A Message from Our Grand Master

Perhaps a brief summary of activities since installation may answer this question, which is so often asked.

Visits to Other Grand Jurisdictions

April 24, 25, 26—Grand Lodge of New Jersey, Atlantic City, N.J.
May 1, 2—Grand Lodge of New York, New York City, N.Y.
May 14, 15, 16—Grand Lodge of Indiana—Indianapolis, Ind.
May 20, 21, 22—Grand Lodge of Rhode Island—Providence, R.I.
May 21, 22, 23—Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Wisc.
June 20, 21—Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan, Canada.

July 17, 18, 19—Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

New District Deputy Grand Masters

Seven new District Deputy Deputies were introduced by your grand master.

February 17—George C. Fannin, Jr., in Philadelphia.
March 24—David R. Harman in New Baltimore.
April 7—Theodore Olive, in Elmira, N.Y.
April 21—Myron P. Wehr in Allentown.

Grand Lodge Visits to the Jurisdictions

January 7—Creston Lodge No. 493 in Philadelphia.

(The Grand Master’s Lodge)

April 14—Grand B. Day Lodge No. 645 in Philadelphia.

(Masons of Pennsylvania)

May 11—Belleville Lodge No. 643, Belleville, N.Y.
May 17—Quaker’s Guard Lodge No. 297, Gnadenhutten.
June 20—Lodge No. 106, Williamsburg.

(Masonic Lodges)

March 8—Constituted Springfield Lodge No. 779 at Chester.
July 14—Constituted Pottsville Lodge No. 760 at Mt. Pocono.

(Masonic Lodges)

May 26—Laid Corner Stone of Masonic Hall of Brownstone Lodge No. 666 at Hershey.

Pennsylvania Supreme Court

May 11—Attended closing ceremonies of Second Session held under the direction of Brother and Judge Gustav L. Schwehm, District Deputy Grand Master, Pittsburgh.

July 15, 16—Attended opening session of Institute at Pittsburgh. Mason at Sight

July 20—On this date in Lawrence Lodge No. 788 at Erie, your Grand Master earned Dr. Elmer How to be made a Mason at Sight. Your Grand Master had the pleasure of conferring the Master Mason’s Degree upon this distinguished student.

Other Lodge Visitations

In addition to the official visitations, your Grand Master has visited and addressed 25 Lodges in and about Philadelphia.

Chapter Visitations


April 29—Addressed Men’s Class in Covenant Methodist Church.

Chapter Visitations

February 5—Visited and addressed Masonic Jurisdiction of District No. 4—93.

July 13—Received in Pennsylvania Council of Delegates by Ill. Scott S. Lefley, 33°, Deputy for Pennsylvania.

March 3—Visited and addressed dinner given by Pilgrim Chapter in Harrisburg.

Pennsylvania Supreme Court

May 23—Addressed 75th Anniversary dinner in Philadelphia.

Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America

February 19, 20, 21, 22—Attended conference and evening sessions. Was given the pleasure of being one of the speakers.

Church Services

February 26—Preached sermon at St. James Methodist Church in Philadelphia.

April 29—Addressed Men’s Class in Covenant Methodist Church in Philadelphia.

Committee on Masonic Homes

Your Grand Master presides over the committee which meets each fourth Friday throughout the year at Elizabethville. (Continued on page 2)
A Message from Our Grand Master

Finance Committee
Meets with this committee on the Tuesday before each meeting of the Lodge of Perpetual Light.

The above is a brief summary of your Grand Master’s activities. There are also frequent meetings with various committees on detail matters. Please note that because of the workload, both Brother and your Grand Master spends whatever time is required in his office at the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia, when he is in town.

Benjamin Franklin, Master Printer

By William F. Montgomery

On the seventeenth of January, 1706, in the house of Josiah Franklin, tallow-chandler, located on the eastern outskirts of Boston just about twenty yards from the church commonly called "Old South," an event occurred which at the time was of interest and importance only to the immediate family of Josiah Franklin and his circle of friends. But it was destined to assume ever-increasing significance as the years went on. When he was born, the birth of a boy, the thirteen child in a family of fifteen. He was christened Benjamin, after his paternal grandfather. Benjamin was always eager to provide for his children and was very much concerned about the education of his son. He hoped that he would some day become the leader of a scholar or the pastor of a church. Doubtless one of these careers might have been his lot, as Elbert Hubbard ex- claimed, "You cannot sail away to sea--be a seaman--be a sailor--" but the Ship of State when she threatened to stand on the rocks of adversity and pilot her into safe harbor was the course chosen by the great Americans to which their eloquence still is directed. Running away to Philadelphia as a boy of seventeen, he so fascinately impressed the inquisitive minds of his schoolmates that the famous Colonel Plowden selected him for one of his orphans and sent him to Oxford. Here, as a civilian-minded and public-minded Philadelphia, he specialized in "fire"—starting the first fire insurance company in the city, and as public-minded and organized and efficient fire company, the first fire insurance company in the city, and the first public hospital. He started an academy which eventually developed into a great university. Stephanie considered his many friends and looked forward with no small degree of pleasure to a lifetime of association and companionship. But his public career, in a larger sense, was still to come—his services to the Crown and the Colonies in the French and Indian War, his efforts to unite the seven northern colonies; his success as Postmaster General; his years in London in securing the British Government’s interests; his effective opposition to the Stamp Act; his assistance in the formulation of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution; his reputation as a brilliant legislator and philosopher; and perhaps greatest of all because of the difficulties he sur-mounted, his incomparable success as Ambassador to France. These were the qualities which eventually brought him to the chair of the American Academy. His American activity was so effective portrayed in Brother Benjamin Franklin's "Poor Richard" almanacs and other publications.

One expression of Franklin upon this subject may be enlightening when he wrote to his mother at a time when Masonry was being criticized severely: "Freemasons have no principles or practices that are inconsistent with religion and good manners."

On the seventeenth of April, 1706, the spirit of Benjamin Franklin passed into the Grand Lodge Above. His mortal remains were deposited in the vault of Old St. Paul's Church, and his diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, diary, di
The Children's Service Committee in its report, indicated that the cost of the three Masonic Lodges in Philadelphia hereafter to be held during the Pennsylvania Masonic Juvenile Court in East Stroudsburg, the home of the new Lodge is actually

The secluded life, not only in national matters, but in Masonic affairs also; as when we have our logs and Barge, our Lodges, and the Chapter, which is the highest

Having obtained the right to form his own secret society in 1727, called the "Leather Apron Club"—suggested by one of its Fraternity, that the Club became the famous "Junto"—and Franklin himself achieved a high position in it. He was made a Fellow of the Academy in 1731. Here he brought his principles of equal opportunity for all—and from our Grand Lodge and Masonic body, to build the tradition of Democracy and Equality for all Masons in our Order. He was the first to say that Masonry should serve the public.

The Masonic system is due to the historical fact that in the 18th century, when the system was formed, there were grave dangers and undoubtedly this is the reason why the system developed all over the world and also in this country. The Masonic system cannot exist without a certain discipline and a certain restraint on individuals, our book of teachings tells us, when at the question, What is a Freemason? it gives as answer, "A Freemason is a free man, who understands to master his passions and to bend his will under the laws of the Lodge." Brother Burton E. Bennett has given us a full description of the various degrees of the Swedish Rite.

"The Swedish Rite of Masonry dates from about 1775. The first three degrees are Ancient Craft Masonry and to this is added another degree of 'high degrees.' It contains a strain with which we determine our Tenets, our Theology, and has elements taken from Roman and Hellenic elements.

"The Swedish Rite is one of the oldest systems to be publicly acknowledged. It was initiated by the Bureaucracy of the time when the Swedish Rite was formed and has under the influence of reason been developed.

"The Masonic system is divided into many divisions, as follows: The King and the Prince, the Bishop and the Archbishop. These degrees are three of the highest degrees in the system.

"The Swedish Rite of Masonry is divided into three divisions, and these divisions are divided into three sections. The St. John's Lodges, consisting of the three divisions, and under these divisions of the Chapter, which is the highest division, contain degrees VII and XII. The number is limited to 33. These three are selected as Grand Master of the Masonic

From our Grand Secretary's Office

JUNE QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION

There were 198 Lodges represented at the Second Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. The Order of St. John of Jerusalem was recognized as a Grand Lodge.

The Grand Secretary of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem presented the Order with a check for $500.00. This check was accepted with gratitude.

The grand lodge recognized the following ex-officio members: Dr. W. W. Smith of Philadelphia, as the District Deputy Grand Master; Dr. E. H. Powers of Philadelphia, as the Correspondence Master; and Dr. W. H. Smith of Reading, as the District Deputy Grand Master.

The following report was presented to the Grand Lodge:

"The Children's Service Committee in its report, indicated that the cost of the three Masonic Lodges in Philadelphia hereafter to be held during the Pennsylvania Masonic Juvenile Court in East Stroudsburg, the home of the new Lodge is actual..."