42 Masonic Districts Have Reached 100% Record in Support of "Pennsylvania Plan"

Forty-two Masonic Districts have 100 per cent of their Lodges complete in the "Pennsylvania Plan" in support of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. The other 26 Masonic Districts are nearing completion. There remain only 36 Masonic Lodges in Pennsylvania that have not completed the "Pennsylvania Plan." The majority of the uncompleted Lodges has made substantial contributions toward the quota. The 503 Lodges completing their quota, based on the checks received by the Grand Secretary, January 25, are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Lodges</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Lodges</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>J</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Z</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Pennsylvania Masonic Districts have made substantial contributions to the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. The majority of the uncompleted Lodges has made substantial contributions toward the quota. The 503 Lodges completing their quota, based on the checks received by the Grand Secretary, January 25, are as follows:

A Message from Our Grand Master

Brethren, I personally thank you for your continued confidence. I shall devote another year of my life, God willing, to the success of Freemasonry.

Although the conditions of the world have not improved, we must hold fast to our Masonic principles and make them a vital part of our lives. We must not lose our hope.

We must shine as a beacon in a world that needs light. Freemasonry in Pennsylvania continued to make progress in 1961. Some of the results include:

- Attendance at Lodge-stated meetings increased approximately six per cent due to Worshipful Masters planning their work in advance and presenting interesting Lodge programs.
- The color movies on "The Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown" and "Youth Program" were shown in 56 Masonic Lodges, resulting in a greater appreciation of the beneficent projects of the Fraternity.
- New emphasis to improve the physical condition of Lodge meeting rooms was generated. The result was major improvements in almost 60 Masonic meeting rooms.
- Twelve Masonic Lodges sponsored or assisted in forming Chapters of the Order of DeMolay. Other Masonic Lodges have expressed a desire to sponsor DeMolay Chapters.
- The program to help endow The George Washington Masonic Temple, Broad and Filbert Streets, Philadelphia, has almost been completed.
- Three new Masonic Lodges have been Constituted since I became Grand Master on December 28, 1959. Two more are scheduled. They include:
  - Masonic Homes Lodge No. 791, at Monaca, on March 11 and
  - Emmanuel Lodge No. 792, at Emmanuel, on April 8.
- We must continue to Constitute Masonic Lodges. If we are not successful, Freemasonry must be reconstituted in new and growing communities.

Masonic Lodges planning new buildings, forming building corporations, or planning major changes in meeting facilities, must have the approval of the Committee on Masonic Temples, Masonic Homes and Masonic Lodge Rooms, and finally, of the Grand Master.

All such building inquiries are directed to the Grand Master's Office, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, or the Grand Master.

The above Committee and Grand Master's Office will give you all the assistance possible.

However, approval on any major building projects must be obtained to prevent Masonic Lodges from entering into agreements not financially sound, assuming responsibilities beyond the capabilities of the Lodge and to keep Lodge Rooms as unform as possible.

In 1960, it was felt it was desirable to revoke and amend several decisions in order to liberalize Lodge activities and the materials that may be included in Lodge Notices.

These changes were to stimulate more interest and promote better attendance.

As examples, such items as refreshments, mixed dinners sponsored by Lodges, Degree work and the names of Candidates on whom Degrees will be conferred may be included in Lodge Notices.

Now it becomes the duty of Worshipful Masters to use these new "tools" in planning Masonic meetings. Experience has shown that well-planned meetings stimulate attendance.

I took pride in dedicating three Masonic Lodge Rooms in 1960: Stroudsburg, Boyertown and Girard. In each instance the new meeting facilities were the product of outstanding Masonic cooperation. The Brethren donated freely of their time and money.

I am sure that the Masonic spirit will increase in those three communities as a result of these new facilities.

It is good to know that the Grand Master is surrounded by Masons dedicated and willing to accept any challenge. I thank all the Brethren who served Freemasonry in 1960 and urge you to continue this dedication in 1961.

This year, but the challenges of tomorrow are still with us. Therefore, in 1961, I hope for the following:

- A continued effort to follow the Eight-Point Program to assist in growth of Freemasonry;
- All Masonic Lodges in Pennsylvania complete their obligation to The George Washington Masonic National Memorial;
- Investigate all possibilities to Constitute new Masonic Lodges in new and growing communities in Pennsylvania;
- Aides to the Committee on Masonic Culture continue to educate new initiates in the teachings of the Craft.

I thank the Brethren in Pennsylvania thinking of his less fortunate Brothers in The Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown, especially at Christmas.

On Saturday, April 29, a Masonic Congress will be held at...
A Message from Our Grand Master
(Continued from page 41)

When the above two Lodges are constituted, the appointed Officers include: Brother Theodore V. Power, Chaplain; Brother H. Edwin Moore, Senior Warden; Brother Martin J. Steglichmuster, Junior Deacon; Brother Elmer R. Barnes, Senior Master of Ceremonies; Brother Lewis C. Schill, Junior Master of Ceremonies; Brother Francis H. Seams, Pursuivant; Brother Stanley E. Long, Tyler, and Brothers Domen M. Myers and John A. Jackson, Jr., Stewards.

The appointed Officers include:

New Masonic District Formed; James R. Thomas and William A. Hodge, New District Deputies

The 12th Masonic District, which included 15 Masonic Lodges, was divided into two Masonic Districts by Brother Max F. Balcom, R. W. Grand Master.

Three New Lodge Rooms Dedicated at Special Communications of Grand Lodge

Three new Masonic Lodge Rooms were dedicated to Freemasonry by Brother Max F. Balcom, R. W. Grand Master, and other Grand Lodge Officers at Special Communications of Grand Lodge.

On September 21, 1960, the Lodge Room was dedicated for Brother F. D. Claiborne, No. 323, Boyertown.

On November 19, 1960, the Lodge Room was dedicated for Brother William F. Schmeltzer, No. 741, Boyertown.

On December 3, 1960, the Lodge Room was dedicated for Brother William F. Schmeltzer, No. 741, Boyertown.

In each instance, Brother Balcom commented on the dedication (for making an outstanding contribution to Freemasonry in their communities).

"I am convinced that Masons can achieve almost anything they agree to accomplish together.

I said the new Lodge Rooms were a result of outstanding Masonic cooperation and devotion.

Ours is an obligation none may shirk without being recreant to the grand design in him.

Let us then rediscard ourselves to the principles and tenets of Freemasonry and humbly resolve to demonstrate in our lives a sense of that beneficent influence of the Craft and the excellence of the Faith we profess."
From Our Grand Secretary's Office

Our December Communications

December Quarterly TELEvised

In December, the Masonic Leaders, while raising their balls, and the overabundance fully informed of the proceedings in Grand Lodge at the December, the Masonic Leadership Association on December 7, 1959, closed circuit television was shown on television. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania displayed a report of the Committee on Finance; also the proposed Budget for the present fiscal year, which was approved by General Assembly.

December 1959

Two Resolutions recommended by this Committee, and approved by Grand Lodge provided for:
1. Amending the Grand Lodge Pension Plan to permit increasing the capitalization of the Fund beyond the former limit of $200,000.
2. Amending the provisions of the Higher Educational Fund to increase the limit of assistance, to each student to $1,000.

The nays in reality relate to the operation and maintenance of the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown were fully covered in the fifty-second annual report of the Committee on Masonic Homes. A copy of this Report will be sent to each Lodge in the near future.

The Employment Bureau Committee, in its forty-fourth year of operation, made 643 placements in 1959. Six positions involved in three Masonic families of over $100,000 annually.

An interesting booklet entitled "Questions and Answers" has been published. It is designed as a Masonic Catechism on Masonic History and was published in June in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The many activities of the various committees are covered in the annual report.

Patten Masonic Institution for Boys

The annual report of the Trustees of the Thomas Patten Masonic Homes for Boys includes a detailed account of their activities during the last year. The number of boys who graduated last spring, many of whom are continuing their education in various colleges.

The work conducted in the year in the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia was outlined in the report of the Committee on Masonic Temple.

The R. W. Grand Master called upon Brother Charles M. Flintoff, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, to represent and speak for all the distinguished Guests. Brother Flintoff responded in a general and eloquent manner.

Special Communication

Bethel Lodge, No. 789 was installed at a Special Communication of Grand Lodge at Lower Beaver on December 17, 1959.

An additional 104 Lodges, as of January 25, 1960.


#561 Pennsylvania Lodges Appreciate Full Participation in “Pennsylvania Plan”

There are only 30 Masonic Lodges in Pennsylvania that have contributed $1,000 or more to the Grand Lodge from the Lodge itself. Lodges completing the project are presented with the Grand Master's Award.