



Grand Lodge Bulletin

Vol. 64, No. 10

Editor: MWBro Robert E. Juthner

December 1999

Let Us Rejoice

Winter has arrived once more, bringing with it short days and long nights, but bringing also our most wondrous celebrations of light, and of hope and peace and wonder... and most especially of love: God's love for us, and our love for each other. May I offer you a story told by Ronald E. Comfort which will evoke a familiar image for any of you who have lived or journeyed in the Maritimes.

"The lighthouse was at the end of a dirt road. Squat and weathered, it was not impressive in the late evening light of Nova Scotia. On a bluff overlooking a fishing village on the Gulf of St. Lawrence, it had sat for generations guiding boats to a safe harbour. Upon climbing to the top of the lighthouse, I noted its unusual construction. The reflector was made up of different-sized pieces of mirror mounted at different angles behind the light. Each mirror was unique.

"When the light came on at dusk, the logic of this construction became obvious. Because each mirror fragment was a different size and at a different angle to the light, the reflections from the bank of mirrors created a brilliance that a single mirror could not have equalled."

The story is a parable. Any group of people — the community of a town or city, the congregations of a faith tradition, indeed the Brotherhood of Freemasonry itself — can be like that bank of mirrors in the lighthouse. Each member is unique, with special gifts. And when members connect in love and respect, and with commitment to a common vision, miracles happen. Valued traditions are honoured, grand principles are reclaimed, the moral fabric of society is renewed. And in all, the group reflects with particular brilliance that greatness and love which is the very nature of God. In fact, it can then serve as a lighthouse, guiding others from the darkness into safe harbour.

What a creative idea — to shed light in the darkness. It was an idea God had at the beginning of creation. In words familiar to each of us: "And God said, Let there be light: and there was light." (Genesis 1:3.) What does this mean for us as we begin our journey through this holy season and into the new year ahead?

First, we need to see that Freemasonry is a keeper of the light. That, indeed, is an essential part of what it means to be a Freemason: we have seen the light, and it is our job to make certain the light we have seen is kept burning in the darkness

Holy Days Greetings...

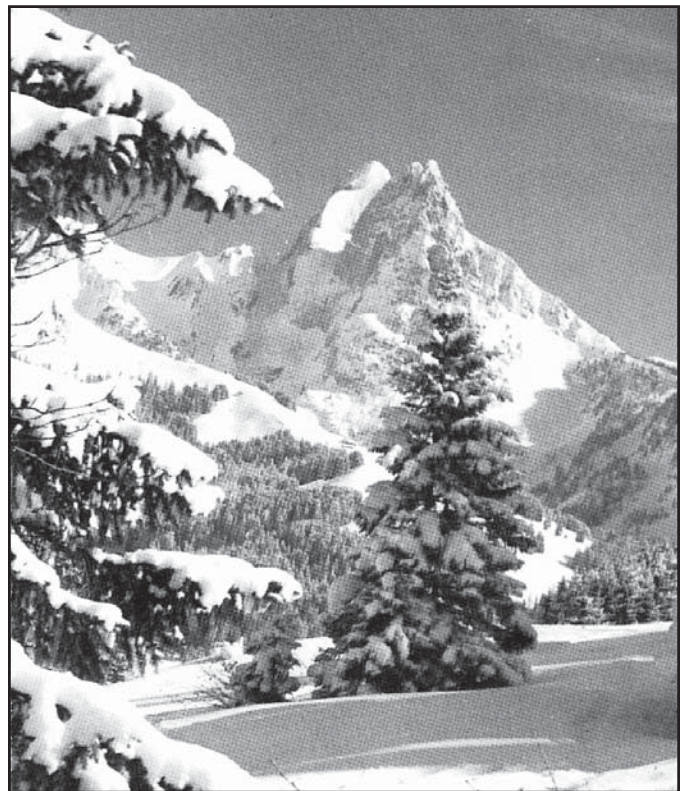
are fraternally extended to our Jewish Brethren on celebrating *Hanukkah* on December 4, 1999 and also to our Brethren of the Islamic faith who observe *Ramadan* from December 9, 1999 to January 7, 2000 culminating in its celebration on January 8th.

As expressed in our Grand Chaplain's message; "Let us rejoice in the light we bear for each other... May the light of the eternal love of God be with us all always!"

around us. As the Craft, we are keepers of a flame that has been burning for untold centuries. Wars have been fought, empires and philosophies have risen and fallen, revolutions have

See **Rejoice**, page 2.

Season's Greetings



From the Grand Lodge Office

On behalf of Judy Rivers, Felice Havelock and myself, John Knox, we would like to send our best wishes to all Brethren and their families for a wonderful Christmas Season and a healthy, prosperous New Year. We would like to thank all those who have been supportive and of great assistance to the Grand Lodge Office. We feel very fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with you and for you, and we look forward to another year of the same.

It has become a bit of a tradition for us to host an "Open House" during the Festive Season. We look forward to a day of meeting and greeting those with whom we have worked closely over the past years and also to meeting new friends. Should you have time to share with us, Thursday, December 16, 1999 from 10:30 AM to 3:00 PM, please stop by 330 – 12th Avenue SW, Calgary Freemasons' Hall. We encourage you to bring your spouse, friend or family.

Grand Lodge Bulletin

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Editorial

Our Bursaries

As reported in the October 1999 *Grand Lodge Bulletin*, VWBro Hugh Kent, Chairman of the Masonic Higher Education Bursary Committee, expressed his appreciation to the Freemasons of Alberta for their generosity in financially supporting the efforts of that committee which, this year, resulted in granting 84 \$1,000-Bursaries to needy post-secondary students of about 24 (not 28) per cent of the 354 students who applied. Let us keep these figures in mind.

A thousand dollars is still a welcome shot-in-the-arm in 1999 although this amount no longer goes as far as it once did when the Masonic Higher Education Bursary Fund was created in the days of Grand Master Ross Shepherd. Not by a long shot! For this reason, earlier this year, the proposal had been made to the Board of General Purposes to increase the amount, albeit benefitting fewer recipients but being more in tune with the times, namely, risen tuition fees and other costs to students. The decision was to maintain the status quo.

Now to see how others, outside Masonry, view this issue. The *Edmonton Journal* of September 8, 1999 carried a commentary by Susan Riley, under the headline "\$1,500+125%=the higher cost of higher education", from which we quote:

"...Canadian university tuitions have increased by 125 per cent over the past decade..., Statistics Canada reports that returning post-secondary students face 7.1 per cent higher tuition fees this fall (1999) unless they are studying in British Columbia or live and study in Quebec, two provinces where tuitions are frozen. The average arts undergrad will pay \$3,379, up from \$3,156 last year, and more than double the \$1,500 cost at the beginning of the decade. And tuition is only part of the cost of education: a recent survey of 39 campuses reveals that a student living at home will pay \$6,416 in total expenses, which rises to \$11,465 for those boarding..."

Whatever the total costs may be for students attending the various post-secondary institutions in Alberta, one thing is clear, "one grand" is not enough, particularly for those of limited resources whom we have, traditionally, sought to support. What can and shall we do? We could, of course, double the bursary to \$2,000 to catch up with the times, and award it to fewer students. In the case of the 1999 bursaries this

Rejoice, from page 1.

turned history on its head, but the flame of the love of God has kept shining through the darkness.

Second, we need to see that this is no less our call as individual Masons. God's light has shone into our world. Countless people before us and around us have kept that light shining. Our individual lights must shine to our neighbours as a beacon of hope in a world of darkness.

And so, my Brothers, the question facing each one of us in this season of light, and as we "begin our new journey" together into the dawn of the year 2000 is not, really: "What will happen when the computers click over to 1st January 2000?" Nor is it the more general concern: "What does the future hold for me?" Rather, the predominant question of our heart should be: "What would my world be like if I lived out the best that is in me?... if everyone of us determined to leave the world a more beautiful place?... if every one of us allowed the light of God's love, God's purpose, God's peace to shine forth through our own lives?"

At the conclusion of his radio broadcast to the Commonwealth at Christmas in 1939, King George VI read the following poem by M. Louise Haskins:

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:
 "Give me a light, that I may tread safely into the unknown".

And he replied: "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way." So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night. And he led me towards the hills and the breaking of the day in the lone East.

Let us rejoice, then, in the light we bear for each other and step out upon our journey with the trust that we will have light enough for the steps that follow. May the light of the eternal love of God be with us all always!

Bro Earle Sharam
 VWGrand Chaplain

(Dr Earle Sharam is the Academic Dean of St. Stephen's College at the University of Alberta)

would have meant to 42 rather than 84 applicants, or about 12 rather than 24 per cent. So, what would have been wrong with that? After all, we will never be able to support 100 per cent of those seeking our aid, but we can make a significant difference to the top contenders.

Why else would we not opt for higher amounts to fewer beneficiaries? It certainly cannot be for reasons of propagating the good name of our fraternity to an optimum number of people who don't know much about us, because we have no such ulterior motives. We do not expect any of our bursary winners (of whom many are of the female persuasion) to eventually join our ranks. This cannot be it. So, why do we still keep the lid on one thousand dollars, which meant something forty years ago when we got started, but is no longer sufficient?

There was also a good point made on the floor of Grand Lodge, last June, to give more consideration to third-year students, those who are running out of grants, rather than or in addition to Freshmen. That too should be remembered.

Such are but some thoughts on the subject to be pondered. Let us give it some serious thought.

Around the World

is the title for a series of interesting items compiled by RWBro Murray Yaxley; the following appeared in **The Tasmanian Mason**, Vol. 13:1, Autumn 1999:

John Glenn 33 Degree

John Glenn became a 33rd Degree Mason according to the Scottish Rite in Washington on September 10, 1998. He then became the first American 33rd Degree Mason to travel in space. He carried with him an extra 33rd Degree ring which will be placed in a Masonic museum.

One More Time Please

Anyone for Masonic education on the Internet? You could look up <<http://www.linshaw.com/omtp.html>> Hugh Young of Calgary, Alberta selects a Masonic paper from the archives and publishes it "One More Time, Please!" New papers are added at intervals of about one month...

Millennium Lodge

There just had to be a race to form a Lodge with this name. So far there are two contenders: "Millennium Lodge" was instituted during September 1998 in Fort McMurray, Alberta (NE) Canada on the 56th parallel.

In England the Millennium Lodge of Hampshire will be consecrated early in January 2000.

Variation to Ritual

A Lodge in England recently held its meeting in a room on the ground floor at the rear of a public house. The WM asked the usual question, "What is the first care of every Mason?" The officer apparently stood up and realised that he needed to ad lib, "To draw the curtains, WM." This stopped the meeting in its tracks. The rest of the Brethren turned and saw half a dozen local 10-12 year-olds peering through a window directly behind the Secretary.

North American Daylight Lodges

Historical references suggest that Medieval Masonic Guilds often met on Saturday for such business as proving their apprentices. Logic would tell us that, just as the first walls were erected on the north side in order to keep the building area shaded for less time, so would the meeting be during the day because few, except the nobility and the clergy, could afford the luxury of candles or lamp oil.

The goals and purposes of this organization (North American Daylight Lodges) shall be the exchange of fellowship and to foster Masonic ideals amongst the members and friends of Masonic Lodges which meet, as in ancient times, during the daylight hours.

MSA is very pleased to provide (its) readers with an advance notice that there will be a *Conference for North American Daylight Lodges* in Toronto, Ontario, May 26-29, 2000. This is an early notice for those who might like to plan a trip around the conference.

For more information please visit the website: <http://members.home.net/nacdl> or contact the Conference Chairman: Sheldon Kofsky, 11 Cowles Court, Richmond Hill, ON L4C 9A8

FAX 905-770-3014; e-mail jmaks@sprint.ca

Emmesay Notes, August 1999

Three Generations



RWBro Charles Holmes Dyson, a member of the Craft since 1949, Past Master of Ashlar Lodge No. 28 and PDDGM, has not only distinguished himself as a Mason but also as a devoted family man. Combining family with Masonry, he participated in raising both of his sons, Paul and David, as well as his grandson Kevin into the Masonic Order, and had assisted in the installation ceremonies of Paul and David in their respective Lodges. The photograph, taken when Brother Dyson was presented with a Fifty-Year Jewel on September 23, 1999, shows (L-R) Bro Kevin Dyson (Calgary Lodge No. 23) RWBo Charles Dyson (Ashlar Lodge No. 28) and WBro Dave Dyson (Calgary Lodge No. 23).

Lost

Perfection Lodge No. 9 has lost its Travelling Gavel. It was last delivered to Cascade Lodge No. 5. It is in a blue bag, together with its register book. It was planned to pass it on to another Lodge in January, 2000.

Anyone knowing its whereabouts please call Jim Ross at 403-249-5025 or send a letter to him at Box 106, Site 17, RR2, Calgary, AB T2P 2G5

John E. Myles (118)

Masonry in the Public Eye

This is about the annual Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, CA, on New Year's Day. The 1999 entry of a Masonic float had been awarded the Lathrop K. Leishman Trophy for the "most beautiful entry by a non-commercial sponsor" and also the State Governor's award for the "best depiction of life in California."

The float to be entered on January 1, 2000 will be titled "Liberty for All," compatible with the parade theme *Celebration 2000 — Visions for the Future*. Having no riders on the float, as was the custom in previous years, it will feature a 15m high replica of the **Statue of Liberty**, on a base surrounded by national flags from around the world, made from roses, gladioli, iris, carnations, orchids and baby's breath, produced with dried and fresh petals. The statue's torch will be illuminated with special yellow, iridescent flowers with brightened tips.

The media will be provided with information about the role played by French and American Freemasons in the history of the statue since 1865. It should be interesting to hear the comments by the narrator, and to view the Masonic float when telecast on our various TV channels in Alberta on January 1st. Tune in.

REJ

More on Dress

Third in a series of articles on Masonic Protocol and Etiquette

Following the preceding article which concentrated on what is traditional, or "proper" attire at Lodge functions, it is but fair to give room to dissenting views or such that, at least, point out present day trends affecting the Lodge. The following comments as well as the accompanying cartoon, are taken from "Appearance Unbecoming", an article by David Hopkirk, published in *The Square*, June 1998:

"...At the turn of the century, and later, it was expected that Brethren should wear either evening dress or morning dress. At some stage the change from frock coat and three-cornered hat must have given way to more Victorian attire. How did this happen? Did they follow fashion? If so, what does that augur for us today?..."

"Am I falling down by not wearing morning dress? The visiting Grand Officers and like-minded brethren always turn up at lodge in such attire; it makes me feel quite naked! Am I being sufficiently 'cautious in my carriage' when I turn up in just a dark suit?"

"I wonder what would happen if an adventurous brother turned up wearing a creased (dark) Armani suit, designer stubble and an earring? Would he be accused of paying less than due respect to the WM and the Lodge? Has the evening/morning dress had its day? Will the suit itself become a rarity? You may be dismissive; but there are strange sartorial trends appearing in business which could impact on our appearance.

"...amazingly, earrings have appeared in some lodges (but not during initiation!) Today, in commerce the suit has become a bit of an anachronism... Now, creative dressing means dressing down, with earrings, hair gel and designer stubble..."

"So, how long before formal dress becomes a thing of the past? Can we expect lawyers to appear in court in pink mules? What does all this mean for our meetings? Will we find a trend for casual wear in our temples?"

"I am not being flippant. Can we expect to attract men into Masonry in the future, if they start thinking that formal dress is rather naff? DCs should be prepared; where will it all end? After all, if lawyers, why not Visiting Grand Officer?"

Back to the Alberta Scene. — One last word on evening wear: coloured tuxedos, bow ties and puffs are out of place in a Masonic Lodge as they do not show good taste on the part of the wearer, although bow ties and cummerbunds in the Alberta or Canada (Maple Leaf) tartan are acceptable. The white dinner jacket, worn only from May through September (and never in Lodge) lends pleasant summer-time formality to a banquet or festive board.

In Alberta, the apron must be worn outside the suit jacket, except in the rare case of tails, cutaways or mess kit uniforms. Current and Past Grand Lodge officers should wear their full

dress regalia only with formal (and semi-formal) attire or a very dark business suit, while undress aprons may be worn on other occasions. Where a Past Grand Officer has only an undress apron, it can be worn with formal or semi-formal wear also, of course.

One word on "overdressing" is in order. Although a Grand Lodge officer ought not to dress less formally than the GM (or the DDGM) at any meeting which this officer attends, neither should he dress more formally. It follows that there must be communication among them so that everyone knows in advance what is expected of him. — In our jurisdiction it has become quite rare, but is still an accepted symbolic practice, that the highest-ranking officer, such as the WM or the GM, wear a top hat. Although some Masonic authors think otherwise, Masonically, the top hat (or any other head covering) is representative of King Solomon's crown and, therefore, worn only by the presiding officer. If the WM is covered, he must remove his hat when the GM enters the Lodge because, as Coil points out, "it is Masonically impossible for two persons to be

in control at the same time. When the Grand Master has finished his address or business with the Lodge, he usually returns control to the Master, who then resumes his hat. The Master also removes his hat at every mention of the GAOTU and at prayer." Here let us observe that there are some continental European Lodges where all members wear white tie, tails and top hat, certainly creating a festive impression but not adding to Masonic symbolism — such has never been condoned in Alberta.

In summary, the purpose of "dressing properly" is not to show oneself off to others but rather to show one's respect for these others and to dignify the occasion. The admonition in the charge in the Fellowcraft Degree in the Ancient York and the Canadian Rites: "The internal, and not the external qualifications of a man are what Masonry regards" does not impinge upon this subject of proper clothing

and should not be interpreted as a carte blanche to appear in Lodge as if one were going to a picnic in the park.

Watch for more DOs and DON'Ts in the next issue. Yours, as always, Masproquette.

REJ



Where will it all end?

Grand Master's Itinerary

December

- 1 Balmoral Lodge, St. Albert
- 6 Strathmore Lodge, Game Supper
- 8 Board of Benevolence, Red Deer
- 8 Dominion Lodge, Edmonton
- 9 Saskatchewan Lodge, Edmonton
- 10 Strathcona Lodge, Edmonton
- 11 Commercial Lodge, Edmonton
- 14 Highlands-Unity Lodge, Edmonton

Our DDGMs

Calgary-Highwood District

RWBro Gary H. Timmons is a native of Vanguard, SK, born on December 27, 1932. He is a Certified Management Accountant by profession who has retired as an accountant after thirty-three years of service with Mobil Oil Canada. He and his wife Fairlie have a daughter, Cheryl, a son, Robert, and four grandchildren — three boys and a girl. Gary resides in the city of Calgary.



Bro Timmons received the three degrees of Masonry in Swift Current Lodge No. 26, GRS, in early 1958 and later affiliated with Elbow River Lodge No. 180 in Calgary. He was WM of Elbow River Lodge for the 1976-77 term and was appointed Junior Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge of Alberta for 1995-96. Our Brother is also a member of the Calgary bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of Canada.

Athabasca District

RWBro Brian W. Shimmons, was born on March 10, 1951 in Stratford, ON, and resides in Fort McMurray where he is employed as General Manager of Upgrading, Syncrude Canada Ltd. He holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Engineering from the University of Western Ontario. He has been married to Victoria for 28 years and the couple have three daughters, Kristina (27) of Ottawa, Jennifer (23) of Calgary, and Gillian (17) of Fort McMurray.



Our Brother was initiated, passed and raised in Fort McMurray Lodge No. 195 in 1989 and was WM of that Lodge in 1995. Having been instrumental in forming a second Lodge in his city, he became a charter member and the first Worshipful Master of Millennium Lodge No. 2000, which was instituted UD in September 1998 and constituted and consecrated in September 1999. He holds dual membership in both Fort McMurray Lodges.

Brian is a member of Norwood Chapter No. 18, RAM, Edmonton Preceptory No. 46, KT, Zohar Council No. 4, R&SM and Al Shamal Temple, AAONMS and its Clown Unit.

Phoenix District

RWBro Ejvind (Ivan) Villadsen is a native of Denmark and was born in Fraeer, District of Skørping, on May 24, 1938. He now resides in Calgary where he works as an Engineer/Businessman in mechanical-electrical engineering. He is a member of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers, the Alberta Safety Building Technical Council and the National Pipe Trades Human Re-



sources Committee. He is married to Inger Villadsen.

Bro Villadsen was initiated April 8, 1970, passed November 24, 1971 and raised November 8, 1972 in Lodge De gamle Pligter (=The Ancient Charges) under the National Grand Lodge of Denmark. He is now an affiliated member of Concord Lodge No. 124, which Lodge he has served as WM in 1993. He also holds life membership in his Mother Lodge in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Our Brother is a member of the Scottish Rite bodies of Calgary, Crescent Chapter No. 24, RAM and Cyprus Preceptory No. 33, KT.

Three Rivers District

RWBro Walter R. Wolbert was born in Günter Fürst (now Erbach), Germany, on November 23, 1935, which made him nine years old when World War II ended. Learning a trade, he obtained his journeyman's ticket in 1954 and spent another two and a half years to receive his high school qualifications. In 1957 he immigrated to Canada, and in 1958 he received his Canadian Mechanics Trade certificate. It was here that he met, and in 1960 married, Katharina Hengerer.



The couple have four children, who are now all married and who provided them with ten grandchildren.

Walter and his family have been ranching and farming in the Livingstone Range area of southwestern Alberta since 1960. He is still actively involved as a rancher and farmer with his son and family, and takes time and pleasure in watching his grandchildren grow up. He is the founder and a director of the Pincher Creek Feeder Association, chairman of the Pincher Creek Seed Plant, and church warden for St. Chad's-St Aidan's Anglican Church in Cowley, AB.

Bro Walter Wolbert received the degrees of Freemasonry in Chinook Lodge No. 47, Cowley, in 1976, and served that Lodge as WM for four terms. He was appointed Grand Steward for the 1984-85 term.

Yellowhead District

RWBro Trenewan John Cole was born on February 15, 1947 in Victoria, BC, the son of a career Armed Forces officer whose postings took Tren first to Edmonton in the 1950s and, at age 12, to Ottawa where he completed his elementary, secondary and post-secondary education, focusing on business, geography and economic history. Consequently, he has been involved with economic development, in one way or another, ever since 1971. His career has taken him to Newfoundland for nearly five years in the early 70s until he returned to Alberta in 1976. His work with Alberta Economic Development has included "small business and community economic development counselling," the initiation of Alberta's "Business Locations" programming, chairmanship of the Province's 1988



"Winter Olympics Business Program" and various "trade development" assignments. At present, he is developing a "manufacturing competitiveness strategy" for Alberta.

Our Brother was initiated, passed and raised in Commercial Lodge No. 81 in 1985. When Senior Warden he was the first Chairman of the now accredited "Five Year Planning" program, and served as WM in 1993. In 1994 he affiliated with Fiat Lux Lodge of Research No. 1980 (as whose WM he was installed on October 2, 1999) and in 1995 also with Baseline Lodge No. 198. He has been a member of the Edmonton bodies of the A&ASR since 1990.

Tren is married to Jan Foster-Cole and their family is composed of two daughters and three sons. He also enjoys the "Blues" and working with fine wood and furniture construction. Tren explains his not so common first name, pronounced Tre-NEW'-an, as of Cornish origin and derived from his ancestral home (the Celtic TRE means "home") Trenewan in Cornwall, a hamlet so small, it doesn't even have a pub!

Masonry in Britain to be Vindicated?

The readers of the *Bulletin* will recall several reports on suspicion of, and outright attacks on Masonry and its members in the UK during the past three years. They appeared under the following headings: "Police Will Be Warned over Links to Masons" (Jan 97), "Freemason Chosen for Justice Body" (Feb 97), "Investigation Into Masonry" (Apr 97), "Good News" (Sept 97), "Freemasonry and the Judiciary" (Dec 98). More recently, on June 9, 1999, the Grand Secretary of the United Grand Lodge of England, VWBro J.W. Daniel, gave this report to the Quarterly Communication (abridged):

I wish to comment on two things... One is the second report of the Home Affairs Select Committee published on 19 May 1999... [He then read the statement made by the UGLE to the press when the report was released.] Freemasons will be pleased but not surprised that the Select Committee has reached the following conclusions:

One — Freemasonry was not the primary cause of the difficulties within the West Midlands Serious Crime Squad.

Two — Freemasonry was not a significant factor in the Birmingham Pub bombings case.

Three — we cannot conclude that Freemasonry played a significant part in the Stalker affair.

Despite a lengthy investigation Mr. Mullin and his committee have produced no evidence that Freemasonry was involved in any possible miscarriage of justice in any of those three cases. The committee acknowledges 'there is a great deal of paranoia about Freemasonry.'

So the Home Affairs Select Committee has had to fall back on two old charges about taking oaths and being a secret society.

[The Grand Secretary's second item was based on a question and answer session in the House of Lords, 17 May 1999.] Some questions were asked about things happening so far as registration was concerned... some by non-Masons.

"Lord Janner asked: 'My Lords, does my noble Friend the Minister recall that among the first organisations to be banned and demonised by the Nazis were the Freemasons? Speaking as someone who is not a Freemason, perhaps I may nevertheless urge my Right Honourable Friend and the Government to take care with an organisation which has among its membership a huge number of very distinguished servants of this country.'

"Lord Burnham said: 'My Lords, perhaps I may not actu-

ally declare an interest as such but state that I am a Freemason. My saying so demonstrates that there is no reason why any Freemason should not say so. Can the Minister say what steps the Government has undertaken to ensure that anyone who so declares his membership is not in any way damaged in his employment by result of that membership?'

"The Minister, Lord Williams of Mostyn, replied: 'My Lords both the Noble Lord's points are of great validity. Indeed it is very important for someone with the scruples that he had, to make bold statement and demonstrate by example. There are quite delicate internal questions involved. I repeat, anyone in a free society is entitled to be a Freemason. It would be quite wrong and wholly against any policy that this Government would stand to for anyone to be prejudiced in his or her employment by virtue of membership of the Freemasonry'.

"And finally, Lord Swansea: 'My Lords, I must declare an interest, as I have been proud to be a Freemason for more than 40 years. What action will be taken with regard to those mentioned in the question who are required to disclose their Freemasonry membership, or to those who decline to answer this question? Is the Minister aware that this demand will be regarded by those concerned as a gross invasion of their privacy and an unwarranted intrusion into their spare-time activities? Have not the Government better things to do than to conduct a witch hunt against an honourable institution which has existed under royal patronage for nearly 300 years?' (*loud applause*)"

From the Brag Bag (Letters to the Editor)

Just a short note to let you know that the *Grand Lodge Bulletin* gets read from front to back and is greatly enjoyed. I'm sure that holds true for most, if not all Brethren.

You are to be congratulated for inserting good general interest commentaries, informative tidbits and serious thought provoking and educational articles (e.g., "Masproquette" — The Right Way) I really appreciate your efforts.

A. James Friesen, Hinton Lodge No 178

It's About Time!

Finally, in "Masproquette," someone has researched and brought to everyone's attention the proper way of conducting oneself in Lodge, proper addressing, proper names and proper etiquette! Unfortunately, over the past few years many articles have been written about some of these areas, but it seems to have fallen on deaf ears! Hopefully this article will bring some positive response.

Touching on "Sitting Master" or "Blue Lodge," it would be interesting to know who coined these phrases! But, there is one other that makes me cringe when I hear it: "Sister Lodge"! It is time to dispense with all three.

When you bring up the "dress or attire," please stress emphatically that tuxedos should be worn at all meetings by all Officers, no exceptions! Dressing in a dignified manner is worthy of belonging to a Lodge that is graced with the VOSL and other significant articles.

Flag protocol seems to vary from Lodge to Lodge, but I think you will find that the proper way of carrying the flag should be always in an upright manner, marched to the East by the DoC, handed to the Master who in turn places it in its place at the right of the East; then the appropriate anthem is sung. Never place the flag on the altar, nor allow it to be on the ground.

Clyde H. Elford, Glenbow Lodge No. 184