

this involves very radical changes in our degree work, in the opening and closing ceremonies and in the titles of officers, both Grand and Subordinate, we cannot recommend any change of work.

Grand Chapter adopted the report of the Sixtieth Anniversary Committee that it be held in Halifax in June, 1930; on which occasion Royal Union Chapter will also celebrate its 150th Anniversary, "being the oldest Royal Arch Chapter in the British Empire, if not in the world."

The Order of High Priesthood being obligatory, several Conventions were held in convenient places in addition to the annual at Sydney.

Interesting and informative is the splendid report on correspondence by the Grand Secretary, R. E. Brenton F. Porter. Referring to Florida, Companion Porter does not "see the necessity of changing a ritual, far better to educate the membership." Splendid, as far as it goes. Unfortunately, most rituals seem to leave a loophole somewhere for buffoonery and rough practices for those so inclined. But in the General Grand Chapter ritual this is avoided, there is no suggestive place. Come to Tacoma in 1930, Companion Porter, where undoubtedly you will see something really worth while.

Ye scribe is yet uninformed how the degrees can be conferred in "short form."

Next Annual in Halifax, June 30, 1930.

George L. Williams, Grand High Priest; Brenton F. Porter, Grand Secretary and Correspondent; both of Halifax.

OHIO—1929

Chapters, 209. Members, 80,029. Exalted, 1,750. Net Loss, 888.

CARL W. SPERLING, Grand High Priest

Only one of the living Past Grand High Priests, M. E. Comp. Nelson Williams, and twenty in all, was absent when the One Hundred and Thirteenth Annual Convocation convened in Canton, Oct. 2, 1929. This was the second Annual Convocation Companion Williams had "missed in many years." He was well known among the Craft in Florida and the Brethren generally wish him a speedy recovery to health and strength.

Only a few days before the Annual Convocation occurred the death of M. E. Comp. Levi C. Goodale, a former presiding officer in all Bodies of the State. He was nearly ninety years of age and it could well be said of him, it was stated, that he had virtually "lived in a house by the side of the road and was known as the friend of man."

The address of Grand High Priest Sperling was a business resume recounting his many activities which, though important in themselves, contained little of interest to outsiders, and which were approved. He stressed the importance of inspections, having divided the State into districts. He was obliged to refuse Florida's special appeal for aid because, he stated, "Grand Chapter has no available funds, due to the fact that all surplus money is annually placed in the hands of the trustees of the Masonic Home." His available time being limited he confined his visitations inside the State.

Among the constitutional amendments was one somewhat out of the ordinary to the effect that "no Grand

Chapter dues shall be required from any member for whom an exaltation fee is paid during the year." Another will permit the election to all four degrees at one ballot. That is Florida custom, and which also permits payment as the degrees are taken. Hereafter Subordinate Chapters will be required "to have photostatic copies made of their respective charters," one of which must be kept by the Grand Secretary in a fireproof storage "for use in issuing duplicate charters." Florida looks at it a little differently and issues certified copies of charters.

One hundred and thirty-two Companions were set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood and no action was taken on the request to establish an Order of High Priesthood in Chile.

Owing to the illness of Past Grand High Priest Orion P. Sperra, there is no report on Correspondence. However there is nothing to indicate that Companion Sperra was not reappointed.

Next Annual in Columbus, October 2 and 3, 1930.

Wm. H. Tatum, Cincinnati, Grand High Priest;
Mont C. Hambright, Springfield, Grand Secretary;
Orion P. Sperra, Garrettsville, Correspondent.

OKLAHOMA—1929

Chapters, 78. Members, 13,580. Exalted, 625. Net Loss, 753.

THOMAS B. FRENSLEY, Grand High Priest

Uneventful seems to have been the Fortieth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Oklahoma, which convened in Sapulpa, April 17, 1929, with a goodly attendance, including distinguished heads of other branches,

all members of this Grand Chapter. Florida's Representative was apparently an eleventh hour attendant.

Grand High Priest Frensey, in his address, called attention to the fact that forty years previously "a handful of stout hearted, enthusiastic, optimistic Royal Arch Masons, representing five constituent Chapters," organized the Grand Chapter of Indian Territory, and that today "this Convocation is one of the most active Grand Chapters in the United States." While there were a large number of suspensions, yet he was pleased to report "the trend to reinstatement has begun." He regretted that conditions had prevented him from visiting as many Chapters during the year as he had wished, but those he did attend "were happy occasions." He also said that by reason of a better understanding of the Code, there were few requests for decision. He issued one dispensation for a new Chapter, and the charter of another was taken up.

Thirty-two qualified petitioners were received into the Order of High Priesthood in regular form.

Many valuable ideas were brought out at the annual assembly of the Secretaries' Association.

Ex. Comp. Eugene Hamilton presented a concise as well as interesting correspondence report, which is his third offense. If he used more space he would naturally dispense more wisdom. He advocated Grand Chapters taking up some form of humanitarian activities. The idea seems growing that Freemasonry, if it is to continue to be a worth while organization, must be useful as well as ornamental. However, as ye scribe looks at it, Freemasonry should not assume the activities of the modern luncheon clubs. Companion Hamilton is generous as well as complimentary in his review of Florida.

Next Annual in Weatherford, April 16-17, 1930.

Frank Smith, McAlester, Grand High Priest; Ira B. Kirkland, Muskogee, Grand Secretary; Eugene Hamilton, Chickasha, Correspondent.

OREGON—1929

Chapters, 49. Members, 7,107. Exalted, 254. Net Gain, 21.

THOMAS SIMS, Grand High Priest

Florida was not represented at the Sixty-ninth Annual held in LaGrande, April 8, 1929, with most of the Grand Officers and many Past Grands present. There were two vacant seats: M. E. Comp. Wallace Baldwin, in 1886-87, and M. E. Comp. George E. Chamberlain, Grand High Priest in 1892-93, having received the final summons.

Uneventful seems to have been the year of activities reported by Grand High Priest Sims in his address and which were along customary lines, including issuing a dispensation for one new Chapter.

Believing that Grand Chapter ought to have some definite objective in mind, he suggested that it inaugurate a system of life insurance similar to the Black Camel of the Shrine and the Low Twelve Clubs formed in local and District Lodges. Those with which ye scribe are familiar in this part of the country appear to be rendering real service. Grand Chapter directed that it be referred to a special committee to report a year hence.

Grand Chapter is now functioning without a Deputy Grand High Priest for the first time. Doubt not that it will prove satisfactory.

Hodson Council of the Order of High Priesthood consecrated and set apart thirty Companions. The work was done by a special degree team. This is the only Council ye scribe recalls named after any person.

Ex. Comp. Walter O. Haines, in his eighth Capitular review, in referring to the loss in membership which is ascribed to many causes, not the least of which, he says, is that so many organizations require Masonic membership as a basis, truly adds:

All these things take money and it is felt that the loss in membership is due to the cost of these diversions. If our Masonic Bodies do not offer that which will be more interesting to our members than other organizations, can we expect them to stay when other places give what they desire? The remedy can be summed up in a very few words. Better choice of men for officers and more study on the part of officers to make Chapter Convocations interesting, and also putting to work all the Companions possible.

Under Florida he intimates that the 1927 Proceedings does not show a list of Past Grand High Priests present. That is strange, for on page four of our copy of the Proceedings, fifteen are recorded.

Next Annual in Corvallis, April 14, 1930.

Herbert L. Toney, McMinnville, Grand High Priest;
D. Rufus Cheney, Portland, Grand Secretary; Walter O. Haines, Portland, Correspondent.

PENNSYLVANIA—1929

Chapters, 153. Members, 61,752. Marked, 2,024. Net Gain, 183.

ARTHUR P. KUNZIG, Grand High Priest

Conforming to English Masonic procedure, this Grand Chapter shows four Quarterlies and an Annual, the above statistics being for the year ending December 27, 1928; also there are two Mark Lodges with a membership of 168. The real purpose in having Mark Lodges in addition to the Capitular requirements are not clear to ye scribe.

Committee reports and other necessary routine matters are considered at the Quarterlies, each of which are evening Convocations. Florida was represented on each occasion by E. Comp. William F. Goodwin, who was also the Grand Master of the Second Vail.

Nearly all Grand Chapters within reaching distances were represented at the December Quarterly by distinguished Capitular dignitaries.

Although no statistics for the year 1929 appear, yet Grand High Priest Kunzig in his address at the Annual stated: "While we have made no decided additions to membership, from information received at this reading, we at least will show no loss for the past twelve months."

He refused a dispensation to one Chapter to go "visiting" and confer the Mark degree in another Lodge room, because it was more than three miles away, apparently the constitutional limit.

He refused a request from the General Grand Chapter to have the Capitular degrees conferred upon a member of a Lodge under the York Grand Lodge of Mexico, because Pennsylvania is not in fraternal relations with the Grand Body.

There is no Order of High Priesthood, because that is in substance, as ye scribe understands it, a part of the installation ceremonies of High Priests.

The Report on correspondence is by a committee of five who seem to work without "the hope of fee or reward," and with an introduction, "Face the East," by the chairman, M. E. Comp. John M. Core, who forcefully presents one side of the absorbing topic of n. p. d., and it is regrettable it can not be reproduced at this time.

Florida, reviewed by E. Comp. H. Franklin Brossman, is a concise summary of important events. Ye scribe greatly regrets that he happened to be out of town the day Companion Brossman called in passing through Bradenton. Come again, Companion, and we will try to be at home.

All Convocations are held in Masonic Temple, Philadelphia.

August P. Kunzig, 2003 W. Tioga Street, Grand High Priest; Joseph E. Quinby, Masonic Temple, Grand Secretary; both of Philadelphia.

 QUEBEC—1929

Chapters, 23. Members, 3,804. Exalted, 200. Net Gain, 82.

W. J. EDWARDS, Grand First Principal Z.

Every subordinate Chapter was represented at the Fifty-second Annual Convocation, held in Montreal, March 27, 1929, but Florida was not.

Scholarly was the address of the Grand First Principal Edwards but illness during the year interfered somewhat with his activities. His visitations included the

consecration of a new Chapter at Temiskaming, the seat of a great paper manufacturing industry, and requiring nearly a thousand-mile trip.

So intimate are the relations between Lodge and Chapter that it was necessary to grant something like a dozen dispensations to permit installation as First Principal of Companions who had not served as Worshipful Master in the Lodge or Second or Third Principals (King or Scribe) in Chapter. While these and his other acts were approved, yet it was suggested "that the greatest possible scrutiny be used before the exercise of this prerogative" (dispensations).

There is no Order of High Priesthood for there is no such dignitary as High Priest in Jurisdictions patterning after the Grand Chapter of England.

Once again we turn with pleasure to the thoughtful and concise report of foreign correspondence by M. .E. .Comp. E. T. D. Chambers, Past Grand Z., and who is the Dean of The Guild, Ye scribe was greatly disappointed in not being able to find at home Companion Chambers the short time he was in Quebec last fall. But he was fortunate in meeting in Montreal R. .E. .Comp. W. W. Williamson, Grand Scribe E., and also R. .E. .Comp. W. H. A. Eckhardt, Past Grand Principal Sojourner and also Grand Chancellor of the Grand Priory of Canada. A particularly grievous disappointment was not being able to attend any Masonic assembly while in the Province, it being just previous to the resuming of labor following the summer suspensions.

Next Annual in Montreal, March 26, 1930.

W. J. Edwards, Coaticook, Grand Z.; W. W. Williamson, Montreal, Grand Scribe E.; E. T. D. Chambers, Quebec, Correspondent.

QUEENSLAND—1929

Far reaching and important was the action taken by the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Queensland at the Regular Convocation, held in Brisbane, October 2, 1929, and which seems to bring to a happy conclusion the endeavors which for several years have been made to bring together a union with the other Grand Body denominated the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Queensland. At that time favorable action was taken on the resolution:

That this meeting of the two Grand Committees resolves that amalgamation between the two Grand Chapters shall take place, and that the whole of the Chapters of the two Bodies be re-numbered in accordance with the dates of their establishment, and that this resolution shall be submitted to the two Grand Chapters for confirmation.

Similar action was also taken by the other Grand Chapter, and now all that appears to be necessary will be the formal ratification by the subordinate Chapters of each Grand Body and the union will be completed. After the necessary details are carried out, then the other Grand Chapters throughout the world can, it would seem with propriety, extend fraternal recognition. And it is to be hoped that the union of these two contending Bodies will have a salutary effect upon all Capitular differences which may elsewhere exist, so that Royal Arch Masonry "whithersoever dispersed" may become one world-wide force for the betterment of mankind.

Later—That this greatly desired amalgamation has been effected, is confirmed in a personal letter to ye scribe from R. .E. .Comp. Thos C. Moxley, Grand Scribe E. of

the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Queensland, dated at Brisbane, January 30, 1930:

It is with much pleasure that I advise you that the amalgamation of the two Grand Chapters in Queensland was consummated last evening and we now have perfect harmony in Capitular Masonry in this Territory. There was a very large attendance and the ceremony was carried out with much dignity and solemnity.

I am forwarding to you under separate cover Agenda Paper, Order of Proceedings, Ceremony of Consecration and Installation of Grand Principals and Grand Chapter Officers which I feel sure you will find of much interest.

I regret to say that I go out of office as Grand Scribe E. (Grand Secretary), it being part of the final arrangements that the other Grand Scribe E. fill that position. Personally I think that the sacrifice is fully warranted, seeing that the Union is completed.

SASKATCHEWAN—1929

Chapters, 27. Members, 2,632. Initiated, 120. Net Gain, 30.

A. A. WILSON, Grand Z.

Membership, and therefore probably dues, seemingly begin with initiation rather than exaltation, a custom not common in the United States Grand Bodies.

Minnesota, British Columbia, Manitoba and Alberta were represented when the gavel sounded at the Sixth Annual Convocation, held in Regina, February 20, 1929. Florida's Grand Representative was also among those present.

Loving tribute was paid to the memory of M. E. Comp. Richard H. Spencer, who constituted the Grand Chapter, was made an Honorary Life Member, and who was also a Past Grand Principal of the Grand Chapter of Canada, and also to another Honorary Member, M. E.

E. Comp. Geo. H. Phelps, of North Dakota, who later passed away.

Much credit is due the Grand First Principal, who reported in his informative and business-like address, that he had visited every District and many of the Chapters, and that he "found the true Masonic spirit prevailing." The dispensations which he granted, and which were approved, included several to "transact any business which might be done at a regular Convocation." This might be considered rather liberal under Florida regulations. A second Chapter was instituted at Regina, which gives that city the distinction of having not only two Chapters, but also the first and the last on the roll of Chapters. He recommended the cancelling of Grand Representative appointments when absent two or more successive years. Grand Chapter approved but no direct action appears to have been taken.

There is no Order of High Priesthood. Quite concise, but informative as far as it goes, is the report on foreign correspondence by R. E. Comp. Francis E. Reilly, who is also Grand Scribe E. He thus comments on the generous relief from Grand Chapters in connection with the disaster which befell the States bordering on the Gulf of Mexico. "This impetuosity of our American Companions stands to their credit." He found little worthy of mention in the Florida proceedings.

Next Annual in Moose Jaw, February, 1930. J. R. Yorke, Moose Jaw, Grand Z.; F. B. Reilly, 312 Westman Chbrs., Regina, Grand Scribe E. and Correspondent.

SCOTLAND—1929

It is always a difficult matter to determine what to leave out in the recorded Quarterly Proceedings of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, which are held in the Royal Arch Masons' Hall in Edinburgh.

While much attention is given to finances, but little is said about membership. The Earl of Cassillis, First Grand Principal, at the celebration of the Festival of the Vernal Equinox, March 21st, an annual event, stated that the number of exaltations for 1928 was 2,980, as compared with 3,523 the previous year; also that during that period there had been granted five new charters as compared with fifteen the year before. Continuing, he further stated:

These figures are perhaps not so good as they might be, but under the circumstances we labor, considering the slump in trade, which has fallen more heavily on the people of these islands than possibly any other, we have nothing to be ashamed of.

He was gratified over the results being accomplished in the District Grand Chapters overseas, and particularly to the one in New South Wales which, he says, "if I mistake not has more adherents than any Grand Chapter in Australasia." Apparently the reference to a referendum of the union of the Scottish District Grand Chapters with the Grand Chapters of New South Wales was unfavorable, as indicated in this pertinent comment pertaining to the report sent to the General Grand Chapter of Scotland: "In the circumstances revealed the matter is at an end." Seemingly he finds the general outlook promising, for he adds:

In Tasmania, where we are the only Royal Arch Body, the Order is very prosperous. The four Chapters which we still retain in

Queensland are prospering alongside those of the Grand Chapter there, which Grand Chapter I can describe as practically a daughter to the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland. Our District Grand Chapters in South Africa, including the Transvaal, Central South Africa, and Natal, are all flourishing. Our relations with the General Grand Chapter of the United States and the Grand Chapters of the United States and Canada are most friendly.

Mention was made of the death of the Earl of Kintore, eminent and noteworthy Mason. He was Second Grand Principal for a number of years and was also prominently connected with the Grand Lodge.

Geo. A. Howell, Royal Arch Chambers, Edinburgh, is Grand Scribe E.

SOUTH CAROLINA—1929

Chapters, 39. Members, 5,414. Exalted, 148. Net Loss, 585.

JOHN D. LEE, Grand High Priest

Among the distinguished visitors at the One Hundred and Seventeenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter held in Sumpter, April 24 and 25, 1929, were our own Past Grand High Priest Cary B. Fish, and also M. E. Comp. John Anderson, General Grand Captain of the Host and the personal representative of General Grand High Priest Charles C. Davis.

Deserving encomiums were paid to the memory of M. E. Comp. James L. Michie, Grand High Priest in 1911-1912, also the head of all the other York Rite Bodies, and for eighteen years was fraternal correspondent of these Bodies as well. Ye scribe feels that he has sustained a personal loss.

The address of Grand High Priest Lee was an account of stewardship that evidenced conscientious consideration of required duties. He advanced the idea that under present day conditions, Chapters should have at least three Lodges from which to obtain material, and also that Chapters should consolidate rather than surrender charters, for too often the latter means that members are lost to Capitular Masonry entirely. He also strongly advocated that Chapters should meet regularly and transact business according to schedule, thus eliminating the unnecessary requests for special dispensations.

He held that a Mason suspended for n. p. d. by a Symbolic Lodge stands in the "relation of a suspended Royal Arch Mason without further trial or proceedings." Grand Chapter disapproved, holding rather:

That the status of one who has been erased from the membership roll of his Symbolic Lodge for n. p. d. is that of an unaffiliated Mason, rather than that of a Mason who has been excluded by his Lodge for unmasonic conduct.

Next year Grand Chapter will convene the first Tuesday in April, 1930, by reason of the celebration of the Sesqui-centennial of South Carolina Commandery No. 1 in Charleston on that date.

Only five Companions petitioned for the Order of High Priesthood.

Ye scribe misses the brilliant reviews of proceedings so long furnished by the beloved late Past Grand High Priest James L. Michie; however, a cordial greeting is extended R. W. Bro. George T. Harmon, who is also Grand Chaplain, and who this time presents his initial work, which assuredly passes inspection at this station. "The King is dead; long live the King."

R. T. Goodale (Florida's Grand Representative), Camden, Grand High Priest; O. Frank Hart, Columbia, Grand Secretary; Geo. T. Harmon, Sumter, Correspondent.

SOUTH DAKOTA—1929

Chapters, 34. Members, 5,803. Exalted, 133. Net Loss, 290.

E. F. TERWILLIGER, Grand High Priest

Favored Companions from Minnesota and New York were present when the Fortieth Annual Convocation was opened in Mitchell, the Corn Palace City, June 13, 1929, but Florida was not represented.

Constructive and helpful was the address of Grand High Priest Terwilliger and thorough and efficient visitations seemed to characterize his administration, particular attention being given to consolidating weaker Chapters with the more active ones. He well says that a weakness of Capitular Masonry today, is not being sufficiently careful in the selection of candidates. He very truly stressed the fact that Symbolic Masonry consists of the first three degrees and the Holy Royal Arch, no more, no less, and that the other degrees are but explanatory and honorary.

The four dispensations to hold elections "out of time" would not have been necessary under Florida regulations. Two Chapters were consolidated and the Chapter of another taken up. An excellent recommendation was that Grand Officers in making visitations, where practical, visit the graves of departed Past Grand High Priests, and thus acknowledge the debt of gratitude which is their due. Also that the General Grand Chapter be mem-

orialized to eliminate the degree of Past Master. An unsuccessful effort was made to have Grand Chapter meet the same week as Grand Commandery, instead of with Grand Lodge.

Suitable recognitions were given to the passing of M.·E.·Comp. William Blatt, who was Grand High Priest at the time the Grand Chapter of Dakota was formed, before the division of the Territory, and who was Grand Master the year previous; also to M.·E.·Comp. West Babcock, Grand High Priest in 1917.

Thirteen Companions were consecrated to the Order of High Priesthood.

Commendable and informative is the Capitular Review by R.·E.·Comp. Geo. O. Goodman, the Assistant Grand Secretary, and is his initial effort. He will find a welcome seat in The Guild.

Next Annual in Rapid City, June 12, 1930.

Marion E. Crockett, Susseton, Grand High Priest; Chas. A. Pettigrew, Sioux Falls, Grand Secretary; Geo. O. Goodman, Sioux Falls, Correspondent.

TENNESSEE—1929

Chapters, 90. Members, 10,981. Exalted, 379. Net Loss, 180.

JAMES L. WALKER, Grand High Priest

No special mention appears to have been made that this was the Centennial (One Hundredth) Annual Convocation, which was held in Nashville, January 28 and 29, 1929. All Grand Officers, many Past Grands, representatives from nearly all Chapters, Florida's Representative, and M.·E.·Comp. O. Frank Hart, General

Grand Master of the General Grand Council and the personal representative of General Grand High Priest Charles C. Davis were present when the gavel sounded.

Grand High Priest Walker in his address pointedly called attention to the many sides of the Craft, when he said:

Masonry is not only a theory, but practice; not only history, but life; not only organization, but helpfulness; not only resolution, but practical sympathy. Thus our Brotherhood has a distinct function in the life of our Nation. Our glory is not numerical strength, but quality of life and service. We stand for more than initiation. The measure of our success is not closed by what we learn by tradition or relics, but by the assimilation of the great truths taught by the Greater and Lesser Lights.

Appropriate tributes of respect were paid to the memory of M.·E.·Comp. Charles H. Smart, Grand High Priest in 1917. He was an active worker in all the branches and had been fraternal correspondent of the Grand Chapter since 1919. Companion Smart will be greatly missed. Another member of the Permanent Family to be summoned during the year was M.·E.·Comp. Samuel Slager, Grand High Priest in 1907.

Grand Chapter did not approve a plan to set aside a certain sum each year for the purpose of sending the Grand Officers to the General Grand Chapter.

In order to avoid possible discourtesies or other complications, the terms of Grand Representatives will be co-existent with the Convocations of the General Grand Chapter.

Nearly forty Companions were set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood.

The report on correspondence by Past Grand High Priest Charles H. Smart was prepared and filed with the

Grand Secretary only a few days before he passed away, December 26, 1928. He belonged to a school of beloved Masonic writers who are fast passing away, and who will be missed more and more as the years go by. This quotation, characteristic of Companion Smart, is from his 1929 introductory and is in reality his "swan song:"

We have been forbidden by our physician to read, write or attend to business of any nature, and to take a course of complete laziness for two or three weeks, lounging around the house until we get tired, then lying down until rested, then going through the same program ab initio, ad libitum, ad infinitum and aqueo animo, until we no longer had cacothē scribendi. We rebelled and "kicked over the traces" after three days of trial of this prescription, and told the old sawbones that we had but a few years longer to live at the best, and we could not see as it made very much difference whether we took our flight to the celestial realm in a Ford car or by the classy Cadillac—go slow or swift—get there quick or stop for repairs—so we preferred to attend to our business and use the Cadillac on our journey.

Next Annual in Nashville, January 27-28, 1930.

Arthur G. Hudson, Buntyn, Grand High Priest;
Stith M. Cain, Nashville, Grand Secretary; A. C. Morgan, Clarksville, Correspondent.

TEXAS—1929

Chapters, 303. Members, 42,875. Exalted, 1,333. Net Loss, 351.

B. F. BROWN, Grand High Priest

Nearly seven hundred pages are required to record the proceedings of the Eightieth Annual Convocation, held in Waco, December 2-3, 1929. This book, it was stated, "was completely manufactured by the students of the

Printing Department of the Masonic Home and School at Fort Worth." It is an excellent piece of typographic work, and was in the hands of ye scribe the last week in January. Surely this is prompt service. Less than half of the Subordinate Chapters were represented, but most of the officials, including Florida's Grand Representative, responded to roll call.

Zeal and devotion to Freemasonry characterize the address of Grand High Priest Brown, who is affectionately described as "seventy-six years young, and as active a Mason as can be found anywhere;" and one who not only stood for the highest and noblest in the fraternity, but likewise looked for it in others. He seems to have been an indefatigable worker, traveling nearly 20,000 miles in his visitations, and unquestionably the results of his year's labors will be enduring. Four Chapters were constituted, one instituted and nine charters arrested, and more than a dozen were given permission to resume labor. He emphatically denounced what he termed "a growing tendency to monopolize Masonry and put it under one head and use the sacred name of Freemasonry for commercial purposes." He ruled that nominations in Subordinate Chapters are permissible but not mandatory. Florida does not permit nominations in any of its Subordinate Bodies.

Grand Secretary Bartley, who with Past Grand High Priest Sam Helm, constitute the Education Committee, makes this terse statement; "A great per cent of the membership, apparently, are unaware that anything is taught in Masonry, except a few questions and answers." Wonder why an effort was made to discontinue the work of the Educational Committee? However it was unsuccessful.

The Grand Scribe seems to have been elected from the floor and none of last year's appointive officers were retained or advanced.

Well attended was the annual sunrise session (at 6:00 o'clock a. m.) of the Order of High Priesthood, at which time twenty-nine Companions were set apart to that Holy Order.

The inimitable Sam Helm, P. G. H. P., who prepares the Capitular review for Texas, has decided Masonic opinions, and he believes the greatest danger confronting the Craft today lies in the "possible actions which Masonic Bodies may take in courting the favor of members who are not Masons at heart," and which he thus illustrates:

A society dame is quoted as saying that she wanted her daughter to be pure, sweet and popular; however, if she could not be pure, sweet and popular, she wanted her to be popular. That same idea is peeping up in some places in regard to making Masonry popular, but most of the Grand Chapters will preserve their purity.

In reading the review, whenever you find somebody trying to change Masonry to suit the members who know nothing of Masonry, just think of the society dame and take a fresh grip on pure and undefiled Masonry.

His kindly fraternal review of Florida is appreciated. Conditions will not permit a discussion at this time, but they will be continued at Tacoma. Quite illuminating is his comment concerning rituals:

In Texas, we carry the ritual above our ears, thieves can't steal from us nor hijackers take it away from us, neither fire nor water can rob us of it, and it is as much a part of us as the brain or heart; mouth to ear, we learn it; mouth to ear, we communicate it; heart to heart, we enjoy it.

Next Annual in Waco, December 1-2, 1930.
George G. White, Bertram, Grand High Priest;
Thos. M. Bartley, Waco, Grand Secretary; Sam J.
Helm, Corsicana, Correspondent.

UTAH—1929

Chapters, 8. Members, 1,300. Exalted, 56. Net Gain, 6.

J. WARREN BELESS, Grand High Priest

One Chapter was not represented and neither was Florida at the Eighteenth Annual Convocation held in Ogden, May 13, 1929, but heads of the other Bodies in the State were in attendance. One Companion was admitted into membership in the Grand Chapter but the records do not state where he came from.

There being no disturbance among the workmen during the year the Grand High Priest had little to report other than ordinary routine, and which enabled him to visit most of the Chapters. He sent questionnaires to every Chapter for the purpose of obtaining first hand information regarding working conditions. The Secretary of one Chapter reported that neither the King nor the Scribe could confer any of the degrees and that the average attendance was eight, and that "they have been compelled to leave the Chapter open from one meeting to another in order to resume labor, because nine members could not be gathered together."

Grand Chapter decided that at this time there was no necessity for an amendment which would permit collective balloting. The Board of Custodians will investigate and report on a submitted catechism for the examination of visitors.

Four Companions were set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood.

R. E. Comp. Wm. H. Wilkins, the present Grand King, presented his fourth annual correspondence report, the publication of which was dispensed with this year, but indications are that another year the report may be published. Let us hope.

Next Annual in Park City, May 12, 1930.

Sanford Ballinger, Price, Grand High Priest; J. M. Dunlap, Salt Lake City, Grand Secretary; W. H. Wilkins, Salt Lake City, Correspondent.

VERMONT—1929

Chapters, 31. Members, 5,932. Exalted, 140. Net Loss, 24.

ARTHUR D. YOUNG, Grand High Priest

Record-breaking attendance of distinguished Royal Craftsmen characterized the One Hundred and Twelfth Annual Convocation held in Burlington, June 11, 1929, nine other Grand Chapters having sent favored Companions. Florida was also represented.

All his dispensations pertain to election of officers, which would not occur under Florida laws which prescribe the election of officers, both Chapter and Lodge, shall be the first meeting night in December or soon thereafter, and installation St. John's Day (December 27) or immediately following, and without dispensation.

Memorial tribute was paid to R. E. Comp. Charles W. Whitcomb who had served as Grand Treasurer thirty-eight years, a wonderful record.

Eighteen Companions were set apart to the Order of High Priesthood.

Past Grand High Priest Archie S. Harriman, and Grand Secretary as well, presented his fifth Capitular Review in which he concludes that the decrease in number of petitions reported by most Grand Chapters is chargeable to "the increased cost of living and especially present-day luxuries." He quotes freely and his comments are pertinent. Seemingly he does not quite agree with Grand High Priest Fish, of Florida, in placing blame for losses on "negligence of Secretaries," for he affirms that "since the days of Adam and Eve it has been human nature to find another to be blamed."

Next Annual in Burlington, June 10, 1930.

H. Perley Clark, Woodstock, Grand High Priest; Archie S. Harriman, Burlington, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

VIRGINIA—1929

Chapters, 71. Members, 17,364. Exalted, 488. Net Loss, 256.

A. W. OBENSHAIN, Grand High Priest

Governing dignitaries from West Virginia, Grand Lodge and Grand Commandery were present at the "Solemn Form" opening of the One Hundred and Twenty-second Annual Communication, held in Richmond, October 22-23, with a goodly array of Past Grands as well, but no one to represent Florida.

Freemasonry sustained a great loss in the passing to the Great Beyond of R. E. Comp. James G. Haskins, who became Grand Secretary in 1919, and who was equally active in Grand Commandery and in the Scottish Rite.

Deep sorrow came to R. E. Comp. S. Tate Sterrett, Grand King, in the death of Mrs. Sterrett, which occurred the day previous to the opening of Grand Chapter. Words avail but little, but those who have passed through similar losses sympathize deeply.

So evenly did maters Capitular appear to move that it took but few pages to record the activities of Grand High Priest Obenshain and which appeared to have approvingly passed the Overseers' Squares. He did not find it necessary to render any decisions and he stated that "no dispensation has been granted which would set aside any section of the Digest." He made several visitations and he regretted that he was "unable to visit more of our Chapters."

The Hubbard Memorial Loan Fund Committee stated that the interest continues to increase, but that "under the limitations imposed" a less number of loans were granted.

The report of the Grand Committee of the Whole, a visible evidence of Masonic antiquity, was seemingly of little importance and might be omitted without serious loss to the Craft.

Nearly half a hundred Companions were consecrated and set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood.

Fully twice as many pages are given to the Roster of Subordinate Chapters as to the excellent report on Fraternal Correspondence by Past Grand High Priest E. Fenno Heath, and which causes one to wonder which is of greater educational value to the Craft. However, perhaps the seeing of one's name in print overshadows all other advantages.

Florida is somewhat critically reviewed and apparently not wholly approved. Perhaps, Companion Heath,

if you were to attend a Convocation of the Florida Grand Chapter matters might look differently at close range. Come and try it once, anyway.

Next Annual in Richmond, Oct. 28-29, 1930.

S. Tate Sterrett, Staunton, Grand High Priest; James M. Clift, Masonic Temple, Richmond, Grand Secretary; E. Fenno Heath, P. O. Box 103, Newport News, Correspondent.

WASHINGTON—1929

Chapters, 53. Members, 9,361. Exalted, 403. Net Loss, 34.

JAMES H. JOHNSON, Grand High Priest

Following the preliminary opening exercises the Forty-fifth Annual Convocation convened in Bellingham, May 13, 1929, with M. E. Comp. O. Frank Hart, representing the General Grand High Priest, as the special guest of honor, as well as M. E. Comp. Donald Adams, Grand First Principal, together with many other Grand Officers from British Columbia. Florida was not represented.

Capitular Masonry sustained a great loss in the passing during the year of M. E. Comp. Henry L. Kennan, its Grand Secretary since 1922, and who was Grand High Priest in 1914; also M. E. Comp. John W. Bean, Grand High Priest in 1893, and M. E. Comp. Samuel H. Rush, Grand High Priest in 1900.

Devotion to the Royal Craft and a desire for service characterize the address of Grand High Priest Johnson, who traveled over ten thousand miles in endeavoring to dispense Masonic light and knowledge, in which he vis-

ited fifty-two out of the fifty-three Chapters, either individually or in joint convocation. Surely a very commendable record.

Most of the dispensations issued would not have been necessary under Florida laws; and requests for decisions were answered, he stated, by reference to the code, he calling particular attention to the paragraphs in each case. He was convinced that the most important inspiration in advancing ritualistic perfection were the regional meetings held in different parts of the State.

Noteworthy events of the year were the inter-jurisdictional visitations with Oregon and British Columbia Companions, one of which was also attended by a delegation of Australian Royal Arch Masons who were desirous of seeing American Chapter work. A noteworthy event of the year was the deposit of a pictured glass tube containing treasures belonging to the Craft at the Home in Zenith and to be restored fifty-two years hence, which time will be the centennial of the General Grand Council.

Thirty-two Companions also several from British Columbia, were consecrated and set apart to the Order of High Priesthood.

A brief but well selected review of other Capitular proceedings were presented by Grand Secretary Wesley C. Stone, who succeeded Companion Kennan as Grand Secretary.

Replying to a query, Florida has adopted the General Grand Chapter ritual and it seems to be giving general satisfaction.

Robert E. Sullivan, Seattle, Grand High Priest; Wesley C. Stone, Spokane, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

WEST VIRGINIA—1929

Chapters, 46. Members, 11,938. Exalted, 288. Net Loss, 166.

WILLIAM T. MORRIS, Grand High Priest

It, no doubt, seems strange to many of our Companions to read of R. M. and S. M. Degrees in connection with a Royal Arch School of Instruction, and yet that is the way it is done in West Virginia. If it pleases them, it is not for us to object. Let us hope that sometime we shall all see alike.

The General Grand Chapter as well as Ohio, Illinois, Pennsylvania and Virginia were represented at the Fifty-ninth Annual Convocation, held in Clarksburg, October 7 and 8, 1930; but Florida's Grand Representative was among the missing.

Comprehensive and evidencing careful attention to Capitular matters was the address of Grand High Priest Morris, who was gratified to report that "nothing of an unpleasant nature" had occurred to disturb the existing harmony. But he did think that the continued loss in membership was an "evidence of lessening interest in Capitular Masonry." And he strongly urged the Craft to organize its efforts rather than "waste its energies in half-hearted and misdirected activities," by reason of lack of organization. He commended the work resulting from District Meetings, but greatly regretted that "the ones needing most the benefits of consultation were not represented." His one ruling that a Master Mason who had lost part of a leg but was able to conform to ritualist requirements, was eligible to petition; but Grand Chapter said nay, nay, because it was contrary to the statutes. His numerous recommendations, being constructive and

helpful, were endorsed by Grand Chapter, but brought out nothing particularly new.

The Grand Secretary urged omitting the roster of membership from the Proceedings, but apparently Grand Chapter members want to see their names preserved in print, even though it does cost something. Although the minimum fees are supposed to be \$30.00, yet he found one Chapter was charging \$25.00 and another \$20.00.

This terse and truthful statement appears in the remarks by Grand Secretary James M. Cliff, of Virginia: "Where the officers can confer the degrees you will find those Chapters go forward, and where they cannot confer the degrees they will not go forward."

Twenty-one Companions were set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood.

Well prepared and generally informative is the eighth Capitular review by Grand Secretary George M. Ford, and should be thoughtfully read, particularly by those for whom it is specially intended.

He found much of interest in Florida and his kindly fraternal comments are greatly appreciated.

Next Annual in Wheeling, Oct. 7-8, 1930.

Lawrence G. Kincheloe, Clarksburg, Grand High Priest; George M. Ford, Wheeling, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

WISCONSIN—1929

Chapters, 113. Members, 26,302. Exalted, 1,030. Net Gain, 355.

CLARENCE HILL, Grand High Priest

That Capitular Masonry stands for something really worth while in Wisconsin is evidenced by the fact that it is one of the too few Grand Chapters which report a net gain in membership, as shown in the proceedings of the Seventy-ninth Annual, held in Milwaukee, February 19 and 20, 1929, with practically all Officers, many Past Grands and Chapter Representatives present, besides Officials from the General Grand Chapter, General Grand Council, other Grand Chapters and Florida's representative as well.

That death is no respecter of persons is recorded in the passing to the Great Beyond of M.·E.·Comp. Walter A. Clark, Grand High Priest in 1915; R.·W.·Comp. Cyrus S. Stockwell, Grand Lecturer since 1905, and E.·Comp. William E. Ratsch, Grand Sentinel since 1918.

Strictly business and indicating a strong desire to be of genuine service to the Royal Craft is the address of Grand High Priest Hill. While his minor activities were not overly burdensome, they all passed inspection and he was given the rewards accorded the faithful workmen. His one reported decision was that a petition for affiliation ought not to be received, referred and reported on and ballot displayed at the same Convocation. Grand Chapter approved and added that the same restrictions should apply to petitions for initiation. While not generally approved in Florida, yet there is no regulation preventing such action.

Replying to the query whether it was proper to use an imitation Jewish half shekel instead of a penny, the Jurisprudence Committee was not prepared to make an official decision, but recommended that the form be left to the individual Chapter, according to its understanding of the meaning of the symbol.

Several Constitutional Amendments were presented and will come up for action a year hence, and which if adopted will bring about important changes.

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

No one can now question that Past Grand High Priest Samuel Wright has reached the legal age, for he presented his twenty-first annual report on fraternal correspondence. His comments are concise and his quotations are pertinent. He quoted at length from the address of Past Grand High Priest Cary B. Fish and also from the Ritual Committee, relative to the adoption of the General Grand Chapter ritual by Florida.

Next Annual in Milwaukee, February 18-19, 1930.

Arthur A. Dusty, LaCrosse, Grand High Priest;
William F. Weiler, Milwaukee, Grand Secretary;
Samuel Wright, Milwaukee, Correspondent.

WYOMING—1929

Chapters, 18. Members, 2,233. Exalted, 104. Net Loss, 4-

ROBERT B. ROSE, Grand High Priest

It was a red letter day for Wyoming Grand Chapter to have as its very distinguished Craftsmen visitors, the presiding officers of both the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Council, as well as M. E. Comp. Ed-

ward D. Edwards, Governor of Oklahoma, at the Twenty-first Annual, held in Lander, July 9, 1929, Florida being represented by E. E. Comp. Homer E. Zorn.

Tribute was paid to the memory of R. E. Comp. Samuel Dickey, Grand Treasurer since 1912; also to M. E. Comp. Charles W. Sheldon, Grand High Priest in 1920.

So smoothly do matters Capitular move along in this Grand Jurisdiction that there appears to have been nothing to disturb its labors, unless it be the nominal loss in membership of four. Grand High Priest Rose found little outside of necessary routine matters to bring to light in the account of his able leadership. He recommended that not only should new candidates be instructed in the essentials, but also that the "candidate be impressed with one lesson in each degree which might be emphasized by one word;" further that at every regular convocation some degree be exemplified whether there be candidates or not. He was also pleased to note the splendid feeling between Chapters and the interchange of visits.

Hereafter no receipt for dues, certificate for membership or dimit shall be issued to a candidate until he shall have passed a satisfactory examination "on all of the Chapter degrees."

There being no candidates only a business session was held of the Order of High Priesthood.

Interesting and instructive is the second Capitular review by E. E. Comp. Henry G. Watson, the present Grand Master of the Second Vail. Florida is given due consideration.

Next Annual in Laramie, July 15, 1929.

Elmer A. Kell, Rawlins, Grand High Priest; Richard M. Repath, Cheyenne, Grand Secretary; Henry G. Watson, Cheyenne, Correspondent.

NET LOSS IN MEMBERSHIP

According to the 1929 proceedings reviewed, eleven Grand Chapters in the United States show a Capitular gain in membership of 1,138; while thirty-eight Grand Chapters show a corresponding loss of 14,312; or a net loss of membership in the United States of 13,174. Last year the net loss from the same sources was an even 500.

Five Grand Chapters north of the invisible line (in Canada) show a combined gain in membership of 422, and three Chapters report a loss of 100; or a total net gain of 322. Last year's gain in the Canadian Chapters was 620.

No figures are available of the three Grand Chapters in Great Britain. New South Wales and New Zealand report a gain of 346. No figures are given in the other Grand Chapters in the Australian Commonwealth.

This would indicate that Royal Arch Masonry means much to our Companions in the British Empire; and likewise indicates there is an opportunity for real missionary work in acquainting our lesser informed Brethren that the Holy Royal Arch is the completion of the Masonic structure we are building, according to the original plans laid down on our Masonic trestle board.

Respectfully submitted,

Ely R. Hubbell

For the Committee.

Bradenton, Florida, May, 1930.

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

FOR

A. D. 1930—A. I. 2430

M.:E.:STAFFORD CALDWELL	.....	<i>Grand High Priest, Jacksonville</i>
R.:E.:ALEX B. STEUART	.....	<i>Dep. Gr. High Priest, Tampa</i>
R.:E.:WILLIAM B. GREER	.....	<i>Grand King, Quincy</i>
R.:E.:R. P. BUCKMASTER	.....	<i>Grand Scribe, Orlando</i>
M.:E.:MARCUS ENDEL	.....	<i>Grand Treasurer, Jacksonville</i>
M.:E.:WILBER P. WEBSTER	.....	<i>Grand Secretary, Jacksonville</i>
R.:E.:W. B. Y. WILKIE	.....	<i>Grand Chaplain, Emeritus, Dunedin</i>
R.:E.:DORSEY H. RUTTER	.....	<i>Grand Chaplain, Daytona Beach</i>
E.:ARCHIE AITCHISON	.....	<i>Gr. Capt. of the Host, St. Petersburg</i>
E.:GEORGE A. DAME	.....	<i>Grand Prin, Sojourner, Inverness</i>
E.:CLEVELAND R. HORNE	.....	<i>Gr. R. A. Captain, DeFuniak Spgs.</i>
E.:J. LLOYD HEAD	.....	<i>Gr. Master Third Veil, Jacksonville</i>
E.:JOHN B. PHELPS	.....	<i>Grand Master Second Veil, Miami</i>
E.:J. C. CLARK	.....	<i>Grand Master First Veil, Pensacola</i>
E.:JOHN W. CAPPER	.....	<i>Grand Guard, Jacksonville</i>
E.:DORSEY H. RUTTER	.....	<i>Grand Lecturer, Daytona Beach</i>

The next Annual Convocation will be held in the City of
Jacksonville on the Third Tuesday in May, 1931