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Grand Lodge Bulletin

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

HIGHER EDUCATION BURSARY

The regular passage of time has once again brought us to the month of November, the one month in the year that is generally declared by our Grand Lodge as "Bursary" month. This is a very special time that is set aside for Lodges, as well as individual members, to give some consideration to the support of the Bursary Fund. This is a worthy project, formulated and established by OUR Grand Lodge and its continued well-being depends on OUR support. Needless to say, donations large and small are acceptable. I must point out that although the financial result would be the same, the Fund would be in a stronger position with the contributions of twenty members at Five dollars apiece, rather than one member at a hundred dollars. This statement is not made with a view of discouraging the larger donations that have been made in the past, and which we trust will continue to be made in the future, but rather to encourage participation by every member, either individually or collectively through their lodge.

It will not be my policy this year to be continually asking for your moral and financial support for the Bursary Fund, as we do have other things to talk about, but this once I want you to know that this money is being put to use for the benefit of young persons who are not in a position to help themselves. The time will come when they will be able to do so and then they will repay by making their contribution to society. Who of our number is in a position to judge the eventual good that may be derived by humanity through our effort? No one knows, for the future holds this secret securely within her bosom.

All that is given us to know is that we are extending a helping hand to a fellow being who is in need of assistance. Certainly we of necessity will receive a certain joy in knowing we have done just that. These are good young people whom we are helping, mostly the sons or daughters of widows, and they must of necessity be workers because in order to qualify for a bursary their marks must conform to a certain standard. Also to substantiate my view is the fact that we receive letters from individuals who have received help in the past (and who could continue to seek aid) stating that they are now in a position to 'go it alone' and therefore would allow us to assist some other young person. People such as this are going to think well of Freemasonry and this is all to the good.

Speaking of educating those outside our Order brings to one's mind the question—How much are we doing for our own, the newly Initiated into the Order? Perhaps some Lodges are doing a great deal, while others are doing very little. Space does not permit me to make too many suggestions at this time, but there is one observation, as your Grand Master, that I would like to make. This has been brought home to me by a perusal of the lodge notices as they come to hand, month by month. I want to point out that it is not necessarily a criticism but, as I have already stated, an observation that I leave with you for your own good judgment. It is in regard to the increasing practice of lodges interchanging the conferring of degrees on candidates. As you are no doubt aware, a lodge that accepts a candidate for membership by initiation, must of necessity confer the first degree themselves. It is permissible to exchange the other two degrees. This practice is increasing as time goes on and in all fairness I must say, on occasion, it is a good thing. Especially so when a group such as the R.C.M.P. degree team passes or raises a fellow-member of the Force. This would have a very certain meaning to the candidate and he is the most important person to think about. Let us never lose sight of that, or we will lose him from the fraternity as soon as he has completed his degrees. We must remember that the candidate is never to be used as an excuse just for an exchange visit between lodges. A visit such as this may, and should, take place at any time. Fraternal visitation is one of the benefits that may be ours through a little effort combined with a bit of planning, it is not necessary to have the conferring of a degree in another lodge to bring this about.

We must recognize that the candidate who has the privilege of receiving his degrees from those members who received him into the Order and whom he will be associating with in the future, is going to have a greater appreciation of his membership. It is greatly to be desired to have the excellence that is exhibited on Past Masters Night in conferring degrees. This has a tendency to lend added dignity to the ceremony. In all this is there not a definite danger of giving the candidate the impression that he is just being used as an excuse for the occasion? Perhaps we would do well to consider this and recognize that lodge officers

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EDITORIAL

The month of November, with Remembrance Day particularly in the minds of our people, is a month in which peoples in many countries of the world recall, with the deepest gratitude, the sacrifice that was made by so many thousands of men and women in the defence of liberty and in a magnificent endeavor to curb the evil desires of aggression in the major wars in which our country has been engaged.

In all sections of our country, in the hamlets, villages, towns and cities, people meet on Remembrance Day to pay well earned tribute to valour and to acknowledge sacrifice. Cenotaphs in quiet places form the gathering places, each Remembrance Day, for hundreds of thousands and those who lost dear ones in conflict call to mind the touch of the vanished hand and the happy days before the call of duty made its harsh demand.

Much of this issue of the Masonic Bulletin is devoted to the fine work which is being done by the Grand Lodge of Alberta in furthering the education of the youth of our Province and it is significant, I think, that the advancement of education might well be regarded as a very worth while form of Remembrance in its truest sense.

There can be little valid denial of the necessity of our young people to obtain all the education that our modern facilities make possible for them; the tremendous pace at which our world is progressing and the insistent and ever-increasing demand for more and more training require that every possible educational advantage be sought and utilized, so that our great natural resources might be turned to the advantage of our citizens and so that the keen mind may be made to produce the ultimate in achievement.

The provision of funds with which to prosecute every possible educational facility may, therefore, be considered a form of aid which will doubtless be to the advantage, not only of the recipient of educational assistance, but to all of our people and to the lasting glory of this favoured land where education and ability must go hand in hand with all important energy if the maximum achievement of our youth is to be fully realized.

We hear much, in these days, of the weaknesses and fallibilities of our young people despite the fact that the youth of this day and age can scarcely be said to be less strong and sound than the younger generations of former times.

When one attends the graduation ceremonies of our schools and colleges and sees with so much pleasure the bright faces of youth as they mark accomplishment and take steps to enter into a greater and greater responsibility there can be nothing but encouragement for the future and a deep sense of satisfaction in the knowledge that our country will be in the hands of well trained and ambitious younger men and women.

The part the Grand Lodge plays in encouraging and assisting our young people is a vital one indeed and constitutes Remembrance in its truest form.

S. C. H.

HIGHER EDUCATION BURSARIES AWARDED

The Grand Lodge of Alberta is pleased to announce the award of Bursaries to students whose names appear below and extends to them congratulations and best wishes for a successful term.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Bursaries in the amount of \$500.00

University of Alberta, Edmonton
Gordon Donald Arnett, Medicine 3 Berwyn
Marilynne Shirley Bergos, Pharmacy 2 Bowden
Mary Ann Neely, Education 3 Lethbridge
David Lorne Patterson, Science-Maths 2 Hondo
Dwayne Alan Skoye, Agriculture 4 Warburg
University of Alberta, Calgary
Robert Charles Dalton, A & S 2
Edgar Everett Gilson, A & S 3
James Patrick McGee, A & S 2
James Henry Orsten Jr., Science 3 Lethbridge
Arlo Nathaniel Speer, Education 2 Rimbey
Carol Anne Thorsen, Education 2 Innisfail
Dorothy Jean Trenerry, Education 2 Ponoka
Alan Hepner, Pre-Med 2 Calgary

Bursaries in the amount of \$250.00

University of Alberta, Edmonton
Marilyn Alice Gee, Med Lab Science 3 Medicine Hat
Vija Mikelsons, Science 2 Edmonton
Herman Wilco Van den Born, Chemistry 2 Busby
Elizabeth Ruth Weiss, Education 3 Wetaskiwin
University of Alberta, Calgary
Kenneth Theodore Blain, Education 3 Olds
Frank Boehm, A & S 2 Calgary
Eileen Rose Dash, A & S 2
Raymond Keith Friesen, Comm. 4
Richard Allen Sieb, A & S 4 Calgary
Raymond John Van Raamsdonk, A & S 2

MATRICULATING STUDENTS

Bursaries of \$500.00 each

University of Alberta, Edmonton
Grant Allen Bentley Seba Beach
Thomas Robert Budd
Bryan Douglas Fleming Seebe
Terrance Ryan Hughes Enchant
Frances Neva Hill Edmonton
Kathleen Margaret Jewell
Kathleen Margaret Jewell
Sandra Lynne McKee Edmonton
Lorne Fraser McLeod
Doris Elaine Meilicke Green Court
Peter Victor Miller
Waltraud Mena Berta Reidel South Edmonton
Linda Jean Turner Alder Flats
Karen Louise Masur (\$250.00)
University of Alberta, Calgary
Corstain Christopher Brass Calgary
Larry Allan Gillespie Oyen
Lloyd Dennis Lutic Calgary
Leonard James Ring High River
Barbara Wilton Carruthers
Frances Ann Cathrine Galvon (\$300.00) Calgary
Red Deer Junior College
Terrence George Schill (\$500.00) Sylvan Lake
Advanced Musical Studies
James Attwood (\$300.00) Lethbridge

The names in the above list were selected after the most careful consideration and it is anticipated that each of the young people will advance their education to the mutual benefit of themselves and the communities in which they later locate.

THE CHAIRMAN REPORTS

From the Higher Education Bursary Committee

The painful duty of the new chairman at his first meeting in the Masonic Temple, Edmonton, on August 20 was to ask the secretary to express our regrets to R.W. Bro. L. O. Sanders on his resignation as chairman of the committee, and particularly for the reason that prompted it. Members were appreciative of his close attention to the work of the Higher Education Committee for a number of years, and of his great interest therein. The hope was expressed that R.W. Bro. Sanders might be fully restored to health in the near future.

The committee was also appreciative of the work done by the office of the Grand Secretary in compiling, selecting, and organizing the list of applicants from which the final selection had to be made.

As indicative of the great need and demand for higher education bursaries there were some one hundred and seventy-five applications for the sixteen matriculation awards your committee was able to make. It would be difficult to estimate the tragic disappointment of many worthy students who failed to make the list.

This fact alone should stimulate our efforts again this year to give generously to this worthwhile cause for the need becomes greater each year.

Competent educators as well as social philosphers the world over stress the urgency today of further education for all who can profit by it as a means of solving many of the world's economic, social and racial problems.

Higher education is not only necessary to enable an individual to enter and hold a job in modern industry or to make a better contribution to his own world by an awareness of what is happening to it, but it is also necessary for national survival in a rapidly changing technological age.

In this regard, should funds be available your committee could explore the possibility of extending help to worthy students whose talents and interests may be in subjects other than those usually designated "academic."

As a well known speaker recently put it, "If there is one truth on which all Canadians today are agreed, it is the absolute necessity of giving every citizen the best possible education, the quantity and quality of which can only be measured by the capacity of each person to benefit from it."

We would earnestly urge your continued and added support to the work being done by your Higher Education Bursary Committee. Give till it hurts!

> Wor. Bro. W. E. Robinson, Chairman.

LET'S GO TO LODGE

A Masonic Brother may have the deepest belief in the tenets of our Craft, pay his Lodge dues regularly and wear an appropriate emblem with pride. Yet, if that good Brother does not attend Lodge, at least occasionally when he can, he will not enjoy a full Masonic life.

Going to a Lodge meeting should not be viewed as merely a duty or as an interruption in a busy life. Rather, it may well be considered as a delightful and rewarding experience. When a Brother attends a meeting of his home Lodge or visits another, he can depend upon a cordial, sincere welcome and be made to feel that, truly, there is where he belongs. For there, in the company of men whose thoughts and outlook are very like his own, he will feel closer to the everlasting goodness of Masonry.

Of course, it may be expected that some of the proceedings will have a familiar sameness, but in these troubled and restless times that very sameness has a reassuring quality. Regardless of affairs in the disturbed world, there is something very definite, very solid, and very fine in our pattern of conduct that has come down to us, virtually unchanged, through the ages. Observing the dedicated Brethren carrying on happily in the work of the Lodge will be most gratifying, and any Brother, whether or not he is active in the work, can, by his very presence, justly feel that he, too, is an integral part of the proceedings, Undoubtedly, he will be glad to return soon and likely ask some other Brother to go with him.

Remember that in our daily lives, though we may constantly and sincerely endeavour to think and to act as Masons, we need our Lodges and our Lodges do need us in person.

Let any of us who are able to go, attend Lodge this very week. We shall be glad we did.

-The New Age.

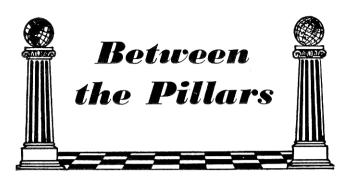
Education Bursary

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and members can confer the degrees on their candidate better than anyone else.

My brethren, the good Mason is an intelligent Mason; to be an intelligent Mason he must be a well-informed Mason. This process of learning and living is termed 'education.' We all may participate to the degree of our choice. This applies in like manner either to supporting The Grand Lodge Higher Education Bursary Fund, or the conferring of the separate degrees in our own Lodge. One is compatible with the other. I urge you to do your best to support both.

T. Gordon Towers, Grand Master.



THE FOUR TASSELS

Prepared by: W. Bro. A. E. Manz, P.M.,

King George Lodge No. 59, AF & AM., GRA. You will recall in the Junior Warden's lecture he states that pendant to the four corners of the Lodge are four Tassels which represent the four cardinal virtues namely: Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice. It is on these four cardinal virtues that the ethics of Masonry are founded.

Tassel No. 1: Temperance, refers to all our activities and pleasures. It does not mean abstinence but a restraint of excess. We should show moderation in the amount that we eat and drink, restraint in what we do and say. There is a conundrum which asks: "What is the best way to peel a sack of potatoes?" and responds: "Take one potato at a time and peel it." This makes sense. Norman Douglas says that Temperance is the exercise of our faculties and organs in such a manner as to combine the maximum of pleasure with the minimum of pain.

In brief, Temperance leaves to every man the indulgence of his own tastes within due limits, and demands not abstinence, but only moderation and temperance, in anything not actually wrong.

Tassel No. 2: Fortitude, includes both kinds of courage: the kind that faces danger and the kind that stands up under daily stress. People are born with different degrees of Fortitude. The natural disposition may be improved by training and exercise.

In connection with Fortitude, Addison had this to say:

"The Fortitude is seen in great exploits that justice warrants and that wisdom guides."

Tassel No. 3: Prudence, means worldly wisdom, sagacity, discretion and practical common sense. It means taking the trouble to think through what we are doing and what is likely to come of it. Prudence is the discretion to speak freely if wisely, the wisdom to worship freely, vote freely, and to choose your work. Prudence obeys the dictates of right reason, develops kindliness, friendship and sincerity. Prudence is the true guide to human understanding, and consists in judging and determining with propriety what is to be said or done upon all our occasions, what dangers we will endeavor to avoid and how to act in all our difficulties.

Tassel No. 4: Justice, is the greatest of all virtues. It moves beyond justice according to law. It embraces fairness, honesty, truthfulness, and the fulfillment of the spoken word. Justice is an ideal. It is an essential prerequisite of freedom, happiness and comfort, a social force beyond measure. Aristotle was an astronomer without a telescope, a biologist without a laboratory, and yet for nearly 2,000 years his conception of natural phenomena and justice ruled science.

The Mason who remembers how emphatically he has been charged to presume an upright position in all his dealings with mankind, should never fail to act justly to himself, to his brethren, and to the world. This is the cornerstone on which alone, he can expect to erect a superstructure alike honorable to himself and to the Fraternity.

Sept. 22nd, 1966. Submitted through the courtesy of the Research and Education Committee, Grand Lodge of Alberta.

THE OLDEST MASON

In the last issue of the Bulletin attention was drawn to the fact that Bro. W. S. Henry of Cornerstone Lodge, High River, Alberta still attends Lodge and the opinion was expressed that perhaps Bro. Henry might well be the oldest Mason in Canada.

R.W. Bro. Ewart G. Dixon, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario recently wrote the Editor of the Bulletin to advise that R.W. Bro. Adam Brown, P.D.D.G.M. will attain the age of 104 on December 17th, 1966 and with Bro. John A. Walker, who is 102 years of age and who has been a Mason for 76 years, still attends Lodge occasionally. Bro. Dixon also advises that there are two other members in Ontario who have been connected with Freemasonry for seventy one years each.

We appreciate Bro. Henry and his fine record in Alberta, but must bow in respect to those fine members in Ontario whose total membership would appear to approximate nearly three hundred years.

The Masons of Alberta send greetings and congratulations to those fine Masons whose only fault, perhaps, is that they neglected to emigrate to Alberta.

REPUTATION

To preserve the reputation of the Fraternity, unsullied, must be your constant care. We have all heard this sentence. It is important to us as individuals to maintain the reputation of our Fraternity, because we are at all times representing the Fraternity. Any deviation from the accepted morals of society, and of the Fraternity, is going to be viewed by the general public as indicative of the character of all Masons. We know that we are members of the most ancient and most honourable institution in existence today. Let us, each one, do his part to insure that it will be ever thus.

-Marshall Pitts, in The Indiana Freemason