

OFFICERS
OF THE
M.:E.:Grand Chapter of Florida
FOR
A. I. 2458, A. D. 1928

M.:E.:R. J. McMASTER ----Grand High Priest, Tampa.
R.:E.:STAFFORD CALDWELL --Dep. Gr. High Priest, Jacksonville.
R.:E.:JOHN PASCO -----Grand King, Monticello.
R.:E.:ALEX B. STEUART ----Grand Scribe, Tampa.
M.:E.:MARCUS ENDEL -----Grand Treasurer, Jacksonville.
M.:E.:WILBER P. WEBSTER --Grand Secretary, Jacksonville.
R.:E.:W. B. Y. WILKIE ----Grand Chaplain, Dunedin.
E.:W. B. GREER -----Grand Capt. of the Host, Quincy.
E.:CHESTER C. SNOW -----Gr. Prin. Sojourner, Daytona Beach.
E.:R. P. BUCKMASTER -----Grand Royal Arch Captain, Orlando.
E.:CHAS. M. GRUBER -----Gr. M. Third Veil, W. Palm Beach.
E.:ARCHIE AITCHISON -----Gr. M. Second Veil, St. Petersburg.
E.:GEORGE A. DAME -----Grand Master First Veil, Inverness.
E.:JOHN W. CAPPER -----Grand Guard, Jacksonville.

The next Annual Convocation will be held in the City of Tampa, on the third Tuesday in May, 1929.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
M.:E.:Grand Chapter of Florida
EIGHTY-SECOND ANNUAL CONVOCATION
1928

The Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of the State of Florida assembled in its Eighty-second Annual Convocation in the Masonic Temple in the City of Jacksonville, at 10:00 A. M. Tuesday, May 15, A. D. 1928, A. I. 2458.

A constitutional number of Grand Officers and Representatives of the Constituent Chapters being present the Grand Chapter was opened in ample form by the M.:E.:Grand High Priest, with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The Roll being called, there were found to be present the following:

GRAND OFFICERS

Cary B. FishM.:E.:Grand High Priest.
R. J. McMasterR.:E.:D. Gr. High Priest.
Stafford CaldwellR.:E.:Grand King.
John PascoR.:E.:Grand Scribe.
Marcus EndelR.:E.:Grand Treasurer.
Wilber P. WebsterR.:E.:Grand Secretary.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

Dorsey H. Rutter, as.....R. E. Grand Chaplain.
 F. W. Schultz, asE. Gr. Capt. of the Host.
 W. B. GreerE. Gr. Prin. Sojourner.
 Chester C. SnowE. Gr. Royal Arch Capt.
 R. P. BuckmasterE. Gr. Master Third Veil.
 Chas. M. GruberE. Gr. Master Second Veil.
 Archie AitchisonE. Gr. Master First Veil.
 John W. CapperE. Grand Guard.

PAST GRAND HIGH PRIESTS

W. P. Webster,	Marcus Endel,
L. C. Massey,	E. E. Haskell,
C. H. Ketchum,	J. R. Keller,
H. O. Snow,	W. V. Carter,
R. J. Kishpaugh,	John L. Hall,
Erle L. Wirt,	Ely P. Hubbell,
	T. T. Todd.

REPRESENTATIVES OF CONSTITUENT CHAPTERS

Florida No. 1—F. S. Hartsfield, proxy for H. P.
 Gainesville No. 2—J. M. Leack, H. P.
 Tampa No. 3—J. E. Shepley, H. P.; H. S. Chiles,
 proxy for S.
 St. Johns No. 4—John Paver, H. P.
 Halifax No. 5—L. E. Ellenwood, H. P.
 Mt. Horeb No. 6—J. H. Dieckman, proxy for H. P.
 Eureka No. 7—T. P. Robinson, H. P.; Bert L. Blair,
 proxy for K.
 Putnam No. 9—Lewis A. Smith, proxy for officers.
 Kissimmee No. 10—J. E. Tyner, H. P.; A. E. Cow-
 ger, K.
 Jericho No. 11—J. B. Phelps, proxy for officers.

GRAND CHAPTER OF FLORIDA

Jacksonville No. 12—H. E. Hollowell, H. P.; N. H.
 Schoonover, K.; J. E. Herring, S.
 Ocala No. 13—C. A. Bangert, H. P.; B. C. Webb,
 proxy for S.
 Inverness No. 14—W. H. Warnock, proxy for H. P.
 Monroe No. 15—James O. Huff, H. P.
 Plant City No. 16—A. E. Wilson, H. P.
 St. Augustine No. 17—Geo. F. Kendrick, H. P.
 Manatee River No. 18—Frank J. Keeman, K.
 Lake Butler No. 19—W. H. Andrews, H. P.; N. B.
 Rosier, proxy for K.
 Keystone No. 20—J. J. Clinton, H. P.
 Thomas Brown No. 22—R. Houghton, K.; Harry G.
 Taylor, proxy for S.
 Lake Worth No. 24—L. T. B. Southwick, H. P.;
 Adolph C. Jordahn, S.
 Jefferson No. 26—John Pasco, proxy for H. P.
 Indian River No. 27—Arthur S. Rhoads, H. P.
 Joppa No. 28—Elder F. Adams, proxy for H. P.
 Lakeland No. 29—George J. Tolson, proxy for H. P.
 Gadsden No. 30—George B. Gregory, H. P.
 St. Petersburg No. 31—Jno. H. Rauch, H. P.
 Eustis No. 33—E. M. Savage, H. P.
 Leesburg No. 34—Wm. D. Dunstan, proxy for H. P.
 Sarasota No. 35—B. M. Hulse, H. P.; F. A. Riegel,
 proxy for K.
 Arcadia No. 36—R. F. Saxon, Jr., proxy for H. P.
 Providence No. 38—W. W. Nihiser, H. P.
 Bay County No. 39—W. A. Mosher, proxy for H. P.
 Crestview No. 40—Jas. L. Clary, H. P.
 Winter Haven No. 41—A. D. Newkirk, H. P.
 Union No. 43—Charles H. Stewart, proxy for H. P.
 Clearwater No. 45—D. W. Culp, H. P.

Okeechobee No. 46—J. E. Lovvorn, proxy for officers.
 Dade No. 47—B. L. Joiner, H. P.
 Duval No. 48—Wilhelm Nywall, H. P.; A. P. Hoagland, K.
 Poinciana No. 50—Chas. J. Tierney, H. P.
 Delray No. 53—C. M. McSwain, proxy for H. P.
 M. D. Cushing No. 54—Frank O'Berry, H. P.
 Hill City No. 55—Ross A. Clark, proxy for H. P.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

Alabama	R. J. Kishpaugh.
British Columbia	E. L. Wirt.
Canada	Chester DeRocher.
Colorado	B. C. Webb.
Delaware	W. P. Webster.
Georgia	E. E. Macy.
Illinois	C. H. Ketchum.
Indiana	T. T. Todd.
Iowa	W. V. Carter.
Louisiana	John Pasco.
Maine	E. E. Haskell.
Manitoba	R. L. Gillett.
Maryland	Henry O. Snow.
Michigan	F. Wm. Schultz.
Missouri	Cary B. Fish.
New Jersey	Chas. H. Ketchum.
New York	Marcus Endel.
New South Wales	John D. Grether.
North Carolina	John L. Hall.
North Dakota	R. J. McMaster.
Ohio	Ely P. Hubbell.
Oklahoma	W. B. Greer.
Pennsylvania	Louis C. Massey.

Texas	R. P. Buckmaster.
Utah	J. G. Torrey.
Victoria	John L. Hall.
Virginia	Stafford Caldwell.
Washington	Stafford Caldwell.
Western Australia	John Pasco.
West Virginia	Geo. J. Tolson.
Wisconsin	Geo. A. Darme.
Wyoming	John Pasco.

DISTRICT DEPUTIES

W. B. Greer,	John Pasco,
T. T. Todd,	W. M. Bullard,
Stafford Caldwell,	C. R. Horn,
Cary B. Fish,	Chester C. Snow,
R. P. Buckmaster,	Chas. M. Gruber,
Archie Aitchison,	R. J. McMaster.

It was reported that Companion W. B. Y. Wilkie, Grand Chaplain, and E. L. Shear, Past Grand High Priest, were unable to be present on account of illness. Regrets were also received from Past Grand High Priest Wm. R. O'Neal and T. P. Warlow. The Grand Secretary was directed to send telegrams of sympathy and regrets to Companions Wilkie and Shear.

The following letter was received from Companion Early H. Johnson, General Grand Master of the First Veil:

Hon. Cary B. Fish, Grand High Priest, Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Florida, Sarasota, Florida:

My dear Companion Fish:

I have your very kind letter of the 30th ult., extending to me an invitation to visit your Grand Jurisdiction and to be present at the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Florida on the 15th and 16th inst.

I have delayed my reply to your letter hoping that matters would so shape themselves that I might be in position to definitely accept the invitation.

The Grand Commandery of Georgia will meet in Annual Conclave in Brunswick on May 16th and 17th. Since I am in line in the Grand Commandery I shall, of course, wish to be among those present. The regular term of our court convenes on Monday, the 14th inst., and I dislike to be absent from the office until after the court is organized. It can well be seen that I have little spare time around those dates.

It is possible that I may be able to go to Jacksonville on the 16th and be with you part of the day. I shall make every effort to do so. Please do not make reservation, for if I am able to go by Jacksonville, it will only be for part of the day.

I wish to thank you most sincerely for the kind invitation and assure you that it will be indeed a great pleasure for me to be with you if I am permitted to do so.

With cordial good wishes and highest personal regards, I am
Sincerely and fraternally,

EARLY H. JOHNSON,
Grand Master First Veil.

Past Grand High Priest Massey introduced M. E. P. O. Frank Hart, Grand Master of the General Grand Council, Royal and Select Masters of the United States, who was received with Grand Honors and given a seat in the East.

Past Grand High Priest Endel introduced M. E. Companion Charles Clark Davis, Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of the United States, who was received with Grand Honors and tendered the gavel. After a few remarks of greeting, the gavel was returned to Grand High Priest Fish.

Past Grand High Priest Endel introduced M. W. Leroy Brandon, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, F. & A. M. of Florida; M. I. E. E. Macy, Grand Master of the Grand Council Royal and Select Masters of Flor-

ida; R. E. Dorsey H. Rutter, Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Florida, and Brother C. S. Hammatt, 33° Deputy of the Supreme Council, A. A. S. Rite of the Southern Jurisdiction, who were also received with Grand Honors.

Upon motion of Past Grand High Priest Todd, the reading of the minutes of the last Annual Convocation was dispensed with, they having been printed and distributed, and they were adopted as printed.

A telegram was received from Miss Verna Bullard, Grand Matron, of the Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star, extending greetings to the Grand Chapter and the Grand Secretary was directed to reply to same.

The M. E. Grand High Priest announced the appointment of the following committees:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

John Paver, W. W. Nihiser
L. T. B. Southwick.

PROPOSITIONS AND GRIEVANCES

George B. Gregory, R. F. Saxon.
James O. Huff,

DISPENSATIONS AND BY-LAWS

C. R. Horn, J. E. Lovvorn.
F. S. Hartsfield,

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE

Marcus Endel,

W. P. Webster,	E. E. Haskell,
L. C. Massey,	J. R. Keller,
C. H. Ketchum,	W. V. Carter,
H. O. Snow,	John L. Hall,
R. J. Kishpaugh,	Ely P. Hubbell,
Erle L. Wirt,	T. T. Todd.

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

	H. O. Snow,	
J. B. Phelps,		Chas. H. Stewart.

MEMORIALS

	Dorsey H. Rutter,	
Ely P. Hubbell,		John Pasco.

VISITORS

	Chester DeRocher,	
James L. Clary,		B. M. Hulse.

RETURNS AND CREDENTIALS

	T. P. Robinson,	
J. E. Shepley,		J. H. Rauch.

The M. E. Grand High Priest delivered the following address:

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ADDRESS

Companions:

It is a privilege to welcome you to the Eighty-second Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Florida, and I sincerely trust that our deliberations will be beneficial to Capitular Masonry and ourselves; that each of us may receive higher inspirations and be better men and Masons by reason of our exchange of ideas at these Annual Convocations.

The deeds of the past year are now irrevocably recorded and upon reviewing our work, if we see where mistakes have been made, let us try and rectify them.

There has been an increase of seventy-one in membership this year, although two Chapters have the same membership as last year; twenty-six Chapters show a loss in members and twenty-six Chapters have increased their membership. The losses are mostly by reason of suspension for non-payment of dues and this to a great extent, is due to the negligence of the Secretary in failing to collect dues; which in many cases could have been collected by personal solicitation.

DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS

Last year the Grand Chapter directed that the Grand High Priest divide our Grand Jurisdiction into such number of districts as to him may seem desirable and that he appoint a Special Deputy for each of said districts; acting under this authority and having in mind the least probable expense to the Grand Chapter, on the 9th day of July, 1927, I appointed the Special Deputies and assigned them the Chapters in their district as follows:

W. B. Greer, Quincy, Fla.

Chipley No. 23.....	Chipley, Fla.
Gadsden No. 30	Quincy, Fla.
Jackson No. 32	Marianna, Fla.
Bay County No. 39	Panama City, Fla.

John Pasco, Monticello, Fla.

Tallahassee No. 1	Tallahassee, Fla.
Live Oak No. 25	Live Oak, Fla.
Jefferson No. 26	Monticello, Fla.
Perry No. 44	Perry, Fla.

T. T. Todd, Pensacola, Fla.

Mount Horeb No. 6	Pensacola, Fla.
Walton No. 37	DeFuniak Springs, Fla.
Crestview No. 40	Crestview, Fla.

W. M. Bullard, Gainesville, Fla.

Gainesville No. 2	Gainesville, Fla.
Lake Butler No. 19	Lake Butler, Fla.
Providence No. 38	Lake City, Fla.

Stafford Caldwell, Jacksonville, Fla.

Palatka No. 9	Palatka, Fla.
Jacksonville No. 12	Jacksonville, Fla.
St. Augustine No. 17	St. Augustine, Fla.
Duval No. 48	So. Jacksonville, Fla.
Nassau No. 49	Fernandina, Fla.

John Schulthorpe, Vincent R. Brice, Miami, Fla.

Miami No. 11	Miami, Fla.
Keystone No. 20	Fort Lauderdale, Fla.
Dade No. 47	Homestead, Fla.

C. R. Horn, Leesburg, Fla.

Eustis No. 33	Eustis, Fla.
Leesburg No. 34	Leesburg, Fla.

C. B. Fish, Sarasota, Fla.

Manatee River No. 18	Bradenton, Fla.
Thomas Brown No. 22	Bartow, Fla.
Sarasota No. 35	Sarasota, Fla.
Arcadia No. 36	Arcadia, Fla.
Poinciana No. 50	Fort Myers, Fla.

Chester C. Snow, Daytona Beach, Fla.

St. Johns No. 4	DeLand, Fla.
Halifax No. 5	Daytona, Fla.
Indian River No. 27	Titusville, Fla.
Union No. 43	Melbourne, Fla.
New Smyrna No. 51	New Smyrna, Fla.

R. P. Buckmaster, Orlando, Fla.

Eureka No. 7	Orlando, Fla.
Kissimmee No. 10	Kissimmee, Fla.
Ocala No. 13	Ocala, Fla.
Sanford No. 15	Sanford, Fla.
Winter Haven No. 41	Winter Haven, Fla.
Highlands No. 42	Avon Park, Fla.
Orange No. 52	Winter Garden, Fla.

Charles M. Gruber, W. Palm Beach, Fla.

Lake Worth No. 24 West Palm Beach, Fla.
 Joppa No. 28 Fort Pierce, Fla.
 Okeechobee No. 46 Okeechobee, Fla.
 Delray No. 53 Delray, Fla.

Archie Aitchison, St. Petersburg, Fla.

Inverness No. 14 Inverness, Fla.
 St. Petersburg No. 31 St. Petersburg, Fla.
 Clearwater No. 45 Clearwater, Fla.

R. J. McMaster, Tampa, Fla.

Tampa No. 3 Tampa, Fla.
 Dade City No. 8 Dade City, Fla.
 Hill City No. 55 Brooksville, Fla.

A. B. Steuart, Tampa, Fla.

Plant City No. 16 Plant City, Fla.
 Lakeland No. 29 Lakeland, Fla.
 M. D. Cushing No. 54 Tampa, Fla.

Learning later that E. Companion John Sculthorpe died August 19, 1927, I appointed Vincent R. Brice Special Deputy to fill this vacancy.

NECROLOGY

It has been our sad duty to announce the death of a highly and well loved Companion and Friend, M. E. William S. Ware, Past Grand High Priest, who entered into his final rest on the twenty-third day of October,

1927. The Grand Chapter was represented at his funeral by the Grand High Priest and other Grand Chapter officers, together with several Past Grand High Priests. His Memorial was written by Companion Dorsey H. Rutter at my request and is as follows:

GRAND COMMANDERY, K. T.

GRAND CHAPTER, R. A. M.

OF FLORIDA

Office of Grand High Priest and Grand Commander

To all Companions Royal Arch Masons, of the State of Florida and all other Grand Jurisdictions; and to all Knights Templar of the State of Florida, and all other Grand Jurisdictions:

Dear Companions and Fratres:

With deepest sorrow we are obliged to announce that our official circle has been broken by the relentless hand of Death and has called to the Great Beyond

WILLIAM STRATTON WARE

who died in the City of Jacksonville, Florida, October 23, 1927.

Companion and Sir Knight Ware was born in Philadelphia, Pa., March 15, 1851. In very early life he was bound out to a farmer in Salem County, New Jersey.

He attended the public schools until he was seventeen years old, when he apprenticed himself to a builder, and after four years, completed his trade. In 1882, he came to Columbus, Ga., where he became a partner with his half brother in the manufacture of artificial ice.

In 1885, he removed to Jacksonville where he established the first refrigerator ice works. As the demand for ice increased, branch plants were established throughout the state including one at Pensacola. In 1908 he moved to Pensacola and took charge of that office. He returned to Jacksonville in 1912.

During his business career Companion and Sir Knight Ware took a deep interest in the welfare of his city. For many years he was a director and vice president of the Jacksonville Board of Trade.

His Masonic career is phenomenal. In 1876, he received the Degree of Master Mason in St. Pauls Lodge No. 11 at Litchfield, Connecticut, and on July 1, 1889, he affiliated with Duval Lodge No. 18, and later, became a Charter Member of Temple Lodge No. 23, at Jacksonville, Florida. He served his Brethren as Master in 1897 and was Treasurer of this Lodge from 1900 to 1908.

In 1891 he was exalted to the Degree of Royal Arch Mason in Jacksonville Chapter No. 12, and after serving in several of the chairs, was elected High Priest in 1902. His Companions did him the honor to elect him Grand High Priest in 1907.

He received the Orders of Christian Knighthood in Damascus Commandery No. 2, at Jacksonville in January, 1892, and was Commander during 1898. He was elected to the office of Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Florida 1901. He became the Treasurer of the Grand Commandery in 1908 and held this office until the time of his death. He also held the post as Treasurer of the Shrine when death claimed him.

He was a Charter Member of all the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Bodies in the Valley of Jacksonville, receiving the Degrees, September, 1892. Then for conspicuous and unusual ability he was crowned Honorary 33d Degree Mason at Washington, D. C., October 19, 1897. He was commissioned as a Deputy of the Supreme Council for the State of Florida, October, 1903.

Companion and Sir Knight Ware was married May 8, 1878, to Miss Nellie L. Wooster of Litchfield, Connecticut, who survives him. Not having any children of their own, they adopted two, Harry and Nellie, both of whom are married.

In the many offices to which he was elected, he served with great efficiency and distinction but his name is immortalized in the untiring devotion he exerted in behalf of that greatest of Masonic philanthropy, the Masonic Home of Florida.

Funeral services were conducted at 3 P. M., on October 26th, in the Snyder Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church of which the deceased has been a faithful member for more than forty years. Masonic services were conducted at the Evergreen Cemetery where his remains were laid to rest.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Chapter
Royal Arch Masons

OF THE

STATE OF FLORIDA

∴

Seventy-Fifth
Annual Convocation

∴

Held in the City of Jacksonville, May 17-18,

A. D. 1921, A. I. 2451

GRAND OFFICERS
OF THE
M. : E. : Grand Chapter of Florida
FOR

A. I. 2451, A. D. 1921.

M. : E. : John L. Hall, Grand High Priest, Jacksonville.
R. : E. : R. J. Kishpaugh, Deputy Gr. High Priest, W. Palm Beach.
R. : E. : E. P. Hubbell, Grand King, Bradentown.
R. : E. : E. L. Wirt, Grand Scribe, Bartow.
M. : E. : Marcus Endel, Grand Treasurer, Jacksonville.
M. : E. : Wilber P. Webster, Grand Secretary, Jacksonville.
R. : E. : W. B. Y. Wilkie, Grand Chaplain, Dunedin.
E. : T. T. Todd, Grand Captain of the Host, Pensacola.
E. : E. L. Shear, Grand Principal Sojourner, Daytona.
E. : Cary B. Fish, Grand Royal Arch Captain, Bradentown.
E. : R. J. McMaster, Grand Master Third Vail, Tampa.
E. : H. Stafford Caldwell, Grand Master Second Vail, Jacksonville.
E. : S. E. Gregory, Grand Master First Vail, Jacksonville.
E. : John W. Capper, Grand Guard, Jacksonville.

"Servant of God, well done! Thy glorious warfare's past;
The battle's fought, the race is won, and thou art crowned at
last."

Let this notice be read in open Chapter, in each Chapter in
the Grand Jurisdiction at the first possible Convocation after its
receipt.

Attest: *CARY B. FISH,*
Grand High Priest.
W. P. WEBSTER,
Grand Secretary.

E. : Companion John H. Sculthorpe, Special Deputy
Grand High Priest, passed through the earthly veils to
the unseen veils above on the 19th day of August, 1927,
and Capitular Masonry lost one of its devoted members.

Other Grand Jurisdictions have sustained losses, as
well as our subordinate Chapters which the Committee
on Memorials will include in their report.

CHAPTERS CONSTITUTED

On the 9th day of May, 1927, accompanied by R. :
E. : Companion R. J. McMasters, Deputy Grand High
Priest; M. : E. : Companions Ely P. Hubbell and H. O.
Snow, Past Grand High Priests, and several Companions
of Tampa Chapter No. 3, I constituted Monroe D. Cush-
ing Chapter at Tampa and installed Richard B. Lovett,
High Priest; Frank O'Berry, King; Henry A. Van Bor-
sum, Scribe; also the other officers. This Chapter is
very enthusiastic and has shown splendid progress.

Accompanied by M. : E. : Ralph J. Kishpaugh, Past
Grand High Priest and several other Companions, I con-
stituted Delray Chapter on June 18, 1927 and installed
its officers with Excellent W. A. Brennan, High Priest;
L. W. Currier, King; I. J. Sinks, Scribe; these Compan-

ions were enthusiastic and I am informed that they are doing good work.

Hill City Chapter was constituted July 27, 1927 and its officers installed. I was assisted by Deputy Grand High Priest McMasters, Past Grand High Priests Snow and Hubbell; Grand Master Third Veil Aichison, together with several other Companions. Hill City Chapter has been unfortunate in having their Chapter room burned down shortly after they were constituted, losing their Charter and paraphernalia, thus hindering and impeding their work. A certified copy of their Charter has been delivered to them.

MONUMENTS

According to our custom of placing a monument at the graves of Past Grand High Priests, I appointed Committees to purchase and have erected monuments at the last resting place of Past Grand High Priests Irving E. Webster, T. G. Hutchinson and William S. Ware. These Committees have performed their work and handsome monuments in each instance have been erected. The Committees were as follows:

Committee for Irving E. Webster: Companions Marcus Endel, W. M. Bullard and H. E. Taylor.
 Committee for T. G. Hutchinson: Companions Marcus Endel, John L. Hall and William S. Ware.
 Committee for W. S. Ware: Companions W. P. Webster, Marcus Endel and John L. Hall.

APPOINTMENT OF GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

On May 20, 1927, I appointed E. Companion Homer E. Zorn of Greybull, Wyoming, as our representative near the Grand Chapter of Wyoming.

On September 20, 1927, I appointed E. Companion D. Peter Laguens of New Orleans as our representative near the Grand Chapter of Louisiana.

On October 24, 1927, I appointed E. Companion Richard W. Evans of Dodge City as our representative near the Grand Chapter of Kansas.

On December 16, 1927, I appointed E. Companion Bird N. Hope of Pawnee as our representative near the Grand Chapter of Oklahoma.

On March 5, 1928, I appointed E. Companion Frank P. McAtee of Springfield as our representative near the Grand Chapter of Missouri.

On March 29, 1928, I appointed E. Companion George B. Colesworthy of North Cambridge as our representative near the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts.

FINANCE

I have signed warrants Numbered one to forty-seven inclusive amounting to \$11,639.24.

MASONIC HOME

I had the pleasure of attending and representing our Grand Chapter at the laying of the cornerstone of the new building at the Masonic Home in St. Petersburg on October 8, 1927. The ceremony was performed by the Grand Lodge officers who were escorted by the Grand Commandery and assisted by the Grand Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star.

This building is now completed and occupied by the adult guests of the Home.

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Committee for W. S. Ware: Companions W. P. Webster, Marcus Endel and John L. Hall.

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EXEMPLIFICATION OF WORK

In order that the several degrees may be exemplified at this Grand Convocation, I have invited Jacksonville Chapter No. 12 to put on the Lodge degrees on Tuesday afternoon and the Royal Arch that night.

DISPENSATIONS

On May 20, 1927, issued a dispensation to Thomas Brown Chapter No. 22 to elect and install a Secretary and to fill any office which may be made vacant by reason of said election.

On September 9, 1927, granted dispensation to Live Oak Chapter No. 25 to elect and install a Secretary and to fill any office made vacant by reason of said election.

On November 30, 1927, issued dispensation to Halifax Chapter No. 5 to hold their annual election on December 9, 1927, and at said Convocation to ballot on candidates and confer degrees. All members of your Chapter to be notified that a special Convocation would be called on December 9, for the annual election, balloting upon candidates and conferring degrees. This annual election should have been on December 8, but on account of Grand Lodge School of Instruction on that night, they requested postponement.

On February 15, 1928, granted dispensation to Dade City Chapter No. 8 to receive and ballot upon petitions at a special Convocation called for that purpose, a notice to be sent to all members of your Chapter that petitions will be received and acted upon at that time.

On February 1, 1928, granted dispensation to St. Johns Chapter No. 4 to receive and ballot upon two petitions at a special Convocation to be held on February

3, providing notice is given all members of the Chapter that petitions will be received and acted upon at that time.

On February 15, 1928, issued dispensation to Plant City Chapter No. 16 to elect and install a Treasurer and to fill any vacancies caused by reason of said election.

On March 19, 1928, granted dispensation to St. Petersburg Chapter No. 31 to elect and install a High Priest at any regular Convocation, after due notice to the members, and to fill any offices made vacant thereby. This request was made as required by Section 12 of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter.

BY-LAWS APPROVED

On August 24, 1927, approved amendment changing date of regular Convocation of Inverness Chapter No. 14.

On October 24, 1927, approved the following amendment to By-Laws of Tampa Chapter No. 3, to-wit: "All petitions for the Capitular Degrees in Tampa Chapter No. 3, R. A. M. shall be received and lay over until its next regular Convocation before being acted upon and the Secretary shall notify the Chapters of concurrent Jurisdiction of the reception of all such petitions immediately after they are received by the Chapter."

On October 27, 1927, approved amendment changing date of regular Convocation of Putnam Chapter No. 9.

On November 22, 1927, approved amendment changing amount of annual dues of Tampa Chapter No. 3.

On January 4, 1928, approved another amendment in regard to annual dues in Tampa Chapter No. 3.

On April 6, 1928, approved amendments to By-Laws of Mount Horeb Chapter No. 6 revising their former By-Laws.

On May 3, 1928, approved amendment to change date of regular Convocation of Delray Chapter No. 53.

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE

M. E. Companion O'Neal, Chairman of the Educational Committee informed me that the funds to be used for loans to students had been exhausted, and asked if funds which had been appropriated in former years and not used, could be drawn on at that time. Upon investigation I found that these appropriations had never been set apart from the General Fund and that it would require action by the Grand Chapter to make the unused portion of these former appropriations available for the use of this Committee.

VISITATIONS

I have visited each Chapter that was assigned to me, also several other Chapters and was received in each instance with the courtesy and honors due the office of Grand High Priest.

I also attended the General Grand Chapter in Denver last September as one of the representatives of this Grand Chapter.

On February 22 of this year I attended the annual meeting of the George Washington National Masonic Memorial Association at Alexandria and represented our Grand Chapter at this meeting.

I received an invitation to attend the Grand Chapter of Scotland, but being unable to take such a long journey, was obliged to send my regrets.

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER

Accompanied by R. E. Companion R. J. McMaster, Deputy Grand High Priest, and M. E. Past Grand High Priests, Marcus Endel, E. E. Haskell, H. O. Snow, R. J. Kishpaugh, W. V. Carter, Ely P. Hubbell and E. L. Shear, and E. Companions Chester DeRocher and M. V. Cole, I attended the Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter at Denver on September 28, 29 and 30, 1927, and pursuant to the resolution passed at our last Annual Convocation, presented the name of M. E. Companion H. O. Snow for Third Veil in the General Grand Chapter, and had it not been that Georgia had a candidate for this position, I feel sure that he would have been elected.

M. E. Companion Charles C. Davis was advanced to the office of General Grand High Priest. His summer home and Masonic affiliations are in Illinois but he spends his winters at his home in St. Petersburg and has promised to grace this Convocation by his presence, which will be the first time that we have been so honored since I have been a member of this Grand Chapter. Also M. E. Early H. Johnson, General Grand Master of the First Veil has been invited to be present at this Convocation.

CLANDESTINE CHAPTERS

Companions I am here including a list of Clandestine Chapters as compiled by Companion Conover, the General Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter, his list is as follows:

Alabama

Chapter	Location
Alpha No. 2	Montgomery.
Zerubbabel No. 3	Birmingham.
Prince Hall No. 7	Clio.
Golden Rule No. 14	Dothan.
Mt. Horeb No. 36	Troy.
North Star No. 49	Woodlawn.
Arons No. 75	Piedmont.

Arizona

Malta No. 16	Ft. Huachuca
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California

St. Marks No. 9	Santa Monica.
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Connecticut

Eureka No. 9	New Haven.
Same with "1" stamped over "9"	
Signet No. 21	Bridgeport.

District of Columbia

Mt. Vernon No. 1	Washington.
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Florida

Hiram No. 5	Coconut Grove.
Jasper No. 10	Jasper.

Georgia

Georgia No. 1	Savannah.
Benevolent No. 3	Milledgeville.
Waycross No. 12	Waycross.
Tyre No. 22	Ft. Benning.
Mt. Olive No. 23	Tifton.
Joe Lee No. 22	Albany.
James M. Sims No. 73	Rome.
Excelsior	Atlanta.

Illinois

Eureka No. 3	Chicago.
St. Luke No. 5	Chicago.
Oriental No. 21	Chicago.
Tyre No. 25	Chicago.
Apollo No. 27	Chicago.
North Shore No. 34	Evanston.
Stone City No. 36	Joliet.
Cornerstone No. 47	Chicago.
Wisdom No. 49	Chicago.

Indiana

Blazing Star No. 1	Kokomo.
Garfield No. 9	Marion.
Ivanhoe No. 17	Rushville.

Iowa

Northwestern No. 2	Keokuk.
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Kentucky

Mt. Carmel No. 2	Lexington.
McVeigh No. 32	McVeigh.

Louisiana

Pride of Crowley No. 36Crowley.

Maryland

King David No. 1Baltimore.
Zerubbabel No. 4Baltimore.
Keystone No. 10Baltimore.
St. Paul No. 12Towson.
Thekia No. 18Baltimore.
Corinthian No. 20Pomomkey.
Boaz No. 21Harve De Grace.
Prince Hall No. 22Catonsville.

Massachusetts

St. Stephens No. 1Boston.
St. James No. 1Boston.
St. Phillips No. 3Cambridge.
St. Lukes No. 8Boston.

Michigan

Henderson No. 15Lansing.

Missouri

Lone Star No. 18St. Joseph.
Keystone No. 24Kansas City.

New Jersey

Eureka No. 3Atlantic City.
King David No. 5Trenton.
Elite No. 9Jersey City.
Widow Son No. 11Hackensack.

New York

Widow's Son No. 1New York.
Mt. Moriah No. 3Brooklyn.
Brooklyn No. 3Brooklyn.
Rising Sun No. 4New York.
Eureka No. 17New York.
Haggai No. 18Rochester.
Bezaleel No. 19New York.
King David No. 22New York.
Three Square No. 23New York.
Keystone No. 24White Plains
Nemiah No. 25Setauket.

North Carolina

Giblem No. 32Raleigh

Ohio

Mt. Horeb No. 1Columbus
Prince White No. 1Cincinnati.
Cleveland No. 9Cleveland.
Summit No. 10Akron.
Morning Star No. 37Ballaire.
Excelsior No. 39Youngstown.

Pennsylvania

Johnstown No. 1Johnstown.
Progress No. 27New Castle.

South Carolina

Zerubbabel No. 4Chester.

Tennessee

Etherial No. 12Bristol.

Texas

Nimrod No. 9Beaumont.
Dawn of Light No. 37Lufkin.
Doric No. 125Wichita Falls.

Virginia

Hiram No. 8Norfolk.
Mt. Moriah No. 9Portsmouth.

West Virginia

Success No. 4Raleigh.
Williamson No. 18Williamson.

RECOMMENDATIONS

I have given a great deal of thought as to the best way to improve our work and eliminate the horse play and rough work in some of the Chapters.

I sent for a copy of the General Grand Chapter Ritual and upon perusal of it am of the opinion that if we would adopt this ritual in place of the one now in use, it would do away with most of the rough stuff, and I would therefore recommend that we adopt the General Grand Chapter Ritual. If this is not done, then I recommend that the subordinate Chapters be authorized to substitute in place of the perambulation and journey in the Royal Arch Degree, that the candidates be seated while the Principal Sojourner gives them a lecture ex-

plaining the journey and illustrating it by stereopticon or masoniscope.

That a regulation should be made to apply to Chapters located in the same city to have concurrent jurisdiction and that all petitions should be received and lay over until the next regular Convocation before being acted upon and that the Secretary shall notify the Chapters having concurrent jurisdiction of the reception of all such petitions immediately after they are received.

That the Regulations be amended as follows:

Regulation 20: To amend by the omission of the words "Finance and Account."

Regulation 21: To be amended by the addition of the words "Committee on Finance and Accounts." To consist of three members, one shall be appointed to serve for one year, one for two years, and one for three years; thereafter one member of said Committee shall be appointed each year, to serve for three years.

CONCLUSION

This concludes my term as presiding officer over all the Grand Bodies of Symbolic and York Rite Masonry of this State and by reason of this experience am better enabled to assist and be of greater service to the Craft in the future.

Companions, I wish to thank you for the distinguished honor which you conferred upon me one year ago by elevating me to this high position, which I have filled to the best of my ability, and before relinquishing the gavel to my successor, I especially wish to express my appreciation to our Grand Secretary and his staff for their assistance and also to the Past Grand High

Priests who have aided me with their counsel whenever called upon.

The business of the Grand Chapter is now in your hands.

Fraternally,

CARY B. FISH,
Grand High Priest.

Upon motion the foregoing address was received and referred to a Special Committee of three for consideration and distribution of subjects.

The R. E. Deputy Grand High Priest appointed Past Grand High Priest J. R. Keller and Companions B. L. Joiner and A. S. Rhoads as such committee.

The Grand Treasurer made the following report which was received and referred to the Committee on Finance and Accounts:

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Florida:

I have the honor to submit the following report:

Dr.

1927		
May 18,	To balance as per last report	\$18,702.24
May 20,	To received from Grand Secretary	137.00
1928		
Jan. 10,	To received from Grand Secretary	297.00
Jan. 14,	To received from Grand Secretary	768.00
Jan. 27,	To received from Grand Secretary	1,156.00
Jan. 31,	To received from Grand Secretary	494.00
Feb. 15,	To received from Grand Secretary	288.00
Feb. 21,	To received from Grand Secretary	218.00
Feb. 28,	To received from Grand Secretary	40.00

Feb. 29,	To received from Grand Secretary	72.00
Mch. 3,	To received from Grand Secretary	146.00
Mch. 8,	To received from Grand Secretary	300.00
Mch. 12,	To received from Grand Secretary	285.00
Mch. 16,	To received from Grand Secretary	196.00
Mch. 19,	To received from Grand Secretary	485.00
Mch. 24,	To received from Grand Secretary	120.00
Mch. 28,	To received from Grand Secretary	135.00
Mch. 29,	To received from Grand Secretary	146.00
Mch. 31,	To received from Grand Secretary	1,017.00
Apr. 2,	To received from Grand Secretary	196.00
Apr. 3,	To received from Grand Secretary	61.00
Apr. 5,	To received from Grand Secretary	52.00
Apr. 7,	To received from Grand Secretary	244.00
Apr. 9,	To received from Grand Secretary	138.00
Apr. 14,	To received from Grand Secretary	8.00
Apr. 23,	To received from Grand Secretary	313.00
Apr. 25,	To received from Grand Secretary	111.00
Apr. 30,	To received from Grand Secretary	350.00
May 1,	To received from Grand Secretary	179.00
May 2,	To received from Grand Secretary	358.00
May 8,	To received from Grand Secretary	283.00
May 10,	To received from Grand Secretary	1,339.00
May 12,	To received from Grand Secretary	152.00
	To refund on Pay roll	21.00

\$28,811.24

Less check Jackson Chapter No. 32, payment refused 206.00

\$28,605.24

INTEREST RECEIVED

Duval Lodge Bonds	\$ 45.00	
Delray Lodge Bonds	299.25	
Grand Lodge Cert. of Indebtedness	120.00	
Duval Lodge Bonds	45.00	
Barnett National Bank	95.01	604.26
		\$29,209.50

Cr.

Paid Vouchers Nos. 1 to 47	\$11,639.24	
Paid Voucher No. 3 Ed. Loan	1,000.00	12,639.24
Balance on hand		\$16,570.26
Distributed as follows:		
Barnett Natl. Bank	\$9,570.26	
Delray Lodge Bond	2,500.00	
G. Lodge Cert. of Indebtedness	3,000.00	
Duval Lodge Bonds	1,500.00	\$16,570.26

Books and vouchers are herewith submitted.

MARCUS ENDEL,
Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Secretary made the following report which was received and referred to the Special Committee on Distribution:

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Florida:

Companions:

I have to report matters pertaining to the Secretary's office for the past year as follows:

As instructed by the Grand Chapter last year, aprons have been purchased for our Grand Officers and Past Grand High Priests.

CERTIFIED COPIES OF CHARTERS

By authority of the Grand High Priest certified copies of charters have been issued as follows:

November 5, 1927, to Hill City Chapter No. 55 to replace original which had been lost by fire.

February 27, 1928, to Clearwater Chapter No. 45, to replace original which has been lost.

RETURNS

All of our Chapters have made correct returns for 1927 with the exception of Thomas Brown Chapter No. 22, which can easily be corrected if the Secretary will furnish information which has been written for several times without receiving any reply.

All Chapters have paid dues in full for 1927 with the following exceptions:

Lake Worth Chapter No. 24, due	\$299.00
Bay County Chapter No. 39, due	5.00
Perry Chapter No. 44, due	1.00
Okeechobee Chapter No. 46, due	5.00
New Smyrna Chapter No. 51, due	121.00
Delray Chapter No. 53, due	46.00

The check for \$206.00, sent us for the dues of Jackson Chapter No. 32, has been returned by bank marked "insufficient funds."

Our Chapters have exalted 558 candidates and notwithstanding the fact that 430 were suspended for non-payment of dues, the largest number in any one year we have ever had, we have made a net gain of 71, our present membership being 9,109.

Fraternally submitted,

W. P. WEBSTER,
Grand Secretary.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

W. P. Webster, Grand Secretary,

In Account with the Grand Chapter of Florida:

Dr.

To amount collected by Com. on Returns and Credentials ..	\$ 137.00
To Refund on Pay Roll	3.00
To Walton Chapter No. 37, Back Dues	13.00
To Members of Defunct Chapter	9.00
To Grand Commandery K. T., acct Webster Monument ..	50.00

G. Chap. Pro.—3

Annual Dues—

Florida	No. 1	-----	\$206.00
Gainesville	No. 2	-----	202.00
Tampa	No. 3	-----	571.00
St. Johns	No. 4	-----	145.00
Halifax	No. 5	-----	308.00
Mount Horeb	No. 6	-----	213.00
Eureka	No. 7	-----	350.00
Dade City	No. 8	-----	49.00
Putnam	No. 9	-----	155.00
Kissimmee	No. 10	-----	118.00
Jericho	No. 11	-----	591.00
Jacksonville	No. 12	-----	696.00
Ocala	No. 13	-----	193.00
Inverness	No. 14	-----	65.00
Monroe	No. 15	-----	244.00
Plant City	No. 16	-----	111.00
St. Augustine	No. 17	-----	182.00
Manatee River	No. 18	-----	218.00
Lake Butler	No. 19	-----	40.00
Keystone	No. 20	-----	167.00
Thomas Brown	No. 22	-----	252.00
Chipley	No. 23	-----	52.00
Lake Worth	No. 24	-----	502.00
Live Oak	No. 25	-----	418.00
Jefferson	No. 26	-----	99.00
Indian River	No. 27	-----	260.00
Joppa	No. 28	-----	154.00
Lakeland	No. 29	-----	242.00
Gadsden	No. 30	-----	175.00
St. Petersburg	No. 31	-----	489.00
Jackson	No. 32	-----	206.00
Eustis	No. 33	-----	111.00
Leesburg	No. 34	-----	146.00
Sarasota	No. 35	-----	176.00
Arcadia	No. 36	-----	92.00
Walton	No. 37	-----	41.00
Providence	No. 38	-----	84.00
Bay County	No. 39	-----	146.00
Crestview	No. 40	-----	113.00

Winter Haven	No. 41	-----	196.00
Highlands	No. 42	-----	141.00
Union	No. 43	-----	85.00
Perry	No. 44	-----	84.00
Clearwater	No. 45	-----	136.00
Okeechobee	No. 46	-----	52.00
Dade	No. 47	-----	123.00
Duval	No. 48	-----	90.00
Nassau	No. 49	-----	72.00
Poinciana	No. 50	-----	111.00
Orange	No. 52	-----	63.00
M. D. Cushing	No. 54	-----	89.00
Hill City	No. 55	-----	52.00
			\$ 9,876.00
			<u> </u>
			\$10,088.00

By Paid Grand Treasurer ----- Cr. \$10,088.00
 Books and Vouchers are herewith submitted for examination and approval.

W. P. WEBSTER,
Grand Secretary.

The Educational Loan Committee made the following report which was received and adopted:

EDUCATIONAL LOAN FUND

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Florida:
 Your Educational Loan Committee respectfully reports as follows:

RECEIPTS

Nov. 15, 1927. Grand Chapter	-----	\$1,000.00
Jan. 16, 1928. Return of loan India O. Smith	125.00	\$1,125.00

DISBURSEMENTS

Four loans made	-----	\$ 625.00
Office Expense (2 Ledgers)	3.25	\$ 628.25
Balance in Bank	-----	\$ 496.75

Fraternally submitted

W. R. O'NEAL,
Chairman.

The Committee on Distribution made the following report which was received and adopted:

DISTRIBUTION

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Florida:

Your Committee on Distribution to whom was referred the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, and the report of the R. E. Grand Secretary, recommend that such matters in said address and report as refers to necrology, be referred to the Committee on Memorials.

That such matters as refer to dispensations and new Chapters, be referred to the Committee on Dispensations and By-laws.

That such matters as refer to expenditure of Grand Chapter funds, be referred to the Committee on Finance and Accounts, and all matters referred to in the Grand Secretary's report, having to do with Finance of the Grand Chapter, be referred to the Committee on Finance and Accounts.

That such part of the report as refers to the appropriation for Educational work, be referred to the Committee on Finance and Accounts.

That so much of the report as refers to Clandestine Chapters be referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

That so much of the report as refers to new rituals, be referred to the Committee on Rituals.

That so much of the report with reference to the forming of Districts with special deputies, be approved, and we suggest that this system be continued for another year.

That such matters as pertain to decisions rendered, amendments to regulations and by-laws, dispensations granted and foreign relations and edicts, be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

That all other portions of the address and report be received and filed for information.

Fraternally submitted,

J. R. KELLER,
B. L. JOINER,
A. S. RHOADS,
Committee.

The Committee on Triennial made the following report which was received and adopted:

TRIENNIAL

Your Committee on Triennial, in company with M. E. Companions Marcus Endel, Elmer E. Haskell, William V. Carter, Ralph J. Kishpaugh, Ely P. Hubbell, E. L. Shear and Companions Chester DeRocher and Melvin V. Cole, attended the Fortieth Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter of R. A. M. of the U. S. A., convened in Colorado Consistory Cathedral, in the City of Denver, beginning on Wednesday, September 28th, 1927, at 10 A. M., Mountain Standard time.

The most of us arrived in Denver, Sunday, September 25th, in a snow-storm—which was quite a novelty to us. We attended the various receptions and entertainments prior to the opening of the G. G. Chapter—and thoroughly enjoyed the hospitality of the mountain city.

The sessions of the General Grand Chapter were very interesting and abounded with a spirit of good fellowship.

The M. E. General Grand High Priest, Henry DeWitt Hamilton, presented his address, and reviewed the activities of Most Excellent John A. Blake, as well as his own after the passing of his predecessor.

There were a number of distinguished visitors, among them: The M. E. The Earl of Cassilis, First Grand Principal of the Supreme Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Scotland. M. E. Henry Holgate Watson, Past Grand Principal of the Grand Chapter R. A. M. of British Columbia.

M. P. O. Frank Hart, General Grand Master of the General Grand Council R. & S. M. of the U. S. A., with his associate officers of that General Grand Body.

Companion (R. E. Sir) Isaac H. Hettinger, Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Encampment K. T. and other officers of the Grand Encampment.

The first afternoon session was devoted to special memorials of:

M. E. Companions—
John A. Blake, Charles Northrup Rix,
James Washington Taylor, George Edgar Corson,
Past Grand High Priests, of Royal Arch Masons of the U. S. A.,

who had responded to the call to the Grand Chapter above, since the last Triennial.

The second morning session was devoted to the reports of Committees and other routine business—and the election of officers for the ensuing three years was begun, and finished at the afternoon session—after which the General Grand Officers were installed.

The Earl of Cassilis was elected an honorary member, to which he responded in a few well chosen words.

Our Grand Chapter was honored in having M. E. Companion Cary B. Fish, Grand High Priest, appointed on the Committee on Charters and Dispensations; M. E. Companion Ely P. Hubbell, on the Committee on Foreign Relations; M. E. Companion R. J. Kishpaugh on the Committee on Resolutions.

Respectfully submitted,

CARY B. FISH,

H. O. SNOW,

R. J. McMASTER,

Committee.

Past Grand High Priest Endel made a verbal report on the Masonic Relief Association of the United States and Canada.

Past Grand High Priest Hubbell presented his report on Correspondence, and upon motion same was received and ordered printed with the Proceedings of this Grand Convocation of the Grand Chapter.

M. P. General Grand Master Hart made a very forceful and inspiring talk urging Masons to "Stop, Look and Think."

The motion prevailed that when the Grand Chapter is called from labor to refreshment, it be to resume labor at 2:00 o'clock P. M., and that the first order of business be the exemplification of work in the Mark Master's Degree.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment.

IN GRAND CHAPTER

Tuesday, May 15, 2:00 P. M.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor by the M. E. Grand High Priest with officers and members as at morning session.

The minutes of the morning session were read and adopted.

Companion Caldwell reported that Past Grand Master York was quite ill. The Grand Secretary was requested to wire Companion York, extending the sympathy of the Grand Chapter to him in his illness.

The Committee on Memorials made the following report which was received and adopted:

MEMORIALS

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Florida:

Your Committee on Necrology begs leave to submit the following report:

Each recurring Annual Convocation of this body of worthy Companions affords unusual opportunity for fellowship. Here friendships are formed that death only can sever. Here inspiration is received which enables noble men to return to the business of life with renewed zeal and a deeper love for their fellow Companions. But alas! each Convocation forcefully reminds us that "Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all its sons away" and that another year with its record belongs to the ages.

Some of our Companions have gone out from us and we shall henceforth be deprived of their noble examples and godly admonition. To the widows and fatherless children of these our departed Companions, we extend heartfelt sympathy. May the everlasting arms of the eternal God be underneath and around them.

Past Grand High Priest, William Stratton Ware, passed within the White Veil, October 23, 1927. Companion Ware was born in Philadelphia, Pa., March 15, 1851. His Masonic career is remarkable. In 1876, he received the degree of Master Mason in St.

Paul's Lodge No. 11, at Litchfield, Conn. Later he became a charter member of Temple Lodge No. 23, at Jacksonville, Florida. He served his Brethren as Master in 1897 and was Treasurer of this Lodge from 1900 to 1908. In 1891, he was exalted to the Degree of Royal Arch Mason in Jacksonville Chapter No. 12, and was its High Priest in 1902. His Companions did him the high honor of electing him Grand High Priest in 1907. He received the Orders of Christian Knighthood in Damascus Commandery No. 2 at Jacksonville in January, 1892; served as its Commander during 1898, and was elected Grand Commander during 1901. Companion Ware was elected Treasurer of the Grand Commandery in 1908, also Treasurer of the Shrine, which offices he held until his death. He was a charter member of all the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite bodies in the Valley of Jacksonville, receiving the degrees September, 1892. For conspicuous and unusual ability, he was crowned Honorary 33d Degree Mason at Washington, D. C., October 19, 1897. He was commissioned as a Deputy of the Supreme Council for the State of Florida, October, 1903.

It is impossible to evaluate such a man. The burden of years slipped from Companion Ware as an outworn garment and the soul of him stood revealed as crowned with eternal youth. You saw and knew him. His life was interwoven with your city, your churches, your fraternities and your hearts. But his life is immortalized in the untiring devotion he exerted in behalf of that greatest of Masonic philanthropy, the Masonic Home of Florida.

Sister Grand Jurisdictions likewise have sustained great losses and to these we extend assurances of true sympathy in the following bereavements which have been theirs:

General Grand Chapter—George Edgar Corson, Past General Grand High Priest, during 1915-1918, died at his home in Chevy Chase, Maryland, July 10, 1927. Charles Northrup Rix, Past General Grand High Priest, was born in Michigan, 1843, and died at Hot Springs, Arkansas, September 2, 1927.

Alabama—Archibald La Rue Thompson, Grand Sentinel, born at Hayneville, Alabama, July 17, 1839; died July 11, 1927. Joseph Leon Gunter, Past Grand High Priest, born near Columbus, Mississippi; died July 5, 1927.

Arkansas—Shem E. Hollabaugh, Past Grand High Priest, born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, May 28, 1843; died Hot Springs, Ar-

kansas, September 2, 1927. Frank F. Green, Grand Scribe, died December 31, 1927.

Colorado—William T. Bridewell, Past Grand High Priest, born in Virginia, October 10, 1845; died in Canon City, Colorado, September 29, 1927.

District of Columbia—Arvine W. Johnson, Grand Secretary Emeritus, born January 28, 1856; died March 4, 1928. William Barnum, Past Grand High Priest, born December 12, 1851; died March 12, 1928.

Georgia—Thomas Franklin Moody, Past Grand High Priest, born in Randolph County, Georgia, July 22, 1866; died in Washington, D. C., January 14, 1927. Robert L. Colding, Past Grand High Priest, born in Bridgetown, New Jersey, September 2, 1866; died in Savannah, Georgia, October 21, 1927. John C. Joiner, Past Grand High Priest, born in Sumter County, Georgia, March 16, 1840; died at Lithia Springs, Georgia, December 26, 1927.

Illinois—Nathaniel Bowditch, Past Grand High Priest, born at Salem, Massachusetts, October 6, 1845; died in Chicago, April 7, 1927. George Mayhew Moulton, Past Grand High Priest, born at Readsboro, Vermont, March 15, 1851; died in Chicago, July 24, 1927.

Indiana—William Worthington Ross, Past Grand High Priest, born in Henderson County, Kentucky, April 27, 1853; died at Evansville, Indiana, June 15, 1927.

Kansas—Charles J. Webb, Past Grand High Priest, born near Nortonville, Kansas, July 7, 1863; died at sea near Honolulu, January 3, 1928.

Louisiana—Harry Field Grimm, Past Grand High Priest, born March 15, 1864; died February 21, 1928. James B. Adams, Past Grand High Priest, born in Worcester, Massachusetts; died at Hammond, Louisiana, August 31, 1927.

Maine—Albert Manchester Penley, Past Grand High Priest, born in Danville, Maine, July 22, 1847; died at Auburn, Maine, June 25, 1927. Wilson Darling Barron, Past Grand High Priest, born in Dexter, Maine, May 18, 1876; died at Camden, Maine, November 9, 1927.

Maryland—J. H. Ferd Hahn, Past Grand High Priest, born in Baltimore, Maryland, May 25, 1860; died in Baltimore, November 6, 1927. Emmett L. Pettit, Past Grand High Priest, born in Nor-

folk, Virginia, November 2, 1860; died at Laurel, Maryland, August 28, 1927. William Mohr, Past Grand High Priest, born in Baltimore, July 4, 1865; died at Baltimore, May 31, 1927.

Minnesota—John T. Johnson, Past Grand High Priest, born near Waseca, Minnesota, August 23, 1859; died in Minneapolis, September 5, 1927.

Missouri—Charles Carroll Woods, Past Grand High Priest, born at Rocky Mount, Virginia, July 4, 1838; died at Sarasota, Florida, May 12, 1927.

Massachusetts—Frederick Towne Comee, Past Grand High Priest, and Grand Secretary, born October 1, 1846; died March 31, 1928. Samuel F. Hubbard, Past Grand High Priest, born February 9, 1846; died March 3, 1928.

New Jersey—Abram Amerman Reger, Past Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary, born near North Branch Depot, N. J., July 29, 1865; died at Summerville, New Jersey, February 18, 1928.

North Carolina—Edward Baxter Neave, Grand Treasurer Emeritus, born in Arbroath, Scotland, November 19, 1841; died at Salisbury, N. C., September 27, 1927.

North Dakota—George Hovey Phelps, Past Grand High Priest, born in Lowell, Vermont, July 17, 1862; died in Minot, North Dakota, February 29, 1927.

Ohio—Edwin Hagenbuch, Grand Secretary, born in Champaign County, Ohio, May 8, 1850; died at Urbana, Ohio, January 13, 1928.

Oregon—Max Bollack, Past Grand High Priest, born February 23, 1856; died February 28, 1928.

Rhode Island—Jerome Hammond Tucker, Grand High Priest, born in Attleboro, Massachusetts, July 30, 1868; died at Providence, R. I., July 2, 1927.

Texas—James Andrew Garland, Past Grand High Priest, born in Newport, New York, November 6, 1851; died at McAllen, Texas, May 18, 1927.

Utah—Warren Benjamin, Past Grand High Priest, born at Kingston, New York, February 8, 1871; died in Salt Lake City, April 30, 1927. George William Lynch, Past Grand High Priest, born at Centre Isle, N. Y., May 13, 1867; died at Salt Lake City, Utah, August 19, 1927.

Washington—Francis Bayly West, Past Grand High Priest, born at Modest Town, Virginia; died at Bellingham, Washington, December 15, 1927. Abraham Lincoln Miller, Past Grand High Priest, born at Grand Mound, Washington, March 29, 1863; died at Portland, Oregon, November 14, 1927.

West Virginia—William Taylor Workman, Past Grand High Priest, born December 5, 1852; died October 17, 1927.

Thus we have chronicled the lives of those Companions who have passed through the veils of sense and flesh and have entered into that Temple which is "without griefs and graves, without sins or sorrows, without births or burials, without marriages or mournings; a city which glories in having a loving Father for its Supreme Grand High Priest, angels for its guards, Companions for its citizens; whose walls are salvation and whose gates are praise.

D. H. RUTTER,

ELY P. HUBBELL,

Committee.

Labor was dispensed with in the Grand Chapter and a Lodge of Mark Masters was opened by the officers of Jacksonville Chapter, No. 12.

Brothers James E. Lee, Jr., L. G. Ray, R. D. Furnish, for Jacksonville Chapter, No. 12, and Elijah L. Cole for Poinciana Chapter, No. 50, were advanced to the Hon. Degree of Mark Masters in due form, under the direction of the Grand Chapter Committee on Work.

The Lodge of Mark Masters was closed and a Lodge of Past Masters was opened.

The same class as above were inducted into the O. C. of K. S. in due form by the officers of Jacksonville Chapter, No. 12.

The Lodge of Past Masters was closed and a Lodge of Most Excellent Masters was opened.

The same class as above were received and acknowledged as Most Excellent Masters.

The Lodge of Most Excellent Masters was closed and all officers and members of the Grand Chapter, and visitors with the ladies, were invited by Jacksonville Chapter, No. 12, to partake of a dinner which had been prepared on the seventh floor of the Temple, under the direction of the ladies of Jacksonville Chapter, No. 15, O. E. S.

A Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was opened. The following Companions were exalted to the August and Sublime degree of Royal Arch in due form, by the officers of Jacksonville Chapter No. 12, under the direction of the Grand Chapter Committee on Work.

L. G. Ray, James E. Lee, Jr., R. D. Furnish for Jacksonville Chapter, No. 12; E. L. Cole for Poinciana Chapter, No. 50; H. R. Hamilton, G. H. Waas, R. F. Abernathy for Nassau Chapter, No. 49.

The Chapter was closed and labor was resumed in the Grand Chapter.

The Committee on Unfinished Business made the following report which was received and adopted:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Florida:

Your Committee on Unfinished Business finds the only unfinished business to be the amendment to the Constitution proposed at our last Annual Convocation as follows:

"Amend Section 15 of Article II to read as follows:

Section 15, Article II. In balloting for Grand Officers each Chapter represented is entitled to three (3) votes and each Grand Officer to one (1) vote. Each Past Grand High Priest and Past

High Priest of constituent Chapters present, not holding an office in the Grand Chapter, to one (1) vote."

Your committee recommend that final action on this amendment be taken immediately.

Fraternally submitted,

W. W. NIHSER,

JOHN PAVER,

S. T. B. SOUTHWICK,

Committee.

The motion of Companion McMaster prevailed that when the Grand Chapter is called from labor to refreshment it be to resume labor at 10:00 o'clock A. M. Wednesday.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment.

IN GRAND CHAPTER

Wednesday, May 16, 10:00 A. M.

The Grand Chapter was called from refreshment to labor by the M. E. Grand High Priest, with officers and members as at previous sessions.

The minutes of the preceding session were read and adopted.

Upon motion of Past Grand High Priest Wirt, General Grand High Priest Charles Clark Davis was elected an Honorary Member of this Grand Chapter.

The General Grand High Priest thanked the Grand Chapter for the honor and delivered a very fraternal and interesting address.

The Committee on Returns and Credentials made the following report which was received and adopted:

RETURNS AND CREDENTIALS

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Florida:

Your Committee on Returns and Credentials fraternally report that the list of Grand Officers and Representatives furnished us by the Grand Recorder is correct.

We find that forty-eight of the fifty-four Chapters have paid their dues in full to the Grand Secretary and in addition to these the following amounts have been paid to your committee:

Bay County Chapter No. 39	-----	\$ 5.00
New Smyrna Chapter No. 51	-----	124.00
Delray Chapter No. 53	-----	46.00

Covering the amounts due from these Chapters. Either through error or on account of the generous disposition on the part of New Smyrna Chapter No. 51, their check was for three dollars more than the amount due, which amount will be refunded by the Grand Secretary.

We find that there is a balance of \$299.00 due from Lake Worth Chapter No. 24. This delinquency was due to the failure of the bank in which their funds were on deposit and we recommend that further time be extended to them.

There are forty-four of the fifty-four Chapters represented at this Grand Convocation. The following Chapters are not represented: Dade City No. 8, Chipley No. 23, Live Oak No. 25, Jackson No. 32, Walton No. 37, Highlands No. 42, Perry No. 44, Nassau No. 49, New Smyrna No. 51 and Orange No. 52.

Fraternally submitted,

T. P. ROBINSON,
J. E. SHEPLEY,
J. H. RAUCH,
Committee.

The Committee on Propositions and Grievances made the following report which was received and adopted:

PROPOSITIONS AND GRIEVANCES

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Florida:

Your Committee on Propositions and Grievances beg to report that nothing has been referred to them for consideration and therefore they merely wish to congratulate this Grand Chapter on the spirit of co-operation and unity now existing in this Grand Jurisdiction.

Fraternally submitted,

GEO. B. GREGORY,
JAMES O. HUFF,
R. F. SAXON,
Committee.

The Committee on Dispensations and By-Laws made the following report which was received and adopted:

DISPENSATIONS AND BY-LAWS

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Florida:

We, your Committee on Dispensations and By-laws beg to report that there has been no business brought before the committee at this session of the Grand Chapter.

Fraternally submitted,

C. R. HORN,
T. S. HARTSFIELD,
J. E. LOVVORN,
Committee.

The Committee on Rituals made the following report which was received and adopted:

REPORT OF RITUAL COMMITTEE

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Florida:

In reference to the recommendation of the M. E. Grand High Priest that has been referred to this committee, we refer this back to the Grand Chapter for their consideration with a recommendation that this Grand Chapter adopt the General Grand Chapter Ritual to go into effect December 28, 1928, or sooner, at the option of subordinate Chapters.

We submit for your information the following facts as determined by a careful consideration and investigation by a special committee of the Grand Chapter of Oklahoma whose report appears in the Proceedings of their Grand Convocation in 1927.

Their committee reports that the General Grand Chapter Ritual has been adopted by nineteen Grand Jurisdictions, while twenty Grand Jurisdictions are using fourteen separate rituals, and eight, including Florida, are still using the old General Grand Chapter Ritual of 1891 or adaptations thereof.

It has been claimed in this Grand Jurisdiction as well as others that the elimination of the "fun" from the old rituals has resulted

and will result in loss of interest on the part of members and loss of membership. The special committee in the Grand Chapter of Oklahoma had prepared charts showing the comparative results in those Jurisdictions who had adopted the new General Grand Chapter Ritual, those who used the old ritual as Florida has done, and those who use special rituals; and these charts show approximately the same results in all, i. e., that losses are principally due to non-payment of dues and are due largely to the great increase of membership during the war, when many were admitted who should not have been, and who have dropped out because of their lack of interest in the landmarks of Capitular Masonry or the burden of keeping up their dues.

It seems impossible to impress on our membership the desirability of eliminating from our work extraneous matter which has never had any part in any ritual and which is most certainly contrary to the spirit of Capitular Masonry as well as to the landmarks of the Craft and which would appear to dignify in humanity which would sever Capitular Masonry from the Masonic tree.

Your committee is firmly of the opinion that it is merely a matter of time until this Grand Chapter will adopt the new General Grand Chapter Ritual in order to have its work uniform with the increasing number of Grand Chapters that do adopt it, and if we are going to do it eventually, why not now?

Oklahoma refused to take a step backward by declining to change back to the old ritual which action had been recommended by its Grand Lecturer, and by reaffirming "the esteem and favor which the General Grand Chapter Ritual was growing into among those Masons who have an abiding faith in the Tenets and Landmarks of Masonry."

Our own Committee on Fraternal Correspondence has truly said that "It is unfortunate that this report (Oklahoma 1927) in its entirety cannot be read by those who still cling to the idea that Royal Arch Masonry is a farce comedy instead of being formed on the Great Light in Masonry."

We further recommend that the Grand Secretary be reimbursed for the rituals now in stock, which have been paid for personally by him, and that may not be issued during the year.

We further recommend that the Grand Secretary be directed to advise all Chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction of this change of

rituals, and that they be required to provide themselves with the new rituals before their next annual meetings so that incoming officers may have an opportunity to familiarize themselves therewith.

Fraternally submitted,

E. L. WIRT,
JOHN L. HALL,
R. J. KISHPAUGH,
Committee.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence made their report which after amendment of same, was adopted as follows:

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida:

Companions:

Your Jurisprudence Committee herein presents their report as to the several matters referred to them, as follows:

The Grand High Priest has granted several dispensations which in our opinion were all within his discretion and in accord with our laws; therefore recommends the approval of each of them;

In the matter of concurrent jurisdiction contained in the recommendation of the Grand High Priest we recommend the adoption of the following amendment to Regulation No. 53. Amend the same by adding thereto after the words "Discretion of the Chapter," the following, "Provided That when there is more than one Chapter in the same city each Chapter shall have concurrent jurisdiction as to all petitions for the degrees; and whenever a petition for the degrees shall be received it shall be the duty of the Secretary to immediately notify the other Chapter or Chapters of such receipt, and the petition must lie over for not less than two weeks before being acted upon."

In regard to the recommendation of the Grand High Priest referring to the Committee on Finance and Accounts, we recommend as follows:

That Regulation 20 under the heading committees, page 21, Constitution and Regulations, be amended by striking out the words and figures "6. On Finance and Accounts;" and that Section 21, shall be amended by adding thereto the following: "On Finance and Accounts, which committee shall consist of three members, of whom, when first appointed, one shall be appointed to serve for one year, one for two years, and one for three years; thereafter, one member of said committee shall be appointed each year to serve for three years; and it shall be the duty of this committee to meet one day previous to the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter for the purpose of examining and auditing the books and accounts of the Grand Chapter."

Fraternally submitted,

MARCUS ENDEL,
E. E. HASKELL,
LOUIS C. MASSEY,
CHAS H. KETCHUM,
ELY P. HUBBELL,
T. T. TODD,
JOHN L. HALL,
H. O. SNOW,
R. J. KISHPAUGH,
W. V. CARTER,
E. L. WIRT,
J. R. KELLER,
Committee.

The Committee on Finance and Account made the following report which was received and adopted:

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Florida:

Your Committee on Finance and Accounts beg leave to report as follows:

We have examined the books of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, and find them correct with a balance on hand of \$16,570.26, distributed as follows:

Cash in Barnett National Bank	\$ 9,570.26
Duval Lodge Bonds	1,500.00
Delray Lodge Bonds	2,500.00
Grand Lodge Certificate of Indebtedness	3,000.00
Total	\$16,570.26

From which we recommend the following appropriations:

Expense Foreign Correspondence Committee	\$ 400.00
Extra clerical help	480.00
Grand Treasurer's Salary	200.00
Grand Secretary's Salary	1,500.00
Grand Chapter Educational Fund	1,000.00
Masonic Home Endowment Fund	1,000.00
George Washington National Memorial Association	200.00
Monument to Past Grand High Priest Wm. S. Ware	375.00
Pay Roll Attached	2,412.20

Total

Leaving a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of \$	9,003.06
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We also recommend that the Grand Secretary be authorized to procure a Past Grand High Priest's jewel and apron for presentation to the M. E. Grand High Priest at our next Grand Convocation, and that a warrant be drawn to pay for same.

We recommend that the Grand High Priest and the Grand Secretary be authorized to draw warrants on the General Fund for the purpose of defraying the necessary expenses of postage, printing, stationery and other incidentals for the use of the Grand High Priest, Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, for the expense of the Grand Chapter Officers making official visitations, and for the purchase of General Grand Chapter Rituals and that the Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay the same.

The committee wish to extend thanks to and appreciation of valuable services rendered them by our Companions, the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer.

Fraternally submitted,

H. O. SNOW,
J. B. PHELPS,
CHAS. H. STEWART,
Committee.

PAY ROLL

Name	Mileage	Per Diem	Total
Cary B. Fish, G. H. P.	\$25.00	\$21.00	\$46.00
R. J. McMaster, D. G. H. P.	21.20	14.00	35.20
Stafford Caldwell, G. K.	---	14.00	14.00
John Pasco, G. S.	14.20	14.00	28.20
Marcus Endel, Gr. Treas.	---	21.00	21.00
W. P. Webster, Gr. Secy.	---	21.00	21.00
W. B. Greer, G. P. S.	18.90	14.00	32.90
C. C. Snow, G. R. A. C.	11.00	14.00	25.00
R. P. Buckmaster, Gr. M. 3rd Veil ..	14.70	14.00	28.70
C. M. Gruber, G. M. 2nd Veil	29.90	14.00	43.90
Archie Aitchison, G. M. 1st Veil	26.50	14.00	40.50
John Capper, Gr. Guard	---	14.00	14.00
E. E. Haskell, P. G. H. P.	5.50	21.00	26.50
J. R. Keller, P. G. H. P.	25.00	21.00	46.00
Chas. H. Ketchum, P. G. H. P.	52.20	21.00	73.20
H. O. Snow, P. G. H. P.	21.20	21.00	42.20
R. J. Kishpaugh, P. G. H. P.	29.90	21.00	50.90
E. L. Wirt, P. G. H. P.	22.20	21.00	43.20
L. C. Massey, P. G. H. P.	14.70	21.00	35.70
W. V. Carter, P. G. H. P.	14.00	21.00	35.00
J. L. Hall, P. G. H. P.	---	21.00	21.00
Ely P. Hubbell, P. G. H. P.	24.40	21.00	45.40
T. T. Todd, P. G. H. P.	36.90	21.00	57.90
F. S. Hartsfield, Chapter No. 1	16.50	14.00	30.50
J. M. Leack, Chapter No. 2	7.00	14.00	21.00
J. E. Shepley, Chapter No. 3	21.20	14.00	35.20
John Paver, Chapter No. 4	11.00	14.00	25.00
L. E. Ellwood, Chapter No. 5	11.00	14.00	25.00
J. H. Diechmann, Chapter No. 6	36.90	14.00	50.90
T. P. Robinson, Chapter No. 7	14.70	14.00	28.70
Lewis A. Smith, Chapter No. 9	5.50	14.00	19.50
J. E. Tyner, Chapter No. 10	16.40	14.00	30.40
John B. Phelps, Chapter No. 11	36.60	14.00	50.60
H. E. Hollowell, Chapter No. 12	---	14.00	14.00
C. A. Bangert, Chapter No. 13	10.30	14.00	24.30
W. H. Warock, Chapter No. 14	14.90	14.00	28.90
James O. Huff, Chapter No. 15	12.40	14.00	26.40

Name	Mileage	Per Diem	Total
A. E. Wilson, Chapter No. 16	18.90	14.00	32.90
George F. Kendrick, Chapter No. 17	3.50	14.00	17.50
Frank J. McKeeman, Chapter No. 18	24.40	14.00	38.40
W. H. Andrews, Chapter No. 19	5.20	7.00	12.20
J. J. Clinton, Chapter No. 20	35.60	14.00	49.60
R. Houghton, Chapter No. 22	22.20	14.00	36.20
L. T. B. Southwick, Chapter No. 24	29.90	14.00	43.90
Arthur S. Rhoads, Chapter No. 27	16.00	14.00	30.00
E. F. Adams, Chapter No. 28	24.40	14.00	38.40
Geo. J. Tolson, Chapter No. 29	20.90	14.00	34.90
Geo. B. Gregory, Chapter No. 30	18.90	14.00	32.90
J. H. Rauch, Chapter No. 31	26.50	14.00	40.50
E. M. Savage, Chapter No. 33	15.80	14.00	29.80
Wm. Dunston, Chapter No. 34	13.80	14.00	27.80
B. M. Hulse, Chapter No. 35	25.00	14.00	39.00
R. F. Saxon, Jr. Chapter No. 36	28.90	14.00	42.90
W. W. Nihiser, Chapter No. 38	6.50	14.00	20.50
W. A. Mosher, Chapter No. 39	25.00	14.00	39.00
James L. Clary, Chapter No. 40	31.80	14.00	45.80
W. D. Newkirk, Chapter No. 41	19.70	14.00	33.70
Chas. H. Stewart, Chapter No. 43	19.40	14.00	33.40
D. W. Culp, Chapter No. 45	24.40	14.00	38.40
J. E. Lovvorn, Chapter No. 46	29.90	14.00	43.90
B. L. Joyner, Chapter No. 47	37.00	14.00	51.00
Wilhelm Nywall, Chapter No. 48	---	14.00	14.00
Chas. J. Tierney, Chapter No. 50	32.30	7.00	39.30
C. M. McSwain, Chapter No. 53	32.90	14.00	46.90
Frank O'Berry, Chapter No. 54	21.20	14.00	35.20
R. A. Clark, Chapter No. 55	21.20	14.00	35.20
W. M. Bullard, S. D. G. H. P.	7.00	14.00	21.00
Dorsey H. Rutter, Act. G. Chap.	11.00	14.00	25.00
F. Wm. Schultz, Act. G. C. of H.	25.00	14.00	39.00
C. H. Horn, Com. Dis. and By-Laws	13.80	14.00	27.80
Chester DeRocher, Com. Visitors	24.40	14.00	38.40
	\$1,334.20	\$1,078.00	\$2,412.20

The amendment to Constitution, Section 15, Article II, as proposed at our last Annual Convocation, was taken up for consideration and adopted as follows:

Sec. 15, Art. II. In balloting for Grand Officers, each Chapter represented is entitled to three (3) votes and each Grand Officer to one (1) vote, each Past Grand High Priest and Past High Priest of constituent Chapters present, not holding an office in the Grand Chapter, to one (1) vote.

The M. E. Grand High Priest appointed Companions Horne, Joiner and Southwick as Tellers and the Grand Chapter proceeded with the annual election of officers with the following result:

GRAND OFFICERS ELECTED

- R. J. McMaster M. E. Grand High Priest
- Stafford Caldwell R. E. D. Gr. High Priest
- John Pasco R. E. Grand King
- A. B. Steuart R. E. Grand Scribe
- Marcus Endel R. E. Grand Treasurer
- Wilber P. Webster R. E. Grand Secretary
- W. B. Y. Wilkie R. E. Grand Chaplain

The M. E. Grand High Priest-elect announced the appointment of the following Grand Officers:

GRAND OFFICERS APPOINTED

- W. B. Greer E. Gr. Capt. of the Host
- Chester C. Snow E. Gr. Prin. Sojourner
- R. P. Buckmaster E. Grand Royal Arch Capt.
- C. M. Gruber E. Gr. Master Third Veil

Archie AitchisonE..Gr. Master Second Veil
 George A. DameE..Gr. Master First Veil
 John W. CapperE..Grand Guard

General Grand High Priest Davis, assisted by Past Grand High Priest Snow as Marshal, and Companion Rutter as Grand Chaplain, installed the following Grand Officers:

INSTALLATION

R. J. McMasterM..E..Grand High Priest
 Stafford CaldwellR..E..D. Gr. High Priest
 John PascoR..E..Grand King
 W. B. GreerE..Gr. Capt. of the Host
 Chester C. SnowE..Gr. Prin. Sojourner
 R. P. BuckmasterE..Gr. Royal Arch Capt.
 C. M. GruberE..Gr. Master Third Veil
 Archie AitchisonE..Gr. Master Second Veil
 George A. DameE..Gr. Master First Veil

The Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary and Grand Chaplain having been re-elected and the Grand Guard re-appointed, their installation was not necessary at this time.

A. B. Steuart, R..E..Grand Scribe-elect being absent, the M..E..Grand High Priest requested Past Grand High Priest Snow to install him in Tampa Chapter.

A Past Grand High Priest's jewel and apron were presented to retiring Past Grand High Priest Fish, General Grand High Priest Davis making the presentation.

An invitation was received for the Grand Chapter to meet with Tampa Chapter No. 3 at Tampa, at its

Annual Convocation in 1929, and upon motion same was accepted.

Upon motion of Past Grand High Priest Keller, the Grand Secretary was directed to wire greetings and best wishes to the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Georgia, now in session in Brunswick, and the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Michigan, now in session at Battle Creek.

Upon motion of Past Grand High Priest Fish, the thanks of this Grand Chapter were extended to Jacksonville Chapter No. 12, R. A. M., for the use of their hall, the exemplification of the work and dinner, and to the ladies of Jacksonville Chapter No. 15, O. E. S., for the use of their Chapter room and serving the dinner. The M..E..Grand High Priest announced the appointment of the following standing committees:

PRINTING

J. Lloyd Head, W. P. Webster, Marcus Endel.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE

All Past Grand High Priests

EDUCATIONAL LOAN

John L. Hall, Wm. R. O'Neal, T. T. Todd.

MEMORIALS

Ely P. Hubbell, Dorsey H. Rutter, Melvin V. Cole.

INVESTMENT

Louis C. Massey, Erle L. Wirt.

RITUAL

John L. Hall, Erle L. Wirt, R. B. Lovett.

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

Henry O. Snow, Three years.
R. J. Kishpaugh, Two years.
R. L. Gillett, One year.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS

W. B. Greer, Quincy, Florida

Chipley No. 23, Gadsden No. 30,
Jackson No. 32, Bay County No. 39.

John Pasco, Monticello, Florida

Tallahassee No. 1, Live Oak No. 25,
Jefferson No. 26, Perry No. 44.

T. T. Todd, Pensacola, Florida

Mount Horeb No. 6, Walton No. 37,
Crestview No. 40.

W. M. Bullard, Gainesville, Florida

Gainesville No. 2, Lake Butler No. 19,
Providence No. 38.

Stafford Caldwell, Jacksonville, Florida

Palatka No. 9, Jacksonville No. 12,
St. Augustine No. 17, Duval No. 48,
Nassau No. 49.

Vincent R. Brice, Miami, Florida

Jericho No. 11, Keystone No. 20,
Dade No. 47.

C. R. Horn, Leesburg, Florida

Eustis No. 33, Leesburg No. 34.

R. J. McMaster, Tampa, Florida

Tampa No. 3, Manatee River No. 18,
Thomas Brown No. 22, Sarasota No. 35.

Chester C. Snow, Daytona Beach, Florida

St. Johns No. 4, Halifax No. 5,
Indian River No. 27, Union No. 43,
New Smyrna No. 51.

R. P. Buckmaster, Orlando, Florida

Eureka No. 7, Kissimmee No. 10,
Monroe No. 15, Winter Haven No. 41,
Highlands No. 42, Orange No. 52.

Charles M. Gruber, West Palm Beach, Florida

Lake Worth No. 24, Joppa No. 28,
Okeechobee No. 46, Delray No. 53.

Archie Aitchison, St. Petersburg, Florida
 Poinciana No. 50, Inverness No. 14,
 St. Petersburg No. 31, Clearwater No. 45,
 Arcadia No. 36.

George A. Dame, Inverness, Florida
 Dade City No. 8, Hill City No. 55,
 Ocala No. 13.

A. B. Steuart, Tampa, Florida
 Plant City No. 16, Lakeland No. 29,
 M. D. Cushing No. 54.

General Grand High Priest Davis thanked the Grand Chapter for courtesies extended to him.

No further business appearing, the foregoing minutes were read and adopted.

The Grand Chapter was closed in ample form with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

Attest: R. J. McMASTER,
 Grand High Priest.

[Signature]
 Grand Secretary.



William S. Ware

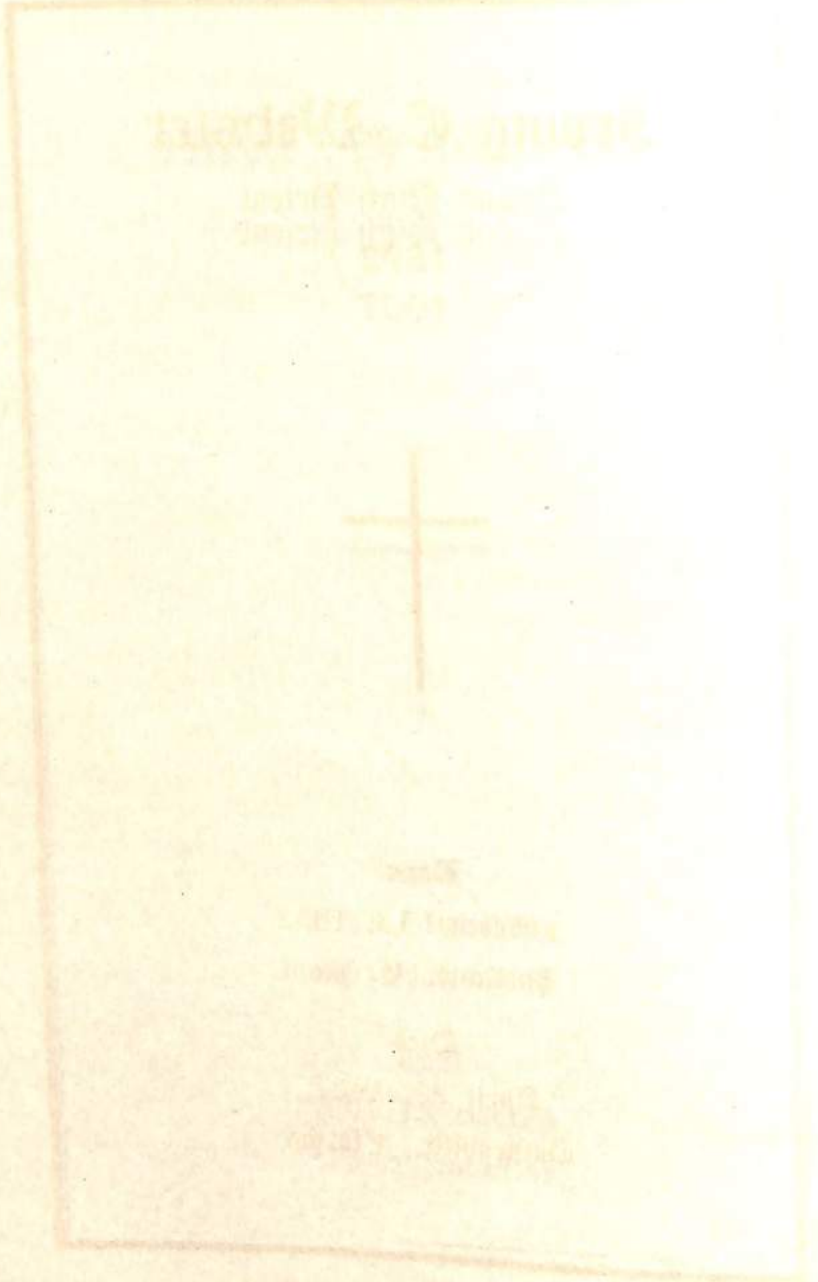
Grand High Priest

1907



Born
 March 15, 1851
 Philadelphia, Pa.

Died
 October 23, 1927
 Jacksonville, Fla.



Irving E. Webster
Grand High Priest
1892



Born
February 13, 1852
Hartland, Vermont
Died
April 20, 1927
Gainesville, Florida

To the Memory of
**Companions of Our
 Jurisdiction**

Who have passed away during the year 1927

These pages are fraternally dedicated

Name	Chapter	No.	Date of Death
Ralph E. Rhodes	Florida	1	Mch. 6, 1927
A. L. Leitch	Gainesville	2	Feb. 21, 1927
I. E. Webster	Gainesville	2	Apr. 20, 1927
F. C. Whiddon	Gainesville	2	Aug. 20, 1927
A. A. Murphree	Gainesville	2	Dec. 20, 1927
W. F. Rosborough	Gainesville	2	Dec. 21, 1927
J. Frank Johnson	Tampa	3	May 8, 1927
Frank M. Say	Tampa	3	Apr. 11, 1927
Jefferson D. Summer	Tampa	3	Apr. 14, 1927
Charles C. Blake	Tampa	3	July 16, 1927
J. Howard Curry	Tampa	3	Aug. 11, 1927
Scott Shoemaker	Tampa	3	Oct. 6, 1927
L. O. Ray	St. Johns	4	Feb. 13, 1927
James H. Bennett	Halifax	5	Apr. 25, 1927
Frank T. Williams	Halifax	5	Dec. 5, 1927
Thomas W. Mayne	Mt. Horeb	6	Mar. 19, 1927
Frank L. Gilbert	Mt. Horeb	6	Aug. 28, 1927
Meeker G. Gainer	Mt. Horeb	6	Dec. 9, 1927
Leland F. James	Mt. Horeb	6	Dec. 18, 1927
Hewey Gero	Eureka	7	Apr. 20, 1927
Jos. Dawson	Eureka	7	Apr. 10, 1927
Sidney E. Ives, Sr.	Eureka	7	Dec. 29, 1927
Ransom B. Collier	Eureka	7	May 30, 1927
Graham Stubbs	Eureka	7	Dec. 8, 1927
Stephen Soar	Dade City	8	Apr. 29, 1927
Wm. G. Tilghman	Putnam	9	Apr. 15, 1927
B. B. Temborel	Kissimmee	10	Sept. 12, 1927
C. W. Dann	Kissimmee	10	Aug. 14, 1927
William M. Jones	Jericho	11	Aug. 19, 1927
John H. Sculthorpe	Jericho	11	Aug. 22, 1927
Albert P. Rounsevell	Jericho	11	Sept. 8, 1927
Wm. S. Gramling	Jericho	11	Nov. 2, 1927
William H. Chaille	Jericho	11	Jan. 2, 1927
John W. Price	Jacksonville	12	

Name	Chapter	No.	Date of Death
Thos. G. Hutchinson	Jacksonville	12	Jan. 31, 1927
Frank T. Nooney	Jacksonville	12	Feb. 20, 1927
Herbert S. Fairchild	Jacksonville	12	Feb. 26, 1927
Van Winder Shields	Jacksonville	12	May 13, 1927
Ralph Coleman	Jacksonville	12	July 23, 1927
William A. Bours	Jacksonville	12	Aug. 1, 1927
Henry D. Hunter	Jacksonville	12	Sept. 22, 1927
Walter W. Hunt	Jacksonville	12	Oct. 13, 1927
William S. Ware	Jacksonville	12	Oct. 23, 1927
Rufus W. Limbaugh	Jacksonville	12	Oct. 27, 1927
Paul R. Davis	Jacksonville	12	Oct. 28, 1927
Golphin I. Tison	Jacksonville	12	Dec. 3, 1927
T. M. Moore	Ocala	13	Oct. 28, 1927
J. L. Gaston	Ocala	13	Nov. 3, 1927
Geo. Luther Jacobs	Inverness	14	May 12, 1927
Rev. Geo. H. Ward	Inverness	14	Mch. 1927
Jas. Bascum Young	Inverness	14	Aug. 11, 1927
Louis Thompson	Inverness	14	Dec. 3, 1927
Sam'l L. Wilson	Inverness	14	Dec. 13, 1927
Robt. P. Jenkins	Monroe	15	July 12, 1927
A. J. McKinney	Lake Butler	19	1926
William H. Melton	Keystone	20	June 1, 1927
W. A. Austin	Keystone	20	Nov. 27, 1927
J. J. Singleton	Thomas Brown	22	Oct. 10, 1927
Edw. A. Crow	Lake Worth	24	Sept. 1927
Robt. L. Earnest	Lake Worth	24	Sept. 1927
Leon W. Miller	Lake Worth	24	Sept. 1927
Albert E. Smith	Lake Worth	24	Sept. 1927
Eli D. Sims	Lake Worth	24	Sept. 1927
George F. Allison	Lake Worth	24	Oct. 23, 1927
Henry E. Blume	Live Oak	25	Feb. 2, 1927
Charlie Couchas	Live Oak	25	Apr. 15, 1927
Archie E. Leslie	Live Oak	25	May 14, 1927
Geo. E. Porter, Sr.	Live Oak	25	Aug. 24, 1927
Joseph Cameron	Live Oak	25	Sept. 1, 1927
Richard P. Duncan	Live Oak	25	Oct. 10, 1927
J. T. Farnell	Live Oak	25	1927
Robert L. Eaton	Jefferson	26	Feb. 27, 1927
Geo. T. MacKenzie	Jefferson	26	Mar. 21, 1927
John A. Fiske	Indian River	27	Feb. 12, 1927
James Ira Mitchell	Indian River	27	Nov. 11, 1927
Nels Hallstrom	Joppa	28	Apr. 10, 1927
A. J. Houser	Lakeland	29	May 24, 1927
J. S. Middleton	Lakeland	29	Nov. 28, 1927
C. W. Deen	Lakeland	29	Dec. 17, 1927
Robt. M. Johnston	Lakeland	29	Feb. 9, 1927
Wm. M. Corry	Gadsden	30	Feb. 9, 1927

Name	Chapter	No.	Date of Death
William C. Wilson	Gadsden	30	Mch. 19, 1927
Rev. H. G. Davis	Gadsden	30	Oct. 23, 1927
R. E. Pope	St. Petersburg	31	Aug. 27, 1927
Jas. F. Wright	St. Petersburg	31	Sept. 30, 1927
J. E. Beyerle	St. Petersburg	31	Dec. 12, 1927
John W. Daniels	Jackson	32	Feb. 11, 1927
R. L. Nutt	Eustis	33	Sept. 1927
E. Z. F. Golden	Leesburg	34	July 3, 1927
E. J. Bright	Sarasota	35	Mch. 25, 1927
F. A. Walpah	Sarasota	35	June 5, 1927
W. W. Roberts	Arcadia	36	Nov. 1927
Leonard V. Mathews	Arcadia	36	Nov. 1927
R. M. Holliday	Bay County	39	Feb. 4, 1927
W. G. Lowe	Bay County	39	May 16, 1927
Middleton G. Ginn	Winter Haven	41	June 8, 1927
A. W. Syckes	Winter Haven	41	June 12, 1927
Douglas W. Brotchie	Winter Haven	41	Nov. 21, 1927
Lycurgus P. Worden	Winter Haven	41	Nov. 30, 1927
Eugene O. Douglas	Highland	42	July 9, 1927
J. M. F. Griner	Perry	44	1927
Carl H. Vihlen	Dade	47	Aug. 27, 1927
E. H. Brandenburg	Dade	47	Sept. 19, 1927
Charles B. Jones	Duval	48	June 28, 1927
Ulmost U. Beville	Poinciana	50	Dec. 22, 1927
Thos. W. Scott	New Smyrna	51	Mch. 12, 1927
Thos. Reese Sciple	M. D. Cushing	54	Nov. 24, 1927
Frank A. Durham	Hill City	55	May 5, 1927



OFFICERS
OF THE
General Grand Chapter
1927 — 1930

Charles Clark Davis ----- General Grand High Priest
213 S. Poplar St., Centralia, Illinois
John William Neilson ----- Deputy General Grand High Priest
Concordia, Kansas
William T. S. O'Hara ----- General Grand King
742 Nicholas Bldg., Toledo, Ohio
Mattison Boyd Jones ----- General Grand Scribe
1227 Citizens Natl. Bank Bldg., Los Angeles, California
Gustav Adolph Eitel ----- General Grand Treasurer
Masonic Temple, Baltimore, Maryland
Charles Arthur Conover ----- General Grand Secretary
95 W. Chicago St., Coldwater, Michigan
John Huske Anderson ----- General Grand Captain of Host
Fayetteville, North Carolina
George Allison Holland ----- General Grand Principal Sojourner
Lexington, Kentucky
William Edward Goff ----- General Grand Royal Arch Captain
12 W. Main St., Battle Creek, Michigan
Ray Vaughn Denslow ----- General Grand Master Third Veil
Trenton, Missouri
Wilbur Allen Scott ----- General Grand Master Second Veil
87 Weybosset St., Providence, R. I.
Early H. Johnson ----- General Grand Master First Veil
Court House, Columbus, Georgia
Harry Warner Harvey ----- General Grand Custodian of Work
7211 University Ave., Chicago, Illinois

THE NEXT TRIENNIAL

Will be held in 1930, in the City of Tacoma, Washington, at
a date and time to be determined by the General Grand High Priest.

GRAND SECRETARIES.

STATE	NAME	ADDRESS
General Grand Chapter	Charles A. Conover	Coldwater, Mich.
Alabama	Geo. A. Beauchamp	Montgomery.
Alberta	Clifford R. Wentzel	Calgary, 809 9 1/2 St. NW
Arizona	George J. Roskrige	Tucson.
Arkansas	John C. Bone	Batesville.
British Columbia	J. W. Prescott	Vancouver, 603 Has- tings St. W.
California	Thomas A. Davies	San Francisco.
Canada	Henry T. Smith	Toronto, Temple Bldg.
Colorado	Wm. W. Cooper	Denver.
Connecticut	George A. Kies	Hartford.
Delaware	John W. Macklem	Wilmington, Box 94
District of Columbia	J. Claude Keiper	Washington.
England	P. Colville Smith	London.
Georgia	E. A. McHan	Macon.
Idaho	Edward H. Way	Boise, Box 1203.
Illinois	J. E. Jeffers	Springfield, Box 433.
Indiana	Robert A. Woods	Princeton.
Iowa	O. F. Graves	Harlan.
Ireland	H. E. Flavelle	Dublin.
Kansas	A. K. Wilson	Topeka.
Kentucky	G. Allison Holland	Lexington.
Louisiana	John A. Davilla	New Orleans.
Maine	Charles B. Davis	Portland.
Manitoba	H. F. Moulden	Winnipeg, 171 Market St
Maryland	Gustav A. Eitel	Baltimore.
Massachusetts	Raymond T. Sewall	Boston, Masonic Temple.
Michigan	Chas. A. Conover	Coldwater.
Minnesota	John Fishel	St. Paul.
Mississippi	Edward L. Faucette	Meridian.
Missouri	Ray V. Denslow	Trenton.
Montana	Luther T. Hauberg	Helena, Box 896.
Nebraska	Lewis E. Smith	Omaha, Mas. Temple.
Nevada	J. Twining Hart	St. Johns.
New Brunswick	Harry M. Cheney	Concord.
New Hampshire	Chas. D. McCracken	Lambertville.
New Jersey	Alpheus A. Keen	Albuquerque.
New Mexico	D. R. Hutchison	Sydney, 32 Elizabeth St
New South Wales	Charles C. Hunt	Masonic Temple, N. Y.
New York	Chas. W. Nielsen	Wellington, Box 236, G. P. O.
New Zealand	John B. Griggs	Elizabeth City.
North Carolina	Walter L. Stockwell	Fargo.
North Dakota	Brenton F. Porter	Truro.
Nova Scotia	Frank M. Krapp	Springfield.
Ohio	Ira B. Kirkland	Muskogee 1st Natl. Bank Bldg.
Oklahoma	D. Rufus Cheney	Portland.
Oregon	Joseph E. Quimby	Masonic Temple.
Pennsylvania	W. W. Williamson	Philadelphia.
Quebec	William R. Greene	Montreal, Box 3172.
Rhode Island	F. B. Reilly	Providence.
Saskatchewan	Geo. A. Howell	Regina, 312 Westman Chambers.
Scotland	O. Frank Hart	Edinburgh, 76 Queen St.
South Carolina	Geo. A. Pettigrew	Columbia.
South Dakota	Stith M. Cain	Sioux Falls.
Tennessee	T. M. Bartley	Nashville.
Texas	G. E. Roberts	Waco.
Utah	H. H. Ross	Ogden, 1221, 25th St.
Vermont	John E. Kennedy	Burlington.
Victoria	J. Gus Hankins	Melbourne, Cromwell Bldg. 366 A. Bourke St
Virginia	Henry L. Kennan	Richmond, Box 542.
Washington	John C. Strickland	Spokane, 412 Hyde Bldg.
Western Australia	George M. Ford	Perth, W. A.
West Virginia	William W. Perry	7 Warwick House, Wheeling.
Wisconsin	Richard H. Repath	Milwaukee.
Wyoming		Cheyenne, Box 816.

PAST ELECTIVE OFFICERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF FLORIDA—Continued.

	GRAND HIGH PRIESTS	DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS	GRAND KINGS	GRAND SCRIBES	TREASURERS	GRAND SECRETARIES	GRAND CHAPLAINS
1915	Wm. C. Andress*	Wm. R. O'Neal	D. B. Palmer	C. H. Ketchum	Marcus Endel	W. P. Webster	Irving E. Webster
1916	Wm. R. O'Neal	D. B. Palmer	C. H. Ketchum	F. Blalock	Marcus Endel	W. P. Webster	Irving E. Webster
1917	D. B. Palmer	C. H. Ketchum	L. F. Blalock	W. V. Carter	Marcus Endel	W. P. Webster	Irving E. Webster
1918	C. H. Ketchum	L. F. Blalock	W. V. Carter	H. O. Snow	Marcus Endel	W. P. Webster	W. B. Y. Wilkie
1919	H. O. Snow	John L. Hall	John L. Hall	R. J. Kishpaugh	Marcus Endel	W. P. Webster	W. B. Y. Wilkie
1920	John L. Hall	John L. Hall	John L. Hall	R. J. Kishpaugh	Marcus Endel	W. P. Webster	W. B. Y. Wilkie
1921	R. J. Kishpaugh	Ely P. Hubbell	Ely P. Hubbell	E. L. Todd	Marcus Endel	W. P. Webster	W. B. Y. Wilkie
1922	R. J. Kishpaugh	Ely P. Hubbell	Ely P. Hubbell	E. L. Todd	Marcus Endel	W. P. Webster	W. B. Y. Wilkie
1923	Ely P. Hubbell	E. L. Todd	E. L. Todd	Cary B. Fish	Marcus Endel	W. P. Webster	W. B. Y. Wilkie
1924	Ely P. Hubbell	E. L. Todd	E. L. Todd	Cary B. Fish	Marcus Endel	W. P. Webster	W. B. Y. Wilkie
1925	E. L. Todd	E. L. Todd	E. L. Todd	Cary B. Fish	Marcus Endel	W. P. Webster	W. B. Y. Wilkie
1926	E. L. Todd	E. L. Todd	E. L. Todd	Cary B. Fish	Marcus Endel	W. P. Webster	W. B. Y. Wilkie
1927	Cary B. Fish	R. J. McMaster	Stafford Caldwell	Stafford Caldwell	Marcus Endel	W. P. Webster	W. B. Y. Wilkie
				John Pasco	Marcus Endel	W. P. Webster	W. B. Y. Wilkie

*Deceased

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

OF FLORIDA IN OTHER GRAND JURISDICTIONS	GRAND CHAPTERS	OF OTHER GRAND JURISDICTIONS IN FLORIDA
Robert T. Ward, Dadeville	Alabama	R. J. Kishpaugh, W. Palm Beach.
Stephen Y. Taylor, Calgary	Alberta	James M. Willison, Kissimmee.
Louis Lee Steward, Phoenix	Arizona	
Geo. H. Parsons, Fayetteville	Arkansas	Warner T. Hamm, Palatka.
Clark H. Bews, New Westminster	British Columbia	E. L. Wirt, Bartow.
James H. Shaw, Long Beach	California	
John Strochle, Black Hawk	Canada	Chester DeRocher, Bradenton.
Wm. K. Wilson, So. Norwalk	Colorado	B. C. Webb, Ocala.
Leslie W. Stout, Wilmington	Connecticut	
Geo. R. Davis, Washington	Delaware	W. P. Webster, Jacksonville.
Edgar A. Sims, Atlanta	Dist. of Columbia	
Wm. J. Finch, Twin Falls	Georgia	E. E. Macy, Eau Gallie.
Wm. B. Carlock, Bloomington	Idaho	R. M. Oglesby, Bartow.
Donald J. Pickett, Greenfield	Illinois	C. H. Ketchum, Key West.
A. D. Meeker, Marshalltown	Indiana	T. T. Todd, Pensacola.
Richard W. Evans, Dodge City	Iowa	W. V. Carter, Daytona.
Virgil P. Smith, Somerset	Kansas	Alex B. Stewart, Tampa.
D. P. Laguens, Jr., New Orleans	Kentucky	E. L. Shear, Daytona.
Orin W. Ripley, So. Montville	Louisiana	John Pasco, Monticello.
James D. Duthie, Hartney	Maine	Elmer E. Haskell, Palatka.
L. D. Gassaway, Annapolis	Manitoba	R. L. Gillett, Tampa.
G. B. Colesworth, N. Cambridge	Maryland	Henry O. Snow, Tampa.
Herbert E. Blair, Oldsmar, Fla.	Massachusetts	Walter J. Bennett, Tampa.
R. W. Hinton, Jr., Lumberton	Michigan	F. Wm. Schultz, Sarasota.
Frank P. McAtee, Springfield	Minnesota	C. L. Benedict, Miami.
Carlisle S. Kenyon, Bozeman	Mississippi	D. B. Palmer, Monticello.
Walter L. Spear, Geneva	Montana	Cary B. Fish, Sarasota.
David S. Ward, Goldfield	Nebraska	Stephen E. Gregory, Jacksonville.
Guy J. Gabel, Woodstock	Nevada	Robert McClellan, Gainesville.
Chas. L. Wentworth, Rochester	New Brunswick	John J. Jones, Micanopy.
Wm. Herbert Lowe, Patterson	New Hampshire	Wm. R. O'Neal, Orlando.
Wm. C. Wright, New York	New Jersey	Charles H. Ketchum, Key West.
Geo. G. Bullock, Wanganui	New South Wales	Marcus Endel, Jacksonville.
Wm. Thompson Philpot, Lithgow	New Zealand	John D. Grether, Jacksonville.
Frank M. Pinnix, Oxford	North Carolina	Max Sirkin, W. Palm Beach.
Otto Hennings, Dickinson	North Dakota	John L. Hall, Jacksonville.
W. P. Doull, Charlottetown, P. E. I.	Nova Scotia	R. J. McMaster, Tampa.
Ernest B. Brown, Cleveland	Ohio	T. Pleton Warlow, Orlando.
Dr. Bird N. Hope, Pawnee	Oklahoma	Ely P. Hubbell, Bradenton.
L. V. Rooker, Oregon City	Oregon	W. B. Greer, Quincy.
Wm. F. Goodwin, Philadelphia	Pennsylvania	F. H. Thompson, Lakeland.
A. G. Adams, Westmount	Quebec	Louis C. Massey, Orlando.
Stephen Magown, Woonsocket	Rhode Island	W. B. Y. Wilkie, Dunedin.
Geo. N. Langlands, Edinburg	Scotland	S. L. Chapman, Helen.
Wm. J. Smith, Shaunavon	Saskatchewan	H. L. Schaeffer, Leesburg.
Robert T. Goodale, Camden	South Carolina	James F. Miller, Inverness.
John F. Schrader, Rapid City	South Dakota	Wm. R. O'Neal, Orlando.
Walter B. Bell, Bells	Tennessee	Frank B. Stoneman, Miami.
D. C. McCord, Dallas	Texas	R. P. Buckmaster, Orlando.
Rufus W. Spear, Newport	Utah	J. J. Torrey, Jacksonville.
Baron Marks, Melbourne	Vermont	John L. Hall, Jacksonville.
Elmer D. Hanes, Norfolk	Virginia	Stafford Caldwell, Jacksonville.
Wm. H. Ellert, Seattle	Washington	Stafford Caldwell, Jacksonville.
A. C. Nadenbousch, Claremont	W. Australia	John Pasco, Monticello.
W. F. Owen, Stevens Point	West Virginia	Geo. J. Tolson, Lakeland.
Homer E. Zorn, Greybull	Wisconsin	Geo. A. Dame, Inverness.
	Wyoming	John Pasco, Monticello.

CHAPTER DIRECTORY

CHAPTER	HIGH PRIEST	KING	SCRIBE	TREASURER	SECRETARY	SECRETARY'S ADDRESS
Florida	H. E. Moore	H. R. Kaufman	Dan Dahl	W. H. Markham	T. E. Andrews	Tallahassee, Bx 100
Gainesville	21 M. Leack	L. B. Shattling	L. B. Shattling	H. E. Taylor	C. C. Matthews	Gainesville,
St. Johns	22 J. E. Shepley	E. V. Keady, Jr.	Gyp Hudspeth	Riley J. McMaster	Robert Chiles	Pampa, Box 3472
Halifax	23 John Paver	F. A. Morgan	John H. Wineman	J. W. Boring, Jr.	Chas. Heath	DeLand.
	24 L. E. Ellenwood	W. C. Cordes	E. H. Blank	Wm. G. Hobbs	E. D. Gilmore	Daytona Beach,
Mt. Horeb	25 J. P. Crutcher	C. A. Sullivan	B. D. Hame	J. S. Reess	J. C. Clark	P. O. Box 3907, Pen. Sta.
Bureka	26 P. P. Robison	R. G. Reynolds	C. R. Lott	John S. Burks	Bert L. Blair	Ocala, Bx 1513.
Dade City	27 Louis Soldinger	L. L. Tucker	H. W. Willis	John S. Burks	Thomas F. Zeigler	Ocala, Box 1533.
Katnam	28 Alston R. Hall	Geo. F. Cagle	J. O. Keene	N. A. Griffin	L. A. Smith	Dade City.
Kissimmee	29 J. E. Tyner	P. E. Cowger	Geo. T. Sigler	R. E. Griffin	Walter C. Bass	Kissimmee,
Jericho	30 Robt. M. Adams	P. M. Lindbloom	Geo. M. Chambers	V. R. Brice	John H. Hughes	Miami, 425
Jacksonville	31 H. E. Hollowell	N. H. Schoonover	Jos. E. Herring	Geo. A. Kirk	J. Lloyd Head	S. W. 12th. Ave.
Ocala	32 C. A. Engert	W. M. Hoag	E. N. Haderly	F. W. Cook	B. L. Adams	Jacksonville, Bx 437.
Inverness	33 James O. Corner	M. C. Scofield	Joe S. Savary	Allen McFarlane	Wm. H. Warnock	Ocala.
Monroe	34 James O. Huff	John K. Smith	W. A. Routh	John D. Gove	C. J. Rump	Gainesville.
Plant City	35 A. E. Wilson	A. R. Boring	W. R. White	T. G. Calmes	Ray H. Kramer	Plant City.
St. Augustine	36 Geo. F. Kendrick	L. O. Davis	C. A. Toney	C. A. Lamont	C. G. Oldfather	Plant City.
Manatee River	37 Fred J. Weedman	Frank J. McKeenan	James F. Valdes	John T. Campbell	P. J. Hampton	St. Augustine.
Lake Butler	38 W. H. Andrews	S. T. Dowling	J. B. Dowling	D. T. McGill	A. D. Zacharias	Bradenton.
Keystone	39 J. J. Clinton	J. E. Shupe	Daniel Kelly	J. N. Cah	J. G. Ewing	Lake Butler.
Thomas Brown	40 V. R. Judson	Richard Houghton	N. J. Patterson	E. L. Wirt	W. B. Wyandit	Box 884.
Chipley	41 E. L. Ganges	J. O. Blackburn	W. F. Davis	C. E. Dunn, Sr.	N. A. Ball	Chipley.
Lake Worth	42 L. T. B. Southwick	Guy E. Whitting	Adolph C. Jordani	Geo. W. Brown	R. J. Kispaugh	W. Palm Beach.
Live Oak	43 Chas. S. Sherman	Sam'l E. Fleet	Horace Bland	Richard P. Hopkins	W. C. Marshall	Drawer B-33.
Jefferson	44 S. D. Clark	E. Bishop	E. B. Bailey	Frank J. Suttler	D. B. Palmer	Live Oak.
Indian River	45 Arthur S. Rhoads	Robert Donaldson	C. H. Baggett	Geo. W. Scobie	A. W. Donaldson	Titusville.
Joppa	46 W. J. Shellhouse	Charles F. Cook	William Wallen	R. Y. Ashby	Frank B. Goodwin	Ft. Pierce.
Lakeland	47 W. L. King	Harry S. Cole	H. Alvin Brown	K. T. Haynes	N. I. Gottlieb	Lakeland, Box 1136.
Gadsden	48 Geo. B. Gregory	Archie G. Lunsford	Chas. H. Gray	W. B. Greer	A. L. Hinson	Quincy.

St. Petersburg	49 J. H. Rauch	Geo. V. Lingle	D. E. Muirhead	Wilson M. Brinter	Chas. H. Bon	St. Petersburg.
Jackson	50 Chas. Wandeck	Jas. E. Golson	J. Filmore Sims	F. M. Golson	James A. Smith	Masonic Temple.
Eastis	51 E. R. Savage	R. C. Peoples	C. L. Lett	C. R. Phillips	J. R. Ashmore	Eustis.
Leesburg	52 C. R. Gamble	R. P. Butler	W. E. Levey	G. C. Ware	C. A. Lays	Leesburg.
Sarasota	53 B. M. Waise	T. S. Jenkins	J. W. Tatum	G. E. Battle	F. H. Walpole	Sarasota.
Arcadia	54 W. A. Murray	C. A. Parker	E. V. Nobelle	Chas. A. Roe	R. F. Saxon, Jr.	Arcadia, Box 996.
Walton	55 Chas. Murray	L. Cawthon	P. W. Miles	Campbell	M. T. Fountain	DeFuniak Springs.
Providence	56 W. W. Nibser	R. C. Wilkerson	C. H. Cox	H. P. Gillson	Addis Mathis	Lake City.
Bay County	57 W. H. Marshall	E. E. Wilkerson	H. E. Churchwell	Dan Gillson	Carl G. Varlin	Panama City.
White Jew	58 Jas. D. Newkirk	Frank C. Webb	H. H. Frazier	E. A. Fleming	Lozyl C. Powell	Crestview.
Highlands	59 Arthur D. Newkirk	Charles H. Webb	Stoney C. Smathers	W. D. Gray	W. E. Spaul	Winter Haven.
Union	60 John E. Reek	P. J. Ruffelenson	C. H. Head	F. M. Smith	W. D. Dornlag	Avon Park.
Perry	61 John E. Rodes	W. B. Butler	H. R. Beaujean	E. S. Lichy	Chas. H. Stewart	Melbourne.
Clearwater	62 D. W. Davis	W. B. Fletcher	H. R. Byrd	Robert B. McMaster	F. S. Scooby	Perry.
Okeechobee	63 D. W. Dupl	Leslie N. Russell	Theodore R. Hill	J. H. Walker, Sr.	A. W. Davis	Clearwater.
Dade	64 H. H. Hancock	L. Casey	C. R. Blub	H. J. Davis	Sherwood Hodson	Homesead.
Duval	65 B. L. Joinyval	W. H. Sheffield	T. J. Chapman	Jas. De Bartolomeis	N. C. Edwards	St. Petersburg.
Nassau	66 Byron B. Brooks	Ora M. Haverstick	Chas. R. Elliott	Walter S. Whitney	Frederick C. Winton	205 Hicks Av.
Polk	67 Chas. J. Tierney	Sumner R. Hall	John R. Guthrie	John M. Boring	Nathan G. Stout	Fernandina.
New Smyrna	68 H. G. Putnam	J. S. Duss, Jr.	W. B. Road	C. Ebenbeck	L. Chilton	FL Myers.
Orange	69 J. W. Clontz	Clarence Law	J. B. Burch	R. J. Dodd	G. T. Smith	New Smyrna.
Delray	70 Frank W. Curry	H. F. Basche	J. B. Burch	R. G. Hicks	G. T. Smith	Winter Garden.
M. D. Cushing	71 Frank W. Curry	I. A. Vanborssum	Horace I. Tolbert	John F. Vaughn	Sam'l C. McCowan	Delray.
Hill City	72 Hugh G. Crafton	W. E. Oxley	J. W. Smith	Wm. M. Mckethan	Aigernon Keathley	Pampa, Box 222.

STATISTICS

CHAPTERS	Number	Memberships Last Year	Exalted	Reinstated	Affiliated	Total	Died	Dimitted	Suspended N. P. D.	Suspended U. M. C.	Expelled	Rejected	Present Membership
Florida	1	200	4	1	3	208							
Gainesville	2	200	8	0	1	209	1	2	1	0	0	0	204
Tampa	3	569	13	0	5	587	6	29	13	0	0	0	194
St. Johns	4	136	7	0	2	145	1	1	1	0	0	0	539
Halifax	5	283	15	0	3	301	2	2	0	0	0	0	135
Mt. Horeb	6	187	12	4	2	205	4	3	7	0	0	0	297
Eureka	7	319	20	0	6	345	5	3	18	0	0	0	191
Dade City	8	54	0	0	0	54	1	1	3	0	0	0	319
Putnam	9	154	3	1	1	159	1	0	0	0	0	0	49
Kissimmee	10	116	3	0	0	119	1	0	0	0	0	0	158
Jericho	11	428	78	1	14	521	0	1	0	1	0	0	115
Jacksonville	12	671	25	3	5	704	13	2	10	0	0	0	418
Ocala	13	163	18	0	2	183	2	0	5	0	0	0	679
Inverness	14	68	7	0	1	76	0	0	3	0	0	0	176
Munroe	15	220	16	1	2	239	1	1	18	0	0	0	56
Plant City	16	109	7	0	0	116	0	0	17	0	0	0	56
St. Augustine	17	172	8	1	0	181	0	0	1	0	0	0	99
Manatee River	18	203	12	0	2	217	0	0	1	0	0	0	180
Lake Butler	19	56	0	3	1	60	0	0	1	0	0	0	216
Keystone	20	130	18	0	5	153	1	2	3	0	0	0	54
Thomas Brown	21	248	5	1	1	255	1	1	10	0	0	0	140
Chipley	22	65	0	0	0	65	0	0	3	0	1	0	247
Lake Worth	23	368	15	1	3	387	5	13	0	0	0	0	65
Live Oak	24	364	26	5	4	399	8	8	28	0	0	0	369
Jefferson	25	107	0	0	0	107	2	1	0	0	0	0	355
Indian River	26	254	5	4	1	264	2	6	17	0	0	0	239
Joppa	27	133	12	0	2	147	1	0	0	0	0	0	146
Lakeland	28	234	5	0	6	245	4	1	0	0	0	0	240
Gadsden	29	173	4	1	1	179	3	2	0	0	0	0	171
St. Petersburg	30	449	19	0	7	475	3	2	21	0	1	0	448
Jackson	31	185	14	2	2	203	1	0	8	0	0	0	194
Dustis	32	88	12	0	5	105	1	2	0	0	0	0	102
Leesburg	33	132	7	2	0	141	1	1	5	0	0	1	134
Sarasota	34	156	11	0	2	169	2	1	19	1	0	0	146
Arcadia	35	95	0	0	0	95	2	1	24	0	0	0	68
Walton	36	43	0	0	0	43	0	2	0	0	0	0	41
Providence	37	82	4	0	0	86	0	0	14	0	0	0	72
Bay County	38	144	5	0	0	149	2	0	0	0	0	0	147
Crestview	39	97	10	1	0	108	0	0	26	0	0	0	82
Winter Haven	40	168	14	0	1	183	4	0	4	0	0	0	175
Highlands	41	114	12	0	4	130	1	0	0	0	0	0	129
Union	42	70	8	0	1	79	0	1	0	0	2	0	76
Perry	43	86	0	2	0	88	2	1	17	0	0	0	69
Clearwater	44	108	12	0	5	125	0	12	0	0	0	0	113
Okechobee	45	49	2	0	1	52	0	0	0	0	0	0	52
Dade	46	84	16	0	0	100	2	0	0	0	0	0	108
Duval	47	78	8	0	1	87	1	0	10	0	0	0	76
Nassau	48	63	8	0	1	72	0	0	1	0	0	0	71
Poinclana	49	87	12	0	2	101	1	0	0	0	0	0	100
New Smyrna	50	119	2	0	1	122	1	0	4	0	0	0	117
Orange	51	34	7	0	15	56	0	1	0	0	0	0	55
Delray	52	27	0	0	1	27	0	1	0	0	0	0	36
M. D. Cushing	53	44	20	0	7	71	1	0	0	0	0	0	70
Hill City	54	52	0	0	0	52	1	0	0	0	0	0	51
	9038	558	34	120	9769	108	106	430	1	5	2	9109	71

SUMMARY

Exalted	558
Reinstated	34
Affiliated	129
Died	108
Dimitted	106
Suspended for non-payment of dues	430
Suspended for un-Masonic conduct	1
Expelled	5
Rejected	2
Present Membership	9109
Net Gain	71

DIRECTORY OF CHAPTERS

CHAPTER	LOCATION	TIME OF MEETING
Florida	1 Tallahassee	Second Monday.
Gainesville	2 Gainesville	Second Monday.
Tampa	3 Tampa	First and Third Friday.
St. Johns	4 DeLand	First and Third Thursday.
Halifax	5 Daytona	Third Friday.
Mount Horeb	6 Pensacola	Second Thursday.
Eureka	7 Orlando	Second Monday.
Dade City	8 Dade City	First and Third Monday.
Ft. Sumner	9 Palatka	Second and Fourth Monday.
Kissimmee	10 Kissimmee	First Thursday.
Jacksonville	11 Miami	Second and Fourth Monday.
Ocala	12 Jacksonville	Second and Fourth Friday.
Inverness	13 Ocala	Second and Fourth Thursday.
Monroe	14 Inverness	Fourth Friday.
Plant City	15 Sanford	First and Third Monday.
St. Augustine	16 Plant City	Second and Fourth Tuesday.
Manatee River	17 St. Augustine	First and Third Tuesday.
Lake Butler	18 Bradenton	Second and Fourth Tuesday.
Keystone	19 Lake Butler	Second Tuesday.
Thomas Brown	20 Ft. Lauderdale	First Thursday.
Chipley	21 Bartow	First and Third Tuesday.
Lake Worth	22 Chipley	Second and Fourth Friday.
Live Oak	23 West Palm Beach	Third Monday.
Jefferson	24 Live Oak	First and Third Monday.
Indian River	25 Monticello	Second Thursday.
Joppa	26 Titusville	First and Third Monday.
Lakeland	27 Fort Pierce	Third Wednesday.
Gadsden	28 Lakeland	First Friday.
St. Petersburg	29 Quincy	Second and Fourth Wednesday.
Jackson	30 St. Petersburg	Third Monday.
Eustis	31 Marianna	First and Third Thursday.
Leesburg	32 Eustis	Second and Fourth Thursday.
Sarasota	33 Leesburg	Third Tuesday.
Arcadia	34 Sarasota	Second Tuesday.
Walton	35 Arcadia	Second and Fourth Tuesday.
Providence	36 DeFuniak Springs	First Friday.
Bay County	37 Lake City	Second Thursday.
Crestview	38 Panama City	First Friday.
Winter Haven	39 Crestview	Second and Fourth Wednesday.
Highlands	40 Winter Haven	Second Tuesday.
Union	41 Avon Park	Second and Fourth Monday.
Perry	42 Melbourne	Second Monday.
Clearwater	43 Perry	Third and Fifth Wednesday.
Okeechobee	44 Clearwater	Second and Fourth Thursday.
Dade	45 Okeechobee	Second and Fourth Friday.
Duval	46 Homestead	First and Third Monday.
Nassau	47 South Jacksonville	First and Third Wednesday.
Poinciana	48 Fernandina	First and Third Friday.
New Smyrna	49 Fort Myers	Second and Fourth Monday.
Orange	50 New Smyrna	Second Friday.
Delray	51 Winter Garden	Fourth Monday.
M. D. Cushing	52 Delray	Second and Fourth Monday.
Hill City	53 Tampa	First and Third Tuesday.
	54 Brooksville	Second and Fourth Monday.
	55 Brooksville	Second and Fourth Monday.

Regulations

ADOPTED SINCE THE PUBLICATION OF THE DIGEST

APRONS IN ROYAL ARCH DEGREE

Workmen in the Royal Arch degree shall be furnished with Master Mason's aprons to be worn as Master Masons. (1921)

ADDRESS OF GRAND HIGH PRIEST

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest is requested to file in the office of the Grand Secretary on Saturday next preceding the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, five copies of his Annual Address, together with all necessary papers and correspondence relating thereto. (1921)

COMMITTEES

Regulation No. 21, amended by striking out the last line as follows: "On Work, to consist of seven members." (1920)

Regulations No. 20 and 21 amended to read as follows:

20. Annually after the opening of this Grand Chapter, the Grand High Priest shall appoint the following standing Committees, each to consist of not less than three members:

1. On Returns and Credentials.
2. On Unfinished Business.

3. On Propositions and Grievances.
4. On Dispensations and By-Laws.

21. Previous to the closing of the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter the incoming Grand High Priest shall appoint the following committees to serve during recess and until the close of the next ensuing Annual Grand Convocation:

On Foreign Correspondence, to consist of three members.

On Printing, to consist of three members.

On Transportation, to consist of three members.

On Memorials. (1927)

On Finance and Accounts, which committee shall consist of three members, of whom, when first appointed, one shall be appointed to serve for one year, one for two years, and one for three years; thereafter, one member of said committee shall be appointed each year to serve for three years; and it shall be the duty of this committee to meet one day previous to the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter for the purpose of examining and auditing the books and accounts of the Grand Chapter.

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest shall appoint the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence from among the permanent members of this Grand Chapter at the close of each Annual Convocation and it shall be the duty of said committee to meet one day previous to the Annual Grand Convocation for the purpose of reviewing the Annual Address of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest. (1920)

Regulation No. 22, repealed and the following adopted:

22. The M. E. Grand High Priest shall be the Committee on Work. He shall cause the work in each of the degrees to be exemplified at each Annual Grand Convocation, unless otherwise provided by the Grand Chapter. (1920)

A special committee to be known as the "Grand Chapter Investment Committee" shall be appointed by the Grand High Priest for the purpose of investing the surplus funds of this Grand Chapter in negotiable securities at the best available interest possible. (1924)

The Grand High Priest shall be a permanent committee to look after the purchase of monuments for Past Grand High Priests. (1925)

DISTRICTS

Regulation No. 30, as amended in 1922, was amended to read as follows:

The Grand High Priest shall divide our Grand Jurisdiction into such a number of Districts as to him may seem desirable and that he appoint a special Deputy for each of said Districts, and that he direct each of these special Deputies to investigate, and use the authority of the Grand High Priest to bring about more dignified and correct rendition of the ritual and work; and that they use all proper efforts to increase the interest in Capitular Masonry in their respective Districts, that they hold Schools of Instruction if necessary, and make annual report to the Grand High Priest.

DUES TO THE GRAND CHAPTER

Regulation No. 32 amended to read as follows:

32. Every Chapter in this Grand Jurisdiction shall pay into the treasury of the Grand Chapter the sum of

one dollar for each exaltation, and the sum of one dollar as annual dues for every member borne on the rolls at any time during the year; unless exempted under Constitution Article 5, Section 1; provided, that the Chapter on whose roll such member shall appear first, only, shall pay dues when his name shall appear on the roll of more than one Chapter of this Jurisdiction, during any one year, except in the case of newly chartered Chapters. Members whose names appear upon the returns of a Chapter in Florida of which they were former members and also upon the returns of a newly chartered Chapter shall be accounted for by the newly chartered Chapter only. (1922)

Regulation No.— Sec. 14 of Article 4, as amended in 1924, and Section 1 of Article 5 of the Constitution, only exempt Emeritus (that is, aged or infirm) members from Grand Chapter dues. The Chapters shall pay Grand Chapter dues on Life Members the same as on regular members.

EMERITUS MEMBERS

Regulation No.— Subordinate Chapters may by a two-thirds vote at a regular Convocation create as "Emeritus Members" such members as from old age, infirmity or misfortune, have become incapacitated and unable to pay dues. Such members shall be exempt from the payment of annual dues.

JURISDICTION

Regulation No.— amended by adding the following:
Sec. 1. A Master Mason before making application for exaltation in this Grand Jurisdiction must have resided in the State of Florida for a period of not less than

twelve consecutive months and must have resided continuously within the jurisdiction of the Chapter to which he makes application for a period of six months. (1925)

Sec. 2. When a Master Mason removes permanently from the jurisdiction of a Chapter its jurisdiction over him terminates immediately on his removal and the Chapter nearest which he resides cannot receive his petition until after six (6) months residence within its jurisdiction. Consequently the candidate cannot apply to either Chapter within the six (6) months, for the first Chapter has no jurisdiction to waive and the second has not yet acquired jurisdiction over him. (1921)

LIFE MEMBERS

Regulation No. — Chapters may incorporate in their by-laws articles providing for "Life Membership" which do not conflict with the payment of dues of the Chapters to the Grand Chapter. Chapters must pay annual dues to the Grand Chapter on "Life Members."

MILEAGE AND PER DIEM

Regulation No. 43, amended to read as follows:

43. Members of the Grand Chapter who are entitled to per diem and mileage shall receive such per diem and mileage as shall be voted at each Annual Convocation, and if none be voted, they shall receive seven (\$7.00) dollars per diem and five cents for each mile necessarily traveled in coming to and returning from each Grand Convocation. (1924)

The Representatives of the Particular Chapters in attendance at the Grand Chapter who are entitled to mileage shall be paid for the actual mileage from the location of their respective Chapters. (1921)

PETITIONS FOR CHARTERS

Regulation No. — Petitions for charters must be filed in the Grand Secretary's office at least ten (10) days prior to the opening of the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter.

PETITIONS FOR DEGREES

Reg. 53. A petition for the degrees must be presented at a regular Convocation of the Chapter, and if received shall be referred to a committee of three members of the Chapter for investigation, and may be acted upon at the same meeting at the discretion of the Chapter.

Provided; That when there is more than one Chapter in the same city, each Chapter shall have concurrent jurisdiction as to all petitions for the degrees; and whenever a petition for the degrees shall be received it shall be the duty of the Secretary to immediately notify the other Chapter or Chapters of such receipt and the petition must lie over for not less than two weeks before being acted upon.

REPORTS

Secretaries of constituent Chapters are required to report promptly to the Grand Secretary any and all changes made in the dates of their regular Convocations. (1920)

REPRESENTATIVES

Regulation designated "Representatives" as appears on page 64 of the 1926 Proceedings was repealed. (1927)

RITUALS

Regulation No. 57 repealed. (1921)

SCHOLARSHIPS

Four hundred (\$400.00) dollars of the funds of this Grand Chapter shall be set aside annually to create scholarships in the State College for Women at Tallahassee and the University of Florida at Gainesville, this sum to be divided equally between the two and a committee of three appointed to be known as the "Grand Royal Arch Chapter Educational Committee" to select the two students each year who shall be beneficiaries of this fund. (1924)

WORK

Whereas, It has come to the knowledge of this Grand Chapter that some of the Chapters of this Grand Jurisdiction have departed from the work in conferring the degrees, especially the Royal Arch degree, by interpolating scenes calculated to excite mirth and discomfort to the candidates, therefore be it

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter sets the seal of its condemnation upon such innovation, and absolutely prohibits the future occurrence under penalty of forfeiture of charter for persistence therein. (1920)

The Grand High Priest should wear a hat while presiding. (1925)

Amendments to Constitution ADOPTED

Article IV, Section 14, was amended in 1924 to read as follows:

"Sec. 14. A Chapter may make by-laws regulating the payment of dues from its members, and whenever any member shall be twelve months or more in arrears for dues, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Chapter to notify such delinquent, by written notice, stating therein the amount thereof, and that unless the same shall be paid within thirty (30) days, or satisfactory excuse made, he may be suspended for non-payment of dues. And thereupon, at any time after the expiration of said thirty (30) days, such member may be suspended by action of the Chapter, and a member so suspended may be reinstated only after the payment of all arrears, and by a majority vote, which may be by ballot or show of hands.

"When a Chapter shall, in its annual return, report an aged or infirm Companion as an emeritus member thereof, and exempts him from the payment of dues, such Chapter shall have credit therefor, in the payment of its dues; and the Chapter shall not be required to pay Grand Chapter dues for ministers of the Gospel, who are exempt from dues by its by-laws."

Article II, Section 15, was amended in 1928 to read as follows:

Art. II, Sec. 15. In balloting for Grand Officers, each Chapter represented is entitled to three (3) votes and each Grand Officer to one (1) vote, each Past Grand High Priest and Past High Priest of constituent Chapters present, not holding an office in the Grand Chapter, to one (1) vote.

ORDER OF High Priesthood

ANNUAL CONVENTION

1928

The Annual Convention of the Grand Council of the Order of High Priesthood of the State of Florida, was held in the city of Jacksonville, on Wednesday, May 16, A. D. 1928, at 8:30 o'clock A. M., the following officers being present:

M. E. Cary B. Fish, President.
E. Erle L. Wirt, Vice President.
E. D. H. Rutter, Chaplain.
E. Wilber P. Webster, Secretary and Treasurer.
E. Ely P. Hubbell, Master of Ceremonies.
E. John Pasco, Conductor.
E. R. J. McMaster, Herald.
E. George A. Dame, as Steward.
E. Archie Aitchison, Guard.

Upon motion the reading of the minutes of the last Annual Convention was dispensed with, they having been printed and distributed, and they were adopted as printed.

Petitions for the Order were received from the following Companions:

James Miller Leake, H. P., Gainesville Chapter No. 2.
J. E. Shepley, H. P., Tampa Chapter No. 3.
John Paver, H. P., St. Johns Chapter No. 4.

- J. H. Dieckman, P. H. P., Mt. Horeb Chapter No. 6.
 T. P. Robinson, H. P., Eureka Chapter No. 7.
 J. B. Tyner, H. P., Kissimmee Chapter No. 10.
 Harry E. Hollowell, H. P., Jacksonville Chapter No. 12.
 C. A. Bangert, H. P., Ocala Chapter No. 13.
 James O. Huff, H. P., Monroe Chapter No. 15.
 A. E. Wilson, H. P., Plant City Chapter No. 16.
 George F. Kendrick, H. P., St. Augustine Chapter No.
 17.
 James J. Clinton, H. P., Keystone Chapter No. 20.
 Laurence S. Rickard, P. H. P., Keystone Chapter No.
 20.
 Harry G. Taylor, P. H. P., Thomas Brown Chapter No.
 22.
 L. T. S. Southwick, H. P., Lake Worth Chapter No. 24.
 Arthur S. Rhoads, H. P., Indian River Chapter No. 27.
 Jno. H. Rauch, H. P., St. Petersburg Chapter No. 31.
 E. M. Savage, H. P., Eustis Chapter No. 33.
 B. M. Hulse, H. P., Sarasota Chapter No. 35.
 W. Wemyss Nihiser, H. P., Providence Chapter No. 38.
 A. D. Newkirk, H. P., Winter Haven Chapter No. 41.
 Leroy Brandon, P. H. P., Clearwater Chapter No. 45.
 Burrell L. Joiner, H. P., Dade Chapter No. 47.
 Charles Tierney, H. P., Poinciana Chapter No. 50.
 Frank O'Berry, H. P., M. D. Cushing Chapter No. 54.
 Richard B. Lovett, P. H. P., M. D. Cushing Chapter
 No. 54.

These Companions being found eligible, their petitions were received and they were duly elected to receive the Order.

The Secretary and Treasurer made the following report, which was received and adopted;

SECRETARY AND TREASURER'S REPORT

W. P. Webster, Secretary and Treasurer.
 In account with the Grand Council, O. H. P.

	Dr.	
To Balance as per last report		\$92.95
To Fees		78.00—\$170.95
	Cr.	
By Paid 40 Bibles and Express		\$82.09
Balance on Hand		\$88.86

Fraternally submitted,
 W. P. WEBSTER,
Secretary and Treasurer.

Upon motion the Secretary was directed to pay for supplies used at this time, and to order another supply of Bibles.

The Grand Council proceeded with the annual election of officers with the following result:

OFFICERS ELECTED

M. E. Cary B. Fish, President.
 E. Erle L. Wirt, Vice President.
 E. Dorsey H. Rutter, Chaplain.
 E. Wilber P. Webster, Secretary and Treasurer.
 E. Ely P. Hubbell, Master of Ceremonies.
 E. John Pasco, Conductor.
 E. R. J. McMaster, Herald.
 E. Archie Aitchison, Steward.
 E. W. B. Greer, Guard.

ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD

All of the Companions elected, being present, they were introduced, anointed and consecrated in due and ancient form.

The Grand Council was closed in ample form.

CARY B. FISH,
President.

Attest:

W. P. WEBSTER,
Secretary.

Members Consecrated

MAY 16, A. D. 1928

- James Miller LeakeH. P., Gainesville Chapter No. 2
- J. E. ShepleyH. P., Tampa Chapter No. 3
- John PaverH. P., St. Johns Chapter No. 4
- J. H. DieckmanP. H. P., Mt. Horeb Chapter
No. 6
- T. P. RobinsonH. P., Eureka Chapter No. 7
- J. B. TynerH. P., Kissimmee Chapter No.
10
- Harry E. HollowellH. P., Jacksonville Chapter No.
12.
- C. A. BangertH. P., Ocala Chapter No. 13
- James O. HuffH. P., Monroe Chapter No. 15
- A. E. WilsonH. P., Plant City Chapter No. 16
- George F. KendrickH. P., St. Augustine Chapter No.
17
- James J. ClintonH. P., Keystone Chapter No. 20
- Laurence S. Rickard ..P. H. P., Keystone Chapter No.
20
- Harry G. TaylorP. H. P., Thomas Brown Chap-
ter No. 22
- L. T. S. SouthwickH. P., Lake Worth Chapter No.
24
- Arthur S. RhoadsH. P., Indian River Chapter No.
27
- Jno. H. RauchH. P., St. Petersburg Chapter
No. 31

- E. M. SavageH. P., Eustis Chapter No. 33
B. M. HulseH. P., Sarasota Chapter No. 35
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Leroy BrandonP. H. P., Clearwater Chapter
No. 45
Burrell L. JoinerH. P., Dade Chapter No. 47
Charles TierneyH. P., Poinciana Chapter No.
50
Frank O'BerryH. P., M. D. Cushing Chapter
No. 54
Richard B. LovettP. H. P., M. D. Cushing Chapter
No. 54

Report of Committee
on
Fraternal Correspondence
BY
ELY P. HUBBELL, P. G. H. P., Chairman

Report of Committee
on
Fraternal Correspondence

To the Most Excellent Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Florida:

Once again the Committee is privileged to render service to the Royal Craft by presenting a review of all Grand Chapter Proceedings which have been received since the report of a year ago.

Each yearly journey brings to light new problems and indicates how those to whom the government of Capitular Masonry has been entrusted attempts their solutions. In most cases the various acts are approved, but occasionally the "higher ups" take a different view and clarify the situation.

To present these matters as clearly and concisely as possible has been the aim of the Committee, with the hope that the reader may herein find both information and inspiration.

May the Committee again urge that this report be carefully read, for many points of Capitular law are brought to light which should be of value to the less informed.

As the Grand Jurisdictions reviewed follow alphabetically there seems to be no necessity for further enumeration.

ALABAMA—1928

Chapters, 86. Members, 14,629. Exalted 683
Net Loss 600

SIDDONS STOLLENWERCK, Grand High Priest

With an imposing array of Past Grands present, the One Hundred and First Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter met in Montgomery, December 5 and 6. Most of the other Grand Chapters were represented by their Representative near the Grand Chapter of Alabama, among those so fortunate, was Florida represented by Robert T. Ward. From the fact that five Grand Representatives lost their commissions because of non-attendance for three successive years, we surmise that neglect of duty is not one of the cardinal virtues recognized by the Grand Chapter of Alabama.

Among the distinguished visitors we find the name of M. .E. .Comp. Nelson Williams, Past Grand High Priest of Ohio, and read with great pleasure his eloquent address which is quoted in full. M. .E. .Comp. Williams spends his winters in the land of Sunshine and Flowers, and we feel that this in some measure adds to his wonderful ability to place the correct word in the right place. Companion Williams is an honored and welcome winter resident of Florida.

The station of two Permanent Members of the Grand Chapter were vacant. M. .E. .Comp. Joseph Leon Gunter, Grand High Priest in 1923, and E. .Comp. Archibald LaRue Thompson, Grand Sentinel, having passed to the Great Beyond, were paid eloquent tribute by the Grand High Priest in his annual report which contains several pages of most interesting matter which we read and beg to concur with the Committee report: "We

congratulate the Grand Chapter upon the unusually efficient and faithful service of the Grand High Priest."

An approved decision of Grand High Priest Stollenwerck was that the payment of fees to the High Priest of a Chapter, does not settle the claim of the Chapter; the Secretary being the only member authorized to receive and receipt for money due the Chapter.

The Grand Chapter declined to recognize the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Queensland, holding "that it would, at the present time, be inopportune to accede to this request."

The report of the Centennial Committee by M. .E. .Comp. John H. McCormick is quite complete, covering the activities of the Grand Chapter of Alabama from May 20, 1823, to the present date.

Two Charters were issued to Chapters U. D. The system followed by Alabama Grand Chapter, of giving numbers to U. D. Chapters, is somewhat different to our method. We give our Chapters a number and a charter at the same time.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is by Companion Francis Marion Stillwell, who says that he is making his first appearance at the Round Table. His initial effort is worthy of emulation. His report is complete, his technique masterly and his style snappy but pleasing. We appreciate his kindly remarks with reference to Florida and its Correspondent, and trust that the same good fellowship will long exist between the two Grand Jurisdictions.

Next Annual in Montgomery, December 3rd., 1928.

L. W. Kolb, Ozark, Grand High Priest; G. A. Beauchamp, Montgomery, Grand Secretary; F. M. Stillwell, Selma, Correspondent.

ALBERTA—1927

Chapters, 27. Members, 2,811. Admissions, 111
Net Loss, 29.

EDWIN G. IRONSIDES, Grand Z

This item of historic import appears in connection with the introduction of distinguished visitors at the Thirteenth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, held in Calgary, March 16 and 17, 1927, with only one Chapter not represented:

R. I. Comp. Clifford R. Wentzel, Grand Inspector General of Alberta District No. 6, of the Grand Council of Canada, Royal and Select Masters of the Cryptic Rite, an old Order, the oldest of the Masonic Orders but one, and which is being revived in Canada, after being practically deceased for fifty years.

The address of the Grand First Principal is a concise account of the stewardship committed to his keeping a year previous.

Noting the increasing unsettled Capitular conditions in the Australian States he did not recommend recognition of Queensland, and Grand Chapter acquiesced.

He officially visited twenty-three out of the twenty-seven Subordinate Chapters and the five Chapters of Instruction; also he was otherwise a very busy man. He surely was entitled to wear the spurs he had won.

He refused to grant two dispensations to "elect officers from the floor of the Chapter," because, he says, "dispensations for this purpose are not in order." Quite likely a similar thought was in the mind of the committee on the Condition of Capitular Masonry:

The future well-being of the Fraternity, regardless of personal ties, should be placed in the hands of those who have already proven their capabilities as leaders of men and moulders of thought.

His one ruling was that a Mark Master Mason receiving that degree in a Mark Master Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Craft Lodge, is not entitled to sit in a Mark Master Lodge in Alberta. And his two recommendations were that all Chapters using the moon schedule change their by-laws to fixed date for monthly convocations; also that the Secretaries inquire of Companions paying dues if they have Lodge receipts. Besides, an additional one, that a District Superintendent who had not visited any Chapter other than his own, he could not recommend to receive the rank of Past District Superintendent.

Action looking to the presenting of a Past Grand First Principal's regalia instead of a Jewel was held over for further consideration.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is undoubtedly by the chairman, Past Grand First Principal J. E. Johnson, who considers the prominence given to the Educational Loan Funds one of the "bright outlooks for the future," and who further believes "that Masonry never before instituted a greater nor wider-reaching benefit to the world than this." He quoted liberally from Florida's Proceedings and with apparent approval.

Next Annual in Edmonton, March 21, 1928.

Wm. M. McNab, Edmonton, Grand Z.; Clifford R. Wentzel, Calgary, Grand Scribe E.; J. E. Johnson, Calgary, Correspondent.

ARIZONA—1927

Chapters, 12. Members, 1,273. Exalted, 57
Net Loss 32

HARRY ARIZONA DRACHMAN, Grand High Priest

About the only prominent Capitular Mason not present at the Thirty-seventh Annual Convocation, held in Phoenix, Feb. 8, 1927, appears to have been Florida's Grand Representative, E. Comp. Louis L. Stewart, of Phoenix. Wonder why?

Among those who passed the veil during the year was M. E. Comp. Frank Thomas, who was Grand High Priest in 1924.

Grand High Priest Drachman, in his splendid address, gives a little of the early history of the Royal Craft in that State:

In the city of Tucson was organized, Nov. 13, 1889, the first Royal Arch Chapter in the then Territory of Arizona. Go back nearly thirty years and picture the conditions at that time. Only two railroads ran across this Territory. One along the northern part and the other along the southern part. Attendance at the sessions of the Bodies of the Grand Lodge and of the Grand Chapter was mostly by means of stage coaches with constant danger of attack by Indians and bandits.

Of those who helped to organize the Grand Chapter, only three are with us today. They have I believe, attended every session from that day to this, and are: M. E. Comp. George J. Roskrue, Grand Secretary; M. E. Comp. Morris Goldwater, and M. E. Comp. Frederic G. Brecht, all Past Grand High Priests.

Only two Chapters were not personally visited by the Grand High Priest, and they united with another in a joint visitation. The main object of these visitations

was, he says, to revive interest in Capitular Masonry, for he "found nearly all of the Chapters apathetic and dormant."

Among the reasons he ascribed for this condition were: Lack of interest on the part of officers; lack of uniformity in ritualistic work; lack of time and enthusiasm in Grand Chapter. It is hoped this latter may be overcome through a joint committee with Grand Lodge to arrange for more time for Grand Chapter, and the adoption of the ritual of the General Grand Chapter.

He granted a dispensation to form Winkelman Chapter which exhibited such proficiency that it conferred the Royal Arch degree on three of its members before Grand Chapter. He was not called upon to make any decisions.

Believing that Grand Chapter as a Body should enter into some altruistic work to relieve the distressed, he recommended that it take the form of prevention of blindness among children. Grand Chapter approved and a committee will investigate.

He refused a dispensation to one Chapter to receive petitions, refer, ballot and confer degrees at one convocation, not only because it was unconstitutional but also because of a General Grand Chapter decision: "No emergency will justify a different course."

He also recommended abolishing the office of Deputy Grand High Priest, and Grand Chapter will report at next Convocation.

There is no Order of High Priesthood and no Report on Correspondence.

Next Annual at Tucson, Feb. 14, 1927.

David Benshimol, Douglas, Grand High Priest;
George J. Roskrue, Grand Secretary.

ARKANSAS—1927

Chapters, 93. Members, 8,286. Exalted, 603
Net Gain, 207

SHEM E. HOLLABAUGH, Grand High Priest

M. .E. .Comp. Allison G. Holland, General Grand Principal Sojourner of the General Grand Chapter, was the guest of honor at the Seventy-eighth Annual, held in Little Rock, Nov. 17, 1927. For the first time in the memory of ye scribe and he knows not how much longer, M. .E. .Comp. John C. Bone, Grand Secretary was prevented from answering to roll call, he being detained at home by reason of an accident. It is hoped his recovery was speedy. Florida was not represented by E. .Comp. Geo. A. Parsons, but as he was reappointed we trust he will do better another year.

Memorials were presented in honor of M. .E. .Comp. Charles N. Rix, Grand High Priest in 1890, and elected General Grand High Priest at the Portland Triennial, but not being physically able to serve, he resigned and was succeeded by M. .E. .Comp. J. Albert Blake, who passed away during his term of office and who was succeeded by M. .E. .Comp. Henry DeWitt Hamilton, Deputy General Grand High Priest, who being properly installed served the remainder of the term and presided at the Denver Triennial. Another member of the Permanent Family to be called was M. .E. .Comp. J. R. Donnell, Grand High Priest in 1904.

Comparatively few dispensations were granted, and it is possible some of them would not have been approved under Florida laws.

One of the rulings of the Grand High Priest quite properly was that all of the ritualistic ceremonies should be used in opening a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons; but unfortunately it is not always done, and more especially in the closing.

Another ruling brought out an action quite different from the ordinary, when a defunct Chapter opened in the Mark Master degree, listened to the report of a committee on two petitions previously received, balloted on them and then conferred the Mark Master degree, which, of course, was declared illegal and irregular.

Grand Chapter agreed with the suggestion of the Grand High Priest relative to changing the date of Grand Chapter, and the Annuals will now be held in March instead of November. For this reason an effort was made to skip the 1928 Convocation, but instead this will be a two-day session.

The charter of one Chapter was arrested, and all the property of it that could be found was a Book of Marks, a marble keystone and some old jewels. Only two members of that Chapter, the High Priest and Secretary, were all that were living in the town where the Chapter was located. As neither the Charter nor record books of any kind were found the Grand Secretary was "at a loss to know whether or not to interpret that the Charter of this Chapter had been arrested." The Jurisconsults held and Grand Chapter approved, "that same was arrested and annulled and the physical fact of the recovery of the Charter is immaterial." Apparently there was nothing else to do.

Hereafter a High Priest who fails to deliver the rituals to his successor is liable for suspension until they are

recovered or satisfactory evidence furnished that they have been destroyed.

Hereafter the reading of the characters on the Ark will conform to the General Grand Chapter Ritual.

Only nine Companions were set apart as High Priests after the Order of Melchisedec, and a new form of ritual is being prepared.

For the seventh time Past Grand High Priest Mark P. Olney submitted his annual review of the Proceedings which had reached him, and although somewhat concise yet they contain much of merit. Greatly to his surprise he found that thirty-nine Grand Chapters showed a combined gain of about twelve thousand members, while eighteen showed a loss of approximately two thousand, and which, he says:

Proves to us that we are often prone to become pessimistic over matters when by a careful look we would see the outstanding cause of encouragement.

Unfortunately Florida is one of the few proceedings which failed to reach him. May we look for a double-header another year?

Next Annual in Little Rock, March 6 and 7, 1928.

L. P. Kemper, Siloam Springs, Grand High Priest;
John C. Bone, Batesville, Grand Secretary; Mark P. Olney, Mena, Correspondent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA—1927

Chapters, 24. Members, 2,645. Exalted, 137
Net Gain, 15

THOMAS H. CAREY, Grand Z

By a peculiar coincidence having completed the review of the Grand Chapter of Washington, the next on the pile of proceedings at hand is that of British Columbia, an adjoining Jurisdiction. And an equally interesting coincidence is that both reports stress events in which both jurisdictions participated and which make Capitular history for both.

By invitation, Companions from a Vancouver Chapter, headed by Grand Z. Thomas H. Carey, paid a fraternal visit to Bellingham Chapter in Washington and conferred the Royal Arch degree for the benefit of their American Companions. A little later a return visit was made by the Bellingham Bay Companions, being accompanied by Grand High Priest Dripps of Washington and also by Grand High Priest Swafford of Oregon. It was a joint convocation of the four Vancouver Chapters, at which time two candidates from each Chapter, twelve in all, were made Royal Arch Masons according to the American ritual. This was said to have been the largest convocation of Royal Arch Masons ever congregated in that city.

It was very courteous in the Grand Z. to present to each of the visiting Grand High Priests the scepter of authority and request them to rule over the Grand Chapter of British Columbia. However, were the conditions reversed, we wonder how some of our very strict jurisc-

sults would view this transferring of authority even for a limited time to the hands of another governing power?

Well attended was the Ninth Annual Convocation, held in New Westminster, June 22, 1927. A distinguished visitor was M. .E. .Comp. J. E. Johnston, Past Grand Z. of Alberta. Florida was represented by E. .Comp. Walter Bews.

Sincere love for the Royal Craft predominated in the address of the Grand Z., who was happy to state that "nothing had transpired to disturb the peace, harmony or prosperity of Capitular Masonry." Also that the interchange of visits by Grand Chapter officers will "strengthen the ties of fraternalism."

We wonder what some of our jurisconsults would say of this ruling, which Grand Chapter approved:

A Mason who dimitted from a Craft Lodge retains his membership in his Chapter so long as he pays his dues, or is not suspended for cause. He should be advised to affiliate with a Craft Lodge, however, as it is the foundation of Masonry.

As a result of his official visitations to most of the Chapters he suggested as a remedy for the large number of suspensions for non-payment of dues, "thorough examination in open Chapter previous to advancement to higher degrees." This, he believed, should be augmented by the development of the spiritual side as well as the social activities, thus making Masonry practical, whereby it will wield a greater influence for good in the communities where it exists. This line of action, he argued, would do more for the uplift of mankind than lectures on efficiency in degree work. There is no copyright on these suggestions.

Although having no vote in the matter, yet he cordially invited the General Grand Chapter to come to Tacoma in 1930, so that the Royal Arch Masonry of Canada may become better acquainted with that on the other side of the invisible line.

There is a vast amount of detailed information in the reports of District Superintendents, corresponding substantially to our District Deputies, and the latter might with profit study them.

The Grand Scribe E. in his report noted that out of the seventy-three suspensions for non-payment of dues, only five were restored, which indicates that loss from suspensions is almost permanent. Wonder if a similar proportion prevails generally throughout Freemasonry? Possibly some of our Grand Secretaries could give light on this question. Another of our wonders is, how much of this is due to lack of effort on the part of the subordinate Secretaries?

Grand Chapter emphasized through a committee report that "a Grand Chapter should not be permitted to hold meetings in any place other than that named in its warrant." It also approved the observance in the near future of the Sixtieth Anniversary of the introduction of Royal Arch Masonry in British Columbia, which was by a Chapter working under a Scottish warrant. And also that special recognition be given to the next Annual Convocation, which will be the tenth anniversary.

There appears to be no record of an Order of High Priesthood, but no doubt that will later be found advisable.

Much interesting as well as valuable information is to be found in the eighth report on Correspondence by R. .E. .Comp. John W. Prescott, Grand Scribe E. It is fully

up to the high standard which he set when he commenced this work for the Grand Chapter of British Columbia, and we opine he has his life work firmly established.

Being a Grand Secretary himself, he notes with approval that "The veteran Grand Secretary, M. E. Comp. Wilbur P. Webster, who has held that office for twenty-eight years, made a very complete and interesting report." Other matters of importance are not overlooked.

His kindly words of approval as well as sympathy are greatly appreciated.

Next Annual in Vancouver, June 20, 1928.

Henry Giegenrich, Kaslo, Grand Z.; John W. Prescott, Vancouver, Grand Scribe E. and Correspondent.

CALIFORNIA—1927

Chapters, 126. Members, 25,499. Exalted, 1,549
Net Gain, 755

CLIFTON S. HITE, Grand High Priest

Nearly a tenth of the Subordinate Chapters were not represented at the Seventy-third Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of California, which was apparently a one-session affair, and was held in Santa Barbara, April 19, 1927, with every officer as well as nine Past Grands being present, one of whom, M. E. Comp. Thomas Flint, the senior living Past Grand High Priest and who held that office the year previous to the earthquake and fire of April 18, 1906, with four other survivors were in attendance. General Grand as well as the presiding officers of the other York Rite Grand Bodies were also pres-

ent; but with all this galaxy Florida had no one to speak for it.

Clear and concise was the address of Grand High Priest Hite, and commendable as well, because all his minor acts were grouped in the Addenda Report, and all of which passed inspection with approval which entitled him to the highest wages of a faithful workman. And there is nothing in the address to indicate that he was called upon to make any decisions or assist in the settlement of differences, which indicates an ideal harmonious condition of the Royal Craft in California.

Quite voluminous and informative is the report of Grand Lecturer D. B. Richards, in which extended reference is made to his suggestions of the year previous relative to optional changes in the ritualistic work of the Royal Arch Degree, and which include the elimination of the second, third and fourth prayers in the Principal Sojourner's work, and the substitutions of short and appropriate passages conveying similar thoughts. It also combines the three trips in one to the v-1t and the attendant findings. This, he said, would materially shorten the work and better retain the interest and attention of the sideliners. If we are correctly informed a somewhat similar revision is also contemplated by the General Grand Chapter Committee on Work. While he is pleased to note that there is a constantly increasing frown being put upon anything of a frivolous nature in Chapter meetings and the conferring of degrees, yet there still appears to be rumors of a disquieting nature, as this indicates:

Yet it comes to us from time to time that there are among our officers some who are so far forgetful of their obligations and promises as to permit a deviation from the regular work when an attempt is made to derive fun from the confusion of the candidates.

Our Royal Arch degrees form a perfect chain of serious thought and instruction. Each link in the chain is as important as every other link—should be as strong and ring as clear as all others. If one be weakened, the same regard is had for the others. * * * I sincerely trust we may never have cause to reprimand any officer for a breach of the plain provisions of the law.

He also has a good word to say in favor of Past High Priests and Officers Associations. This is a movement which it seems to the writer might well be more generally considered. If Grand Chapter took any action upon any of the recommendations or suggestions of Grand Lecturer Richards, it escaped the notice of the writer.

In 1923 Grand Chapter made an appropriation as a nucleus of a fund to supplement the Student Loan Fund, and this has been added to each year. The statement by the Committee on Educational Assistance, "there could be no more worthy cause for the expenditure of money," is evidence of its need.

One of the Constitutional Amendments adopted provides for the issuing of Certificates to Present and Past Grand High Priests and Present and Past High Priests, showing length of time of service. Florida issues a similar certificate or card to its Past Grand High Priests.

Another amendment submitted, which by reason of its radical departure from established practice, was held over till another year. It provides that each Companion shall give evidence of his good standing in his Blue Lodge at the time he pays his dues in the Subordinate Chapter. This is an action, the need of which is generally recognized by all Bodies making Blue Lodge membership pre-requisite, and the solution of which will be watched with interest, we opine. Another proposed amendment held over is to add \$10.00 to the fee for degrees, to be used by Grand Chapter for educational purposes.

By a strange co-incidence the same number of qualified Companions, eighty as the year previous, presented themselves for and received the Order of High Priesthood.

However the California Companions may approve the change, I feel quite sure in saying that the members of the Guild will be unanimous in approving the action by the Grand Chapter of California in requesting E. Comp. Arthur A. Willoughby in his report to "follow the lines of the standard report used in every Grand Jurisdiction reviewed and give the work of each Jurisdiction separately." Right well has he done this. Although each of them are comparatively short, yet they may truly be said to be "meaty." Congratulations, Comp. Willoughby.

Florida is given fraternal and courteous consideration and few if any matters of importance passed his observing eye. As he will notice by the 1928 Florida Proceedings, California's Grand Representative near the Grand Chapter of Florida, "Uncle Billy Ware," as he was affectionately called by all, passed away a short time before this review was written. He had been active since its inception in the work of the Florida Masonic Home and he is sadly missed by the Fraternity generally.

Next Annual in San Diego, April 17, 1928.

James B. McLees, San Diego, Grand High Priest;
Thomas A. Davies, Grand Secretary, and Daniel B. Richards, Correspondent, both the latter of San Francisco.

CANADA—1927

Chapters, 153. Members, 25,815. Registrations, 972
Net Gain, 165

KENNETH J. DUNSTAN, Grand Z

This year the Capital City, Ottawa was host to the Sixty-ninth Annual held Feb. 23 and 24, 1927. Connecticut, Michigan, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania were well represented, and so were the other Canadian Grand Bodies; Florida being among the missing few.

Good English, concisely and gracefully used, characterize the address of Grand First Principal Dunstan, as he reviewed the activities of the year, in which he finds nothing to cause uneasiness, either at home or abroad. His visitations included several to adjacent Grand Jurisdictions. His recorded official acts indicate nothing out of the ordinary, all of which were approved. His rulings pertained to home matters. He does not favor Royal Arch regalia being worn on the streets, but he did grant three dispensations to wear regalia "while going to and returning from divine service."

He was pleased to report the gain in membership during the year as well as in finances, and that the suspensions for non-payment of dues were fewer than the year previous. He was also gratified at the increased interest as shown by Chapter attendance. He recommended a greater inter-visiting between Chapters, especially that the Chapters in the larger centers visit the smaller Chapters in outlying territories. Particularly does he emphasize that new members should be shown attention, and that their coming into the Chapter should be an occasion for general introduction. Ye scribe knows of no reason why these suggestions can not be applied elsewhere.

Notwithstanding the suggestion of the powers that be the year previous, over a hundred pages are given to the reports of the Grand Superintendents, each being heard from except the one at Yukon, although it made full returns and fees. The far northern Canadia District was divided, and yet this District extends over Chapters separated by 300 miles.

Equally optimistic is the report on the Condition of Capitular Masonry, which states "that the present year differs from previous years, save only in showing still greater growth in all directions." Also that similar conditions prevail regarding the coming year. Continuing, it well says:

Royal Arch Masonry confers no powers, creates no casts, ennobles no life save only as service and sacrifice do these things, and that life is most valuable which exemplifies the highest standards of morality and culture.

Royal Arch Masonry never seemed so attractive, never so essential to the integrity and perfection of Masonic character as today.

While it is equally true that nothing requires so strict economy as Benevolence, it is equally true that when Benevolence dictates, Prudence seldom fails to confirm.

The practical application of the latter statement is that during the year \$5,500 was distributed by Chapters, which has brought comfort, cheer and happiness to many. The report also emphasizes the well established fact that real progress can only be attained when the annual dues provide the funds for maintenance and operating, and that the Exaltation fees are placed in the capital account for equipment, benevolence and other emergent calls.

In presenting the revised ritual for the three degrees, the committee stated that although uniformity is desir-

able, yet its use should not be obligatory at any specified time: believing rather that the new ritual will so impress candidates and members with the moral lessons of the degrees that it will quickly come into general use.

In common with other Grand Chapters deriving from English Constitutions, there is no Order of High Priesthood.

Once again it is a pleasure to turn to the splendidly prepared Review of Sister Jurisdictions by M. E. William N. Ponton, Past Grand Z. He is generous in the use of reproductions, coupled with concise comments. One always finds here the choicest thoughts of the Capitular year.

Under Florida he quoted liberally from the address of Grand High Priest Todd, because it "will scarcely bear sandwiching or slicing." He fully approved the erecting of monuments for Past Grand High Priests, and he quoted freely from the report of ye scribe.

Next Annual in London, Feb. 22 and 23, 1928.

Kenneth J. Dunstan, Toronto, Grand Z.; Henry T. Smith, Toronto, Temple Building, Grand Scribe E.; Wm. N. Ponton Belleville, Correspondent.

COLORADO—1927

Chapters, 51. Members, 8,147. Exalted, 290
Net Gain, 45

JOHN D. BURNS, Grand High Priest.

Most everybody that ought to be, as well as distinguished Craftsmen from Alabama, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas and Idaho, were present at the Fifty-third An-

nual Convocation, held in Denver, Sept. 22, 1927, except Florida's Representative.

Worthy of emulation is the record in time and energy set by Grand High Priest Burns, who visited all but five of the Chapters during his term of office. He was impressed with the detrimental effect on the Craft of those organizations which base their affiliation on a pre-requisite Masonic membership, and which, he says, "have no further reason for existence" than to furnish pleasure and social intercourse for their members. It also brought out this pertinent comment:

Some of our Chapter officials are using their energy in the promotion and promulgation of these organizations that had better be exerted in the affairs of Royal Arch Masonry.

His visitations enabled him to get first hand information of the conditions of the Royal Craft throughout the State, which he realizes is going through a re-adjustment stage, which is quite necessary to place it again on a stable foundation. He urged a more careful examination of all applications for the mysteries, and that none be admitted except such as will fulfill the duties and obligations of Royal Arch Masons. To this end, he truly says:

It is essentially necessary that each Chapter choose as officers, Companions, who by their genial personality, their peculiar fitness for the station and their excellence in the ritualistic work, will be able to attract and hold their qualified Brethren.

He requested the Grand High Priest of Pennsylvania to have the Mark Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch degrees conferred upon a Brother. But as Pennsylvania no longer confers the Past Master Degree, he notified the Chapter for whom the work was done "that should the Companion return it would be necessary

to confer the Past Master's degree." The Companion is all right so long as he remains in Pennsylvania, but should he wish to visit elsewhere, we wonder what would be his status?

Owing to the heavy expense of the Grand Chapter entertaining the General Grand Chapter, he recommended no further appropriations for outside activities, and the Finance Committee agreed. But Grand Chapter said continue the appropriation of \$500 to the Masonic Soldiers' and Sailors' Welfare Committee.

Among those who were set apart to the Order of High Priesthood was the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Idaho, which may mean that Idaho is contemplating forming an Order of High Priesthood.

Past Grand High Priest H. W. Woodward covers the Florida Proceedings in which he notes that the Grand Treasurer shows that his balance was increased during the year in the sum of fifty-eight cents, which, he continues, "is just \$1.16 better than running that much behind." This brings to mind Micawber's famous saying in which two shillings is the difference between happiness and misery.

Companion Woodward is quite right is surmising that according to Florida regulations a Pennsylvania Companion who had received the Chapter degrees since that Grand Chapter did away with the Past Master's degree would not be permitted to visit a Florida Chapter. But that would not prevent the Companion for petitioning for affiliation, after being healed.

Next Annual in Denver, Sept. 20, 1928.

Delmar B. Wright, Grand Junction, Grand High Priest; William W. Cooper, Denver, Grand Secretary; H. W. Woodward, Denver, Correspondent.

CONNECTICUT—1927

Chapters, 44. Members, 16,668. Exalted, 594
Net Gain, 137

ELBERT L. DARBIE, Grand High Priest

Distinguished Craftsmen from many of the neighboring Grand Jurisdictions, nearly a score of Past Grands and representatives from every Subordinate Chapter, an unusual condition in nearly all Grand Masonic gatherings, gave prominence to the single session of the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Annual Convocation, held in Hartford, May 9, 1927. For some reason, satisfactory it is hoped, Florida was not represented.

Credit was given to the able and efficient manner in which Grand High Priest Darbie administered the affairs of the Grand Chapter, which was evidenced throughout his address, and all of his official acts were fully approved.

Suitable respect was given to the memory of M. . E. . Comp. Samuel H. Huntington, Grand High Priest in 1907.

A somewhat peculiar condition followed the election of a Companion to honorary life membership to the Masonic Charity Foundation, he being ineligible by reason of his Lodge membership being in another State.

One of the legacies which came to the Grand High Priest was a Chapter which was lapsing into a state of "innocuous desuetude." Following the visit of the Grand High Priest to it, promises of reformation were made and it was given a new lease of life. There are always a faithful few in every community, but sometimes that few is too small to overcome the shameful apathy of the

many. It is difficult at times to cast the broad mantle of Masonic charity over inexcusable neglect.

Quite a number of dispensations were granted in cases anticipating failure to hold regular convocations. We notice that some Grand High Priests look at such conditions differently. But the Grand High Priest stood four-square against "hurry-up" dispensations. Commendable.

One of his decisions pertained to the Past Master's degree, which Scotland does not require, and which brought out the additional fact that Scotland will not issue dimits to its life members. Another grew out of an inquiry by a Chapter which was to exemplify the Royal Arch degree before Grand Chapter, the query being, if a dispensation was necessary, and which brought out this decision:

A dispensation is not only unnecessary but cannot be issued by the Grand High Priest, as the Grand Chapter is superior to the Grand High Priest and a dispensation cannot be issued from an inferior to a superior. Also that such initiates would become non-affiliate Royal Arch Masons upon their exaltation, except that having been elected to membership in that particular Chapter, they would become members of that Chapter upon signing its by-laws.

He officially visited nearly every Chapter which he had assigned to himself as well as several others, both non-officially and out of the State, and for which he was quite properly commended. However, he realized that much of the benefits otherwise accruing from these visitations were somewhat nullified by reason of having to pass upon their ritualistic work, and he believed that more good would result from having one Grand Lecturer become responsible for and pass upon ritualistic work, rather than for the individual Chapter trying to carry out

the ideas of a Grand Officer, when the next year another comes along who has a different interpretation of some particular feature. This would, he said, give the visiting Grand Officer an opportunity to base his talk on the lessons the ritual teaches. There is much in this suggestion to commend.

Hereafter a Companion three years in arrears for dues, whose residence is unknown, may be stricken from the rolls following notification of same at the previous convocation. This often leads one to wonder if paying per capita to Grand Chapter on "dead" material in order to maintain large membership showing, is really profitable or even desirable?

Grand Chapter refused to adopt the report of the Committee on Delinquencies recommending the remission of a fine on a Companion who left in the afternoon, the reason given being on account of the illness of his wife. There are very few cases in which opportunity to make excuse is impossible, but perhaps this was one.

Twenty-seven qualified Companions were set apart to the Order of High Priesthood.

Past Grand High Priest George A. Kies, who is also Grand Secretary, always presents a review of other Grand Chapters that is likewise always as interesting as it is informative, for he knows just how to pick out the best from the other reviews and attach to them a comment that just fits, a qualification not possessed by everybody.

He gives Florida a clean bill of health, for which he will please accept, "Thank you."

Next Annual in Hartford, May 8, 1928.

Edward A. Klatte, Seymour, Grand High Priest;
George A. Kies, Hartford, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

DELAWARE—1927

Chapters, 5. Members, 2,014. Exalted, 44
Net Loss, 54

GEORGE O. FEARON, Grand High Priest

Deaths and suspensions for the year more than double the exaltations, a condition not previously recalled by ye scribe, was reported at the Fifty-ninth Annual, held in Wilmington, Jan. 19, 1927, with all Grand Officers present as well as highly favored sons from many of the nearby Grand Chapters, as well as Florida's Grand Representative.

Official visitations predominate in the address of the Grand High Priest, and for which he is properly commended by the committee and Grand Chapter. His other duties appear to have been light. His one dispensation was for a Chapter to meet half an hour earlier than regular, to care for additional business. But there is nothing to indicate that all members received due and timely notice.

He quite properly commended the splendid work that Past Deputy Grand High Priest Thomas S. Day, Foreign Correspondent for many years, is presenting annually to the several bodies of the Craft.

Tribute was paid to the memory of M.·E.·Comp. Lewis W. Flinn, who was Grand High Priest in 1898. Other members of the Permanent Family who passed away during the year were: R.·E.·Comp. Thomas Huey, Grand Scribe in 1882; R.·E.·Comp. Harris H. Campbell, Grand Treasurer, 1896; R.·E.·Comp. Thomas O. Cooper, Grand Treasurer, 1891.

Reference was made to a charge to be used in the presentation of the apron in the Royal Arch degree, but, of course, not printed.

Five petitioners, one from each Chapter, were set apart to the Order of High Priesthood.

As usual Past Deputy Grand High Priest Thomas J. Day submits an interesting and informative Foreign Correspondence report, in which Florida shares. This is what he says about Florida's review:

We suddenly found, as we turned the first page of his review of Delaware, that we were in the jurisdiction of M.·E.·Comp. George A. Kies, and after scouting around for awhile we were fortunate enough to strike the right trail, and leaving Connecticut return to Delaware.

Next Annual in Wilmington, Jan. 18, 1928.

J. Wallace Woodford, Dover, Grand High Priest;
John W. Macklem, Wilmington, Grand Secretary; Thos.
J. Day, Wilmington, Correspondent.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—1927

Chapters, 16. Members, 6,439. Exalted, 216
Net Loss, 119

DANIEL G. DAVIS, Grand High Priest

Notwithstanding that there was such an unusually large attendance of Grand and Past Grand Officers at the Sixtieth Annual, held in Washington, Feb. 9, 1927, that it "was commented upon," yet Florida's Representative, E.·Comp. Geo. R. Davis did not respond to roll call. Wonder why?

For the last decade of years ye scribe has been reading

addresses of Grand Presiding Officers. Some of them have a distinctive value, not shared by others. The address of Grand High Priest Davis may be said to belong to the latter classification. He modestly says in his "Introduction:"

Men seldom attain all the objectives toward which they set their feet and during my term as Grand High Priest it has been my lot to fall short of the goal which I set out to reach. Perhaps the goal was unattainable, but it surely was no great error to strive for an exalted purpose, even though its accomplishment was improbable.

The busy world today is concerned with what we can do and are doing, not with what we have done. And yet, I believe we would fail to make real progress if we were to discard entirely a proper consideration of past events.

He says he is not able to "see anything encouraging or commendable in net losses in membership." When this does occur he believes it is due to lack of effective leadership on the part of the officers of the Chapter. This ought to be sufficient to induce those in authority to measure up to the requirements.

His one decision was that a continuous residence of one year was necessary before a petition could be accepted, and which is Florida law. There appears to have been few demands made upon him, and his other duties were largely in making the required visitations. His work passed inspection and he was given the wages of a faithful workman.

M. . E. . Comp. Joseph H. Jochum, Grand High Priest in 1881, received his final summons during the year. He also had the uncommon distinction of serving in a clerical capacity in the War Department continuously for fifty-seven years.

Fourteen of the duly qualified Companions were elected and received the Order of High Priesthood. Here-

after, it is presumed the work will be done by a degree team, which is the first appointment of this nature that ye scribe recalls.

Once again Past Grand High Priest W. W. Jermane presents his review of the Doings in the Capitular World, in which he believes that "the worst is over" of the slump that followed the inrush of the war period; and that "while the swing of the pendulum is interesting, it has no threatening implications." He further believes that the slump will be worth what it costs—if the members display the same zeal they are displaying in the Blue Lodges. Another compensation, is the dead charters that are being revoked. But there are still others, and the Grand Chapters which do this sort of pruning, he says, "will be all the better ever afterwards." Let us hope.

His reviews all tend to conciseness, and Florida is given generous attention. He approved the action taken in the matter of weak Chapters, and opines that the sooner Florida gets into the deputy system the better it will be.

Referring to the comments of ye scribe relative to the education bill, he says: "The education bill is the dearest thing in Washington at this time, and there will be no day of resurrection for it."

Next Annual in Washington, Feb. 8, 1928.

Charles R. Bartlett, Grand High Priest; J. Claude Keiper, Grand Secretary; W. W. Jermayne, Correspondent; all at Masonic Temple, Washington.

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER

Florida was represented at the Fortieth Triennial, held in Denver, Colo., Sept. 27 and 28, 1927, by M. E. Comp. Cary B. Fish, Grand High Priest; R. E. Comp. Riley J. McMasters, Deputy Grand High Priest; E. Comp. Chester DeRocher with proxy for Grand Scribe, and Past Grand High Priests Marcus Endel, Elmer E. Haskell, Wm. V. Carter, Henry O. Snow, Ely P. Hubbell and Emmett L. Shear, and also Past High Priest Melvin E. Cole.

These same Companions were also in attendance at the General Grand Council, which was in session the two days previous. M. L. Comp. Riley J. McMaster is the present Grand Master of the Grand Council of Florida.

An instructive feature of Tuesday was the luncheon to the Guild, which is composed of the Secretaries and Fraternal Correspondents of the various Grand Chapters and Grand Councils. Papers of technical importance to the members were presented by Companions Robert A. Woods, of Indiana; Ray V. Denslow, of Missouri, and J. Edward Allen of North Carolina.

M. E. Comp. Henry DeWitt Hamilton became General Grand High Priest on the death during the term of office of M. E. Comp. John Albert Blake, consequently the address of General Grand High Priest Hamilton was necessarily brief. Fortunately no matters of great importance had come up during the Triennial period.

The adoption of the report of the Committee on Education automatically continued the work of the General Grand Royal Arch Educational Bureau, \$1,000 being appropriated to publish such Royal Arch material as may be desired.

The Committee on Ritual made a ruling that certain portions of the ritualistic ceremonies could be abbreviated when working more than one candidate. But this pertained only to Chapters using the General Grand Chapter ritual.

General Grand Chapter adopted the report of the Committee on Foreign Relations relative to the Queensland situation, which is still unchanged. The substance of the report is that all Subordinate Chapters working under the General Grand Chapter can admit members of both of the Queensland Grand Chapters, and recommended that all the Grand Chapters follow the same plan.

General Grand Chapter quite properly, it seems to ye scribe, did not look with favor upon a resolution to make the General Grand Masters of the Veils appointive instead of elective. This action carried with it the suggestion that as the elective officers would commence with the Royal Arch Captain or Principal Sojourner, it might not take so many years to reach the General Grand East. However, as ye scribe understands it, the Masonic Order is not operated to confer honors on its members, but rather that a person is honored when the Craft permits him to enter its service, and official honors come as rewards for special meritorious services rendered.

At the formal opening of the General Grand Chapter Wednesday morning, the Credentials Committee reported 442 delegates present, exceeding any previous General Grand Convocation by about a hundred. This included representatives from every Chapter in Mexico, and proxies for all other Chapters working under the General Grand Chapter.

Thirty-five petitions and four affiliations were the specimens of work from the U. D. Chapter at Monterrey,

Mexico, which was constituted by General Grand High Priest Davis in December. There are also favorable indications that there will soon be a request for a dispensation to form another Chapter in Old Mexico. The time may not be far distant when our next door neighbors to the South will have their own Grand Chapter. So mote it be.

The most distinguished guest in attendance was the Earl of Cassillis, Grand First Principal of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, who was accompanied in his second trip to this country and the Canadian Provinces by Lady Cassillis. British Columbia was represented by M. .E. .Comp. Harry H. Watson, its senior Past Grand Z.; and the trio from Texas, M. .E. .Comp. Dan N. Cushing, Grand High Priest; R. .E. .Comp. T. M. Bartley, Grand Secretary, and M. .E. .Comp. Sam J. Helm, Past Grand High Priest, were so affable and approachable that future General Grand Triennials will sustain a distinct loss by their absence.

General Grand King Charles C. Davis, of Illinois and Florida, was elected General Grand High Priest. This and other conditions created three vacancies when it came to General Grand Masters of Veils, which were filled by the elections of M. .E. .Comps. Ray V. Denslow, of Missouri; William H. Scott, of Rhode Island, and Early H. Johnson, of Georgia. Florida also had a candidate for General Grand Honors, M. .E. .Comp. Henry O. Snow, who was loyally supported, but there were enough votes to elect the others before Florida was reached. However, the three who have received such signal honors are eminently well qualified and they will receive the unqualified support of their Southland Companions.

The next Triennial, in 1930, will be held in Tacoma, Washington, which has already begun to make extensive preparations.

GEORGIA—1927

Chapters, 162. Members, 17,897. Exalted, 921
Net Loss, 511

HUGH W. TAYLOR, Grand High Priest

Notwithstanding the marked net loss in membership over the year previous, optimism appears to characterize the proceedings of the One Hundred and Fifth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Georgia, which was held in Macon, April 27 and 28, 1927. The distinguished visitor was M. .E. .Bert S. Lee, Past Grand High Priest of Missouri and the General Grand Master of the General Grand Council of the United States. Past Grand High Priest Wm. A. Sims, represented Florida.

During the year the final summons came to M. .E. .Comp. Thomas F. Moody, Grand High Priest in 1907.

No Masonic activity of importance to the Royal Craft appears to have been overlooked in the well worded and conscientious address of Grand High Priest Taylor, whose heart and soul seems to have been in the work which he laid out for himself, and right worthily did he perform it.

One of the real investments made by Grand Lodge was establishing a print shop in the Masonic Home and its value is established. As a supplement to this form of industrial education Grand Lodge at its last Annual Communication made an appropriation towards establishing

a Royal Arch Craft shop, which plan was approved by the Grand High Priest and is being worked out.

The Grand High Priest refused to grant a dispensation to form a new Chapter, because it would conflict with the Code which forbids the establishment of a new Chapter within seven miles of one already in existence.

Among his rulings was one that the High Priest of a Chapter could appoint an investigating committee on a date other than at a regular convocation night, but the Jurisprudence committee did not approve.

An approved Chapter by-law provides for raising its fees from \$30.00 to \$40.00 and its dues from \$3.00 to \$5.00, the excess in each case to be set aside as a separate fund for paying off a subscription fund and other building expenses.

The Grand High Priest disciplined a Chapter Secretary by suspending him from office for being negligent and dilatory in submitting reports and failing to promptly answer inquiries. Wonder if that might not be done elsewhere?

He desired to go on record as being whole-heartedly in favor of Chapter District Conventions.

It has been a custom to set apart some one day in honor of some one distinguished Mason, and he recommended that this year it be in memory of his grandfather, M. E. Comp. James W. Taylor, who was General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter. Special diplomas are granted to all candidates exalted on these special days. Special dispensations are given Chapters to receive petitions, ballot on same, and confer the degrees on those occasions. The importance attached to these reunions is further emphasized in the report of Grand Lecturer McHan, who states, "about one-half of the exalta-

tions of the entire year occurs at the Spring and Fall Reunions." This causes ye scribe to wonder if the large number of suspensions for non-payments of dues as reported this year has any connection with these reunions of previous years?

His visitations lead him to the conclusion that the "lack of fervency and zeal" in Chapters in many cases is due to "having the wrong man as High Priest," but, he says, "there is no decrease in interest among the rank and file."

It begins to look as though Pennsylvania was in danger of Capitular isolation, for Georgia has gone on record: "that no Companion hailing from the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania who has not received the Past Master's degree be permitted to visit any of the Chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction."

A goodly number of qualified Companions were set apart to the Order of High Priesthood, and the others are missing something really worth while.

Excellent Companion Pleasant T. McCutcheon again submitted a report on correspondence that ought to be read by every Royal Arch Mason in Georgia, and those who do not are passing up much valuable information.

He approved the address of Grand High Priest T. T. Todd, in his review of Florida, because it was not a long one, and "was crowded with meaty details of a well-balanced and successful administration." He also has a kind word to say for other parts of the review.

Next Annual in Macon, April 25 and 26, 1928.

M. Frank Wells, Atlanta, Grand High Priest; Edgar McHan, Macon, Grand Secretary; P. T. McCutcheon, Franklin, Correspondent.

IDAHO—1927

Chapters, 24. Members 2,719. Exalted, 101
Net Loss, 56

HOWARD R. McBRIDE, Grand High Priest

Among the distinguished visitors at the Nineteenth Annual Convocation, held in Twin Falls, May 18 and 19, 1927, was R. E. Sir. John Brown, Grand Commander, K. T., of Montana, as well as most of the officers of the Grand Commandery of Idaho, but no one to represent Florida.

Much of the address of Grand High Priest McBride concerned necessary routine matters. He granted two dispensations for Chapters to make pilgrimages and confer degrees, which sometimes causes one to wonder just what the net gain may be to the Chapter or what additional interest or enthusiasm may be aroused?

A Companion signed a Chapter petition for affiliation, giving his Lodge membership. He later dimitted from that Lodge and filed his petition with his dimit in another Lodge the day before his Chapter petition for affiliation was presented, and the High Priest refused to accept the Chapter petition for affiliation. The Grand High Priest ruled, "I cannot see how the High Priest could have done other than he did."

Responding to the request of the Grand Commander of Knights Templar he gave an appropriate sentiment for Christmas Observance, in which he says in part:

I greet you as members of an Order which stands as a living link between the dead past and the ever-present; and which teaches the greatness of the simple and true things of life, in short, a genuine and living brotherhood of men, one life, one God, one destiny.

Three of the special dispensations granted by the Grand High Priest were to elect and install officers out of time, which prompted the Jurisprudence Committee to suggest that before any dispensation for the election of officers out of time be granted, the Grand High Priest should make strict inquiry if the failure is due to carelessness or inattention on the part of the officers.

Grand Chapter has invited the Grand Lodge to become sponsor in its Masonic Charities Fund, agreeing that it will levy a per capita tax equal to a similar amount by the Grand Lodge, and Grand Commandery will be asked to participate in a similar way. This fund is to be used "in the alleviation of suffering and misfortune greater than can be met by individual effort."

Chairman George E. Knepper again presents a readable and instructive Fraternal Correspondence Report of those proceedings which came to his desk. But apparently Florida with a few others in some way must have miscarried, which is greatly regretted.

Next Annual in Boise, May 20 and 21, 1928.

George O. Buhn, Boise, Grand High Priest; Edward H. Way, Boise, Grand Secretary; George E. Knepper, (?), Correspondent.

ILLINOIS—1927

Chapters, 241. Members, 91,573. Exalted, 3,969
Net Gain, 1,004

WILLIS McFEELY, Grand High Priest

Doubly honored was the Seventy-eighth Annual Convocation held in Chicago, Oct. 27 and 28, 1927, in having as its most distinguished guest the General Grand

High Priest of the General Grand Chapter, M. E. Comp. Chas. C. Davis, who is also a Past Grand High Priest of Illinois. There were also present Grand Chapter Officers from Michigan and Indiana. And this is the reason given why Florida was not represented by Past Grand High Priest W. B. Carlock:

For the benefit of our Florida Companions, Florida's Grand Representative is getting along in years and physically unable to attend Grand Chapter any more. He has served his full time and is now entitled to rest from his labors.

Two members of the Permanent Family were called to their reward: M. E. Comp. Nathaniel Bowditch, Grand High Priest in 1900, and M. E. Comp. George M. Moulton, Grand High Priest in 1895. Companion Moulton probably held more Masonic offices than any other Mason of the present generation.

Notwithstanding the Grand Chapter of Illinois nearly if not quite leads in point of membership, yet so smoothly did matters Capitular move along that it took less than seven pages of the Proceedings for Grand High Priest McFeely to render an account of his stewardship for the year, and one of those pages covered an Edict restoring fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, after a break of over forty years, brought about by an invasion by the former body of the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Quebec. He also issued another edict similar in purport to those by most other Grand Chapters relative to the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania eliminating the Past Master's degree.

His one ruling was that a Chapter had no right to offer a cash reward for the arrest and conviction of the murder of one of their members who had only received

his Mark Master degree; although it was desirous that the Craft do all they could, yet he believed individual action would be more affective than by a Chapter. Grand Chapter clarified the decision by adding, "that the Chapter would not have been justified in expending the money for that purpose if the Brother had been a Royal Arch Mason."

He recommended that Chapter by-laws be changed so that a Companion residing in the Illinois Masonic Home will be exempt from dues to his Chapter, and likewise from Grand Chapter per capita tax. He was particularly pleased that during the year it had not been necessary to discipline either a Chapter or any of the members.

The numerous necessary official acts of the Grand High Priest as well as the District Inspectors' reports appear as an Addenda.

The reports of the several committees were substantially approvals of the matter referred to them.

The oration of Grand Chaplain Ralph A. Harris was a consideration of the finer sentiments and deeper issues which he found imbedded in the rich fabric of Royal Arch Masonry, and in which, he continues:

The high and gleaming hope of Masonry today finds its justification in its ability to identify itself with the spiritual realities of man's nature. Herein lies the secret of our past glory and herein lies the promise of our future strength.

Grand Chapter apparently did not want to go on record as permanently fixing the compensation of the chairman of the Committee on Fraternal Relations at \$500.00, but it did recommend an additional compensation of \$150.00 to the chairman, "on account of the very excellent and efficient report submitted at this convocation of

the Grand Chapter." But as Companion Turnbull's reports are always of that character, there is little doubt what future actions of Grand Chapter will be, so long as the present incumbent continues.

The Holy Order of High Priesthood must be appreciated in Illinois, for 110 petitioners were anointed and set apart.

Past Grand High Priest Everett R. Turnbull, who again presents an excellent report on Fraternal Relations, discusses the unusual decrease in membership; but does not wholly agree with the conclusions reached by some, that Masonry is alone in having uninterested members. He further adds:

We are told how much better the attendance was when the fathers of blessed memory, were living. Statistics have recently estimated that one hundred years ago the average person had seventy-two wants of which sixteen were necessities; today the same estimates shows 484 with ninety-four considered necessary. Furthermore a century ago about 200 articles were offered for sale, whereas now there are about 32,000. Consider also the small number of books and magazines that are of real value to mankind in proportion to those that are merely exciting and have no character uplift. The worthwhile things are going to last, but they must be of proven value. There is no reason to be discouraged. "Be patient, therefore, and work."

He finds much in Florida to attract his attention and notes that the action of Florida in the Pennsylvania matter is in line with the edict issued by the Grand High Priest of Illinois.

Next Annual in Chicago, Oct. 25 and 26, 1928.

Charles S. Andrus, Springfield, Grand High Priest;
James E. Jeffers, Springfield, Grand Secretary; E. R. Turnbull, Carlinville, Correspondent.

INDIANA—1927

Chapters, 119. Members, 33,475. Exalted 1,207
Net Gain, 57

ELEAZER KNIGHT AMSDEN, Grand High Priest

With returns from all its Chapters and Representatives from 114 of the 119 Chapters in its Jurisdiction, the Eighty-second Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Indiana assembled at Marion, October 19, 1927. Florida was represented by Companion Donald J. Pickett, of Greenfield. All Grand Officers were in their stations, a large number of Past Grand Officers and distinguished guests were present, the latter being received with the usual formality and the proceedings are made to say:

It is wholesome to have these visitors attend our sessions each year, and Grand Chapter welcomes them most heartily. May they, and others, frequently meet with us, that we may learn to know and love each other better.

The Grand High Priest paid tribute to the vacant station of M. . E. . Comp. William W. Ross, Grand High Priest in 1918, who passed away on June 5, 1927. Four hundred and twenty-four Companions, members of this Grand Jurisdiction, were summoned to that country from whose bourne no traveler returns.

During the year two Chapters were constituted and dedicated and their officers installed. Four Chapters were consolidated, which furnishes food for some speculation to us in Florida. What is the trouble? Apparently too many small, weak Chapters?

The Grand High Priest issued an average number of dispensations, most of them for election and installation of officers. In the case of two dispensations issued, he later decided they were unnecessary; and in another his opinion was that it was irregular, but the Jurisprudence Committee, however, approved. Two decisions also receiving approval of the committee were:

Is it necessary to confer the Past Masters degree upon one who has received the degree in a Lodge of actual Past Masters?

Decision: If he received the degree on or before February 1, 1922. No; after that date, Yes.

In the other decision the Grand High Priest held that "legal residence" determined Chapter jurisdiction.

Under the head of "Irregular Suspensions," the Grand High Priest takes a fling at a Chapter where seven Companions were removed from the good standing column, evidently for non-payment of dues in their Blue Lodge. The action of the Chapter was cancelled and the Jurisprudence Committee approved. We handle them somewhat differently.

It is pleasing to see the interest Grand Chapter takes in the Masonic Home and the acts are worthy of emulation.

The Grand High Priest offers a "working plan," which seems worthy of being made the rule of Royal Arch Chapters generally:

(A) Officers must know their ritual and be alert and active.

(B) Capitular booklets should be obtained from the General Grand Secretary, Coldwater, Michigan, for widening information and increasing interest.

(C) Lodges must be visited and assisted, for they are the source of your material; a dead Lodge, a dead Chapter.

(D) Social functions must be fairly frequent, as a means of creating and maintaining interest and enthusiasm.

The Grand Lecturer reported that he visited all but two Chapters during the year, which means that he made 117 official visits; quite an accomplished caller, we would say.

The list of elective officers in the Grand Chapter is somewhat different to Florida. Indiana elects the officers down to and including the Grand Royal Arch Captain.

The Grand Secretary invited attention to the existence of two clandestine Chapters within the Jurisdiction of Indiana. These are: Garfield No. 9, at Marion; and Ivanhoe No. 17, at Rushville. Florida Chapters might well heed the admonition of the Grand Secretary and check up on visiting Companions.

The Report on Correspondence is by M. E. Comp. Robert Archer Woods, Grand Secretary, who gives Florida liberal space and attention, but fails to understand how "Labor was dispensed with and a Lodge of Mark Masters was opened" and asserts that it "looks illegal from start to finish." We regret that our work does not meet the approval of the Most Excellent Companion, but since it was done by a regular Chapter, at the invitation of the Grand High Priest, and in the presence of the Grand Chapter, and since it is a regular practice (see Proceedings of previous years) to have some Chapter put on the work before the Grand Chapter, we fail to find any grounds for questioning the legality of the action of the Grand Chapter of Florida. We trust that the Most Excellent Reviewer of Indiana will honor us at some time with a visit to our Grand Chapter and see for himself that we are a pretty regular bunch.

Next Annual in Gary, October 17, 1928.

Mark L. Dickover, Valparaiso, Grand High Priest;
Robert A. Wood, Princeton, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

IOWA—1927

Chapters, 125. Members, 23,190. Exalted, 759
Net Loss, 539

JAMES HAMLIN STERLING, Grand High Priest

With all Grand Chapter Officers in their stations, the Seventy-fourth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter was held at the Masonic Temple in Creston, commencing October 13, 1927. Florida was represented by M. E. Comp. Arthur D. Meeker. The presiding officers of the Grand Council, Grand Commandery and Grand Lodge of Iowa were among the distinguished visitors present and were received with the customary Grand Honors.

Grand High Priest Sterling reported that "The condition of Capitular Masonry in Iowa is better than it has been for the past two or three years," and he believed that they had reached the bottom of the depression and were justified in looking forward to a more solid growth.

One hundred and twenty-five Chapters made returns for 1926, and the Grand High Priest classified them as: 36 real good Chapters, 38 as fair, 38 as poor and 13 as very poor. This classification furnishes food for thought, for he finds in the "good" Chapters, the officers are good workmen, who give their time and energy in order to properly and impressively exemplify the degrees. In the "fair" group the officers are not so ambitious, but de-

pend more upon the older members doing the work, or inviting other Chapters to do the work for them. In the group classed as "poor" the officers make little or no effort to qualify themselves for their position, are seldom in attendance at their Chapter Convocations and do little except find fault. We wonder if this survey and classification could not be applied in Florida with profit to ourselves and credit to the fraternity.

The Grand High Priest deplored the fact that so few Royal Arch Masons aspired to the honor of becoming efficient in the work, and he lauded the efforts of the Grand Custodians which seems to be well merited. The entire report of the Grand High Priest is a most interesting article, well worth reading by members of other Grand Jurisdictions.

No dispensation to form new Chapters were requested, and one Chapter surrendered its charter. Dispensations to elect and install officers were issued to seven Chapters. No "decisions" were necessary, which speaks well for the Code of Laws and the type of men at the head of the particular Chapters of that Grand Jurisdiction.

Peace and harmony seems to prevail, all Chapters having made their annual reports and all dues having been paid.

During the year, three hundred and seven Companions of this Jurisdiction answered the last roll call, and among the honored dead, Florida is represented by M. E. Comp. Irving E. Webster, Grand High Priest in 1892.

The Report on Correspondence is again by M. E. Edward M. Willard, and Florida is complimented by generous space.

Next Annual at Ottumwa, Oct. 18, 1928.

Percy E. Brown, Ames, Grand High Priest; Orvis F. Graves, Harlan, Grand Secretary; Edward M. Willard, Atlantic, Correspondent.

KANSAS—1927

Chapters, 96. Members, 21,755. Exalted, 824
Net Gain, 32

GEORGE W. TROUT, Grand High Priest

For some reason Florida was not represented at the Sixty-second Annual, held in Wichita, Feb. 21 and 22, 1927, but all the Grand Officers were present as well as many Past Grands and lesser lights.

High standards and conscientious service appear to have been uppermost in the mind of Grand High Priest Trout in his address, in which he rendered an account of his stewardship for the year. He is optimistic of the future of Capitular Masonry in the Sunflower State, for he found by actual visitation and also by correspondence "a desire in almost every Chapter to carry on in a better fashion and more nearly true manner to the Ancient Landmarks of the institution than ever before." And the small margin of increase in membership is due, he states, to his insisting that the Chapters enforce the law relative to the suspension of Companions more than two years in arrears. It is gratifying to note that Masonic Bodies generally are awaking to this requirement for stability and progress, and is just as essential, as ye scribe looks at it, as is good discipline which is respect for law and authority.

To one who is accustomed to a stated time for election of officers as well as for installation, as is the case in all Florida Masonic Bodies, it is no wonder that the Grand High Priest is called upon to issue so many dispensations for these purposes, which is one instance brought out this comment, and which might not meet with the full approval of Florida Jurisconsults:

Your Grand High Priest feels that there could at least have been a meeting held either early in the evening or late in the evening for the transaction of the business of the Chapter. However, since it was not done, it became necessary to issue this dispensation.

He recommended the appointment of two new permanent standing Committees—Finance and Charity, and Grand Chapter approved. Believing that Kansas Craftsmen should have some share in relieving the distress occasioned by the Florida storm, he ordered "\$300.00 as a donation" be sent direct to the Grand Master. He refused to grant a dispensation for a Chapter to confer the Mark Master's degree in an abandoned quarry.

He believed that Capitular Masonry should not in either Chapter and Lodge rooms "resort to light and frivolous entertainment in an effort to create interest" and that there should be a law which would specifically indicate the purposes for which the funds of the Chapter could be used. Apparently this was overlooked. But it was found that it was impractical to enforce the requirement that a Companion must show his Master Mason receipt when paying his dues.

Among those who answered the final roll call was M. E. Comp. Samuel E. Busser, Grand High Priest in 1896.

In the biography accompanying the cut of Grand High Priest Trout is this very uncommon statement:

He has the distinction of having three sons who are Masons, all of whom were "raised" by him. The eldest of these three sons was made a Master Mason while his father was Master of the Lodge, Royal Arch Mason during the High Priesthood of his father, and a Knight Templar, while his father was Eminent Commander.

More than half a hundred qualified Companions were set apart to the Order of High Priesthood.

Much valuable information is found in the well prepared Report on Correspondence by Grand Secretary Albert K. Wilson. The reaction he gets from the Proceedings of the year is not overly encouraging, for he finds the loss in membership in eleven Grand Chapters, "the greatest ever sustained in any one year in Royal Arch Masonry," and further:

The general aspect of most of the addresses of the Grand High Priests indicate a lack of interest and the absence of personal supervision through official visits to the Chapters in their respective Jurisdictions.

He quoted freely from the "splendid address" of Grand High Priest T. T. Todd and apparently approved his other acts. Evidently ye scribe did not make himself clear in explaining why one year's proceedings failed to be reviewed. He had no intention whatever of attaching any responsibility to Grand Secretary Wilson.

Next Annual in Topeka, Feb. 20 and 21, 1928.

James E. McClelland, Independence, Grand High Priest; W. K. Wilson, Topeka, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

KENTUCKY—1927

Chapters, 187. Members, 18,447. Advance, 607
Net Loss, 842

VIRGIL P. SMITH, Grand High Priest

Seemingly most everybody that ought to be, including the Grand High Priest himself to represent Florida, were in attendance, when the One Hundred and Tenth Annual Convocation was formally opened in Louisville, Oct. 18, 1927.

Grand High Priest Smith, in rendering an account of his stewardship, rejoiced at the condition of Capitular Masonry in the jurisdiction, but, he added, "there is room for improvement." Although the records show quite a loss in membership, he does not consider it alarming, for, he believes conditions will adjust themselves and Capitular Masonry will not suffer thereby.

As a result of the inspections he found that many Chapters are trying to get along on small dues, some as low as one dollar per year. Grand Chapter adopted the report of the Committee on Inspection "that no subordinate Chapter in Kentucky be permitted to charge less than two dollars per year for dues." Only one out of the eleven appointed inspectors completed their work within the required time.

By the donation of \$30,000 by the Grand Chapter to the building committee of the Widows and Orphans Home, one of the structures will be designated as "The Building of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky, Royal Arch Masons."

Some confusion seems to have arisen among the workmen connected with the conduct of the Masons'

Home, states the Grand High Priest, through the circulation of "anonymous letters written by some irresponsible Profligate," but investigation showed there were no foundation for the charges.

Owing to illness in the early part of the year he made but few visitations. A notable one was to a Louisville Chapter where all the degrees were conferred on a class of sixteen, all of whom were members of the police force of that city.

Although a special dispensation was issued to one Chapter to hold a neglected election, yet the activity was short lived, and later the Grand High Priest deemed it advisable to take up the charter. Also under similar conditions another Chapter surrendered its charter.

A number of Companions were granted dimits for the purpose of forming a new Chapter, which later failed to materialize. These Companions then presented their dimits back to their old Chapter, but each was required to present a formal application for admission, on the claim that the dimits were not provisional, and four were black-balled and rejected. The Grand High Priest ruled that although not so stated, yet the dimits were of necessity provisional, and of course he directed that the Companions were without further action of the Chapter members in good standing as if no dimit had been issued.

An "Illinois Central Degree Team" had been formed in Louisville for the purpose of assisting neighboring Chapters and stimulating interest in Capitular Masonry. Replying to an inquiry, the Grand High Priest ruled there would be no impropriety in using stationery bearing that name and giving the list of officers.

He fell in line with other Grand Chapters and issued an edict prohibiting visitation by Companions from Pennsylvania who had not received the Past Master's Degree.

He found that many of the Secretaries and Treasurers or Subordinate Chapters were not under bond, and he recommended putting in operation a system of collective bonding for these officers.

All the official acts and rulings of the Grand High Priest were approved.

Notwithstanding the net loss in membership, the report of the Grand Secretary is optimistic. Readings and observations by ye scribe inclines him to agree with the Grand Secretary that not only Chapters, but the Craft generally, are going forward with the best class of Masonic citizenship arrayed in line, and that they are becoming more careful in the selection of new members, and only those applicants will be taken in who have due regard for all the substantial requirements of their Masonic obligations.

Many matters of more than passing importance appear in the Grand Secretary Holland's report, in which the Blue Grass Companions are specially informed, and which also shows conclusively that the General Grand Chapter made no mistake in selecting M. .E. .Comp. G. Allison Holland one of its standard bearers.

The Board of Directors of the school connected with the Widows and Orphans Home decided to retain the graduates of the common school grades for an additional two years, which in the opinion of the Educational Trustees was "a mistake," for, the Trustees say:

There is no disputing the fact that the child reared in our Home is, at the arrival of the age of retirement therefrom, unsophisticated in the ways of the world and unable to make his way

without assistance. The placing of a Home graduate in an approved school out in the State compels the child to exercise some discretion for himself and to take sufficient initiative to begin life's battle successfully, especially when he has the counsel of the Trustees to assist him in his new experience. This exposes the child to more real "higher education" of a practical sort than if he remained under the classical and technical tutelage of the Home until he should reach maturity.

There is much of information in the Report of the Doings of Other Grand Chapters by E. Comp. William W. Clarke, who as Past Grand Master also holds a similar place in the Grand Lodge, and who confines his pertinent comments to the Grand Body being reviewed, thus obviating either a "head" or a "tail." Ye scribe is not sure but that is a better way.

Companion Clarke quotes freely from several parts of the Florida Proceedings and his kind words are much appreciated.

Next Annual in Louisville, Oct. 15 and 16, 1928.

Guy Johnson, Lexington, Grand High Priest; G. Allison Holland, Grand Secretary; W. W. Clarke, Owensboro, Correspondent.

LOUISIANA—1927

Chapters, 57. Members, 9,313. Exalted, 496
Net Loss, 48

HENRY W. PALFREY, Grand High Priest

Representatives from a few Subordinate Chapters and the Grand Representative from Florida, appear to be about all the absentees when the roll was called at the

Eighteenth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, held in New Orleans, Feb. 8 and 9, 1927.

So smoothly did matters Capitular move along during the year of service that Grand High Priest Palfrey found comparatively little to present in his address. He stated that the failure to report an increase in membership was due to economic conditions rather than other causes. He found it necessary twice to discipline Chapters by reasons of "horseplay," and which he believed was due to lack of appreciation of the solemnity and significance of the lessons meant to be taught. No Charters were forfeited during the year and one dispensation for a new Chapter was issued. Commendable was the conclusion he reached that in the matter of visitations he would be of more service to the Order by visiting the weak and almost defunct Chapters. He was gratified to report that the results, in which he was supported by his Deputies, more than met expectations. It is gratifying to note that other Grand High Priests are pursuing similar methods and that they are likewise getting results. It is the smaller and weaker Chapters that need encouragement and the visits of the Grand High Priests usually produce very gratifying results. Let the good work go on.

The only decision of the Grand High Priest pertained to local conditions and would be good law anywhere.

Grand Chapter looked with favor upon adopting a model set of by-laws for the use of Subordinate Chapters. Hereafter the Grand High Priest will have authority to "appoint as many Deputies as may be necessary." All the official acts of Grand High Priest Palfrey were approved. The next Grand Chapter will decide if the title Right Excellent properly may be applied to Grand Treasurer

and Grand Secretary. Florida as well as many other Grand Jurisdictions, so designate those two officials.

Only ten qualified Companions sought the Order of High Priesthood. The others are missing something worth while.

More space is given to the Returns of Constituent Chapters than to the Report on Foreign Correspondence by the Committee Chairman, Grand Secretary John A. Davilla. And we venture the assertion that the latter is read by many more members than the former. His report is as informative as the limited space will permit.

Under Florida he thinks Grand High Priest Todd "takes a pessimistic view of state conditions," and then quotes from his address, although it may be doubtful if he proves his contentions. He thinks the Deputy System is a step in the right direction, "provided these Companions do their full duty."

Next Annual in New Orleans, Feb. 7 and 8, 1928.

C. F. Ratcliff, Baton Rouge, Grand High Priest;
John A. Davilla, New Orleans, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

MAINE—1927

Chapters, 69. Members, 17,944. Exalted, 610
Net Gain, 213

GEORGE H. BANGS, Grand High Priest

Two Special Convocations of Grand Chapter were held during the year for the purpose of constituting new Chapters, and at one of these occasions the stations of Grand King and Grand Scribe were held by the High

Priests respectively of the oldest Chapter and the youngest constituted Chapter in the State.

Massachusetts, New Hampshire and New York sent distinguished sons to grace the One Hundred and Second Annual Convocation, held in Portland, May 3 and 4, 1927, Florida being represented by Past Grand Scribe Oren W. Ripley.

Grand High Priest Bangs is encouraged over the improvement in Capitular conditions, the study of which he stated in his address had been his hobby during the years he had been engaged in Royal Craft service, the substance of which is, "the more you put into a really worthwhile project, the greater will be your returns."

Although the previous Annual Grand Chapter had recommended taking up the charter of one Chapter, yet the Grand High Priest decided to extend clemency, and another opportunity was given it to show new life.

He recommended that Chapters using the moon schedule change their by-laws and fix a definite date. But for some reason Grand Chapter was not in accord. Wonder why? Neither was it in accord with his recommendation to restrict the term of office of Grand High Priest to one year. Also wonder why? We did not suppose there was any shortage of well qualified Grand High Priest material in Maine.

"Unavoidable circumstances" prevented his accepting only one interjurisdictional visitation, but he made quite a number of Inspections. No decisions appear to have been required.

Grand Chapter did not place its seal of approval upon a constitutional amendment which would make Life Members of Companions who had been Royal Arch Masons in good standing for fifty years.

Grand Chapter decided to allow \$200.00 expense money to each Past Grand High Priest who attended the coming Triennial.

Thirty-three qualified Companions were set apart to the Order of High Priesthood. This Order has over \$2,600.00 in its treasury and it is still growing. Wonder what use will be made of this increasing fund?

Past Grand High Priest Thomas H. Bodge again presents a really worth while Report on Correspondence which combines all the requisites of good sense, good reason and good English. May he be given to drink of the spring of perpetual youth, for his words of wisdom are needed in the Capitular world.

He quotes judiciously from the address of Grand High Priest T. T. Todd as well as from other portions of the Proceedings. While he tacitly approves the conferring of all the Chapter Degrees upon several candidates before Grand Chapter, yet he surmises that "the inquiry regarding suitable proficiency was answered rather carelessly." Referring to the much discussed "promotion in line" question, he says:

Why not try our Maine way of considering no one "in line," though we do almost always advance the Deputy Grand High Priest to Grand High Priest and frequently the Grand King to Deputy, but all appointed officers from the Grand Chapter of the Host down are merely the appointees of the Grand High Priest during his term and do not consider themselves in line. It works splendidly with us.

Next Annual in Portland, May 2 and 3, 1928.

Convers E. Leach, Portland, Grand High Priest; Charles B. Davis, Portland, Grand Secretary; Thomas H. Bodge, Augusta Correspondent.

MANITOBA—1927

F. W. BROWNELL, Grand Z

All of the sixteen Chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction were represented at the Fourth Annual, held in Winnipeg, Feb. 2, 1927, which included two that had been working under dispensation. Practically no statistical information is given.

General optimism pervades the address of the Grand Z. in which he stresses friendship and fellowship, and throughout his visitations he sought to impress the thought that fraternalism develops friendship, and if that were all that were accomplished, he says, he would still insist "that our organization is worth while." He also endeavored to convince the Companions that there should be no dull Chapters; in fact, he says, "an inactive Chapter is worse than if it did not exist."

He was not called upon to make any rulings or decisions, neither had there been any conflicts nor disturbances. This left nothing but routine work for the Grand Executive Committee, and of course the report was adopted.

Pressure of business prevented E. Comp. John Par-ton from having his report on Foreign Correspondence completed at the time of the Annual, neither did it appear in the Proceedings.

Next Annual in Winnipeg, Feb. 1, 1928.

Robert Hawkins, Dauphin, Grand Z.; Frank W. Brownell, 82 McAdam Ave., Winnipeg, Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND—1927

Chapters, 27. Members, 9,832. Exalted, 360
Net Gain, 116

CHARLES W. ZIMMERMANN, Grand High Priest

Apparently every Chapter Representative, all the Grand Officers, a dozen Past Grands as well as Past High Priests from nearly every Chapter were present when the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Annual opened in Baltimore, Dec. 14, 1927, with Past Grand High Priest Gassaway to speak for Florida. This Grand Chapter has a pretty custom of welcoming the Past Grand High Priests and also of presenting and introducing the newly-Anointed High Priests-elect.

Having a double duty to perform, being Grand Commander as well as Grand High Priest, he entrusted the matter of visitations largely to the Grand Inspectors. In that way every Chapter was officially visited. Notwithstanding special purging of the rolls, yet he was pleased to report a net increase in membership. His efforts to bring the need of the Royal Arch Degree to Master Masons has resulted in a better understanding of that degree. Urgent duties requiring personal attention prevented him accepting several interjurisdictional invitations.

One of the dispensations granted was to march and wear aprons at an Armistice Day celebration; while those which he refused were to hold regular convocations on dates other than provided in the by-laws.

Grand Chapter approved his recommendation that the names of suspended and expelled members should not be printed in the Proceedings. It also believed that those who have lost membership in the Lodge should be dropped from the rolls, but it was not prepared to submit a remedy.

He feared there still existed some of the rough procedure in the floor work and he suggested the appointment of a committee to investigate and report a year hence. But Grand Chapter evidently thought he was mistaken, for no action seems to have been taken. Most of the committees reported "Nothing doing."

Following the anointing and consecrating of the several High Priests-elect, Companion Gustav Eitel, who had been President for several years of the Order of High Priesthood, requested that his name be not considered for President and the former Vice President, Comp. William B. King, was elected President, while the other officers were moved up one notch.

Florida as well as the Proceedings of other Grand Chapters are concisely reviewed by Rev. Henry Branch, D. D. He quotes from the address of Grand High Priest Todd relative to friendship, and from the Jurisprudence Committee relative to dignified ritualistic work. He seldom makes any reference to the work of The Guild.

Next Annual in Baltimore, Dec. 13, 1928.

Warren A. Seipp, Grand High Priest; Gustav A. Eitel, Grand Secretary; Rev. Henry Branch, D. D., Correspondent; all of Masonic Temple, Baltimore.

MASSACHUSETTS—1927

Chapters, 98. Members, 41,844. Exalted, 1,129
Net Loss, 16

HARRY G. POLLARD, Grand High Priest

The One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter was held at the Masonic Temple, Boston, December 13, 1927. A Special Convo-

cation was held at West Springfield, December 16, 1926, for the constitution of Kingsway Royal Arch Chapter. Quarterly Convocations were held March 8, 1927; June 7, 1927, and September 13, 1927. Florida was not represented at any of the Convocations.

Memorials to illustrious dead were presented for R. E. Comp. James S. Blake, Deputy Grand High Priest 1914; R. E. Comp. Wallace C. Keith, Grand Scribe 1925; R. E. Comp. Enoch G. Best, Grand King 1880, and R. E. Comp. Edwin S. Crandon, Deputy Grand High Priest, 1909.

The Capitular degrees were exemplified under the direction of the Grand Lecturers, the time consumed for the four degrees being four hours and fifty-five minutes.

A number of distinguished visitors were present and were invited to seats in the East.

The report of the Grand High Priest shows a large number of visitations and a resume of the Convocations attended. He issued an edict preventing Royal Arch Masons exalted after December, 1926, in the Grand Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, from affiliating with or visiting a Chapter in Massachusetts until he shall have been "healed."

The report of the Treasurer and Trustees show that the Grand Chapter is richly endowed with this world's goods.

The Companions were fortunate in hearing a beautiful address by Comp. Rev. Harry E. Hurd on the subject "Building the Temple." We regret that the limited space will not permit us to reproduce his address in this review.

On March 8, 1927, thirty-seven Excellent Companions were elected to the Order of High Priesthood, thirty-

one of those being present, they were anointed and set apart to the Order. R. E. Charles E. Prior was elected President, but on April 20, 1927, his station became vacant and his light extinguished forever, so on December 13, 1927, a special Convention was held and Excellent Julian C. Woodman was elected and installed President of the Order of High Priesthood in Massachusetts.

The Capitular Review is by M. E. Frederick T. Comee, the Grand Secretary, and is replete with data excellently presented and arranged. Florida received honorable mention.

Winthrop J. Cushing, Hingham, Grand High Priest; Frederick T. Comee, Boston, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

MINNESOTA—1927

Chapters, 87. Members, 16,026. Exalted, 560
Net Gain, 13

THOMAS MORRIS, Grand High Priest

Shrouded in a pall of gloom caused by the death of both the Grand King and Grand Scribe during the preceding year, the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Minnesota met in St. Paul, October 11, 1927, in its Sixty-sixth Annual Convocation. Florida was not numbered among the representatives of other Grand Jurisdictions.

M. E. Comp. Wm. T. Drips, Past Grand High Priest of Washington, and M. I. Comp. Robt. Firth, Grand Master Royal and Select Masters of Minnesota, were present and were received with the usual ceremonies.

The Grand High Priest, M. E. Comp. Thomas Morris, opened his address with a glowing tribute to R. E. Comp. Leonard C. Weeks, Grand Scribe, whose death occurred December 19, 1926; R. E. Comp. Ambrose D. Countryman, who passed away on February 23, 1927, and M. E. Comp. John T. Johnson, Grand High Priest in 1910.

No new Chapters were constituted during the year, one dispensation was issued to a Chapter U. D., to be known as Lake Harriet Chapter. A charter was granted this Chapter.

The Florida hurricane sufferers and the Mississippi flood victims received liberal donations.

The Grand High Priest held that "It was not a proper thing to do" to permit churches and other outside organizations to use the Chapter robes for putting on tableaux, etc., and the committee approved his decision.

The Grand High Priest declined to issue a dispensation to ballot on candidates short of time, because "I do not have power to change the regulations." He also reported that the Grand Lecturer system has not proved the success hoped for, but the Grand Chapter decided to continue the system another year with the same financial support as given in the year just passed. Florida has no Lecturers, but we understand the system is very successful in the Jurisdictions where it is established.

The Committee on Chapters reported that twenty-five per cent of the Chapters in Minnesota were considered dormant and another twenty-five per cent were not able to function properly. The committee recommended the creation of a contingent fund and broadening of his authority as well as the removal of certain restrictions of the Grand Lecturer. Grand Chapter approved.

The Grand Chapter adopted a committee recommendation that the Grand Chapter of New South Wales be recognized and that Grand Representatives be exchanged.

The report of the Committee on Correspondence is by E. Comp. Chas. S. Schurman and is his sixth. Florida is given generous attention and we feel highly complimented.

Next Annual, St. Paul, October 9, 1928.

Chas. V. McCoy, Duluth, Grand High Priest; John Fishel, St. Paul, Grand Secretary; Chas. S. Schurman, St. Paul, Correspondent.

MISSISSIPPI—1927

Chapters, 66. Members, 7,618. Exalted, 357
Net Loss, 65

IRVIN M. MOODY, Grand High Priest

Florida's Representative, Past Grand High Priest James T. Harrison, next to the ranking dean of the Permanent Officers, was not present at the Sixty-ninth Annual, held in Meridian, April 12, 1927.

Two matters which stand out prominently in the official year of Grand High Priest Moody were the agreement that the Annual meeting of the Grand Chapter should be on Tuesday, the Grand Council on Wednesday and the Grand Commandery on Thursday and Friday of the same week; and the matter of establishing a Central office from which the work of the three Bodies could be carried on in a more systematic order, and which will be under the direction of the Grand Lecturer of the three Bodies, Companion Wm. H. Carter.

Not being satisfied with the continued inactivity of some Chapters, it was the suggestion of the Grand High Priest that the charters be surrendered and the members who are interested transferred to live Chapters who are working. During the year two such consolidations were made, and it was intimated that others may follow.

At the Annual the year previous the office of Deputy Grand High Priest was dropped from the list of elective officers. And now the Grand High Priest recommended that the office of Deputy Grand High Priest be filled by appointment each year, and that he receive mileage and per diem the same as elective officer. Grand Chapter approved, but it does not state what are to be his duties or his official standing.

Grand Chapter responded generously to the appeal of our Grand Master Fish at the time of the Florida storm by promptly transmitting \$250.00.

Grand Lecturer William H. Carter in his report outlines the plan of co-operative supervision which had been agreed upon by Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery, and which if carried out is expected to bring about a pronounced revival of Masonic interest in all the York Rite Bodies in Mississippi. The workings and results of these combined activities will no doubt be watched by many other Grand Bodies, for it contains suggestions which could be modified to suit almost any Body that desires it. In connection, it is interesting to note that in Mississippi there are 35,700 Master Masons, 7,612 Chapter Masons, 4,110 Council Masons and 4,123 Commandery Masons.

Here is a piece of constructive legislation which other Grand Bodies might with profit consider.

That a letter be written by the Grand High Priest to each Subordinate Chapter not represented at this Convocation, requiring them to state the reasons why they are not represented.

Only a small portion of the qualified High Priests were set apart to the Order of High Priesthood. The fees are \$3.00, and whatever part may be left after paying the expenses is paid to the Masonic Homes. A good idea.

Past Grand High Priest Henry C. Yawn is Mississippi's new member of The Guild. His work certainly passes inspection at this station and he is entitled to wages. He refrains largely from commenting on quotations, leaving that to the reader. This, in the opinion of ye scribe, can be carried to excess either way you put it, but the happy medium is what is to be desired.

He quoted approvingly, apparently, from the address of Grand High Priest Todd relative to the forming of friendship, and which by the way is also quoted by many other reviewers. This seems to have struck a responsive chord, and it is not strange, for it is typical of the Companion who framed the words. Companion Yawn likewise with many others also approves of perpetuating the memory of Past Grands in monuments of marble. Incidentally, we might add, that he note the correct spelling of ye scribe's name. It is surprising the different ways in which the letters of that name are twisted.

Time and place of next Annual to be announced later.

Wm. H. Whitaker, Grenada, Grand High Priest;
Edward L. Faucette, Meridian, Grand Secretary; Henry
C. Yawn, Lumberton, Correspondent.

MISSOURI—1927

Chapters, 112. Members, 35,600. Exalted, 1,344
Net Loss, 176

EDW. W. TAYLER, Grand High Priest

Preliminary to the formal opening of the Eighty-first Annual Convocation, at Marshall, April 26, was a musical program by the students of the Missouri Valley College. Other York Rite Bodies were represented, but Florida appears to be among the few which did not respond to roll call.

Leaving out sentiment, Grand High Priest Tayler presented his official acts of the year. He attributes the unusual number of suspensions for non-payment of dues to "cutting out dead timber and lack of proper effort on the part of Chapter officials." He believes there are too many secretaries "who seem to think they have performed their full duty when they have written a receipt for the Companion who voluntarily calls to pay his dues."

Additional light is given to the stand taken by Pennsylvania in eliminating the Past Masters Degree in the accompanying statement in a letter from Missouri's Grand Representative near the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania:

Further conferences with the officers of the Grand Lodge, Grand Commandery and Grand Chapter resulted in Grand Lodge, at the Quarterly Communication held March 3, 1927, adopting the resolution of the Committee on Landmarks to give to every Master Mason, at the conclusion of the Master Mason degree, the necessary qualification for advancement and visitation. It also makes it possible for any Master Mason who received his degree in any

other jurisdiction than Pennsylvania, and who is now a resident of Pennsylvania, to find a Masonic Home in a Pennsylvania Royal Arch Chapter, without severing his relations with his Mother Lodge.

Replying to a letter of inquiry by Grand High Priest Tayler, Grand Secretary Quinby, of Pennsylvania, gives this additional information:

The method by which the word of the chair should be communicated to Master Masons is now under consideration by our R. W. Grand Master and we are hoping for an early solution.

Prompt response was made to the appeal from the Grand Master of Florida for the flood sufferers, \$500.00 being forwarded.

So fully do the laws seem to cover all questions that came up that the Grand High Priest was not called upon for any decisions.

All requests for dispensations to violate Grand Chapter by-laws was refused; as was also one to form a new Chapter where he did not believe the field was sufficiently large to support a second Chapter.

Grand Chapter approved the recommendation of the Grand High Priest that the charter shall either be framed and hung in the Chapter room, or it shall be kept in a proper receptacle, in which latter case the High Priest is personally responsible for its safe keeping.

Besides being Dean of the Permanent Family M. E. Comp. Alex. M. Dockery, whose death was recorded, and who was Grand High Priest in 1883, was also Chairman of what was known as the "Dockery Commission," which devised the present accounting system of the National Treasury. He was also a Past Grand Master of the Masonic Grand Lodge and also of the Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows, being the only person in Missouri who

ever held both those offices. Death summons also came to M. E. Comp. David M. Wilson, Grand High Priest in 1907, and for several years Fraternal Correspondent as well as President of the Order of High Priesthood.

The Grand High Priest made about thirty official visitations, a splendid record for a busy man. All his acts were approved by Grand Chapter and he was congratulated by the committee upon the "quiet and dignified manner in which he had conducted the affairs during the year."

The trouble Grand Chapter is having in trying to preserve uniformity in size of receipt for dues card might be obviated by following Florida's system of the Grand Secretary furnishing each of its York Rite Bodies with a uniform style and size of receipt without any charge whatever.

Following the setting apart of a large class to the Holy Order of High Priesthood, Past Grand High Priest Alfred H. White was elected President, succeeding Past Grand High Priest David M. Wilson, who passed away during the year.

The mantle of Past Grand High Priest David Wilson, who was the Fraternal Correspondent, fell on capable shoulders in the selection of E. Comp. Frank A. Marshall, and whose specimens of work will ensure him a seat in The Guild.

His review of Florida is pleasant and pleasing and he appears to be favorably impressed with the address of Grand High Priest Todd. Governor and Past Grand Master Albert W. Gilchrist was devotedly attached to his particular Lodge as well as to Grand Lodge, and his bequest to the Florida Masonic Home was very generous.

Brother Marshall, in commenting on the Penny collection for the House of the Temple, says: "M. E. Comp. Todd, in effect, paraphrases the historic epigram of another distinguished Southerner, 'Thousands for worthy causes, but not one penny for collections.'" Wonder if he refers to the inscription on one of those pennies issued by private concerns in the sixties and which as ye scribe recalls it, read: "Millions for defense; not one cent for the widows."

Next Annual in Mexico, April 24 and 25, 1928.

James A. Kinder, Cape Girardeau, Grand High Priest; Ray V. Denslow, Trenton, Grand Secretary; (?), Correspondent.

MONTANA—1926

Chapters 36. Members, 4,843. Exalted, 28
Net Loss, 13

HARLON L. HART, Grand High Priest

Livingston has the credit of being the first city in the State to be host to all the York Rite Masonic Bodies during the same week. The Thirty-seventh Annual of the Grand Chapter occurred July 13, 1927. Florida Masonic Grand Bodies has found it advantageous to meet in different months.

These selections from the forceful address of Grand High Priest Hart indicate what Royal Arch Masonry stands for in that state of vast domain:

The one great question that comes to me, in view of the past year's labors and experience is, have we performed the duties and lived the lives which, as Masons, we are charged with, as to God, our neighbors and ourselves.

Law seems to be defied at every turn of the road until the very foundation of our civil government seems threatened. While our nation does not look to Masons as a body to save it from the depredations of the evil spirit that is abroad, it does look to those individuals in whom the precepts and lessons of Masonry have been inculcated.

Just within the past month you have seen a livid example that must set you to thinking. For shame that our administration buildings, erected with public funds, should be thrown open to a presumptuous power; our chief executives down on their knees kissing the hands of foreign invading foreigners representing no flag on earth.

Well may Grand High Priest Hart rejoice that there was neither discord nor discontent within his quarries; neither had he been called upon to render any important decision.

He visited two-thirds of the Chapters in the State, a splendid record, and while he witnessed some excellent degree work he also saw some "that was shameful," the average being on a par with what he had seen in other jurisdictions. Another illustration that human nature is about the same the world over.

He has come to the same conclusion reached by others, that suspension for non-payment of dues, generally speaking, is not a lack of interest in the Capitular degrees, but rather carelessness in governing the Chapter. And he finds "that the majority of those suspended for non-payment of dues are amply able to pay."

The Masonic Home Fund of Grand Chapter has been merged with the Masonic Home of Montana, and here-

after it will be administered as one fund, which will no doubt add to its efficiency.

An exceedingly interesting part of the one-day session must have been the address of Hon. Lew Callaway, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Montana, his subject being "Vigilante Days and Ways," in which he told something of that very interesting episode in the history of the United States, and particularly of the western country which is talked about under the general heading of the Vigilantes of Montana, which, he said, is "a bit of history which hasn't any parallel in the history of mankind, so far as I know." This is his conclusion:

If we had in Montana today the spirit of the old Vigilantes, if we thought as much of our institutions as did the old heroes of Alder Gulch, if we administered the law in their spirit, tempered somewhat with the mildness and judgment of this age, we would all be better and safer citizens.

Tribute was paid to the memory of M. E. Comp. Alfred Balmforth, Grand High Priest in 1900.

Ten Companions were set apart to the Order of High Priesthood.

For the seventh time Past Grand High Priest H. S. Hepner presents a well prepared Correspondence Report, and which would have been nearer 100% perfect had it mentioned Florida.

Next Annual in Melita Island, Flathead Lake, July 12, 1927.

Charles S. Bell, Billings, Grand High Priest; Luther T. Hauberg, Helena, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

MONTANA—1927

Chapters, 36. Exalted, 180. Net Gain, 33

CHARLES S. BELL, Grand High Priest

On the Island of Melita, in Flathead Lake, Montana, the Thirty-eighth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Montana was held on July 12, 1927. Florida was not represented.

"My intentions were as good as any man's when elected to this high office, but time apparently waits for no man, and the things not done at the proper time are usually left undone," so M. .E. .Comp. Chas. S. Bell, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Montana, declared in his address.

But it appears that the Most Excellent Companion met other obstacles than "time," for distance, rain, wind, impassable roads and worst of all, illness kept him from fulfilling many of his good intentions, and we submit that winning every engagement against the forces of nature is more than is expected within the length of any man's cable-tow.

The dispensations of the Grand High Priest were approved. Only one decision was made, which was that if no regular officer is present at the Grand Chapter, and there are three proxies, all proxies would be entitled to a seat, but only the proxy for the High Priest should draw mileage and per diem. Florida pays for only one from each Chapter.

It is interesting to know that in Montana there are three counties wherein no Blue Lodge exists and nineteen counties where no Chapter exists.

The Grand High Priest reported that in some Chapters he found Arks with characters that he was unable to decipher and made recommendations for the correction of this "introduction of strangers among the workmen."

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances found nothing to do except draw their wages, which seems to indicate that peace and harmony exists in that wonderful state.

M. .E. .Comp. Hart gave notice that at the Annual Convocation in 1928 he will move, "That no assistance be employed in the office of the Grand Secretary except male, and that male shall be a member of the Masonic Fraternity."

The Grand Master A. F. & A. M., the Deputy Grand Master R. & S. M., the Grand Commander, and the representative of the Scottish Rite Southern Jurisdiction, and other distinguished guests, were received with appropriate ceremony.

The Grand Chapter adopted the ritual of the General Grand Chapter and made plans for its promulgation. Florida has not yet adopted this ritual, but favorable comment is heard from those who have had an opportunity to observe this ritual, and we may soon see Florida added to the fast growing column.

The vacant station of only one permanent member of the Grand Chapter is noted: M. .E. .Comp. Alfred Balmforth, Grand High Priest in 1899.

The Proceedings of the Grand Chapter are among the most complete we have seen. They not only show the past and present officers of the Grand Chapter, but the officers and members of constituent Chapters as well, a nice thing to do where the number of members does not prohibit.

The report of the Committee on Correspondence is by M. E. Comp. H. S. Hepner, and Florida is given favorable mention. The statement of M. E. Comp. E. L. Shear that an efficient Secretary is the supreme need of every Chapter, strikes a responsive chord here, as it has in numerous correspondence reports.

M. E. Comp. Hepner concludes his report with these words:

We love to read the words of the Knights of the Round Table; some of whom are veterans and whose chidings are accepted with the true grace of well-brought up children; some attentively listening to the words of wisdom and valor told by others, and our mind's eye endeavors to picture these Companions in the living presence, and a desire to meet them face to face and just squeeze their hands.

We concur most heartily.

Next Annual, date and place to be announced later.
Dr. Edward W. Spotswood, Missoula, Grand High Priest; Luther T. Hauberg, Helena, Grand Secretary; H. S. Hepner, Helena, Correspondent.

NEBRASKA—1927

Chapters, 54. Members, 8,357. Exalted, 337
Net Loss, 26

SHERMAN PINTO, Grand High Priest

After the formal opening of a Subordinate Chapter by its officers, Grand High Priest Pinto and his Associate Officers were introduced to the Companions who had assembled, after which they took their stations and the Sixty-first Annual Convocation was declared duly con-

vened in the City of Omaha for a two-day session, December 7 and 8, 1927, Florida being represented by Past Grand High Priest Walter L. Spear.

Tribute was paid to the memory of M. E. Comp. Robert E. French, Grand High Priest in 1892 and Grand Lecturer from 1894 to 1900, and since then to the time of his death was Grand Custodian of the Grand Lodge, being perhaps the best known Craftsman in the entire Missouri River country.

Grand High Priest Pinto in the opening of his address asks this pertinent question:

Have we the past year added anything of stability and permanence to the ideals we had in view, or have we simply lived another year and come here to felicitate each other and have an enjoyable time?

His visitations appear to have been confined mainly to those who "signified a desire to have me visit them." Quite often it occurs that those who do not care to see a Grand Officer need him most.

Fortunately he was confronted with no complicated questions, all queries being covered by existing laws.

He issued two dispensations for new Chapters, although at the beginning of his reign his paramount idea seems to have been the strengthening of those Chapters already in existence.

For the first time in its history Grand Chapter was confronted with a net loss in membership, and to his surprise the loss seemed to be in the oldest and largest Chapters. The apparent net loss in membership, however, grew out of its law of actually dimitting members to form new Chapters and which would not be accounted

for until the new Chapters were constituted, and which would then show instead a small net gain. Under Florida laws such a loss would not occur. He truly says that "Freemasonry in all its branches is suffering from over-organization," and it is his belief "that the noontide of organization has been reached." Hope he is a good prognosticator.

Although economic conditions may have something to do with the lack of interest in some localities, yet the Grand Lecturer believed dissatisfaction with the ritual to be the outstanding cause. This also seemed to be the opinion of the Grand High Priest, who suggested the appointment of a committee, but Grand Chapter looked at it differently and no action was taken.

Not only must all petitions for reinstatement be first approved by Grand Chapter, but also it must first be satisfied that the petitioners are in good standing in a Lodge recognized by the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. And where more than three years have passed since suspension, unanimous vote of Chapter as well as approval of Grand High Priest is required for reinstatement. Also it is the duty of the High Priest of each Chapter to know that all its members are in good standing in a regular recognized Lodge, certified on a blank prepared for that purpose.

Nearly two score of qualified Companions were set apart to the Order of High Priesthood, and the old officers were re-elected.

For the first time, as ye scribe understands it, the report of the Committee on Correspondence had been prepared and ready for distribution in pamphlet form at the opening of the Grand Chapter. This is the custom

in the Florida Bodies and gives general satisfaction.

Very interesting as well as informative is the report of Past Grand High Priest George N. R. Browne and nothing of importance appears to have been overlooked.

He found considerable in the address of Grand High Priest Shear to "admire," and the attention paid to the Order of High Priesthood "strikes a responsive chord" in his heart, for, he says: "We Nebraskans think much of this Order and would not change our law of making it pre-requisite to installation for anything."

Not only did ye scribe miss meeting Companion Browne at Denver but also many others as well, much to his disappointment. It is true that our Denver hosts gave The Guild a splendid banquet and the talks equalled if not exceeded other similar gatherings. But somehow ye scribe cannot dismiss a thought that keeps bobbing up to the effect that I am quite sure many of us would greatly enjoy having some little nook, be it ever so obscure, where the members of The Guild might congregate informally and really get acquainted. What say you, Companion Scribblers?

Next Annual in Omaha, Dec. 5 and 6, 1928

Harford N. Roebush, McCook, Grand High Priest;
Lewis E. Smith, Omaha, Grand Secretary; George R.
N. Browne (?), Hastings, Correspondent.

NEVADA—1927

Chapters, 9. Members, 659. Exalted, 25
Net Gain, 4

ADAMS F. BROWN, Grand High Priest

Florida's Grand Representative appears to be among the few missing Companions at the Fifty-fourth Annual Convocation, held in the City of Reno, June 7, 1927, with a distinguished visitor who brought greetings from California.

There were three vacant seats that will not soon be filled. Undoubtedly the most widely known, equally loved and revered, was R. E. Comp. Edward D. Vanderleith, Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter since 1912 and Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge since 1910. The other two were M. E. Comp. Frank Bell, Grand High Priest in 1880 and Grand Master in 1891; M. E. Comp. George Gilson, Grand High Priest in 1905 and Grand Master in 1904.

Largely routine were the activities of Grand High Priest Brown, but he took time to visit every Subordinate Chapter and royally was he everywhere received. He had an ardent desire to establish two new Chapters, but after careful investigation he found it to be not advisable. But he did restore the charter of the Chapter formerly located at Pioche with authority to assemble and work at Las Vegas. An effort was also made to remove the Chapter at Eureka, which had been dormant for a period, to Fallon, and which after some delay was accomplished, with favorable indications for a live organization.

An effort is being made to induce all Chapters to use what is known as the California ritual, which most of the Chapters are now using, and which is claimed to be the old ritual of the General Grand Chapter.

The Grand High Priest says "there is a fair degree of interest in all the Chapters," and he is willing "to see still greater interest."

It appearing that the estimated budget for the coming year would exceed the estimated returns, it was deemed best to curtail. This was done by eliminating the correspondence report. Of course the Grand Chapter of Nevada is amply qualified to manage its own affairs; but I feel quite sure that I voice the unanimous wish of The Guild that this retrenchment had come some other way.

For many years the writer has greatly enjoyed and profited in reading the annual reports prepared by the greatly beloved Comp. Vanderleith; and his successor, Past Grand High Priest Frank D. King, who is also the Grand Secretary, has presented an admirable review as his maiden effort. Here hope conditions may soon return him to the Round Table.

In his review of Florida he quotes with apparent approval from the address of Grand High Priest Todd relative to the value of friendship, which he says "is to the point."

Next Annual in Reno, June 12, 1928.

Edward A. Ducker, Carson, Grand High Priest;
Frank D. King, Reno, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—1927

Chapters, 26. Members, 5,875. Admitted, 148
Net Loss, 20

HENRY L. SANDERSON, Grand High Priest

Somewhat formal appears to have been the One Hundred and Eighth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire, which convened in Concord, May 17, 1927, with twenty-two Chapters represented and Florida by Charles L. Wentworth, but it is not clear to yecscribe where he fits in. There were the customary number of distinguished guests in attendance, representing five Grand Chapters, and M. .E. .Comp. Henry DeWitt Hamilton, the then General Grand High Priest, to lend additional dignity to the occasion.

Much of the address of Grand High Priest Sanderson is given to necrology, sometimes left to a suitable committee, and to visitations. Wonder if this extract from one of his visitations portrays conditions elsewhere existing, and also if it could have any bearing on the small reported net loss:

The Chapter (visited) was opened in full form on the Royal Arch degree, and, owing to the fact that the officers were unable to read some of the ritual, the Deputy Lecturer who was also present made no criticisms, but instructed them in the work.

Referring to an invitation to be present at a reception and dinner to the Grand High Priest of New York, he states: "Coming at a time when we were getting ready for our annual Fast Day Convocation of the Scottish Rite, I had to decline the invitation." He attended the

annual meeting of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association, to which New Hampshire has been a very liberal contributor.

No decisions appear to have been required and his other official acts were not overly burdening. He issued a decree pertaining to Pennsylvania relative to that state doing away, substantially, with the Past Master's degree, and it was in general keeping with that of other Grand Chapters.

Much information relative to subordinate Chapters are to be found in the detailed reports of the other three members of the Grand Council, to whom they had been apportioned.

In the afternoon of the closing session came the report of the Committee on the Doings of Grand Officers. It disapproved of a recommendation towards paying the expenses of representatives to the General Grand Chapter, excepting that of the Grand High Priest.

Memorial tributes were given to M. .E. .Comp. William D. Chandler, Grand High Priest in 1921; M. .E. .Comp. Albion E. Hayes, Grand High Priest in 1923, and R. .E. .Comp. Charles E. Ayres, Grand Principal Sojourner in 1926.

The Order of High Priesthood not being prerequisite to the installation of a High Priest, only seven appears to have been "elected, introduced, obligated and instructed."

Comp. Charles B. Spofford again presents a very readable and instructive Report on Foreign Correspondence, in which he expresses the wish that the Order of High Priesthood was obligatory, and also gives this additional information relative to the formation of that

Order which was new to ye scribe and no doubt will be to others:

It may not be generally known that New Hampshire was second only by a few weeks, in having organized an Order of High Priesthood, Maryland having preceded us by only a few weeks, and that by the coincidence that the founders were in that vicinity, on the authority of Past Grand High Priest Eitler, of Maryland.

Companion Spofford strongly approves the custom of having the Correspondence Report printed and distributed at the Grand Chapter, but, referring to New Hampshire, he says, "old established custom is hard to overcome."

Next Annual in Concord, May 15, 1928.

James Littlefield, Dover, Grand High Priest; H. M. Cheney, Concord, Grand Secretary; Chas. B. Spofford, Claremont, Correspondent.

NEW JERSEY—1927

Chapters, 58. Members, 20,233. Exalted, 932
Net Gain, 302

MARION A. HALL, Grand High Priest

Many distinguished Royal Craftsmen graced the Seventy-first Annual held in Trenton, May 11, 1927, each of whom expressed great pleasure over their cordial reception. It causes one to wonder how so much can be crowded into two sessions, unless the courtesy of "leave to print" be worked overtime. More than a score of pages of the Proceedings are given to recording the names of

those in attendance and what some of them said. It is pleasing to note that Past Grand High Priest William H. Lowe looked after Florida's interests.

During the year the imperative summons was sent to M. .E. .Comp. Frederick J. Melvin, Grand High Priest in 1915, and also to M. .E. .Comp. Josiah S. Davidson, Grand High Priest in 1922.

Routine matters required much of the time of Grand High Priest Hall who, in his address, was pleased to report that he had "held up the standards of education, of friendship, of charity and all that is best in promoting good citizenship." And it was his ardent desire that the success of the year closing might be "a fine incentive to better work in the year to come." His record of activities show that he visited all of the fifty-eight chartered Chapters during the year, making a 100% record, which cannot well be excelled nor is it reached by many.

He refused to grant two dispensations to advance the hour of opening the Chapter, a prerogative which some Grand presiding officers seem to look at more leniently.

One of his decisions was that any member can pay his dues in advance for any number of years, but "he does not become a life member until he has completed a continuous membership in one Chapter and has also paid his dues for at least twenty-one years."

He recommended that where other Grand Chapters confer the title of Right Excellent upon Grand Representatives the Grand Chapter of New Jersey should likewise do so.

He recommended shortening of the work in the Royal Arch degree, and the Ritual Committee will report next year. He also recommended County Territorial Jurisdic-

tion, but that did not meet the approval of Grand Chapter. He made a suggestion which any and all Masonic bodies can well heed, that new members should be shown particular attention, and their coming in be the occasion for personal introductions to all the others.

Believing that New Jersey should be the sole judge of the fitness of the Masonic material of bona fide residents of the State, Grand Chapter enacted that an applicant for affiliation or advancement rejected in one Chapter cannot be received in any other Chapter in the Grand Jurisdiction without the unanimous consent of the rejecting Chapter.

Grand Chapter passed a resolution which provides that a Royal Arch Mason from a Jurisdiction where all the four degrees are not conferred may affiliate or visit by taking the obligation of the degrees in which they are deficient, and without fee or charge.

Grand Chapter rescinded the action of a former Convocation, "that the wearing of Knights Templar or other uniforms be not permitted in Chapter Rooms."

New Jersey seems to stress the Order of High Priesthood, for nearly half a hundred Companions were set apart to that Holy Order and the ceremonial was followed by real talks by M. E. President Richard C. Woodward as well as by several visiting Past Grand High Priests.

R. E. Comp. A. Boylan Fitzgerald, who is also one of the Grand Chaplains, for the third time presents the Report on Correspondence. His readings indicate that there is a general demand on the part of Companions for a shortening of degree work, and more heartening still is that "there is also a demand for increased dignity and

proficiency in the rendition of the degrees." This latter, in the opinion of the writer, is quite necessary if the Royal Arch degrees expect to maintain their rightful place and importance in the general scheme of Freemasonry.

His review of Florida is quite complete and sympathetic. He quotes from the opening address of Grand High Todd, which he says, "sets forth a very fine idea of what we as Masons are," and which, he says, is true in general, "but unfortunately so many fail to catch the true purpose and go forth as very poor examples and thus discount us to some degree." He also quotes with approval the writer's expressed thought that if the Australian States are capable of self-government politically they ought to be equally well qualified to manage their Masonic matters.

Next Annual in Trenton, May 9, 1928.

Charles D. McCracken, Lambertville, Grand High Priest; Abram A. Reger, Somerville, Grand Secretary; A. Boylan Fitzgerald, Woodbridge, Correspondent.

NEW MEXICO—1927

Chapters, 16. Members, 2,904. Exalted, 137
Net Gain, 20

GEORGE D. ROBINSON, Grand High Priest

Very welcome Craftsmen at the Twenty-ninth Annual, held in Las Cruces, Feb. 24, 1927, were these three skilled workers from the Texas quarries: Grand High Priest Dan N. Cushing, Past Grand High Priest Sam J. Helm and Grand Secretary Thomas M. Bartley, Past

Grand High Priest Chas. W. Tedrowe, of Oklahoma, was a welcome late comer. Many other lesser lights were also present.

Greetings and good cheer were prominent in the address of Grand High Priest Robinson. Fortunately for him there were no disturbances in the local quarries and his official acts were correspondingly limited.

He advised that monthly convocations should be held during the summer months, but suggested that educational meetings might be substituted in place of work during the heated months.

As a result of an accident which prevented much travel, he was deprived of the pleasure of Chapter visitations, as he had anticipated doing. It was a double loss, he missing the fraternal hand-clasps and the Companions, the inspiration that always accompanies such gatherings.

Deriving pleasure as well as information from the correspondence reports of other Grand Chapters, he suggested that the incoming Grand High Priest appoint a committee to prepare a similar report. No action seems to have been taken, but The Guild will look for results.

He also recommended the appointment of Grand Representatives, but apparently Grand Chapter was not like-minded.

He recommended and Grand Chapter endorsed making liberal appropriations for Special Emergencies, National Masonic Tuberculosis Sanatoria Association and the Grand Lodge Sojourners' Club Relief Fund; the Order of DeMolay was also remembered.

Grand Chapter will investigate the advisability of an Order of High Priesthood and a report will be made a

year hence. Apparently the Grand High Priest seems to favor making it obligatory.

Next Annual will be in Magdalena, Feb. 23, 1928.

Samuel E. Wood, Gallup, Grand High Priest; Alpheus A. Keen, Albuquerque, Grand Secretary.

NEW ZEALAND—1927

Chapters, 60. Members, 3,535. Exalted, 381
Net Gain, 197

T. M. RANKIN, Grand Z.

Somewhat formal was the opening of the Thirty-fifth Annual Convocation, held in Timaru, Feb. 23, 1927, with but few absentees. Differing somewhat from our customs, the address of the Grand Z. is in the nature of valedictory, in which he refers to the impressions made and thoughts suggested growing out of his "tour of the greater part of the Dominion," and which convinced him "that the Royal Craft stands higher in the estimation of its members than ever before." He consecrated three Chapters, and he considers their future very promising. And this is his conception of the purpose and mission of Freemasonry.

It has a mission, and a great one, else it never would or could have survived the mighty cataclysms and awful wreckage of the past. Don't tell me that purpose or mission begins or ends in our Lodges or Chapters, nor in the ministrations of benevolence to those within our circle only, laudable as the practice of that virtue is. But rather that, in the wisdom of the "Great I Am," who foreknew all things, Freemasonry was and is ordained to preserve and per-

petuate through the ages a pure and simple faith in the Great Unseen and Hereafter, and to keep before the mind of man the best ideals of intercourse one with the other.

With one exception, the list of officers as presented by the Supreme Committee was formally approved.

Grand Chapter approved the action of the Supreme Committee and severed fraternal relations with the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland.

An effort was made to eliminate the requirements that a Companion must be a Master or a Warden in the Craft Lodge before he can be eligible for election to the corresponding rank in the Chapter. An unsuccessful effort was also made to remove the requirement that a Craftsman must be a Master Mason six months before he could petition for the Capitular degrees.

There is no Order of High Priesthood nor a Report on Correspondence.

G. J. Wallace, Timarua, Grand Z.; C. W. Neilsen, Box 236, Wellington, Grand Scribe E.

NEW YORK—1927

Chapters, 237. Members, 72,412. Exalted, 3,075
Net Gain, 836

WASHINGTON A. RUSSELL, Grand High Priest

It is pleasing to note that Florida's Representative was among those who were received and welcomed by the Grand High Priest in the preliminaries which attended the formal opening of the One Hundred and Thirtieth Annual, held in Albany, Feb. 1 and 2, 1927.

After two years of suffering, M. .E. .Comp. C. Wesley Orr, Grand High Priest in 1917, was summoned to the Supreme Grand Chapter on high.

Nearly a third of the address of Grand High Priest Russell is given over to necrology, and fully as much more to necessary minor details, which leaves comparatively little of special interest or information for Florida Craftsmen.

Comp. William C. Wright, of Empire Chapter No. 170, New York City, is now Florida's accredited Representative. Keystone Chapter No. 163 conferred the Capitular degrees as a courtesy for Jacksonville Chapter No. 12.

It became necessary for the Grand High Priest to issue a special dispensation to a U. D. Chapter to hold a special convocation to adopt by-laws which was necessary before it could be given a charter.

One dispensation was refused to the drill corps of a Knights Templar Commandery to appear in full Templar uniform to give an exhibition drill. The surprise is that such a request should have ever been seriously considered by either Chapter or Commandery officials.

Noting the almost kaleidoscopic appearance of many of the aprons worn by Past High Priests, the Grand High Priest queries: "Why not a uniform design for a Past High Priest's apron?" His one decision pertained to a petitioner's Blue Lodge residence and would be good law in Florida.

The report of the Deputy Grand High Priest shows that he must have made upwards of a hundred official and other visitations. It is surely a man's job. And the demands made upon the Grand High Priest in the Empire State is even greater.

The Order of Anointed High Priests being an absolute pre-requisite to officiating as High Priest, two Grand Councils were held besides other specials.

Steps were taken to appropriately mark the grave of the late M. .E. .Comp. Arthur Warren. Why not adopt a plan similar to Florida, which provides that every Past Grand Official, be he Grand Master or Grand High Priest, or both, shall have a monument erected to his memory?

Grand Chapter approved the recommendation of the Jurisprudence Committee, "that a Companion is not exalted until he has received the essentials of the degrees, and that this can be no less than the obligation and the communication of the secrets."

In the scramble for members, The Grand High Priest cites this procedure:

It is the practice of many Chapters throughout the State to convene on the afternoon of the day of their stated Convocation, especially when the Royal Arch degree is to be conferred upon a large class, for the purpose of obligating and exalting the candidates in groups of three, leaving only one group for the evening work, thus enabling the Chapters to close at a reasonable hour. The Chapters do this even though the by-laws specify the time of meeting at 7:30 or 8.00 o'clock.

To this Grand Chapter, through its committee, says; and ye scribe cannot see how it could do otherwise:

This is positively illegal and is a violation of the installation oath taken by such High Priests. The Constitution requires that the stated Convocation shall be fixed by the by-laws, and it is just as important that the hour as well as the day be fixed. * * Such practice should be abandoned.

Excellent Companion Walter Marden prepares a Correspondence Report that is excelled by none, and nothing of importance appears to escape his notice.

Under Florida noting that more High Priests were absent than present, he says, "which seems too many." He quotes twice from the address of Grand High Priest Todd, and with apparent approval.

Apparently our 1926 report was the first one to reach him containing reference to his entrance to The Guild, and he confesses that "it was with some misgiving that he turned at once to the Correspondence Report to see what the searchlight of Florida had revealed." It is hoped he was not disappointed.

Next Annual in Albany, Feb. 7 and 8, 1928.

Charles Hammel, Grand High Priest, New York;
Chas. C. Hunt, New York, Grand Secretary; George E. Briggs, Peekskill, Correspondent.

NORTH CAROLINA—1927

Chapters, 57. Members, 8,279. Exalted, 341
Net Gain, 22

JOHN S. McEACHERN, Grand High Priest

Officials of the General Grand Chapter and the General Grand Council, as well as other notable Craftsmen, were distinguished guests of the Seventy-ninth Annual Convocation, held in the city of High Point, May 10 and 11, 1927, but Florida was not represented.

Owing to other unanticipated demands, the vision of Grand High Priest McEachern that he would visit all

the Chapters in his Grand Jurisdiction did not materialize, but he did do his "best to carry on the other work and to keep bright the light of Masonry." Many another Grand Officer has had a similarly unfulfilled vision.

Much of the efforts of the Grand High Priest during the year was towards reviving activities dormant in Chapters, and he believes this can be done with the proper support and encouragement of Grand Chapter Officers.

His decisions pertained to suspensions, reinstatements and objections to advancement. They brought out nothing particularly new, and being explicit and conforming to law were approved.

He refused a dispensation to elect a High Priest to fill a vacancy caused by death, for the law provides that in succession the King or Scribe will assume his prerogatives; unless, however, all three die, then the Grand High Priest can grant a dispensation for an election.

Generous contributions were made for the relief of sufferers in both the Florida and Mississippi valley disasters.

He strongly favored the forming of a Grand Chapter Secretaries' Association and the sending of such officers to Grand Chapter, but apparently it did not materialize, as no record seems to have been made. Theoretically this is a splendid movement, but whether it can be made practical is somewhat of a question. The writer has in mind a similar movement in another organization which functioned for a time but later was dissolved.

Much needed assistance is being rendered to many students by the North Carolina Masonic Loan Fund in which all the Bodies participate. Grand Chapter will continue to do its part.

Attention by circulars from other Grand Chapters was called to the action of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania in eliminating the Degree of Past Master from its system. This matter was referred to the incoming Grand High Priest with instructions to secure further information. Most other Grand Chapters have taken positive action in various ways.

The York Rite Library Fund Committee reported that most of the appropriations for providing current literature for the Masonic Home and Oxford Orphanage had been disbursed; that it had enabled the inmates to keep abreast of the times, and recommended that the Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter and Grand Commandery continue the work. The report of the Finance Committee shows that \$400 was appropriated by Grand Chapter.

Only a few eligible Companions availed themselves of the privileges of the Order of High Priesthood.

As one star is said to differ from another star so do the reports or reviews of the many correspondence writers differ, be it Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, Grand Council or Grand Commandery, and that difference constitutes one of the special perquisites of the reviewer not generally shared in by the less favored ones. Probably the most noticeable departure from common procedure is noted in the masterly report of E. Comp. J. Edward Allen, which is well described in his comment on one feature of the Florida review in reply to the writer's query why he does not ordinarily review proceedings which do not have Correspondence Reports, in which he says:

That as a whole the books which print no reviews are leanest in really good material for us to use with power. What we write is undoubtedly a sort of "salmagundi," as Washington Irving uses the word, but we have no aspiration to make it a dish of hash only.

He quotes the definition given by our Grand High Priest of the legal status of an Honorary Member, and wonders why if he is permitted to vote on questions by show of hands, why not on others? and adds, "There might be much said about it."

Next Annual in Durham, May 8 and 9, 1928.

Chas. A. Jenkins, Winston-Salem, Grand High Priest; John B. Griggs, Elizabeth City, Grand Secretary; J. Edward Allen, Warrenton, Correspondent.

NORTH DAKOTA—1927

Chapters, 28. Members, 4,078. Exalted, 163
Net Loss, 46

WILLIAM W. SHAW, Grand High Priest

Promptly at the appointed hour the Grand Officers entered, clothed in the robes of a constituent Chapter, and opened in ample form the Thirty-eighth Annual Convocation in Fargo, January 25, 1927. This somewhat of an innovation must have added dignity as well as color to the occasion. Not a bad idea. Saskatchewan and Minnesota sent titled Craftsmen, and the Grand Lodge, Grand Council and Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite added to the aggregation. Then the Grand High Priest said that his special "eyes and ears," the District Deputy Grand

High Priests, must not be overlooked, and as Florida was represented by the Grand Scribe, nothing appears to have been omitted, thus making it an event long to be remembered.

Good advice in simple words characterize the address of Grand High Priest Shaw who, among other admonitions, well said:

Our duties do not simply extend from the opening to the closing of the Chapter. Let us reach out in every day life, not only to our Masonic Brother, but to all humanity and extend some act of kindness to brighten their lives.

One of the special dispensations issued was to install the High Priest of a Chapter who had just returned from spending the winter in Florida. As if to emphasize the wisdom of such an outing the Grand High Priest also made it the date of his official visitation. In fact every Chapter in the State was officially visited by the Grand High Priest, and he also saw each one of the Chapters open and close in full form. We wonder how many other Grand High Priests could say as much?

Although he had intimated that he did not care for special entertainment, each Chapter seemed to have had in mind Rip Van Winkle's favorite response: "Seeing it's you, and the first time we've met, and I've sworn off, but I won't count this time."

In one of the visitations, there were sixteen candidates and the work was well done, yet he was of the opinion "that candidates in small classes get more benefit out of the work." And at another visitation, where the Past and Most Excellent Master degrees were presented with reverence and decorum, he added: "I was particu-

larly pleased to see that the High Priest had pride enough in his work to wear a frock coat. This added just enough dignity to the ceremonies to make them impressive."

He was not called upon to make any decision, nor does there appear to have been any grievances or complaints. Surely, they must be a jolly bunch of Craftsmen in that State.

The Educational Fund, which is under the joint control of the Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter and Grand Commandery, shows that during the year \$7,450 was loaned to fifty-six applicants. There is now nearly \$15,000 represented in loans and cash, and by the time it reaches \$20,000.00, which is believed it will soon, it will take care of all applications that may come. Splendid work.

During the year the death summons came to M. .E. .Comp. Fred D. Aplin, Grand High Priest in 1901, and to M. .W. .Comp. Alexander B. Taylor, Grand High Priest in 1909.

An approved amendment will permit any Chapter to hold a special convocation for degrees or instruction in any Masonic Lodge room within its jurisdiction. Another amendment provides that where any Chapter fails to be represented at Grand Chapter without reasonable excuse, either by one of its officers or a proxy, it shall be fined \$5.00. If such a law were general the treasury of some Grand Bodies would be materially increased. It is usually the dormant or semi-dormant subordinate body that is the discourteous one.

Two members were added to the Past Grand Officers Association of North Dakota, which is the outstanding event of the year to the elect few. Our side partner M. .E. .Comp. E. George Guthrie is the one who "makes the wheels go round."

Fifteen Excellent Companions were set apart to the Order of High Priesthood.

Once again Past Grand High Priest, E. George Guthrie presents the Fraternal Correspondence Report, and it is up to his usual standard of excellence. Although he says an accident early in the year almost put him out of the running for his thirteenth annual. But fortunately for The Guild he was able to carry on.

He refers to the address of Grand High Priest T. T. Todd as "entertaining and instructive, warm and inspiring;" while another commentator quotes the same paragraph and calls it "pessimistic." All in the way one looks at it, or what he had to eat for his previous meal. That makes a wonderful difference—sometimes.

His words of commendation are much appreciated by ye scribe. Thank you.

Next Annual in Fargo, Jan. 24 and 25, 1928.

Forrest F. Vaughn, Cando, Grand High Priest; Walter L. Stockwell, Fargo, Grand Secretary; E. George Guthrie, Fargo, Correspondent.

NOVA SCOTIA—1927

Chapters, 20. Members, 2,638. Exalted, 121
Net Loss, 13

REGINALD V. HARRIS, Grand High Priest.

For the first time in its Capitular History did this Grand Chapter meet in the ancient colony and Royal Dominion of New Foundland, in its capital city, the most easterly city in America, St. John's. The Fifty-eighth Annual was held July 8, 1927. And it is a matter of con-

gratulation that representatives of fourteen out of the twenty Chapters could take part in that historical event, which also represented the sixtieth anniversary of the forming of Shannon Chapter, the host on this occasion.

There is so much of special Masonic interest in the address of Grand High Priest Harris that one is in a quandary what to omit. He states in part:

St. John has a most interesting history, dating back to its first settlement by Devonshire fishermen early in the sixteenth century. It was twice sacked by the French and captured by them in the Seven years war (1762), and recaptured the same year, since when it has remained British. Both in the war of the American Independence and in that of 1812, it formed an important naval base.

Previously to 1866, both the English and Scottish Grand Lodges were represented in the Province of Nova Scotia by a respectable number of Lodges, grouped under District or Provincial Grand Lodges. In 1866, those under the Scottish jurisdiction organized the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia. The English Lodges delayed joining the movement until 1869, and so we find that on July 1, 1867, there were in Nova Scotia, 19 Lodges on the registry of Nova Scotia, 1 on that of Scotland, and 25 on that of England, a total of 45. Of these eight have merged with other Lodges or surrendered their charters.

In Prince Edward Island in place of the five Lodges on the English register and one on the Scottish register in 1867, we have 15 Lodges on the register of the Grand Lodge of that Province.

In Newfoundland, the number of Craft Lodges on the English register, has grown from two to ten, and under the Scottish Constitution from two to five.

Royal Union Chapter, N. S., working from 1780 under the warrant of the present day St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 1, and now known as Royal Union No. 2, on the registry of this Grand Chapter, is "The Oldest Royal Arch Chapter in the British Empire overseas."

The only Knight Templar body in the jurisdiction in 1867 was the present Nova Scotia Preceptory No. 5, dating back to 1782. "The oldest Knight Templar body in the overseas empire."

The Scottish Rite was unrepresented in 1867, while today there are four bodies under the authority of the Supreme Council of Canada.

The archives of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia show that Royal Arch Masonry in Quebec is entitled to date back to 1760; also there are found there the oldest Mark Lodge records on the continent.

The Grand High Priest in recording the passing of the Grand High Priests in other Grand Jurisdiction follows the name with a comment or quotation. In referring to our late beloved R. .E. .Comp. Irving Elroy Webster, he truly says, "Friendly and lovable man."

He anticipated attending a function to be held under the auspices of St. Patrick Chapter No. 145, in Toronto, October 31, and which he said would be attended by many delegates from the United States, but which so far as ye scribe is informed, did not occur:

Arrangements are under way for a reception to be tendered to Most Excellent Henry DeWitt Hamilton, General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, who has expressed a desire to meet with the representatives of every Canadian Capitular Jurisdiction. It is expected he will be accompanied by the Grand First Principal of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, the Earl of Cassillis.

Grand High Priest McNamara protests, and it appears with some reason, to the title, "the Grand Council of the Order of High Priesthood in Canada," to a Grand Council formed in Toronto, and which was granted by the Grand Council of the Order of High Priesthood in Michigan last February; for he says "the records show that a Grand Council of that Order was formed in Nova Scotia in 1870, while the one in New Brunswick was organized

in 1866." His objection is solely to the title assumed, which he claims is misleading to the world.

He is entitled to commendation in having visited once every one of the Chapters, and some of them two times.

He finds that the outstanding hindrance to the progress of Royal Arch Masonry in his jurisdiction, and we apprehend that it is not solely confined there, "is the lack of enthusiasm."

He believed that it should be made compulsory for candidates to pass an examination in open Chapter on each degree before being advanced, and Grand Chapter agreed. He also urged that there be less bunching of degrees, particularly in conferring them "in short form." We wonder just how that is done? Practically all his many acts were fully approved.

He found no material difference in principle between the Mark Degree as conferred in a Scotch Lodge and as conferred in the Chapter work, and he therefore ruled "that we should without question recognize the Mark degree conferred in Scottish Lodges."

Most of the Companions who received the Order of High Priesthood were from Shannon Chapter, who had been prevented from attending the Annual Conventions on the mainland.

Quite complete is the excellent report on Foreign Correspondence by Grand Secretary Brenton F. Porter, in which Florida is very courteously considered and in which he finds much to commend. Sometime it is earnestly hoped that Companion Porter may come to our land of sunshine where it is summer all summer and there is no

winter, and when we then can thank him in person for his many pleasant references.

Next Annual in Halifax, June 12, 1928.

Reginald V. Harris, Halifax, Grand High Priest;
Brenton F. Porter, Truro, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

OKLAHOMA—1927

Chapters, 79. Members, 14,173. Exalted, 924
Net Gain, 81

EMERSON BURNS, Grand High Priest

Once again Florida was not represented when the Thirty-eighth Annual was formally opened in Holdenville, April 20, 1927. However, Oklahoma is always represented at Florida's Annuals by E. Comp. W. B. Greer, at this writing Grand Principal Sojourner. In addition to all the Grand Officers and many Past and other Grands, there were also present distinguished visitors from Texas, the Grand Encampment, and the other York Rite Bodies.

Oklahoma sustained a great loss in the passing of M. E. William L. Eagleton, who was Grand High Priest in 1901, and also a Past Presiding Officer in all the other Grand Bodies.

It took less than four pages for Grand High Priest Burns to report what he had done during the year, and about a quarter of that was to list Dispensations to "receive and ballot upon petitions out of time," or "to elect

and install officers out of time." One Chapter was constituted and several Grand Representatives were recommended and commissioned. The address was referred to the proper committee, except "the unwritten part and with reference to the expenditure of funds for the Florida sufferers and for flowers."

At the Annual the year previous an effort was made to repeal a former action to the effect that a Chapter introducing ceremonies not in its ritual might have its charter arrested. This was referred to a special committee which reported at this session and which was adopted. Selections from it follow:

There are approximately, twenty-two different rituals in use in the United States today. All of them are wedded to the quasi-religious idea. If Masonry has *one* central idea, it is Morality, in its best and broadest definition. Landmarks have come down to us from the dim past unchangeable, unalterable and to every member of the Craft, should be sacred. Those Landmarks are as sacred to the Capitular Mason as they are to the Master Mason. They form the foundation, upon which the superstructure of all rites is builded. Are we ready, Companions of the Royal Arch, to introduce through legal action, extraneous matter which has never had a part in any ritual, which dignifies inhumanity, which would sever Capitular Masonry from the Masonic tree? The extraneous matter is not found in a single principle or Landmark of the Craft. Are you willing, we ask, to say to the Masonic world, that Oklahoma "lets down the bars" and places no restraint around our Landmarks and ideals? * * *

We now use the General Grand Chapter ritual which represents the wisdom, experience and Masonic knowledge of our greatest Capitular Masons, including the late lamented Dr. Wm. F. Kuhn of Missouri. It is universally conceded to be most practical and is constantly growing in esteem and favor among those Masons who have an abiding faith in the Tenets and Landmarks of Masonry. When we made the change to the General Grand

Chapter ritual, we returned our old rituals and they are no longer published or available. * * *

Your committee, therefore, recommend that no change be made in our laws, and that the resolutions be not concurred in by our Grand Chapter.

It is unfortunate that this report in its entirety cannot be read by those of a past generation, if any such there be, who still cling to the idea that Royal Arch Masonry is a farce comedy instead of being founded on the Great Light in Masonry.

The committee also appointed the year previous to gather information concerning "The Texas plan of collecting dues," asked for further time to discuss this plan with Texas secretaries, and they will report a year hence. This plan is not clear to ye scribe, for he must have overlooked it in some previous Texas Proceedings. If it be a good thing, and no doubt it is, if it comes from Texas, it should be broadcasted.

Encouraging is the report of the Educational Committee, which made sixty-seven loans during the year.

"Father" Murrow, as he is lovingly called, was the First Grand High Priest of Oklahoma, and for more than twenty years its Grand Secretary, addressed the Grand Chapter. He has reached the age of four score and ten years. He did not believe, he said, "there is a man in the room who is enjoying this meeting more than I am."

Thirty-seven qualified Companions were received into the Order of High Priesthood in "regular form."

Oklahoma is one of the very few Grand Chapters which has a Secretaries Association that really functions. In addition to the instructive talks, the Secretary found it so difficult, he said, to collect the annual dues of twenty-

five cents, that he recommended raising it to one dollar, and then apply the balance left to a banquet at the next meeting. There does not appear to have been a dissenting voice.

Past Grand High Priest Eugene Hamilton for the second time presented the Report on Correspondence. Noting the continual ritual tinkering that is constantly going on, he urges the general adoption of the General Grand Chapter. He well suggests "that it is not necessary to humiliate and injure a candidate in order to exalt him." Again, noting that some of the reviewers seem to be under the impression that the granting of a dispensation to ballot out of time is a violation of an Ancient Landmark, he adds, "he would be pleased to learn the source of their information." Will some of the better informed please answer Companion Hamilton's query?

His review of Florida, which is as pleasing as instructive, is about equally divided between the proceedings proper and the correspondence report. In connection permit ye scribe to say, that he is personally pleased that Grand Chapter did not agree with the Grand Lecturer that the slump in membership was due to the "elimination of the *fun* (?) that used to obtain in the Past and Royal Arch degree."

Next Annual in Blackwell, April 18 and 19, 1928.

Elisha W. Townsend, Shawnee, Grand High Priest;
James A. Scott, Muskogee, Grand Secretary; Eugene Hamilton, Chickasha, Correspondent.

OREGON—1927

Chapters, 49. Members, 7,131. Exalted, 325
Net Gain, 34

GEORGE E. SWAFFORD, Grand High Priest

Nearly one-third of the subordinate Chapters were not represented at the Sixty-seventh Annual held in Bend, April 11, 1927. And the Treasurer was absent on account of the illness of Mrs. Miller. A telegram of sympathy was sent. Officials from the Grand Chapter of Washington as well as from Oregon's Grand Council and Grand Commandery, and also Florida's Representative, were present, besides a goodly number of Past Grands.

Oregon sustained a great loss in the passing to the Great Beyond of M.'E.'Comp. James F. Robinson, who was Grand High Priest in 1882, Grand Secretary, 1891 to 1925, and Grand Secretary Emeritus from then until his death, Dec. 2, 1926; and also M.'E.'Comp. Donald Mackay, Grand High Priest in 1889.

Much of the address of Grand High Priest Swafford is a presentation of his numerous activities, in which he evidenced his deep interest in Capitular Masonry, and consequently his official acts were approved. He visited nearly half of the Chapters in the State, and also several other Grand Chapters. One of these was the Grand Chapter of British Columbia. He was accompanied by M.'E.'Comp. Wm. T. Drips, Grand High Priest of Washington. It was said that with one exception this was the largest Masonic gathering ever held in that Grand

Jurisdiction. On another occasion he and the other Grand Officers went to Seattle and exemplified the Royal Arch degree according to Oregon work.

One U. D. Chapter was instituted; but in another case the petition was incomplete, and no further action followed. The large number of members dropped for non-payment of dues gave him much concern, which he attributes to the Companions failing to receive any lasting impressions from the lessons taught. He believed this would be partially overcome by instructing the candidates in Capitular work somewhat similar to that done in the Lodge. This will receive further consideration a year hence.

Hereafter petitions for the degrees must be accompanied by a regular certificate of membership issued by his Lodge.

An effort was made to abolish the office of Deputy Grand High Priest. It will come up for final action at the next Annual.

Columbia Chapter will be given a Charter, but in the meantime it will continue to work under its dispensation until it is constituted.

Grand Chapter provided for a memorial window to be placed in the new Masonic Temple in Portland, in memory of the late revered Past Grand High Priest James F. Robinson.

There were no petitions for the Order of High Priesthood, but a committee will arrange to confer the Order at the next Annual.

E. Comp. Walter O. Haines, in his excellent correspondence review, does not look with much favor upon

the "Fraternal Leeches" which fasten upon the true Masonic Bodies. He well says:

May the time come when the privilege of confining their membership to Masons be denied these parasitical bodies. The Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council, Commandery and Scottish Rite have long been recognized as kindred bodies, and it is to be hoped that the day may again come when these and no others shall be recognized as having to do with Masonry.

He further states that the question of making Past High Priests permanent members of the Oregon Chapter is being considered. There follows a table showing several Grand Chapters which are so constituted, but for some reason Florida is omitted. This is the custom in Florida and we wonder why it should have been omitted.

Florida is given courteous consideration, and he quotes quite freely from our previous Conclusion.

Next Annual in Portland, April 9, 1927.

Frank S. Baillie, Grand High Priest; D. Rufus Cheney, Grand Secretary; Walter O. Haines, Correspondent; all of Portland.

PENNSYLVANIA—1927

Chapters, 153. Members, 61,569. Admitted, 3,501
Net Gain, 634

WALTON K. SWETLAND, Grand High Priest

Four Quarterly, evening sessions, during the year, seem to be largely for reviewing and acting on reports, with but little of interest to Craftsmen at large. The Annual Grand Communication is also held in the evening, and always on St. John's Day, December 27th. The

principal Grand Officers were present at each Convocation as was also Companion Goodwin who represents Florida. All Convocations are held in the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia.

The present Grand Secretary, M. E. Comp. Joseph E. Quinby, when he was Grand High Priest, inaugurated a system of District meetings, into which the State is divided, and the Grand High Priest attended every one held during the year. At each of the meetings the degrees of Mark Master, Most Excellent Master and the Royal Arch are rehearsed, comparing to Florida's Grand Lodge schools of instruction. Generally speaking the interest and attendance has been very satisfactory, Companions in some cases traveling many miles to show interest and loyalty. This is the only deviation reported:

The attempt to rehearse the Royal Arch Degree exhibited a lamentable condition of lethargy and indifference. * * * Such absolute disregard of duty on the part of a whole Chapter cannot be permitted and drastic measures may be resorted to.

The Grand High Priest was liberal in his visitations, but a few invitations were declined on account of previous engagements.

At the request of the Grand High Priest of Colorado, he requested a Pennsylvania Chapter to confer all the degrees upon a Brother who had been elected to receive the degrees in Colorado, which causes one to wonder just what will be the status of this Companion should he visit Colorado or other Grand Jurisdictions. In this connection, and in view of the action taken by many Grand Chapters relative to the position taken by Pennsylvania in connection with the Past Master's Degree, the follow-

ing from the latter's 1927 Proceedings, under the heading, "Passing to the Chair," is illuminating:"

At the December Quarterly Communication in 1926, Grand Chapter unanimously adopted amendments to its Constitution eliminating "Passing to the Chair" as a prerequisite for admission into Chapters. This question had been seriously agitated for many years and opinion varied as to its practical workings. In adopting these amendments Grand Chapter did nothing whatever to interfere in any way with the Degree of Past Master Mason or "Passing to the Chair." It simply declared itself an independent Sovereign Body, and ceased to meddle with, or concern itself, about matters over which it never had, or claimed, jurisdiction. This policy has now been in force one full year, and I believe it has proven itself beyond doubt, of great benefit to Capitular Masonry in Pennsylvania. It was predicted by many that we would receive petitions from members of other Jurisdictions resident in Pennsylvania in great numbers. The result in this particular has been surprising. Our records show that only 175 petitions have been received from members of our sister Jurisdictions. This fact seems to be clear and undisputable proof that our remarkable growth during the past year has been a healthy one within our own borders, and I firmly believe that it is attributable in a great measure to the wonderful awakening resulting from the District meetings. The increased attendance and enthusiasm of these meetings over the former years seems to warrant this conclusion.

Nearly all of the decisions of the Grand High Priest were local and would not have arisen under Florida laws.

The report of the Committee on Correspondence is divided among its five members, Florida again falling to Companion H. Franklin Brossman, who after briefly citing such matters as seem to him of importance, quotes in full the report of the Florida Committee on Jurisprudence relative to Pennsylvania, and without comment. Likewise above appears the construction which Pennsyl-

vania places upon its action. We suggest that our readers look up last year's Jurisprudence Committee's report, read carefully, make comparisons, then draw your own conclusions.

The implied complimentary allusion to the work of ye scribe is appreciated. Thank you, Companion Brossman. Hope we may meet in our wonderful Southland.

Walton Swetland, Coudersport, Grand High Priest; Joseph E. Quinby, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, Grand Secretary; and as there seems to be a little different order in the appointment of the Committee on Correspondence, Florida may fall to another next year.

QUEBEC—1927

Chapters, 22. Members, 3,556. Received, 216
Net Gain, 139

A. B. J. MOORE, Grand First Principal Z

Capitular Masonry surely has a real meaning to the Companion of this Grand Jurisdiction, for every Chapter was represented and most of them not only by its three elective officers but also by many holding Past Rank, at the Fiftieth or Golden Annual, held in Montreal, March 23, 1927, as well as Past Grands a plenty, but no one to represent the fair Southland State of Florida.

Among those called to solve the "Great Mystery" was M. .E. .Comp. George O. Stanton, who was Grand First Principal in 1901 and 1902, and Grand Treasurer 1905 to 1923, as well as Grand Master in 1907 and 1908, besides being Treasurer Emeritus. Ill health caused his suc-

cessor, M. .E. .Comp. R. S. Kinghorn, to tender his resignation during the year.

During the year two Chapters were instituted, a strong evidence in the mind of the Grand Z. that the Royal Craft is flourishing in that Province. One of these was granted a charter, but the other not having time to present specimens of work, was continued another year.

Very appropriately the "Signet of Truth" was the subject of the address at the annual church service of the Companions of the Montreal District.

The presence of Companions from south of the "Imaginary line" at some of the Grand Z.'s official visitations emphasized this uttered truth:

If we work together for the common purpose and for good we will raise the spirit soul of Canada and arrive nearer the ideal brotherhood of all nations of the world.

His visits to other Grand Jurisdictions included the Grand Chapters of Massachusetts, New York and Pennsylvania, it being the first time a representative of the Grand Chapter of Quebec had ever paid a fraternal visit to the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, which he designates as "a Sovereign Grand Chapter in itself."

The report of the Grand Lecturer indicated that in some instances one of the "intermediate degrees" is marred by frivolity, but he is pleased that some of the Chapters have eliminated the "physical test," and if others would follow, he said, "the Royal Craft would be relieved from an unpleasant position."

Every member of The Guild will read with much regret the statement by Comp. W. W. Williamson, Grand Scribe E., that Comp. E. T. D. Chambers, who is the dean

of the Round Table, and was recovering from a serious illness, had a relapse and was in the hospital, with the result that quite a number of the Proceedings are not reviewed. Fortunately, however, Florida is not among the missing. Possibly being one of the last to be reviewed may account for its brevity.

Next Annual in Montreal, March 21, 1928.

A. B. J. Moore, Montreal, Grand Z.; W. W. Williamson, Montreal, Grand Scribe E.; E. D. T. Chambers, Quebec, Correspondent.

RHODE ISLAND—1927

Chapters, 15. Members, 10,298. Exalted, 355
Net Gain, 203

FRED W. HILTON, Grand High Priest

It is said that all things come to those who wait—if they wait long enough. After four years of waiting there have come the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Rhode Island for the years 1924-1925-1926-1927. This explanation appears in the report of the assistant Grand Secretary, under date of March 8, 1927:

I had hoped that all the Proceedings would be distributed before this date, but owing to the unusual demands upon our printers at this time, it was impossible to complete the entire work.

Evidently the printers "got a hustle," for all four were received some four months later. The One Hundred and Thirtieth Annual Convocation was held in Prov-

idence, March 8, 1927, with all the Grand Officers present and every Chapter represented, as well as many distinguished visitors, including M. E. Comp. Henry DeWitt Hamilton, General Grand High Priest.

The address of Grand High Priest Hilton was a business-like presentation of his activities of the year, a considerable part of which pertained to visitations, official and unofficial. He was not called upon to make any decisions. He refused to grant a dispensation for a Chapter to confer the M. E. Degree in a Massachusetts Chapter, but he did suggest that, having the approval of the Grand High Priest of Massachusetts, it might exemplify that degree upon some member of its own Chapter.

During the year the final imperative summons came to M. E. Comp. S. Penrose Williams, Grand High Priest in 1904, and for many years Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge. The 1926 Proceedings records the deaths of M. E. Comp. Albert L. Anthony, Grand High Priest in 1894, and M. E. Comp. John F. Oldham, Grand High Priest in 1897.

After considerable discussion Grand Chapter approved a resolution dropping the "Rough Road" from the Royal Arch degree, which will come up for final action a year hence. See Oklahoma for ye scribe's personal opinion of such procedure.

What will be almost ancient history by the time this reaches the readers, is the action taken by Grand Chapter in presenting the name of Past Grand High Priest Wilbur Allen Scott for a vacancy in the line of officers at the Denver Triennial. Companion Scott is Assistant Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Rhode Island, stands very high in the estimation of the Craft outside

as well as inside his Grand Jurisdiction, and if elected will ably fill whatever station to which he may be elected. (This was written previous to the Triennial.)

A notable incident occurred at the election of officers of the Grand Chapter, when one Companion stated that fifty-one years previous he had cast a ballot for the election of William B. Greene for Right Excellent Grand Secretary, the present incumbent.

After conferring the Order of High Priesthood upon two qualified Companions, Acting President Charles T. Glines presented a short history of the Order of High Priesthood, in which he summarizes from Past Grand High Priest William Hacker, of Indiana, a Masonic historian, to the effect:

That no single order or degree of Masonry can be traced so successfully to the source from whence it came; that has in it more of the elements of sublimity and impressiveness and that it is more scripturally and Masonically appropriate for that which it was intended, than has this Order of High Priesthood.

There is no Report on Correspondence, although each of the Proceedings of the past four years stated that a report in the form of a digest was being prepared. Let us hope it will materialize another year.

Next Annual in Providence, March 13, 1928.

Jerome H. Tucker, Grand High Priest; William R. Greene, Grand Secretary; Wilbur A. Scott, Correspondent; all of Providence.

SASKATCHEWAN—1927

Chapters, 26. Members, 2,568. Initiated, 141
Net Gain, 10

EDWIN PINKERTON, Grand Z

Apparently about the only absentee at the Fourth Annual Convocation, held in Regina, Feb. 16, 1927, was one Grand Superintendent, while distinguished guests were present from several other Canadian Grand Bodies.

Sincerity and zeal characterize the address of the Grand Z. He reported that Capitular conditions throughout the Jurisdiction were satisfactory, and that both officers and Companions were showing an increased enthusiasm in the work of the Order. His official acts were largely local and nothing of great import appears to have disturbed the harmonious conditions. This is likewise shown in the reports from the Grand Superintendents, which also carry valuable information relative to the internal workings of this as well as in all the Canadian Grand Bodies. However, one Grand Superintendent suggests that "Grand Chapter should consider doing something to try and make the esoteric work more uniform."

As ye scribe recalls it, Saskatchewan adopted the ritual of the Grand Chapter of Canada, and is no doubt adhering to it as closely as it can, but it is hardly to be expected that a Grand Chapter only four years old will run as smoothly in all its parts as one that is one hundred and four years old, for instance.

At the previous Annual the Grand Z. ruled that a Chapter could confer the R. A. M. degree on one candi-

date, provided two sojourners were used. But the committee did not concur and it was referred to the Committee on Constitutions, Laws and Jurisprudence, to report at this Annual, and Grand Chapter referred it back to the Committee to present a final recommendation. It recognized and approved the standards set by other Grand Jurisdictions, yet it recommended and Grand Chapter approved:

We feel that in this jurisdiction we have different circumstances to contend with, and that in the interests of Capitular Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction we recommend that the ruling as given be concurred in and ratified by this Grand Chapter.

The Committee on the Grand Z.'s address, noting that he did not accept one invitation, says:

It would appear that the Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada, in Ontario, is held at the wrong time of the year; and it is a difficult matter to induce even a Grand Z. to venture from the prairie of sunshine into the unknown, during the winter months.

One might almost think that Saskatchewan was located in Florida.

An outstanding feature of this Annual Convocation was an address by R. .E. .Comp. W. J. Smith, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan, and who also by the way is the Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Florida near that of Saskatchewan, in which he discusses Royal Arch Masonry, and from which we take the following:

For the satisfaction of those of you, who like myself, believe that Freemasonry, including the Royal Arch, contains a genuine tradition that goes back ages before 1717 or 1740, I will refer you to a writer of several centuries ago, in an effort to show that at

least the tradition of the Royal Arch comes down to us from the mists of antiquity. Philostorgius wrote about the year A. D. 364 of what he describes as an old story which reached him as follows:

"In one of the various attempts that were made to rebuild the Temple of Jerusalem, while the ground was being prepared, a stone slipped from its place and there was exposed to view a deep cutting or well. One of the workmen, being let down by a rope, found himself in a subterranean chamber which proved to be rectangular in form. As the place was flooded the workman had to wade in the water up to his ankles, but he had the happiness of discovering a small column which stood there, and which, when brought to the surface, as he himself was drawn up, was seen to have some inscription which began with the words: 'In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God!'" It is a significant fact that this was referred to as an old story over 1,500 years ago.

Of course there is no Order of High Priesthood.

There is a brief but interesting report on Foreign Correspondence by R. .E. .Comp. Francis B. Reilly, Grand Scribe E. It is to be hoped that the Grand Chapter will allow him greater space to express himself for, in the opinion of ye scribe, it has no better way to impart Capitular information at so little extra cost.

Florida is given courteous consideration and he says the decisions and dispensations issued by Grand High Priest Todd "seem to be in accord with our ideas."

If it is anywhere stated when and where the Annual will be held ye scribe has overlooked it.

J. Orville Clarke, Govan, Grand Z.; F. B. Reilly, 312 Westman Chambers, Regina, Grand Scribe E. and Correspondent.

SOUTH CAROLINA—1927

Chapters, 42. Members, 6,218. Exalted, 162
Net Loss, 241

CHARLES K. KREITZBERG, Grand High Priest

After receiving many distinguished visitors, including M. E. Comp. Henry DeWitt Hamilton, the then General Grand High Priest, and attending to other necessary important preliminary business, the One Hundred and Fifteenth Annual Convocation, which was held in Greenville, April 20, 1928, proceeded with its regular business, with no Representative from Florida present.

The Grand High Priest, in his address, did not gloss over matters, in referring to the state of the Craft, when he said, "Capitular Masonry is not in as flourishing a condition as we have a right to expect." Neither did he have much patience with its recent "ritual mixup," for he continued:

After all, this ritual bug-a-boo is only an excuse. The real trouble lies in the fact that the officers do not take enough interest in Chapter work. The officers complain that the members will not attend the meetings, but the reason for that is because the degrees are not properly conferred. Let the officers properly prepare themselves, let them put some energy and enthusiasm into Chapter work and the members will gladly come to the meetings and enjoy them.

He referred to the great loss the Grand Chapter had sustained when M. E. Comp. J. E. Brezeale, who was Grand High Priest in 1886, had been called upon to lay down the working tools of life.

He made comparatively few visitations and but few dispensations were granted; all of which he stated were clearly within the discretion of the Grand High Priest. With one exception his acts were approved, and that was in connection with a Knight Templar who had dimitted from Lodge, Chapter and Commandery. He had filed his dimits, but the charter of the Lodge to which he had applied had been arrested before action had been taken. The ruling was that he was an involuntary non-affiliate through no fault of his own and therefore the Chapter could receive and act upon the petition, but Grand Chapter did not look at it that way and held he must be an affiliated Mason at the time of making application. His other decisions as well as recommendations pertained to local matters which were of no particular concern to Floridians.

The edict of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania in reference to the doing away of the Past Master's Degree was referred to the incoming Grand High Priest with power to act.

Only a comparatively few qualified Companions took advantage of the privilege of being set apart to the Order of High Priesthood. Of course the others do not know what they are passing up.

Past Grand High Priest James L. Michie wastes no time in preliminaries in getting down to real business in his review of Proceedings, neither does he hesitate to express his opinion concerning what is being done in the various Grand Bodies, for he generally knows what he is writing about.

Under Florida he quotes approvingly from the address of Grand High Priest T. T. Todd as well as from other parts of the Proceedings.

Recently ye scribe raised the query why the word "Blue" should be applied to a Lodge of Master Masons any more than "Red" to the Chapter, "Purple" to the Council or "White" or "Black" to a Commandery, and this is the reply of Companion Michie:

"Blue" has been applied to symbolic Lodges from time immemorial. Once this scribe was out in the hills of Scotland on a clear, starry night. He fell in with an old shepherd who turned out to be a Mason. Among other things we asked him why Lodges were called "Blue Lodges?" He instantly replied, "Look over your head and you will see." Need we remember, my Brother, that in the E. A. Degree the Lodge is represented to the initiate as the symbol of the world, and that its covering must be represented by the blue vault of heaven. Our British Companions on both sides of the Herring Pond and in Australia, often speak of Capitular Masonry as "Red Masonry," and one Jurisdiction at least prints its Proceedings in red ink.

Thank you, Companion, and I am quite sure many of our readers will do so likewise.

Incidentally, we might also add, that to be consistent, South Carolina prints most of the cover pages of the Grand Chapter Proceedings in red ink.

His reviews contain many other interesting bits of information which we would delight to pass on to the less informed did conditions permit. This is where the Scribes have the advantage over most of the readers, a compensation that is highly appreciated.

Next Annual in Orangeburg, April 25, 1928.

John D. Lee, Sumpter, Grand High Priest; O. Frank Hart, Columbia, Grand Secretary; James L. Michie, Darlington, Correspondent.

SOUTH DAKOTA—1927

Chapters, 43. Members, 6,297. Exalted, 174
Net Loss, 78

JOHN O. KAMMERMAN, Grand High Priest

Omitting display, the Thirty-eighth Annual Convocation was held in Aberdeen, June 16, 1927, with most all who ought to be present, except Florida's Representative. Hope E. Comp. J. R. Schrader had a satisfactory alibi.

Grand High Priest Kammerman in his concise address advanced this thought, worthy of consideration:

One of our greatest faults is the thoughtless neglect of our duties to mankind. Masonry teaches self service and we should learn our lessons so that we can appreciate the trials and tribulations of others and to aid and assist those in distress whenever possible.

Carrying this thought a little further, he believed it would be well if Grand Chapter would establish some educational fund or adopt an educational policy of some definite nature. Grand Chapter also thought this a commendable idea, but suggested no plan of making it effective.

In reply to a query he stated that Chapter officers or degree teams may go to some other Chapter's place of meeting and confer degrees; but they cannot go to some other town where there is no Chapter and confer degrees without the permission of the Grand High Priest or Grand Chapter.

He issued an edict to the effect that no Companions hailing from Pennsylvania who have not received the Past Master's degree can be admitted as visitors or by af-

filiation. But they may have this degree conferred upon them, without charge, and can then be admitted.

Concerning one of his visitations, which were as many as his time permitted, he cites this somewhat unique condition:

I was rather surprised that after I had been an officer in the Grand Chapter for five years, there was no Companion present who had attended Grand Chapter for the past five years and I took an examination in order to satisfy these Companions that I was qualified to be among them.

He particularly enthused over his visit to Yankton Chapter where he was "impressed with the true Masonic spirit" which it seem to have and practice, and which he follows with this positive statement, and which ye scribe believes is not confined to that particular locality either: "I find that Masons who are active in the Scottish Rite Bodies here are also active campaigners in the Chapter."

His visits further convinced him of the unsatisfactory results from District Deputies, and he strongly recommended that system be abandoned and the office of a Grand Lecturer created.

He is not disposed to attribute the small net loss in membership for the year to poor crops and financial conditions; for, he says:

There has been a general lack of enthusiasm for Capitular Masonry on the part of the Companions. This is especially true of the members of our small rural Chapters which meet irregularly and are more or less inactive. All of us should at once awaken to the necessity of paying special and definite attention to these in accessible, struggling Chapters, which are really fighting for their lives.

The question of changing the date of the Annual Conventions was laid over a year.

A score of qualified Companions were consecrated and set apart to the Order of High Priesthood.

Thoughtful and instructive is the review of Grand Chapters by E. Comp. Robt. S. Hart, in the preliminary of which he discusses "Life Membership," which he favors on the payment of a lump sum which at interest will yield a sum equal to the current year's dues; also that it would not be just to call upon a life member to pay any assessments which might at some time be levied by either Grand or Subordinate Chapters.

Discussing exemption from dues, he thinks "no Chapter really practicing Masonry will suspend the Companion unable to pay," and that suspensions for n. p. d. are usually really "for lack of zeal and interest." He also considers "dependent membership" and "continuous membership," but does not offer any positive solution of either.

His comments and conclusions will no doubt be read and considered thoughtfully by the Companions for whom they are primarily intended, and results may be looked for.

Noting that Florida has "emeritus," "life" and "honorary" members, with various distinctions, he believes that they should be restricted to the truly necessitous, and "that neither age nor infirmity, without financial distress, should be reason enough to relieve the Companion of Capitular or other dues."

Ye scribe is not quite sure if Comp. Hart's comments concerning the Florida review is intended to be commendable, however they are appreciated.

Next Annual in Sioux Falls, June 14 and 15, 1928.

Albert G. Granger, Kadoka, Grand High Priest; Geo. A. Pettigrew, Sioux Falls, Grand Secretary; Dr. Robt. S. Hart, Groton, Reviewer.

TENNESSEE—1927

Chapters, 90. Members, 11,267. Exalted, 508
Net Gain, 30

ALFRED C. MORGAN, Grand High Priest

About the only persons of importance who seem to have been missing when the gavel sounded at the Ninety-eighth Annual Convocation, held in Nashville, January 24, 1927, were the Representative of two Chapters, Florida being represented by E. Comp. Walter B. Bell.

Optimism characterizes the comprehensive address of Grand High Priest Morgan, in which he notes not only progress in the arts and sciences but also that "Freemasonry has grown by leaps and bounds," and particularly in Tennessee which has, he states, grown from four Chapters and a handful of members in 1826, until now it numbers ninety Chapters and over 11,000 members, and with pardonable pride, he continues: "There is scarcely a cross road that does not boast a blue Lodge and scarcely a hamlet that does not point with pride to a Chapter." This suggestion from him is well worth passing along:

Our best opportunity to make a man a Mason is during the exemplification of the degrees, and, Companion High Priests, your duty and honor and future welfare of the Order demand that you transmit the great teachings of the Craft with scrupulous purity and impressiveness, not only to your successors in office, but more especially to every stranger who is admitted among the workmen, then, and only then, can you justly claim the title of a workman that needeth not to be ashamed.

Among the dispensations granted was one to defer election and installation of officers; but he refused one to install officers prior to the date set in by-laws, in which he held that the Grand High Priest is without authority to anticipate the failure of a Chapter to install officers or to set aside a provision of the by-laws.

He disapproved by-laws exempting any officer from dues, and suggested that could be overcome by making the salary the equivalent.

His dispensations, rulings and other minor acts conformed to law and were approved. Even though removing permanently from the Jurisdiction, neither of the three elective officers can resign, and their stations must be filled by appointment at each convocation; although there is nothing to prevent the appointment of the same Companion from time to time. Wonder how that might affect the ritualistic work?

Grand Chapter was "doubly pained at the thought that any Royal Arch Mason in Tennessee should be guilty of using," what the Grand High Priest termed "harnessed lightning" at the crossing of the "Parphar," and hereafter any Chapter permitting it to be used shall have its charter arrested.

The great event of the year was the Centennial Ceremonial Anniversary of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of

Tennessee, which was formed April 3 and 4, 1826. It was observed in the Scottish Rite Auditorium in Nashville, January 24, 1927. Very instructive as well as entertaining must have been the historical address by Past Grand High Priest Charles Comstock, which was accompanied by an Illustrative Pageant, in which each Chapter in the State was represented by a young lady student of the Tennessee College.

A representative number qualified and received the Order of High Priesthood.

Companion Past Grand High Priest C. H. Smart made his seventh journey to the different Grand Jurisdictions by aeroplane. He stated that he was nearly a year in making his visitations, and that but few Grand Quarries were slighted. He does not state just what time of the year he reached Florida; and he found there but little "to particularly interest outside Capitular world."

Next Annual in Nashville, January 23, 1928.

Charles F. Bunbury, Memphis, Grand High Priest; Stith M. Cain, Nashville, Grand Secretary; Charles H. Smart, Nashville, Correspondent.

TEXAS—1927

Chapters, 314. Members, 43,715. Exalted, 1,387
Net Loss, 50

D. N. CUSHING, Grand High Priest

More than eight hundred pages are required to record the transactions of the Seventy-eighth Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas, held in Waco, Dec. 5 and 6, 1927, covering three sessions, and

even then "leave to print" must have been generously granted, Masonically speaking. Big business.

Capitular Masonry has a real meaning in this Grand Jurisdiction, if the presence of every Grand Officer at the annual as well as Florida's representative, E. Comp. D. C. McCord, has a face value significance, and the work upon its trestle board is presumptive evidence that it has.

Real service, whether applied to man or measure, is the outstanding expression today implying supremacy. This may well be said of Grand High Priest Cushing, whose address breathes a spirit of devotion, as he records a year of service as well as an understanding of the basic principles of the Royal Craft. This is illustrated in the Solomonic harmonious adjustment of the affairs of a Chapter where the trouble was caused by the "wrong advice" of Companions, he says, "who did not know the law but thought they did."

Many of his minor activities were necessary to comply with laws not appearing in Florida Statutes, such as dispensations to Chapters to resume labor, which had "failed to meet for more than three consecutive months." One was refused to install belated appointive officers, because "the law does not permit my doing so after August 1st."

Questionnaires sent out revealed that many Chapters had large amounts of uncollected dues, in some cases amounting to an equivalent of "four years' dues on the entire membership." He mildly comments "that it is not well for Companions to become so far behind with their dues." It is doubtful if there be a dissenting voice and we opine that more emphasis might follow. All Florida

Grand Bodies have regulations providing for suspensions for n. p. d. after two years, and ye scribe understands it is being commonly enforced.

As ye scribe understands it, Texas Grand Chapter has a law that "one-half of the fees belong to Grand Chapter," and should be remitted promptly the first of the following month; but apparently it is not always done, and which brings out this comment by the Grand High Priest; and who charitably thinks these conditions are caused by ignorance, but he continues, "there will come a time when forbearance will cease to be a virtue:"

Some of those (Chapters) who have spent the money seem to think if their charter is taken up or surrendered it cancels the debt and leaves them free, but such is not the case. The former officers and members are still holden for the money, and if not paid, charges may be preferred in the Lodge and further action taken.

In connection he makes the pertinent suggestion that a Chapter should elect its best qualified Companion for Secretary, and not because he is a "good fellow." This idea is fast gaining favor in Florida.

The Grand High Priest is to be commended that his eighty official visitations were to the smaller Chapters and those that had not recently been visited by other Grand Chapter Officers. In doing this he traveled over eighteen thousand miles and spent one hundred and thirty-one days away from home and practice. His mission seems to have been to encourage the Companions to study the interpretation of the ritual, and not compliment them on the fine "eats," for, he truly says, the "time of the Grand High Priest is too valuable for this."

Four of the decisions of the Grand High Priest were largely local and probably would be good law generally so far as applicable. But this ruling is of greater interest for it pertains to the procedure of a member of the Grand Lodge of Texas who received the Chapter degrees in Scotland and who desires to affiliate by dimit with a Texas Chapter. This is the ruling:

Held that the Companion could become eligible for affiliation with a Chapter in this Jurisdiction by having the Past Master's degree conferred upon him and being re-obligated in each of the other degrees recognized by the Grand Chapter of Texas.

Naturally this did not meet the approval of the Jurisprudence Committee, because it was contrary to existing Texas law to affiliate a Companion coming from a Grand Chapter with which Texas was not in fraternal relations, holding that under these conditions a Companion must be re-instated in all the degrees instead of being re-obligated in the missing degree of Past Master. The Grand High Priest looked at it from another angle, and in substance to this effect:

The Companion had received the degrees in a regularly constituted Chapter under the jurisdiction of a regular Grand Chapter. However it was with a Grand Chapter with whom Texas was not in fraternal relations at that time; but it was with a Grand Chapter with whom it had been in fraternal relations until there arose a difference of opinion, not in regard to any irregularity or regularity; and not in regard to their work, but just simply a difference of opinion.

Grand Chapter seemed to recognize the force of the claims of the Grand High Priest, and the question was finally adjusted by rescinding former rulings and chang-

ing the law and approving the ruling of the Grand High Priest, and which will be the "law and precedent governing such actions in the future."

The matter of resuming fraternal relations with the Grand Supreme Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland was freely discussed and apparently with some favor; however, the matter was referred to the Jurisprudence Committee to report in 1928. This report will be of much interest for, not unlikely, it may include the great Australian question which presents problems somewhat difficult to harmonize with the American idea of exclusive jurisdiction.

Much attention is being given to Masonic education, nearly a hundred lecturers being put in the field, and yet the report states that new members are being made faster than they are being instructed.

The Masonic Home has a well equipped printing plant, all Grand Chapter printing being sent to it, the claim being that its work is up to the standard and the prices compare favorably with the commercial concerns.

Justifiable pride is taken in its Home for aged Masons, which with its well managed farm in connection, and whose wards numbered 130, appear to have been cared for during the year at an average expense per day per ward of 71.29 cents. It also has a well equipped hospital which cares for its patients at an average cost per day \$1.1617.

The Order of High Priesthood is conferred at six o'clock in the morning of the second day. Wonder if that could have any bearing on the fact that only twenty-seven Companions were set apart and consecrated?

Three hundred pages are set apart to list the members of the Grand Chapter of Texas, set in small type and four columns to a page, while only about three-quarters as many pages and in much larger type are appropriated to Past Grand High Priest Sam J. Helm for his Capitular Review, in which every line from "kiver to kiver" is important, and none could well be omitted. It would be enlightening to know which has the greater number of readers. "The Returns" or "The Review?" The former must certainly appeal to mail order houses.

Companion Helm noting that no more space was given to reporting the relief for flood sufferers than to the names of those who might be charter members of a new Chapter, he comments:

What do you think of that? It seems there are to be found a few Masons who work without hope of fee or reward, who do not proclaim from the house-top every good deed they perform. How refreshing it is to find something like this, after being accustomed to the tooting of horns through newspapers about everything that Masonry undertakes.

Would that space would permit a reproduction of the entire review of Companion Helm, for it gives a slant to our activities from a Texas viewpoint as instructive as it is unique. And here is where the reviewer has the advantage of the rank and file.

Next Annual in Waco, Dec. 3 and 4, 1928.

G. W. Emery, Terrell, Grand High Priest; T. M. Bartley, Waco, Grand Secretary; with the name of the Correspondent in doubt.

UTAH—1927

Chapters, 8. Members, 1,274. Exalted, 58
Net Gain, 33

LEROY A. MCGEE, Grand High Priest

One Subordinate Chapter and Florida's Grand Representative were not present when the Grand High Priest sounded the gavel at Price for the opening of the Sixteenth Annual Convocation, May 9, 1927.

On account of the peace and harmony generally prevailing in this Grand Jurisdiction, Grand High Priest McGee said, his address would necessarily be brief. It was a special privilege, he said, to welcome all on this particular occasion, as the new temple at Price had but recently been completed, and the contemplated privilege of using the new building at this time had helped to bring it about.

He reported the deaths during the year of M. .E. .Comp. Robert W. Fisher, who was Grand High Priest in 1921, and M. .E. .Comp. Warren Benjamin, Grand High Priest in 1923.

Every Chapter was singly or collectively visited by him during the year, and he found their conditions generally good. Among his dispensations was one to Price Chapter to make a pilgrimage to Green River, in the same jurisdiction, and confer the degrees upon a class of ten, and he believed this pilgrimage would "redound to the credit of Capitular Masonry in general."

He recommended contributions to the Tuberculosis Sanatoria Association in New Mexico and also to the Mississippi flood sufferers.

In some unexplainable way the Essentials of Price Chapter had disappeared and the Grand High Priest recommended that another copy be furnished this Chapter, but at the same time he said the Chapter was entitled to a reprimand. Owing to the fact that the officers of Price Chapter are located in various parts of the county, which is of large area, he recommended that the Grand Secretary be requested to procure additional copies and that they be loaned on the order of the High Priest when needed. This was approved by the Committee of Custodians.

The committee to which had been referred the request for recognition of The Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Queensland, the first one formed, made exhaustive investigations, and found that there was only one point of difference between it and the Grand Chapter formed in 1922, both of which are working for amalgamation, and recommended that "recognition be not acceded until the contemplated union is perfected."

The one decision reported pertained to the petition of a Brother who had been elected to receive the Royal Arch degrees, but whose check had been returned marked "Insufficient Funds." Later investigation revealed that there was some question if he had ever authorized the petition to be presented. And by order of the Grand Chapter it was referred back to the Lodge of which he was a member, for investigation and action.

Half a dozen petitioners were set apart to the Order of High Priesthood, the fee for which is \$10.00.

A somewhat concise report of the Committee on Correspondence is given, presumably by E. .Comp. Wm. H. Wilkins, although his name does not seem to appear. A

personal letter confirms our assumption. However the review contains much of value to any reader.

Florida is carefully reviewed and with apparent approval. He finds much that is interesting in the address of Grand High Priest Todd, and approves the action taken to permit balloting on petitions only at regular convocations as "good law and good sense, a combination not always found."

After due search and inquiry, and not being able to find anything in the Florida review upon which "to base a scrap," he perforce is obliged to approve—a somewhat doubtful compliment. However, thank you.

Next Annual in Provo, May 7, 1928.

Wm. F. Bulkley, Provo, Grand High Priest; G. B. Roberts, Ogden, Grand Secretary; Wm. H. Wilkins, Salt Lake City, Reviewer.

VERMONT—1927

Chapters, 31. Members, 5,945. Exalted, 155
Net Loss, 42

RAYMOND A. PEARL, Deputy and Acting Grand High Priest

Unexpectedly in the midst of life's duties, the light in the Grand East was extinguished and all that was mortal of M. E. Comp. Edwin B. Clift, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Vermont, was consigned to earth. It was truly said of him:

The rough Ashler has been sculptured. The Fraternity will see him no more, but his life and deeds will ever live in the hearts of true Vermonters.

Another member of the Permanent family was also summoned, M. E. Comp. Edwin O. Hibbard, Grand High Priest in 1889.

The One Hundred and Tenth Annual was held in Burlington, June 14, 1927, with many distinguished visitors present as well as Florida's Representative.

Matters passed along so smoothly that the Acting Grand High Priest found but little that required attention. However he believed that the report would have been more complete had M. E. Comp. Clift "made it himself."

As a consequence the several committees had little to report. Substantially the only matter of importance was the adopting of a resolution to the effect that when a Subordinate Chapter neglects to make proper returns and pay dues for two successive years, its charter shall be forfeited. However, the charter may be returned, if proper requirements are met. The Grand Chapter is to be the judge.

Only one out of the eight District Deputy Grand High Priests failed to make a creditable report of the work done in the Chapters during the year.

Only half a dozen qualified High Priests were set apart to the Order of High Priesthood.

For the third time Past Grand High Priest Archie S. Harriman reviews the Proceedings of the other Grand Chapters in which he quotes freely and comments discerningly.

Under Florida he heartily agrees with Grand High Priest T. T. Todd in his sentiment regarding friendship, and also that the charters of dormant Chapters should be arrested and "held until more interest is shown." He takes no exceptions of course to the constitutional reason advanced by the Jurisprudence Committee in striking out the provision, allowing ballot on petitions at other than regular Convocations, but he does to the statement that "Masonry will be better served by not allowing such action," on this ground:

This reason does not appeal to us. Petitioners are Brethren and as such are well known. The need for time for investigation can not be as urgent as in the case of a profane.

Next Annual in Burlington, June 12, 1928.
Raymond A. Pearl, St. Johnsbury, Grand High Priest; Henry H. Ross, Burlington, Grand Secretary; Archie S. Harriman, Middlebury, Correspondent.

VICTORIA—1927

Chapters, 62. Members, 4,150. Exalted, 541
Net Gain, 375

THOMAS M. KIRKWOOD, Grand Z

All of the Quarterly Convocations are held in Melbourne. Much routine business of interest to the membership was considered at the April Quarterly.

An event of particular interest was a lecture by M. E. Comp. A. H. Hansford bearing the title, "Odd Numbers." It was somewhat of a continuation of a lecture

given at a previous Convocation, in which the lecturer referred to a widespread belief among ancient and modern races that to each, god and man there was a secret Name, and that any one possessing the knowledge of that secret Name thereby obtained such power over the god or man as to compel the latter to his will, even to the extent of actual slavery. The second lecture was largely confined to the symbolism and significance of the many odd numbers which occur so frequently in biblical as well as in Masonic and other history, and concludes with this significant statement:

I feel that this enquiry into the ancient uses of our significant numbers has been almost resultless, and I ask that some charity be shown to reach definite conclusions or to invest my subject with much practical interest.

The Grand Z., M. E. Comp. Kirkwood, having returned from a somewhat hurried trip to the Motherland, presided at the October Quarterly. While absent he visited the Supreme Grand Chapter of England, and greatly regretted that there was no session of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland at the time he visited that country, but he was entertained by the Earl of Cassillis, its Grand First Principal. After his return he consecrated two new Chapters, the total number consecrated during the Capitular year being six.

Quite an exhaustive presentation of the Capitular conditions existing in Queensland as prepared by R. E. Comp. John E. Kennedy, Grand Scribe E., was made a part of the report of the committee appointed for that purpose. As the two Grand Chapters were still unable to agree on amalgamation, the Committee felt "that recogni-

tion, at the present time, of either Body would be inopportune." However, recognition was accorded the Grand Chapter of New Jersey and exchange of representatives granted.

At the January Quarterly M. E. Comp. Thomas Mackenzie Kirkwood was nominated for the third time Grand First Principal, and his election was formally proclaimed at the April Quarterly. At that time his address was read by the Grand Scribe E. which included the names of the Companions on whom he had conferred Past Grand Rank. Following his official installation the Grand Z. delivered his address, in which he briefly reviewed some of the noteworthy events of the year past. The investiture of other Grand Officers followed.

R. E. John E. Kennedy, P. G. H., is Grand Scribe, E., Cromwell Buildings, 366a Bourke St., Melbourne.

VIRGINIA—1927

Chapters, 73. Members, 18,059. Exalted, 826
Net Gain, 127

J. LEON CODD, Grand High Priest

Stricken down in the midst of life's duties and usefulness, R. E. Comp. Alexander W. Bryant, Grand King of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Virginia, responded to the final summons, Oct. 24, 1927, the day previous to the formal convening of the One Hundred and Twentieth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter in Richmond, and Grand Chapter attended his obsequies. Nearly a year previous occurred the death of R. E. James

Braxton Blanks, Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter and also Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery as well from 1919 to 1926; also Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery in 1887 and 1888.

The address of Grand High Priest Codd is a somewhat brief summary of his year's work, which indicate that his official duties were not overly onerous.

He refused every dispensation to set aside a law, holding that a Grand High Priest should not hold lightly regulations adopted after mature deliberation by Grand Chapter. Would that all in power were like-minded.

He refused to permit a High Priest to set the keystone of an arch in an orphanage that was being enlarged, holding that ceremonies of this nature had always been performed by Grand Lodge and did not deem it wise for a Royal Arch Chapter to make these innovations. Grand Chapter added this approval:

This is in accord with the practice in "ye olden days" when the Royal Craft was enjoined to lend all aid but not to appear in public. This, too, is in accord with the spirit of Masonry. Our object should be service, but not the advertisement of that service to the world.

For the information of our Virginia Companions attention is called to a somewhat similar ceremony which was performed a few years ago by a Miami Chapter, with a ritualistic ceremony fabricated to fit the occasion. Also, if our memory is not at fault, a California Chapter, at a more recent date, officiated on a similar occasion.

It was a source of gratification to him to learn that nearly every Chapter had been visited by a District Deputy and who advocated some form of constructive work.

Additional incentives for proficiency are the two Royal Arch Schools held during the year.

A liberal appropriation of \$500.00 was made for the Mississippi Flood sufferers. These two paragraphs in the report of the Grand Lecturer are significant:

Royal Arch Masonry today is a living, growing force throughout this oldest of commonwealths, and the Royal Arch Degree, the summit of Ancient Craft Masonry, is becoming recognized and appreciated more and more year by year.

As Royal Arch Masons we are enthused over the fact that our yearly contribution of one dollar per month (about \$18,000.00) this year, will be applied to the W. J. Hubbard Educational Fund.

Although operating a little over six months, the George W. Wright Memorial Pavilion at the Blue Ridge Sanatorium with a capacity of sixty patients, has admitted sixty-three, and at the close of the Masonic year forty-eight Masonic patients were receiving treatment. Further, the Board of Trustees are anticipating the time when there will be funds available for the erection of an Old Folks Home.

Following somewhat English Masonic customs, on the second day of the Annual Convocation the entire membership goes into a Committee of the Whole, when much of the detailed business is transacted, after which as such committee it adjourns and its action is reported to Grand Chapter. One sometimes wonders what would happen if Grand Chapter failed to approve the action which the same Companions take when acting as a Committee of the Whole?

Thirty-six qualified Companions received instructions pertaining to a High Priest after the order of Melchizedek.

Over 250 pages are given to the Roster of Membership of Subordinate Chapters, and about a third of that number to the Fraternal Correspondence Review by Past Grand High Priest E. Fenno Heath. This might cause one to wonder which has the greater educational value?

Every member of The Guild deeply regrets the recent passing of R. E. Comp. Eggleston, who for many years was an outstanding figure in Virginia Masonry, and now extend the right hand of fellowship to his able successor, Past Grand High Priest Heath.

He believes that more good will come to the Chapters from a Grand Lecturer than from District Deputies, for although he does not say that specifically, yet he infers that something is better than nothing; however, the Grand High Priest himself is necessary to arouse real enthusiasm. He also fails to discover "of what use an honorary membership may be." It pleases the recipient and does no harm to the Body conferring that distinction. And while Florida Grand Chapter shows a large net gain in proportion to its membership, yet he thinks the suspensions of nearly half the gain "is far too many." And while ye scribe is like-minded, he does not feel competent to prescribe a remedy.

Next Annual in Richmond, Oct. 23 and 24, 1928.

Claude W. Fletcher, Alexandria, Grand High Priest;
J. Gus Hankins, Richmond, Grand Secretary; E. Fenno Heath (?), Newport News, Correspondent.

WASHINGTON—1927

Chapters, 54. Members, 9,418. Exalted, 441
Net Gain, 21

WILLIAM T. DRIPS, Grand High Priest

Following the formal opening of the Forty-third Annual of this Grand Chapter in Spokane, May 2, 1927, there was an address of welcome and the reply. Distinguished visitors were present from Oregon, and Florida was represented by E. Comp. William H. Ellert.

Dignity and appreciation of the great responsibility which the office entailed is reflected in the address of Grand High Priest Drips, although he found no wonderful events to chronicle or serious retrogressions to record. He believed the Chapters generally were in a better shape than at that time a year previous. And with characteristic and commendable western optimism his survey of the Royal Craft at large reveals "not a single cloud in sight to obscure the sunshine of fraternal love and friendship."

Two additions were made to the Roll of Honor: M. Comp. John Moore, Grand High Priest in 1898, and M. E. Comp. Richard S. Nickolls, Grand High Priest in 1906.

Distance appears to be lost sight of when inter-jurisdictional visitations are considered by our Pacific Coast Royal Craftsmen. By invitation of Grand High Priest Drips, a team from the Chapters in Portland, accompanied by Grand High Priest Swafford, exemplified the Oregon work in Seattle. At another time a Chapter from Vancouver showed Bellingham Bay Chapter how the

work was done in British Columbia; and to show their appreciation, the Grand High Priests of Oregon and Washington attended a joint convocation of the Vancouver Chapters, and which was said to be undoubtedly the largest gathering of Masons ever held in that jurisdiction. It was also the first time a Washington Grand High Priest had ever visited the northern neighbors.

One dispensation for a new Chapter was granted, the charter of another was taken up, and the removals of two other Chapters for good reasons were approved. Referring to charges which had been preferred first in the Chapter and later in the Lodge, and which resulted in expulsion in both Bodies, the Grand High Priest felt that it would have better had the charges originated in the Lodge and thus have avoided duplication in a large way, and which sound reasonable.

He decided that as the Code was silent upon physical qualifications the Grand Lodge Code would apply. The Jurisprudence Committee did not approve, but we fail to find where it offered any other relief.

Grand Chapter approved the report of the Committee on Interpretation of the Ritual, and quite properly it seems to the writer, that in the Past Master's degree each candidate should be seated, although the ceremony might vary according to conditions. A majority of the Committee decided that the Great Lights should be opened in each of the Chapter degrees the same as in the Master Mason's Degree, on the twelfth chapter of Ecclesiastes; while one dissented, that the book may be opened anywhere, which is a Florida custom.

Grand Chapter did not look with favor upon territorial jurisdiction with adjoining Grand Chapters for membership by initiation or affiliation.

Twenty-two Companions were set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood according to the ancient ceremonies.

Past Grand High Priest Henry L. Kennan, who is also Grand Secretary, presents a readable review of the proceedings of all Grand Chapters which have been received. Florida receives the attention which in his opinion no doubt it merits, but he omits comment and expression of opinion.

Next Annual in Tacoma, May 7 and 8, 1928.

James McCormack, Tacoma, Grand High Priest;
Henry L. Kennan, Spokane, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

WEST VIRGINIA—1927

Chapters, 46. Members, 12,202. Exalted, 395
Net Gain, 83

CARSON B. TRENOR, Grand High Priest

Both the morning and afternoon sessions of the Fifty-seventh Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, held in Huntington, November 14 and 15, 1927, were given to Schools of Instruction, in which all the Degrees were exemplified, the Council Degrees being inserted between the Past Master's Degree and the Most Excellent Master's Degree. As most if not all of our readers know, the

Council degrees in both Virginia and West Virginia have never been separated from the Chapter degrees, thus rendering it impossible for Cryptic Craftsmen in either of these Grand Jurisdictions to fraternize with their Companions elsewhere.

Well attended seems to have been the evening sessions of the Grand Chapter. Among the distinguished guests was M. E. Comp. William T. S. O'Hara, General Grand King of the General Grand Chapter, besides other notables from both the Buckeye and the Blue Grass States, but no one to speak for the fair Southland State.

Optimism and good cheer predominate in the address of Grand High Priest Trenor; while at the same time he insists that "Masonry can never be bolstered up by numbers." Continuing he truly says:

Ours is a fraternity which emphasizes not the spectacular, but the simple fundamental principles of a worthy life; a fraternity whose mission is to build character in men that will find its truest expression in private and public morality, and which will exhibit in all human relations the Divine Wisdom of Love.

During the year Kenova Chapter was constituted, and a dispensation to form a new Chapter at Montgomery was granted. His visitations to this Chapter showed that it was doing creditable work, but for some reason not stated the dispensation was continued another year.

His one decision pertained to a Chapter which suspended Companions for n. p. d. on the last day of the month, when its regular convocations were on the Second Tuesday, and which he held to be irregular, and the Grand Secretary was instructed to advise the Chapter in order to clear the report.

Tributes of respect were paid to the memory of M. E. Comp. William Taylor Workman, who was Grand High Priest in 1914, and Grand Master of the Grand Lodge at the time of his death.

To provide against the possible loss of the Proceedings and other records of the Grand Chapter in the office of the Grand Secretary, he was authorized to place duplicate records in four other libraries. A wise precaution which other Grand Bodies might consider.

Generally favorable was the report of the Grand Lecturer, the exceptions perhaps proving the rule, who stated that through the combined efforts of the Deputy Lecturers and Inspectors, every Subordinate Chapter was visited and inspected.

Among the claims for refund presented to the Committee on Chartered Chapters was one by a Secretary who found that his Chapter had paid six years' tax on a person, who, he says, "never was a Royal Arch Mason, and how he got on my list is a mystery to me;" and of another who had been carried eleven years after he had been dimitted. Grand Chapter admitted that it was not entitled to receive the money, but "as a matter of policy no refund should be made."

Grand Chapter through the Jurisprudence Committee did not look with favor upon a resolution which would permit a Chapter to deduct Grand Chapter dues from a member who had been exempted by that Chapter. Florida regulations provide for certain exemptions, although sometimes this provision seems to be worked up to its limit.

Grand Chapter did not approve a Chapter by-law which would fix its annual dues at \$1.50, and mildly

suggested that its dues be raised as soon as practicable, which causes one to wonder what might have been the unrecorded thoughts of the members of that committee?

Another year action will be taken on a Constitutional amendment to fix the minimum dues at \$30.00.

Arrearages in dues beyond the one year limit was reported by every Deputy Grand Lecturer, varying from \$12.00 in one Chapter to \$823.00 in another, and which latter the Deputy considers "too great." Wonder if there be a dissenting voice? A change of Chapter Secretary might not be amiss.

Seventeen qualified Companions were set apart to the Order of High Priesthood.

Readable as well as instructive is the sixth annual review of Grand Chapter Proceedings by the Grand Secretary, Past Grand High Priest George N. Ford. His computations of gains and losses do not make him overly optimistic that "the weeding out of dead timber is done;" and he agrees with ye scribe that electing really competent secretaries might make a difference.

Florida is carefully reviewed and nothing of importance is overlooked. He gives us credit for reviewing West Virginia Proceedings for 1927, which at that time "were not published," merely a typographical misprint. Wonder if that will account also for the incorrect spelling of the first name of ye scribe.

Once again we note that Companion Nadenbosch was not present to speak for Florida, but Companion Ford says he was for years regular in his attendance at the Annual Convocation; also that he

Is one of the most prominent and popular of Masons, not only in West Virginia, but also in this section of the country. He is an attorney, a 33° Mason, a Past Officer in all Subordinate and Grand Bodies in the State, a pleasing orator and a real worker.

For your sympathy as well as your approbation, Companion Ford, I thank you.

Next Annual in Charleston, October 1 and 2, 1928.

James H. Gollehon, Bluefield, Grand High Priest;
Geo. M. Ford, Wheeling, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

WYOMING—1927

Chapters, 18. Members, 2,231. Exalted, 98
Net Gain, 5

TERRELL G. SCOTT, Grand High Priest

Hotel accommodations have much to do with a traveling man's remembrances of cities visited a quarter of a century ago. At that time, as ye scribe recalls it, Wyoming hostelries were undergoing changes and it is difficult to visualize today the city of Evanston, where was held the Nineteenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Wyoming, July 12, 1927, with every Grand Officer and the Grand Commander, K. T., present; but four Subordinate Chapters as well as Florida were not represented. The Grand High Priest expressed regret that less than one-half the Grand Representatives were present, and made a plea for better attendance.

Tribute was paid to the memory of M. E. Comp. Robert I. Turner, Grand High Priest 1917-18, and to the thirty members of Constituent Chapters who received their final summons during the year.

Generous was the contribution to the Florida Relief Fund, one Chapter more than trebling its quota. The Mississippi disaster being nearer home and covering a wider area, the four York Bodies combined, and acting as a unit, very promptly forwarded on the basis of ten cents per capita for every member in each body, \$1,385.00, and each Grand Body is to be reimbursed by an assessment as above.

Keystone Chapter No. 18 was constituted at Midwest.

With one exception the Grand High Priest visited and inspected each Chapter, and was gladly received, only one Chapter failing to make any preparation, and it would seem this rebuke was merited:

It is regrettable to be compelled to say that it is evident that the true spirit of Masonry, so prevalent in all other Chapters visited, appears to be lacking among the officers of this Chapter.

In order to increase representation at Annual Convocations, the Grand Secretary, in his report, advocated the formation of Grand Convocations Clubs for the purpose of raising funds to finance the expenses of members attending. It is not apparent that Grand Chapter took cognizance of this recommendation.

Neither did it of another which urged the necessity of music in degree work, and which he finds to be a "growing practice in most jurisdictions." This is splendid in theory, but unfortunately not always practical, as ye scribe happens to know of more than one case where

there is not an instrumentalist in any of the Bodies, although there are many members who would gladly form quartets or choruses if accompanists were obtainable.

Only five Companions availed themselves of the opportunity of becoming members of the Order of High Priesthood, the outsiders missing the address of its President, M. E. Comp. Jesse Converse, in which he dwelt upon the Royal Arch Degree, which he considers the most important in Masonry. He said:

The greatness and sublimity of the Royal Arch Degree can not be written nor can all of it be told, not even behind tiled doors. Perhaps its whole story will never be told. It touches not only the world of today, but it reaches back into the dim, distant past, and likewise projects itself into the hazy future when the universe shall be dissolved and time shall be no more.

Much valuable information is found in the fourth annual Capitular review by R. E. Comp. Richard E. Repath, the Grand Secretary, in which current Capitular history is well set forth to those who desire to keep informed. In his concise statistical information he shows that Illinois leads with a membership 90,569 with 240 Chapters, while Texas is sixth in membership, having 43,868, but it has 331 Chapters. Nevada is the smallest, its membership being 655 divided among eight Chapters, while Delaware in its five Chapters has a membership of 2,068.

Under Florida, Companion Repath substantially agrees with Grand High Priest Todd that when Chapters do not request the services of an instructor it more likely evidences indifference rather than high efficiency. And

concerning honorary membership, he pertinently inquires: "Can he vote at all?"

Replying to ye scribe, who remembers Caspar a quarter of a century ago as a frontier town; today, Companion Repath says it is a modern city and the central headquarters of the oil industry in Wyoming. This brings to mind a statement by the host in an auto sight-seeing drive at the Denver Triennial, that the part of the city in which we were then riding contained more homes of multi-millionaire oil magnates than any other like area in the world.

There is much valuable information in the review of Companion Repath that we would like to pass on to our less informed Brethren, but conditions will not permit. And here again is where the reviewer has a great advantage over Florida readers.

Next Annual in Rawlins, June 26, 1928.

John A. Whiting, Cheyenne, Grand High Priest;
Richard H. Repath, Cheyenne, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

[NOTE—The reviews which follow are of the 1928 Proceedings and just received. They would be somewhat old history a year hence, which is the reason they appear out of regular order.—E. P. H.]

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—1928

Chapters, 16. Members, 6,310. Exalted, 197
Net Loss, 129

CHARLES R. BARTLETT, Grand High Priest

About the only one missing at the Sixty-first Annual, held in the City of Washington, February 8, 1928, was Comp. Geo. R. Davis, Grand Representative for Florida, and he no doubt lives in the same city. The name of M. E. Comp. Silas B. Wright, who passed away April 25, 1925, is still carried in the District of Columbia Proceedings as its Grand Representative near the Grand Chapter of Florida.

This being a single evening session, one wonders how much of the printed records carry with it the "leave to print."

Tributes were paid to the memory of three members of the Permanent Family who passed away during the year: M. E. Comp. George E. Corson, Grand High Priest in 1886 and General Grand High Priest 1915 to 1918; M. E. Comp. Robert Armour, Grand High Priest in 1901, and M. E. Comp. Claude F. King, Grand High Priest in 1915.

Grand High Priest Bartlett in his address neither "points with pride" nor "views with alarm" the condition of the Craft, for at the close of his official year he finds:

An underlying thread of melody which has for its theme the very evident increase in the spirit of seriousness that is becoming increasingly apparent in the work of the Chapters.

Included in his address in an illustrating statistical table covering eleven years in which the total membership in the United States is compared year by year with the District of Columbia, as are also the exaltations and net gains or losses. It gives the total membership in the United States for the year 1927 as 800,672. The yearly net gain varies from 85,301 in 1921 to 5,874 in 1927. The biggest gain in the District of Columbia was 803 in 1920, while four of the years show a net loss, the largest being 129 in 1927.

Others will agree with him, we opine, that some of the statements to our Lodge brethren, in presenting the advantages of membership in the Chapter, are not convincing. And he truly says that many a man seeking membership in a Masonic Lodge "bases his desire upon some benefit which he expects will accrue therefrom." This he considers is not reprehensible, for naturally, he adds, "one hopes for success when one enters a chosen business or profession." His conclusion is well worth considering:

The responsibility for a declining membership is an individual responsibility. We preach, but we do not practice; we point the way, but we do not walk therein. The men we need see little in our professions of advanced knowledge in Masonry, and little or no improvement in our conduct as men that are convincing evidences of the "goodness of the institution" in which we invite them to invest their time and their talents.

He advanced the somewhat novel idea that the scarcity of petitions for the degrees accounts for the unusually small number of requests for decisions and dispensations.

Highly commendable is the work of the Past High Priests' Association, and for obvious reasons particularly effective in the District of Columbia, an important phase of which is the conferring of degrees in the various Chapters. Impressive though such work must necessarily be upon the postulants as well as those of the side lines, yet one cannot help wondering whether it does more than merely to fit the ambitious member for "passing the Chairs."

Plans for the reorganization of the Masonic Employment Bureau which have been under way for many months, are still incomplete. This movement is being fostered by Grand Lodge, and Grand Chapter and other concordant bodies are expecting to co-operate, on a basis not to exceed ten cents per capita.

Most of the Subordinate Chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction are located in the City of Washington, several of which meet in the same temple, which makes it easier for the Grand Lecturer to have visited each Chapter four times, and some more than that. Encouraging is his statement that he found "no startling innovations or irregularities to be corrected." But not so much so is the poor attendance on the convocations, for which he says he is not able to give a reason. Unfortunately this is not a local condition, the remedy for which is giving much concern to Craft leaders. Here is an opportunity for real constructive work. Who will qualify?

We also wonder what construction the Florida Grand Lodge Committee on Work would put on this extract from the report of the chairman of the District of Columbia Grand Chapter Committee on Work and Lectures:

The suggestion that certain portions of the printed ritual be eliminated, made in the committee's report for 1927, was given consideration, but, after a thorough discussion, it was felt that only that portion relating to Blue Lodge should be deleted. After consultation with the Grand High Priest, the Grand Secretary and the Grand Master of Masons, the committee recommended that the Chapter ritual should be separately printed and sold only to Royal Arch Masons. This recommendation was adopted by the Grand Secretary's office. While it is recognized that this may work a certain hardship on those Chapter officers who are also active in the Blue Lodge, it is believed that the separate publication is most desirable.

Evidently to prevent embarrassment following inter-chapter visitations, quite common in thickly populated sections, a new constitutional amendment provides that no Chapter shall confer or exemplify any Capitular degree in any foreign jurisdiction without the express consent of the Grand High Priests of both Grand Jurisdictions.

There appears to be no Order of High Priesthood.

Having given so much consideration to the review and comments on the proceedings proper ye scribe feels he is not doing justice by merely calling attention to the report of the Doings of the Various Grand Chapters in the Capitular World by Past Grand High Priest Wm. W. Jermaine. Being an experienced newspaper man he loses sight of none of the high spots, and many of the minor events are attractively garbed as well.

Florida is given a clean bill of health, he being especially impressed with its gratitude to Masonic Grand Bodies all over the country which did so much toward material help in time of need for the tornado sufferers, and particularly "that the spirit prompting the gifts was quite as much appreciated as the gifts themselves."

Next Annual in Washington, February 13, 1929.

Raymond B. Dickey, Grand High Priest; J. Claude Keiper, Grand Secretary; Wm. W. Jermane, Correspondent; all of Masonic Temple, Washington.

KANSAS—1928

Chapters, 96. Members, 21,692. Exalted, 701
Net Loss, 63

JAMES E. McCLELLAND, Grand High Priest

Following the formal opening of the Sixty-third Annual Convocation in Topeka, February 20, 1928, which was attended by all the Grand Officers, many Past Grands, Florida's Grand Representative and Past Grand High Priest Edmund E. Morris of Missouri, Grand High Priest McClelland presented a report of his stewardship for the Capitular year.

His address breathed loyalty to the Craft and a determination to faithfully discharge the responsibilities which he had assumed the year previous, and he was quite properly congratulated by Grand Chapter, which approved his official acts.

Deserved tribute was paid to M. E. Comp. Charles J. Webb, who was Grand High Priest in 1901, and who was also at different times the presiding officer of the three other York Rite Grand Bodies. He passed away on board ship as it was nearing the harbor at Honolulu, whither he was journeying in quest of health.

No decisions were required and the special dispensations granted by the Grand High Priest were largely to Chapters to make pilgrimages to nearby cities to confer degrees, and for elections to fill vacancies where High Priests had left the jurisdiction of the State.

He issued the customary edict prohibiting visitation by Pennsylvania Companions who had not received the Past Master's degree until after it had been conferred upon them in full form, for, he said, Kansas recognizes that "fraternal comity due the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania."

Early in the year letters of inquiry were sent to each High Priest, seeking to learn the reasons for the large number of suspensions during previous years. Replies received from a majority of them convinced him that the personnel of the majority of those petitioning were above reproach, however, he well says:

Time has proven that the majority of those admitted were not imbued with the proper Masonic spirit necessary to assimilate the teachings and precepts of Capitular Masonry. They were watch-charm Masons, so to speak, Masons in name only, and will never become the true representative Masons typifying Masonic ideals.

He also found that a large number of Chapters were lacking in necessary equipment and paraphernalia, and which they were directed to procure. He also further found Chapters who were carrying members on the rolls who were from one to seven years in arrears for dues. He insisted on Chapters enforcing the by-laws governing delinquencies, with the result that one Chapter sustained a loss of six percent of its membership. He emphasized what ye scribe has long contended, and who believes he

has some knowledge, for he was secretary of one to four local bodies for considerably more than a decade of years. These are the words of the Grand High Priest:

Secretaries must stand censured to a great extent for this condition, for it appears to me that the burden rests wholly upon them for collection of dues and the maintenance of their membership lists. The active Secretary, from personal observations, is the one with the least percentage of delinquents charged to his Chapter.

He learned that many Chapter Secretaries were commonly disregarding a Law requiring them to immediately turn over to the Treasurer all funds as they are received. Grand Chapter said the Statutes must be obeyed.

Personal visitation showed that the Kansas Masonic Home at Wichita was sorely needing an isolation building for contagious diseases, and steps were taken to remedy this necessity. This is amply provided for in the new unit to the Florida Masonic Home.

Special action by Grand Chapter seems to have been required to remedy the loss of a Grand Secretary's Certificate issued to a Companion so that he might affiliate with a Chapter in another State. This is practically obviated under Florida laws, as the Grand Secretary's Certificate appears on the reverse side of every receipt for dues issued by either of the four York Rite Bodies.

So active was the Grand Lecturer that the Grand High Priest was pleased to report that every Chapter in the State was visited during his administration.

With few exceptions every Chapter has filed in the archives of Grand Chapter its charter and which has

been furnished with a certified photographic copy, framed and ready to hang on the Chapter walls. There are other Grand Chapters which insist that no subordinate Chapter can function unless its charter is in the room at the time. This brings to mind the old saying: "When doctors disagree who shall decide?" Attention is directed to the action taken by Tennessee in the review which follows:

The Grand Lecturer was asked whether the Captain of the Host or the Principal Sojourner should pass the ballot box. He referred it to the Jurisprudence Committee which stated that the answer was not in the province of that committee, neither did it require an enactment, so the Chairman left it up to Grand Chapter to decide, the vote being almost unanimous that the lot fell to the Captain of the Host. Surely a momentous question happily decided!

An important topic in Grand Bodies today is the Transfer of Membership by Certificate rather than by Dimit. This from the Grand Secretary's Report is in harmony with some of its disadvantages, as ye scribe sees it: "Most of the errors in remittances can be traced directly to the Certificates for Transfer of Membership."

Almost three score Companions received the Order of High Priesthood.

So many matters in the proceedings proper have attracted the attention of ye scribe that there is little room left to more than mention the really worthwhile and constructive Report on Correspondence by that Masonic wheel-horse, Grand Secretary Albert K. Wilson. While the typographic harmony of the report is pleasing to the

eye, yet ye scribe wishes it were not necessary to set the extracts in six-point type. This can as truly be said of the Tennessee Proceedings.

Unfortunately the Kansas 1927 Proceedings reached us too late for review last year. It was among the first to be reviewed, and now the 1928 Proceedings come along with a few others at the "eleventh hour." Florida is given due consideration.

Ye scribe is quite in accord with the positive stand taken by Companion Wilson that one desiring affiliation should visit the body before his petition by dimit is accepted. One instance is recalled in our home Chapter where a petition for affiliation was held up something like two years waiting for the petitioner to visit, although he was personally known to many of the members.

Next Annual in Wichita, February 18 and 19, 1929.

Robert H. Montgomery, Oswego, Grand High Priest; Albert K. Wilson, Topeka, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

NEW YORK— 1928

Chapters, 228. Members, 72,423. Exalted, 2,649
Net Gain, 11

CHARLES HAMMEL, Grand High Priest

Masonic nobility from a Past General Grand to mere Past Grands from nearly a dozen Grand Jurisdictions, besides the reigning monarchs of the Empire State's Concordant Orders, as well as still lesser lights galore, gave dignity to the One Hundred and Thirty-first An-

nual Convocation, held in Albany, February 7 and 8, 1928. And yet withal Florida was not represented.

Much important and interesting information is crowded in the account of stewardship of Grand High Priest Hammel, without high sounding phrases or metaphor. Without a close check-up it looks as though his minor necessary official acts are equivalent to one for every working day in the year, and as all passed inspection it is quite evident they were according to law.

Only one Chapter was constituted, which is perhaps encouraging, indicating that the Royal Craft is gradually getting back to quality rather than quantity standard. Let us hope, even though two new Chapters were instituted during the same Capitular year.

Only one dispensation was denied, which was to confer the Past Masters Degree in a certain Lodge room on a certain date; yet a little later a dispensation was granted to the same Chapter to confer the Most Excellent Master's Degree in the same room and same date as the first request. Wonder why one request was refused and another granted?

Particularly notable was his visitation to the Annual Communication to the Grand Lodge, it being the first time that all the titular heads of both York and Scottish Rite Bodies had been seated on a rostrum at the same time.

Another memorable event was the participating in the Rose Croix Feast of the Pascal Lamb at the Scottish Rite Cathedral in New York.

Grand Chapter has definitely decided to stress Tuberculosis Relief, and this fact was impressed upon those making official visitations. Each Chapter was to be invited to contribute at least \$100 to that fund; not as an

assessment, but rather as a means of helping their less fortunate Companions.

The Grand High Priest decided that where the Constitution prescribes that a vote shall be by show of hands a vote by ballot or any other way would be unlawful. Also that an assessment against members for Masonic entertainment purposes was not legal and they could not be dropped for n. p. d.

The generous contribution of over \$5,000.00 for the relief of the Mississippi flood sufferers gave Grand Secretary Davilla of Louisiana an opportunity to express a well founded belief that "It has certainly broadened the vision of Freemasonry."

Grand Chapter approved the positive stand taken by the Grand High Priest that visits of Knights Templar in uniform at Chapter convocations were undesirable and should not be encouraged.

The Jurisprudence Committee reported and Grand Chapter approved, if ye scribe correctly understands the action, that the omitting of a few words in one section of the Constitution will permit all worthy Pennsylvania Companions to visit in New York, regardless of the former's action relative to the Past Masters Degree.

The Order of High Priesthood being obligatory in New York, all High Priests-elect present were consecrated and set apart, and special conventions were held later to accommodate the few who did not attend Grand Chapter.

Past Grand High Priest George E. Briggs reviews sixty-three proceedings of Grand Bodies, two or three being for two years each, and in which Florida shares.

This is his first offense and he will be cordially welcomed.

He says he is limited to one hundred pages, and he keeps within the limit. But there is nothing said about the size of type, which in the New York volume is much smaller than in the Florida. We venture the assertion that if the New York review were set in the same sizes of type and same size page as Florida uses it would more than exceed two hundred pages. A page of type is therefore somewhat indefinite.

Next Annual in Albany, February 5 and 6, 1929.

Samuel S. Forster, Schenectady, Grand High Priest;
Charles C. Hunt, Masonic Hall, New York, Grand Secretary; George E. Briggs, Peekskill, Correspondent.

TENNESSEE—1928

Chapters, 90. Members, 11,267. Exalted, 424.
Net Loss, 106

CHARLES F. BUNBURY, Grand High Priest

Every Grand Officer, a baker's dozen Past Grands, many other lesser lights, Florida's Grand Representative, E. Comp. Walter B. Bell, Grand Master of the Third Vail, and representatives from all but four Subordinate Chapters answered to roll when the Ninety-seventh Annual Convocation opened in Nashville, January 23, 1928. The Grand Visitors were: M. E. Comp. Early H. Johnson, Past Grand High Priest of Georgia and the personal representative of the General Grand High Priest

as well as the General Grand Master of the First Vail; and E. Comp. I. J. Scharff, Grand Captain of the Host of Mississippi. Later in the proceedings Past General Grand High Priest Henry D. Hamilton was introduced and received with Grand Honors.

Fortunately the many activities of Grand High Priest Bunbury were largely minor, the one dispensation refused was to use a photographic reproduction of the charter, the original to be deposited in a safety vault. Kansas (see above) insists that photographic copies of charters be displayed and that the originals be filed in the archives of the Grand Chapter.

Tennessee fell in line with other Grand Chapters and set its seal of approval on Pennsylvania's action in the Past Master's Degree.

The Grand High Priest recommended setting aside \$1,000.00 each year towards a fund to send its Past Grands to the Tacoma Triennial, but Grand Chapter thought it better not to cross the bridge until it was reached, and by that time conditions might change. He also recommended raising the minimum annual dues to \$2.00, which was approved.

The dispensation of Evergreen Chapter U. D. was continued; a charter was granted Keystone Chapter; Brownsville and Goodloe Chapters will consolidate, and the Charter of Mine City Chapter was arrested.

All Chapters in Tennessee are urged to observe the second Thursday in September as Educational Day and to put on a real program to fit the occasion.

The Jurisprudence Committee approved a constitutional amendment that "a petition may be withdrawn at any time before ballot by unanimous consent." Also another that "No Subordinate Chapter shall charge less

than \$2.00 for annual dues." But it disapproved adopting the General Grand Chapter ritual.

Grand Chapter did not approve continuing the compilation of a history of Capitular Masonry in conjunction with that of Grand Lodge Masonry, for the present.

Nearly two score Companions were consecrated and set apart to the Order of High Priesthood, and each one was also presented with a copy of the Royal Arch Mason's Bible.

Past Grand High Priest C. H. Smart presented his observations of his airplane journeyings to fifty-three Grand Quarries, this being his eighth inspection. He found that peace and harmony prevailed throughout the domain, and that "even the Pennsylvania Past Masters' question did not ruffle the feathers of the General Grand at Denver."

He finds much under Florida to interest him, although he notes the absence of Tennessee from last year's review. This year is evened up by presenting both 1927 in regular order, and 1928 as an addenda. He states that two hours and a quarter are required to put on the Royal Arch Degree in his State. Of course it must therefore be both elaborate and impressive.

Referring to our comment last year that when a Texas Chapter fails to meet for three successive months, a dispensation is required to resume labor, Companion Smart says "that if this were Tennessee law, we would have less Chapters than we now have by several, if not more."

Next Annual in Nashville, January 28 and 29, 1929.
James I. Walker, Maryville, Grand High Priest;
Stith M. Cain, Nashville, Grand Secretary; C. H. Smart,
Nashville, Correspondent.

CONCLUSION

Even with the above review of four Grand Chapters of the vintage of 1928 as an addenda, late mails bring proceedings from Arkansas, Canada, New Mexico, Maine and Scotland to start the work a year hence. Reviewing is like an endless chain—without beginning and without end. There is an elusive something in this work that is just beyond the grasp and one never reaches the standard he has set. Were it otherwise one might become satisfied, a condition not wholly to be desired.

Words are inadequate to portray our gratitude for the many expressions of sympathy from the members of The Guild as well as from others for the loss sustained by ye scribe a year ago when the companion for two score of years entered into the Great Beyond. While countless numbers have experienced a similar loss in the past as will the multitudes which are to follow, yet that does not affect the loss to the individual. Again, Companions, I thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Ely D. Hubbell

For the Committee

Bradenton, Florida
May 12, 1928.

OFFICERS
OF THE
M.:E.:Grand Chapter of Florida

FOR

A. I. 2458—A. D. 1928

- M.:E.:R. J. MCMaster ----Grand High Priest, Tampa.
R.:E.:STAFFORD CALDWELL --Dep. Gr. High Priest, Jacksonville.
R.:E.:JOHN PASCO -----Grand King, Monticello.
R.:E.:ALEX B. STEUART ----Grand Scribe, Tampa.
M.:E.:MARCUS ENDEL -----Grand Treasurer, Jacksonville.
M.:E.:WILBER P. WEBSTER --Grand Secretary, Jacksonville.
R.:E.:W. B. Y. WILKIE ----Grand Chaplain, Dunedin.
E.:W. B. GREER -----Grand Capt. of the Host, Quincy.
E.:CHESTER C. SNOW -----Gr. Prin. Sojourner, Daytona Beach.
E.:R. P. BUCKMASTER -----Grand Royal Arch Captain, Orlando.
E.:CHAS. M. GRUBER -----Gr. M. Third Veil, W. Palm Beach.
E.:ARCHIE AITCHISON -----Gr. M. Second Veil, St. Petersburg.
E.:GEORGE A. DAME -----Grand Master First Veil, Inverness.
E.:JOHN W. CAPPER -----Grand Guard, Jacksonville.
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The next Annual Convocation will be held in the City of
Tampa, on the Third Tuesday in May, 1929