Grand Lodge Gives $4,716 Contribution To Memorial Assn.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has given $4,716 to the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association.

The presentation was made prior to the association's annual meeting on February 22 at Alexandria, Va.

The contribution represents $1 for each initiate into the Fraternity in Pennsylvania in the preceding year. This continuing Grand Lodge contribution is part of the "Pennsylvania Plan."

The presentation was made prior to the association's annual meeting last year. This included $1,750 for landscaping fund.

It took $174,000 to operate the Memorial last year. This included $15,000 for a reserve fund to meet future emergencies.

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The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of The Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdictions Thereunto Belonging.

Vol. XVIII

Rochester B.

10 Boys to Receive Diplomas at Patton Exercises June 5

Ten seniors will receive diplomas June 5 during commencement exercises of Patton Masonic School in Elizabethtown.

Bro. Hiram P. Ball, R. W. Grand Master, will be the commencement speaker at the 11 a.m. exercises in George H. Delko Auditorium at the Masonic Homes.

Members of the graduating class are:


The graduates will be presented with their diplomas by Bro. Richard A. Rudnall, a trustee of the school.

Five of the graduates will enter college in the fall, Leonard Evans will study at Taylor University; Myron Dubee at John Edye, Leonard Evans, Kenneth Miller, John Peters, Richard Pipke and Milton Runck.

Library Starter Set

Rare Books Available to Lodges

In keeping with this year’s centennial celebration of the Grand Lodge Library, the Grand Master is encouraging Lodges to establish their own libraries.

Bro. Hiram P. Ball, R. W. Grand Master, is making available six Grand Lodge volumes on Freemasonry as a starter set for Lodges interested in beginning a library.

These volumes also are available to Lodges which already have libraries. The number of starter sets is limited and requests will be filled as received.

The starter set includes three volumes of “Freemasonry in Pennsylvania.” These rare and attractive books have been compiled from the early records of Lodge No. 2 in Philadelphia. The books cover the years 1757 to 1855.

Two rare volumes of “Old Masonic Lodges of Pennsylvania (Moderns and Ancients)” are featured in the starter set. Covering the years 1730 to 1791, these books relate to Lodges which have since been reorganized or affiliated with other Grand Lodges. They also contain a history of Army Lodges and those that have assisted in the formation of other Grand Lodges.

Bro. John F. Slocum, former librarian and curator of Grand Lodge, compiled the two volumes from the records in the archives of Grand Lodge.

Library Starter Set

State’s Oldest Mason Plans 103rd Birthday

Bro. George E. Roberts, who was born January 11, 1892, in Temple Lodge No. 248 in Tunkhannock, is still active in Masonry and recently attended his Lodge’s 103rd birthday. He is the oldest Mason in length of service in the Grand Lodge and will celebrate his 103rd birthday June 16, 1971.

Bicentennial City Gets Conference

The annual Conference of Grand Masters of North America, currently held in the nation’s capital, will be held in Philadelphia in 1976.

The conference will be held in February and the hosts have yet to be selected.

All the officers of Grand Lodges are coming to Pennsylvania for the 1976 observance of the 200th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

The decision to bring the important meeting to Philadelphia, home of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, was made at the conference sessions last February 23-24.

At that time a seven-member committee, known as the Permanent 1976 Committee of Grand Masters of Masons, was elected.

It is working under the chairmanship of Bro. Thomas McIntosh, J. M. W. Past Grand Master of Louisiana.

The committee will encourage and report various activities being planned by Masonic Jurisdictions for the 1976 celebration.

Bro. Hiram P. Ball, R. W. Grand Master of Masons in Pennsylvania, is serving on the committee. Other members are:


Bro. Dwight L. Smith, M. W. Past Grand Master, Grand Secretary, Illinois.

In addition, Bro. George B. Brown, M. W. Grand Master of Quebec, was elected an ex-officio member of the committee.

The conference will be held in Philadelphia in 1976:

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has accepted the challenge. We will share ideas and information, and cooperate with other Grand Lodges to make the 1976 celebration a success in every way.

We do not only have a special 1976 Committee working but, under the authorization of Bro. John K. Young, when the Grand Master, a fund was created which will total $250,000 in 1976. This fund will be used on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to

Visitation Cheers Bedfast Brother

Bro. W. Orville Kimmel, R. W. Deputy Grand Master, warmly clasps hand of bedfast brother John K. Young, when the visitation was made at the Veterans Administration Hospital at Lebanon. Accompanying Bro. Kimmel were left to right: Bro. Wilmer E. King, Grand Steward; Bro. Daniel E. King, Chairman of the Visit and Sick Committees of Lodges No. 698 and Bro. Edward L. Viso, Masonic Service Association field officer at the Lebanon hospital. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania began visitation programs in Veterans Administration and Service Hospitals in Philadelphia area of the state in October, 1968. See page 7 for related story.

Pennsylvania to Share Ideas For ’76 Masonic Celebration

The opening address in a group discussion at the Conference of Grand Masters was given by Bro. Hiram P. Ball, R. W. Grand Master. He spoke on “The Masonic Celebration of the 200th Anniversary of 1776.” Following are excerpts from his address:

“We in Pennsylvania are concerned, just as Freemasonry throughout the United States is concerned, with the form our participation should take in this mammoth national celebration.

“We should cherish with pride the fact that Freemasonry was intimately interwoven in the building of the greatest country in the world today.

“Much of our country’s history, as you know, is interwoven in Freemasonry in the history of America’s early leaders and greatest men were members of the Fraternity.

“Let me share a little of what we plan to do in Pennsylvania, and why we are concerned enough to do these things.

“Our concern with this eventful year began this month, three years ago when the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania appointed a special 1976 Committee to make the 1976 celebration a success in every way. We ourselves are not only the special 1976 Committee, but will carry ideas and information to other Grand Lodges to make the 1976 celebration a success in every way.

“Washing will be used on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to

(Continued on Page 3)
Chilly winds whipped across historic Valley Forge as more than 2,000 Masons, their families and friends attended the Grand Lodge's fourth annual wreath laying ceremony at the George Washington at Prayer Statue at Freedoms Foundation.

Highlights of this tribute to a great American came when Bro. Hiram P. Ball, R. W. Grand Master, gave the message and, accompanied by Grand Lodge Officers, placed the wreath at the foot of the statue.

The public ceremony last Feb. 14 was conducted under the general chairmanship of Bro. David J. Godschall, District Deputy Grand Master of the 6th Masonic District.

Taking part in the impressive program were the Harrisburg Scottish Rite Choir, under the direction of Bro. James E. Sawyer, and the Concert Band of Rajah Temple in Reading. The band was under the baton of Bro. William H. Levan.

Other Bodies participating in the processional included Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery; eight Scottish Rite Valleys; four Shrine Temples and representatives of the Tall Cedars of Lebanon, National Sojourners and the Order of DeMolay.

In his message the Grand Master told the gathering:

"It took one important thing—concern—to bring each of you here before the statue of this great man kneeling in prayer . . .

"Every American citizen must begin showing this same concern if our country is to overcome the challenges of war and world tension, hunger, pollution, crime and discontent . . .

"Bro. Washington was concerned with the issues of his day. He committed himself to those things which meant the most, whether it was on the battlefield, in the field of government or in his personal life . . .

"Let us, my Brethren, emulate him and show concern. Let us give of ourselves as much as he gave of himself. Let us become involved and do something about the challenges our country faces today."
Pennsylvania to Share Ideas For ’76 Masonic Celebration

(Continued from Page 3)

help defray a part of the anticipated expenditures.

In addition to this, we have under-
taken an extensive remodeling project in our Temple so we will be able to handle the great number of visitors who will be coming to Philadelphia in 1976.

We want the public as well as the Masons to share in this great ses-
tenary by proudly displaying our Masonic Temple and pos-
sibly to use it for their special Lodge meetings. To do this, our law would have to be changed. I believe it will be, at least for 1976.

The library and museum have been remodeled to enhance their exhibits and displays.

Through these priceless objects, our visitors will see the part Freemasons played in laying the foundation of our government and in securing America’s most treasured possessions - individual freedom and political independence.

We would also like to offer adequate space in our historic Temple for ex-
hibits and displays from the 13 jurisdictions of the original states. In this way, these jurisdictions would have an ac-
tive part in the Masonic ‘now show’ in the Bicentennial City.

We plan to invite and welcome all Masons from every jurisdiction to see our beautiful Masonic Temple and pos-
sibly to use it for their special Lodge meetings. To do this, our law would have to be changed. I believe it will be, at least for 1976.

Pennsylvania Masons contributed $471,725.03 to the 1970 Great Fund of the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown.

The fund drive, which ended March 15, was $20,053.53 less than the record collection of 1969. The Brethren that year contributed the all-time high of $492,284.58.

Bro. Hiram P. Ball, R. W. Grand Master, expressed appreciation and personal thanks to every Mason who took part in the 1970 collection.