



Grand Lodge Bulletin

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MOZART - THE MASON

Wolfgang Mozart is known to Masons mainly because of his opera "The Magic Flute". The High Priest of the Temple of Isis bears away Pamina, the daughter of the wicked Queen of the Night, so that the young girl may be trained in the paths of purity and virtue. A handsome Egyptian Prince, Tamino, is saved from a serpent by the servants of the Queen and is shown a portrait of Pamina and immediately falls in love with her. He vows to rescue Pamina from the High Priest. Before he leaves on his quest, he is given a magic flute which will help him in time of peril. Instead of rescuing Pamina and bringing her back home, Tamino becomes a novitiate in the Temple and meets Pamina there. Both of them go through a severe testing probation, are proved worthy and are married. The Masonic influence is seen throughout the opera. The rhythm of the music includes the knocks used in the three masonic degrees and the philosophy of the story contains many masonic principles. One critic said that no one who was not a Freemason could thoroughly appreciate the opera. It was first produced on the 30th of September, 1791, and by the 12th of October, 1795, it had been performed no fewer than two hundred times.

Ironically, when "The Magic Flute" was first produced Freemasonry was being expelled from Austria. In 1790, the Roman Catholic Clergy became antagonistic and under Emperor Francis, it was proposed to suppress Masonry throughout the German Empire. In 1795, all Austrian Lodges were closed.

Mozart composed much more Masonic Music. He wrote Opening and Closing hymns for the Lodge and some great Masonic Funeral Music. "To A Visiting Brother", "Charity", "Contentment" and "My Wishes" are all songs written by him for use in Lodges.

Mozart was born in Salzburg on the 27th of January, 1756. Even when he was a youngster, it became evident that he was a prodigy. At the age of eight, he played before George III, in the English Court and accompanied Queen Charlotte in song. In 1781, he went to Vienna to live and in 1782, was married to Constance Weber, who was 19 years of age. They had six children in nine years. He died at the early age of 35, in the year 1791.

Mozart was initiated into "Benevolence" Lodge in Vienna, on the 14th of December, 1784, this Lodge having been established only a year before. There were eight Lodges in Vienna at that time, and Mozart was a frequent visitor at a number of them. He was a devout, orthodox Roman Catholic, and it is somewhat surprising that he should so openly become a Mason, especially in view of the Papal Bulls of 1738 and 1751, through which the antagonism of the Roman Church to Masonry became evident. However, during this period a number of priests and a large group of leading figures in literature, science and art were Masons. The reason was that Emperor Joseph II, was favourably disposed to Freemasonry and did not allow the Papal Bulls to be published in Austria. This was changed after the death of the Emperor, and Masonry was banned.

Mozart's love of Freemasonry and the earnestness with which he devoted himself to it can be seen in the large number of compositions that he produced in the seven short years that he was a member of the order. This is how Dr. Bernard Paumgartner, onetime director of the Salzburg Mozarteum writes about it,

"The benevolent and liberal efforts of Freemasonry, its fight against superstition and narrow-mindedness, the idealistic principles of mutual assistance and fraternal equality of rights, undoubtedly had a strong effect on Mozart's sensitive disposition. His inclination for cheerful society, the necessity which he felt for more profound conversation amongst intimates, and his mind (which was open to all humanitarian ideas, and which, in spite of genuine faith, was always subconsciously striving to rid itself of all which was strictly dogmatic in matters of faith and ethics), all these things must have made him appreciate the fraternity of Freemasonry as a revelation after the repressing narrowness of his Salzburg environment. The mysterious ceremonial of the Order and the important part played by solemn music at all their festivities and ceremonies completed the hold of Freemasonry on Mozart's artistic imagination".

Condensed from the Year Book of the Grand Lodge of Scotland

WHAT IS MASONRY?

Bro. L. Forgay, Senior Warden, Beacon Lodge No. 190, Red Deer

Have you ever stopped to think what Masonry is and does? Masonry is the product of the most unselfish thinking, the most whole-hearted and selfless effort, the world has ever known. Through it a universal brotherhood of millions of men has been brought into being, to any one of which you and I have the right to turn, sure of sympathy, understanding and some help in time of need.

Through Masonry, a system of philosophy has been evolved, and through its lodges that philosophy is taught to all brethren of the M.M. degree, without money and without price. Through it we learn, charity, toleration, courage, fortitude, justice, truth, brotherly love, relief. Through it we learn decency, patriotism, high-thinking, honour, honesty, and helpfulness. Through it, and all of these, we are made into better men, better citizens, better husbands, better fathers.

Masonry may penetrate only a fraction of an inch beneath the skin of her followers, but by that fraction of an inch the man who takes even a little of her blessings to himself is a better man, and so the world is a better place for the rest of us. In some of us it strikes deep. We become soaked through and through with Masonic ideas, and strive in our feeble, human way, to show forth to the world whatever measure we may accomplish of the perfection for which Masonry strives.

Those of us who take it seriously and love it much, also make the world a better place for the rest of us.

This Inner Temple

Why King Solomon built such a magnificent temple, we will never know, nor can we do anything about it. But there is a temple we can do something about — an Inner Temple — and it doesn't take a great many masons to build one of them.

This Inner Temple needs to be no bigger than the size of your heart, and it can be built by a single Craftsman — you or me. The sound of axe, hammer or any tool of iron, need not be heard in its construction, and the dimensions will be just as pretentious as you and I make them.

On the other hand, if we as individual Freemasons can store away in that Inner Temple, day by day, the finished work of the skilled Craftsman — Love of God and Country, Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity — the building will never tumble down and it will outshine even the Temple of Solomon in all its glory. An Inner Temple built upon such a foundation will ever be preserved from rot and decay.

So I say to you, my brethren, there is no substitute for the day by day living of the tenets of a Mason's profession. The Mason who practices his Masonry only in the lodge room, receives not too much for his initiation fee.

When a man is cold and hungry, it is a fine thing to bless him and to wish him well, and even pray for him, but the good deed isn't done until he has been clothed and fed.

Yes, we are hiding our light under a bushel,

when we leave the tenets of a Freemason's profession in our lodge rooms.

May each of us so construct the Inner Temple, that it will reflect with glory to His name and honour to the Fraternity.

What is Masonry?

It is love of God and Country. This cannot be separated from our lives as Masons, when we pledge our future years to service of God and the well being of our fellow men.

But, as Masons, we do not seek to impose our beliefs upon those who are not masonic brothers. Our hands are always extended to help, those hands are never fists which threaten.

Freemasonry is an ancient order, its beginnings are shrouded in the mists of time. It is a potent force for good and for the dignity that comes with freedom.

I hope we never forget the prosaic and real meaning of the word "mason".

A mason working at his trade is a builder, and it is the modern aim of our masonic fraternity to remain builders.

Every master builder must dream of raising an edifice not only of lasting beauty — but, a structure of value useful to his fellow men. He must have vision to mentally picture that structure in order to lay designs upon the trestle board for the craftsmen to execute. If the master builder knows that he is joined in his project by those well trained, faithful, and skillful, he can dream with confidence and build well because he dared to dream well.

George Washington once made the statement that he became a mason because he noted that the men in his community that he most admired were members of the fraternity. Masonry is a way of life. Those of us who are grateful and proud that we are masons know that Freemasonry is judged by what others observe of our actions. Those of us accepted in this fraternity will be enriched not only by being accepted but by constant giving which is a part of Freemasonry.

What is Masonry?

It is an existence for individuals. It achieves worthwhile goals quietly and even silently. But, those achievements are made possible only through the moral and spiritual victories of individuals.

When it inspires an individual to display the qualities of friendship, morality and brotherly love, Freemasonry is performing its mission well. We do not deny we are a secret fraternity, and our protection of some secrets is required by oaths and vows we take when we become masons. But we should never make a secret of the fact that we stand positively for humanity through actions which speak openly for friendship, morality and an enduring faith in the wisdom of a Supreme Being. These are not secrets to be hidden from the world — but to be proclaimed as our masonic beliefs.

May each of us sincerely believe and can say, "I am a better man because I am a mason."

News Notes from The Masonic Spring Workshop



Bro. Harold M. Paterson and his wife, Mrs. Leona Paterson, formed an outstanding team at the Masonic Spring Workshop in conducting the School of Instruction on How to Make a Speech. Mrs. Paterson was created Alberta's first "Masonette" for her contribution to the Workshop and to the Pageant staged at Grand Lodge a couple of years ago. The picture shows Herb Laycraft, Chairman of the Planning Committee, making a presentation to Mrs. Paterson at the concluding session of the Workshop.

The magic number of five hundred was passed for the first time at this year's workshop, with 525 masons in actual attendance. This compares to 478 last year. The pre-registration was a record 619.

Saskatchewan Lodge No. 92, had the largest delegation at the workshop, but, Irricana Lodge No. 137 had the largest percentage of its members present, 16 out of a total membership of 58. The Spring Workshop is a very happy blending of urban and rural members.

A delegation of 23 masons came from the Province of Saskatchewan, and their contribution was greatly appreciated.

It was anticipated that Manitoba would have been represented in the person of David Dunford of Carberry, the nephew of Mel Dunford, the secretary of the Workshop. David had a car accident on the way to Banff and he and his wife were hospitalized. We are happy to report that both are well on the way to recovery.

The Workshop used the Eric Harvey Theatre at the Banff School of Fine Arts for its general sessions and found the seats very comfortable and the acoustics excellent. The general opinion was that this theatre was far better than the Auditorium used previously. However, a number of the brethren found the walk from the other buildings to the theatre quite strenuous.

Sandy Milligan, Edmonton, will be the Chairman of the Planning Committee for the Sixth Workshop to be held in Banff on April 2, 3 and 4, 1971. Bob Borland, Calgary, will be the vice-chairman. Undoubtedly the new committee will have to consider seriously limiting registration, if the popularity of the Workshop continues to grow and after the success of this year, there is every prospect of another record next year. Put the date on your calendar, and get your registration in promptly.

GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE

My Dear Brethren:

With this my final message to you through the medium of our bulletin, comes the realization that my year of stewardship as your Grand Master is rapidly coming to a happy close.

"Time marches on." One short year ago you conferred upon me the highest honour possible for you to bestow, and certainly the highest honor I will ever receive. Words are inadequate to express my gratitude for having been so honored. It has been my daily concern since my installation, that I render service to the Grand Lodge of Alberta commensurate with the honor, duties and responsibilities of Grand Master. On June 10th, I must account for my stewardship in this exalted office and pass the reins of authority to my worthy successor.

I want to give credit and thanks to all those who have given so generously of their advice and wisdom, and upon whose assistance and encouragement I have leaned so heavily.

Although we never reach our goal in the performance of our duties, it affords me great pleasure to give credit to those who have assisted me. Not only the Grand Lodge Officers have given their whole hearted support, but I shall always cherish the support and friendship of all the good Brethren I have been privileged to meet in my visits to Lodges throughout our Jurisdiction.

This past year we have seen many changes in our environmental influences and the acceptance of change is now common-place in all of our activities. We have astronauts, undeclared wars, struggling nations fighting for freedom and bedlam on our streets and college campuses. The strivings, the frustrations, the contentions of struggling and competing humanity are voices that are demanding our attention at every turn.

The voice of Freemasonry is needed throughout the world today, and I believe it should be a far stronger voice that speaks to the great mass of struggling humanity. The teachings of Freemasonry proclaim a better way of life. Professing no particular creed, it teaches an unwavering belief in God. It looks hopefully to the day when there will be one Universal Brotherhood under the Fatherhood of God. It pledges its members to live moral and upright lives and seeks to instill the attributes of God in an all embracing love and devotion to Truth. It urges men in their dealings with one another to be fair, honest and tolerant. The things Freemasonry has to say, need to be said again and again, until all of our Brothers become thoroughly indoctrinated in our teachings and philosophy.

The voice of Freemasonry has been active in the affairs of men over the centuries. That voice has been an influential one playing a significant role in the development of Peoples in our Western world.

It is my conviction that many of the problems and short-comings of Freemasonry, as it is now practiced comes as a result of the lack of proper indoctrination, education and leadership. A lodge that has continuous good leadership, has no problem with growth and accomplishment. We have therefore during

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Grand Master's Message — continued

the past year geared our activities toward increased education and the development of leadership by endeavouring to have our Brethren "Participate" in the affairs of Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction.

May I close my message to you with this final thought as expressed by a distinguished Grand Master of another Jurisdiction:-

When I have come to the end of the road,
I should like to look back and see,
That I have done my very best,
With the trust that was placed in me.
I should like to know that I never have,
By action, word or deed,
Betrayed a given confidence,
Or forsaken a friend in need.
I should like the consolation,
When I've travelled the very last mile,
To know I've meant something to someone,
And caused those in sorrow to smile.
I know that I shall be happy,
If in the heart of just one,
I can leave a lingering memory,
Of something good I have done.

Your Grand Master,
Philip J. Kendal

Renfrew Lodge No. 134, Calgary, had a meeting to remember on Monday, April 27. The degree was put on by members of twenty-one lodges, who were all members of the Scottish Rite. The guest speaker of the evening was R.W. Bro. E. H. Rivers, Grand Secretary, who gave a most interesting and enlightening talk on Recognition and some of the duties of Grand Lodge. There were over eighty members and visitors present. This was also remarkable as Calgary had its worst snowfall of the year. Since the snow did not commence until the afternoon, preparations had been completed for 200 guests.

Curling Report

The 10th Annual District 20 Bonspiel was held in Leduc on Feb. 28. From the information which we have received, it appears to have been a real bang-up affair and thoroughly enjoyed by all who were able to take part. Our purpose is not to give you this ancient news but rather to pique your interest and see how many of you will get out to the 1971 Spiel, which will be held in Wetaskiwin. If you require information, we are sure that Bill Bell in Star of the West Lodge No. 34, Leduc, will be happy to come to your assistance.

Ionic Lodge No. 45, in Alix, celebrated an outstanding evening on April 9. The degree was under the very capable direction of Britannia Lodge No. 18, Ponoka. There were present over 100 visitors and the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. P. J. Kendal. This was the occasion of Ionic's Sixtieth Anniversary.

Westlock Lodge No. 114, celebrated its Fiftieth Anniversary on April 2.

Cyprus Lodge No. 113, Three Hills, celebrated its Fiftieth Anniversary on April 8.

Palestine Lodge No. 46, Tofield, celebrated its Sixtieth Anniversary this month also.

PERSONALITY OF THE MONTH

OSCAR HAWTHORN was born in Manchester, England, January 28th, 1895, and came to Canada, August 12th, 1911. He was Agent for the Grand Trunk Pacific at Chauvin, when he was Initiated into Freemasonry in Albion Lodge No. 97, on September 4th, 1919, and continued with the Canadian National Railways, when the G.T.P. was taken over. He retired to pension a number of years ago.

Brother Hawthorn served Albion Lodge as Worshipful Master in 1924, and was elected District Deputy of District No. 17 for the year 1933-34. He has served Albion Lodge as Treasurer for forty years, and he was presented with his Fifty Year Jewel in October 1969.

Brother Hawthorn has been very active in Community affairs and has been Secretary of the Chauvin and District Board of Trade since 1930. He is a Representative Elder and Clerk of the Session of the Presbyterian Church at Chauvin, and is Treasurer, both of the Presbytery at Edmonton and the Synod of Alberta. He was married to Mabel Clark of Summerside, P.E.I., March 10th, 1915.

This is a very brief record of one who has served his Church, his Lodge and his Community, faithfully and well for a great many years and has been a pillar of strength to all.

AREA MEETING — CAMROSE

R.W. Bro. C. Archibald, D.D.G.M. of District No. 5, and W. Bro. R. A. E. Jones, W.M. of Camrose Lodge No. 37 made arrangements for an Area Meeting on April 27th. There were 143 Brethren present from a very wide area in the Central portion of our Province and the City of Edmonton. M.W. Bro. P. J. Kendal, Grand Master, presided and the meeting opened with a fine address by M.W. Bro. Morley G. Merner on the need of brethren using current material for their Research and Education programs.

R.W. Bro. G. J. Armstrong, dealt with the investigation of Petitions following which The W.M. of Edmonton Lodge No. 101, W. Bro. Gordon Thompson and his officers put on a skit to show what should not be done when the ballot is taken. R.W. Bro. E. H. Rivers, G.S., gave a paper on the First Degree and R.W. Bro. E. J. Thompson, dealt with the Charity lecture. W. Bro. C. J. Long spoke on the Charge to the Candidate.

Before closing the M.W. The Grand Master, presented a Master Mason's Apron and Master Mason's Certificate to Bro. P. L. Beard.

The M.W. The Grand Master, was supported by three Past Grand Masters, M.W. Bro. M. G. Merner, M.W. Bro. S. H. Hardin and M.W. Bro. B. Brown, as well as the Deputy Grand Master and seven District Deputy Grand Masters, R.W. Bros. Phillips (4), Archibald (5), Collier (9), Campbell (12), Mitchell (17), Sollanych (19) and Aberdeen (20). The Grand Secretary, The G.D. of C., V.W. Bro. S. Harbin, Grand Stewards V.W. Bros. Rud and Sorenson and the Grand Tyler V.W. Bro. Crockett as well as a large number of Past Grand Lodge Officers.