mother and father. The next morning I said "I want you to see the wall from the West." We'd seen it from the East, looking West, now see it from the West looking East. So I made arrangements and we went up to the Brandenburg Gate and started there for that is where the platform still stands where President Kennedy spoke

when he was at a mass meeting in Berlin. And we climbed the steps and stood on the platform and looked into East Berlin and then got in the car and drove off several miles along the wall. Every three or four hundred yards there is a memorial wreath with the names of persons who had been killed as they tried to escape from the East on the wall. The barbed wire, broken glass, very, very depressing in terms of its destructive power. And then we came to a church. The church was located in East Berlin on the East side of the wall. But outside the wall of the church that faced the west was a statute of Christ standing with arms outstretched. And I said to the driver, "What church is this?" And he said, "This is the church of reconciliation. It isn't doing much reconciling, is it?"

My wife and daughter and I stood in West Berlin facing the East, facing the statue of Christ. Between the Christ and where we stood was the naked wall, with barbed wires and broken glass. And somehow the words became very, very significant, "Thou shalt love the Lord, thy God with all thine heart, soul, mind and strength. Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." And that speaks to us, doesn't it? For if we haven't the commitment to that which is the basic platform upon which Masonry is constructed, the love of God and the love of our fellow man, we fail. We must preserve this heritage.

Then lastly, what have we learned? Revolution certainly. And in the revolution let us strive to preserve the American way of life, as we have received it, and as we now experience it. I don't want to fall victim to delivering a patriotic type emphasis, and yet I think that would be appropriate. But I feel compelled, at a meeting like this, especially, to remind you that we live in the greatest nation in the world, and that it is a privilege to live in this the greatest nation in the world, and we had better be sensitive to the necessity of preserving that which we know as the American way of life. We're free citizens, and I covet that freedom very much. I covet the right to agree and the right to disagree. I covet the right to go into a private polling booth and to express my preference for duly elected officials. I covet the right to stand on the platform and speak to anyone who will listen and to be guaranteed the freedom of expression. I covet the right to have a church, a church on every corner, if that is the necessity and the desire, but a church where people can go who have individual expressions of belief, and give expressions to those convictions. I covet the right of the free press, a press that is not controlled by the government, a press that is not controlled by a power structure, but a press as we enjoy it, that can take stands as the publishing authorities determine, and then remain loyal to those stands. I covet the right to live in a nation where we can acknowledge that we are not perfect, that we have plenty of problems, that at least we are trying to do something about. And I covet the right to be a citizen of the United States of America under God. May I remind you that this is the basic foundation of our development.

Let me close with this. One of the great books of this post world war era, probably of all time, in my definition, at least, is the book by Irving Stone *The Agony and the Ecstasy*. For it portrays the life of Michelangelo probably the world's most versatile painter, sculptor, and architect. If you read the book, you recall that it is referring constantly to the problem which threatened his efforts. But the climax is sublime. Almost ninety years old, the night before his ninetieth birthday, tired, sick, all alone in his room, Michelangelo on a cot, his masterpieces passed in procession before him. Here they were, that which had been the heart and expression of his life. "The Madonna of the Stairs," "The Wooden Crucifix," "The Sleeping Cupid," "The Giant David," "The Holy Family," "Genesis on the Vault," "The Pieta for St. Peter's of the Sistine Chapel," "The Last Judgment," "Moses," "Paul and Peter," and finally St. Peter's Cathedral, with its dome rising 335 feet into the air, symbolizing the upward call of God to man. Then Irving Stone portrayed Michelangelo as life came to its close. "God did not create me to abandon me. I have loved God. I have loved life to the full, and now I love death as its natural termination. The forces of destruction never overcame me."

May that be your byword, brothers, may that be ours. Dedicated to a preservation of the principles of Freemasonry. And built upon the foundation that the forces of destruction never will overcome.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MASONIC EDUCATION

W. John H. Brown, 1, presented the report of the Committee on Masonic Education which was adopted.

Your Committee is able to report a highly successful Masonic year measured by the interest, attendance and discussion in the eleven (11) Grand Lodge Area Meetings conducted by the Committee during the year, with the active aid and participation of the advancing line of Grand Lodge officers, the Grand Secretary and the Grand Custodian. Our hosts in the past year to whom we are most grateful were the lodges at O'Neill, Central City, North Platte, Scottsbluff, Superior, Lexington, Wakefield, Columbus, Tecumseh, Seward and Valley.

In addition to the discussion groups and "mock lodge" portions of the meetings, which continue to be well received, a demonstration of the first meeting of the local lodge Education Committee and the new candidate was portrayed and also a miniature demonstration of a traditional Entered Apprentice Table Lodge (Nebraska working), was given with our Deputy Grand Master John A. Bottorf as Master.

I might add that part of this same team put on a demonstration of the Table Lodge (Nebraska working) at the Midwest Conference on Masonic Education at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as an actual Table Lodge last October with John A. Bottorf as Master who proposed

Toast No. 1 "To Our Country", followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag; Toast No. 2 "To the Craft" was proposed by John H. Brown; Toast No. 3 "To the Memory of Our Departed Brethren" was proposed by Carl R. Greisen. To this Toast our old friend Charles S. McGinness, Grand Secretary of Kansas, responded particularly as to past members of the Conference lost in the past year, including W. Roy W. Deal, a faithful member of the Nebraska Committee for many years and one of the original members at the founding of the Midwest Conference, and also former Committeeman and staunch advocate of Masonic Education, M. W. Ralph M. Carhart, Past Grand Master.

The fourth Toast was given by our Grand Master M. W. Lewis R. "Dick" Ricketts in his usual beautiful style, "To the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin". To this toast Doyn Inman, Grand Master (Wisconsin) responded. Toast No. 5 "To the Midwest Conference" by Erwin Hendershott (Michigan); Toast No. 6 "To Our Visiting Brethren" by Louis G. Holzappel (Ohio); response by Alvin C. Jacobson (Arkansas) and Toast No. 7 "To All Freemasons Wherever Dispersed" (long form) proposed by the Tyler, W. Howard J. Hunter, President of the Midwest Conference.

Our Grand Master M. W. Lewis R. "Dick" Ricketts was received by the host lodges at each Area Meeting and was our speaker at the evening dinners attended by all the Masons and their ladies with our Deputy Grand Master as Master of Ceremonies.

Each of these meetings seemed to be even better than the others which indicated the care and planning and cordial hospitality given by these hard-working and dedicated members of the host lodges and especially by their officers and their ladies. More and more ladies are coming to these meetings with their husbands. It gives them an outing and a chance to get acquainted with other visiting ladies as well as with the ladies of the Grand Lodge family and those of the Grand Lodge Committee. We certainly encourage the attendance of the ladies and their presence especially at the dinner with their husbands adds much to the occasion, and I am sure in many cases is an added inducement for attendance.

The Grand Lodge Committee continues to send out Masonic reference material and booklets to the lodges for the use of the local lodge committee. Please give us the benefit of your constructive criticism and suggestions for bettering our service to you. The active cooperation of you all, including faithful attendance by Grand Lodge officers, especially the Grand Secretary and the Grand Custodian with Assistant Custodians, is deeply appreciated and is, we are sure, the main reason for the success of the program!

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL DEAD

W. Walter O. Samuelson, 326, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Fraternal Dead, which was adopted.

Your Committee on Fraternal Dead herewith present their report.

These are moments of memory which are now dedicated and set aside to the memory of those our brothers who answered the call of The Grand Master since last we met in our Annual Session.

As the tides of time move out and away from the shores of the world wherein we dwell, we find many embarking upon the waves of that timeless sea. As they lived life's short day they too beheld their Brethren as they, one by one, answered that Eternal Call. Those who now lie sleeping in the bosom of Mother Earth were God's noble men. Without trembling or fear they approached the border-line which marks the living from the dead. Their trust was in God and with a supreme confidence in their heart, they knew full well that the All-Seeing Eye would guide them safely to that distant shore from whence no traveler e'er returns.

The pages of The Book of Life reveal their sincerity of purpose, their life of service, and supreme devotion to this, our Most Ancient Order. They were disciples of life's highest attributes, and promoters of Masonic Ideals and Teachings. They were unlike the day-fly which plays over the glistening stream of life but for a day, and then is lost and forgotten. Their deeds are well recorded on the pages of that Book in God's Eternal Paradise.

To know them was to understand better the purpose of Masonic Teachings. There wells up within our hearts today a deep gratitude to our Heavenly Father for having permitted us to have walked life's short mile with them. Our lives are richer and our faith stronger because of our sojourn together.

It is good to be remembered,
 In this world so full of care;
 When our fleeting days are numbered,
 And life's burdens hard to bear.
 Just to know there's someone thinking,
 Wondering how you really are;
 When your heart is almost sinking,
 'Neath the waves of dark despair.
 To feel a hand that's firm and tender,
 Guiding as you travel on;
 And a still small voice to render,
 Words of cheer, 'till day is gone.
 It's so good to be remembered,
 For the good that we have done;
 When this life on earth has ended,
 And in peace we slumber on.

—W. O. Samuelson

Our own Grand Lodge has not been spared. We record 1,013 of those who left us during the year. Of this number one of our Assistant Custodians, Ross Van Sickle, passed away.

W. Ross Van Sickle, Born April 14, 1901, Died July 4, 1966, Appointed Assistant Custodian May 20th, 1938, and was active until his death, having served for twenty-eight years. Ross was a member of Bee Hive No. 184, Omaha, since January 22, 1937. His devoted service to the craft was an inspiration to his fellow Custodians. At the time of his death, he was the second oldest active Assistant Custodian. He personally certified over 100 Masons in his district, a record that will probably never be equaled.

Our Grand Secretary received forty-eight notices of Brethren in other jurisdictions who passed to their reward; of this number forty-four were M. W. Past Grand Masters: two were Deputy Grand Masters, one was a Grand Marshal, and one was the Grand Secretary of Venezuela. These were from Canada, Nova Scotia, Venezuela, as well as from the United States.

And now to you, My Brothers,
 Who has left us for a while;
 To you, who like few others,
 Has given the world a smile.
 May your rest be calm and peaceful,
 In that Land beyond our view.
 Now with your soul so restful
 We bid you a fond adieu.
 We know your Heavenly Father,
 Has taken note of all you've done
 To make the life for others
 Bright as the morning sun.
 You have taught us all a lesson,
 By the things you did each day—
 And rich are your possessions
 You gathered along life's way.
 Some day we'll all be meeting
 In that Land beyond The Blue,
 To hear our Father's greeting,
 "Well done, my Servant, true."

—W. O. Samuelson

Thus we conclude another Service of Remembrance for those whom we loved and have lost for awhile, knowing full well that sooner than we think, the last grain of sand will flow through the hourglass of our life, and our feet will leave the precarious brink upon which we are now stationed, to find our feet firmly grounded on that Eternal Shore where the Grand Master will call us from Labor to

Refreshment, and may we so number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

In closing we will be favored with a vocal selection, "Going Home," by W.:Thomas H. Blanchard, 21, accompanied by W.:Edward H. Lockwood, 265.

REPORT OF GRAND HISTORIAN

W.:George W. Rosenlof, 314, Grand Historian, presented his report which was adopted.

M.:W.:Grand Master, Grand Officers, and brethren. I must apologize first of all that I do not have with me the manuscript which has been a labor of love during this past year in providing for the Grand Lodge an historical account of the establishment of the office of Grand Custodian. The writing of this historical document was at the request of our Junior Past Grand Master, M.:W.:Louis V. Sylvester. It proved far more interesting in terms of its writings than we had anticipated. Indeed it was so interesting that I was compelled to say to myself, "What a grand and remarkable thing it was that 100 years ago, this Grand Lodge saw fit to provide for the office of a Grand Custodian." Then to read the story of that officer's leadership throughout the 100 years, tells nothing which is deeper which most of us are inclined to appreciate. So I must say to you at this moment that the Grand Custodian, he was originally called the Grand Lecturer, has contributed more to the preservation of the traditions and the landmarks of Grand Lodge Masonry in this state of ours than any other agency that we could mention here.

And we pay a high tribute to such Grand Custodians as Brothers Gillette; "Uncle Bob" French; Lute M. Savage; Raymond C. Cook and Robert W. Cook, our present Grand Custodian. These were dedicated men, all of them. They were knowledgable of the history and ideals and the purposes of Masonry. They were devoted to preserving the landmarks, to keeping of the works clean and perfect in all of its evidences. Certainly the preservation of esoteric work in the Grand Lodge of the State of Nebraska is due to the faithful and courageous efforts, the devoted services of these our brothers.

As I say, I am sorry I do not have the manuscript to present to you at this moment because I had the feeling that I would be appearing tomorrow but I shall see that it is properly submitted and I am of the opinion that it is being recommended for publication as one of the documents in the continuing series of historical records. I am pleased that we were able to have it completed and that it will be preserved in some form or other.

The second thing that I wish to say today, and this also is without the benefit of manuscript. Indeed I have not even written it down. I took occasion recently in token of this being our Centennial year, to discover if I could what were the things in which Masonry was en-

gaged and to which it gave its greatest attention 100 years ago this particular year. Masonry, of course, is older than the history of the State of Nebraska, and as you well know, was established in 1857. But what transpired in 1867 is equally notable of recorded years. There were 15 subordinate lodges in existence. Fremont has the honor of being the 15th of these lodges previously under dispensation, but recognized in this year and is celebrating its 100th Anniversary within the month or so. The other institution of equal historical record of course was that of the Peru No. 14 which was also under dispensation in 1867 and received its charter at the Annual Communication which was held in Omaha on June 19, 1867.

Now what was the most important things historically? The most significant thing that happened during that year, I think, was the fact that we now have 15 subordinate lodges with a total membership of 582 Master Masons. We initiated during that year 140 brethren, we passed 120 and we raised 116. There were admitted by affiliation 32, we demitted 65; 8 were suspended; 1 expelled, sorry to say, 6 were deceased. One honorary member recognized in Nebraska City which seems to be a custom at that particular time. The Grand Lodge dues total paid during that year were \$919.40.

Now the other thing to which I wish to make reference and which is exceedingly important, is the fact that it was in 1867, that our M. W. and Honorable Grand Lodge took the first step to establish what was one of our most significant acts in the history of Masonry in Nebraska. It was recommended on that date, incidentally the Grand Master was Robert W. Furnas, one-time Governor of the state of Nebraska. It was recommended in 1867 that there be inaugurated a program providing for unconditional donations to be received from the several Lodges and from individuals, this money to be used for the establishment of our Home at Plattsmouth.

At this time was laid the foundation to promote the project of a Home for our Orphaned children. A tax was laid on the member Lodges to be paid as other dues and set apart in an Educational Fund. There was a Committee of Trustees appointed to receive and invest all of these funds. I hasten to say that the Standing Committee of Representatives, one from each of the Lodges in Nebraska, 15 in number, accepted this responsibility and without exception made continuing contributions to provide for the Educational Fund for Orphans in Nebraska. I think it significant that we pay tribute to the fine evidence of Masonic leadership upon that body of some 600 men 100 years ago who provided the ground work and laid the foundations for the establishment of this Orphans Educational Fund and eventually a Home for Orphaned children. That was the significant thing of 1867 of which I think, M. W. Sir, we should pay tribute in terms of the honor bestowed upon us in the tradition we have maintained ever since the establishment of that Home.

There were other things of routine matter of course, comparable to those we have here. The significant thing that I leave with you is that the concluding message is, how glorious it is historically speaking, to have been a part or be a part of the significance, the development in the history of mankind. In the nurturing of our highest ideals, the brotherhood of man, fatherhood of God and the immortality of the soul. These, I realize, as we have contributed Masonically to the history of the state of Nebraska.

M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master:

Brethren, as you will recall this morning in the report of the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers, the recommendation which I made which was No. 1, recommending that the Grand Lodge, A. F. & A. M. of Nebraska continue with its financial support of The Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children at Fremont, upon an equal basis with Grand Chapter as it has done in the past. In that report, the Committee recommended that this be referred to the Grand Lodge and not to any Committee. Brethren, at this time what is your desire with respect to this recommendation? Brethren, there is a motion that the recommendation be adopted and it has been seconded by the Deputy Grand Master. Is there any discussion on this recommendation? Are you ready for the question? The question has been called, brethren, all in favor of this recommendation will indicate by the usual sign of Masons when voting, down hands, contrary the same sign. Brethren, the motion is carried and I want to tell you how much I appreciate this action of the Grand Lodge. I hope that we will continue in the future as we have in the past, to support this very worthy and fine Masonic benevolence along and equal with our sisters of the Grand Chapter, O.E.S.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RELIEF AND CARE OF ORPHANS

W. Paul L. Toombs, 290, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Relief and Care of Orphans which was adopted.

Your Committee on Relief and Care of Orphans has had a quiet year with a total expenditure of \$2,730.85, which, based on the total membership as of 1/1/67 of 44,769 members is equal to approximately \$.061 per member.

We were fortunate to have a fine Committee and hope that it will be the pleasure of the new Grand Master to reappoint as memberships expire.

M. W. Charles A. Chappell, Past Grand Master:

M. W. Grand Master, I would like to present the following resolution since this is the 250th Anniversary of the United Grand Lodge of England.

RESOLUTION
TWO HUNDRED FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY
UNITED GRAND LODGE, A. F. & A. M. OF ENGLAND

RESOLVED: That the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Nebraska, in annual communication assembled, on this sixth day of June, nineteen hundred sixty-seven, extend its official congratulations to the United Grand Lodge of England upon having attained this significant milestone in its long and glorious history and upon its past accomplishments and services to the universal Craft, together with our sincere hope and humble prayer, that the Great Architect of the Universe will continue to bless and guide the Mother Grand Lodge in all the years to come; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution, signed by our Grand Master and Grand Secretary and bearing the official Seal of our Grand Lodge, be transmitted to the Grand Secretary of said United Grand Lodge of England.

(Signed) Charles A. Chappell, Senior Past Grand Master
Dr. Fay Smith, Past Grand Master and Grand
Representative of the United Grand Lodge of
England near the Grand Lodge,
A. F. & A. M. of Nebraska

Given under my hand and seal of the Grand Lodge, A. F. & A. M. of Nebraska this 6th day of June, 1967.

Lewis R. Ricketts,
Grand Master

ATTEST:

Carl R. Greisen,
Grand Secretary

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REINSTATEMENTS

W. Earl H. Furman, 290, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Reinstatements which was adopted.

The Committee on Reinstatements has remained quite active this year, having handled a total of 47 applications.

In these, we recommended the action of the local lodge be approved in all but 5 cases. Two were disapproved and three were returned to the lodge for additional information.

We are receiving many applications for reinstatement from men who have been suspended as long as 30-35 and even 40 years.

These are real problems and we ask that the lodges give us all the pertinent information possible to help us make good and intelligent decisions.

Your full co-operation will be most appreciated.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RETIREMENT

W. E. Forrest Estes, 19, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Retirement which was adopted.

Your Committee on Retirement reports its actions over the past year as follows:

Re: W. Brother Robert W. Cook, Grand Custodian.

Before presenting its Report, the Committee on Retirement requests that the Grand Lodge take action to officially establish the date of employment, by the Grand Lodge, of W. Brother Robert W. Cook, Grand Custodian. The reason for this is that he had passed his 55th birthday before June, 1965; by the terms of the Retirement Plan he can become eligible to qualify for a retirement benefit if the date of his employment is on or before June 8, 1965 (the date the Plan was adopted), but if the date of his employment is after June 8, 1965 he cannot so qualify.

According to the Grand Secretary, W. Brother Cook went on the payroll of the Grand Lodge on June 4, 1965; however previous to that date he had spent some time in the Grand Lodge office preparing for his anticipated future assignment as Grand Custodian, and he was therefore paid salary for the full month of June.

The date of his installation as Grand Custodian was June 9, 1965.

It is the unanimous opinion of the Retirement Committee that his date of employment is the date on which he commenced earning his salary, namely, June 1, 1965, and that the mere fact of a subsequent official installation has no bearing on his actual employment date.

To avoid the possibility of any future misunderstanding, the Committee believes it desirable that the Grand Lodge express its official recognition of this fact. Therefore the Grand Lodge Committee on Retirement has voted unanimously to present for the decision of this Grand Lodge the following motion:

MOVED, that the date of employment by the Grand Lodge of Nebraska of W. Brother Robert W. Cook be established as June 1, 1965. Motion seconded and carried unanimously.

(1) In response to a number of requests, and pursuant to its previous authorization, a brochure was prepared with respect to the Retirement Plan, the purpose of this brochure being to serve as a source of information to employees and officers of the Grand Lodge and to assist in recruiting new employees. In addition to a brief explanation of its features, a copy of the complete Plan was also

included. The Grand Lodge Office prepared a supply of these brochures for the use of the Grand Lodge and The Nebraska Masonic Home; also a copy was sent to each of the Grand Lodge Officers.

(2) The Committee took cognizance of the situation relative to the employment date of the Grand Custodian, Robert W. Cook, and deemed it advisable to have official clarifying action taken by the Grand Lodge. (This has been done by the action taken just previous to the submission of this Report).

(3) The Committee reviewed the facts with respect to birth date, employment date, and retirement date, of Nell Hillis, an employee of the Home, and unanimously voted that she is an "eligible employee" within the meaning of that term as used in the Retirement Plan.

(4) M. W. John F. Futcher, a member of this Committee, reported that he had completed his investigation as to the advisability of submitting the Retirement Plan for Treasury Department qualification, and has been advised by legal counsel that this will be unnecessary.

(5) Accepted the Chairman's actuarial report specifying the required 1967 addition to the Retirement Reserve, which was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPLE BUILDING ADVISORY

W. Otto Nelsen, 300, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Temple Building Advisory which was adopted.

Your Temple Building Advisory Committee submits herewith report of its activities since the last session of Grand Lodge one year ago, regarding recommendations by this committee on new construction or remodeling plans, and the financing of same.

In our report of one year ago, we mentioned briefly that Mitchell No. 263 was pushing a program for a new building. On October 27, 1966, the Grand Master approved, upon our recommendation, final plans for the building and financing of same, which was by local contributions and some local bank borrowing.

On October 27, Mullen No. 282 was granted permission to proceed with the construction of a building similar to the building just completed by Mitchell Lodge. The committee has had no report on their progress.

On December 14, we received a letter from the secretary of Culbertson No. 174, stating that the lodge could purchase the old, soon to be abandoned, Methodist church building with the idea of remodeling for lodge purposes. I wish to quote from a letter regarding the condition of their present lodge hall, "the plastering is falling from

the ceiling and the lodge is in need of repairs." This is a rental building. To be critical, herein lies some of the reasons for failure to encourage eligible young men to our Masonic fraternity. Why should they join, if we can't offer anything better than this type of a meeting place. But, let me add, this committee does not approve old church buildings that have outlived their usefulness as churches, but still being good enough for Masons. When the local Masons have paid the asking price of these old churches, plus the remodeling cost, they will still have the same old building with a few partitions moved here and installed there. If it isn't good enough as a church, it isn't good enough for the Masons.

On April 3, 1967, the Grand Master approved, upon the recommendation of this committee, the purchase by North Star No. 227, Lincoln, of the lot adjoining the present Temple building, to be used for the present for parking.

On March 27, our committee received an inquiry from Atkinson No. 164, for information concerning plans, specifications, and financing of a new Temple for their membership. This material was provided, but we have had no further word.

In January 1966, plans were prepared and passed to the membership of Wayne No. 120, and also to this committee, calling for construction of 40'x80' one-story building with basement. According to the last letter received, the local committee had encountered problems of one kind or another that had slowed down the planning. Contributions have been slow, costs have risen each month, the membership going down each month, with death of members faster than they are able to add new members.

A suggestion has been made to which we do not concur, that the Past Masters of the lodge be asked to "carry the ball," in providing a new Temple for Wayne Lodge. This is an obligation of all members within their ability to carry their pro-rata share towards this much needed project. Since dues in the past have been insufficient to cover all lodge expenses, including depreciation, contributions from all members at this time are very much in line to make up this deficiency.

Also in our report of one year ago, we mentioned briefly that Alpha No. 316, South Sioux City, was working on plans for an extensive addition to their present building, which when completed would then become a commercial-lodge building. This would provide much needed enlarged quarters for the Masons, but also provide new commercial facilities for a utility company, constructed to their specifications, and on a long term lease. It was estimated to cost in the area of \$90,000. While we have had no report, it is presumed that this building is underway, if so, it is without the knowledge or approval of this committee or the Grand Master.

At 4:15 p.m. the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

Wednesday, June 7

SECOND DAY – MORNING SESSION

At 9 a.m. the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS

W. Pearl C. Hillegass, 81, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Credentials which was adopted.

Your Committee on Credentials report that all Lodges are represented except the following: Nos. 60, 74, 106, 117, 124, 126, 129, 169, 226, 243, 277, 279, 305, 309, 312 and 319.

Total number of Lodges 268, number not represented 16, Lodges not represented for the last two Annual Communications: No. 305.

All Grand Officers are present and all Past Grand Masters except M. W. Brothers Chancellor A. Phillips, George A. Kurk and Edward Huwaldt.

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

LODGE		MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN
Nebraska	No. 1	Robert E. Wolf...	*Albin Bergstrom .....	.....
Western Star	" 2	Edward H. Hunter.	.....	.....
Capitol	" 3	Howard J. Bohannon	Bob McLinton	*Herman G. Reinholz
Nemaha Valley	" 4	.....	*Orland Jones	*J. Adolf Wensien...
Omadi	" 5	Charles L. Beerman.	.....	.....
Plattsmouth	" 6	W. Earl Dyer....	Leslie E. Potts....	Fred C. Arnold, Jr.
Falls City	" 9	William D. Corn...	Rodney F. Knaup..	.....
Solomon	" 10	Harold W. Schneee- meyer	Howard E. Barnes..	.....
Covert	" 11	Glen A. Burbridge..	Harry Cookston ..	.....
Orient	" 13	Orville H. Zoeller..	.....	.....
Peru	" 14	Boyd Coatney	Roy Grafton	*George Grafton ...
Fremont	" 15	Wilbur R. Grubbs..	Earl A. Lipp.....	Donald J. Launer..
Tecumseh	" 17	Richard M. Pope...	*Harry W. Gordon..	*William Stratman ..
Lincoln	" 19	Richard L. Loos...	Walker W. Gruttis..	*Neil S. Trabert, Jr..
Washington	" 21	Keith Finn	Thomas H. Blanchard	.....
Pawnee	" 23	Kenneth W. Wissler	Gerald C. Snyder...	Glenn H. Schultz...
St. Johns	" 25	*Harry M. Green....	.....	.....
Beatrice	" 26	*Orville H. Shower..	*Paul W. Dry.....	.....
Jordan	" 27	.....	*William H. Hase- broock .....	.....
Hope	" 29	*Dale Skeen .....	.....	.....
Blue River	" 30	Kenneth D. Stahly..	Lyle Mayer	Glenn B. Weaver...
Tekamah	" 31	John C. Gammel...	Donald L. Thomas..	*Bernard T. Pipher..
Platte Valley	" 32	Harold V. Reeves..	Leonard V. Pierson.	Fora O. Thayer....
Ashlar	" 33	Alex H. Dietrich...	*Irvin L. Congrove..	*Otto A. Niess.....
Acacia	" 34	*Joseph Hoffman ..	.....	Quentin R. Enochson
Fairbury	" 35	Joseph E. Cerveny.	Archie J. McLaurin.	.....
Lone Tree	" 36	Harry A. Powell....	Marvin G. Kyes....	Arnold L. King....
Crete	" 37	Joseph W. Kovarik.	Jerry F. Bepalec...	Ted Conley
Oliver	" 38	Robert O. Imig....	*Erwin J. Imig.....	.....
Papillion	" 39	.....	Larry Rogers .....	.....
Humboldt	" 40	Wesley J. Stansbury	William Todd .....	.....
Northern Light	" 41	Walter A. Lamml..	*Arthur Lamml..	.....
Hebron	" 43	*J. William Cederholm	*Arlo Montgomery ..	*William Speich
Harvard	" 44	Harold J. Schultz..	Donald V. Nelson..	Donald L. Stilley...
Rob Morris	" 46	Thomas W. Tye....	John B. Nicholson..	*Russell R. Ferguson
Fairmont	" 48	Victor A. Jensen...	*Victor A. Jensen...	*Victor A. Jensen..
Evening Star	" 49	Philip M. Lewis, Jr.	Jack J. Arp.....	.....
Hastings	" 50	Raymond L. Van Patten.....	*Paul R. Pierce.....	Richard D. Bronson
Fidelity	" 51	*Charles E. Baker..	.....	.....

*Proxy

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

LODGE	MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN
Hiram .....No. 52	Raymond M. Pfeiffer	*Lester Way .....	.....
Charity " 53	.....	.....	Harry E. Paden....
Lancaster " 54	Virgil L. Tubach...	.....	Richard B. Hobson..
Mosaic " 55	Marvin A. Moats...	*Earl F. Haines....	Larry G. Thomsen..
York " 56	Herbert R. Tracy...	Edward L. Larson..	.....
Mt. Moriah . " 57	*M. Russell Joyce...	*Don Craig .....	.....
Wahoo " 59	Merle D. Meyers...	Edgar F. Knox.....	James L. Fauver... .
Melrose " 60	.....	.....	.....
Thistle " 61	Albert W. Shepard.	.....	William G. Page... .
Keystone " 62	Victor D. Hunt....	Robert F. Peard....	Daryl L. Osborne..
Blue Valley .. " 64	Milo Stastny	Lloyd Ourecky	Lawrence Ourecky..
Osceola " 65	Jimney R. Majors..	.....	Mervin E. Ransom, Jr.
Edgar " 67	*Claude Thurber ..	.....	.....
Aurora " 68	John M. Allen.....	.....	*Charles F. Adams..
Sterling " 70	Landis A. Rulla....	.....	.....
Trowel " 71	Elmer F. Mahler, Sr.	Charles V. Carhart.	Charles L. Gillespie
Hooper " 72	*Herman H. Lallman	Donald E. Morrow.	*Arthur Swartz
Friend " 73	Burton L. Murray..	George J. Asmus... .	Charles A. Cogswell
Alexandria .. " 74	.....	.....	.....
Frank Welch .. " 75	Robert D. Spearow.	.....	.....
Nelson " 77	Robert M. Littrell..	.....	*Harry Weakly
Albion " 78	Sydney H. Haaken- stad	Merlin L. Weber, Jr.	Lester J. Martin....
Geneva " 79	Leslie M. Newman.	.....	.....
Composite ... " 81	Stephen Ruth	Keith Crook	Gerald Selden
St. Paul " 82	Lyle Klinginsmith..	.....	.....
Corinthian ... " 83	Richard J. Pospisil..	Walter Otte .....	.....
Fairfield " 84	Gerald V. Humbert.	*Warren Wilson	*Gerald V. Humbert.
Ionic " 87	.....	*Robert F. Drake....	.....
Star " 88	Samuel L. Morton..	Frank Conklin	*C. Earl Bucy.....
Cedar River .. " 89	*Lloyd Sprague ....	.....	*Lloyd R. Myers....
Oakland " 91	Eldred A. Anderson	.....	Frank W. Johnson..
Beaver City .. " 93	*Paul D. Fleming... .	*Paul D. Fleming... .	*Paul D. Fleming... .
Bennett " 94	Wesley B. Meinen..	Albert L. French... .	Earl J. TeSelle....
Garfield " 95	Gerald A. Langemeier	.....	.....
Utica " 96	Lynn A. Westwood.	Glen L. Eberspacher	Robert O. Rhodes..
Euclid " 97	Winfred N. Roberts	*Robert L. Domingo.	.....
Republican .. " 98	*Louis J. Kammerer.	*Louis J. Kammerer.	.....
Shelton " 99	Clare W. Coleman.	.....	*Alvin A. Jacke....
Creighton ... " 100	*Edward Smith	Frank J. Roubicek..	.....

*Proxy

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

LODGE	MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN
PoncaNo. 101	Paul C. Peterson...	*Harry F. Stammer..	.....
Waterloo“ 102	Gerald F. Ulrich...	Denny L. Witt.....	Richard L. Engel..
Ord“ 103	Clarence E. Fox....	Gordon G. Jamison..	*Leonard Woods ...
Wymore“ 104	.....	.....	*Myron Trout
Stella“ 105	Edgar Bredemeir...	Blaine Stanley	Keith Wheeler
Porter“ 106	.....	.....	.....
Table Rock.. “ 108	Lloyd F. Vrtiska...	.....	.....
Pomegranate “ 110	Raymond L. Johnson	Larry G. Smith....	Gary E. Defoil....
DeWitt“ 111	.....	Dewey F. Geistlinger	.....
Springfield . . “ 112	Franklin S. Evans..	.....	*Harry N. Ahl.....
Globe“ 113	C. A. Donscheski...	.....	.....
Wisner“ 114	Gifford H. Burris..	Gerald D. Johnson..	Richard R. Alexander
Harlan“ 116	*Leonard J. Meredith	.....	.....
Hardy“ 117	.....	.....	.....
North Bend.. “ 119	Duane C. Beebe...	Earl E. Lantefield..	Paul R. Hamilton...
Wayne“ 120	*John Ream, Jr....	John Ream, Jr.....	Arnold R. Marr....
Superior “ 121	*Doane F. Kiechel..	Frank C. Swaim...	.....
Auburn“ 124	.....	.....	.....
Mount Nebo.. “ 125	Rolland Clark .....	.....	*Dave Olson
Stromsburg . . “ 126	.....	.....	.....
Minden“ 127	*Charles A. Chappell	.....	.....
Guide Rock.. “ 128	Elvin V. Pritts.....	.....	Lovel Wulf
Blue Hill “ 129	.....	.....	.....
Scribner “ 132	Harold L. Goodrich..	Richard H. Swanson	.....
Elm Creek . . . “ 133	*Gerald Reed	Wayne Webb .....	.....
Solar“ 134	*Robert Schdondorf..	Neal A. Thomas....	.....
McCook“ 135	Doane O. Trail....	Henry R. Ruppert..	.....
Long Pine . . . “ 136	*Norman Johnson ...	*Norman Johnson ..	.....
Upright“ 137	Marvin L. Stake....	Donald Van Winkle	*John Dougherty ...
Rawalt“ 138	*Elmer Blincow .....	.....	.....
Clay Centre.. “ 139	*Glenn F. Sperry ...	*Glenn F. Sperry....	*Glenn F. Sperry...
Western“ 140	Ben Jiskra .....	.....	Cecil Compton
Crescent “ 143	Herbert D. Wise...	*William T. Speich..	.....
Kenesaw “ 144	.....	*Lloyd L. Ernst....	.....
Bancroft “ 145	John H. Busselman..	Frank Hermelbracht	Elton E. Bray....
Jachin“ 146	D. Wayne Erickson..	.....	.....
Siloam“ 147	*Ralph C. Patterson..	*Ralph C. Patterson..	*Ralph C. Patterson..
Emmet Crawford“ 148	John F. Richeson..	.....	.....
Cambridge . . . “ 150	*Hugh W. Eisenhart..	*Hugh W. Eisenhart..	*Hugh W. Eisenhart..
Evergreen . . . “ 153	Clifford E. Stegman	William M. Kroupa..	.....
Lily“ 154	James L. Viogt....	.....	.....

*Proxy

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

LODGE	MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN
Hartington No. 155	*Robert E. Weir....	*Robert E. Weir....	*Robert E. Weir....
Pythagoras .. " 156	John A. Wood.....	.....	.....
Samaritan ... " 158	Donald P. Beason..	*George A. Stevens..	*George A. Stevens..
Ogalalla " 159	Bernard D. Lee....	.....	.....
Zeredatha ... " 160	.....	Truman Garber .....	.....
Mt. Zion " 161	*Don Linton	Howard G. Whitmore	*Dean White
Trestle Board. " 162	William J. Bohlken.	James C. Boellstorff	Robert S. Smith....
Unity	Jack Lee Fritch....	Larry A. Pershing..	Louis D. Jeffrey...
Atkinson " 164	Ernest J. Gotschall.	.....	.....
Barneston ... " 165	Robert A. Hinman..	*Dale L. Novotny...	*Charles I. Thomas.
Mystic Tie .. " 166	Roy E. Margritz...	.....	.....
Elwood	Willard Jack .....	.....	.....
Curtis	Carl A. Yonkers....	*Carl A. Yonkers....	*Carl A. Yonkers....
Amity .....	.....	.....	.....
Mason City.. " 170	Vern O. Wieland...	.....	Richard S. Martin..
Merna	Paul D. Jacobsen..	.....	.....
Robert Burns. " 173	*Clyde H. Jones....	*Clyde H. Jones.....	*Clyde H. Jones....
Culbertson ... " 174	Robert F. Ross.....	.....	.....
Temple	*Henry R. Miller...	Henry R. Miller....	*George R. Miller...
Gladstone ... " 176	*Delbert O. Grim...	.....	.....
Hay Springs.. " 177	*Donald R. Armstrong	*Donald R. Armstrong	*Donald R. Armstrong
Prudence " 179	*Dale Carr .....	.....	Robert D. Carr....
Justice	Marvin E. Haines..	*Kenneth Frasier ...	.....
Faith	Roger D. Plooster..	.....	.....
Alliance	Marshall O. Culton,	.....	.....
	Jr.	*Morace M. Smith..	.....
Bee Hive " 184	Manuel Maldonado,	.....	.....
	Jr.	Ralph E. Tetrick, Jr.	Merle M. Roth.....
Boaz	*Robert A. Puelz....	.....	*Robert A. Puelz....
Meridian " 188	Keith L. Berryman.	*Keith L. Berryman.	*Ralph McNulty ...
Granite	Warren D. Fitzgerald	.....	.....
Amethyst ... " 190	David L. Jones....	Alfred Ewoldt .....	.....
Crystal	Charles E. Beebe...	.....	*Ray Salter
Minnekadusa " 192	.....	*U. Wesley Fox .....	.....
Signet	*F. Otto Nelson.....	*Merlin C. Phillips..	.....
Highland " 194	Lamar W. Lueders.	*Eric R. Miller.....	Leland I. Lawrence.
Arcana	Leo E. Taylor.....	.....	.....
Morning Star. " 197	Gail Connerman ...	Gary B. Allison....	.....
Purity	*Ralph Spradlin ...	Ralph Spradlin .....	.....
Gavel	Harold A. Bice....	Donald R. Smith...	*Milford K. Brinegar.
Blazing Star. " 200	Bernard W. Wag-	.....	.....
	ner, Jr.....	.....	.....

*Proxy

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

LODGE	MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN
Scotts Bluff No. 201	Dallas D. Knotts...	Paul J. Wiles.....	
Golden Sheaf " 202	.....	.....	*M. Dean McGrew..
Roman Eagle. " 203	Vern E. Lovell....	*Loren Callahan .....	.....
Plainview ... " 204	Roger M. Kiichler..	.....	.....
Golden Fleece " 205	Gerald A. Thornburg	Earl R. Stalnaker...	*Gerald A. Thornburg
Naphthali " 206	*Arthur C. Vieths...	*John D. Steiner.....	.....
Parian " 207	*Allston Asmus	*Allston Asmus	*Allston Asmus
Canopy " 209	Edward N. McCrory	Richard F. Pratt....	.....
East Lincoln. " 210	Jerry L. Rittenburg.	William M. Hisey..	Robert A. Metcalf..
Cement " 211	T. E. Jerome Paulk.	.....	.....
Compass and Square ... " 212	Merle L. Kearney..	G. William Potter..	.....
Plumblineline ... " 214	*Clarence D. Gottula	.....	.....
Occidental ... " 215	*Robert L. Wiegand.	*Raymond Pecena ..	.....
Palisade " 216	.....	Richard L. Baxter..	.....
Wauneta " 217	James Edwin Kanost	*James Edwin Kanost	*James Edwin Kanost
Bloomfield ... " 218	*Everett F. Kuhl....	.....	.....
Relief " 219	*Chalmer Wilkerson.	.....	.....
Magnolia ... " 220	*Ivan Mackling ...	T. Ray Hill.....	William H. Rohde..
Wood Lake ... " 221	*Arthur J. Ferguson..	Arthur J. Ferguson.	*Arthur J. Ferguson.
Landmark ... " 222	William R. Trotter..	*Stanley E. Brunton.	Joe C. Cameron....
Eminence ... " 223	Charles C. Robertshaw	Elmer R. Bachman.	*Gerald D. Hunnicutt
Silver Cord .. " 224	Emil L. Pischel....	Darrel W. Steele...	*Emil L. Pischel....
Cable " 225	Bobbie D. Smith...	.....	.....
Grace " 226	.....	.....	.....
North Star ... " 227	Charles T. Adams..	Carroll M. Voyles..	Herbert H. Glancy.
Bartley " 228	Lynn K. Kerst....	Donald R. Burton..	*Lynn K. Kerst....
Comet " 229	Gary L. Beaman...	Delbert D. Lowell..	*Carl T. Johnson....
Mt. Hermon.. " 231	*Douglas D. Brown..	Floyd A. Dreyer...	.....
John S. Bowen " 232	Richard L. Japp....	*Henry E. Sass.....	William R. Byers...
Gilead " 233	*Max O. Brown.....	*William P. Wills...	.....
Zion " 234	Max E. Rothwell...	Dan Manning .....	.....
Fraternity ... " 235	Gail Axen .....	.....	.....
Golden Rule.. " 236	Caylen D. Kjer....	.....	.....
Cubit " 237	Donald Brownlee ..	*Lloyd R. Brugman.	*Sam Brownlee
Friendship .. " 239	Victor F. Gjerloff..	Plin L. Robotham..	.....
Pilot " 240	.....	*Gordon Chard .....	.....
George Armstrong ... " 241	.....	.....	Ronald L. Boswell..
Tyrian " 243	.....	.....	.....

* Proxy.

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

LODGE	MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN
Hampton ..No. 245	William D. Gordan.	.....	.....
Nehawka " 246	James B. Chriswiser	.....	William Bescheiner, Jr.
Corner-Stone.. " 247	*Leo Barnett .....	.....	.....
Laurel	" 248 Lowell E. Burns...	Gene R. Burns.....	.....
Gothenburg .. " 249	Robert Hinze	*Robert Hinze	*Robert Hinze
George Wash- ington	" 250 Ivan L. Armstrong..	*Otis W. Cave.....	.....
Wausa	" 251 *Melvin Rosen	*Melvin Rosen	*Melvin Rosen
Beemer	" 253 *Fred Buhk .....	.....	.....
Bassett	" 254 Harold D. Johns...	.....	.....
Hickman	" 256 Marvin Moser	Arlan Roth	Clifford DeBoer ..
Anselmo	" 258 Wendell M. Win- chester .....	.....	.....
Orman	" 261 *Louis Klasna .....	.....	.....
Endeavor ... " 262	Robert R. Emrich..	Don F. Rinehart...	.....
Mitchell " 263	James G. Riley, Jr..	*James G. Riley, Jr..	*James G. Riley, Jr..
Franklin " 264	*Albert C. McKee...	.....	.....
Robert W. Furnas	" 265 Walter L. Slansky..	*Edward H. Lock- wood	Raymond C. Nagel..
Silver	" 266 Darrell D. Atkinson.	.....	Chapin E. Peterson.
James A. Tulleys	" 267 *Russell M. Warren.	.....	.....
George W. Lin- inger	" 268 Richard E. Barnhart	.....	.....
Oasis	" 271 Donald C. Smith...	.....	.....
Lee P. Gillette	" 272 Ronald G. Reuter...	.....	.....
Crofton	" 273 Edward R. Mormann	.....	.....
Olive Branch.	" 274 Richard G. Leits- chuck	Roger Sailors	*Lester Hrdy
Ramah	" 275 *Robert L. Davis....	*Robert L. Davis...	*Robert L. Davis....
Antelope " 276	*James F. Armstrong.	James F. Armstrong	*Julian Paul
Sioux	" 277 .....	.....	.....
Litchfield .. " 278	Leslie Kramer	LaVern C. Predmore	.....
Wallace	" 279 .....	.....	.....
Swastika ... " 280	Donald L. Spray...	.....	.....
Florence " 281	Charles W. Amidon.	Morton P. Steyer...	Harry A. Tollander.
Mullen	" 282	Howard E. Waggoner	.....
Seneca	" 284 Carl M. Schestedt..	.....	.....
Camp Clarke.	" 285 Daniel F. Neu.....	Donald G. Van- Ostrand .....	.....

*Proxy

REPRESENTATIVES OF LODGES

LODGE	MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN
Oshkosh ... No. 286	Joseph C. Woolery.	.....	.....
Union " 287	*Robert Miller	*Robert Pegler	*Ross L. Read.....
Omaha " 288	John G. Vacha.....	*George E. Johnson..	Warner R. White..
Lotus " 289	*Robert M. Svanda..	.....	.....
John J. Mercer " 290	Herbert L. Graham.	Paul L. Toombs... ..	Charles R. Gove... ..
Diamond " 291	.....	Claude Elliott ....	.....
Wolbach " 292	Fredrick W. Frost..	.....	.....
Monument .. " 293	James D. McCoy...	.....	.....
Kimball " 294	James L. Eatmon... ..	W. Eugene Ohle- meier .....	.....
Minatare " 295	Harry E. Krumena- cher	*Roy I. Babbitt.....	.....
Cotner " 297	Leland R. Trunken- bolz	Robert W. Mahoney	*Fred Mulford
Chester " 298	Clarence E. Palmer.	Elijah F. Mumm... ..	.....
Sutherland .. " 299	Harvey Applegate ..	.....	.....
Liberty " 300	Orland D. Hulbert..	John E. Rowe.....	*Adam Heckel
Bayard " 301	Roger L. Deal.....	*Frank H. Smith.....	.....
Mizpah " 302	Vern L. Andersen... ..	*Dan W. Campbell..	.....
Right Angle.. " 303	Barton S. Boles....	Oliver M. Bern- hardt, Jr.....	Albert T. Osborne..
Newman Grove " 305	.....	.....	.....
Golden Rod .. " 306	Leonard B. Bond... ..	*Wayne Campbell ..	*Charles Wise
Perkins " 308	Everett Watkins ...	Anders Olson .....	.....
Winnebago .. " 309	.....	.....	.....
Victory " 310	John D. Johnson... ..	*John D. Johnson... ..	Clarence B. King... ..
Polk " 311	Roger Gustafson ...	Harold W. Anderson	Donald Miller
Oak Leaf ... " 312	.....	.....	.....
Potter " 313	David L. Thies.....	Alan Combs	Leslie L. Lipska... ..
Craftsmen ... " 314	Lloyd E. Boswell... ..	*August W. Edling..	Robert T. Wheeler.
Alpha " 316	.....	.....	C. Clark Kleinberg.
Mid-West ... " 317	Chester E. Anderson	Dale L. Schachtler.	*Homer C. Davey... ..
Grand Island. " 318	Marshall C. Spradlin	L. David Williamson	*Albert B. Osborn... ..
Bladen " 319	.....	.....	.....
College View. " 320	.....	*Orville L. Hedrick..	Harold E. Dallinger
Harmony " 321	J. Dale Flora.....	.....	*Clarence Mellberg..
Pioneer " 322	*Wayne Rawlings ...	*Wayne Rawlings ..	.....
Lebanon " 323	*Robert E. Lund....	.....	Harold C. Wurde- man
Cairo " 324	William Lindsay ...	George W. Sorensen	Orland F. Quest... ..
Bellevue " 325	Wallace Grossman..	*Donald A. Jones... ..	Donald A. Jones... ..
Centennial .. " 326	*Harvey A. Smith... ..	*Elmer E. Smith....	.....
Shiloh " 327	James C. Gathmann	F. Otis Meyer.....	William F. Patterson

*Proxy

REPORT OF THE NEBRASKA MASONIC HOME

Brother William F. Patterson, 327, President, presented the report of The Nebraska Masonic Home which was adopted.

Each year we report to you on your Home. While it is our annual report, we try and give you in a few paragraphs a total picture of what you possess here. Of necessity it must be brief.

Your Trustees' greatest hope is for a more interested awareness of each individual Mason of just what your Home is, what it costs to operate, and what it means to those who, by the fortunes of life, have sought it as a refuge and a haven, and who have found there the great heart of Nebraska Masonry living up to the fullest the obligations each of us have taken at a common altar.

You owe it to yourselves and to the new Mason just raised in your Lodge to see your Home that your membership might know what you and it are supporting.

Do you know that the building itself would cost over two million dollars to replace and pretty close to half of that to furnish it?

Do you realize that it costs over \$300,000 per year to operate your Home?

Your per-capita tax is \$2.00 and means approximately \$90,000 annually to pay operating costs. Did you ever wonder where the remaining \$210,000 comes from? Your Trustees worry about that one, and we make it.

We aren't complaining, and we are proud of you for the additional help you give in many ways, such as the Seal program and your generous gifts throughout the year. We only ask that you think of your Home, talk about it, see it if you can, and tell that new member what he, too, is helping to provide for our distressed Brethren.

Now briefly, here is the annual report of your Trustees which we are proud to give you.

Your Home has had an active, interesting, and progressive year. Our population rises and falls; but it remains at this report in the 80's. The balance between numbers of men and women remains about as it always has. The ladies outnumber us. The percentage of bedfast Residents who will remain in bed the rest of their lives is also about the same as last year, a high two-thirds.

As we have told you before, this is because of the advanced ages of the Residents today. Most of those admitted in the last twelve months were in their 80's and in a number of cases, decidedly infirm. This is a normal situation. At this age, most are suffering from ailments associated with age. They are not curable but do respond to good care. Rarely is one admitted who is not in need of constant medical care. They get it.

This causes medical and nursing requirements to continue as a major portion of the work of our staff. It is expensive, necessary, and is freely provided. Each year is a challenge to improve it, and we do it.

The Sunshine Buggy gets a workout each day. A gift from Tangier Temple Mobil Nobles it hasn't missed a day taking our people various places or for just a ride. Wheel chairs roll right into its side door, and it accommodates several.

The Beauty Parlor still proves popular. Its modern equipment given as a memorial to Marie Srb is the finest thing for our lady residents we've ever had. It of course costs them nothing to have a professional beauty operator care for their hair.

The Store also cost free to our Residents carries as it always has a wide range of needed items from bobby pins to cold cream.

The barber shop for men and the clothing store complete what some of our friends call "Main Street" but unlike Main Street in your town, these items cost our Residents nothing. They are there to be had; and if you had no money in your pockets as is the case with them, you would be happy over these things as all our Residents are.

I am happy to again remind you that the operation of these all come out of the entertainment fund to which many of you subscribe. It is not in the operating budget of the Home. So when you send a dollar or so to the Home for entertainment, you help all these important services to be provided our people.

The Thermal baths still play an important part with those Residents suffering from arthritis and similar conditions. It provides welcome relief.

Our Therapist finds more to do constantly in both the mental and physical field. Keeping an aged person's mind interested and active is often as important as bodily functions. An expert Registered Nurse heads this department.

Again those wonderful food trucks from Grand Island and Scotts-bluff came as before. They brought 3,200 pounds of food in bags and 747 cases of assorted canned items so very useful in the food department of the Home and certainly a welcome help in the budget. These fine Masons brought a box of candy for each Resident also. W. and Mrs. Robert W. Cook assisted W. Robert W. Boon in the festivities.

Christmas and Thanksgiving both are big events to our Residents, and both holidays were made more pleasant by gifts. The Masters and Wardens, as always, remembered the Home, as did many others.

The Seal program continues to grow. We told you the need of this at the beginning. The need continues, and you have faithfully continued to respond. It is filling a great need, and your help is most vital. The Thanksgiving and Christmas mailing brought the greatest return we've had since the beginning.

The task of keeping up with things that wear out is constant.

This year we started replacing draperies and other worn out items for which we have set aside funds for that purpose. The work will be completed this year.

The new laundry and heating plant are working smoothly. The laundry has an ever increasing load and is running seven days a week.

We are most proud of our committees and the great work they do year in and out.

The Committee on Admissions under M. W. Harry A. Spencer, Third Vice President of the Board, handles all applications for admission. W. Earl H. Furman and M. W. Joseph C. Tye working with M. W. Brother Spencer have all done outstanding work in your behalf.

The same is true of the Finance Committee headed by W. John H. Brown, assisted by M. W. Brothers Merle H. Hale and Louis V. Sylvester. The difficult task of building an ever-rising budget and supervising the finances of the Home is ably handled by these Brethren.

The Building and Grounds Committee headed by W. Melvin E. Johnson assisted by R. W. Norris W. Lallman and W. Herman G. Reinholz look after our property, its maintenance and upkeep. They, too, have been busy all year.

Finally the Seal Program with W. John H. Brown as Chairman assisted by M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, Brothers George K. A. Leschinsky and Charles S. Crabtree have kept before you a fine program that grows each year.

These are your Committees, Brethren, in detail, a fine group of hard working men capable and efficient.

You visited the Home last year, and I hope you enjoyed the picnic luncheon and a tour of the Home. The Residents still remember that you came. Come again.

In December, we had the pleasure of a visit from Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons celebrating its Centennial. They came in buses and all enjoyed the visit as we did having them.

There were visitors to Grand Chapter from as far East as Maryland and Maine and South as far as Tennessee. The Mid-West was represented by all our neighboring States. These important visitors were impressed with what they saw and were very complimentary of the Home itself and the way it is operated. We want them back again soon. They were splendid guests.

Now to the budget. We continue to operate inside it, but it continues to slowly rise. Conditions beyond our control affect us. Cost of every item we use has slowly gone up as the inflationary spiral still prevails. We would hope for improvement, but I see none in the foreseeable future.

We were blessed with endowments during the year. It is pleasant to report to you that an increasing number of Brethren and friends are remembering the Home in their wills as well as living endowments which a good number have also made.

This confirms our hope, long cherished, that some day in the future your Home will be totally endowed. Then if the storms come as they do, it cannot be harmed. It's up to you and me to hasten this day. It can come and with God's will, it will come to the pride and happiness of all of us.

We are grateful for the help you are giving.

There are always many to whom we would express our appreciation. Far too many to enumerate here. First to each Master Mason and Sister of the Eastern Star, we would say our thanks for always remembering.

The Lodges, Chapters, Councils, Commanderies, Masters and Wardens, O.E.S. Chapters, the Youth Groups, those marvelous friends who never forget when it's time for the food trucks to roll and many others who have so beautifully expressed their love and affection this year.

We are especially indebted to our Grand Master, M.'W.'.Lewis R. Ricketts, who is also First Vice President of our Home. He has spent a year of intensive work on behalf of the Home. His most capable and persuasive speaking ability has told our story most effectively far and near.

We are grateful to Mrs. Helen Morten, Worthy Grand Matron of the Grand Chapter O.E.S. of Nebraska, and for the many contributions from the various Chapters and the Grand Chapter.

Our Superintendent, Brother Raymond F. Evers, labors daily for all of us. He, I am sure, is the finest in this country.

Then our beloved Secretary, R.'W.'.Carl W. Greisen, always exceeds our ability to pay him tribute. Many hours of devoted service on his part keep things running smoothly as only he can do.

Finally to my Brother Trustees. The most devoted, intelligent and efficient group of men this Home has ever had to guide its destiny. In their hands all is well, now and all the tomorrows.

Thank you.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NEBRASKA WORK

M.'W.'.Edward F. Carter, 201, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Nebraska Work which was adopted.

We have examined the report of the Grand Custodian to the Grand Lodge for 1967. This report reflects the fine manner in which the degree work is being promulgated in this Grand Jurisdiction. We

compliment the Grand Custodian and his Assistant Custodians on their dedication to Masonic duty and the fine work they have done during the past year.

Your committee has recommended to the Grand Master for appointment as Assistant Custodians the following brethren during the past year: Gwynne L. Neubauer, 258; Ward L. McGlashen, 180; and Curtis J. Griess, 49. They have been commissioned by the Grand Master and are doing excellent work on their new assignments.

We have approved a budget in the total amount of \$8,100 for the operation of the office of the Grand Custodian and for the payment of the authorized expenses of the Assistant Custodians. We have also requested an appropriation for the Committee on Nebraska Work in the amount of \$75. While the committee does not anticipate the expenditure of any funds during the coming year, we feel that a small fund should be available for its use in case of need.

It is the opinion of your committee that it would be advantageous to the work of the Grand Custodian that the number of Assistant Custodians be increased from 35 to 40. We feel that the increase can be so handled as to reduce the distances many Assistant Custodians are required to travel as well as the number of subordinate lodges they are presently required to serve. We request this change in the by-laws without an increase in our appropriation for the expenses of the Assistant Custodians. We feel that the reduction of travel and number of lodges served will ease the work and expenses of the existing Assistant Custodians by sharing it with any additional Assistant Custodians appointed. We therefore move the adoption of the following amendment to the by-laws: "We move that the second paragraph of section 1-202, By-Laws of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, Cumulative Supplement 1966, be amended to read as follows: 'The Grand Master may appoint not more than 40 Assistant Custodians to assist the Grand Custodian in supervising the work, lectures, and ritual, and who shall receive the sum of five dollars per day, while conducting Schools of Instruction, and who, when attending Grand Lodge, shall receive the same mileage and per diem as the duly accredited representatives to the Grand Lodge, all of which shall be paid by warrants drawn in the regular manner. Local expenses and mileage for Schools of Instruction shall be paid by the Lodge for which the School is held.' "

At the 1964 communication of this Grand Lodge, the Grand Lodge directed this committee to establish the floor work of this jurisdiction in the three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry as it is presently being taught as the floor work henceforth to be used in Nebraska. We appointed a subcommittee to do the preliminary work. The committee was composed of M. W. Ralph M. Carhart as Chairman, and W. Raymond C. Cook, Grand Custodian; W. Robert W. Cook, Assistant Custodian; W. Delbert H. Pinkerton, Assistant Custodian; and R. W. Louis V. Sylvester, Deputy Grand Master, as such subcommittee. The

untimely passing of Brothers Ralph M. Carhart and Raymond C. Cook delayed the work of this subcommittee. M. W. Herbert A. Ronin was designated as Chairman as the successor to M. W. Ralph M. Carhart. No replacement of W. Raymond C. Cook was made. On May 9, 1967, the subcommittee made its report to your committee. The work of the subcommittee was reviewed, corrected, revised, and adopted by your committee on that date. Your committee now submits the completed draft of the floor work to be used in this jurisdiction for your consideration. We move its adoption as the floor work of the three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry to be exclusively taught and used in this jurisdiction.

(At this time M. W. Brother Carter called on M. W. Herbert A. Ronin, Chairman of the sub-committee, for a brief explanation of its work. M. W. Brother Ronin explained minutely the floor work as adopted by the Committee and urged the adoption of the report.)

Your committee further moves that the transcript of the floor work be placed in the archives of the Grand Lodge in the custody of the Grand Secretary and that access thereto be limited to any two of the following brethren: The members of the Committee on Nebraska Work and the Grand Custodian.

We have had no problems regarding the esoteric and monitorial work. In fact, we have had no decisions in this area for the last two or three years.

The Committee on Nebraska Work was established in 1946. It is composed of three Past Grand Masters with staggered terms of three years. I would be less than forthcoming if I did not say that the establishment of this committee was met with much skepticism in some quarters. But the committee has succeeded, we think, because of the care exercised in not encroaching upon the prerogatives of the Grand Master or the Grand Custodian that was traditionally theirs. We have had full and complete cooperation with the Grand Masters and Grand Custodians with whom we have worked. By authority of the Grand Lodge, we took the necessary steps to preserve and perpetuate the esoteric work of the three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry in order that errors could not find their way into the esoteric work of this jurisdiction. Subsequently at the direction of the Grand Lodge we revised the monitorial work of the degrees and ceremonies of the Order as evidenced by the new monitor issued in 1962. With the adoption of the floor work of the degrees at this annual communication, we have completed the cycle in the perpetuation of the esoteric, monitorial, and floor work of the three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry as it is and shall remain from now on. The placing of this work in the archives of the Grand Lodge as complete assurance against change and error will, we trust, meet with expectations of the Craft, the approbation of its members, and result in uniformity of work and purpose in this Grand Jurisdiction. Many dedicated Masons have par-

ticipated in the accomplishment of these objectives. We commend them as a group for their aid and assistance in bringing about that which will insure accuracy, continuity, and respect for the ritualistic and ceremonial rites which add so much to the philosophy of the Order.

We move that line 18 on page 156 and line 1 on page 166 in the original Transcript be changed in wording as submitted by the committee. (Motion seconded and carried.)

(M. W. Brother Carter requested unanimous consent to amend Section 1-202. Unanimous consent was granted and the following amendment to Section 1-202 was adopted unanimously:)

We move that the second paragraph of section 1-202, By-Laws of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, Cumulative Supplement 1966, be amended to read as follows: "The Grand Master may appoint not more than 40 Assistant Custodians to assist the Grand Custodian in supervising the work, lectures, and ritual, and who shall receive the sum of five dollars per day, while conducting Schools of Instruction, and who, when attending Grand Lodge, shall receive the same mileage and per diem as the duly accredited representatives to the Grand Lodge, all of which shall be paid by warrants drawn in the regular manner. Local expenses and mileage for Schools of Instruction shall be paid by the Lodge for which the School is held."

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS

M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master, announced that the hour had arrived for the election of Grand Officers and appointed as tellers the Assistant Custodians with W. Paul D. Fleming, 93, as Chairman.

The following Officers were elected:

- Brother John A. Bottorf, 49.....M. W. Grand Master
- Brother Norris W. Lallman, 72.....R. W. Deputy Grand Master
- Brother Hugh W. Eisenhart, 150.....R. W. Grand Senior Warden
- Brother John H. Brown, 1.....R. W. Grand Junior Warden
- Brother Carl R. Greisen, 32.....R. W. Grand Secretary

Later in the session appointment was made of

- Brother Stanley D. Rider, 198.....V. W. Grand Chaplain
- Brother Paul R. Pierce, 50.....W. Grand Orator
- Brother George W. Rosenlof, 314.....W. Grand Historian
- Brother Robert W. Cook, 33.....W. Grand Custodian
- Brother T. Leo Stines, 36.....W. Grand Marshal
- Brother Warren K. Urbom, 314.....W. Grand Senior Deacon
- Brother Russell L. Fickes, 33.....W. Grand Junior Deacon
- Brother Carl H. Nolde, 49.....W. Grand Tyler

ASSISTANT CUSTODIANS: Harold D. Weddel, 61 (1937); Stephen W. Beck, 43 (1940); LaVerne A. Walker, 55 (1946); Paul D. Fleming, 93 (1949); Delbert H. Pinkerton, 314 (1954); Willard I. Lewis, Jr., 9 (1955); Clifford D. Webster, 321 (1956); Frank H. Smith, 301 (1957); Winston C. Swanson, 120 (1958); Harry N. Ahl, 112 (1959); Lloyd J. Edwards, 110 (1960); Erwin J. Imig, 38 (1960); Alfred R. Kenoyer, 148 (1960); Sebert A. Stover, 281 (1960); T. Leo Stines, 36 (1960); Stanley E. Brunton, 222 (1961); Glen W. Binder, 23 (1961); Gordon Chard, 240 (1962); Harold A. Tilton, 71 (1962); Stuart A. Johnson, 169 (1963); Arthur S. Dye, 317 (1964); W. Upton Dawson, 135 (1964); Ralph I. Berry, 256 (1965); Nelson W. Rittenburg, 210 (1965); Robert W. Boon, 33 (1965); Augustus W. Clark, 318 (1965); Alton S. Mote, 183 (1965); Ralph W. Gerry, 281 (1965); Arnold F. Mains, 15 (1965); Harold J. Oehlerking, 159 (1966); Gwynne L. Neubauer, 258 (1966); Ward L. McGlashan, 180 (1966); Curtis J. Griess, 49 (1966).

GRAND LODGE COMMITTEES

Application for reinstatement: W. Earl H. Furman, 290, Chairman; Herbert Egerer, 303; Elmer E. Smith, 326.

Appropriations: W. Melvin E. Johnson, 112, (1971) Chairman; Walter Truex, 55 (1968); Donald R. Swanson, 54 (1969); Alfred B. Saum, 46 (1970); Richard L. Wait, 19 (1972).

Finance: W. Robert E. Lund, 323 (1969) Chairman; Ralph R. Carleton, 306 (1968); Jess W. Wade, 290 (1970); Howard L. Patterson, 303 (1971); LeRoy C. Sutton, 1 (1972).

Fraternal Dead: W. Walter O. Samuelson, 326, Chairman; Brother William F. Patterson, 327; W. Paul M. Erdman, 180.

Fraternal Relations: M. W. Carl R. Greisen, 32, Chairman; William B. Wanner, 9; W. Edward J. Taylor, 150.

George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association: W. Cary W. Dresslar, 32, Chairman; M. W. Charles F. Adams, 68; W. Herbert L. Graham, 290.

Grand Lodge Office: W. Herman G. Reinholz, 3, Chairman (1971); Vernon H. Wood, 290 (1968); James M. Paxson, 302 (1969); M. W. Merle M. Hale, 54 (1970); W. Harold C. Wurdeman, 323 (1972).

Grand Trustees: M. W. John F. Fatcher, 302, Chairman (1971); W. Harold E. Gabrielson, 302 (1968); Robert A. Wekesser, 54 (1969); Alfred E. Geschke, 25 (1970); William E. Moor, 102 (1972).

Grievances: W. Clarence M. Pierson, 19, Chairman; Otto Kotouc, 40; Jack M. West, 222.

Masonic Eastern Star Student Fund: W. Delbert H. Pinkerton, 314, Chairman; Lyle J. Bryant, 297; M. W. Elmer E. Magee, 227.

Masonic Education: W. Howard J. Hunter, 59, Chairman (1969); Harry A. Spencer, 227 (1969); Lewis R. Ricketts, 19 (1968); Louis V. Sylvester, 281 (1968); Alfred G. Wurst, 59 (1970); Edward H. Lockwood, 265 (1970).

Nebraska Work: M. W. Edward F. Carter, 201, Chairman, (1970); Herbert T. White, 11 (1968); Louis V. Sylvester, 281 (1969).

Public Relations: W. Joe H. Hartley, 54, Chairman; John S. Savage, 11; Al Ray Brown, 50.

Relief and Care of Orphans: W. Paul L. Toombs, 290, Chairman (1972); John S. Burley, 300 (1968); Earl W. Schultz, 75 (1969); Otto Burkhardt, 55 (1970); James A. Bradley, 1 (1971).

Temple Building Advisory: W. Donald F. Sampson, 39, Chairman (1970); Donald G. Hafer, 306 (1968); E. Forrest Estes, 19 (1969).

Lodge Advisory: M. W. Joseph C. Tye, 46, Chairman (1970); Ernest O. Van Wey, 249 (1968); Herbert A. Ronin, 210 (1969).

REPORT OF THE MASONIC-EASTERN STAR HOME FOR CHILDREN

W. Clyde R. Worrall, 59, President, presented the report of The Masonic Eastern Star Home for Children which was adopted.

The Board of Trustees of The Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children at Fremont brings you greetings and best wishes for a successful Grand Lodge session. It is a pleasure for me to present the annual report of the activities at the Home for the past year.

Many of you have visited our Home at Fremont—some of you many times—and have seen the fine work that our devoted staff is doing for the children in our care. There is no greater work in which the Masonic and Eastern Star members of Nebraska are engaged in. Each of you has a definite part in the training of these young boys and girls as we attempt to guide them into a useful place in society.

Each year we strive to improve upon methods and surroundings. It was never intended that our Home would be known as an institution. To the contrary, we strive daily to create homelike surroundings with a house mother and assistants in charge of each home. To assist us, we have a dedicated staff of fine Christian personnel who are attempting each day to build well-rounded Christian boys and girls.

We want this report and record to show that the Board of Trustees appreciates the devoted staff of house mothers, cooks, laundry ladies and farm manager for their daily assistance. We commend Mr.

and Mrs. Don Moul, our Superintendent and wife, for their dedicated service. We know that Mr. Moul has the respect of each young boy and girl at the Home.

The Board of Trustees consists of 14 members, 7 ladies of the Order of the Eastern Star and 7 men who are Master Masons. Serving with the Board as ex-officio members are the Worthy Grand Matron and the M. W. Grand Master of Nebraska. The Eastern Star members of the Board are appointed by the Worthy Grand Matron and the Masonic members of the Board are appointed by the M. W. Grand Master. Selection of the Board members is done in such a way as to give representation to all parts of the State. Mrs. Wilma Harms, Grand Secretary of the Order of the Eastern Star, serves also as secretary of our Board of Trustees. It may interest you to know that each member serves without compensation and absorbs the cost of transportation to and from our meetings. One member of our Board lives near the western boundary of our State. As a matter of fact, you can almost stand in her backyard and throw a baseball across the state line to Colorado. However, she is always present at our meetings, although she is obliged to ride the train by night in order to be present at the meeting the next morning. Several of our members find it necessary to start their journey toward the meeting at 3:00 or 4:00 o'clock in the morning in order to arrive for the opening session at 9:00 A.M. Such dedication and loyalty is uncommon in these days.

The Board is divided into five principal committees, namely, Finance, Admissions, Buildings and Grounds, Employees, and Publicity. Each member of the Board of Trustees serves on three or more committees. Responsibility is delegated to each committee and its chairman in order that the business to be transacted might be done judiciously and speedily. (It is the general responsibility of the Finance Committee to prepare an annual budget and to provide for the necessary finances in the maintenance of our Home. The Admissions Committee receives all applications, answers all inquiries and makes recommendations as to who shall be admitted and on what basis. To the Employees Committee vests the responsibility in providing sufficient personnel to operate our Home. The Buildings and Grounds Committee is constantly on the alert, making sure that any necessary repair is promptly ordered and taken care of, having in mind improvements in all areas of the operation of the Home. Our Publicity Committee carries a very important responsibility. Members of this committee are busy constantly preparing letters, brochures, newspaper articles and other items of information in order that the thousands of Eastern Star and Masonic members might be better informed of the activities of our Home.)

Should you visit the Home and surrounding grounds at this time, you will find the lawns well-kept, the shade trees trimmed and sprayed, the four individual homes in good repair and painted. The paved circle

drive has contributed to the neatness of the grounds, including the solution of a serious drainage problem which existed heretofore.

We believe the arrangement of the individual homes, including the administration and activities building, is very functional. The gymnasium and activities building is used daily to the joy and happiness of the children.

The farm activity area is a very popular one. The 4-H Clubs and leaders are busy daily caring for baby beef, swine and sheep. Many blue ribbons adorn the rooms and bulletin boards. Thanks to the many Masonic brothers and Shriners who make these activities possible.

The personal health of each child is carefully watched. Periodic visits to the dentist, the oculist and the physician help them to build strong bodies. Careful observation and study is made of each child's educational potential. We are proud to say that the scholastic averages are pointing upward. Not only is the Board interested in the body and mind of each child, but we have great concern for their spiritual welfare and training. Each child is allowed to choose the church of his choice. However, regular attendance at church and its church school activities is strongly urged. The Home station wagon is kept busy every Sunday morning, transporting the children to and from church, and many times during the week.

There are 35 children living in the four residence homes at the Fremont Home at this time. All attend the Fremont public schools. (Some are looking forward to Senior graduation. Others are eager to learn of a promotion to a higher grade.) The daily total cared for at the Home fluctuates from time to time. Several new applications for admittance were pending at the time this report was compiled.

You will be interested in knowing that at a special meeting of the stockholders of the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children on October 12, 1966, Article III of the Articles of Incorporation was amended to read in part as follows:

"The business of this Corporation shall be to aid, care for, maintain and educate children of Free Masons and members of the Order of the Eastern Star, and when feasible to likewise assist, maintain and educate other dependent children under such conditions as the Board of Trustees may provide."

Mother's Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas are special days at the Home. Let us not forget these young lives on these days. A recent policy adopted and encouraged allows each child to visit a relative, a friend or some kind person over Christmas. Such an arrangement has proven to have a wholesome effect on the children as they are invited into our homes on these special days.

The most recent activity, which has excited everyone, was the laying of the corner-stone of the new Junior Boys Home on May 2nd.

The Board held its regular meeting from 9:00 A.M. until noon, then everyone adjourned to a luncheon at the Fremont Masonic Temple. The M. W. Grand Master and other Grand Lodge Officers were present at the luncheon.

At 2:30 P.M. the corner-stone ceremony began. Sister Helen Morten, Worthy Grand Matron, was selected to invite M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master of Masons, to officially lay the corner-stone in accordance with Masonic custom and usage. All boys and girls of the Home were excused from school that afternoon and participated in the festivities. A large crowd gathered at the site and were stirred by the oration of W. Vance D. Rogers, President of Nebraska Wesleyan University and Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. Masonic and Eastern Star representatives from all over the State were in attendance.

The Board of Trustees extends grateful thanks to Sister Helen Morten, Worthy Grand Matron, and her hundreds of workers who assisted in getting together a fund which we have just learned has already reached upwards of \$25,000.00 toward the cost and payment of the new Junior Boys Home. This was accomplished through the campaign fund sponsored and promoted by our Worthy Grand Matron.

The new Junior Boys Home will be ready to be occupied by early fall of this year. It is needless to say the accommodations will be greatly appreciated by the lucky boys who will call it "home."

My personal thanks to the employees, the members of the Board of Trustees for the help they have given me this past year.

We extend a sincere invitation to all of you to visit the Home at Fremont at any time. In this day when we are alerted to the juvenile delinquency problem and the vandalism by young people, which seems to be taking over in some sections of our country, we, as Masons, can be proud of the work we are doing at The Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children in Fremont in the building of well-rounded Christian personalities into the lives of the boys and girls in our care.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CHARTERS AND DISPENSATIONS

W. Harry M. Green, 25, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Charters and Dispensations which was adopted.

The Grand Lodge Committee on Charters and Dispensations respectfully submits the following report to the 110th Annual Communication for its consideration.

At the 109th Grand Lodge the Charter of Upright No. 137 of Burchard, was forfeited for failure to comply with Section 2-514 of the Grand Lodge Law, not being represented at the 107th and 108th Grand

Lodge and failure to respond to a citation to appear before this Committee at the 109th Grand Lodge Communication. July 20, 1966 nineteen members of Upright No. 137, including its Officers petitioned the Grand Master for restoration of its Charter and on January 4, 1967 Grand Master Lewis R. Ricketts appeared at a regular meeting of Upright Lodge and restored its Charter and records to the Worshipful Master with authority to function with the previously elected, appointed and installed Officers of his Lodge until the 110th Annual Communication. It is the opinion of your Committee on Charters and Dispensations that Grand Master Lewis R. Ricketts acted very wisely and in the best interests of Masonry in restoring the Charter to Upright No. 137. It is the recommendation of this Committee that the Grand Lodge approve the actions of the Grand Master in restoring the Charter to Upright No. 137.

On June 13, 1966 Jewel No. 149, Tobias, voted to consolidate with Geneva No. 79. On June 7, Geneva No. 79 had invited Jewel Lodge to consolidate with them. Jewel Lodge which had 41 members, had only about 8 living within a close distance from the Lodge and it was difficult for it to operate properly. The consolidated was approved by Grand Master Lewis R. Ricketts. This Committee recommends that the action of the Grand Master in the consolidation of Jewel No. 149 with Geneva No. 79 be approved.

On May 13, Ruskin No. 304 voted to consolidate with Nelson No. 77 and on September 1, Nelson No. 77 voted to accept the consolidation of Ruskin No. 304, as it had insufficient members living close enough to operate its Lodge properly. The consolidation was approved by the Grand Master and it is the recommendation of this Committee that the action of the Grand Master be approved.

Tecumseh No. 17 cited to appear before this Committee for violation of Sec. 2-514 of the law, failure to have representation at the 108th and 109th Annual Communications was represented by W. Master Richard N. Pope, Brother Harry Gordon, proxy for the Senior Warden, and W. William Stratman, proxy for the Junior Warden. Satisfactory explanation was given and this Committee recommends no further action.

Meridian No. 188 which also failed to be represented at the 108th and 109th Annual Communication was represented by W. Keith L. Berryman, Master; Brother Ralph McNulty, proxy for the Junior Warden, satisfactory explanation was given and no further action recommended.

The following Lodges failed to have representation at the 109th and 110th Annual Communications and should be cited to appear before this Committee at the 111th Annual Communication: Newman Grove No. 305.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON GRIEVANCES

W. Clarence M. Pierson, 19, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Grievances which was adopted.

Your Committee on Grievances reports that it has received no Petitions for Restoration and no appeals from Trial Commission rulings during the past year and consequently has held no hearings.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON GRAND LODGE ADVISORY

M. W. Joseph C. Tye, 46, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Grand Lodge Advisory which was adopted.

The Grand Master's Advisory Committee continued throughout the year making itself available to any Lodge desiring to consult with it relative to consolidation or the surrendering of Charters.

We are pleased to advise you that your Grand Master has cooperated with Lodges in this connection and that two consolidations have resulted.

On September 16, 1966, the Grand Master authorized Jewel No. 149 of Tobias to accept the invitation of Geneva No. 79 to consolidate with it.

September 29, 1966 the Grand Master authorized the consolidation of Ruskin No. 304 with Nelson No. 77.

The Grand Master referred the advisability and feasibility of establishing a revolving fund from which small sums could be borrowed to assist in the formation of new Lodges where it should be found desirable, which recommendation was made by the previous Grand Master, approved by the Jurisprudence Committee and adopted by the Grand Lodge at the last annual communication. Upon consideration of such a fund, your committee recommended to the Grand Master and the Grand Trustees that a revolving fund of \$500.00 be established for this purpose. There has been no request for funds in this connection during the year.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MASONIC-EASTERN STAR STUDENT FUND

M. W. Elmer E. Magee, 227, presented the report of the Committee on Masonic-Eastern Star Student Fund which was adopted.

Your Masonic-Eastern Star Student Fund Committee is pleased to make the following report:

The purpose of our committee is to provide sponsorship and administer financial assistance provided by the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter O.E.S. to young people from the Children's Home in Fremont who are capable and desirous of higher education after their graduation from high school.

During the 1966-67 school year we have had just one such student, Mr. John Walker, who is completing his third year at Michigan State University where he is majoring in electrical engineering and electronics. We propose to continue sponsorship of this young man for the coming school year.

There were no high school graduates this year from the Children's Home, so our only university student this coming year will be John Walker. Your Committee estimates the cost of his sponsorship to be \$1,500.00 of which the Grand Chapter O.E.S. and the Grand Lodge are being requested to appropriate one-half each. The Grand Chapter has approved their share and we herewith request the Grand Lodge to appropriate the sum of \$750.00 as their half to enable us to continue the sponsorship of this young man through the coming year.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC RELATIONS

W. Joseph H. Hartley, 54, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Public Relations which was adopted.

Your Public Relations Committee prepared and released news stories on various activities of the Grand Lodge, its officers and committees. These were sent to newspapers, radio and television stations and to the wire services.

Stories of the eleven area meetings held by the Committee on Masonic Education were sent to 299 news media outlets in the vicinity of the meetings. This type of coverage also was given stories of cornerstone layings by the Grand Lodge at the new Masonic Temple at Mitchell, the boys' dormitory at the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children at Fremont and the Cheyenne County Court House at Sidney; and the dedication of Masonic Temples at Ainsworth, Scotia and Madison; and the constitution of Shiloh Lodge at Omaha.

It was a pleasure to interview Mary Gertrude Morrison at The Nebraska Masonic Home at Plattsmouth and to release a story of the attainment of her 100th birthday on April 9.

The Committee also wrote and released news stories for the York Rite bodies concerning the annual meeting at Fremont and the centennial observance of Royal Arch Masons of Nebraska at Omaha.

The announcement of this annual communication of the Grand Lodge was released two weeks ago and subsequent stories of public interest have been or will be issued concerning its proceedings.

The story of the outcome of the election and of the appointments of Grand Lodge officers will be released this afternoon. Printing mats of our new Grand Master are being furnished to all newspapers in the state, while television stations are being provided with portrait photographs for newscast purposes.

In total, the foregoing report represents 1,202 separate mailings from this Committee during the past twelve months.

M. .W. .Charles F. Adams, Past Grand Master:

M. .W. .Grand Master, and my brethren, you have for your use and convenience a gavel, would you exhibit it to the brethren present this morning, the beautiful gavel there on the pedestal. The gift from M. .W. .Charles A. Mantz of Denver, Colorado. Brother Mantz has visited with us on many occasions. He, as many of you know, has had innumerable operations for cancer of the throat. We have recently received a letter in which he states, "Had a fall, broke a bone in the arch of my left foot, cracked another and sprained both feet and in casts and in bed."

If it were possible to have any more physical infirmities happen to a man like that, I don't know what they could be. I think it would be most appropriate in view of his previous visits and his generosity to our Grand Lodge, if we would ask our Grand Secretary to send a word of greeting to him from this our 110th Annual Communication and wish for him such improvement in health as God be willing to grant to him.

M. .W. .Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master:

Thank you M. .W. .Brother Adams, it has been duly moved and seconded. Brethren, all in favor signify by the usual sign of Masons when voting, down hands, contrary same sign. M. .W. .Brother Charles A. Mantz has indeed been one of our very, very close and beloved Masonic Associates in our Grand Lodge. This is one of the first Communications that he has had to miss. I know how much he does miss it. He was here with us last year as many of you will recall and was taken ill during the communication and had to be taken to a hospital. He is one of the most courageous individuals I believe I have ever known. I am sure that our Grand Secretary will send him appropriate greetings and best wishes.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RETURNS

W. .Jerald J. Pomajzl, 37, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Returns which was adopted.

Your Committee on Returns has examined the annual returns of the subordinate lodges for 1966. The members of the committee wish to commend the secretaries for their time and diligence in preparing these reports. We found most of the reports in satisfactory condition. The duties of the secretary require many hours of dedicated labor within and without the confines of the lodge hall. It is essential that the secretary make out a full and correct return annually to his Grand Lodge.

There were many irregularities in the returns that could and should have been avoided. There were omissions in the returns that a little more care in preparation could have prevented. There are a

total of 268 annual returns to be checked. Of this, there were only six returns which lacked either the secretary's or master's signature, or both. Fifty-three did not bear the lodge seal. Ninety-three returns had errors in addition, which a double check could have prevented.

We noticed on several of the returns that the seals were very light and one could hardly see them. The Committee recommends that a little more pressure be used on the seals or purchase a new one. Many returns failed to have any information filled out on the current officers or the financial report.

We learned from personnel in the Grand Secretary's office that monthly reports are not submitted on schedule. These reports are due in the Grand Secretary's office by the 10th of each month.

In checking the returns, the committee found that seven lodges still hold their regular monthly meetings by the moon. These are known as the Moon Lodges.

The annual return of the subordinate lodges are due February 10th of each year, and payment of Grand Lodge dues and fees by April 10th of each year.

We wish to thank the Grand Secretary and his staff for the excellent and efficient records kept in the office, and for extending the courtesy and cooperation to us when we were in Omaha on May 27th for our examination of the returns.

W. . Charles W. Amidon, Master, Florence Lodge No. 281:

M. . W. . Grand Master, with your permission I would like to give a short report of the activities of the Masters and Wardens Club of Omaha. Brethren of the lodges of Nebraska, as President of the Masters and Wardens Club of Omaha, I want to thank you on behalf of all of our members, for the fine cooperation you have given the Masters and Wardens throughout the years in providing funds for The Masonic Eastern Star Home for Children at Fremont and The Nebraska Masonic Home at Plattsmouth. Each year, we send out a letter to the subordinate lodges with the Grand Master's approval, requesting funds for our activities. We have a very good response from this letter and each year we spend over \$2,000 of your money for the people at Plattsmouth and the Children at Fremont. Each year we go to the Homes, we sit down with the people there, get their requests for presents at Christmas time. Last year we were happy to honor each of their three requests both at Plattsmouth and Fremont. In addition to that, we provide \$3.00 in envelopes to both of the Homes to present to their people on their birthdays. Each year we make a complete recapitulation of our income and expenses and forward it to the Grand Master for his approval. Just want to thank all of the Brethren of Nebraska for their participation in this worthy cause.

M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master:

Thank you, W. Brother Amidon, for that fine report and we are indeed grateful for all of the fine Masonic service which the Masters and Wardens of Omaha provides for our Homes.

R. W. John A. Bottorf, Deputy Grand Master:

M. W. Grand Master, Brethren of the Grand Lodge, in accordance with the By-laws of the Grand Lodge it is provided that the next Annual Communication may be removed and not held in Omaha, at the request of the incoming Grand Master, which may be approved by this Grand Lodge. Brethren, you have elected me to be your next Grand Master. I would like your approval at this time to hold the 111th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge in the City of Hastings.

I do this for reasons that I believe will be good for Masonry, the Lodges, Scottish Rite, York Rite and Shrine of Hastings have given me their written assurance of their cooperation and if this is done, there will be no expense to the Grand Lodge for the rental or use of the auditorium in Hastings. I will appreciate, M. W. Sir, if you will obtain the vote of the Brethren to hold the 111th Annual Communication at Hastings.

M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master:

Brethren, it has been regularly moved and seconded that the 111th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, A. F. & A. M. of Nebraska be held in Hastings, in June, 1968. All in favor will signify with the usual sign of Masons when voting, down hands, contrary same sign. Unanimously carried.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON JURISPRUDENCE

M. W. Louis V. Sylvester, 281, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, which was adopted, as amended section by section, then as a whole.

Your Committee on Jurisprudence submits the following report on matters referred to it by the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers, as follows:

The Address of the Grand Master:

1. We recommend that the paragraph of the Grand Master's Address under the heading of "By-laws" be approved. (Adopted)
2. We recommend that the paragraph of the Grand Master's Address under the heading of "Dispensations" be approved. (Adopted)
3. We recommend that Decision No. 1, relating to an inquiry from Oshkosh Lodge No. 286 in regard to a brother who is contemplating applying for a "bottle club" liquor license be approved. (Adopted)

4. We recommend that Decision No. 2 relating to the inquiry of Covert Lodge No. 11, in regard to a former resident of Carter Lake, Iowa and who now resides in Nebraska could not petition a Nebraska Lodge until the full twelve months residential requirement had been complied with be approved. (Adopted)

5. We recommend approval of Recommendation No. 2. (Adopted)

6. We recommend approval of Recommendation No. 3. (Adopted)

7. We recommend that Recommendation No. 4 be not approved. It was felt it should be the prerogative of the Grand Trustees to use their own judgment with respect to seeking the services of anyone on a consulting basis. (Adopted)

8. We recommend that Recommendation No. 5 be not approved. We are of the opinion that the benefit derived from such printing does not justify the expense that would be involved. We point out that the 1965 proceedings contain a synopsis of the plan almost eight pages in length. To print the entire plan would require an additional ten to twelve pages. The entire plan is on file in the Grand Secretary's office and can be made available to any interested parties. (Adopted)

9. We recommend that Recommendation No. 6 be approved, subject to the following changes: By adding to Subsection (a) immediately following the wording describing the method of nominations by the Board of Directors the additional following sentence, "An additional nomination, in writing, can be made by any five residents of the Manor, five days prior to the election date." (Adopted)

We recommend, further, that subsection (b) of the recommendation be changed to provide that appointments by the Grand Master to the Board of Directors be on a staggered basis. Therefore, subsection (b) would read as follows: "The Grand Master installed in June, 1967 shall immediately appoint three additional members to the Board of Directors who need not necessarily be residents of the Manor, one to serve for one year; one to serve for two years; and one to serve for three years. Therefore each succeeding Grand Master shall appoint one member to the Board of Directors to serve for a three-year term to fill the expired vacancy. The Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge shall be the seventh member of the Board. The terms of all Directors shall commence on July 1st of the year of their appointment or election." (Adopted)

We recommend the following amendment to Section 2-801 "that section 2-801 be amended by adding an additional proviso to read Provided, further, that every Lodge shall have concurrent jurisdiction within a radius of fifty miles."

Brethren, in my report to the Grand Lodge, I made a recommendation and requested that it be laid over for consideration at this 110th Annual Communication. That recommendation was to the effect that we should amend our by-laws to do away with territorial jurisdictional lines in the state of Nebraska. At the meeting of the Jurisprudence

Committee yesterday and the day before, I thought that I would like to have the considered opinion of the Past Grand Masters in respect to the recommendation which I had made and therefore asked the Grand Master to withhold presentation and action on the recommendation which I made a year ago. Although this matter had not been referred to the Jurisprudence Committee, I felt certain that the opinion of the Past Grand Masters was highly desirable, therefore I brought the matter to their attention myself. After due discussion and deliberation, the Jurisprudence Committee recommended that a substitute recommendation be made at this Communication and at this time, and further we decided to make it a part of the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence. I concurred in their action, it was consummated pretty much at my own request and the resolution that we are going to offer at this time meets with my approval, and therefore the Jurisprudence Committee would like to make the following recommendation:

We recommend the following amendment to Section 2-801: "That Section 2-801 be amended by adding an additional proviso to read, "provided further that every lodge shall have concurrent jurisdiction within a radius of 50 miles. M.:W.:Grand Master, in order to get this properly before us, I move the adoption of this section of the report.

M.:W.:Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master:

Is there a second to the motion? Brethren, you have heard the motion that Section 2-801 be amended to add a section which would give any lodge concurrent jurisdiction within a radius of 50 miles. Is there any question?

(Several brethren spoke for and against the amendment and after all had been given an opportunity to speak to the amendment the question was put to the Brethren for a vote.)

M.:W.:Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master:

Brethren, are you ready for the question? Brethren, the question is as to the approval of the subdivision of the report of the Jurisprudence Committee which recommends the amendment of Section 2-801, which if adopted, would have the affect of extending Concurrent Jurisdiction in Masonic Lodges within a radius of 50 miles from each lodge. Brethren, I'm going to ask for a showing of hands, first, and if we have difficulty we may need a standing vote. I will ask first, all in favor of the motion that this recommendation be adopted, indicate by the usual sign of a Mason when voting. Down hands, Contrary by the same signs. Brethren, I declare the motion lost.

At 11:50 a.m. the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

SECOND DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION

W. John H. Brown, 1, Grand Senior Deacon, presented the following representatives of Job's Daughters, Order of Rainbow for Girls and DeMolay. Carol Alexander, Ansley, represented Job's Daughters; Mary Potter, Grand Worthy Advisor, represented the Order of Rainbow for Girls, and Walter Miller, Executive Officer for Nebraska, represented the DeMolay.

Carol Alexander:

My name is Carol Alexander and I'm from Ansley, Nebraska. Our Job's Daughters project is to give money to The Nebraska Masonic Home. On behalf of the 5,000 Job's Daughters of Nebraska I would like to present this check and extend greetings and thanks to the M. W. Grand Master for all the kindnesses he has given to us.

M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master:

Thank you ever so much Carol. We are most grateful for this thoughtful and generous gift to our Nebraska Masonic Home. We thank you for the cordial greetings and we hope that you will return the greetings of this Grand Lodge to your state Job's Daughters.

Mary Potter, Grand Worthy Advisor:

M. W. Grand Master and members of the Grand Lodge, I am very happy today to be able to bring you greetings from all the Rainbow Girls across Nebraska, and I hope that you're having a wonderful session for your group. The Rainbow Girls in Nebraska each year sponsor a contest in order to raise money for the Fremont Home and the Plattsmouth Home. I present this check in the amount of \$100 for The Nebraska Masonic Home.

M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master:

Thank you ever so much, Mary. We are indeed grateful for this generous gift which I know will be much appreciated and will be used for a great purpose. We convey to the Officers and Members of the Order of Rainbow For Girls, our very grateful thanks.

Now, my brethren, it is my great pleasure to introduce to you the Executive officer of DeMolay, Brother Walter Miller, who has done such a tremendous job in promoting DeMolay in Nebraska. Brethren, this is one of the most important allied Masonic projects that I can think of.

Brother Walter Miller:

M. W. Grand Master, this afternoon we are privileged for a few moments to be a part of this organization and to present the highest honors that the DeMolay can confer upon a former member of the DeMolay and upon those who have given of themselves.

Each year after Supreme Council session of the Order of DeMolay, one of the most important committees is the Committee on Legion of Honor and this is the group who checks, surveys recommendations made by the Executive officers from throughout the nation and to approve or disapprove those who have been recommended. At the last session there were 218 men recommended for a Legion Honor award of the Order of DeMolay and 173 for the Honorary Legion of Honor, and this from a world-wide membership of over three million men. We are happy to say that at this moment, three members of this M. W. Grand Lodge were among those who were selected. I am going to ask two of our distinguished Masonic brethren of the state to assist me in the ceremonies of presenting this order. As Grand Marshal, M. W. Charles F. Adams, Legionnaire of the Order of DeMolay, and as Grand Chaplain M. W. Joseph C. Tye, Legionnaire of Order of DeMolay.

M. W. Charles F. Adams:

If the designates will retire from the platform please and assemble west of the altar.

Brother Walter Miller:

Brethren, International Supreme Council of the Order of DeMolay, calls you from refreshment to labor. A grand preceptive of the Legion of Honor of Order of DeMolay, has here convened, dedicated to the glory of Almighty God. You will take due notice thereof and govern yourselves accordingly.

M. W. Charles F. Adams:

Brother Miller, I have the honor and very great pleasure to present to you these who have been officially designated by the Supreme Council to be received and elevated to the rank, honor, insignia and degree of the Legion of Honor of the Order of DeMolay. M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, active Legion of Honor; R. W. John A. Bottorf and W. Willard J. Lewis, Jr. Honorary Legion of Honor.

Brother Walter Miller:

My brothers, it is now my pleasant duty and honor to present to each of you, the tangible emblems of the decoration according to Legionnaires of the Order of DeMolay. They are the patent of membership, the knightly ring, the Cordon of a Valiant Knight of the Legion of Honor and the medalion of chivalry.

M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master:

Brother Miller, speaking for R. W. Brother Bottorf, W. Brother Lewis and myself, may I say we are grateful beyond power of expression for this most cherished recognition and honor which you have bestowed upon us as the representative of the Supreme Council of DeMolay here. I only hope and pray that as time goes on, we can prove that we are deserving of receiving this honor.

I cannot help, my brethren, to say at this moment, that one of the highlights of my year as Grand Master was the very special invitation that I received from the Executive Officers of DeMolay to appear before the Annual Conclave that was held last August. I don't think, in all my life, I have ever received such a thrill as I did to appear and see those fine young men.

Again, Walt, our grateful thanks and we want to assure you that we want to help the DeMolay program in any way that we can.

SECOND DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION

At 2 p.m. the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master:

Brethren, before undertaking the scheduled business of this afternoon, we have a happy and very inspiring service. I notice just a few moments ago that the holder of the Grand Lodge Gold Jordan Medal is presently being escorted on the stage. I want it a part of this communication to extend our very best wishes to this very distinguished Mason of Nebraska.

Brethren, one of the very, very high points of my experience this past year was the opportunity of presenting our Gold Jordan Medal. The recipient of this Medal is behind me at this moment. He is a member of Fidelity No. 51 at David City. His name is Brother and Dr. John D. Sprague. He was born in Owensdale, Indiana on September 10, 1872. He was initiated March 11, 1895, Passed March 14, 1895 and Raised March 21, 1895, all in Owensdale No. 364 in Indiana. You can see, at that time the Indiana lodges didn't have to have any waiting period between the degrees, so he got all three of his degrees in a matter of ten days. He affiliated with Fidelity No. 51 on January 6, 1942. He was awarded the Bronze Jordan Medal in Fidelity Lodge on September 9, 1952 and I had the great and happy privilege of presenting the Gold Jordan Medal to him in Fidelity Lodge on September 15, 1966. Brethren, I am going to ask Dr. Sprague if he won't say a word or two to you.

Brother John D. Sprague:

Well I don't think I can say anything more than I am privileged to be here and I thank you very much.

M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master:

Brethren, the next order of business is the report of the Committee on George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association. This will be presented by the Chairman of the Committee, Cary W. Dresslar, and also by a member of that Committee, M. W. Brother Charles F. Adams. As a part of the report, I believe there is a film which they are going to present, having to do with the Memorial.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC NATIONAL MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

W. Cary W. Dresslar, 32, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association which was adopted.

Grand Masters and Prominent Masons of the United States and other Countries gathered at the Memorial for the 57th Annual Convention on February 22, 1967.

Among these Masons of prominence, were our own Grand Master, M. W. Lewis R. Ricketts, and M. W. Charles F. Adams, Second Vice-President and a member of the Executive Committee.

The building of this majestic Memorial has excited the pride of most American Masons and now to see it completed and resting upon its imposing site, brings our emotions to the Nth degree of satisfaction and we with four and one-half million American Masons, show the people of the World "A Light set upon a hill," placed there, so all may know that Brotherly love is the cement which binds us together with our Maker and with those whom we love.

HISTORY PAMPHLETS

Each of you have been given a history pamphlet of the Memorial. If you will please turn to page 7, you will see that there is now a new 15 minute, 16 mm color and sound movie of the Memorial. We are about to view this film. This copy belongs to our Grand Lodge and is available to any Lodge or other group that wishes to show it. The showing of this film, together with these remarks, will be all of the Report of this Committee to be given at this time.

(Following the report M. W. Charles F. Adams presented the movie of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial.)

REPORT OF MASONIC SERVICE ASSOCIATION

M. W. Herbert A. Ronin, 210, Commissioner, presented the report of the Masonic Service Association which was accepted.

The Masonic Service Association is constantly striving to be worthy of its name and to serve the cause of Freemasonry in many areas. It is responsive to any inquiry of a Masonic nature that may be directed to it. This spring the Grand Lodge of Tennessee joined the Association, which makes a total of forty-three of our Grand Lodges who now comprise and support this Association.

The 48th Annual Meeting of the Association was held in Washington, D.C. at the time of the Grand Masters' Conference. Comprehensive reports were made on its many activities, including its various research projects and Short Talk Bulletins. Our Grand Master and Deputy

Grand Master accompanied me on a visit to the office of the M.S.A. so that we could examine the facilities and educational material which is being processed.

The Association serves as the official agency of investigation and handling of funds of Masonic Relief in times of national or international catastrophe. Last fall the Grand Orient of Italy made an appeal for assistance because of losses sustained by Masonic Lodges caused by extensive flooding in the Florence area. The circumstances of the need was investigated and distributed to our Grand Lodges. Approximately \$20,000 was sent to the Association and other contributions were made directly to the Grand Orient of Italy.

In my report last year I made reference to the fact that the Vietnam War has greatly increased the workload of the Field Agents of our Association in the Service and Veterans' Hospitals. Last year the Masonic Service Association made 3,500 calls or service visits to Nebraskans in these hospitals in other states. Our Grand Lodge participates in the educational program of the Association but does not contribute to the Hospital Visitation Program. Last year we provided in our Budget for the sum of \$500 to send a representative of our Grand Lodge to observe this program. Our Grand Master selected Brother Dean L. Robertson, who spent a week with a Field Agent in the Veterans' Hospital at Des Moines. His report to the Grand Master is a comprehensive and most favorable one. He concludes by saying:

"I am very proud to be a member of an Order which carries on such a program."

I recommend that this study of whether we should have a part in this program be continued, and that the sum of \$350 rather than \$500 be appropriated for this purpose and to be expended only under the express authority of our Grand Master. Our neighboring states of Kansas, Iowa and South Dakota support accredited Masonic Field Agents in their government hospitals. Even limited participation should initiate a new concept in hospital service for Nebraska Masons and their families, which will be in furtherance of our Masonic Obligations of relief and fraternal love!

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

W. Robert E. Lund, 323, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Finance which was adopted.

Your Committee on Finance has examined the books and accounts of the Grand Secretary, the Grand Custodian and other Committees of this Grand Lodge.

The expenditures of these officers and Committees were checked against the budget of the Committee on Appropriations.

All Committees have been very diligent in itemizing and vouchering their various expenditures and in seeing that the vouchers were

approved and signed. In this regard, we wish to commend particularly the excellent records of itemized expenditures as kept by the Grand Custodian, the Chairman of the Committee on Masonic Education and the Grand Secretary, who have the largest number of items to voucher.

The audit submitted by Mr. L. A. Nelson, Certified Public Accountant, was also reviewed and compared with the books and accounts of the Grand Secretary.

While very few errors in accounting were found that needed correcting by the auditors, your Committee feels that the accounting system can be simplified and improved by using machine accounting which show period posting balances, which balances can be proven correct after every posting, thereby eliminating an unbalanced ledger.

Even the vouchers could be handled on such a machine and unexpanded balances printed by the machine, thereby eliminating subtracting errors.

Your Committee has in mind a used bank posting machine that could be bought at a very reasonable cost and very simple to operate.

With the number of items handled in connection with Grand Lodge financing and The Nebraska Masonic Home expenditures, we believe it would save considerable bookkeeping time.

We submit this thought and suggestion for your consideration.

We submit the following information for those interested in knowing the receipts and expenditures of this Grand Lodge and for the guidance of the Committee on Appropriations in what amounts of income are available for the operation of this Grand Lodge without spending invested capital.

	General Fund	Supply Account	General Fund	Retirement Fund	The Nebraska Masonic Home
Per Capita Dues.....	\$ 80,224.20		8,913.80		89,138.00
Initiation Fees	8,490.00				
Affiliations	10.00				
George Washington					
Masonic Mem.	728.00				
Liability Insurance	3,208.97				
Bond Premiums		747.10			
Sale of Supplies.....		3,321.05			
Income from Investments	36,875.60		1,320.00	2,007.04	
Refunds from prior Years					
Budget	1,125.34				
Retirement Account				33,075.00	
Other Sundry Income.....	1,149.74				
Total Receipts	\$131,811.85	\$ 4,068.15	\$10,233.80	\$35,082.04	\$89,138.00

Disbursements					
General Disbursements	.....\$134,082.94				89,138.00
Nebraska Masonic Home					
Supplies	.....	5,823.79			
Committee on Relief	.....		3,100.00		
George Washington					
Masonic Mem.	.....	728.00			
<hr/>					
Total Expenditures	.....\$134,810.94	\$ 5,823.79	\$ 3,100.00	none	\$ 89,138.00
<hr/>					
Excess or (deficit) of re- ceipts over disbursements (\$2,999.09)	(\$1,755.04)	\$ 7,133.80	\$35,082.04	none	
Overall Excess	\$37,461.11				
Unexpended funds & Refunds:					
General Fund cash on hand	.....			\$97,265.03	..
Committee on Relief, refund	.....			25.00	
Grand Custodian for Grand Lodge Functions, refund	.....			none	
Grand Custodian for office Expense, refund	.....			none	
Assistant Custodian Travel Expense, refund	.....			4.77	
Assistant Custodian Travel Expense collections	.....			705.00	
		Sub Total		\$97,999.80	
<hr/>					
Anticipated Income:					
Per Capita Dues (43,969 members @ \$1.80)	.....			\$79,144.20	
Initiations and Fees	.....			9,000.00	
Investment Income	.....			33,500.00	
Total Anticipated Income	.....			\$126,644.20	
<hr/>					
Total Available for the Budget	.....			\$224,644.00	
Total Budget of Appropriations Committee requested	.....			\$126,379.85	

At the time of writing this report, it is apparent that there will be ample funds available in anticipated income to cover the budget requested.

THE NEBRASKA MASONIC HOME
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

Receipts:	
Per Captia dues	.....\$ 89,138.00
Income from Stocks and Bonds	..... 99,607.27
Income from Real Estate Mortgages	..... 2,339.05
Cash from Residents	..... 107,956.93
Miscellaneous Income	..... 1,216.50
Total Receipts	.....\$300,257.75
<hr/>	
Disbursements:	
General Operations	.....\$299,228.02
Unallocated Disbursements	..... 5,187.07
Total Disbursements	.....\$304,415.09

Expenditures over Receipts\$ 4,157.34

Total to balance\$300,257.75

Cash on Hand and Anticipated Income:

Cash on Hand.....\$ 10,812.51

Per Capita dues (43,969 members @ \$2.00).....\$ 87,938.00

Investment Income.....\$100,000.00

Cash from Residents.....\$110,000.00

Miscellaneous Income.....\$ 4,000.00

Total Available for the Budget.....\$312,750.51

Total Budget of Appropriation Committee Requested.....\$327,627.00

With the help of additional income from investments it is anticipated that there will be sufficient income to cover the budget of the appropriations committee.

We submit herewith a summary of the income and expenses of the Seal Program which has been so successful the past several years.

Cash on hand May 10th, 1966.....\$ 5,504.77

Income during the year..... 48,960.93

Total receipts.....\$ 54,465.70

Less Expense of operating Seal Fund.....\$ 17,558.92

Excess of Receipts over expenses.....\$ 36,906.78

Transferred from Seal Fund to the Endowment and

Bequest Fund\$ 25,000.00

Cash on hand in Seal Fund May 10, 1967.....\$ 11,906.78

The Chairman of the Finance Committee wishes to express his appreciation to two members of this committee who have worked so diligently with the Chairman in checking all records and in assisting in the preparation of this report, W. Jess W. Wade and Howard L. Patterson.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

W. Fred D. Moshier, 281, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Appropriations which was adopted.

GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA, A. F. & A. M. BUDGET FOR 1967-1968

a. Expense of Annual Communication

1. Payroll 1967 Session.....\$ 10,000.00

2. Recording and Transcribing 1967 Session..... 150.00

3. Grand Tyler 25.00

4. Grand Organist 10.00

5. Grand Master's Dinner for Past Grand Masters
and Guests 600.00

6. Printing Proceedings 1967 Communication.....	3,000.00
7. Grand Lodge Dinner for Delegates, 1968.....	1,200.00
8. Entertainment of Distinguished Guests, 1968.....	500.00
9. Printing Fraternal Reviews, 1967.....	350.00
10. Preparing Fraternal Review, 1968.....	300.00
11. Printing Secretary Desk Book, 1968.....	500.00
b. Expense of Grand Lodge Committees	
1. Masonic Education	4,000.00
2. Relief and Care of Orphans.....	100.00
3. Appropriations	75.00
4. Grand Lodge Office.....	75.00
5. Masonic-Eastern Star Student Fund.....	750.00
6. Finance	75.00
7. Work	75.00
8. Grand Trustees	2,500.00
9. Grand Historian Research Expense.....	350.00
10. Printing History of Grand Custodian's Office.....	900.00
c. Traveling Expense	
1. Grand Master	3,000.00
2. Grand Secretary	1,000.00
3. Grand Custodian for Grand Lodge Functions.....	500.00
4. Grand Custodian Expense.....	7,000.00
5. Grand Lodge Officers and Committees under Direction of Grand Master.....	1,500.00
6. Deputy Grand Master to Grand Master's Conference	450.00
7. Grand Master's Conference and Grand Secretary Conference, Dues and Miscellaneous Expense..	300.00
8. Masonic Service Association Training Program....	350.00
d. Salaries	
1. Grand Secretary	9,100.00
2. Grand Custodian	8,000.00
3. Grand Secretary's Clerical Staff.....	13,700.00
4. Social Security	1,300.00
e. Fixed Expenses	
1. Rent, Grand Lodge Office.....	\$ 6,350.00
2. Electricity, Grand Lodge Office.....	900.00
3. Grand Secretary Office Expense.....	4,250.00
4. Jewel and Apron for Retiring Grand Master.....	232.60
5. Grand Custodian's Office Expense.....	600.00
6. Retirement Program Grand Lodge Employees.....	5,830.00
7. Grand Lodge Officers Aprons—(9) @ \$42.00.....	378.00
Reimburse Lewis Ricketts	
8. Grand Lodge Remodeling (spent over appropriation)	1,305.00
9. April and May 1966 Rent, deficit.....	358.34

f. Insurance, Assessments and Contributions

1. Workmen's Compensation and Liability Insurance to June 1968.....	33.20
2. Dues to Masonic Relief Association on 44,565 Members to May 31, 1968.....	285.33
3. Surety Bonds for Grand Lodge Officers and Employees	692.00
4. Grand Master's Car Insurance and Employees Car Insurance	28.00
5. Masonic Service Association for 44,569 Members...	1,141.38
6. Comprehensive Liability Insurance on Subordinate Lodges Expiring June 1968.....	2,956.00
7. Office Contents and Liability Insurance.....	55.00
8. Nebraska DeMolay Foundation Donation.....	500.00

TOTAL GRAND LODGE OPERATIONS..\$ 97,629.85

g. Grand Lodge Responsibilities

1. Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children (Grand Lodge Portion 1967-68).....	\$ 28,750.00
(To be Matched by Grand Chapter, O.E.S.) (Total Budget for 1967-68 \$57,500.00)	
2. The Nebraska Masonic Home.....	278,781.00
3. Nebraska Masonic Home Building Maintenance, Repair and Equipment.....	10,600.00
4. Nebraska Masonic Home Seal Program.....	18,500.00
5. Nebraska Masonic Home Retirement Program.....	19,746.00

TOTAL GRAND LODGE RESPONSIBILITIES..\$356,377.00

GRAND TOTAL

W. . Fred D. Moshier:

M. .W. .Grand Master, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all of the members who have worked on the Appropriations Committee for the past many years, and I think it is important that the members of this Grand Lodge know that in all the years the Appropriations Committee has been in existence, we have been unanimous when we made our final report. We have had diligent work on the part of every member of the Committee, and I certainly wish success to the new Committee next year.

M. .W. .Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master:

W. .Brother Fred, I want personally to tell you how much we appreciate all of the efforts, blood, sweat and tears that I know have gone into these reports, since you have been the Chairman, and brethren, our Veteran Chairman of Appropriation Committee has deserted

us, gone to St. Louis, Missouri, but came back for this Communication and while we hate to lose him, we want to wish him the best of everything and I think we ought to pay him a tribute now for all of the work that he has done.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CODIFICATION OF THE LAW

W. Bernard T. Pipher, 31, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Codification of the Law which was adopted.

Your Committee on Codification of the Law submits its report and recommends as follows:

That Section 1-311 of the By-laws relating to the composition of the members of the Board of Grand Trustees, being repetitive of Section 1-401, as amended, be repealed.

That Section 1-401 (a) of the By-Laws be amended by adding the following language just prior to the last sentence of said subsection:

“Said Grand Trustees shall administer the employee retirement plan of the Grand Lodge with benefits to be payable from the Retirement Fund as provided in Section 1-406. Changes in eligibility or rates of benefits shall be recommended by the Grand Trustees and approved by the Grand Lodge prior to adoption.”

That Section 1-202 of the By-Laws be amended by changing the figure 35 which designates the number of Assistant Custodians in the last paragraph of said Section to the figure 40.

The decisions of the Grand Master which have been approved by this Grand Lodge should be placed as annotations to the following sections of the Grand Lodge By-Laws:

Decision No. 1—Annotation to Sec. 3-102.

Decision No. 2—Annotation to Sec. 2-803 and 2-807.

RESOLUTION

The following resolution was read by the Grand Secretary:
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE BY-LAWS OF THE MOST
WORSHIPFUL, THE GRAND LODGE, A. F. & A. M. OF

NEBRASKA

We, the undersigned members of the Grand Lodge, A. F. & A. M. of Nebraska do hereby propose and second the following amendment to Part III, Chapter I, Sec. 3-102 (d) of the by-laws of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Nebraska as amended as follows:

Sec. 3-102 ENUMERATED—the following are specifically declared to be Masonic offenses:

(d) Engaging in the manufacture, bottling, blending, selling, bartering, transporting, delivering, furnishing or possessing any alcoholic liquor for beverage purpose contrary to or in violation of the laws of the State of Nebraska.

Sec. 3-102 (d) and subsequent amendments thereto are repealed.

(This resolution was filed by the required number of members of the Grand Lodge and will be acted upon at the 111th Annual Communication.)

MINUTES APPROVED

M.·W.·Charles F. Adams, Past Grand Master:

M.·W.·Grand Master, I move that the published proceedings of the 109th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, A.·F.·&A.·M.· of Nebraska held June 7, 8 and 9, 1966 and all previous proceedings of the Grand Lodge published and distributed by the Grand Secretary, be ratified and approved. (Seconded and carried.)

THANKS AND APPRECIATION

W.·George W. Rosenlof, 314: Grand Historian:

M.·W.·Grand Master and Members of the Grand Lodge, I move that this Grand Lodge go on record as expressing its appreciation and gratitude to the Officers and Members of the Lincoln Lodges, the Masters and Wardens Club of Lincoln and Pershing Municipal Auditorium for their many courtesies, arrangements and kindnesses that they have extended to us and our visitors in making this Communication not only successful, but most pleasant. (Seconded and carried.)

OPEN INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

M.·W.·Lewis R. Ricketts, Grand Master:

Brethren and Ladies, we are very happy to welcome you to this Installation of Officers of the Grand Lodge for the new year. It is my pleasure to introduce the Installing Officer, M.·W.·Ernest O. Van Wey, and Installing Marshal, M.·W.·Charles F. Adams.

THE NEW GRAND MASTER

M.·W.·John A. Bottorf, Grand Master:

M.·W.·Brother Ernie, Past Grand Masters, Grand Lodge officers, My Brothers and friends:

On behalf of all of your Grand Lodge officers who have been installed today we acknowledge the trust which you have placed in us. Each of these officers, and every member appointed to one of the

Grand Lodge Committees for the coming year, has given his personal assurance that he is ready to devote his fullest attention to the business at hand.

M. W. Brother Dick, we have followed you for five years. The dignity and forcefulness which you exhibited during the past year as Grand Master is a wonderful example for any successor to try to follow. I am glad that we do not have to say goodbye to your company during the next year and that you will be an active member of the Committee on Masonic Education.

I had considered that I was a "First Generation Mason." My father was not a member of the organization. Last month at Sidney when preparing to lay a corner-stone at the new courthouse, M. W. Brother Dick introduced two distinguished gentlemen as my father and grandfather, Masonically speaking, that is. M. W. Brother Ernie, thanks for having the confidence in me to appoint me as your Grand Junior Deacon some five years ago. I hope that one year from now you will still be able to publicly acknowledge that decision. I am certainly satisfied with my Masonic Father.

M. W. Roy I. Babbit, my Masonic Grandfather: Four years ago you stated that the Grand Master who appoints a man in line is like the Alpha and Omega and that great satisfaction can come from the realization that he has made a good choice. I do not know the Greek alphabet, or if it contains a letter signifying "FOREVER AND EVER." It looks as though your responsibility is not yet ended.

The duties and obligations which a Master Mason is charged to carry out are openly admitted. As a result of this we are enabled to install our officers, both in the subordinate lodges and in the Grand Lodge, in public installations. I am going to take advantage of this opportunity to introduce to you the members of my family who are present.

Each January a new Master is installed in every subordinate lodge of Freemasons. We charge him to bring to his office a fully developed program for his Lodge and to see that it is carried out for the good of Masonry. The office of Grand Master also carries this responsibility. My principle program will be to promote the growth of Masonry in Nebraska.

When I speak of growth, I do not necessarily mean the increase in membership. I am more interested in quality rather than quantity. It is my firm belief that if we improve the quality of Masonry as exhibited by the lives of its members, then there will be no problems of quantity.

We are not planning any new philosophies or teachings. Those which were handed to us are more than adequate. Our committees on Masonic Education, both in the Grand Lodge and the subordinate lodges, have been doing the foundation work in bringing the real

meaning of Masonry once again before us. I am sure that their efforts will continue to become more and more effective.

I look at my individual challenge to be with the individual Master Mason. Can I help him clarify, for himself, just what Masonry really is. Can I point out to him a way of living which will really exemplify his Masonic teachings: With this in mind, we have prepared, and will bring to every Lodge in Nebraska, a re-Obligation Ceremony. The Assistant Custodians will assist each Lodge in obtaining the information and the procedures to be followed. These will become available this fall and winter.

I don't know if this ceremony will do anything to increase membership. I don't know if it will do much toward increasing attendance at communications. I do hope that it will result in awakening some of the brothers to a better understanding of their obligations. If we reach one brother before he becomes a drop-out, then for me, the program will be a success.

I would like to make two more recognitions before ending my remarks:

First, I would like to recognize a group of dedicated Masons. Each of these men has given of his time and talents to advance the ritual of the subordinate lodges and each has had to withdraw from the active participation as ASSISTANT CUSTODIAN of our Grand Lodge. My first act as Grand Master at the conclusion of this annual communication will be to make a regular appointment as ASSISTANT CUSTODIAN EMERITUS of the following brethren: FRANK M. JOHNSON, 188; EARL BARNETTE, 146; HENNING C. JOHNSON, 171; CARROLL C. RAYMER, 164; GEORGE S. SCHWAB, 49; HAROLD M. WILKERSON, 54. If any of these brothers are present, will they please rise?

Finally, I see that several members of my own lodge and several members of the Eastern Star Chapter at Sutton, as well as some friends who are not members of either lodge, are present for this installation. W. Master Lewis, I will express my personal thanks to your lodge tomorrow evening when I am to be received. Will those friends from Sutton please rise?

Again, thanks for your confidence in us, we will try to promote Masonry in Nebraska.

PRESENTATION OF PAST GRAND MASTER'S JEWEL

M. W. Herbert A. Ronin, Past Grand Master:

M. W. Grand Master, Distinguished Guests, Brethren and guests of this Grand Lodge. M. W. Dick, our Junior Past Grand Master, a short year ago I so proudly placed in your hands the gavel of Grand Master and caused you to sit in the Grand East. This afternoon, with more pride, I pin upon your breast the jewel, and it is a beautiful

jewel of a Past Grand Master. Throughout your year of service, you have distinguished yourself unstintingly, your high esteem that you have merited has been not only held by the members of this Jurisdiction, but neighboring Jurisdictions. I am sure that all the brethren who attended this 110th Annual Communication join with me in saying that you presided over it with unusual grace, competency and efficiency. The work of the Grand Lodge was in most competent hands throughout this past year and during this Communication.

So as your Masonic Father, may I say to you that I am bursting with pride and may God bless you as you continue to serve the Craft. I shall look forward to working with you as a colleague.

M. . W. . Lewis R. Ricketts, Past Grand Master:

M. . W. . Brother Herb, for the first time in the past few days, words fail me. This is somewhat an emotional moment. But I want you to know that I shall be forever grateful for the opportunity that you gave me to start serving this Grand Lodge, and I am grateful to the Brethren of this Grand Lodge for continuing me on up the line and electing me as their Grand Master. I shall be forever grateful for the wonderful help and cooperation that I received from all of the Brethren and especially Past Grand Masters and Grand Lodge Officers. I want to assure the present Grand Master, who has been a power of strength to me, that I want to reciprocate at any time I can, during his year as Grand Master. I am as proud of it as I can be. Thank you very much.

PRESENTATION OF PAST GRAND MASTER'S APRON

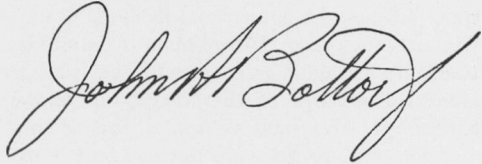
M. . W. . Carl R. Greisen, Grand Secretary:

M. . W. . Brother Dick, yesterday the Grand Lodge conferred upon me a great honor, electing me an Honorary Past Grand Master. Today, they have conferred upon me another honor, that in presenting on their behalf to you with their love and esteem, a most beautiful Past Grand Master's apron and their wishes for your good health and happiness and may you long enjoy wearing this beautiful Past Grand Master apron. It was a joy to work with you.

M. . W. . Lewis R. Ricketts, Past Grand Master:

M. . W. . Brother Carl, to you in particular, I will never be able properly to express my appreciation or adequately repay you for the untold hours of work you have done to help me, and the spiritual as well as the moral support you have given me in my year as Grand Master. You were there ready to help at any moment, guided me when you saw that I was in rough water and needed help, and I appreciate it more than I can ever say. Thank you so very much.

At 4:30 p.m. no further business appearing, after prayer by the V. W. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

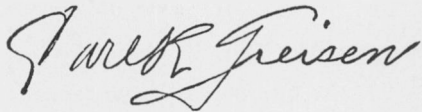


Grand Master

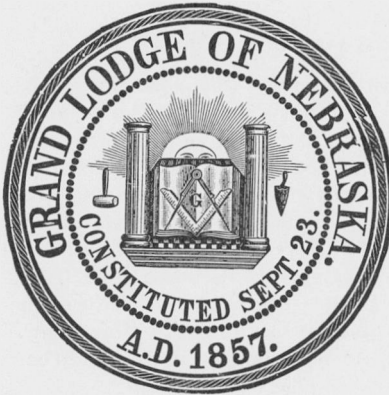
Attest:

It is hereby certified that the above and foregoing is a full, true and complete record of the Proceedings of the One Hundred Tenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska, held at Lincoln, Nebraska, June 6 and 7, 1967, and printed under my direction.

Witness my hand and the seal of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Nebraska this 17th day of July, 1967.



Grand Secretary



WE HAVE SET APART THIS PAGE DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY
OF THE PAST GRAND MASTERS WHO HAVE PASSED
BEYOND THE VEIL.

NAME	Died	Lodge	Year Served
ROBERT C. JORDAN.....	Jan. 9th, 1899..	3.. (1st)..	1857-58-59
GEORGE ARMSTRONG.....	Nov. 12th, 1896..	3. (2nd)..	1860-61-62
DANIEL H. WHEELER.....	Nov. 27th, 1912..	6.... (3rd)..	1863-64
ROBERT W. FURNAS.....	June 1st, 1905..	4.... (4th)..	1865-66
ORSAMUS H. IRISH.....	Jan. 27th, 1883..	5.... (5th)..	1867-68
HARRY P. DEUEL.....	Nov. 23rd, 1914..	11.... (6th)..	1869-70
WILLIAM E. HILL.....	Dec. 29th, 1917..	2.... (7th)..	1871-72
MARTIN DUNHAM.....	Feb. 18th, 1915..	3..... (8th)..	1873
FRANK WELCH	Sept. 4th, 1878..	27..... (9th)..	1874
ALFRED G. HASTINGS.....	July 10th, 1894..	19..... (10th)..	1875
GEORGE H. THUMMEL.....	Feb. 5th, 1932..	33..... (11th)..	1876
GEORGE W. LININGER.....	June 8th, 1907..	3..... (12th)..	1877
EDWARD K. VALENTINE....	April 11th, 1916..	27..... (13th)..	1878
ROLLAND H. OAKLEY.....	Feb. 2nd, 1904..	19..... (14th)..	1879
JAMES A. TULLEYS.....	Jan. 21st, 1901..	53..... (15th)..	1880
JAMES R. CAIN, SR.....	Nov. 24th, 1920..	9..... (16th)..	1881
EDWIN F. WARREN.....	July 9th, 1923..	2..... (17th)..	1882
SAMUEL W. HAYES.....	Nov. 15th, 1913..	55..... (18th)..	1883
JOHN JAY WEMPLE.....	May 28th, 1943..	50..... (19th)..	1884
MANOAH B. REESE.....	Sept. 28th, 1917..	59..... (20th)..	1885
CHARLES K. COUTANT.....	Aug. 23rd, 1910..	11..... (21st)..	1886
MILTON J. HULL.....	Sept. 18th, 1923..	67..... (22nd)..	1887
GEORGE B. FRANCE.....	Aug. 16th, 1914..	56..... (23rd)..	1888
JOHN J. MERCER.....	Feb. 25th, 1915..	4..... (24th)..	1889
ROBERT E. FRENCH.....	Feb. 16th, 1927..	46..... (25th)..	1890
BRADNER D. SLAUGHTER..	May 8th, 1909..	89..... (26th)..	1891
SAMUEL P. DAVIDSON.....	Dec. 8th, 1928..	17..... (27th)..	1892
JAMES P. A. BLACK.....	Nov. 12th, 1918..	76..... (28th)..	1893
JOHN A. EHRHARDT	Nov. 1st, 1925..	41..... (29th)..	1894
HENRY H. WILSON.....	June 28th, 1941..	19..... (30th)..	1895
CHARLES J. PHELPS.....	Aug. 24th, 1915..	34..... (31st)..	1896
JOHN B. DINSMORE	Oct. 6th, 1915..	49..... (32nd)..	1897
FRANK H. YOUNG.....	Dec. 24th, 1917..	207.... (33rd)..	1898
WILLIAM W. KEYSOR.....	Aug. 17th, 1922..	25..... (34th)..	1899
ALBERT W. CRITES.....	Aug. 23rd, 1915..	158.... (35th)..	1900
ROBERT E. EVANS.....	July 8th, 1925..	5..... (36th)..	1901
NATHANIEL M. AYERS.....	Nov. 19th, 1913..	93..... (37th)..	1902
FRANK E. BULLARD.....	Jan. 31st, 1933..	32..... (38th)..	1903
CHARLES E. BURNHAM.....	May 29th, 1933..	55..... (39th)..	1904
MELVILLE R. HOPEWELL...	May 2nd, 1911..	31..... (40th)..	1905
ZUINGLE M. BAIRD	Dec. 17th, 1916..	155.... (41st)..	1906
ORNAN J. KING.....	Dec. 26th, 1927..	54..... (42nd)..	1907
WILLIAM A. DE BORD.....	May 17th, 1916..	3..... (43rd)..	1908

NAME	Died	Lodge	Year Served
MICHAEL DOWLING.....	May 5th, 1921.	119.....	(44th)..1909
HARRY A. CHENEY.....	June 27th, 1948.	100.....	(45th)..1910
HENRY GIBBONS.....	Aug. 22nd, 1923.	46.....	(46th)..1911
JAMES R. CAIN, JR.	Sept. 3rd, 1950.	105.....	(47th)..1912
ALPHA MORGAN	April 17th, 1924.	148.....	(48th)..1913
THOMAS M. DAVIS.....	Aug. 12th, 1919.	93.....	(49th)..1914
SAMUEL S. WHITING.....	Aug. 11th, 1931.	54.....	(50th)..1915
ANDREW H. VIELE.....	May 9th, 1941.	55.....	(51st)..1916
FREDERIC L. TEMPLE.....	Aug. 13th, 1944.	61.....	(52nd)..1917
AMBROSE C. EPPERSON.....	Mar. 16th, 1944.	139.....	(53rd)..1918
JOHN J. TOOLEY.....	July 31st, 1934.	258.....	(54th)..1919
JOSEPH B. FRADENBURG.....	June 14th, 1950.	3.....	(55th)..1920
LEWIS E. SMITH.....	July 10th, 1965.	136.....	(56th)..1921
EDWARD M. WELLMAN.....	Aug. 31st, 1922.	1.....	(57th)..1922
ROBERT R. DICKSON.....	June 18th, 1941.	95.....	(59th)..1924
JOHN WRIGHT.....	Oct. 29th, 1936.	19.....	(60th)..1925
EDWIN D. CRITES	Nov. 7th, 1953.	158.....	(61st)..1926
ALBERT R. DAVIS.....	Mar. 7th, 1929.	120.....	(62nd)..1927
FRANK H. WOODLAND.....	Oct. 23rd, 1940.	25.....	(63rd)..1928
IRA C. FREET.....	Oct. 13th, 1944.	56.....	(64th)..1929
ORVILLE A. ANDREWS.....	Oct. 16th, 1936.	19.....	(65th)..1930
JOHN R. TAPSTER.....	Mar. 21st, 1954.	119.....	(66th)..1931
EDWIN B. JOHNSTON.....	Feb. 11th, 1933.	33.....	(67th)..1932
ARCHIE M. SMITH.....	May 8th, 1950.	203.....	(69th)..1933
VIRGIL R. JOHNSON.....	Aug. 7th, 1956.	26.....	(70th)..1934
WILLIAM C. RAMSEY.....	May 19th, 1938.	268.....	(71st)..1935
WILLIAM A. ROBERTSON.....	July 3rd, 1944.	6.....	(73rd)..1937
WALTER R. RAECKE.....	April 9th, 1960.	36.....	(74th)..1938
WILLIAM J. BRECKENRIDGE.....	Nov. 16th, 1951.	317.....	(75th)..1939
EARL J. LEE.....	Dec. 15th, 1963.	15.....	(76th)..1940
ROSCOE POUND.....	July 1st, 1964.	54.....	(Honorary)..1949
ERNEST S. SCHIEFELBEIN.....	April 20th, 1959.	59.....	(84th)..1949
JOHN S. HEDELUND.....	Jan. 30th, 1962.	268.....	(85th)..1950
JOHN E. BEAVER.....	Sept. 20th, 1965.	153.....	(93rd)..1958
RALPH M. CARHART.....	Nov. 10th, 1965.	120.....	(98th)..1963

PAST GRAND MASTERS
 PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE GRAND LODGE
 A. F. & A. M. of Nebraska

- CHARLES A. CHAPPELL (58th) ..1923
 Minden 68959
- RALPH O. CANADAY (68th) ..1933
 733 North Hastings St., Hastings 68901
- CHANCELLOR A. PHILLIPS (72nd) ..1936
 Cambridge 69022
- EDWARD F. CARTER (77th) ..1941
 State House, Lincoln 68509
- GEORGE A. KURK (78th) ..1942
 1085 Santa Cruz Ave., Apt. 1, Menlo Park, California 94025
- WILLIAM B. WANNER (79th) ..1943
 2017 Stone St., Falls City 68355
- WILLIAM C. SCHAPER (80th) ..1944-1945
 345 So. 10th Ave., Broken Bow 68822
- BENJAMIN F. EYRE (81st) ..1946
 2001 Douglas Street, Omaha 68102
- EDWARD HUWALDT (82nd) ..1947
 1908 West Charles, Grand Island 68801
- ELMER E. MAGEE (83rd) ..1948
 1201 O Street, Lincoln 68508
- THOMAS J. ARON (86th) ..1951
 Crete State Bank, Crete 68333
- EDWARD M. KNIGHT (87th) ..1952
 Alliance National Bank, Alliance 69301
- FAY SMITH (88th) ..1953
 801 So. 52nd, #2013, Omaha 68106
- CHARLES F. ADAMS (89th) ..1954
 Box 167, Aurora 68818
- HERBERT T. WHITE (90th) ..1955
 643 Omaha National Bank Bldg., Omaha 68102
- MERLE M. HALE (91st) ..1956
 1915 D, Lincoln 68502
- ROY I. BABBITT (92nd) ..1957
 609 Bluff Street, Scottsbluff 69361
- JOSEPH C. TYE (94th) ..1959
 Box 636, Kearney 68847
- JOHN F. FUTCHER (95th) ..1960
 5224 Crown Point, Omaha 68104
- HERBERT A. RONIN (96th) ..1961
 Court House, Lincoln 68508
- ERNEST O. VAN WEY (97th) ..1962
 802 11th Street, Gothenburg 69138
- HARRY A. SPENCER (99th) ..1964
 State Capitol, Lincoln 68509

LOUIS V. SYLVESTER.....	(100th) ..	1965
801 S. 52nd, #2105, Omaha 68106		
LEWIS R. RICKETTS	(101st) ..	1966
600 South 11th, Lincoln 68508		
CARL R. GREISEN	(Honorary) ..	1967
201 Masonic Temple, Omaha 68102		

GRAND SECRETARIES

*GEORGE ARMSTRONG.....	Sept. 23, 1857 to June 2, 1858
*ROBERT W. FURNAS.....	June 2, 1858 to June 4, 1862
*ROBERT C. JORDAN.....	June 4, 1862 to June 24, 1863
*STEPHEN D. BANGS.....	June 24, 1863, to June 24, 1865
*J. NEWTON WISE.....	June 24, 1865, to Oct. 27, 1869
*ROBERT W. FURNAS.....	Oct. 27, 1869, to June 21, 1872
*WILLIAM R. BOWEN.....	June 21, 1872, to May 6, 1899
*FRANCIS E. WHITE.....	June 9, 1899, to June 11, 1925
*LEWIS E. SMITH.....	June 11, 1925, to June 6, 1946
CARL R. GREISEN.....	June 6, 1946
*Deceased	

LIST OF GRAND LODGES AND THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF THE GRAND SECRETARIES

GRAND LODGE	GRAND SECRETARY	ADDRESS
Alabama	Gordon L. Evatt	Box 6195, Montgomery 36106
Alberta	Edward H. Rivers	330-12 Avenue S. W. Calgary
Argentina	Carlos Wilson	Cangallo 1242 (R28), Buenos Aires
Arizona	Gerald I. Craig	Masonic Temple, 4th Ave. & Monroe, Phoenix 85033
Arkansas	Leland L. McDaniel	Albert Pike Memorial Temple, Little Rock 72202
Austria	Fritz Blum	Wien I. Dorotheergasse 12, Vienna
Belgium	Clement Ceuppens	265 Rue Royale, Brussels
Bolivia	Teofilo Aguilar Lopez	Obispo Cardenas, 1480 Casilla, Postal 564, La Paz
Brazil, United Grand Lodge of Bahia ..	Ivo Lopes da Silva	Masonic Temple Rua Carlos Gomes, N. 21, Salvador
Brazil, Ceara	Luis Nepomuceno de Mattos	Box 76, Fortaleza
Brazil, Matto Grasso ..	Acyliño P. Baptista	Caixa Postal 130, Campo Grande
Brazil, Minas Gerais ..	Sergio Alexandre Ivanenko	Avenida do Brasil, 478, Box 5, Belo Horizonte
Brazil, Rio Grande do Sul	Kurt Max Hauser	Box 683, Paraco Garibaldi 21, Porto Allegro
Brazil, Grand Lodge of Guanabaro ..	Dr. Sylla Ribeiro	Box 2215, Rio de Janeiro
Brazil, Santa Catarina ..	J. Luetiaul	Caixa Postal 536 Florianapolis Catarina, Brazil
Brazil, Sao Paulo ...	Erwin Seignemartin	Av Brigadeiro Luis Antonio 1195, Apt. 72, Sao Paulo,
Brazil, Grand Lodge of Paraiba	Napoleon Grispem	Box 3, Paraiba
Brazil, Grand Lodge of Guanabaro ..	J. H. N. Morgan	Freemason's Hall, 692 Seymour St., Vancouver
British Columbia ...	Edward H. Siems	California Masonic Memorial Temple, 1111 California St. San Francisco 91408
Canada	Ewart G. Dixon	Box 217, Hamilton, Ontario
Chile	Oscar Pereira H.	Casilla 2867, Santiago
China	Pu Ching Hu	Box 758, Taipei, Taiwan, Formosa
Colorado	Dean C. Settle	Suite 300, Masonic Temple, Denver 80202
Colombia National Grand Lodge	Emerito de Lima	Apartadox Postal No. 333, Baranquilla
Connecticut	Earle K. Haling	201 Ann Street, Hartford 06103
Costa Rica	Enrique Chaves B.	P. O. Box Y, San Jose
Cuba	Alfredo Aguilar Menendez	Apartado 72, La Habana, Fla.
Delaware	Chester R. Jones	818 Market Street, Wilmington 19801
Denmark Nat'l Grand Lodge	E. Hess Thaysen	Bledgamsvej 23, Copenhagen
District of Columbia	Paul R. Mattix	Masonic Temple, 801 - 13th St., N. W. Washington 20005
Ecuador	Dr. Luis W. Garcia Moreno	Box 932, Guayaquil
England	James W. Stubbs	Freemason's Hall, Great Queen St., London, W. C. 2
Finland	Martii V. Mustakallio	P. Esplanaadikatu 85, E. Helsinki
Florida	William A. Whitcomb	220 Ocean St., Jacksonville 32202
National Grand Lodge France	Jean P. Muet	65, Boulevard Bineau, Neuillysur-Seine Paris
Georgia	Daniel W. Locklin	811 Mulberry, Macon 31202
Germany, United Grand Lodge ...	Carl Nuckells	P. O. Box 16288 A. M. Care of Chancellory, Frankfurt
Greece	A. G. Maratos	Tektonikon Idrma, 39 Ypsilantou St. Athens-140
Honduras	Juan Rees	Apartado 336, Tegucigalapa
Iceland	Olafur Gislason	Freemasonry Hall, Borgartun 4, Reykjavik
Idaho	Herbert H. Eberle	Box 1677, Boise 87301
Illinois	Paul R. Stephens	Box 110, Rushville 62681
India	P. M. Sundaram	Freemasons Hall, Janpath, Post Box No. 681, New Delhi
Indiana	Dwight L. Smith	Masonic Temple, Indianapolis 46204
Iowa	Ralph E. Whipple	815 1st Avenue S. E., Box 271 Cedar Rapids. 52406
Ireland	J. O. Harte	Freemasons Hall, Dublin
Israel	J. Bar Nar	P. O. B. 2080, Tel Aviv
Italy	Umberto Genova	Palazzo Giustiniani Via, Giustiniani 5, Rome
Japan	George B. Morgulis	Masonic Bldg., Sakae-Cho, Minatoku, Tokyo
Kansas	Charles S. McGinness	320 W. 8th. Topeka 66601

LIST OF GRAND LODGES AND THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES
OF THE GRAND SECRETARIES—(Concluded)

GRAND LODGE	GRAND SECRETARY	ADDRESS
Kentucky	James W. Elam	1000 S. 4th Street, Louisville 40203
Louisiana	D. Peter Laguens, Jr.	Masonic Temple, New Orleans 70301
Luxembourg		
Maine	Earle D. Webster	415 Congress Street, Portland 04111
Manitoba	Thomas C. Jackson	Masonic Temple, Winnipeg
Maryland	Gerald M. Pine	Masonic Temple, Baltimore 21201
Massachusetts	Earl W. Taylor	186 Tremont St., Boston 02111
Mexico (York Gr. Lg.)	Cantwell C. Brown	Hegel 416, Mexico 5, D. F.
Michigan	Charles T. Sherman	Masonic Temple, Grand Rapids 49502
Minnesota	David E. Palmer	Masonic Temple, St. Paul 55102
Mississippi	Cecil A. Thorn	P.O. Box 1030, Meridian 39302
Missouri	Elmer W. Wagner	3681 Lindell Blvd. St. Louis 63108
Montana	Lyman E. Smith	Box 1158, Helena 59601
Nebraska	Carl R. Greisen	201 Masonic Temple, Omaha 68102
Netherlands	W. Veenstra	22 Fluwelen Burgwal, The Hague
Nevada	Royal D. Crowell	Box 186, Gardnerville 89410
New Brunswick	A. C. Lemmon	P. O. Box 430, Saint John
New Hampshire	Harold O. Cady	Box 299, Concord 03302
New Jersey	Harvey E. Whildey	Masonic Hall, Trenton 08608
New Mexico	Chandler C. Thomas	Box 1805, Albuquerque 87103
New South Wales	James S. Miller	The Masonic Hall, 279 Castle- reagh Street, Sydney
New York	Edward R. Carman	Masonic Hall 71 W. 23rd St., New York 00010
New Zealand	F. G. Northern	Box 6429, Wellington, C. 2
Nicaragua	Greg A. Tapia	Box 102, Managua
North Carolina	Charles A. Harris	P.O. Box 6506, Raleigh 27608
North Dakota	Edwin A. Haakenson	Box 1269, Fargo 58103
Norway	Rolf Nerem	Frimuerlogen, Nedre Voldgate 19, Oslo 1
Nova Scotia	Harold F. Sipprell	Freemasons Hall, Halifax
Nuevo Leon, Mexico	Lic Serges Meno Trevino	Apt. Num. 309, Monterrey
Ohio	Andrew J. White, Jr.	634 High St. P. O. Box 208, Worthington 430 5
Oklahoma	J. Fred Latham	Masonic Temple, Guthrie 73044
Oregon	Dexter Elliott	1119 S.W. Park Ave., Portland 97205
Panama	Julio A. Ramos	P. O. Box 84, Panama
Pennsylvania	Ashby B. Paul	Masonic Temple, Philadelphia 19107
Peru	Jorge A. Butler M.	Box 587, Lima
Philippines	Esteban Munarriz	1440 San Marcelino, Manila
Prince Edward Island	Floyd Drake	Box 337, Charlottetown
Puerto Rico	Juan L. Matos-Cintrón	Box 8385, Ferndon's Juice Sta- tion, Santurce
Quebec	J. McL Marshall	2295 St. Mark St., Montreal 25
Queensland	V. I. Carter	Box 675, Brisbane
Rhode Island	Sidney A. Copwell	Freemasons Hall, 127 Dorrance St., Providence 02876
Saskatchewan	T. M. Spencer	P. O. Box 246, Regina
Scotland	Alexander F. Buchan	Freemasons Hall, 96 George St., Edinburgh
South Australia	F. J. Ellen	Freemasons Hall, North Terrace, Adelaide
South Carolina	Henry F. Collins	901 Palmetto State Life Bldg., Columbia 29209
South Dakota	John S. Rowe	Box 468, Sioux Falls 57101
Sweden	Sven Svedin	Frimurareorden Blasieholms- gatan 6, Stockholm
Switzerland	Ernst Hagmann	16 Leonard-Ragazweg Zurich 55
Tamaulipas	Ruben Marquez Romo	F. A. de Olmos No. 101 Nte. Altos, Tampico
Tasmania	H. A. Wilkinson	119 Macquarie St., Hobart
Tennessee	Thomas E. Doss	Box 216, Nashville 37202
Texas	Harvey C. Byrd	Box 446, Waco 76703
Turkey	Nafiz Ekemen	Nuriziya Sak. No. 25, Istanbul.
Utah	Clarence M. Grosbell	Masonic Temple, Salt Lake City 84102
Vermont	D. Burleigh Smalley, Jr. .	Masonic Temple, Box 443, Burlington 05402
Victoria	C. W. Davis	Freemasons Hall, 25 Collins St. Melbourne, Australia
Virginia	Archer B. Gay	Masonic Temple, Richmond 23220
Washington	Edward L. Bennett	Masonic Temple, 47 St. Helens Ave., Tacoma 98402
Western Australia	N. J. Munro	Box D 177, Gen. P. O. Perth
West Virginia	Julian B. Hollingsworth ..	P.O. Box 2346, Charleston 25328
Wisconsin	Ernest R. Hiegel	1123 N. Astor St., Milwaukee 53202
Wyoming	Marcus R. Nichols	Box 459, Casper 82602

**VETERAN GRAND LODGE ATTENDANTS
WHO HAVE ATTENDED GRAND LODGE 21 YEARS OR MORE.**

Charles A. Chappell, 56 Years	1912-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27- 28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42- 43-44-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58- 59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67
Chancellor A. Phillips, 47 Years	1914-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28- 29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42- 43-44-46-47-48-49-50-51-53-56-57-58-59-60-61- 63
Benjamin F. Eyre, 45 Years	1923-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38- 39-40-41-42-43-44-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54- 55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67
Carl R. Greisen, 43 Years	1922-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39- 40-41-42-43-44-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55- 56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67
George A. Stevens, 43 Years	1917-18-19-20-21-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33- 34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-46-47-48-49- 51-54-55-57-58-59-60-63-65-66-67
William B. Wanner, 41 Years	1926-27-28-29-30-31-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41- 42-43-44-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57- 58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67
Ralph O. Canaday, 40 Years	1922-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-39-40- 41-42-43-44-46-47-48-51-52-53-54-55-57-58-59- 60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67
Pearl C. Hillegass, 39 Years	1927-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44- 46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60- 61-62-63-64-65-66-67
Herbert T. White 37 Years	1931-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-46-47- 48-49-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63- 64-65-66-67
C. Ray Macy, 34 Years	1924-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39- 40-41-42-43-44-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55- 56-57
George A. Kurk, 34 Years	1930-32-33-34-35-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-46-47-48- 49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63- 65-66
Harold H. Thom, 33 Years	1925-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-46-47-48-49-50- 51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65- 66-67
Otto Nelsen, 33 Years	1935-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-46-47-48-49-50-51- 52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66- 67
Edward F. Carter, 32 Years	1932-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-46-48-49- 50-51-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-61-62-63-64-66-67

Elmer E. Magee, 32 Years	1927-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-46-47-48-49-50- 51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-65-66- 67
Earl W. Dean, 31 Years	1914-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29- 30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-46-47- 48
Merle M. Hale, 30 Years	1936-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-46-47-48-49-50-51-52- 53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-65-66-67
William C. Schaper, 29 Years	1929-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-46-47-48-49-50-51-52- 53-54-55-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-67
Robert E. Lund, 29 Years	1937-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-46-48-49-50-51-52-53-54- 55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67
Fay Smith, 28 Years	1936-37-38-43-44-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56- 57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67
Edward M. Knight, 27 Years	1938-39-40-41-42-43-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55- 56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-66-67
Thomas J. Aron 27 Years	1930-31-32-33-39-40-42-44-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54- 55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-65-66-67

(No Grand Lodge Communication in 1945, however Credit is given.)

ROLL OF EXISTING NEBRASKA LODGES, WITH LOCATIONS, DATES CREATED AND CHARTERED.

LODGE		TOWN	COUNTY	CREATED	CHARTERED
	No. 1	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	February —, 55...	Oct. 3, 55 *1
	" 2	Nebraska City.....	Otoe.....	May 10, 55...	May 28, 56 *2
	" 3	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	January 9, 57...	June 3, 57 *3
	" 4	Brownville.....	Nemaha.....	December 15, 57...	June 2, 58
5	" 5	Dakota City.....	Dakota.....	January 18, 58...	June 2, 58
	" 6	Plattsmouth.....	Cass.....	January 18, 58...	June 2, 58
	" 9	Falls City.....	Richardson.....	October 4, 64...	June 23, 65
	" 10	Ft Calhoun.....	Washington.....	August 15, 65...	June 22, 66
	" 11	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	July 24, 65...	June 22, 66
10	" 13	Rulo.....	Richardson.....	June 23, 66...	June 19, 67
	" 14	Peru.....	Nemaha.....	May 23, 67...	June 19, 67
	" 15	Fremont.....	Dodge.....	July 3, 66...	June 20, 67
	" 17	Tecumseh.....	Johnson.....	December 7, 67...	Oct. 28, 69
	" 19	Lincoln.....	Lancaster.....	May 4, 68...	June 25, 68
15	" 21	Blair.....	Washington.....	February 24, 68...	June 25, 68
	" 23	Pawnee City.....	Pawnee.....	January 4, 69...	Oct. 28, 69
	" 25	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	May 23, 69...	Oct. 28, 69
	" 26	Beatrice.....	Gage.....	March 23, 70...	June 22, 70
	" 27	West Point.....	Cuming.....	December 25, 69...	June 23, 70
20	" 29	Nemaha.....	Nemaha.....	November 8, 69...	June 23, 70
	" 30	Milford.....	Seward.....	April 25, 70...	June 23, 70
	" 31	Tekamah.....	Burt.....	August 19, 69...	June 23, 70
	" 32	North Platte.....	Lincoln.....	January 15, 70...	June 23, 70
	" 33	Grand Island.....	Hall.....	August 11, 70...	June 22, 71
25	" 34	Schuyler.....	Colfax.....	July 18, 70...	June 19, 72
	" 35	Fairbury.....	Jefferson.....	June 30, 71...	June 19, 72
	" 36	Central City.....	Merrick.....	August 9, 71...	June 19, 72
	" 37	Crete.....	Saline.....	January 8, 72...	June 19, 72
	" 38	Seward.....	Seward.....	July 25, 71...	June 18, 73
30	" 39	Papillion.....	Sarpy.....	November 18, 72...	June 18, 73

* Formed Grand Lodge of Nebraska September 23, 1857.

Chartered by 1 Illinois, 2 Missouri, 3 Iowa

ROLL OF EXISTING NEBRASKA LODGES, WITH LOCATIONS, DATES CREATED AND CHARTERED

LODGE		TOWN	COUNTY	CREATED	CHARTERED
	Humboldt	No. 40	Humboldt.....	Richardson.....	December 16, 72... June 18. 73
	Northern Light	" 41	Stanton.....	Stanton.....	January 20, 73... June 18. 73
	Hebron	" 43	Hebron.....	Thayer.....	March 10, 73... June 18. 73
	Harvard	" 44	Harvard.....	Clay.....	March 25, 73... June 18. 73
35	Rob Morris	" 46	Kearney.....	Buffalo.....	February 21, 73... June 26. 74
	Fairmont	" 48	Fairmont.....	Fillmore.....	December 4, 73... June 26. 74
	Evening Star	" 49	Sutton.....	Clay.....	December 22, 73... June 26. 74
	Hastings	" 50	Hastings.....	Adams.....	January 3, 74... June 26. 74
	Fidelity	" 51	David City.....	Butler.....	January 19, 74... June 26. 74
40	Hiram	" 52	Arlington.....	Washington.....	February 26, 74... June 26. 74
	Charity	" 53	Red Cloud.....	Webster.....	March 2, 74... June 26. 74
	Lancaster	" 54	Lincoln.....	Lancaster.....	April 20, 74... June 26. 74
	Mosaic	" 55	Norfolk.....	Madison.....	October 1, 74... June 23. 75
	York	" 56	York.....	York.....	October 1, 74... June 23. 75
45	Mount Moriah	" 57	Syracuse.....	Otoe.....	November 7, 74... June 23. 75
	Wahoo	" 59	Wahoo.....	Saunders.....	January 20, 75... June 23. 75
	Melrose	" 60	Orleans.....	Harlan.....	March 10, 75... June 24. 75
	Thistle	" 61	Lexington.....	Dawson.....	May 8, 75... June 21. 76
	Keystone	" 62	Phillips.....	Hamilton.....	January 1, 76... June 21. 76
50	Blue Valley	" 64	Wilber.....	Saline.....	October 6, 76... June 20. 77
	Osceola	" 65	Osceola.....	Polk.....	November 23, 76... June 20. 77
	Edgar	" 67	Edgar.....	Clay.....	February 27, 77... June 20. 77
	Aurora	" 68	Aurora.....	Hamilton.....	February 10, 76... June 19. 78
	Sterling	" 70	Sterling.....	Johnson.....	July 16, 77... June 19. 78
55	Trowel	" 71	Neligh.....	Antelope.....	January 28, 78... June 19. 78
	Hooper	" 72	Hooper.....	Dodge.....	March 19, 78... June 25. 79
	Friend	" 73	Friend.....	Saline.....	May 4, 78... June 25. 79
	Alexandria	" 74	Alexandria.....	Thayer.....	December 26, 78... June 25. 79
	Frank Welch	" 75	Sidney.....	Cheyenne.....	December 26, 78... June 25. 79
60	Nelson	" 77	Nelson.....	Nuckolls.....	March 15, 79... June 23. 80

ROLL OF EXISTING NEBRASKA LODGES, WITH LOCATIONS, DATES CREATED AND CHARTERED.

LODGE		TOWN	COUNTY	CREATED	CHARTERED
	Albion No. 78	Albion.....	Boone.....	August 1, 79...	June 23, 80
	Geneva " 79	Geneva.....	Fillmore.....	November 24, 79...	June 23, 80
	Composite " 81	Rising City.....	Butler.....	March 20, 80...	June 22, 81
	Saint Paul " 82	Saint Paul.....	Howard.....	April 15, 80...	June 22, 81
65	Corinthian " 83	Wakefield.....	Dixon.....	April 22, 80...	June 22, 81
	Fairfield " 84	Fairfield.....	Clay.....	September 3, 80...	June 22, 81
	Ionic " 87	Niobrara.....	Knox.....	January 24, 81...	June 20, 82
	Star " 88	Decatur.....	Burt.....	September 17, 81...	June 20, 82
70	Cedar River " 89	Fullerton.....	Nance.....	January 19, 82...	June 20, 82
	Oakland " 91	Oakland.....	Burt.....	February 7, 82...	June 19, 83
	Beaver City " 93	Beaver City.....	Furnas.....	May 3, 82...	June 19, 83
	Bennett " 94	Bennet.....	Lancaster.....	May 5, 82...	June 19, 83
	Garfield " 95	O'Neill.....	Holt.....	June 28, 82...	June 19, 83
75	Utica " 96	Utica.....	Seward.....	July 14, 82...	June 19, 83
	Euclid " 97	Weeping Water.....	Cass.....	July 21, 82...	June 19, 83
	Republican " 98	Republican City.....	Harlan.....	July 27, 82...	June 19, 83
	Shelton " 99	Shelton.....	Buffalo.....	July 28, 82...	June 19, 83
	Creighton " 100	Creighton.....	Knox.....	August 19, 82...	June 19, 83
80	Ponca " 101	Ponca.....	Dixon.....	September 1, 82...	June 19, 83
	Waterloo " 102	Waterloo.....	Douglas.....	September 7, 82...	June 19, 83
	Ord " 103	Ord.....	Valley.....	September 14, 82...	June 19, 83
	Wymore " 104	Wymore.....	Gage.....	November 10, 82...	June 19, 83
	Stella " 105	Stella.....	Richardson.....	December 4, 82...	June 19, 83
85	Porter " 106	Loup City.....	Sherman.....	December 9, 82...	June 19, 83
	Table Rock " 108	Table Rock.....	Pawnee.....	January 24, 83...	June 19, 83
	Pomegranate " 110	Ashland.....	Saunders.....	February 13, 83...	June 19, 83
	DeWitt " 111	DeWitt.....	Saline.....	February 28, 83...	June 19, 83
	Springfield " 112	Springfield.....	Sarpy.....	March 30, 83...	June 19, 83
90	Globe " 113	Madison.....	Madison.....	February 16, 82...	June 24, 84

ROLL OF EXISTING NEBRASKA LODGES, WITH LOCATIONS, DATES CREATED AND CHARTERED.

LODGE		TOWN	COUNTY	CREATED	CHARTERED
	Wisner	No. 114	Wisner.....	Cuming.....	February 12, 83... June 24, 84
	Harlan	" 116	Alma.....	Harlan.....	July 12, 83... June 24, 84
	Hardy	" 117	Hardy.....	Nuckolls.....	July 18, 83... June 24, 84
	North Bend	" 119	North Bend.....	Dodge.....	September 5, 83... June 24, 84
95	Wayne	" 120	Wayne.....	Wayne.....	September 26, 83... June 24, 84
	Superior	" 121	Superior.....	Nuckolls.....	November 22, 83... June 24, 84
	Auburn	" 124	Auburn.....	Nemaha.....	December 25, 83... June 24, 84
	Mount Nebo	" 125	Genoa.....	Nance.....	January 1, 84... June 24, 84
	Stromsburg	" 126	Stromsburg.....	Polk.....	January 16, 84... June 24, 84
100	Minden	" 127	Minden.....	Kearney.....	January 22, 84... June 24, 84
	Guide Rock	" 128	Guide Rock.....	Webster.....	January 28, 84... June 24, 84
	Blue Hill	" 129	Blue Hill.....	Webster.....	February 18, 84... June 24, 84
	Scribner	" 132	Scribner.....	Dodge.....	July 9, 84... June 24, 85
	Elm Creek	" 133	Elm Creek.....	Buffalo.....	August 8, 84... June 24, 85
105	Solar	" 134	Clarks.....	Merriek.....	August 8, 84... June 24, 85
	McCook	" 135	McCook.....	Red Willow.....	October 6, 84... June 24, 85
	Long Pine	" 136	Long Pine.....	Brown.....	October 6, 84... June 24, 85
	Upright	" 137	Burchard.....	Pawnee.....	November 14, 84... June 24, 85
	Rawalt	" 138	Oxford.....	Furnas.....	November 15, 84... June 24, 85
110	Clay Centre	" 139	Clay Center.....	Clay.....	December 6, 84... June 24, 85
	Western	" 140	Western.....	Saline.....	December 6, 84... June 24, 85
	Crescent	" 143	Primrose.....	Boone.....	January 24, 85... June 24, 85
	Kenesaw	" 144	Kenesaw.....	Adams.....	January 28, 85... June 24, 85
	Bancroft	" 145	Bancroft.....	Cuming.....	April 30, 85... June 24, 85
115	Jachin	" 146	Holdrege.....	P Phelps.....	July 13, 85... June 17, 86
	Siloam	" 147	Stuart.....	Holt.....	August 15, 85... June 17, 86
	Emmet Crawford	" 148	Broken Bow.....	Custer.....	August 10, 85... June 17, 86
	Cambridge	" 150	Cambridge.....	Furnas.....	March 31, 85... June 17, 86
120	Evergreen	" 153	Pierce.....	Pierce.....	November 27, 85... June 17, 86

ROLL OF EXISTING NEBRASKA LODGES, WITH LOCATIONS, DATES CREATED AND CHARTERED

JUNE, 1967

GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA

LODGE		TOWN	COUNTY	CREATED	CHARTERED
Lily	No. 154	Davenport.....	Thayer.....	November 28, 85...	June 17, 86
Hartington	" 155	Hartington.....	Cedar.....	January 26, 86...	June 17, 86
Pythagoras	" 156	Page.....	Holt.....	October 24, 86...	June 16, 87
125 Samaritan	" 158	Chadron.....	Dawes.....	March 17, 86...	June 16, 87
Ogallala	" 159	Ogallala.....	Keith.....	August 14, 86...	June 16, 87
Zeredatha	" 160	Reynolds.....	Jefferson.....	August 21, 86...	June 16, 87
Mount Zion	" 161	Shelby.....	Polk.....	August 25, 86...	June 16, 87
Trestle Board	" 162	Brock.....	Nemaha.....	October 9, 86...	June 16, 87
130 Unity	" 163	Greenwood.....	Cass.....	December 18, 86...	June 16, 87
Atkinson	" 164	Atkinson.....	Holt.....	August 19, 86...	June 21, 88
Barneston	" 165	Barneston.....	Gage.....	August 20, 86...	June 21, 88
Mystic Tie	" 166	Tilden.....	Madison.....	February 18, 87...	June 21, 88
Elwood	" 167	Elwood.....	Gosper.....	June 21, 87...	June 21, 88
135 Curtis	" 168	Curtis.....	Frontier.....	June 21, 87...	June 21, 88
Amity	" 169	Rushville.....	Sheridan.....	July 29, 86...	June 21, 88
Mason City	" 170	Mason City.....	Custer.....	August 1, 87...	June 21, 88
Merna	" 171	Merna.....	Custer.....	August 2, 87...	June 21, 88
Robert Burns	" 173	Stratton.....	Hitchcock.....	November 15, 87...	June 21, 88
140 Culbertson	" 174	Culbertson.....	Hitchcock.....	November 16, 87...	June 21, 88
Temple	" 175	Filley.....	Gage.....	December 9, 87...	June 21, 88
Gladstone	" 176	Ansley.....	Custer.....	February 18, 88...	June 21, 88
Hay Springs	" 177	Hay Springs.....	Sheridan.....	February 20, 88...	June 21, 88
Prudence	" 179	Beaver Crossing.....	Seward.....	August 24, 88...	June 20, 89
145 Justice	" 180	Benkelman.....	Dundy.....	October 8, 88...	June 20, 89
Faith	" 181	Crawford.....	Dawes.....	December 13, 88...	June 20, 89
Alliance	" 183	Alliance.....	Box Butte.....	January 18, 89...	June 20, 89
Bee Hive	" 184	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	January 22, 89...	June 20, 89
Boaz	" 185	Danbury.....	Red Willow.....	January 24, 89...	June 20, 89
150 Meridian	" 188	Cozad.....	Dawson.....	February 4, 89...	June 20, 89

ROLL OF EXISTING NEBRASKA LODGES, WITH LOCATIONS, DATES CREATED AND CHARTERED.

LODGE		TOWN	COUNTY	CREATED	CHARTERED
Granite	No. 189	Gibbon.....	Buffalo.....	February 18, 89...	June 20, 89
Amethyst	" 190	Stapleton.....	Logan.....	August 5, 89...	June 20, 90
Crystal	" 191	Scotia.....	Greeley.....	August 7, 89...	June 20, 90
Minnekadusa	" 192	Valentine.....	Cherry.....	August 15, 89...	June 20, 90
155 Signet	" 193	Leigh.....	Colfax.....	September 3, 89...	June 20, 90
Highland	" 194	Cortland.....	Gage.....	September 21, 89...	June 20, 90
Arcana	" 195	Gordon.....	Sheridan.....	October 17, 89...	June 20, 90
Morning Star	" 197	Gresham.....	York.....	December 16, 89...	June 20, 90
Purity	" 198	Imperial.....	Chase.....	December 24, 89...	June 20, 90
160 Gavel	" 199	Carleton.....	Thayer.....	July 20, 89...	June 18, 91
Blazing Star	" 200	Burwell.....	Garfield.....	August 5, 90...	June 18, 91
Scotts Bluff	" 201	Gering.....	Scotts Bluff.....	August 8, 90...	June 18, 91
Golden Sheaf	" 202	Randolph.....	Cedar.....	August 29, 90...	June 18, 91
Roman Eagle	" 203	Pender.....	Thurston.....	August 30, 90...	June 18, 91
165 Plainview	" 204	Plainview.....	Pierce.....	September 1, 90...	June 18, 91
Golden Fleece	" 205	Chappell.....	Deuel.....	September 2, 90...	June 18, 91
Naphthali	" 206	Diller.....	Jefferson.....	December 31, 90...	June 18, 91
Parian	" 207	Callaway.....	Custer.....	January 31, 91...	June 18, 91
Canopy	" 209	Elmwood.....	Cass.....	September 4, 91...	June 16, 92
170 East Lincoln	" 210	Lincoln.....	Lancaster.....	November 5, 91...	June 16, 92
Cement	" 211	Wood River.....	Hall.....	November 27, 91...	June 16, 92
Compass & Square	" 212	Sumner.....	Dawson.....	December 12, 91...	June 16, 92
Plumblime	" 214	Adams.....	Gage.....	November 17, 91...	June 15, 93
Occidental	" 215	Cedar Bluffs.....	Saunders.....	July 16, 92...	June 15, 93
175 Palisade	" 216	Palisade.....	Hitchcock.....	July 18, 92...	June 15, 93
Wauneta	" 217	Wauneta.....	Chase.....	December 7, 92...	June 15, 93
Bloomfield	" 218	Bloomfield.....	Knox.....	January 18, 93...	June 15, 93
Relief	" 219	Coleridge.....	Cedar.....	January 19, 93...	June 15, 93
Magnolia	" 220	Emerson.....	Dixon.....	January 21, 93...	June 15, 93
180 Wood Lake	" 221	Wood Lake.....	Cherry.....	September 22, 92...	June 21, 94

ROLL OF EXISTING NEBRASKA LODGES, WITH LOCATIONS, DATES CREATED AND CHARTERED.

LODGE		TOWN	COUNTY	CREATED	CHARTERED
	Landmark No. 222	Herman.....	Washington.....	March 1, 93...	June 21, 94
	Eminence " 223	Giltner.....	Hamilton.....	September 26, 93...	June 21, 94
	Silver Cord " 224	Ainsworth.....	Brown.....	October 17, 93...	June 21, 94
	Cable " 225	Arnold.....	Custer.....	November 17, 93...	June 21, 94
185	Grace " 226	Wilcox.....	Kearney.....	January 20, 93...	June 13, 95
	North Star " 227	Lincoln.....	Lancaster.....	July 28, 94...	June 13, 95
	Bartley " 228	Bartley.....	Red Willow.....	November 23, 94...	June 13, 95
	Comet " 229	Ceresco.....	Saunders.....	December 5, 94...	June 13, 95
	Mount Hermon " 231	Cook.....	Johnson.....	December 19, 94...	June 13, 95
190	John S. Bowen " 232	Kennard.....	Washington.....	February 6, 95...	June 13, 95
	Gilead " 233	Butte.....	Boyd.....	November 22, 94...	June 10, 96
	Zion " 234	Hyannis.....	Grant.....	July 19, 95...	June 10, 96
	Fraternity " 235	Winside.....	Wayne.....	August 2, 95...	June 10, 96
	Golden Rule " 236	Allen.....	Dixon.....	August 3, 95...	June 10, 96
150	Cubit " 237	Douglas.....	Otoe.....	August 9, 95...	June 10, 96
	Friendship " 239	Chapman.....	Merrick.....	October 7, 95...	June 10, 96
	Pilot " 240	Lyons.....	Burt.....	November 29, 95...	June 10, 96
	George Armstrong " 241	Craig.....	Burt.....	August 1, 95...	June 17, 97
	Tyrian " 243	Oak.....	Nuckolls.....	August 24, 98...	June 8, 99
200	Hampton " 245	Hampton.....	Hamilton.....	July 13, 99...	June 7, 00
	Nehawka " 246	Nehawka.....	Cass.....	January 2, 00...	June 7, 00
	Corner-Stone " 247	Osmond.....	Pierce.....	January 3, 00...	June 7, 00
	Laurel " 248	Laurel.....	Cedar.....	February 12, 00...	June 7, 00
	Gothenburg " 249	Gothenburg.....	Dawson.....	June 20, 00...	June 6, 01
205	George Washington " 250	Lincoln.....	Lancaster.....	June 20, 00...	June 6, 01
	Wausa " 251	Wausa.....	Knox.....	November 18, 00...	June 6, 01
	Beemer " 253	Beemer.....	Cuming.....	January 1, 02...	June 5, 02
	Bassett " 254	Bassett.....	Rock.....	October 8, 02...	June 4, 03
	Hickman " 256	Hickman.....	Lancaster.....	December 7, 03...	June 9, 04
210	Anselmo " 258	Anselmo.....	Custer.....	December 10, 04...	June 7, 05

ROLL OF EXISTING NEBRASKA LODGES, WITH LOCATIONS, DATES CREATED AND CHARTERED.

LODGE		TOWN	COUNTY	CREATED	CHARTERED
	Ornan No. 261	Spencer.....	Boyd.....	March 5, 06...	June 5, 07
	Endeavor " 262	Indianola.....	Red Willow.....	June 28, 06...	June 5, 07
	Mitchell " 263	Mitchell.....	Scotts Bluff.....	July 5, 06...	June 5, 07
	Franklin " 264	Franklin.....	Franklin.....	June 11, 07...	June 10, 08
215	Robert W. Furnas " 265	Scottsbluff.....	Scotts Bluff.....	June 21, 07...	June 10, 08
	Silver " 266	Silver Creek.....	Merrick.....	June 14, 07...	June 10, 08
	James A. Tulleys " 267	Overton.....	Dawson.....	December 26, 07...	June 10, 08
	George W. Lininger " 268	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	February 26, 08...	June 10, 08
	Oasis " 271	Morrill.....	Scotts Bluff.....	June 14, 09...	June 8, 10
220	Lee P. Gillette " 272	Dunbar.....	Otoe.....	June 14, 09...	June 8, 10
	Crofton " 273	Crofton.....	Knox.....	July 10, 09...	June 8, 10
	Olive Branch " 274	Walthill.....	Thurston.....	September 20, 09...	June 8, 10
	Ramah " 275	Bertrand.....	Phelps.....	November 8, 09...	June 8, 10
	Antelope " 276	Elgin.....	Antelope.....	January 12, 10...	June 8, 10
225	Sioux " 277	Harrison.....	Sioux.....	June 10, 10...	June 6, 11
	Litchfield " 278	Litchfield.....	Sherman.....	December 19, 10...	June 6, 11
	Wallace " 279	Wallace.....	Lincoln.....	February 25, 11...	June 4, 12
	Swastika " 280	Sargent.....	Custer.....	October 18, 12...	June 4, 13
	Florence " 281	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	January 17, 13...	June 4, 13
230	Mullen " 282	Mullen.....	Hooker.....	July 22, 13...	June 9, 14
	Seneca " 284	Thedford.....	Thomas.....	September 29, 13...	June 9, 14
	Camp Clarke " 285	Bridgeport.....	Morrill.....	October 16, 13...	June 9, 14
	Oshkosh " 286	Oshkosh.....	Garden.....	November 25, 13...	June 9, 14
	Union " 287	Palmyra.....	Otoe.....	December 15, 13...	June 8, 15
235	Omaha " 288	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	March 24, 14...	June 8, 15
	Lotus " 289	Ravenna.....	Buffalo.....	June 11, 14...	June 8, 15
	John J. Mercer " 290	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	November 21, 14...	June 8, 15
	Diamond " 291	Orchard.....	Antelope.....	November 23, 14...	June 8, 15
	Wolbach " 292	Wolbach.....	Greeley.....	December 18, 14...	June 8, 15
240	Monument " 293	Arapahoe.....	Furnas.....	December 18, 14...	June 8, 15

ROLL OF EXISTING NEBRASKA LODGES, WITH LOCATIONS, DATES CREATED AND CHARTERED.

LODGE		TOWN	COUNTY	CREATED	CHARTERED	
	Kimball	No. 294	Kimball.....	June 10, 15...	June 7, 16	
	Minatare	" 295	Minatare.....	June 10, 15...	June 7, 16	
	Cotner	" 297	Lincoln.....	June 15, 17...	June 5, 18	
	Chester	" 298	Thayer.....	June 27, 17...	June 5, 18	
245	Sutherland	" 299	Sutherland.....	June 23, 17...	June 5, 18	
	Liberty	" 300	Lincoln.....	January 10, 18...	June 5, 18	
	Bayard	" 301	Morrill.....	January 19, 18...	June 5, 18	
	Mizpah	" 302	Omaha.....	November 12, 18...	June 4, 19	
	Right Angle	" 303	Omaha.....	September 24, 19...	June 9, 20	
	Newman Grove	" 305	Newman Grove.....	January 14, 20...	June 9, 20	
	Golden Rod	" 306	Lodgepole.....	August 19, 20...	June 8, 21	
	Perkins	" 308	Grant.....	December 1, 20...	June 8, 21	
	Winnebago	" 309	Winnebago.....	December 6, 20...	June 8, 21	
255	Victory	" 310	Valley.....	December 27, 20...	June 8, 21	
	Polk	" 311	Polk.....	January 4, 21...	June 8, 21	
	Oak Leaf	" 312	Lynch.....	June 23, 21...	June 7, 22	
	Potter	" 313	Cheyenne.....	September 10, 21...	June 7, 22	
	Craftsmen	" 314	Lancaster.....	March 22, 22...	June 5, 23	
260	Alpha	" 316	South Sioux City.....	January 27, 25...	June 10, 25	
	Mid-West	" 317	Hastings.....	January 8, 25...	June 10, 25	
	Grand Island	" 318	Grand Island.....	April 1, 25...	June 9, 26	
	Bladen	" 319	Bladen.....	January 11, 26...	June 9, 26	
	College View	" 320	Lincoln.....	July 1, 27...	June 6, 28	
265	Harmony	" 321	Dalton.....	Cheyenne.....	February 21, 28...	June 5, 29
	Pioneer	" 322	Lyman.....	Scotts Bluff.....	June 28, 28...	June 5, 29
	Lebanon	" 323	Columbus.....	Platte.....	November 14, 28...	June 5, 29
	Cairo	" 324	Cairo.....	Hall.....	January 16, 36...	June 8, 37
	Bellevue	" 325	Bellevue.....	Sarpy.....	March 5, 55...	June 8, 55
	Centennial	" 326	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	November 26, 55...	June 6, 56
	Shiloh	" 327	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	September 3, 65...	June 10, 66

JUNE, 1967

GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA

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LODGES ORGANIZED IN TERRITORY OTHER THAN NEBRASKA

NAME OF LODGE	LOCATION
Summit No. 7	Parkville, Colorado... Instituted May 6, 1861. Chartered June 5, 1861. Transferred to Grand Lodge of Colorado, August 2, 1861.
Rocky Mountain No. 8....	Gold Hill, Colorado.. Instituted May 21, 1861. Chartered June 5, 1861. Transferred to Grand Lodge of Colorado, August 2, 1861.
Central City, U..D.....	Central City, Colorado. Instituted 1860 or 1861.
Bannack City, U..D.....	Bannack City, Idaho.. Instituted April —, 1863, or June 21, 1863.
Monitor Lodge, U..D.....	United States Army.. Instituted July 30, 1863. Became extinct, prior to 1867.
Idaho Lodge, U..D.....	Nevada City, Idaho.... Instituted November 17, 1863. Became extinct June 23, 1864.
Wyoming Lodge No. 28....	South Pass City, Wyoming..... Instituted No- vember 24, 1869. Chartered June 23, 1870. Transferred to Grand Lodge of Wyoming, December 15, 1874.

CONSOLIDATIONS

- Joppa Lodge No. 76 with Franklin No. 264, Oct. 18, 1934.
- Parallel Lodge No. 152 with Barneston No. 165, Jan. 2, 1940.
- Tyre Lodge No. 85 with Wymore No. 104, July 7, 1941.
- Bradshaw Lodge No. 255 with Hampton No. 245, May 21, 1942.
- Level Lodge No. 196 with Cambridge No. 150, June 4, 1942.
- Riverside Lodge No. 269 with Cedar River No. 89, June 5, 1942.
- Juniata Lodge No. 42 with Kenesaw No. 144, July 15, 1942.
- Palmer Lodge No. 315 with St. Paul No. 82, Oct. 6, 1942.
- Riverton Lodge No. 63 with Franklin No. 264, May 16, 1945.
- Elk Creek Lodge No. 90 with Tecumseh No. 17, Nov. 11, 1944.
- Hildreth Lodge No. 252 with Grace No. 226, Oct. 11, 1945.
- Hubbell Lodge No. 92 with Hebron No. 43, Feb. 8, 1946.
- Inense Lodge No. 182 with Jewel No. 149, April 22, 1947.
- Bee Lodge No. 259 with Oliver No. 38, June 13, 1947.
- Tuscan Lodge No. 130 with Composite No. 81, Feb. 9, 1963.
- Delta Lodge No. 230 with Albion No. 78, Jan. 1, 1965.
- Jewel Lodge No. 149 with Geneva No. 79, Sept. 9, 1966.
- Valley Lodge No. 157 with Beaver City No. 93, Mar. 8, 1966.
- Ruskin Lodge No. 304 with Nelson No. 77, Sept. 23, 1966.

EXTINCT NEBRASKA LODGES

NAME	LOCATION	DATE OF BECOMING EXTINCT
Decatur No. 7.....	Decatur	June 18, 1873
Columbus No. 8.....	Columbus	June 25, 1868
Nebraska City No. 12....	Nebraska City	March 10, 1903
Eureka No. 16	Arago	December 23, 1875
Ashland No. 18.....	Ashland	August 17, 1881
Rock Bluff No. 20	Rock Bluff	July 16, 1884
Macoy No. 22	Plattsmouth	December 31, 1877
Lafayette No. 24	Lafayette Pct. (later Grant) ..	March 27, 1877
Palmyra No. 45	Palmyra	November 20, 1901
Salem No. 47	Salem	June 18, 1891
Lebanon No. 58	Columbus	June 6, 1928
Livingstone No. 66	Firth	June 5, 1907
Fortitude No. 69	Ulysses	July 14, 1887
Waco No. 80	Waco	January 31, 1885
Steele City No. 107.....	Steele City	August 13, 1902
Arapahoe No. 109	Arapahoe	June 8, 1904
Brainard No. 115.....	Brainard	September 5, 1903
Doric No. 118.....	Dorchester	June 4, 1930
Jasper No. 122	Odell	April 24, 1901
Indianola No. 123.....	Indianola	June 8, 1904
Ark & Anchor No. 131....	Ainsworth	September 26, 1890
Summit No. 141	Johnson	February 5, 1900
Anchor No. 142	North Loup	June 5, 1901
Square No. 151	Valparaiso	October 9, 1962
Parallel No. 152	Liberty	Jan. 2, 1940
Grafton No. 172.....	Grafton	December 31, 1948
Hesperia No. 178.....	Shickley	September 9, 1905
Plumb No. 186	Grant	November 15, 1897
Israel No. 187	Ulysses	December 18, 1956
Gauge No. 208	Arcadia	May 29, 1965
Square & Compass No. 213.	Miller	June 6, 1918
Ithmar No. 238	Crab Orchard	February 9, 1903
Orion No. 242	Ravenna	July 6, 1904
Sincerity No. 244	Battle Creek	June 6, 1928
Springview No. 260	Springview	August 6, 1920
Huntley No. 270	Huntley	June 7, 1939
Exeter No. 283	Exeter	December 16, 1952
Holbrook No. 257	Holbrook	June 11, 1959
Cowles No. 296.....	Cowles	December 31, 1946
William E. Hill No. 307 ..	Otoe	December 15, 1964
Doniphan No. 86.....	Doniphan	May 12, 1966

REPRESENTATIVES NEAR AND FROM OTHER GRAND LODGES

REPRESENTATIVE	ADDRESS	DATE OF APPOINTMENT	GRAND LODGE	REPRESENTATIVE	ADDRESS	DATE OF APPOINTMENT
E. Jonah Shipp	Northport	Mar. 27, 1956	Alabama	Herman G. Reinholz, 3	Omaha	July 7, 1966
F. Whitefield	Edmonton	Mar. 7, 1944	Alberta	Edward H. Lockwood, 265	Hastings	Dec. 15, 1959
Jose Gonzalez Ledo		Jan. 10, 1964	Argentina	Pearl C. Hillegass, 81	Rising City	Sept. 15, 1954
John Fletcher Sills, Jr.	Prescott	April 13, 1944	Arizona	Erwin J. Imig, 38	Seward	Aug. 6, 1960
Frank A. Smith	Little Rock	Jan. 27, 1958	Arkansas	Elmer E. Magee, 227	Lincoln	Aug. 24, 1944
Hugo Barber	Vienna	Mar. 22, 1951	Austria	O. Robert H. Beezley, 250	Lincoln	April 21, 1965
Rene Desgain		Nov. 13, 1962	Belgium	Leonard B. Woods, 103	Ord	Nov. 6, 1962
Raul Ballalai de Carvalho	Vol. do Salvador	Sept. 19, 1936	Bolivia	Harold A. Tilton, 71	Neligh	Dec. 1, 1963
Roumundo Nonata do Vale	Ceara	Sept. 21, 1949	Brazil, Bahia, United	Alfred E. Geschke, 25	Omaha	Sept. 23, 1964
Jose Cesario Horta	Minas Gerais	Sept. 21, 1949	Brazil, Ceara	George O. Sizemore, 32	North Platte	Nov. 7, 1949
Guilherme Wittine	Rio de Janeiro	Dec. 2, 1944	Brazil, Mato Grosso	Ernest E. James, 1	Omaha	Jan. 7, 1950
Ewald Helmuth Langweiler	Rio Grande do Sul	Feb. 18, 1965	Brazil, Minas Gerais	Cecil C. Gates, 227	Lincoln	Sept. 19, 1941
Joao Bento	Joao Pessoa	Oct. 23, 1957	Brazil, Guanabara	Clarence G. McNamee	Norfolk	Sept. 23, 1964
Dr. Walter Pinto	Sao Paulo	Nov. 14, 1951	Brazil, Rio Grande do Sul	Benjamin F. Eyre, 1	Omaha	Jan. 3, 1936
Nicholas Mussallem	Vancouver	April 13, 1965	Brazil, Paraiba	Wallace E. Maffett, 312	Lynch	Sept. 17, 1963
Maurice Coffey	Vancouver	Sept. 13, 1959	Brazil, Parana	Clyde D. Worrall, 59	Wahoo	Jan. 9, 1962
E. W. Nance Kivell		Dec. 16, 1965	Brazil, Santa Catarina	Thomas J. Aron, 37	Wahoo	July 10, 1947
Jorge A. Wachholtz	Taiwan	Jan. 10, 1962	Canada	Herbert T. White, 11	Omaha	July 26, 1958
TzeTsing Tuan	Barranquilla	Sept. 14, 1962	Chile	Edward F. Carter, 201	Lincoln	June 22, 1937
Jose Maria Serna		July 31, 1951	China	Ralph O. Canaday, 50	Hastings	Feb. 17, 1930
Thomas H. Cox	Clatsop	Feb. 20, 1932	Colombia Nat'l Grand	Earl H. Furman, 290	Omaha	April 13, 1960
George S. Hull	Clinton	Sept. 22, 1948	Lodge	Clifford D. Webster, 321	Sidney	July 30, 1957
Philip K. Strong		Apr. 9, 1962	Colorado	Carl R. Greisen, 32	Omaha	June 24, 1943
V. H. Francisco Enrique Garcia		Nov. 5, 1952	Connecticut	Chancellor A. Phillips, 150	Cambridge	Jan. 2, 1929
Fagan Simonton	Wilmington	July 27, 1954	Costa Rica	George W. Rosenlof, 314	Lincoln	Nov. 9, 1962
W. Marion Falls	Washington	Nov. 24, 1963	Cuba in Exile	Joseph C. Tye, 46	Kearney	June 25, 1954
Fernandos Gayangos Araya	Guayaquil	June 17, 1953	Delaware	T. Leo Stines, 36	Central City	Feb. 18, 1967
William R. S. Bathurst	Wiltshire	May 18, 1950	Dist. of Columbia	Herbert A. Ronin, 210	Lincoln	May 13, 1954
Orville A. Clark	Jacksonville	Dec. 17, 1960	Ecuador	Clarence M. Pierson, 19	Lincoln	Sept. 14, 1962
Edward Jeanmonod	Paris	Sept. 14, 1954	England	Foy Smith, 198	Omaha	June 17, 1954
Otis E. Dixon	Macon	Jan. 15, 1957	Finland	Byron C. Jenkins, 325	Bellevue	Aug. 8, 1966
Heinz Ziemer	Frankfurt au Main	Dec. 26, 1963	Florida	Robert D. Cresap, 158	Omaha	Oct. 5, 1966
George Sakellariou	Athens	April 10, 1954	France Nat'l Grand Lodge	Raymond F. Evers, 6	Plattsmouth	Aug. 3, 1960
Angel Gabriel Guzman	Helgafell	Aug. 13, 1963	Georgia	J. F. M. Heumann, 290	Omaha	July 28, 1965
Bjarne Bjarnason	Atenas	Jan. 7, 1953	Germany	Stephen W. Beck, 43	Hebron	Sept. 3, 1960
George A. Spongenberg	Nampa	June 28, 1960	Greece	Gordon Chard, 240	Lyons	Nov. 3, 1962
Harry L. Kline	Decatur	July 11, 1950	Honduras	George A. Stevens, 183	Chadron	Sept. 23, 1964
John P. Lippincott	South Bend	Feb. 26, 1949	Iceland	James M. Paxson, 302	Omaha	Aug. 11, 1960
Thomas M. Gick	Dublin	June 17, 1963	Idaho	Warren W. Kelley, 290	Omaha	May 13, 1959
Israel Levin	Tel Aviv	Sept. 14, 1954	Illinois	Norris W. Lallman, 72	Hooper	May 21, 1959
Maurizio Segre	Rome	Feb. 9, 1967	Indiana	Warren K. Urbom, 314	Lincoln	Sept. 7, 1966
Edward W. Knepper		Sept. 17, 1965	India	Richard L. Ely, 128	Guide Rock	June 17, 1958
Richard K. Hart	Topeka	Jan. 6, 1964	Ireland	William Grodinsky, 11	Omaha	July 26, 1954
C. James Hyde	Louisville	Sept. 18, 1962	Israel, State of	Lewis R. Ricketts, 19	Lincoln	Sept. 14, 1962
Philip O. McLaughlin		Jan. 23, 1961	Italy	Delbert H. Pinkerton, 314	Lincoln	July 31, 1958
James A. Sanker	Belfast	Sept. 14, 1948	Japan	Howard J. Hunter, 59	Wahoo	Jan. 13, 1950
Nathan Rothstein	Winnipeg	Mar. 22, 1951	Kansas	Ralph S. Tully, 25	Omaha	Jan. 23, 1958
Clifford S. Hubbard		Apr. 19, 1961	Kentucky	John A. Bofford, 49	Sutton	Feb. 24, 1958
James E. Roy	Worcester	Aug. 20, 1964	Louisiana	Robert W. Cook, 33	Omaha	Aug. 1, 1960
			Luxembourg	Harry Ahl, 112	Louisville	Sept. 14, 1962
			Maine	George A. Kurk, 54	Lincoln	June 22, 1937
			Manitoba	William B. Wanner, 9	Falls City	June 22, 1937
			Maryland			
			Massachusetts			

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

LINCOLN.

REPRESENTATIVES NEAR AND FROM OTHER GRAND LODGES

JUNE, 1967

GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA

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REPRESENTATIVE	ADDRESS	DATE OF APPOINTMENT	GRAND LODGE	REPRESENTATIVE	ADDRESS	DATE OF APPOINTMENT
Francisco Madero	Mexico City	June 3, 1966	Mexico York Rite Grand Lodge	W. J. (Jack) Moeller, 290	Omaha	May 26, 1964
Willard Sauer	Sparta	Feb. 14, 1958	Michigan	John H. Brown, 1	Omaha	Nov. 1, 1965
Herbert S. Ramberg	Ada	Jan. 16, 1953	Minnesota	Merle M. Hale, 54	Lincoln	Feb. 14, 1952
Orman Rinehart Smith	Corinth	June 21, 1957	Mississippi	Louis V. Sylvester, 281	Omaha	Sept. 8, 1953
Elson E. Jackson	Springfield	July 23, 1963	Missouri	William F. Patterson, 327	Omaha	June 3, 1964
I. R. P. Reinemer	Circle	Feb. 3, 1953	Montana	C. Harold Edwards, 105	Lincoln	Oct. 21, 1965
J. F. A. Gravenberch		Dec. 14, 1960	Netherlands	W. Upton Dawson, 135	McCook	May 6, 1965
Harry H. Atkinson	Reno	June 19, 1911	Nevada	Alfred B. Saum, 46	Kearney	Jan. 30, 1958
Kenneth Roberts Nelson	St. John	Oct. 21, 1955	New Brunswick	Frank H. Smith, 301	Bayard	Jan. 31, 1958
John O. Lovejoy	Littleton	June 14, 1962	New Hampshire	Clyde H. Jones, 173	Stratton	Sept. 27, 1956
John A. Stecker	Maplewood	Aug. 11, 1947	New Jersey	John F. Fitcher, 302	Omaha	July 21, 1955
Howard M. Sleeper	Santa Fe	Apr. 9, 1953	New Mexico	Harold D. Weddel, 208	Lexington	Oct. 18, 1943
Frederick J. Hayward	Mosman	Mar. 10, 1950	New South Wales	Harry A. Spencer, 227	Lincoln	Apr. 8, 1957
John H. Rehm		Aug. 31, 1965	New York	George R. Porter, 11	Omaha	Oct. 19, 1931
T. W. Fairman	Mangaweka	Dec. 4, 1956	New Zealand	Carl D. Ganz, 209	Lincoln	Oct. 19, 1962
Nathaniel C. Dean		July 26, 1965	Nicaragua	Paul D. Fleming, 93	Beaver City	Dec. 9, 1941
Calvin E. Rustad	Grand Forks	Sept. 7, 1955	North Carolina	Levi B. Williams, 1	Omaha	Sept. 17, 1962
Ole Kristofer Roed	Oslo	Feb. 8, 1956	North Dakota	Hugh W. Eisenhart, 150	Cambridge	April 28, 1965
C. Fraser Lorimer	Stellarton	July 28, 1952	Norway	Einar Hoel, 11	Omaha	June 9, 1964
Juan I. Arocha	Manterrey	Oct. 23, 1950	Nova Scotia	Edmund D. Shaw, 254	Bassett	Sept. 2, 1960
Robert L. Traascher	Youngstown	April 26, 1952	Nuevo Leon	Winston C. Swanson, 120	Wayne	Aug. 10, 1960
Aubrey R. Erhart	Guymon	July 23, 1963	Ohio	Otto Nelsen, 300	Lincoln	Feb. 17, 1958
Norman W. Oliver	Burns	May 5, 1964	Oklahoma	Ralph R. Carleton, 306	Sidney	Feb. 6, 1958
Elias S. Mizrahi	Panama	Jan. 12, 1953	Oregon	Fred D. Moshier, 281	Omaha	Sept. 4, 1963
Franklin A. Zumaeta	Lima	Oct. 23, 1957	Panama	Arthur S. Dye, 317	Hastings	July 28, 1965
Aurelio B. Aquino	Manila	Jan. 23, 1946	Peru	La Verne A. Walker, 55	Norfolk	Feb. 8, 1958
Chester R. Martin	Caledonia	May 1, 1959	Philippines	Ralph W. Gerry, 281	Omaha	Oct. 17, 1945
A. G. Lightbourn	Fajardo	May 3, 1945	Puerto Edward Island	Donald C. Smith, 1	Omaha	Jan. 17, 1945
G. Diamond	Fajardo	July 13, 1959	Quebec	Roy I. Bobbitt, 295	Scottsbluff	Aug. 23, 1952
W. R. Gailey	Cranston	Feb. 29, 1960	Queensland	Charles J. Black, 290	Omaha	Nov. 10, 1965
Grafton H. Willey, Jr.	Regina	Jan. 24, 1947	Rhode Island	Edward Hiuwaldt, 318	Grand Island	Oct. 31, 1940
Gaylord C. Wright	Edinburgh	April 13, 1965	Saskatchewan	Edward A. Hoogland, 25	Omaha	July 3, 1942
William Sloss	Edinburgh	Aug. 30, 1963	Scotland	Robert E. Lund, 323	Columbus	Sept. 17, 1962
Cyril W. C. Peaks	Charleston	Sept. 9, 1959	South Australia	Harold H. Thom, 1	Omaha	Sept. 17, 1962
Harace Greeley Adams	Vermillion	Aug. 7, 1942	South Carolina	Frank F. McMullin, 241	Craig	Jan. 2, 1957
Robert F. Patterson	Linkoping	Feb. 3, 1955	South Dakota	Mark Mitchell, 138	Oxford	Jan. 1, 1962
Hj. August Lind	Zurich	Apr. 4, 1958	Sweden	Charles A. Chappell, 127	Minden	Aug. 26, 1918
Eric C. Monk	Tampico	Feb. 24, 1967	Switzerland	Lillard S. Jensen	Omaha	Nov. 17, 1965
V. H. Samuel Rodriguez	Hobart	Sept. 8, 1949	Tamlaupias	Ralph I. Berry, 256	Hickman	Nov. 5, 1965
S. V. Tilley	Jackson	Mar. 27, 1957	Tasmania	Homer C. Davey, 317	Hastings	Aug. 3, 1960
C. Cecil Broadwell	Dallas	Nov. 30, 1956	Tennessee	Lloyd I. Edwards, 110	Ashland	Sept. 8, 1960
Harold A. Bateman	Istanbul	July 28, 1952	Texas	William C. Schaper, 148	Broken Bow	May 4, 1939
Nebil Sarpel, Istanbul	Ogden	July 19, 1963	Turkey	Donald A. Keys, 300	Lincoln	Dec. 20, 1961
John J. Greiner	Shelburne	Sept. 10, 1959	Utch	Melvin E. Johnson, 112	Ralston	Aug. 27, 1963
David A. Smith	Melbourne	May 16, 1962	Vermont	Richard L. Wait, 19	Lincoln	Jan. 23, 1958
Farrin Webb	S. Arlington	Mar. 23, 1946	Victoria	Cary W. Dresslar, 32	North Platte	Nov. 14, 1956
P. O. Shepherd, Jr.	Puyallup	Jan. 2, 1952	Virginia	Mothias E. Mauel, 173	Stratton	Aug. 2, 1960
Stewart E. Perry	Milwaukee	July 18, 1946	Washington	Ernest O. Van Wey, 249	Gothenburg	Jan. 28, 1952
Frederick George Hatcher		Dec. 17, 1960	West Australia	Edward M. Knight, 183	Alliance	June 27, 1941
James K. Ferguson		Sept. 28, 1961	West Virginia	Charles F. Adams, 68	Aurora	July 10, 1947
George J. Schreiber		Mar. 23, 1946	Wisconsin	Willard I. Lewis, Jr., 9	Falls City	Mar. 15, 1960
				Harlan W. Cane, 227	Lincoln	Dec. 30, 1964

MASONIC CALENDAR

Ancient Craft Masons commence their era with the creation of the world, calling it Anno Lucis (A.'.L.'.) "In the year of light."

Royal Arch Masons date from the year the second temple was commenced by Zerubbabel, Anno Inventionis (A.'.I.'.) "In the year of the Discovery."

Royal and Select Masters date from the year in which the Temple of Solomon was completed, Anno Depositionis (A.'.Dep.'.) "In the year of the deposit."

Knights Templar commence their era with the organization of the order, Anno Ordinis, (A.'.O.'.) "In the year of the Order."

Order of High Priesthood dates from the year of the blessing of Abraham by the High Priest Melchizedek, Anno Beneficio, (A.'.Beo.'.) "In the year of the blessing."

Scottish Rite, same as Ancient Craft, except the Jewish chronology is used, Anno Mundi, (A.'.M.'.) "In the year of the world."

RULES FOR MASONIC DATES

Ancient Craft Masons—Add 4,000 years to the current year, thus: 1967 and 4,000—5967.

Royal Arch Masons—Add 530 to the current year, thus: 1967 and 530—2497.

Royal and Select Masters—Add 1,000 years to current year, thus: 1967 and 1,000—2967.

Knights Templar—From the Christian era take 1,118; thus 1,118 from 1967—849.

Order of High Priesthood—To the Christian era add 1913, the year of the blessing, thus 1967—3880.

Scottish Rite—Add 3,760 to the current year; thus 1967 and 3,760—5727.

HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF THE GRAND
CUSTODIANS OF THE GRAND LODGE,
A. F. & A. M. OF NEBRASKA

By W. George W. Rosenlof, 314, Grand Historian.

Article II of the original Constitution of the Grand Lodge, A. F. &

A. M. of Nebraska made provision for an officer to be called The Grand Lecturer. Article V of that same document provided for his style and rank—Grand Lecturer.

Section XVII provided that:

“It shall be the duty of the Grand Lecturer to attend the communications of the Grand Lodge. He shall under the advice and with the concurrence of the M. W. Grand Master, cause the work of the several Lodges to be uniform; and upon the question and difference of opinion arising in the discharge of this duty, the decision of the Grand Lodge, when in session, and of the Grand Master at all other times, shall be final. He shall visit the Subordinate Lodges when called upon for that purpose, and communicate the proper and uniform mode of work; and for his services, he shall be paid by the Lodge requiring him.”

The first brother appointed to the office of the Grand Lecturer was George Armstrong. This appointment was made by the first Grand Master, Robert Carrel Jordan, at the time of the first annual Communication of the Grand Lodge on June 2nd, 1858.

In the Encyclopedia of Freemasonry by Albert G. Mackey, M.D., the Grand Lecturer is defined in these words:

“An officer known only in the United States. He is appointed by the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge. His duty is to visit the subordinate Lodges, and instruct them in the ritual of the Order as practiced in his jurisdiction, for which he receives compensation partly from the Grand Lodge and partly from the Lodges which he visits.”

As to the “Lecturers” and their history we read that:

“To each of the degrees of Symbolic Masonry a catechetical instruction is appended in which the ceremonies, traditions, and other esoteric instructions of the degree are contained. A knowledge of these lectures—which must, of course, be communicated, by oral teaching—constitutes a very important part of a Masonic education; and, until the great progress made within the present century in Masonic literature, many ‘bright Masons’ as they are technically styled, could claim no other foundation than such a knowledge for their high Masonic reputation. Still, as the best commentary on the ritual observance is to be found in the lectures, and as they also furnish a large portion of that secret mode of recognition, or that

universal language, which has always been the boast of the Institution, not only is a knowledge of them absolutely necessary to every practical Freemason, but a history of the changes which they have from time to time undergone constitutes an interesting part of the literature of the Order."

The system of Lodge lectures, comparatively speaking, is a modern invention. Historically, it is fairly accurate to say that the "system" of Masonry did not exist prior to 1717. A noted authority on Masonry, the Reverend George Oliver, D.D., and one of the most distinguished and learned of English Masons had said that the earliest authorized lectures, with which he had met were those of 1720.

We can trace the development of the "lectures" from the Sloane M.S., No. 3329 preserved in the British Museum, which was in the form of catechism (eighteenth century); to the Anderson publication, "A Defence of Masonry" published in 1730; to the system of lectures that Martin Clare was commissioned by the Grand Lodge of England to prepare in 1732; to the Preston lectures that "inaugurated the new era in the esoteric system of Freemasonry" and which "became, for nearly half a century, the authoritative text of the Order in England;" and, finally, to the contribution Thomas Smith Webb, the founder of the American "system of work" under the appropriate name of the "American Rite." Such an undertaking is hardly germane to the purpose of this historical account. Suffice it to say, that the Grand Lodge of Masons in Nebraska, very early in its development, gave no inconsiderable amount of attention and time to the problem of determining what "system of work" would be officially adopted for the subordinate lodges (as they were then called) in this jurisdiction.

In a volume entitled "Masonry Defined" by E. R. Johnston, known as the originator of the Questionnaire System of Masonic Education, there is to be found some further information relating to the Grand Lecturer and his duties or responsibilities. The author compiled much from the writings of Mackey and many other eminent authorities.

Of the Grand Lecturer he says: "The office of the Grand Lecturer is one of great importance; perhaps there is none so important in the whole series of offices which constitute the controlling element of a Grand Lodge. He is the recognized teacher of the Masonic System, and it is by his faithful instructions, alone, that unity can be maintained in the methods of communicating our ritual." "The unity," says Brother Sandford of Iowa, "makes the world a Mason's home, raising him high above geographical divisions and the obstacles of language and religion; secures him protection and repose wherever fate or fortune may direct his steps. Without it, our grand fabric of universal benevolence, which has withstood the storms of numerous centuries, would be shattered to atoms in a single age."

Speaking of the qualifications of the Grand Lecturer, the author of this volume referred to, has said:

"Not only should the authority of the Grand Lecturer as a Masonic teacher be sovereign and undivided in his jurisdiction, and the tenure of his office permanent, so that the craft may not be annually subjected to changes in the form and the substance of the instruction that they receive, but above all, he should be competent by previous study, to discharge the duties of his high calling."

Briefly stated the Grand Lecturer cannot be "manufactured out of any kind of wood nor out of any kind of mason." He is one who has devoted his time, his talents, and his labor to the arduous, though pleasant, task of Masonic study. Such an officer must have a profound knowledge of the ritual. This can only be acquired by one who is willing to labor assiduously and who possesses an "excellent and retentive memory." He should give evidence of dignity in performance, "an education above the common standard, a cultivated intellect, an acquaintance with that ancient language from whose records our system is derived, a familiarity with history and antiquities, and an extent of reading and power of mind which will enable him to trace the symbolism of our Order through all its progress, from the ancient priesthood of Egypt, the mysteries of Greece and Asia and the kabbala of Palestine." The "consummation devoutly to be wished" in Masonry is that none but learned men should become Masonic teachers.

It might well be recorded here that the old Masonic constitutions did not recognize the office of Grand Lecturer under that name but it has always existed and its duties were performed in the eighteenth century by some of the most learned men of the Order.

It is upon the background of the foregoing that we turn now to a consideration of this high office as it has been recognized from the very beginning of Grand Lodge Masonry in Nebraska and how it has evolved in name, concept and organization from that of Grand Lecturer to Grand Custodian. It is also our purpose to provide the reader with a knowledge of the Brethren who have served the Grand Lodge and the constituent Lodges of Nebraska.

At the outset, we noted that the Grand Lecturer of this Grand Lodge was officially recognized as an important officer, appointed by the Grand Master with the approval of the Grand Lodge. It was also stated that the first Grand Lecturer was Brother George Armstrong who had served as Grand Secretary and was destined to become the second M. W. Grand Master.

1858-1863

The M. W. Grand Master, Robert Carrel Jordan, said in his address to the officers and brethren of the Grand Lodge on June 2, 1858, that of the different subjects then claiming the attention of the

Grand Lodges of the United States, the matters of "uniformity of work" and of "non-affiliated members" appeared to be of the most significance. On the former of these two items he made these observations:

"We are aware that the members of the fraternity in our jurisdiction hail from nearly every state in the Union, and unfortunately there exists some important variations in the work. A uniform system of work is one of the most desirable objects to be attained; and in our present juvenile state, I imagine it can be accomplished. I propose that an exhibit of the work of all the lodges be made at this session, and a careful examination made into the merits of the work so exhibited, corrections made, and a uniform mode adopted, and made obligatory on all lodges now in existence, and all future lodges to adopt the same before permission is granted to assemble and confer degrees."

The Grand Master made a further observation that by "adopting this or some other judicious remedy, we may, and I trust will, avoid the difficulties the older Grand Lodges have had to encounter, and in some instances have abandoned without hope of securing a permanent and uniform system of lectures."

A select committee of three brethren, H. N. Cornell, L. L. Bowen and Robert W. Furnas, was named to designate appropriate committees to which the several matters contained in the Grand Master's address could be referred. So much as related to "uniformity of work" was assigned to a select committee of three. The M. W. Grand Master appointed to serve on this committee Brothers Cornell, Maxon and Keller. The first two named were members of Western Star Lodge No. 2 and the third was a member of Nebraska Lodge No. 1.

This committee recommended, after careful consideration of the subject, that the manner of conferring the first three degrees which the M. W. Grand Master had so fully illustrated in its presence, be accepted and introduced throughout the subordinate lodges of Nebraska by the Grand Lecturer, as soon as practicable; and furthermore recommended that there be a speedy introduction, adoption, and using of Cornelius Moore's "Craftsman" in all the subordinate lodges.

This report and the recommendations were adopted. There seemed to be some doubt that the recommendations were being observed. M. W. Robert W. Furnas offered a resolution at the close of the second annual communication to the effect that the representatives from the subordinate lodges in attendance be empowered and authorized to enforce in their respective lodges the "work" as adopted at the previous Communication. This resolution was adopted.

Our second Grand Master, M. W. George Armstrong, having been the Grand Lecturer for a short while was no less concerned with securing accurate and uniform "work" in the several Nebraska lodges than was his predecessor, M. W. Brother Jordan. He addressed

the Grand Lodge at some length, noting that the various Jurisdictions throughout the states had exerted themselves to effect uniformity in the "work." The most skillful of the Craft had held consultations together. They have compared and studied the "designs placed on their respective trestleboards" by the Masters for the purpose of "arriving at and determining what constitutes the true work."

Grand Master Armstrong was of the opinion, based on his own experiences and knowledge, that the lectures and symbolic instructions as taught by Thomas Smith Webb, and then known as the "Webb Work" had been accepted by most of the Masonic jurisdictions in the United States. Schools of Instruction had been established throughout the country where the "Webb Work" had been adopted with the result "that the Craft were becoming enlightened in Masonic science; and the mysteries of our art, by the uniformity of exemplification, and the simplified, though thorough and comprehensive mode of imparting instruction, are rendered more inviting and attractive to those who are seeking after its hidden beauties, or studying the erudition of its expressive signs and symbols."

The Grand Master was quite aware of the difficulties that would be experienced in traveling between scattered lodges and involving considerable distances to travel by the brethren wishing to enjoy attendance at these schools of instruction. Much would be gained, nevertheless, in securing the desired uniformity of work if provision were made to select especially well qualified and proficient leaders to give the necessary instruction in these schools.

The newly appointed Grand Lecturer, the W. Lee P. Gillette, was being enabled to hold schools of instruction wherever he was invited by the subordinate lodges. He was highly respected for his proficiency.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, with H. C. Blackman reporting, recognized the importance of the subject of uniformity of work and recognizing further that not all of the brethren had not had sufficient opportunity to witness the exemplification of the work recommended by the Grand Master and taught by the Grand Lecturer, it was nevertheless of the opinion that the "Webb Work" should be adopted, especially since it had already been adopted by most of the Grand Lodges of the United States. The recommendation was adopted and the representatives in attendance were again enjoined, empowered and authorized to enforce the work as adopted.

The following year, June, 1862, the M. W. Grand Master George Armstrong stated in his annual address that "some progress was being made in effecting uniformity of work." The Grand Lecturer, Lee P. Gillette, was prevented from meeting his assignment, having been a commissioned officer in the Nebraska Regiment of Volunteers, and Brother S. Redfield of Nebraska City served as his substitute. Only two or three lodges had utilized his services. This was probably due to a lack of funds in both the Grand Lodge and the local lodges.

It was especially emphasized that three of the six chartered lodges and the two lodges under dispensation were strictly following and adhering to the "Webb Work." These were the "Western Star," the "Capitol" and the "Plattsmouth" lodges. Some degree of progress was being made in the other lodges.

The Grand Master was emphatic in saying that the more he saw the work exemplified and the more he learned of its history, and "examined the unbroken chain by which it has descended to us from the early fathers through Webb, Gleason, Fowle and Barney to the venerable Wilson of Vermont, who still lives to supply the link between the present generation and the past"—the more he was satisfied that the work was "genuine Ancient Craft Masonry."

It was Brother Armstrong who called attention to the importance of adopting a uniform textbook. Masonic hand-books were increasingly being published and there was great danger that the differing material, the arrangement of the materials and the illustrations of symbols or emblems and the form of expression were all "likely to confuse and mislead, rather than assist in the elucidation of the true work." Reference was made by the Grand Master to "The Freemason's Monitor." He considered it the best book of its kind and urged that it be adopted for use in the lodges. It was "conveniently arranged and illustrated and perfectly agreeing in its phraseology with the esoteric instructions we are seeking to restore." This publication was also desirable in that it contained a "synopsis of Masonic law, a variety of useful forms, odes, etc., indispensable to the Master and his Lodge, and invaluable to every Brother desirous of improving himself in Masonry."

A strong plea was made by the Grand Master for establishing a uniformity in the work as adopted. "Every officer of the Grand Lodge and every representative of a Subordinate Lodge present will put forth his best efforts in its accomplishment during the next Masonic year."

It is difficult to find a more succinct and a more impressive statement than that with which his plea was concluded: It follows:

"The language, landmarks, symbols, and principles of Masonry are universal. They are peculiar to no nation, sect or condition. That the ritual, by which all these are explained and inculcated, should be equally universal, is a proposition that would seem self-evident to the mind of every intelligent Mason. We have as yet but commenced the erection of the Masonic edifice in our young territory. The Craft, as it were, are yet toiling upon the mosaic pavement of the ground floor. Then let the designs of our master workmen be skillfully drawn, and the perfect ashlar made ready and adjusted by the tools of the Fellow Crafts, that as the building shall be raised perpendicularly, its several parts may be cemented and fitted together with that exactness which characterized its great exemplar."

The Special Committee on Uniformity of Work consisting of Brothers Gillette, Marshall and Bangs made its report on the following morning. It heartily concurred with the Grand Master's address on the subject; it was in agreement with the necessity of "uniformity of work"; it was happy with results being achieved; it supported the thought that the use of a uniform text-book would contribute in a great degree in securing a perfect uniformity of the Webb-Preston ritual in the Nebraska jurisdiction; and it recommended the adoption of "The Freemason's Monitor" or "Illustrations of Masonry" by Thomas Smith Webb, as the textbook to be used by all Nebraska lodges.

This recommendation was approved by the Grand Lodge on June 4, 1862. Past Grand Master Jordan offered a resolution that in effect supported the "Webb Work" believing it to be the "true and ancient work practiced by the Fraternity in America a century and more ago and urging that every lodge in our jurisdiction be required to adopt the work at the earliest convenient date, not alone because of its antiquity and beauty but because of its assurance of uniformity in the work."

1864-1870

At the Seventh Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, convened in Plattsmouth on June the twenty-third of 1864, the Grand Master, Daniel H. Wheeler, reported that he had observed in the proceedings of several Grand Lodges that Grand Masters had spoken in a "deprecating manner of the formation of a society styled 'The Conservators' whose purpose, it was said to be, was the introduction of the ancient Webb-Preston Work."

Since the Nebraska Grand Lodge had on two occasions "solemnly affirmed its faith in that work as the only ritual extant which corresponds with that used by our Masonic fathers" it only remained for him, as the Grand Master, to say that "any measure proposing to extend and strengthen the establishment of that ritual" should deserve the favorable consideration of this Grand Lodge. It was his further observation that in these Grand Lodges there were no evidences, in general, upon their "Trestle Boards" that indicated any more importance with that of uniformity of work. He was at a loss to know "why any should make it their business to interfere with the right of their members to combine in societies for a good purpose." He feared that "some motive less pure and noble than that which Masonry inculcates lies at the bottom of these attacks upon Conservators."

He was speaking in particular about the states of Illinois, Missouri, Michigan and New Jersey where, presumably, resolutions had been adopted prohibiting Masons from joining a society, numbering more than 3,000 members, including many Grand and Past Grand Masters. He asked the question as to whether "any candid, un-

prejudiced student of Masonic history" could "attribute such legislation to entirely disinterested motives." Moreover, he answered that question by suggesting his conclusion that "the re-election of certain officers, or the maintenance of certain parties in power is the main spring of it."

Significantly he stated that "while the entire Masonic press had published—their attacks upon the 'Conservator's Association' only one Masonic paper has copied the resolutions of 1863" by the Grand Lodge of Nebraska approving the Webb-Preston work. It is very clear that the Nebraska Grand Lodge would neither "build up or cast down any Brother's reputation by taking part in this unfortunate or unnecessary quarrel."

The select committee appointed by Grand Master Daniel H. Wheeler, and consisting of Brothers Furnas, Irish and Goss prepared an exhaustive report on "uniformity of work" which lauded the "Webb-Preston Work" thoroughly defended it and meticulously set down all the evidences in its support; traces it to its sources and shows how closely it parallels that work in the "Old World." The efforts of this committee constituted a "research of facts," in our judgment, and has stood unrefuted to this day.

The conclusions of the Committee were these:

1. The work of Nebraska is that which Barney received from Webb, in 1815; Webb from Preston about 1795; Preston from his predecessors about 1775.
2. No other work practiced in this country has a geneology that will bear a moment's consideration, or claim the attention of a reflecting Mason.
3. Nothing which has been elicited in the discussions of this subject has shaken our confidence in the work heretofore adopted by this Grand Lodge.

Needless to say the report was adopted. There was no evidence of any division of thought. Parenthetically, two of these three members of the committee were later honored by election to the highest office in Grand Lodge Masonry—that of Most Worshipful Grand Master. The third member, John R. Goss, was variously Grand Chaplain, Grand Orator and acting Deputy Grand Master (in 1870). With such leadership as this exemplified there could be no doubt as to the remarkable growth of Masonry and its influence in the early history of the Commonwealth of Nebraska.

In 1869, the M. W. Grand Master Orasmus H. Irish, was unable to preside, having accepted a federal appointment as U. S. Consul at Dresden-Saxony. The acting Grand Master, Harry P. Deuel, presided.

¹For a full detailed report see "Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, Vol. I (1857-1868) pp. 365-368. See also the Proceedings, Vol. II (1869). The Vermont Foreign Correspondence, 1014-1020.

In his address to the Grand Lodge, convened in Nebraska City on October 26, 1869, he stated that the problem of uniformity of work still faced the Craft. He said "Scarcely two lodges (There were 25 chartered lodges at that time) work alike in the details." He urged that this condition be remedied. He called it an "evil." Referring to the sister Jurisdiction in Iowa, he noted that it had adopted a plan of having a Grand Lecturer, and several assistants or "Custodians of the Work," they receiving the work from him. "Dividing the state into districts, they require of each custodian to visit, personally each lodge throughout his jurisdiction, and instruct its officers." Brethren petitioning for dispensation were to send the Master-elect to the custodian of his district, and exemplify, or learn the work. When found correct this Master would receive a certificate that, in effect, would permit the granting of a dispensation. With the limited number of chartered lodges, as in Nebraska, it was his thought that the Grand Lecturer could assume this responsibility.

Brother C. F. Catlin, representative of Covert Lodge No. 11, proposed that Section 17 of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge be amended so as to care for the problem as presented by the Grand Master. It reads as follows:

Duties of the Grand Lecturer

"It shall be the duty of the Grand Lecturer to attend all the communications of the Grand Lodge. He shall, under the advice and with the concurrence of the M.'W.'.Grand Master, cause the work of the several subordinate lodges to be uniform, and upon all questions of difference of opinion in the discharge of his duty, the decision of the M.'W.'.Grand Lodge, when in session, and of the M.'W.'.Grand Master, at all other times, shall be final. He shall visit each and every subordinate lodge within the jurisdiction at least once each year, and shall devote to them all the time that may be necessary in order that the Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens and Senior Deacon, at least, shall be thoroughly instructed in the established work of the jurisdiction, and are fully qualified to confer the several degrees of Masonry in accordance with it; and to see that all errors and irregularities are rooted out, and for this purpose it shall be his duty to exemplify the work of each degree as taught by him, whenever it is possible to do so; and if it shall come to his knowledge that any officer or lodge within the jurisdiction shall ignore or refuse or fail to comply in every respect to the uniform and established work adopted by the Grand Lodge of Nebraska and communicated by him, it shall be his duty to instantly report the same, either to the Grand Lodge or to the Grand Master, as aforesaid, for their immediate action. It shall also be his duty to be present at the opening and organizing of lodges U.D., and impart to them all necessary instruction, unless he shall be satisfied by previous examination, that the officers of said lodge are fully competent and qualified to perform all the duties connected with

the lodge. The Grand Lecturer shall have authority to appoint a deputy to assist him in the discharge of his duties, for whose acts he shall be personally responsible to the Grand Lodge. And for these services he shall be paid by the Grand Lodge, upon the presentation of his bill, accompanied by a written or printed certificate signed by the Worshipful Master and Secretary of each subordinate lodge, to the effect that he has faithfully performed all the duties of his office as herein described, the sum of dollars for each and every day occupied in the discharge of the duties of his office, and mileage at the rate of cents for each and every mile actually traveled; and each subordinate lodge shall defray all his necessary expenses during his sojourn with them."

As an amendment to the By-Laws Brother Catlin offered a new section as follows:

"No dispensation shall be granted by the Grand Master (or in his absence, the Deputy Grand Master) for constituting a new lodge, until he shall have received a written or printed certificate signed by the Grand Lecturer under his own private seal, which certificate shall set forth that he has carefully examined the proposed Worshipful Master and at least one of the Wardens, and that each of them has a thorough knowledge of the uniform and established work of the jurisdiction and are fully competent and qualified in every respect to confer the several degrees of Masonry in accordance with it, and to discharge and perform all other duties that may devolve upon them in connection with the lodge."

Agreeable to the special provisions of the By-Laws these proposals were laid over until the next session of the Grand Lodge.

On June 23rd 1870 the special Committee on Work, pursuant to action taken in October, 1869, submitted its report, recommending the designation of five Masonic districts and indicating the counties to be included in each. It also recommended the appointment by the Grand Master of five brethren who together with the Grand Lecturer would constitute a "Board of Custodians of the Work" to serve for five years after the first appointment. The term of the first five would be staggered from one to 5 years and thereafter one would be appointed annually to serve for five years. Provision was also made for new Lodges in counties other than those named these to be assigned by the Grand Lecturer with the advice and consent of the Grand Master.

The Grand Lecturer is authorized to call a meeting of the Custodians at such time and place as may be agreed upon by the Custodians for the purpose of holding what might be called schools of instruction. The Custodians will themselves hold schools of instruction in each of the lodges within their jurisdiction. In cities or towns where there are two or more lodges only one school of instruction would be held.

The Custodians in the Districts, aforesaid, will themselves be required to show full competence before being certificated by the Grand Lecturer.

Finally, no dispensation will be granted a new lodge until the Worshipful Master of that lodge has himself been certificated by the District Custodian as being fully competent to confer the several degrees in accordance with the work adopted by the Grand Lodge.

Compensation for the Grand Lecturer and the Custodians for the time actually devoted to their official duties was fixed at \$2.00 per day plus mileage for travel, this to be paid by the lodges.

These recommendations were adopted by the Grand Lodge.

The members of this special committee on work were: Daniel H. Wheeler, Martin Dunham, Robert W. Furnas, W. E. Hill, J. N. Wise, C. W. Lyman, C. F. Whitmore, the Grand Lecturer and the Grand Master, Harry P. Deuel.

It is well to note that it was in 1870 that the Grand Lodge for the first time took official action in the nature of an "organized effort to produce uniformity of work throughout the jurisdiction."

1871-1872

At the fourteenth Annual Communication held in Lincoln, October 21-23, 1871, the Grand Master, Harry P. Deuel, had this to say:

I assure you it is a great undertaking, and one that takes time to accomplish. We have laid the foundation, and taken the initiatory steps to do this, and I am confident that if the Grand Lecturer and Custodians manifest the zeal that is expected of them, and the brethren unite with them in hearty cooperation, results will be accomplished which will be most gratifying to every lover of uniform work throughout the state.

The Grand Master admonished the Grand Lecturer and the Custodians to do well the work assigned. He went so far as to suggest that they should resign their offices in favor of some one who **can** and **will** do this work, if they find they cannot honestly and wholeheartedly accept the responsibility. Not that he doubted, at all, that they would do the work, but that in the future others assuming this responsibility would be equally as faithful and proficient. It is "only thus, we will arrive at the goal for which we are striving—**uniform work.**"

The Grand Master also admonished the Grand Lodge to recognize the labors of these—the Grand Lecturer and the Custodians and "pay a reasonable sum for their services." Certainly, the Grand Master was genuinely concerned as to the importance of "uniformity of work." His appeal was plain-spoken and very direct. His deep interest was manifest. None could have doubted his sincerity.

In accordance with the usual procedure that portion of his address, as related to uniformity of work was referred to a special committee of three—Brothers Moore, Hastings and Graff.

In its report, this special committee said:

“It affords them no slight pleasure to say that, notwithstanding the many obstacles that have heretofore been in the way of uniformity of work in this state, a degree of proficiency has been attained that augurs well for the future, considering the fact that the membership of our lodges is chiefly made up of Masons from the different states of the Union, each of whom have their own peculiar notions as to what the ‘Ancient Work’ is. Your committee, however, hopes that the several subordinate lodges will cheerfully assent to the work as adopted by our Grand Lodge, and readily accept the same.”

It fraternally asked the representatives of the various subordinate lodges in the jurisdiction to assist in teaching and promulgating the work now being exemplified by the Grand Lecturer and the Custodians. It favored the action of the Most Worshipful Grand Master in nominating Brother C. F. Catlin to be the Grand Lecturer. This report was approved by the Grand Lodge.

At this annual communication, for the first time, there was an exemplification of the “work”, as adopted and taught by the Nebraska Masonic jurisdiction.

It may be added, parenthetically, that the Grand Lecturer presented two resolutions relating to “Uniformity of Work” procedures. Apparently the Grand Lodge felt that these were, perhaps, premature and were, therefore, “laid on the table.”

At the Fifteenth Annual Communication held in Lincoln, June 18-21, 1872, the M. W. Grand Master, William E. Hill, in his address to the Grand Lodge, said that he had, with two or three exceptions, visited all the lodges in the jurisdiction and found that the exemplification of the work was being done very creditably. He made suggestions for eliminating errors or making corrections as might be necessary. The brethren were deeply appreciative of his efforts and manifested a real desire to learn the true work. By and large, the work was being done most creditably.

One recommendation was that there be held two schools of instruction during the coming Winter—one in the northern and the other in the southern portions of the state and that it be obligatory upon each lodge within the jurisdiction to send one of its members to remain there until he had thoroughly learned the work.

This recommendation was referred to the Grand Lecturer and the Custodians. It was agreed that two schools of instruction be held—one in Omaha and the other in Lincoln, during the month of February, 1873, and that each lodge send one or more of its members, at the lodge’s expense, to this school. The instructors were to be the Grand Lecturer and the Custodians. Unanimous consent was given to

a proposal, made by Brother A. Atkinson, Custodian of the Fifth District to amend Rule 1, Section 8 and Rule 2 of Section 8, of the By-Laws. The purpose was merely to clarify the By-Laws in the light of the proposal for "schools of instruction."

1873-1884

In June of 1873 it was reported by the Grand Master, William E. Hill, that only the school of instruction at Lincoln was held. Unusual circumstances forced abandonment of the school at Omaha.

At the school in Lincoln, twenty-nine lodges were represented with Brother Thummel, the Grand Lecturer, and Brother Atkinson, Custodian of the 4th District, as conductors. It was clearly evident that "schools of instruction" were the answer and that they should continue to be held.

The M. W. Grand Master, Frank Welch, in his address to the Grand Lodge on June 23, 1875, made this statement:

"With the rapid influx of population, extension of railways and consequent increase of new Lodges, I find that the present number and arrangement of custodian districts is inadequate and inconvenient. I have, therefore with the assistance of the R. W. Grand Secretary, arranged a plan for re-districting the Lodges of this jurisdiction, with due reference to accessibility, economy and increasing demands."

A special committee on "Custodian Districts" composed of Brothers Daniel H. Wheeler, William H. Morris, Charles A. Holmes, Samuel W. Hayes and William H. Palmer, was appointed by the Grand Master and charged with giving consideration to the new proposal.

The Grand Lecturer, William E. Hill, reported that no schools of instruction were held during the winter of 1874-1875, the Grand Lodge having failed to provide for the holding of them. He had visited some five or six lodges during the year. In these he found the work being done very well. The Custodian of the second district, William E. Pinney, reported having visited three lodges, one of them having petitioned for dispensation. This was at Syracuse. A certificate was issued in accordance with the regulations.

William B. Wharton, the Custodian of the Fourth District, reported that he visited the Plum Creek Lodge and had granted a certificate recommending that it petition the Grand Lodge for a dispensation.

In 1875, under the aegis of the Grand Master, Alfred G. Hastings, two Schools of Instruction were held at Sutton and West Point, the former for four days and the latter for two days. At Sutton the R. W. Senior Grand Warden and Custodian of the Fifth District, assisted by Brothers N. R. Persinger, Custodian of the Third District, and M. E. Pinney, Custodian of the Sixth District, provided the instruction.

At West Point the Grand Master conducted the school, assisted by E. K. Valentine, Custodian of the Second District.

From the experience of being at both these schools, the Grand Master was re-assured that the work in the lodges of the jurisdiction was being materially improved as a result of holding these schools of instruction. The efforts of the Grand Lecturer and the Custodians in visiting lodges in their respective districts was also felt to have been of great value. He recommended that the Grand Lodge "employ the Grand Lecturer to visit the several lodges, to give instruction in the work and to correct any irregularities in the government and control of the subordinate lodges."

In 1876 the Grand Master, George H. Thummel, officially announced his appointment of seven Custodians to serve for one year or until their successors were appointed:

Brother George W. Lininger, of Omaha—First District.

Brother E. K. Valentine of West Point and later of L. S. Moe of Fremont—Second District.

Brother N. R. Persinger of Central City—Third District.

Brother F. N. Dick, M. D. North Platte—Fourth District.

Brother H. C. Rider of Crete—Fifth District.

Brother R. H. Oakley of Lincoln—Sixth District.

Brother James R. Cain of Falls City—Seventh District.

The annual proceedings of the Grand Lodge for 1879, 1880 and 1881 indicate that Brother Rider (P.D.G.M.) designated as the Grand Lecturer.

A special committee appointed in 1880, the responsibility of which was to improve the "work" of the lodges by reorganization or other means, made its report on June 22, 1881. The committee was of the opinion that the "custodian system of work" as then in force was not meeting the necessities of the Craft and should be changed. This committee submitted proposals to amend the constitution and by-laws.

The essence of its recommendations was to change the title of "Grand Lecturer" to that of "Grand Custodian" and to fix his compensation or salary, this to be subject to determination from time to time as the Grand Lodge should see fit.

Grand Master Cain endorsed this proposal as presented, saying:

I earnestly recommend the adoption of the several amendments [and that] the Grand Custodian be delegated with full power and authority to appoint suitable persons as proxies for the performance of certain specific duties therein designated, he to be held officially responsible to the Grand Lodge for the faithful and efficient discharge of all the duties required of them—the rapid increase of population and the correspondingly increased demands of the Fraternity for additional lodge privileges had made it impossible for the Grand

Lecturer to accomplish all that should be necessary. To relieve this official of a portion of his labors is essential if we are to find a suitable and competent person who will be willing to accept the office for the coming year."

The efforts of Lee P. Gillette, as Grand Lecturer, were lauded by the M. W. G. M. and it was urgently suggested that his efforts be substantially and suitably recognized. The records show however that he was given the title of "Grand Custodian."

A proposal was subsequently offered on June 20, 1882, to amend Article II, Section 7 of By-Laws as made by the M. W. Grand Master Cain. It follows:

"He (the Grand Custodian) shall, with the advice and consent of the M. W. Grand Master, have entire charge and supervision of the work of this jurisdiction, and it shall be his duty to see that the uniform and established work and lectures of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska are thoroughly taught and practiced by the subordinate lodges throughout the jurisdiction and if it shall come to his knowledge that any lodge within the jurisdiction shall ignore or refuse or fail to practice in every respect such uniform and established work as taught by him it shall be his duty to instantly report the same to the Grand Master, who may arrest the charter of said lodge and hold the same until such time as they shall comply with the requirements of the Grand Lodge or until the next session thereof.

He shall devote his entire time and ability to the duties of his office and shall receive an annual salary of \$1,000 for his services. The several lodges which he visits shall pay all railroad fares and hotel expense.

A special committee was appointed to take action on the report of the W. Grand Lecturer, the members of which were Brothers Henry Brown of Western Star Lodge No. 2; Frank H. Young at Plum Creek Lodge No. 61; and O. N. Wheelock of Beatrice Lodge No. 26. On June 21, 1882, it recommended: (1) change of title to Grand Custodian; (2) define the duties of the Grand Custodian to visit and exemplify the work in every lodge in the jurisdiction and make such other visits as the Grand Master may direct; (3) fix the Grand Custodian's salary at \$3.00 for each and every day while on duty and pay all expenses for travel and hotel bills; (4) appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 or so much thereof as shall be necessary for the performance of his duties (this to be disbursed under authorization of the Grand Master); (5) the subordinate lodges requested to offer hospitality in their homes during his visits; (6) request the Grand Secretary to procure, if practicable, free or reduced transportation fares for the Grand Custodian.

These recommendations of the special committee were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. That committee reported that it would not be expedient to give its endorsement to the proposals for

the reason viz: "Want of funds." This committee felt, upon investigation, that it would require not less than \$5,000.00.

It recommended that the sum of \$250 from the Grand Lodge be appropriated for the use of the "Grand Lecturer" this to be under the direction of the Grand Master and that the "subordinate lodge wishing or desiring a school of instruction" could request or make application to the Grand Master enclosing a guarantee of all expenses for the "Custodian" to visit such lodge "giving timely notice thereof."

The recommendations of the Committee on Ways and Means were, on motion duly made, rejected or, shall we say, "lost".

The Grand Lodge, none-the-less, approved the Grand Master's nomination of W. Lee P. Gillette as Grand Custodian for the ensuing year, 1882-1883.

It also approved the amendments relative to the uniformity of work and the office of Grand Custodian without a dissenting vote.

Both the Grand Custodian, Brother Gillette, and the acting Grand Historian, Brother Rawalt, in their reports, made the same plea for positive action. As an aside, we might call attention to a suggestion made by Brother Gillette that "the official title of 'Grand Custodian' be dropped and that we 'return to our first love' and call that officer Grand Lecturer." Brother Rawalt felt that "the Grievance Committee of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska will have but light work in years to come which will be a comfort and pleasure to all," if the Grand Lodge will take affirmative action to respect the recommendations of the Grand Masters for a satisfactory solution of the problem. The Grand Lodge, however, while approving the adoption of Article II, Section 7 as had been done, approved the recommendation of the Committee on Unfinished Business that the proposal fixing the salary of the Grand Custodian at \$1,500.00 etc. be postponed.

At the time of the Twenty-sixth Annual communication of the Grand Lodge, convened in Beatrice on June 19-21, 1883, the Grand Master, Edwin F. Warren, had reported that circumstances were such that some Past Masters and some of the present officers of the Grand Lodge visit a majority of the new lodges applying for dispensations and issue certificates accordingly to those deemed to have been qualified. Due to circumstances beyond his control the Grand Custodian, Lee P. Gillette, could not meet the obligations of his office. On March 22nd Worshipful Brother Benjamin F. Rawalt, Master of Fairfield Lodge No. 84 was appointed acting Custodian to serve until June 1, 1883, with full power and authority to open and hold "Schools of Instruction" in any subordinate lodge in our jurisdiction and to teach therein in the work."

He pointed out that the jurisdiction had grown so large that "some means must be devised to pay a sufficient salary to secure the services of a competent brother who shall be ready and able to

attend to all the duties pertaining to the 'important office of Grand Custodian.'" The plan proposed the preceding year or some other, he stated, should receive serious consideration by the Grand Lodge and a salary of \$1,500 and traveling expenses be authorized, the expenses to be paid by the lodges visited.

1885-1889

The Grand Master, John J. Wemple, in his address to the Grand Lodge on June 23, 1885, made a recommendation that the title "Grand Custodian" be changed, this time suggesting that it be named "Grand Instructor" which "more nearly represents the true nature of his function."

Furthermore, he requested the Grand Custodian to make a full report of his activities during the past year, feeling that the Grand Lodge needed to have such reports from the Grand Custodian.

Two Schools of Instruction, one at Hastings and the other at Omaha, were held during the year. The Grand Custodian, Benjamin F. Rawalt, emphasized the value of these schools and urged the holding of more of them. The present appropriations for these were altogether inadequate. Currently the per diem was \$5.00 plus actual expenses whenever the Custodian was called upon by the lodges. Brother Rawalt had spent more than one-half to two-thirds of his time during the year in what was an actual sacrifice away from his business. It had meant hard work, sleepless nights, long rides on freight trains etc., to carry out his responsibilities. Many times it took a special permit to ride these trains. The Grand Lodge should appropriate not less than \$1,200 to \$1,500 per annum for salary for the Grand Custodian and in addition all necessary travel and subsistence while on duty. He should be, it was recommended, a person who could spend full time on the job and be employed for a term of three years, and should visit all the lodges during the year. When not found practicable, he should be permitted to call two or three lodges to meet together for instruction.

Brother Rawalt's report was noteworthy in that, perhaps for the first time, it detailed the activities in which the Grand Custodian was engaged during a full year's time and it showed a deeper appreciation of the importance of the assignments as well as some of the short comings. He said in closing his report:

"I find a general prosperity existing throughout the jurisdiction, that great advancement has been made towards the uniform work, which is encouraging. I find all ready, willing and anxious to become proficient in the established work, and the lectures as ordered by the Grand Lodge—realizing that, in a uniform work, harmony would prevail in its perfection—I desire to say that general schools are not a success; there is not enough good accomplished to justify the time and expense; the instructor should visit the several lodges and

there give the instruction, then all present hear for themselves and not by proxy; thus would the entire membership be stimulated to perfect themselves."

And what was the result? One reading the many statements heretofore noted, would assume that there would be a positive action fully in accord with that recommended. Not so.

In the closing moments of this, the Twenty-eighth Annual Communication, the Committee on Ways and Means recommended that "we appropriate the sum of one-thousand dollars and that actual expenses be paid, for our Grand Custodian for the faithful performance of his duties during the incoming year." This proposal was modified, by reducing the amount designated by more than one-half—"five hundred dollars, or so much thereof as shall be necessary, to pay the services of the Grand Custodian for the ensuing Masonic year, to be expended under the direction of the Grand Master."

After twenty-eight communications in each of which there was a consideration of the necessity for a proper support of "uniform work", one can only say that extreme conservatism on the part of the Grand Lodge seemed always to be the "road-block" to achieving the hopes and ideals of the Grand Masters and the officers serving with them.

Brother Lee P. Gillette, was again appointed to the office of Grand Custodian on July 16, 1887, in place of the original appointee James A. Tulleys who was unable to serve. In June of 1887 an attempt was again made to raise the appropriation for the Grand Custodian to \$1,000. The Committee on Ways and Means recommended that \$600 be appropriated. An attempt was made to reduce this to \$500 but it failed. The Grand Custodian had actually submitted a statement for \$437.70—covering the costs for holding 5 schools of instruction.

During the next year, 1888-1889, the Grand Custodian visited in about one-fourth of the lodges in the jurisdiction. Had there been more adequate funds he would have been able to visit considerably more. He exemplified the work in forty lodges and conferred degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry in "quite a number". He held, on the orders of the Grand Master, eleven "Grand Custodian Lodges and fifteen "Schools of instruction". One hundred seven lodges were represented. He performed many other duties at the request of the Grand Master. He did not deem the attendance at these "Grand Custodian" schools or at the "schools of instruction" to be as good as they should have been. His detailed report of his stewardship concluded with these words:

"It is with great satisfaction I report to you that Masonry is making a steady and mostly a healthy progress throughout the state, and that the Order is increasing, not only in numbers but in the Masonic worth of the different lodges. The several lodges are mostly adding to their numbers as rapidly as is consistent with prudence;

the character of aspirants for Masonry is generally well scrutinized, and I believe that none are knowingly admitted into our ranks who are not moral and upright in their conduct, and qualified to confer as well as receive benefit from their connection with our institution."

In spite of the action taken by the committee on Ways and Means as reported on page 3899, the report of the Treasurer, made at the Thirty-second Annual Communication on June 19th, 1889, showed that he had issued salary warrants for the Custodian totalling \$1,200.00 together with some \$90.00 for travel and subsistence. The report of the Ways and Means Committee on that same day recommended that the sum of twelve hundred dollars be continued.

1890-1893

It is of interest to note the comment made by the M. W. Grand Master, John J. Mercer, in his annual address at the Thirty-third Annual Communication, relating to the efforts of the Grand Custodian, Lee P. Gillette. He said:

"Those who are familiar with the progress of lodge work in this state for the last ten or fifteen years will readily note the successful results of the present system of instruction. In no other jurisdiction is the work more closely adhered to than in Nebraska, or the work in the lodges more uniform.

"Fraternal interchange of work is not uncommon among the lodges throughout the jurisdiction, making the work more impressive, and the sublime lessons more impressive, and more intelligent and comprehensive. The pride inspired has exhibited itself in better lodge rooms, more tasteful furniture and cheerful surroundings."

He further emphasized that the credit of such results "were largely due to the zeal, untiring patience and fidelity" of the Grand Custodian.

An amendment by Brother Marshall of Joppa Lodge, No. 76 of Bloomington, was proposed providing for a special committee on the recommendation of the Grand Master. Under the usual procedure of the Grand Lodge, the amendment was laid over to be considered at the next annual communication. This amendment refers to the duties of the Grand Custodian and reads as follows:

"The Grand Custodian shall attend all communications of the Grand Lodge and shall with the advice and consent of the Grand Master have the entire charge and supervision of the work of this jurisdiction and it shall be his duty to see that the uniform and established work and lectures of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska are thoroughly taught and practiced by the lodges throughout the jurisdiction and if it shall come to his knowledge that any lodge in the jurisdiction shall ignore, refuse, or fail to practice in any respect such uniform and established work as taught by him, it shall be his duty to instantly report the same to the Grand Master, who may arrest the

charter of said lodge and shall hold the same until such time as they shall comply with the requirements of the Grand Lodge aforesaid, or until the next communication thereof, and it shall be his duty to examine the records of each lodge visited by him, to give instruction and make suggestions and recommendations for the good of the craft whenever the same be necessary, subject to the approval of the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master. He shall make a full report to the Grand Lodge of his official visits and acts performed during the year and he shall receive as compensation for his services such sum as may be determined by the Grand Lodge from time to time, provided that all necessary traveling and hotel expenses be paid by the lodge visited.

It is of interest to note that a proposal was again offered to amend the By-laws, changing the name of the Grand Custodian to that of Grand Lecturer. No action on this proposal was recorded. It suffices to say that the title of Grand Custodian still appeared in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge in 1891.

It is evident that Masonry was never more prosperous in the jurisdiction than it was in 1890. The membership was rapidly increasing and the increase represented some of the state's very best citizens. Masonry, we were told by the Grand Custodian, was improving morally, socially and financially.

R. W. Lee P. Gillette, continued as Grand Custodian. The Grand Master, Robert E. French, in order to promote the best interests of Masonry in the jurisdiction and to learn more exactly just what was taking place in the several lodges, prepared an inquiry form to be replied to by the lodges. It covered quite extensively the statistics as to membership, the fiscal status of each lodge, attendance records, the relief needs of members, of widows and orphans, the character of the physical property, and the degree to which the members were conforming to all the requirements set forth in the By-Laws. Furthermore, the Worshipful Master and the Secretary were required to attest to the accuracy of the replies and to inform the members of the Grand Lodge as to the details of the inquiry. A date for filing these reports was specified (December 5, 1890) and a full report was to be made to the Grand Lodge at its next annual communication in June, 1891.

One additional step was taken by the Grand Lodge that was authorized in June of 1890. The M. W. John J. Mercer, Past Grand Master, made a recommendation "that the Grand Custodian in his visits to subordinate lodges be instructed to examine each lodge's records and see if they are properly kept and in accordance with the by-laws of the Grand Lodge, and to report to the Grand Master the facts in each case." The Grand Custodian, in response to this recommendation, did what he thought was required. However, Grand Master French desired a more minute report, and in order to get this, prepared another report form for the Grand Custodian to fill out in full

and forward to the Grand Master immediately after each visit he made to a lodge. This additional labor, on the part of the Grand Custodian, also required a much greater responsibility on the part of the Grand Master in corresponding with the secretaries of the lodges relative to any errors, discrepancies, or irregularities as found by the Grand Custodian. It is obvious that the Grand Custodian became involved in considerably more fact finding than had been originally contemplated. All of this he was expected to take care of and that without sacrificing any of his responsibilities as to insuring "uniformity of the work". His assignments were increasingly of greater significance. He was becoming an exceedingly important officer of the Grand Lodge. Only a person of recognized leadership qualities and of undoubted knowledge in Masonry could be entrusted with so great a responsibility. R. W. Lee P. Gillette was such a person. He held the office of Grand Custodian until 1893 and but for health reasons could have continued to serve. Of him, Grand Master James P. A. Black said: "We bow in humble submission to the will of the Supreme Architect of the Universe, who, in His wisdom, has seen fit to take from among us our friend, brother, counselor, and teacher, Right Worshipful Brother Lee P. Gillette, who for many years has so nobly, faithfully and successfully filled the office of Grand Custodian of this Grand Jurisdiction—sorrow dwells within the breast of every one within the hearing of my voice. We reverently mourn. After an illness of many months our beloved brother passed peacefully away, at his home, in Beatrice, on the evening of May 13, 1894, at the age of sixty-two years."

It has been truly said of this Brother that he was "endowed with peculiar and marked ability as a teacher, ever faithfully and earnestly devoted to his work, exemplary in his life, and untiring in his zeal—We are indebted to him more than any other one for the high standing of Masonry which today exists throughout this jurisdiction."

One further statement of eulogy needs to be included. The Committee on Fraternal Dead, in its report said this of Brother Gillette:

"He was a Freemason of firm fibre. He was a defender of our faith by his quiet and consistent walk. Everyone who came in contact with him gathered strength from his devoted life. The simple faith of Freemasonry, its beautiful liturgies, its gentle ministries, seemed to be the inspiration of his very being. Although of a kindly heart and gracious manners, he was immovable in his ideas of right. He detested crime, but pitied rather than hated the offender. No voice, however feeble, was ever raised in defense of manhood to which he did not bend a listening ear. Many a heart is purer and braver today because of his kindly, yet firm bearing."

In his last report to the Grand Lodge on June 5, 1893, Lee P. Gillette said:

"I find a decided improvement in our lodges over former years, work is being done in a more creditable manner, more attention paid to giving lectures, an explanation of the teachings of the degrees is frequently given, an improvement has been made in keeping lodge records, in the collection of dues, as well as in the management of lodge funds.

"Lodges throughout the jurisdiction are using care in selecting their material: we may well rejoice that Masonry is in so healthy and prosperous a condition."

1894-1900

The illness of Brother Gillette necessitated the appointment of some one to take over the responsibilities of the Grand Custodian. The Most Worshipful Grand Master prevailed upon Past Grand Master John J. Mercer of Nemaha Valley Lodge No. 4, to accept full responsibility for carrying on the duties of the Grand Custodian and he did so, devoting his entire time and without compensation other than his actual expenses. He filled all appointments, previously made, conducted the remaining scheduled schools of instruction and assisted the Grand Master in the performance of all other undefined duties usually delegated to the Grand Custodian.

Brother Mercer, like Brother Gillette before him, emphasized the fact that the "too frequent changing of the officers of the lodge does not tend to the securing of good work—lodges that are most proficient are those who have re-elected their officers, or at least their Master, for a term of years." Good work, it was asserted, is essential to the welfare and prosperity of a lodge and good officers who have demonstrated fine qualities of leadership should be continued in office. In the light of present problems of maintaining the strength of our lodges, it would appear that this policy would be particularly appropriate for consideration. Leadership of high quality will always be essential.

Brother James A. Tulleys, Past Grand Master, of Charity Lodge No. 53, Red Cloud, was originally appointed by Grand Master Milton J. Hull, to the office of Grand Custodian in June, 1887, but was unable to serve. Brother Gillette was then appointed. Again in June, 1894, John A. Ehrhardt appointed James A. Tulleys to become Grand Custodian. He served as such until his death January 21, 1901.

In his first year in office, Brother Tulleys assisted the Grand Master in constituting newly chartered lodges, located at Wood Lake, Ainsworth, Herman, Bloomfield and Arnold. He held twenty-five lodges of instruction of three days each and in that way reached the representatives of 116 lodges or more than half of the existing lodges in the jurisdiction (222). In his first year he was able to say that "with barely one exception the lodges have everywhere manifested great interest in the work." Still, he felt, there remained much to be

done before uniformity of the work can be secured throughout the jurisdiction. He suggested that "if our law changed so as to require officers of proposed lodges to be able to confer the degrees in accordance with the work in this jurisdiction, all new lodges would be compelled to start right."

Throughout the period of Brother Tulleys' term of office as Grand Custodian there was manifest an active interest in improving the degree work. With very few exceptions an examination of the records in the offices of the secretaries were well kept. One weakness was that of keeping the compendium up-to-date. Contrary to what was thought, the smaller lodges were doing an excellent job in perfecting "uniformity of work," equally as good and sometimes better than in some of the larger lodges.

One innovation recommended during this period of James A. Tulleys responsibilities as Grand Custodian was a suggestion made in June, 1896 that a Grand Custodian's Lodge be held on the Monday and Tuesday immediately preceding the next Annual Communication and at the same place. The Proceedings give no evidence that such a meeting was held.

Brother Tulleys, having made his annual report for 1897 as Grand Custodian, verbally recommended the appointment of a committee to preserve our "work" and to eliminate any superfluities that may have crept in during the last thirty years. Appointed to that committee by the Grand Master, Charles J. Phelps, were Brothers Robert W. Furnas, Daniel H. Wheeler, James A. Tulleys, Frank H. Young and Walter W. Wells.

This committee reported to the Grand Lodge on June 16, 1898 that it had viewed a full and complete exemplification of the ritual and "after a careful consideration of the entire subject "had found that some slight errors have crept into the ritual in the years that have passed since the adoption of the ritual, caused no doubt by the lapse of time and (as a result of) the changes in the personnel of the Grand Lecturer (sic). It felt that the "present Grand Lecturer of this Grand Lodge is entirely qualified to impart the work to the brethren of this Jurisdiction, and that said ritual heretofore adopted be re-adopted and confirmed." The report was agreed to.

Brother Tulleys, in his report for 1898 stated that Lodge records were well kept but that very few of the compendiums were kept up to date. Progress toward uniformity was gratifying. This situation continued to be a matter of some concern to the Grand Custodian, though there had been some improvement.

As noted earlier, James A. Tulleys passed away January 21, 1901 at his home in Red Cloud. His remains were laid away with full Masonic honors, M. W. Robert E. French officiating.

While the Grand Lodge did in 1900 adopt an amendment to its by-laws to the effect that the Grand Master should refrain from

"eulogistic encomiums" upon the character of the dead, he was none-the-less constrained to say of Brother Tulleys that his services, both as a Grand Master and a Grand Custodian were "characterized by ability, zeal and fidelity to the fraternity and that his memory will remain bright in our annals as an upright man and Mason."

The Committee on Fraternal Dead in its annual report to the Grand Lodge, dwelt at some length on the record of Brother Tulleys as a Mason. It noted that he was a native of Ross County, Ohio, born July 6th, 1841. In 1872 he located at Red Cloud, Nebraska, residing there continuously until the time of his death. He was made a Mason in Bainbridge Lodge No. 196 in Bainbridge, Ohio. He was made a Royal Arch Mason in the Lincoln Chapter No. 6 in 1874 and a Knight Templar of the Mount Nebo Commandery, No. 11 at Hastings, Nebraska. He was a Scottish Rite Mason and was coroneted as an Honorary Thirty-Third Degree, AASR of the Southern Jurisdiction, December 11th, 1884.

Brother Tulleys helped to organize Charity Lodge No. 53 and was its first Worshipful Master. He was active in establishing the Red Cloud Chapter No. 19, Royal Arch Masons and its first High Priest; in the formation of Cyrene Commandery No. 14, at Red Cloud serving as its first Eminent Commander. He was also elected to the high office of Grand Master in 1880 and Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Nebraska in 1883.

Of him it was said that he was in many respects a most remarkable man—unassuming, simple and childlike, a constant student, very learned in the usages and customs, history and laws of the Masonic Fraternity." He was upright of character and stood high in the community. He had a fine record as a Civil War Veteran in the 27th Ohio Volunteers, twice refusing a Captain's commission.

"How grandly and nobly did Brother Tulleys discharge the duties incumbent upon him, as a husband and a father, as a citizen, as a soldier and as a Mason!"

1901-1908

Grand Master Albert W. Crites, shortly after Brother Tulleys' passing appointed M. W. Robert E. French as Grand Custodian. He was commissioned and installed by the Grand Master, January 29th, 1901.

During his first year he held no less than eighty-eight sessions of official schools of instruction in twenty-six different lodges throughout the Jurisdiction (March 4th to May 11th 1901.) At another time, on April 22nd and 23rd, he held a brief school of instruction at McCook Lodge No. 135 at which time he assisted in conferring the Masters degree on two brother Fellow Crafts. One hundred thirty-four Master Masons were in attendance. Thirty-four different lodges were represented.

It is of interest to note that, all told, there were registered more than 1,275 Masons at these schools of instruction. Brother French reported that he was greatly impressed by the fact that the work as promulgated and taught by him (being the adopted work of the Grand Lodge) had been universally accepted without the least controversy whatever.

In June, 1902, Grand Master Robert E. Evans made special comment on the activities of the Grand Custodian. He noted, in particular, the greatly increased responsibilities devolving upon that officer in reporting to him upon the conditions prevailing in the lodges he had visited. Great care was exercised in reporting on such matters as to the character and conditions of the lodge room, the furniture and paraphernalia, the value of its property, the insurance carried, if any, its credits and liabilities, the condition of all the records, the number of meetings held during the year, and the attendance records. The character of all the esoteric work done by the officers who gave the lectures, the proficiency with which all the work was done in conferring the degrees, as well as any evidences of indigence, the demands for relief, the observance or lack of observance of Masonic law.

The Grand Master, while acknowledging the increased load put upon the Grand Custodian, felt it was all to the good in insuring that the lodges would be greatly stimulated in their efforts to improve the quality of Masonry in the Jurisdiction. He urged a continuance of these efforts.

Fortunately, the Grand Custodian was uniquely qualified and fully dedicated to perform every task that was assigned to him. Nathaniel M. Ayers, Grand Master in 1903, said of Robert French in these words: "His conception of Freemasonry is as boundless as the universe of God and while teaching us its sublime truths he is, and ever will be, his own most apt and zealous pupil."

From succeeding reports of the Grand Masters there was every evidence that this type of responsibility would be continued "in some form best suited to benefit the Craft."

The report of the Grand Custodian in 1904 dealt, for one thing, with some irregularities that continued to be a matter of concern to him. For example: failure to open and close the lodges with prayer; calling from refreshment to labor without first congregating, purging, and tiling; compendiums were not kept up; in many cases the by-laws had not been signed; too many of the secretaries and treasurers were not bonded; insurance was not carried as required by the by-laws. These were not all but in the judgment of the Grand Custodian they were too important to be ignored.

Were one to read the fifth annual report of Brother French, made in 1905, he would realize that his responsibilities were, in no wise, less than they had theretofore been. Indeed, they were greater. Perhaps that was because of his eminent qualities of leader-

ship and his unquestioned abilities. The increasing number of lodges and the activities in which they were engaging would naturally require the kind of leadership that the Grand Custodian could exercise. There was evidence, also, that each Grand Master was finding it necessary to look to the Grand Custodian for assistance. To cite an example: The Grand Master, Charles E. Burnham, issued an edict under date of July 15, 1904, "Making the use of any key, cypher, of any form whatsoever, unmasonic and unlawful, strictly the same under the severest penalties known to our laws." This edict was ordered to be read in each school of instruction and a certificate under the seal of the lodge had to be returned to the Grand Master indicating that the lodge had obeyed that edict. It fell to the Grand Custodian to implement that order.

Again another example: The Grand Master on January 2nd 1905 ordered the Grand Custodian to make an effort to collect annual and delinquent dues from all members of extinct lodges. The Grand Custodian mailed out three formal notices and carried out much correspondence to accomplish this order. He actually collected over three hundred dollars (\$300.98.) In commenting on this matter, Brother French made the suggestion that "if the Grand Lodge wishes to avoid embarrassing complications, the sooner it repeals Section 81 of Chapter XI, pertaining to unaffiliated brethren of extinct lodges, the better it will be for the Grand Lodge as well as for the individual brethren."

The Grand Custodian officiated, as the Grand Master's representative, at the laying of a cornerstone of the Courthouse of Sheridan County, September 13th, 1904. He was commissioned by the Grand Master to officially visit all lodges that had cancelled dates for schools of instruction. In carrying out that commission he made careful examinations of past and present conditions as well as future prospects, in the lodges in question.

During the year (1904-1905), at the request of Masters of several lodges he conducted the rites of Masonic burial on six occasions.

From the Grand Custodian's official report the seventh one he had given (June, 1907), we find this statement relative to one of his responsibilities, viz., that of making all preparations incident to Grand Lodge ceremonials:

"As has been the custom since I have been your Grand Custodian, and by order of the Grand Master, I took charge of and perfected all the preliminary arrangements and was present at, and assisted in, the formal ceremonies of laying corner-stones of public buildings." He was similarly charged as to the dedication of new lodge halls.

All of this activity, it would appear, was paying off in rich dividends of interest and vigorous growth in the Jurisdiction. The M. W. Ornan J. King, Grand Master of Masons, in his address, delivered June 9th, 1908, called attention to "the large measure of

prosperity meted out to the Fraternity." The number initiated was the largest on record—"the net increase was also the largest—during any one year in the history of the Grand Lodge." The state of the treasury was never better, generally speaking Masonry in the Jurisdiction had made great advancement.

On the other hand, there was sounded a note of caution: "In reviewing these conditions, however, it is well to call the attention of the several lodges to the fact that the great element of strength—consists not so much in the amount of work done as in the quality of the material received and the manner in which the degrees are conferred." Emphasis was given to the fact that Masonry is an institution peculiar unto itself. It is founded for the purpose of "impressing upon the minds of its members lessons of morality, obedience to law, and the living of just and upright lives; all work should be done so as to make the impressions of the sublime lessons and principles as deep and lasting as possible."

The Grand Custodian was equally apprehensive as to the "quality of the material" and as to the necessity of "guarding the gates," as it were. He was fully aware of the necessity to give his attention and strength to the primary purposes of his office, suggesting that, during the months of September to May, his time should almost exclusively be given to the "uniformity (as well as the quality) of the work." He urged the Grand Lodge to give consideration to the matter of what things might be lessened. He also felt that the lodges should not feel obligated to provide any undue gratuities for his services.

Illustrative of his great desire to be "letter-perfect" he requested that the Grand Master "carefully examine the present Grand Custodian as to his proficiency and ability to promulgate the adopted work of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. In compliance with that request the M. W. Brother John J. Mercer, Past Grand Master, as proxy, did just that and reported that "the work was full and complete in every particular—in accordance with our ritual and letter correct."

1909-1912

During this period, it would appear, the Grand Lodge was faced with a growing demand for the services of the Grand Custodian. Indeed, one person would find it increasingly difficult, if not impossible, to meet these demands upon his time and energy. The Grand Master, William A. DeBord, after reading the numerous reports of the Grand Custodian and noting that numerous lodges had gone without any visitations or the benefits to be derived from "schools of instruction" for from four to as much as six and eight years. The average for all lodges was four years without the benefit of such instruction. Three lodges were not prepared for nor had had a school since Brother French was appointed nine years ago, as Grand Custodian. Appeals for schools had in too many instances been unprovided for.

There simply was no time in the schedule. Unfortunately, in a very considerable number of instances the lodges became apathetic. They neglected to even hold the annual election of officers and in a few instances they had no work to do for a year or more at a time. This was for the Grand Master an intolerable situation. He had even thought that it might be better to arrest the charters of some twenty to thirty of these lodges.

After making a most careful study of the question and after having sought the advice of the Grand Masters in all of the American Grand Lodges as to "their respective systems of promulgation of the work" he proposed to the Grand Lodge these recommendations:

First, add a new Grand Lodge Committee to be known as "Custodians of the Work," to consist of three of "the best informed brethren" to serve for a period of six years, one to be appointed by the Grand Master every two years. Subject to the Grand Lodge and the Grand Master this committee was to be the "supreme authority on our esoteric work."

Second, retain the Grand Custodian but under the title of "Grand Lecturer" believing that this new title would "more accurately reflect his office" and that the proposed new committee would be "really the custodians of the work."

Third, the division of the state into twenty or more Masonic Districts and a district lecturer appointed by the Grand Master for each district.

It was the judgment of the Grand Master that such a system "would insure uniformity and correctness in the esoteric work, a high degree of skill in a large number of Masons, who would very soon qualify themselves for the office of district lecturer," and enable the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge to keep in close touch and be of "incalculable value" to all the lodges.

It was felt that such a system could not be put in force over the state at once. Some ten or twelve lodges would be included within each district. The lecturers would report to the "Grand Lecturer" and would meet annually as a school of instruction to be held by the committee of "Custodians of the Work."

The Committee on Doings of Grand Lodge Officers took the proposals of the Grand Master under advisement and recommended on June 8, 1909 that a special committee be appointed to bring in recommendations. Appointed to this committee were Brothers Ambrose C. Epperson, 139, Elmer W. Brown, 19, and Thomas U. Whiffen, 111.

It is recorded in the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge, dated June 7, 1910, that Past Grand Master Burnham, appointed Chairman of the Committee on Promulgation of the Work in 1901, made a preliminary report, which, to say the least, was somewhat derogatory of the foregoing proposals of the Grand Master, William A. DeBord. His answer

to the matter was categorically stated: Strictly observe, obey, and enforce your present law. Make it possible for the lodges to comply with the requirements of this section of the law, then enforce it. (Section 8 of Chapter II)—If all lodges understood and rigidly enforced the Masonic principle of 'Fidelity to Obligation and Obedience to Constitutional Authority' both in spirit and letter, arbitrary legislation would be unnecessary." One would readily surmise that he spoke with considerable fervor. He concluded his preliminary statement with a formal recommendation of the committee. In brief it was recommended that no change be made in the present method of promulgation of the work; that whenever necessary, the Grand Custodian may name, by and with the consent of the Grand Master, competent brethren to assist in the promulgation of the work; and that the Grand Custodian make full report to the incoming Grand Master of any and all lodges needing the fostering care of the Grand Master.

The Grand Custodian, in response to these recommendations which had been approved by the Grand Lodge, set out immediately to act in strict conformity therewith.

In his annual report to the Grand Lodge in June, 1911, it was indicated that he had issued a formal circular under date of June 24, 1910, that indicated what were to be the plans for schools of instruction. Interestingly, these schools were to be of one day rather than three. More schools would be held and more lodge representatives would be able to attend and at less expense in time and money. Not only were there to be the regularly scheduled but also special schools set up enroute, thus incurring no extra travel expense.

It was also indicated in that report that Brother French had held special meetings to examine and instruct brethren who had indicated a desire and willingness to become assistants in the work. As a result he was happy to recommend the appointment by the Grand Master of nine brethren all of whom were approved by the Committee on Promulgation of the Work." Four others were recommended for appointment as assistants to hold special schools of instruction.

In June, 1912, the M. . W. . Grand Master, Henry Gibbons, took occasion to say in his Annual Address to the Grand Lodge that he had made every effort not to permit the Grand Custodian to accept any calls for special duties such as conducting a funeral service or other meetings, if and when these interfered in any way with his responsibilities of holding schools of instruction. He praised the work of Brother French saying that "he is doing splendid work among the Craft, and is conscientious and faithful in discharging his duties."

1913-1927

During the next fifteen years it would appear that steady progress was made in evidence. The Grand Custodian, repeatedly said in his formal reports to the Grand Lodge that the regular schools of in-

struction had been of great benefit, notwithstanding the shortening of these sessions from three days to one day. The central schools, almost always three days in duration were most successful. Great interest was shown by the lodges and much good had been accomplished. At these central schools, almost invariably, other Grand Lodge officers, than the Grand Custodian, were in attendance.

In 1917, Grand Master Andrew H. Viele, reported to Grand Lodge, that the central schools had been most helpful. Eight such schools had been held that year with a total attendance of more than 1,500 brethren. He strongly urged the continuance of this feature. The Grand Custodian referred to them as "real old time Masonic camp meetings." In 1921, to give another example of the value of these schools, it was reported that 94 regular schools of instruction and 13 central schools had attracted more than 4,200 of the brethren to attend.

In 1922, the Committee on Promulgation of the work, feeling that it could not longer serve any useful purpose, requested that it be discontinued. The Grand Master, Lewis E. Smith, acceded and announced to the Grand Lodge at its annual communication that this committee had been discharged from any further obligations.

At the same time, it was announced that after several consultations and much correspondence on the part of the Grand Master, Lewis E. Smith, he had decided that much interest could be added to the improvement of the "work" if certificates of Proficiency were awarded to subordinate lodges as well as to individual brethren. In the first year of this operation, eight lodges and forty-nine brethren were rewarded by receipt of such a certificate. It is clear from an examination of this innovation that through the years interest grew materially and many of the lodges and individuals put forth every effort to perfect themselves in their knowledge of the esoteric work of the Order.

The term "Deputy Custodian" was increasingly found in the Annual Proceedings of the Grand Lodge in place of the term "assistant custodian." This change dated from 1925. However the official designation of brethren who serve as assistants to the Grand Custodian is that of assistant custodian.

The next development in the administration of the Grand Custodian occurred in 1926 when it was announced that Brother French was being "Taken off the road" and "put in an Office." This step was suggested by Grand Master, Robert R. Dickson, in 1925. Undoubtedly this change was due to the ever increasing burdens of travel and personal direction of so many schools in the jurisdiction and the counter need of conserving the physical powers and energies of the Grand Custodian. Brother French was no longer a young man—he was well past the age of seventy-five. This step was taken none too soon for on February 16, 1927, after some months of illness at his home in Kearney, he "quietly slipped away." He had given more than 55 years

of his life to Masonry, over twenty-six years of which was spent in serving the Grand Lodge of Nebraska as its Grand Custodian.

Robert Emmet French, known affectionally by all his many friends as "Uncle Bob" passed away at his home in Kearney at the age of 77 years.

Born in Ohio, March 7, 1849, he came west with his parents when still a young man settling in Iowa. In 1878 he came to Kearney where he was engaged as a blacksmith, operating a shop there for almost fifty years.

He was a man of "immense stature," and "a flowing beard." With it all he was a man of gentle spirit and democratic ways. He had a wide acquaintance of friends and loved ones and "none was ever as well loved" as he.

He was variously characterized as a "mystic, a student and something of a poet." We might say of him that it was most natural for him to "make rhymes." Invariably in his every report as Grand Custodian—he made some 26 of them, there was interspersed here and there a bit of poetry of his own writing.

He was a modest man in every respect. He did not like to be "made-over." His wants were simple. He preferred to live, not as an arbitrary authority but rather as a quiet and unpretentious individual. He made it very clear to those nearest him that there should be no "pomp or ceremony" and no elaborate public funeral when he was laid away; all metals were to be removed from his coffin; no eulogies were to be spoken and his body was to be burned and the ashes interred in Forest Lawn Cemetery in Omaha.

In strict compliance with those wishes there was only the reading of a poem of his own composition, "Only Remembered by What I have Done" and read by Past Grand Master James R. Cain to whom it had been entrusted many years earlier. The service took place at the Masonic Temple in Omaha. There was the customary ritualistic service read by Grand Master Edwin D. Crites and a prayer by the Reverend Charles M. Shepherd of Lincoln.

Masonically, Robert French was strictly a Blue Lodge Mason who devoted himself solely to its advancement. Within his own Lodge he was actively supporting its every cause. He was elevated to the office of Worshipful Master. He took a deep interest in Grand Lodge affairs, held many offices, and was elected the Most Worshipful Grand Master in 1890, and in 1901 he was appointed Grand Custodian, serving with true distinction until his death in 1927.

Brother French, in addition to his many activities in Blue Lodge Masonry was also active in York Rite and Scottish Rite Masonry. He was a distinguished Mason, indeed. He received the degrees of Capitular Masonry in Kearney Chapter No. 23 in 1882. He was High Priest and Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter and finally the Grand Lecturer of the Grand Chapter of Nebraska.

He received the Orders of Knighthood in March and April, 1883, in Mt. Hebron Commandery No. 12, Kearney, and was E. C. in 1891.

In Scottish Rite Masonry he was elected to receive all degrees from the Fourteenth to the Thirty-second in the Nebraska Consistory in 1888. He was honored by election to receive the rank and decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in October, 1893.

Of this noble gentleman, A. Sherman Pinto, the Grand High Priest, in 1927, said:

Those in Nebraska who will mourn his passing, will not find the source of their sorrow and their sense of loss in the conspicuous service which he rendered the Order, great as it was. 'Uncle Bob' was a man of great personal charm. He had the faculty of attracting old and young. He made friends wherever he went, and so there are thousands of Nebraskans, who read of the death of a tried and valued friend. His humanity, expressed in sympathy, gentleness, kindness, and understanding, is the greatest monument to his memory. He was more than a great Mason; he was the friend of youth and of age, of the great and the humble, the rich and the poor. He was a splendid, fine man in every sense of the word.

1927-1948

Edwin D. Crites, the Grand Master at the time of Brother French's demise, appointed Brother Lute M. Savage as Acting Grand Custodian. This appointment was confirmed by the Grand Lodge in June, 1927. He took up where his predecessor left off. Central Schools of Instruction as well as Individual Schools continued to be arranged during the years following.

The practice of awarding Certificates of Proficiency to lodges and to individuals was found to be increasingly stimulating. In 1928, twenty-nine lodges and one hundred twenty-three individuals received such 'certificates,' the number becoming larger each continuing year. In 1948 there were sixty-five lodges and 350 individuals receiving such awards.

In 1932, the Grand Custodian, Lute M. Savage, prepared "reminders" or short talks that were found to be most valuable. These were authorized to be published as booklets and distributed to W. Masters for use in their lodges. They afforded a great deal of Masonic information that gave meaning to the work and provided a stimulus not only to the old members but to the initiates as well. The increasing strength of Masonry and the greatly improved uniformity of the work were repeatedly commented upon by both the Grand Master and the Grand Custodian in the annual reports of these officers. In spite of adversity, the economic struggles and crop failures, the Craft was being strengthened. In 1934 the Grand Custodian quoted someone as having said, that "some souls we see grow hard and stiffen with

adversity. This does not apply to Masons." On the contrary he felt that adversity had had the effect of strengthening the Craft.

It must not be forgotten that it was during this period not only in Nebraska but in the United States, generally, that there was experienced one of the most serious depressions. Quite naturally, Masonry suffered like all other organizations. For one thing many of the subordinate, lodges, found it difficult to hold the fort. These were "hard times." The Grand Lodge deemed it wise in 1935 to hold no schools of instructions, either individual or central. It was necessary to conserve resources. "Save our money" was an often heard expression. There were increased instances of lodges considering consolidation of weak lodges with some other nearby stronger lodges. Good roads and other better means of transportation made such consolidation very desirable. For some lodges it was consolidate or cease to exist. The Grand Lodge exerted considerable effort to strengthen these weaker lodges. The assistant custodians proved to be most helpful in providing positive leadership and stimulating local officers to put forth every effort to arouse the membership to greater and more vigorous activity. The results were most gratifying.

In 1943 Craft Masonry was again bestirred to action by reason of World War II. Membership increased significantly. There was more work to be done. The number of petitions for election to receive degrees was at another new high. Schools of instruction, both central and individual, were very strongly supported. In 1945-1946, for example, only 14 lodges were not represented out of 281 chartered lodges. The annual reports of Brother Savage during this period were most encouraging and revealed the terrific responsibility falling on his shoulders.

In 1946, it was reported that the Grand Master did for good cause, issue special dispensations to confer degrees, without regard to time, in more than 900 instances and covering a period from August 30, 1944 to May 16, 1946.

It was also in 1946 that the Grand Master, William C. Shaper requested that a special committee on "Nebraska Work" be authorized. On this committee were three Past Grand Masters: Brother Edward F. Carter, (Chairman), John R. Tapster and Chancellor A. Phillips. This committee did not make a formal report, so far as we have been able to find until 1958. In the meantime M.'W.'. Benjamin F. Eyre was appointed to replace Brother Tapster who had passed away in 1954.

This report, made more than ten years later stated that the purpose of this committee was to preserve the Nebraska work and that it had "taken all steps possible to bring about this result." Moreover it was a firm conviction that the Nebraska work "is being exemplified as it was approved" by the Grand Lodge on June 7, 1940.

It was also stated that "the work of the committee is closely related to that of the Grand Custodian" but that the committee had at no time encroached upon the authority of the Grand Custodian, otherwise there might have been confusion and the Grand Custodian might have been deprived of the responsibility with which he had been charged. There were surprisingly few decisions which had to be made by the committee. Certainly this spoke well for the fine leadership exercised by the Grand Custodian, either Brother Lute Savage or Raymond C. Cook. It also was a credit to the excellence of the accuracy and uniformity of the work.

One feature of the committee report was the description of the modus operandi of the committee in carrying out its responsibilities and its suggestions as to the number of districts into which the Grand Lodge Jurisdiction should be divided. Twenty-five districts was believed to be the optimum number with one assistant custodian being appointed for each district. Another feature of its report was the recommendations as to budget requirements and provisions for more suitable office quarters for the Grand Custodian.

The recommendations of the committee were adopted by the Grand Lodge.

Going back to the regime of Brother Lute M. Savage it should be noted that he was always alert to every circumstance that arose, he recognized the problems of the subordinate lodges and was quick to respond to them. His understanding counsel was a source of great value. He was consistently urging that Masons stand firmly for their traditions and that they tolerate no tendencies to weaken their work in any way. Now was the time for greater perfection.

For twenty years, from June, 1927 to September, 1948, Brother Savage served the Grand Lodge as its Grand Custodian. On September 12, 1948 he suffered a severe cerebral thrombosis and was confined to his home in a wheel chair. He and his wife were shortly thereafter admitted to The Nebraska Masonic Home in Plattsmouth. On December 8th, 1948 Worshipful Brother Savage asked to be relieved of his duties. The Grand Lodge honored him by the designation of "Grand Custodian Emeritus." Grand Master Elmer E. Magee, having regretfully accepted his resignation appointed Worshipful Brother Raymond C. Cook the Acting Grand Custodian. His appointment was approved by the Grand Lodge in June, 1949.

Brother Savage passed away at The Nebraska Masonic Home on January 10, 1951.

To prepare a more detailed biographical account of this Brother's life has been most difficult. We do know that he was born on April 17, 1878 at Rochester, Vermont. There he was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. In his early manhood he came west and settled in Omaha. This was sometime prior to 1920. The records reveal that he was demitted to Capitol Lodge No. 3. He was elected to the

office of Junior Warden in 1922; senior warden in 1923; and Worshipful Master in 1924. He was thereafter elected as Secretary in 1925 serving for two years. He was appointed to the office of Assistant Custodian on July 25, 1922. Five years later he was appointed Worshipful Grand Custodian, serving most faithfully and proficiently for more than twenty years or until December 8th, 1948.

Here was a man who will long be remembered for his many contributions to Freemasonry in Nebraska. For this we owe him a "deep debt of gratitude"—something for which "he can never be repaid." As it was also said of him "those who knew him best (and there are still some living) and had worked with him for twenty years know something of the love, loyalty and Masonic zeal" of this Brother who "gave his best years to the Craft. His illness and absence from us is tragic and untimely."

Brother Savage passed from us at The Nebraska Masonic Home in Plattsmouth on January 10, 1951. Fitting memorial services were held at the First Presbyterian Church at Omaha, with Thomas R. Niven officiating as minister. The body was escorted to Forest Lawn Cemetery where it was committed to its earthly abode, the most Worshipful Grand Master John S. Hedelund officiating in the Masonic burial ceremonies. A considerable number of Past Grand Masters and the Grand Lodge officers were present to do honors to this great and good Brother.

"Faithful to his trust,
Diligent in his labor,
Known and respected
Our Grand Custodian, Emeritus."

It is appropriate to record here that his beloved companion, Mrs. Savage, is still living—a resident of our Masonic Home in Plattsmouth.

1948-1966

Raymond C. Cook of Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6, entered upon his new assignment in December, 1948 as already noted. His appointment met with universal approval. In his first annual report to the Grand Lodge he stated that 39 Central Schools had been held with much success and the attendance at these schools was excellent and in spite of some most unfavorable weather conditions. Individual schools of instruction were scheduled in 48 lodges. The results were most encouraging.

Certificates of Proficiency were granted to sixty-seven lodges and 352 brethren. Of these 134 were granted by Brother Cook.

It was reported also that Worshipful Brother Robert W. Cook had been one of two newly appointed as an Assistant Custodian.

Brother Raymond Cook felt that no custodian had ever taken up his responsibilities with any finer cooperation and sympathetic understanding than he had experienced from the assistant custodians. As a whole, he found the work to be in a "high state of perfection." It was his opinion that Individual Schools should be held on three separate evenings, a single degree to an evening and scheduled at times best convenient for all concerned. Central Schools, he felt, should be held at locations where the work is uniformly good and where they were conveniently located and where the distances were greater between lodges.

In 1950, Brother Raymond Cook reported that the "new geographical arrangements" of the districts had been "notably productive of improved ritualistic work". Twenty-one Central Schools were held; sixty-nine lodges were awarded certificates of proficiency, 402 individuals were similarly recognized of which 55 were awarded for the first time.

In 1951, the Grand Custodian spoke of the Central Schools being used as "testing ground" for the proficiency of lodge officers. They were also the means of refreshing and "polishing up." The number of Individual Schools was increased to one hundred ten.

At this time Brother Cook suggested that the "Proficiency Certificate" should be given at the first time of recognition and that thereafter "renewal proficiency cards would be awarded on an annual basis. With some help from Past Grand Master John S. Hedelund, a new certificate was designed and issued in 1951. It is worthy of note that Most Worshipful John S. Hedelund had been awarded a certificate of proficiency for twenty-six consecutive years. Quite some record!

In 1952, the Grand Custodian reported the holding of twenty Central Schools representing one hundred seventy-eight lodges, with an attendance of 3,996 registrants. Each of these schools closed with a banquet attended by Grand Lodge officers as well as those registered and always addressed by some leading Mason. Individuals and lodges in increasing numbers were recognized for proficiency.

In 1953 the work of the Grand Custodian continued to prosper, even though his full activity was interrupted for a stay in the hospital and some major surgery. While there was satisfactory recovery he found it necessary to make adjustments in his program from time to time. There was no "slowing-up" in his responsibilities. The Assistant Custodians proved themselves to be equal to any increased duties they were called upon to assume. Both Central and Individual Schools of Instruction were scheduled. They became the "heart" of the program.

In 1956 Brother Cook found that his physical strength not so great as it had been. However, there was no let-up in his active responsibilities. Like it has been said in the entertainment world—"The show must go on" and so it did. Ten lodges with the greatest

number of Individual Certificates of Proficiency were in order: Bee Hive No. 184, with 29; East Lincoln No. 210 with 28; Lancaster No. 54 with 28; Robert W. Furnas No. 265 with 23; Lincoln Lodge No. 19 with 22; Craftsman Lodge No. 314 with 18; Alliance No. 183 with 15; Ashlar No. 33 with 15; Liberty No. 300 with 13; and Victory No. 310 with 13. These lodges represent 204 of the 611 certificates issued in 1956.

It was in 1956 that Grand Custodian Cook reported that it had been the wish of his office for a considerable time to reward those of the Brethren who had been "loyal and untiring in their zeal for our work." After considering very carefully ways for recognition it was decided and recommended that an especially beautiful certificate, "distinctly Masonic" be designed and awarded. It was Brother Ross Van Sickle, Assistant Custodian of Bee Hive Lodge No. 184, who "came up with the idea" and with the assistance of Most Worshipful Past Grand Master John S. Hedelund there was designed the appropriate certificate of award. Only those who had shown by their zeal and devotion to the work of Masonry were to be eligible to receive this certificate of merit. It shall serve as a "suitable recognition by the Grand Lodge and a first visible evidence that the ardent and devoted labors of these fine servants of Masonry have not gone unnoticed nor unrewarded."

On the second day of the Grand Lodge Communication held in Omaha, June 6, 1956, Twenty-year Certificates of Merit were awarded to another six worthy Worshipful Brothers: Steven W. Beck, 43; Everett M. Wood, 37; Ivan J. Rickert, 139; Paul D. Fleming, 93; I. Donald Huston, 65; and Clarence G. McNamee, 55.

During the Masonic Year of 1957, the Centennial Year of the Grand Lodge, the customary and traditional schools of instruction were not held owing to plans that had been approved for holding celebrations in twenty Masonic areas of the State appropriate to the completion of one hundred years of Masonic history of the Grand Lodge. The Grand Custodian was charged with the responsibility of addressing each of these area celebrations on "The Origin and History of Masonic Rituals."

In his Annual Report to the Grand Lodge in June, 1957, Brother Cook, while recognizing the importance of Masonic Proficiency, felt that there were equally important pre-requisites to be taken into account in appointing or electing brethren to hold office in a Masonic Lodge. Three elements emphasized by Brother Cook were "leadership, administrative ability, and dependability."

On the matter of the new provision for awarding "Certificates of Merit" the Grand Custodian made comment. A backlog of these faithful brethren entitled to receive recognition had accumulated to a considerable number, since it had been the first time in one hundred years of Grand Lodge history that such a recognition had been given.

It was found that there were as many as ninety-six who were eligible to receive these "Certificates of Merit" and who were so awarded. Eight of these, since the time that this new award was given, had passed away within one year thereafter. Unfortunately it was noted shortly after the awards were first made that three other persons had been overlooked—Arthur J. Bracken, 159; Harold D. Weddel, 208; and Paul D. Fleming, 93. To them awards were given later. In 1957 there were eight more of these Brethren that became eligible to receive this award.

The report of the Grand Custodian in 1958 was not unlike that of preceding years—progress was being made, the work was found to be excellent. It was so much so that Brother Raymond could say with considerable assuredness that the Masonic brethren, "with whom we work are the finest in the universe."

Weather continued to be a changing problem. The Asian flu epidemic was a factor in attendance. The Grand Custodian had his "inning with the flu" and was hospitalized for some six weeks.

In this year, twelve additional brethren were awarded "Certificates of Merit." The new program is most laudatory and has greatly increased interest on the part of the brethren.

The report of the Committee on Nebraska Work made in this year has already been dealt with on page 362 and needs no further consideration at this time.

Brother Raymond Cook made his eleventh annual report to the Grand Lodge on June 9, 1959, stating that "apparently God has again looked with favor upon the work of our Department of the Grand Lodge because for the eleventh consecutive year, our work has shown an increase in every phase of our program." Twenty year Certificates of Merit were awarded to eleven of the Brethren, one of these being our M. W. Grand Master, Lewis R. Ricketts, of Lincoln Lodge No. 19.

Last year and this, the year 1959, the Grand Custodian had given especial attention and emphasis to the "Middle Chamber Ceremony". While Assistant Custodians have changed frequently through the years due both to physical problems, changes in civil life, removal from jurisdiction and sadly due to death, the work of these most important brethren has never been weakened. As the Grand Custodian says "The Custodians are a composite of the stage coach driver of the old west, the circuit rider of the pioneers and the family doctor of treasured memory. The difficulties and dangers connected with their work are taken without complaint. There is no road too long or too rough; there is no night too black; no storm too wild; no pain, no illness too severe; no sacrifice too great. There are no worldly honors, no glamour, no acclaim.—There is however, the reward of satisfaction of a job well done and the knowledge of the deep and abiding affection and esteem which come from the brethren whom they serve." Such

was the group of Assistant Custodians. Well did Brother Cook speak of those who had so willingly assisted him.

In his report in June, 1960, the Grand Custodian revealed something of his own physical sufferings, "the weeks of 'anginal spasms'" and the emotional stress that was "so close to the surface. The Committee on Nebraska Work, the officers of the Grand Lodge and his faithful Assistant Custodians were ever concerned and ever ready to give assistance. In his report to the Grand Lodge in 1961 he revealed some of the strength and stamina that had always characterized his efforts. He was still determined that the "work" should continue and he was confident that he would find his strength renewed. So it was in 1962. Nothing seemed to deter him. At the last communication of the Grand Lodge, the law respecting the financing of the program being carried on by the Grand Custodian, was amended to provide that "Every lodge which has an Assistant Custodian in the city or town of its location, or where the Assistant Custodian resides in such proximity to the Lodge that mileage and expenses are not incurred, shall pay into the Assistant Custodian's expense fund of the Grand Custodian, the sum of \$15.00 annually for the benefit of such fund and in lieu of any charges for mileage and expenses." This change in the law worked very well. There was no hesitancy or objection from any of the lodges involved. The Grand Custodian, as the agent to receive these payments, reported that he had received from each of the twenty-two lodges for two years a total of \$660.00.

As always he was able to say that Masonry, in spite of the vast sociological revolutions, was still able to accommodate itself to these changes. "Men's thinking, manner of living, acceptance of responsibility, judgment of values, attitudes toward their fellowmen and relationship with God," have changed, it is true, but the "principles on which Masonry is founded are not out of date and never will be. It is far more enduring than any of the clubs and appendages of Masonry or any of the trivial and inconsequential things we do nowadays instead of seeking the truths and an adequate understanding of Masonry's teachings. Masonry is not out of date. It is the men, the men who wear its emblems, yet fail to have the slightest understanding of its meaning and its teachings, its symbols and its ceremonies."

Brother Raymond Cook, was indeed a "Grand Custodian," firm in his convictions and unmoved in the principles for which Masonry had always stood steadfast. He sincerely believed, as he said, that "Masonry will continue to be a source of good in the world until time shall be no more."

In June, 1962, the new Nebraska Monitor and Ceremonies made its appearance and received the acclaim of the Grand Lodge. It was immediately put into use. Brother Raymond Cook was enthusiastic in his praise. He said, "those responsible for teaching the work and lectures to the Craft appreciate the indication of the way our esoteric

work flows into the monitorial." The new Nebraska Monitor was badly needed in both degree work and lectures. By edict of the Grand Master and in accordance with the provisions of its adoption the use of any former monitor, was strictly forbidden and prohibited. This new monitor was the result of the labors of the Committee on Nebraska Work, the members of which were Edward F. Carter, Past Grand Master and Chairman and Past Grand Masters, Chancellor A. Phillips, and Herbert T. White.

Of special note, it should be said here that the revised funeral ceremonial represents one of the finest contributions of the committee authorized to prepare the new monitor. The "harsh tones" of the old service were removed, the length of the service was shortened without changing the fundamental concepts or the beautiful language so characteristic of the old funeral service.

The fourteenth and fifteenth annual reports of the Grand Custodian, given in 1963 and 1964, like all the others for whom Worshipful Brother Raymond Cook had been responsible, revealed the continuous and unflinching efforts of all those who were responsible for the administration of the esoteric work of the Grand Lodge. The Custodians were a "Rock of Gibraltar" in preserving and perfecting the work in the subordinate lodges of the Jurisdiction of Nebraska.

On June 8, 1965, Brother Cook made his concluding annual report. Failing health and his inability to continue the arduous duties of his office, compelled him to "relinquish the reins" and seek rest and comfort in his remaining years. The Grand Lodge, most regretfully, honored his request that he be retired and gave him the title of "Grand Custodian Emeritus." Appointed to be his successor was Robert W. Cook, Ashlar Lodge No. 33, Grand Island.

On January 7, 1966, the Grand Lodge was saddened by the news of the death of Brother Raymond C. Cook, their Grand Custodian Emeritus. He had served for some sixteen years from December 8, 1948 to June 9, 1965. During all his years of Masonic activity he was an exemplary member of the Craft. Few men have ever "devoted as much time and effort to promote the ritualistic and standard floor work of our Grand Lodge." One of his outstanding interests and accomplishments was his devotion for many years to the affairs of The Nebraska Masonic Home of which he was for some years the Second Vice-President or until his retirement from that office in 1948.

Past Grand Master Louis V. Sylvester said of Brother Raymond that "His influence for Masonry as he exemplified it in his life was felt in the remotest section of our State. His passing is keenly felt by all Masons throughout Nebraska." More and more in succeeding years, Masons will come to appreciate this Brother's fine influence and the truly remarkable record of loyalty and devotion, his unflinching and dedicated adherence to truth and the teachings of the Fraternity.

The following tribute to the memory of W. Raymond C. Cook was presented by Past Grand Master M. W. Roy I. Babbitt at the 109th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge on Wednesday, June 8, 1966:

Raymond Charles Cook was born on March 20, 1901, the son of Charles and Minnie Cook, who lived on a farm near Plattsmouth. He attended the University of Nebraska and then operated a farm until 1950, when he moved to Omaha. He married LeNora Snyder on January 1, 1924. He had many hobbies—writing and directing plays, singing, serving on various community boards, and working zealously in the United Brethren Church.

Brother Cook served Masonry in many ways. In 1922 he was Master councilor of DeMolay at Plattsmouth. Later that year he was raised in Plattsmouth Lodge, which he served as W. Master in 1927. He was High Priest of Nebraska Chapter No. 3 Royal Arch Masons in 1930 and Grand High Priest in 1945. He was first I. Master of Adoniram Council No. 5. He served as E. Commander and later as Prelate of Mount Zion Commandery No. 5. He was a member of Scottish Rite and a 33rd degree Mason and Tangier Temple of the Shrine in Omaha. He served for several terms as worthy patron of Home Chapter No. 189, O.E.S., in Plattsmouth and for thirteen years as Vice President of The Nebraska Masonic Home.

Brother Cook made his greatest contribution to the Lodge. He was Assistant Custodian of Ritualistic Work from 1932 to 1948 and Grand Custodian until June, 1965, when failing health forced him to retire.

He went to rest on January 7, 1966. He was buried in Pleasant Ridge Cemetery south of Plattsmouth.

Of the successor to Raymond C. Cook, the present Grand Custodian, Robert W. Cook, we can say this much. He had already demonstrated his competence as an Assistant Custodian, appointed to that office in 1949. In his own Lodge at Grand Island, he had been W. M. in 1948 and later the Secretary from 1951 until his appointment as Grand Custodian in 1965. He is an active member of the York Rite and of Tangier Temple of the Shrine. It is left to a future Grand Historian to recount the many accomplishments for which he will most assuredly be responsible. There can be no doubt as to future developments of his office and department of Masonic endeavor to which he is already making a real contribution.

The record of stewardship of the Grand Custodians from 1857 to 1966 is truly significant and genuinely constructive. The very existence of Masonry today has in no small degree been possible because of the unceasing efforts of the Grand Custodians under whom our constituent lodges were given instruction and made to be strong thereby. All honor to Brethren like these! Our Grand Custodians have been the *sine qua non* of Masonic history in Nebraska.

THE ROLL OF ASSISTANT CUSTODIANS AND
DATE OF APPOINTMENT

The first reference providing for an "Assistant Custodian," was made in 1869.

In 1870 the "Committee on Work" recommended the establishment of five districts and the appointment of an equal number of brethren, these together with the Grand Lecturer to constitute a "Board of Custodians" to serve for five years. From that time until now, there have been appointed assistant custodians. It is the purpose here to list all that have at any time served the Grand Lodge. They are listed in terms of first appointment. The number following each name represents the lodge of which each was or is a member.

Daniel H. Wheeler, 6.....1870	L. S. Moe, 15.....1877
John Reed, 2.....1871	Roland H. Oakley, 19.....1877
Robert W. Furnas, 4.....1871	James R. Cain, 9.....1877
D. F. Powell, 3.....1871	Albert K. Marsh, 49.....1877
A. Atkinson, 3.....1871	Jess T. Davis, 21.....1877
H. O. Hanna, 9.....1872	Charles H. Willard, 21....1878
Milton E. Pinney, 2.....1873	Samuel W. Hayes, 55.....1879
William B. Wharton, 12...1875	Marshall Smith, 2.....1878
Edward K. Valentine, 27..1875	James McNaughton, 4....1879
Newton R. Persinger, 36...1876	Joseph H. McConnel, 32...1879
David K. Hume, 3.....1876	Edward F. Thorp, 2.....1879
Hiram C. Ryder, 37.....1876	George W. Mowrey, 50....1880
Frederick N. Dick, 32....1876	Charles A. Holmes, 17....1880
George W. Lininger, 3....1877	

Note: From 1880 until 1910, there were no recorded appointments of brethren to serve as assistants to the Grand Custodian. In 1910 Brother Robert E. French did hold special meetings to examine and instruct brethren who were willing to become "assistants" in the work. Thirteen brethren were nominated and approved for appointment as assistants. After 1917 these brethren were generally referred to as "assistant custodians". In 1925 the designation was "Deputy Custodians". The following brethren appeared in the records as "assistant custodians" or at times as "Deputy Custodians."

*Samuel S. Whiting, 54...1910	*Ira C. Freet, 56.....1913
*Walter W. Wells, 192...1910	*Benjamin Wood, 210.....1913
*Ensign J. Rix, 55.....1910	*Edward M. Wellman, 1....1913
*James D. Phillips, 93...1910	*Charles A. Eyre, 268.....1913
*Frederick L. Wolff, 135...1910	*Earl M. Bolen, 130.....1914
*Fred A. Howe, 119.....1910	*Frank L. Haycock, 207...1914
*Robert B. Walker, 170...1912	George A. Stevens, 158...1914
*Frank W. Farrand, 36....1913	*Levi D. Phipps, 31.....1916

- *Alfred G. Hunt, 33.....1916
- *Harry L. F. Proffitt, 50...1916
- *Walter W. Wells, 192....1917
- *Orville A. Andrews, 19....1917
- *Barclay M. Hickman, 38...1916
- *Andrew H. Viele, 55....1917
- *Walter W. Wells.....1917
- *Maro C. Shipherd, 15....1920
- *Vinsent S. Ramsey, 205...1920
- *Jesse Lowther, 219.....1920
- *Franklin C. Tym, 25....1920
- *Lute M. Savage, 3.....1920
- Frank M. Johnson, 188...1921
- *Lamont L. Stephens, 106..1922
- *Frances S. Robey, 19....1922
- *John B. Lichtenwallner,
275.....1923
- *Harry R. Belville, 146...1923
- *George R. Patterson, 136..1923
- *William J. Birkoffer, 249 1923
- *D. Horace Schall, 307...1923
- *Stanley P. Bostwick, 3...1924
- *William D. Edson, 53....1926
- *Francis B. Rodwell, 224..1926
- *Edwin H. Gerhart, 305...1926
- *William McCormack, 268 1926
- *Harry L. Mantor, 306....1927
- *John R. Easley, 49.....1927
- *I. Donald Huston, 65....1928
- *Elmer Surber, 95.....1928
- *John M. Bennett, 19.....1928
- Earl Barnett, 146.....1929
- *Jonathan Frye, 1.....1929
- *Ernest R. Reynolds, 124..1930
- *Osborne P. Simon, 174...1930
- *Doc L. Redfern, 300.....1930
- Austin F. Whitmire, 306..1931
- Henning C. Johnson, 171..1932
- Carroll C. Raymer, 164...1932
- *Ward B. Schrack, 46.....1933
- *Byron S. Peterson, 25....1933
- *Raymond C. Cook, 6.....1933
- *Ray B. Bottorf, 33.....1933
- *Wallace E. Linn, 1.....1934
- *Jesse P. Entriken, 295...1934
- Harold D. Weddel, 208...1937
- Cecil C. Gates, 227.....1938
- *Fred G. Christensen, 33..1938
- *Ross Van Sickle, 184.....1938
- S. William Beck, 43.....1940
- *Stanley B. Fryar, 139...1940
- *Roy S. Planck, 15.....1940
- *Buren P. Wells, 315.....1940
- Clarence G. McNamee, 55..1941
- *F. Ray Dilts, 83.....1942
- Ernest C. Purdy, 195....1942
- Lewis E. Baker, 135.....1943
- *Howard E. Bradstreet, 261 1943
- George S. Schwab, 49....1946
- Louis V. Sylvester, 281...1946
- *Irving S. Johnson, 148...1946
- LaVerne A. Walker, 55...1946
- Harold M. Wilkerson, 54..1947
- Ernest E. James, 1.....1948
- *Frank A. Anderson, 17....1949
- Robert W. Cook, 33.....1949
- Paul D. Fleming, 93....1949
- Charles M. Frederick, 136 1949
- *Sylvester Shumard, 227...1949
- *Ralph M. Carhart, 120....1950
- *Morris V. Balcom, 46....1950
- *William F. Flickenger, 56 1951
- *Forest A. Lape, 183.....1951
- Delbert H. Pinkerton, 314 1954
- Harold M. Wilkerson, 54..1954
- Willard I. Lewis, Jr., 9...1955
- Clifford D. Webster, 321..1956
- Mathias E. Mauel, 173...1956
- Frank H. Smith, 301...1958
- *Ward V. Whitaker, 310...1958
- Asa J. Farnham, 106....1958
- Richard L. Ely, 128.....1958
- Robert B. Conrad, 125....1958
- *Lyle A. Van Arsdol, 210..1959
- Edmun D. Shaw, 254....1959
- Harry N. Ahl, 112.....1959
- Alfred R. Kenoyer, 148...1960
- Lloyd I. Edwards, 110...1960
- T. Leo Stines, 36.....1960
- Erwin J. Imig, 38.....1960
- Sebert A. Stover, 281...1961
- Stanley E. Brunton, 222..1961
- Glenn W. Binder, 23.....1962
- Richard L. Wait, 19.....1962

Gordon Chard, 240.....1963	Augustus W. Clark, 318..1966
Harold A. Tilton, 71.....1963	Alton A. Mote, 183.....1966
Stewart A. Johnson, 169..1964	Ralph W. Gerry, 281.....1966
Arthur S. Dye, 317.....1964	Arnold F. Mains, 15.....1966
W. Upton Dawson, 135...1965	Nelson W. Rittenberg, 210 1966
Ralph L. Berry, 256.....1965	Harold J. Oehlerking, 159 1966
Donald R. Davis, 164.....1965	Gwynne L. Neubauer.....1966
Carl A. Johnson, 183.....1965	Ward L. McGlashan.....1966
Robert W. Boon, 33.....1966	Curtis J. Griess.....1966

1967

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