Brother Thomas Holland Priest, 86, of Cheltenham, Pennsylvania, became a Mason in May, 1902 and fifty-nine years later became a Lodge attendant at the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia. He is one of the most outstanding Masons of Pennsylvania.

In those fifty-nine years, Brother Priest has never missed a stated meeting or a funeral service of his Lodge, Phoenix Lodge, No. 130, Free and Accepted Masons. He estimates that during the 59-year period his perfect attendance record represented attendance at 1,180 meetings.

On a farm near Paoli, Pa., on June 12, 1875, Mr. Priest graduated from Temple University. Nine years ago he retired from the Underwood Typewriter Company.

In 1908, Brother Priest served as Worshipful Master of his Lodge. He was elected Secretary of his Lodge in 1914 and has served in that capacity since his election.

Several matters that Brother Priest feels are important were reported to the members of his Lodge. The most recent was the election of a new member to the Lodge.

To be a Worshipful Master and to throw one’s whole into the Work, with candidates for the audience and for the Lodge for a greater distinction than to receive and one who is one’s own.

He also remembers slipping out of a sales conference at the Underwood Typewriter Company to attend a Masonic meeting and returning to the conference before it was discovered he was missing.

Brother Priest is a member of the Cheltenham Methodist Church and a life member of the Patriotic Sons of America.

In June 3, 1902, Mr. Priest was married to Grace C. Rohman. They have two children, Mrs. Grace E. Wagner, a music teacher at Elkins Park Junior High School, and Thomas Holland Priest, Jr., a music teacher at Upper Moreland High School. They also have two grandchildren.

In disclosing his attendance record, Brother Priest mentioned only missed meetings of his Royal Arch Chapter. He said he missed one meeting to go on his wedding trip, and one when he was sick.

For this great honor, I personally thank every Mason in Pennsylvania. It has been a great experience. Although my term is rapidly coming to an end, I shall cherish forever the many kindnesses and honors you have made it possible for me to receive.

The most remarkable cooperation has been given me by all the Grand Lodge officials, Past Grand Masters, appointed officers and committees. I especially thank the District Deputy Grand Masters for real Masonic sport.

When I became Grand Master, I urged Masons in Pennsylvania to enroll upon an Eight-Point Program. The results of this program have been very encouraging.

During my term of office, seven new Masonic Lodges have been constituted. The eight Lodge will be constituted on Easter Sunday.

Many Lodges have materially improved, or replaced, their meeting rooms.

Many Lodges, through dedicated work of Worshipful Masters, have improved their attendance.

When the final results of Masons in Pennsylvania in 1960 and 1961 are fully known, I believe we will all be proud of our accomplishments.

When I became Grand Master, I proudly announced that Masons of Pennsylvania can complete most anything that they cooperatively agree to accomplish.

My faith in my Brethren was fully proved when Masons in Pennsylvania contributed approximately $300,000 to the George Washington Masonic National Memorial.

With this contribution, Masons everywhere would be willing to assist this great Masonic structure if given the opportunity—and if the need were fully extended.

While you generously supported the Memorial, you did not forget about your less fortunate Brothers, their wives and children at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown. Your generous support for this most worthy cause deeply moved the hearts of your Brethren.

We are in the midst of another appeal for the Christmas and Entertainment Fund at the Masonic Homes at Elizabeth.

A Message from Our Grand Master

Bethlehem, the privilege I have had of serving you as Grand Master is almost past.

During my term as Grand Master of Masons in Pennsylvania, which started December 28, 1959, I have received fraternal consideration and affection everywhere. For this great honor I personally thank every Mason in Pennsylvania.

It has been a great experience. Although my term is rapidly coming to an end, I shall cherish forever the many kindnesses and honors you have made it possible for me to receive.

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We are in the midst of another appeal for the Christmas and Entertainment Fund at the Masonic Homes at Elizabeth-town.

I have urged every Pennsylvania Mason to give something to this most important project.

Let me explain. I am not attempting to set a dollar mark on your contribution. I am merely pointing out that every Mason should give something, regardless of the amount.

I know it is very gratifying to Pennsylvania Masons to know how vital and direct a part each has in providing the finest kind of human service for approximately 700 younders and senior citizens.

Every Mason in Pennsylvania has received an envelope in the September Lodge notice, addressed to the Masonic Homes.

This envelope is an easy way to make a yearly contribution. Your gift goes to the Christmas and Entertainment Fund, and is used all through the year. It not only provides a happy Christmas for the Guests, but entertainment during the entire year, many small personal items and ‘pocket money’ each month.

Brethren, this is important money. It is this money that helps to make your Masonic Homes a Home, and not just another institution.

When making your check for your yearly contribution, bear in mind that all gifts to the Masonic Homes are deductible for income tax purposes.

If you have lost your addressed-envelope, send your contribution to the Superintendent, Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pa.

As we approach the holiday season, let our prayers be for the less fortunate. Let us pray that the Great Archdeacon of the Universe will guide our lives.

Let us re dedicate ourselves to the tenets of Freemasonry. Let us stand to be counted as men and Masons who believe in world peace—the Brotherhood of Man.

This being my last message in THE PENNSYLVANIA FREEMASON to Grand Master, I personally thank you for all your sincere efforts to continue Freemasonry as a dominating force in this troubled world. God give us courage to meet our everyday problems as Masons—as men dedicated to noble principles.

Corradly and fraternal,

[Signature]

Max F. Balcolm, W. F. Grand Master
Two Masonic Lodges were constituted in the county at the October 3, 1984 meeting of the Grand Lodge, held in Harrisburg. Max F. Baldwin, W. R. Grand Master, on Saturday, October 14, began the total of Masonic operations in Pennsylvania to 660.

Glenshaw Lodge, No. 793 was constituted in the afternoon in Masonic Temple, Pitts- burgh, at a communication of Grand Lodge. There were 172 Worshipful Masters.

Whitehall Lodge, No. 794 was constituted in the evening in Masonic Temple, Pittsburgh, at a communication of Grand Lodge, which will be used for the Hospital at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown.

Cornerstone Laying Ceremony
Conducted at Springfield, Delaware County

The cornerstone of a new Masonic Hall for Springfield Lodge, No. 779, Springfield, Dela- ware County, was laid in Masonic custom by officers of the Grand Lodge on September 30. The public was invited to attend.

Brother Max F. Baldwin, W. R. Grand Master, headed a long list of Masonic leaders who took part in the ceremony.

Following the ceremony, the newly con- structed Masonic Hall was opened for public inspection.

Member's Annual Gift Groves at Rate of $1 Per Year

Brother Alex K. Pantle, a Member of Athelstan Lodge, No. 402, has a unique way of collecting money for a charitable cause.

Each fall, for many years, when Brother Pantle has received another anniversary in Athelstan Lodge, he sends a check to Grand Lodge amounting to $1 for each year of Masonic service.

Brother Pantle was made a Mason on October 3, 1895 and he celebrated his 65th anniversary at the present Grand Lodge, which will be used for the Hospital at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown.

Quotas from Three Lodges Needed for Our 100% Participation in Pennsylvania

Only three Masonic Lodges in Pennsylvania have not completed the program for The George Washington Masonic National Memorial, as of November 15, 1984.

The following six Lodges completed their obligations in the project in the last three years. The remaining 15 Lodges did not complete their obligations in the project before the end of the year.

The three Masonic Lodges that have completed the project are: Pella Masonic Lodge, No. 466, Philadelphia; Pella Masonic Lodge, No. 26, Philadelphia; and Pella Masonic Lodge, No. 35, Philadelphia.

The three lodges listed above are the only lodges in Pennsylvania that have completed the project before the end of the year.

Brother Max F. Baldwin, W. R. Grand Master, has announced that the program must be brought to a conclusion this year.

The program of the three Masonic Lodges is to be completed before the end of the year.

Brother Pantle is a Member of Athelstan Lodge, No. 402, a unique way of collecting money for a charitable cause.

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In Memoriam
BROTHER ROBERT RATHBUN LEWIS
Right Worshipful Past Grand Master
The Constitution of Pennsylvania of its duly elected and gifted Members in the order of the date of the initiation of their membership.


Born at Doake City, McKean County, Pennsylvania, Brother Lewis was educated in the public schools of Coudersport. He later attended and graduated from Meadville Seminary, Meadville, Mass., and then Wesleyan University at Middletown, Conn., where he studied law. He then entered the law office of his father. He was admitted to the Bar on June 12, 1906, and thereafter engaged in the practice of law in Coudersport, Pa., with the firm of Jones and Lewis.

Brother Lewis took part in many worthwhile activities of his community. A member of Park Methodist Church of Coudersport, he served its pastorate for 40 years. He was also the president of the Coudersport Dairy Club and a past president of the Coudersport Rotary Club. He was a charter member of the Coudersport Red Cross. A most active member of Central Grange, he was influential in the organization of the Potter County Farm Bureau. Interested in the Boy Scout movement, he donated a tract of land making possible a Summer Camp for the local Scout Council. He was also active in the Potter County Bar Association and the American Bar Association.

For Lewis was M.S. Savannah, a member of the County Commission for many years and solicitor and secretary of Coudersport, where he later lived, he was commissioned Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He resigned from this office a year later to accept appointment as Judge of the 5th Judicial District of Pennsylvania in which capacity he served continuously for twenty years.

He petitioned Eastola Lodge, No. 342, of Charleston, South Carolina, in 1907. He was elected a member and served as Master of the lodge for six years. He was an active member of Eastola Lodge, No. 342, and was a member of the lodge for many years. He was a member of the lodge for many years.

The lodge was constituted in Penn- sylvania in 1851 and was to continue until the end of 1984. In that capacity until 1913 when he was appointed Provincial Deputy Grand Master of Pennsylvania. He resigned from this office a year later to accept appointment as Judge of the 5th Judicial District of Pennsylvania, in which capacity he served continuously for twenty years.

When he retired in 1929, he was commissioned Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He resigned from this office a year later to accept appointment as Judge of the 5th Judicial District of Pennsylvania, in which capacity he served continuously for twenty years.

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Grand Lodge Officers
Lay cornerstone of New YMCA Building in Clearfield
Brother Max F. Balcom, R. W. Grand Master, and a number of other important Masons were present at the cornerstone laying ceremony of the new Young Men’s Christian Association building in Clearfield, Pennsylvania, on Saturday, October 26, 1961.

This impressive Masonic ceremony was performed with great interest by the members of the Lodge and was conducted by W. S. Senior Grand Warden, who is Chairman of the Masonic Committee of the Clearfield Junior College. The ceremony followed the usual Masonic form and included the usual Masonic ceremonials.

The cornerstone was laid by Brother Max F. Balcom, R. W. Grand Master, in the presence of a large crowd of Masons and friends. The ceremony was conducted with great enthusiasm and marked the beginning of the construction of the new YMCA building.

The new YMCA building will be a two-story structure and will be located on the corner of Main and Market streets in Clearfield. It will be used for various community activities and will serve as a meeting place for the Masons and other members of the community.

The cornerstone contains a copy of the Masonic Constitution and By-Laws of the Lodge, a list of the names of the members of the Lodge, and a copy of the Masonic Bible.

The ceremony was attended by a large number of Masons and friends, and the atmosphere was one of great pride and enthusiasm.

Next Grand Lodge Communication
The Grand Lodge of Indiana will be constituted and conducted in New Delhi, India, on Friday, November 24, 1961.

The communication of this new Grand Lodge will be performed by the M. W. Grand Master, in the presence of a number of important Masons and friends. The ceremony will be conducted with great enthusiasm and will mark the beginning of the construction of the new Grand Lodge in New Delhi.

The new Grand Lodge will be a two-story structure and will be located on the corner of Main and Market streets in New Delhi. It will be used for various community activities and will serve as a meeting place for the Masons and other members of the community.

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