R. W. Grand Master Calls for Renewal of Spirit of Charity

Dear Brethren:

One of the difficult tasks a Grand Master has to perform is to personally urge every Mason to make a contribution to the Guest Fund at the Masonic Homes.

For instance, it is my task to remind Pennsylvania Masons that we need $500,000.00 in the Guest Fund this year.

This figure was not drawn out of a hat. It is money needed to make your Masonic Homes a "Home" and not just another institution.

Last year, 22 per cent of our members contributed $315,419.00. If the other 78 per cent would make a special effort this year, we would reach the goal of $500,000.00.

I am sure we face the future with confidence. I am confident that Pennsylvania Masons will understand the problem and meet the need.

Let us recognize that we are faced with an inflationary economy at our Masonic Homes.

This calls for a renewal of the great spirit of charity.

Let us face the challenge with determination and confidence, according to 1 Corinthians 13:13: "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity."

In addition to the appeal in your Lodge Notice, I am also sending a letter direct to every Member of the Masonic Fraternity in this Jurisdiction to be sure that every Mason has been contacted. I urge you to please respond to one of these appeals.

Sincerely and fraternally,

John K. Young
R. W. Grand Master

WE NEED YOUR CORRECT ADDRESS

Copies of The Pennsylvania Freemason returned to the Post Office, due to incorrect addresses, cost ten cents each.

One at a time, these changes do not seem much, but multiplied by thousands they make a large sum. You can save us the expense by notifying your Lodge Secretary immediately when you change your address. Please include your ZIP Code.

By doing so, you will also assure yourself of future issues of The Pennsylvania Freemason.

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The specious and comfortable Dwelling Auditorium and Pontiac at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown was filled to capacity by the large turn-out of Members for the Communications.

All the R.W. Past Grand Masters and most of the District Deputy Grand Masters were present.

The Landmarks Committee and Committee on Finance held their usual Quarterly meetings on the previous day, while the facilities available at the Masonic Homes were discussed in detail at the District Deputies meeting on Wednesday morning, also the necessity to obtain complete information concerning all applicants for admission to the Homes, especially their specific physical condition. A tour of the Homes was conducted in the afternoon.

Committee Reports
Various interesting Committee and Trustee Reports were presented. Many Lodges continue to update their By-Laws with the very capable assistance of the Committee on By-Laws.

The Budget Receipts for the first six months of the fiscal year exceeded the expenditure by close to $150,000. Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Finance, four resolutions were moved to approve expenditures for needed equipment and improvements and also salary adjustments at the Masonic Homes.

The Hospital at the Masonic Homes is now filled to capacity and as a result there is a waiting list for admittance for new Guests who require Hospital care.

Twelve boys recently graduated from the Patton School, and there are needed more additional students at the School. Applications should be filed as soon as possible.

Many Lodges throughout the Jurisdiction continue to improve their Lodges and associated facilities. The Committee on Masonic Temples, Halls and Lodges Homes is always available for those projects.

Amendments to Alonzo Rhem
Two Amendments were submitted and will be acted upon at the December District Deputies.

It is proposed to amend Article XIII, Section 34, to limit the term of the elected members of the Committee on Masonic Homes to ten years. This amendment would not affect the present Members of this Committee.

The approved Amendment to Article X, Section 1, of Subsection 7, permit the Lodges, if they so desire, to remit the Grand Lodge dues of Members who have been in good standing for 50 years or more.

Memorials
On June 3, 1969, the 84th Annual Meeting of the Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, was held in the Auditorium of the Pontiac. The meeting was conducted by the Grand Master, Maj. Gen. Edward W. Miller, and the District Deputies met in the afternoon.

FOR YOUR OWN CONVENIENCE
September Lodge Notices will include special, self-addressed, postage-paid envelopes for those participating in the Guest Fund of the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown.

Make your check payable to the Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, as soon as possible in the envelope provided, or address your envelope to Guest Fund, Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, Pa. 70722.

Guest Fund Goal Set at $500,000

I realize that we all cannot contribute equally, but every Mason should make a special effort to contribute something.

In an effort to keep every Mason as fully informed as possible, you will see a separate story in this issue on the expenditures of the Grand Lodge and the Guest Fund.

You will also note that the total expenditures do not equal $560,000. This is understandable since this sum has never been collected in one year.

We need many things at the Masonic Homes, such as additional transportation facilities, increase in occupational and recreational therapy, increase in the monthly spending allowances of Guests, physical therapy and many other projects.

It is not possible to meet the need without the additional funds.
A modern swimming pool for young and old alike, with life guards, instructors and necessary maintenance is provided out of Guest Fund.

Enjoying the solitude at the well-stocked fish pond with fishing tackle furnished by the Guest Fund.

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Four-month itinerary of Grand Lodge Officers

Grand Lodge Officers have a busy schedule from September to December:

- **September 3**: Grand Lodge Officers: Quarterly Communication, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia.
- **September 6**: Grand Master: 10th Anniversary, Harmony Lodge, No. 426, Greenfield.
- **September 12**: Grand Master: 100th Anniversary, Welcome Lodge, No. 455, Philadelphia.
- **September 26**: Grand Lodge Officers: Annual Meeting, Districts 22, 25, and 32, Franklin.
- **October 1**: Grand Master: 100th Anniversary, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia.
- **October 3**: Grand Lodge Officers: Special Communication, Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown.
- **October 6**: Grand Lodge Officers: Annual Meeting, Districts 29, 35, and 51, Pittsburgh.
- **October 10**: Grand Master: 100th Anniversary, Camelot Lodge, No. 3, York.
- **October 16**: Grand Master: 100th Anniversary, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia.
- **October 21**: Grand Lodge Officers: Visitation, Eastern Star, Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown.
- **November 3**: Grand Master: 100th Anniversary, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia.
- **November 8**: Grand Master: 100th Anniversary, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia.
- **November 15**: Grand Master: 100th Anniversary, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia.
- **November 22**: Grand Lodge Officers: Annual Meeting, Knights Templar, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia.

Other mentions include:
- **Bro. Wilmer E. King**: Past Master of Robert Burns Lodge, No. 469, Har risburg, has been appointed a Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania and accepted Masons of Philadelphia.
- **Bro. Willis R. Michael**: Pastor of Har risburg Consistory. He was appointed as the presiding officer of the Vestry of the Zion Lutheran Church and serves as a teacher and Superintendent of the Sunday School.

Are Macconnes Gudder Men Then Others?

This thought-provoking question is found in an old English manuscript which claims to have been written by the hand of King Henry VI. It seems to be a transcript of an oral examination taken by a member of the Brother­hood of Masons, possibly in the presence of the King.

To what extent Henry was influenced by his examination we shall never know. However, in 1450, he was initiated into the mysteries of Masonry, and immediately put to a stop to the persecution of the Craft, whose assem­blies had been prohibited by Parliament since 1425.

"Are maccones gudder men then others?"

There can be no denial of the fact that at first thought the question seems to be a fair one, especially if asked, whether five hundred years ago or in our own day, by one who is trying to make of the Freemasons a superior race. Are Masons better men than others? Upon more mature deliberation it becomes evident that there is a question which no thoughtful Mason would dare to ask and which no Mason would answer in the presence of the King. There have always been, and, no doubt, will always be many good men, and, indeed, many bad men, in and out of the Fraternity. Our unknown Brother, who stood before the King and answered the questions put to him, was well aware of this fact. He dared not say that Masons are better men than others. What, then, was his reply?

"Some maccones are not so virtuous as other men often; but, in the most parte, they be more gods then they woude if they were not maccones exprestes."

NOTE: The Testator may, if desired, provide that the gift be held perpetually, and the income used for maintenance, by the following language:

If for the Masonic Homes, "I direct that this gift shall be added to and form a part of the Endowment Fund established by said Grand Lodge for the maintenance and operation of the Masonic Homes owned by and under the control of the said Grand Lodge."

NOTE: 3: The death of the Testator within thirty days after executing his Will may, under certain circumstances make the charitable gift void. It is therefore recommended that if an old­er Will containing a charitable gift, be in existence when the new Will is executed, the old Will be preserved for a period of thirty days after the execution of the new Will.