



Grand Lodge Bulletin

Editor: S. CARL HECKBERT, P.G.M., Vermilion, Alberta

Wanted: An Army of Unknown Soldiers

By CHARLES H. JOHNSON, P. G. M.,
New York

In some way or other, Masonry has succeeded in clutching and holding to itself many of the best men in every community. It is not in a spirit of braggadocio that I say this. Going from state to state, one cannot help noticing how leading men everywhere have found something in Masonry that has attracted them and held them fast to itself, to its principles and to its tenets. What a wonderful organization, composed of millions of men in this country alone — men of intelligence, and men who desire the realization of the best ideals of the 20th century.

There is a tremendous power in Masonry; a power that no human mind can possibly compute. But — to what extent is it being utilized? Is it rash to say that nine tenths of it is lying dormant, not put in motion, not filled with the desire to make itself felt for the good of our country and for all mankind?

We need leadership. We need men of vision, men who understand the principles and purposes of Masonry and realize the possibilities that Masonry may utilize. We need more than this: we need the utilization of every last one of us, for, in the last analysis, Masonry is an individual matter.

We, as well as other nations of the world once stood by the grave of the Unknown Soldier, and our hearts were inspired and thrilled. Who was he? We don't know. He may have come from the mountains of the West; he may have come from the levees of the South. We don't know — and we don't care. He typifies to us the devotion of the average citizen in the hour of storm and stress, who will do his duty as he sees it, without fear, and will be faithful to the end.

What the world needs today, as it has needed in the past, is an army of Unknown Soldiers; men who are not looking for promotion or reward, but who are attached to the ideals of the organization to which they belong, and will try to put them into realization and make them workable. The whole progress of this world has been due to the Unknown Soldiers of life.

If we can get our individual members impregnated with the ideals and the principles of

Masonry, and link all this with the ideals of our country, then we shall have forces in action that will do much to counteract every kind of 'ism' that seeks the destruction of our country and of the institutions upon which it stands. If we can get this magnificent body of men to depend, not merely upon ritual and festivities, but upon having their souls filled with the spirit of the Brotherhood of Man and the Fatherhood of God, upon loyalty to our flag, to education, and to religion and all those things that Masonry stands for, we shall have a working force that will be a stabilizing force, and will save the country in times of crisis and in times of despair.

Let us bring out the strength of Masonry. Let us develop the individual Masons by instruction, by inspiration and by education. Let us get into their hearts (where every man should first be made a Mason) the theory and the principles of Masonry, and link it up with the theory and principles of our country.

I have in mind a man who is a great teacher of English; he has been a great diplomat, he has been a great speaker. I don't know that he is a Mason; probably he is not, but I think he summed up in one of his poems the whole philosophy of Freemasonry, a poem that states all our ideals, individually and collectively, for us all, and if we can realize the ideals of these lines of Henry Van Dyke, we will have made Masonry the power that it ought to be:-

*"Four things a man must learn to do
If he would keep his record true;
Think, without confusion, clearly,
Love his fellow men sincerely,
Act from honest motives, purely,
Trust in God and Heaven securely."*

In these days of confused thinking and 'isms' of various kinds, we can, by the Masonic Square and Compasses, learn to "think without confusion, clearly." In these days, when strife of race and creed are heard in various places, we can learn through Masonry to "love our fellow men sincerely"; and in these days, when there is a misunderstanding that breaks up society into various groups, we can act, and hope that other people will act "from honest motives purely", and then,

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A GUEST EDITORIAL

The support given by the members of this Jurisdiction to the Higher Education Bursary Fund is extremely disappointing and I appreciate the opportunity of bringing this important matter to the attention of every member, as I believe that few have taken the time or expended the effort to acquaint themselves with the volume of work anticipated when the Fund was started and it would seem that few are familiar with the committee report as presented to Grand Lodge and as it appears in the Proceedings of Grand Lodge. The suggestion that the Grand Lodge sponsor a Higher Education Bursary Fund was thoroughly discussed in Grand Lodge in 1957 and again in 1958, when the first Regulations were presented and approved. There are doubtless some who think that we should not enter the field of bursaries for young people but that, perhaps, we should concentrate attention on homes for the aged or some other altogether worth while project. Pleasing lodges are presently being provided by the Government of the Province for senior citizens and various forms of financial assistance are fortunately fairly readily available.

It is my belief that we must give every possible assistance to our young people, the future citizens and leaders of our country. It is evident that the unemployment situation is a desperate one and that many of those who are not in employment today had left their studies before completing their High School education and with little or no specialized training. Every day we see advertisements for radio technicians, stenographers, welders, etc., indicating opportunities for those with training and it is more and more clear that lack of a sound educational background is devastating to our youth and their prospects.

It was anticipated, rightly or wrongly, that our Lodges and individual members would come forward freely and voluntarily and that there would be a fund created that would carry our commitments of some \$10,000.00 per annum, without having to draw on reserves in other funds of Grand Lodge. This has not been the case; only eighty-five lodges of one hundred and seventy have made any contribution over a three year period; many personal donations have been made and we are indeed grateful for this assistance. It is realized that some are in a more favorable position financially than others, but it is the moderate contribution of every member that is sought and that makes such a fund altogether worth while. If every member gave, through his lodge, ONE DOLLAR per year we would be able to take care of our commitments. There are 19,236 members in Alberta; if each one supports the Fund in keeping with his ability he would have a personal interest in the young people benefitting from the bursary; we might well extend financial assistance to additional young people, making it possible for them to receive vital training which is so essential to their future well being. I urge you to give this appeal YOUR personal attention without delay.

A. D. Cumming P.G.M.,
Chairman, Finance Committee

Within The Craft in Alberta IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY



E. H. Brocklesby J. R. Brocklesby
J. F. Brocklesby W. H. Brocklesby W. F. Brocklesby

The five members of the Brocklesby family whom we are pleased to introduce, together with J. W. Brocklesby, Senior Deacon of a Lethbridge Lodge, who is unfortunately not included in our photograph, establish something of a record as a Masonic family and from what we learn of their keen interest in the Craft it is pleasing indeed to present them to readers of the Bulletin.

R. W. Bro. W. H. B., Monitor Lodge, Consort is the father of J. R. B., Concord Lodge, Calgary and W. F. B., Bowmont Lodge, U.D. Bowness; his brother J. F. B. is the father of E. H. B. and also of the other family member who was unable to attend a recent meeting of Bowmont Lodge, U.D. Bowness. E. H. B. is a member of King George Lodge, Vancouver, B.C. and it is not difficult to imagine the pleasure of the group as they enjoyed the fellowship of the Bowness meeting.

We salute this notable family of Freemasons.

FROM GREECE TO ALBERTA

R. W. Bro. Morley Merner, Grand Master elect, recently attended a meeting of Camrose Lodge and performed the very pleasing task of presenting a certificate from the Grand Lodge of Greece, naming Wor. Bro. Gus Glatiotis as the representative of that Grand Lodge to the Grand Lodge of Alberta.

Wor. Bro. Glatiotis is a Past Master of Camrose Lodge as are a brother, Bill and a son, Ken. All three are highly regarded for their unusual contribution to the welfare of the Lodge and to the community in which they are proud to make their homes. The honour paid by the Grand Lodge of Greece is a well merited one and the Bulletin

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King George Lodge Marks Half Century

King George Lodge No. 59 celebrated Fifty Years of service on April 14th, 1961 and is being widely congratulated. Instituted on January 13th, 1911 with nineteen names listed as Charter Members, the lodge has grown and prospered and today has a membership of 370 and is the proud owner of a very comfortable and handsome Temple.

The Anniversary celebrations were attended by the Most Worshipful, the Grand Master, M. W. Bro. Harper, the Grand Secretary, District Deputy Grand Master and several past Grand Lodge officers. A toast to King George Lodge was proposed by W. Bro. J. G. Smart, Worshipful Master of Mount Lebanon Lodge No. 54, which was most appropriate as the two Lodges had been consecrated at a joint ceremony in 1911 and have been most closely affiliated through the years. Two remaining Charter Members, in the persons of V. W. Bro. W. Flett and Bro. Wm. Williamson were honoured by the gathering.

R. W. Bro. W. J. Collett, Grand Chaplain conducted a Service of Thanksgiving following the formal reception to the Grand Master and his suite, the service being most impressive as, in concluding the Service all joined in expressions of appreciation to the G.A.O.T.U. for the many blessings bestowed upon the Lodge and its members during its half century of worthy contribution to the community.

Grand Master Harper delivered the closing address, his remarks being an expression of appreciation of the past and optimism for the future. With an outstanding record of achievement for the past fifty years and its present strong position he felt that there was every reason to believe that King George Lodge would continue to progress and remain a major force in extending the moral principles of the Craft.

The Bulletin is pleased to join the many friends of King George Lodge in extending the most sincere congratulations and best wishes for the future.

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is pleased to extend congratulations to the recipient of that honour.

During the same meeting R.W. Bro. Merner paid tribute to the fact that V. W. Bro. Albert Webb was that evening attending his 500th meeting of Camrose Lodge; this information was available from the Tyler of the Lodge who faithfully maintains a record of attendance. Congratulations to V. W. Bro. Webb for an example par excellence. He is an honoured Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of Alberta filling the post in 1960-61.

BRITANNIA LODGE HONORS CENTENARIAN

Bro. J. D. McGillvray who was raised to the Sublime Degree in Britannia Lodge, Ponoka on July 19th, 1906 and who was honored by being made a life member in 1945 marked his one hundredth birthday on April 23rd and a number of members of the Lodge paid a visit to the centenarian at his home at Fawcett.

The Grand Lodge of Alberta sent a telegram of congratulation to Bro. McGillvray with warmest fraternal greetings from the members of the provincial membership.

All will join in extending greetings to this sturdy pioneer citizen, who has for so long been an ardent member of the Order.

VERMILION LODGE PAYS TRIBUTE

V. W. Bro. H. J. Payne, a pioneer of the Vermilion District, long time member and for many years a most competent secretary of Vermilion Lodge No. 24 was honored by the Lodge on April 20th, marking the Fiftieth Anniversary of his marriage which took place in Vermilion just half a century ago; a complimentary dinner was tendered the happy couple following a reception which was largely attended.

W. Bro. Chas. T. Heckbert, Worshipful Master, gave a resume of the outstanding service rendered to Masonry and extended the best wishes of the Lodge membership, as well as those of the entire District No. 10 of which V. W. Bro. Payne was an honoured member.

V. W. Bro. Payne is a Past Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of Alberta and has been well known for his capable stewardship in various phases of Masonic work in Northern Alberta.

Both Bro. Payne and his wife enjoy excellent health and the best wishes of all go to them as they enter the evening hours of their life together.

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Masonically, crowning our whole life, "trust in God and Heaven securely."

With that as our Masonic programme, rounded out in us individually and collectively, Masonry with its millions of Craftsmen in our country — will be a mighty power in our nation for righteousness and clean living and the perpetuation of the highest ideals.

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Half the trouble in life is caused not by what other people think, but by what we think they're thinking."

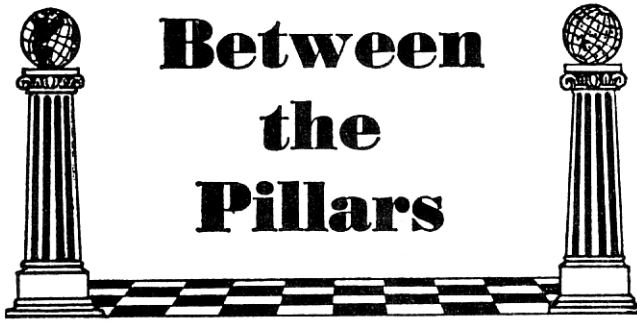
John Van Druten

—O—

"Happiness is possible only when one is busy. The body must toil, the mind must be occupied, and the heart must be satisfied. Those who do good as opportunity offers are sowing seed all the time, and they need not doubt the harvest.

There is a principle which is a bar against all information, which is proof against all arguments, and which cannot fail to keep a man in everlasting ignorance. That principle is condemnation before investigation."

Herbert Spencer.



Between the Pillars

*W. Bro. A. P. Underdahl; Grand Lodge Bulletin,
North Dakota*

It is not necessary for me to indulge in a long discussion as to what makes a Mason, but I may ask what brought us to the door of the Lodge? Did we hope to secure some favor or some advantage, or did we come to Masonry to find faith we saw in those who belong to the fraternity? Did we then couple this desire for the same abundant faith with a cherished hope that we, too, could enjoy the fruits of their seeming pleasure and satisfaction?

Let us look for a moment at a Mason's faith. It is founded on the word of God, the fellowship of our brethren and the desire to do right by all men. Masonry has that broad basis of principle, upon which men of every country, sect and opinion unite. For centuries the world has been trying to secure what we have as Freemasons. Basic in our teachings, that which holds us together in the most tenuous yet strongest bond between men, is mutual respect and faith in each other.

Faith, to be lasting, must be founded on knowledge, reason and common sense, the type of faith so well exemplified in that greatest of all written history, the Holy Bible, which says of the Great Architect, "Believe ye in me also, and I will give you everlasting life." This is the type of faith that man has fought for since time and record are known and is the basis upon which all the finer things of life have rested. It is the real example of the fact that true faith is essential to progress and that blind faith is unwise and ungodly. Without faith we could do nothing. Without faith in a Supreme Beneficent Power; without faith in a resurrection after death to a glorious life eternal, the sufferings and trials of this life would be unbearable.

But our faith is real, "It is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." "We walk by faith, not by sight." Let me tell you: the social, moral and financial fabric is founded and grounded in some form of faith that has for its object the betterment of the world. A peculiar thing about faith is that it grows stronger when attacked hardest. When it is permitted to run smoothly and without opposition it often becomes feeble. Faith is at high tide when sorrow and grief are near, when famine and disease are threatening. It is lowest when the sun of prosperity and good health shines brightest. The deep and clear convictions of faith rule the world. If it were possible to blot out faith, the entire spiritual

system of this world would be destroyed and business bankrupt. Faith is a big word and means much. It is the inward acceptance of God, confidence in others, trust in your partner and the continuation of reason.

Past the pale of medicine and the realms of hope, we find the most beautiful and courageous characters on earth. And why do those destined to wasting diseases have hope? Because they have faith. "Through the darkness of death frail humans hopefully march by Faith." And as we hopefully march by this Faith, we must turn our minds to the future, not only in faith but with hope for the future of our craft — this hope that all the world will learn to live by our principles and that the 'better day' of which the Bible speaks will, in the years to come be an established fact.

Many of our troubles today can be traced to the lack of this faith and its attendant hope. The problems of our present day social life are largely due to individual attitudes, and in spite of our advancements in this twentieth century, the actions of many people are controlled by ignorance, fear, distrust, bigotry, envy and pride. Such forces within the individual naturally will bring about class consciousness, narrowness, racial prejudice and national snobbery. Thus the great problem facing humanity is to overcome these elements and if left uncontrolled, it may lead to conflict and ruin. Let us not, as Masons, contribute to this ruin, but instead we should set our hopes high for the future.

Then, remember! there is hope which must be fought for and won, like all other worthwhile ambitions. When the night is darkest the ever-burning lamp of hope shines all the brighter. An unfavorable condition which exists at the present, is only a temporary situation when one holds firmly to hope. When failure confronts, when disappointment faces, when disaster threatens, then must we have hope. Hope can make one an enthusiastic dreamer, and often make one an enthusiastic doer; this is the kind of hope we should all hold to and cherish. Hope makes us try to do our best, it is the last light we see before entering enduring eternity, the one star by night, and the steady sun by day that throws light on our trail.

In the course of human affairs, situations often develop that may prove to be discouraging, then hope steps in and gives new courage, and soon the situation changes.

The duties and obligations of Masonry are most plain, and if we fail to exemplify them before the world it is because we lack the moral courage to do so. The great age of Masonry is more than ritualistic perfection, discussion of details or decorating ourselves with costly regalia. Masonry is self evident and obvious in our conduct. Masonry is born of moral courage, to stand four-square for man, the nation and for God.

The clock of life is wound but once, and no man has the power to tell just when the hands will stop — if it will be at a late hour or an early hour. Now is the only time we own. Live, love and toil with a will, place your faith in tomorrow, for we know not whether the clock may then be still.