

Members Consecrated

MAY 20, 1931

Ernest C. Austin.....H. P. Tampa Chapter No. 3.
 Henry A. Windhorst.....H. P. St. Johns Chapter No. 4.
 Louis B. Berkebile.....H. P. Halifax Chapter No. 5.
 Emmett Paul Wilson.....H. P. Mt. Horeb Chapter No. 6.
 A. H. Willet.....H. P. Eureka Chapter No. 7.
 Robert C. Booth.....H. P. Jericho Chapter No. 11.
 John D. Robertson, Jr. H. P. Ocala Chapter No. 13.
 Robert C. Trimble, Jr. H. P. Manatee River No. 18.
 LeRoy J. Shellburg.....H. P. Lake Worth Chapter No. 24.
 Charles S. Sherman P. H. P. Live Oak Chapter No. 25.
 Rollin V. Ankeny.....H. P. Joppa Chapter No. 28.
 C. K. HannerH. P. Lakeland Chapter No. 29.
 Alfred A. Russell.....H. P. St. Petersburg Chapter No. 31.
 Jerry B. Booth, Jr.....H. P. Eustis Chapter No. 33.
 William V. Schock.....H. P. Winter Haven Chapter No. 41.
 Louis H. Alsmeyer.....H. P. Highland Chapter No. 42.
 George C. Wooddell.....H. P. Clearwater Chapter No. 45.
 Howard S. Weber.....H. P. Monroe D. Cushing Chapter No.
 54.

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)

BUSINESS

6. No business shall be transacted at a special or called Convocation other than that for which the meeting was called. This regulation does not permit the receiving of petitions or balloting upon candidates at a Special or Called Convocation.

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 ap-

point 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 provide for "Life Memberships" in their By-laws, but no "Life Membership" shall be granted for less than fifty dollars (\$50.00). Chapters must pay annual dues to the Grand Chapter for "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)

PETITION 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)

Reg. No.— The Grand Secretary is instructed to obtain and deliver to each Chapter five rituals and one copy of the General Grand Chapter "Book of Essentials" without cost, provided that Chapters shall have the right to purchase from the Grand Secretary at the price of one dollar each five more of such Rituals; and that the Grand Secretary shall obtain and furnish copies of the Ritual, for the price of one dollar each to such Companions as shall obtain the recommendation therefor from the High Priest of the Chapter to which they belong. (1929)

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:

"Section 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.

**Report of
Committee on Correspondence**

ELY P. HUBBELL, Chairman

Report of Committee on Correspondence

*To The Most Excellent Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of
Florida:*

Once again ye scribe has been an invisible visitor at the several Grand Chapter Convocations with which Florida is in fraternal relations. Everywhere the spirit of good will is evident, and more and more there seems to be a growing purpose to be of service, even though it may not be uniform in expression.

Undoubtedly the most serious condition confronting the Fraternity at this time is the great net loss in membership as reported in most of the Grand Chapters throughout the United States. Six of these Grand Chapters show a net gain of 514 over the previous year, California leading with 290, while New Mexico comes over the line with a net gain of only four. The other forty-one Chapters show a corresponding net loss of 21,835 over the previous year. Illinois heads the list with a net loss over the previous year of 2,431, the other extreme being Vermont with a net loss of only 30; while Utah shows neither loss or gain.

Every Grand Chapter in the Dominion of Canada shows a net gain (New Brunswick not having been received), Canada leading with 977, while Nova Scotia has the low score of 7; the total gain being 1,112. Statistics are not obtainable from the three Grand Chapters in Great Britain, although each claims satisfactory progress. And practically similar conditions prevail throughout the Australian Commonwealth. Unfortunately in most of the Australian Grand Jurisdictions there are also Chapters still working under English and Scottish Constitutions. This seems to bring about almost *competition*, a term which, as ye scribe looks at it, ought not to appear in connection with Freemasonry.

However, Grand High Priests generally continue to look upon this as a gradual dropping out of the uninterested who came in during the hectic "Great War" times. But another side is the fact that the exaltations are materially lessening, or as Grand High Priest James N. Frazer of Alabama puts it, "We are taking them in by the hundred and suspending them by the thousand."

Naturally, however, scarcely no two Craftsmen seem to agree upon the primary cause, and innumerable reasons, almost, are advanced, each of which are more or less reasonable, depending how one looks at it.

When every officer of a Chapter comes to the realization of the fact that he took a definite obligation at the time of his installation, and also that it is his "bounden duty" to observe that obligation the same as any other business obligation, then will Freemasonry in its several branches come into its own.

It will be recalled that our ancient Brethren quickly rebuilt the walls of their beloved city under very trying conditions because "they had a mind to work." Have we as a Craft that same mind?

The reviews of the several Grand Chapters follow in alphabetical order.

ALABAMA—1930

Chapters, 73. Members, 11,410. Exalted, 156. Net Loss, 1,456

JAMES N. FRAZER, Grand High Priest

Distinguished visitors from Georgia, Manitoba and Mississippi as well as heads of the other Masonic Bodies were in attendance at the One Hundred and Fourth Annual Convocation, held in Montgomery, December 1-2, 1931, with Florida also represented.

Although well written, yet the address of Grand High Priest Frazer indicated a comparatively uneventful year. Referring to the gradual shrinkage in exaltations during the past five years as well as to the increasing number of s. n. p. d.'s, he stated in part:

We are suffering at both ends of the line. We are taking them in by the hundred and suspending them by the thousand. Our dam is leaking badly and our spring is drying up. Now the question is what is the cause, or what are the causes of this deplorable condition? We are now suffering a relaxation of that period of inflation which preceded the period of depression. We produced the quantity all right, but I fear that some of our work is sadly lacking in quality, and as a result we have flooded the market with a half-baked unfinished product, and we are now suffering from the inevitable slump that follows a period of hectic activity. I would suggest that we go back to the old methods, discard our high-priced machinery, put on our aprons, roll up our sleeves, take up our working tools, select our material with greater care, and put our hearts and souls into the creative task of making good Masons out of promising young men. We may not turn them out as fast, nor in such quantities as the degree mill did, but I believe we will come nearer producing such work as will stand the test of the Grand Overseer's square.

Recognition was given to the amalgamation of the two Grand Chapters in Queensland. Grand Chapter approved the joint report of the Jurisprudence and Finance Committees that all Chapters be informed that Companions s. n. p. d. may be reinstated on the payment of one year's dues, and further "for good and sufficient reasons" a Companion may be reinstated on the payment of one dollar—the Grand Chapter per capita.

This bit of information pertaining to Royal Arch Masonry across the invisible line is a part of the address by M. E. E.

Comp. Frank E. Simmons, First Grand Principal of the Grand Chapter of Manitoba, in which he said:

We have an approximate membership in Chapters of 3,000, and we are growing rapidly. We find that the Companions take a great interest in the work, and degrees are conferred in a most impressive manner. Our ritual differs from yours in many respects, in fact it is entirely different. We do not use the Past Master Degree; the Mark Master and Most Excellent Master are very much more impressive. In the Royal Arch, the use of the twelve banners representing the twelve tribes together with the four large banners are used, and lectures by the First, Second and Third Principals are given to explain them. The discovery of the lost word is in more or less of a dialog lecture, with the Principal Sojourner taking the candidates through the vaulted chamber explanation, after which the word is discovered on a pedestal in the center of the room, with letters and Hebrew characters arranged on a triangle. This is the same as used by you on the top of the Ark. Signs are different and consist of five.

Sixteen Companions were consecrated and set apart to the Grand Council of Anointed High Priests.

For the second time E. Comp. Wm. B. Clemmons presented an informative and well prepared though somewhat brief report on correspondence, touching some of the high spots. He seemed to find little of interest in the 1930 Proceedings of Florida.

Next Annual in Montgomery, Nov. 30-Dec. 1, 1931.

Julian F. Spearman, Anniston, Grand High Priest; Geo. A. Beauchamp, Montgomery, Grand Secretary; Geo. B. Clemmons, Geneva, Correspondent.

ALBERTA—1930

Chapters, 30. Members, 2,837. Admissions, 160. Net Gain, 28

JOHN R. FLAN, Grand First Principal

All branches of Masonry—Craft, Cryptic, Templar, and High Priesthood as well, to complete the number—were represented by distinguished guests from that and other Canadian Quarries at the Sixteenth Annual Convocation, held in the City of Edmonton, March 19-20, 1930; however, Florida's Grand Representative, not being present, did not hear the re-

quest of the Grand First Principal to convey greetings to the Grand Chapter he represented and also "to cultivate that Masonic acquaintance which should exist between the Grand Representative and the Grand Chapter."

Close attention to business, linked with an ardent desire to be of real service to the Royal Craft, was strongly evidenced by Grand First Principal Flan who visited every Chapter, believing that was his first duty, and in so doing traveled some seventy-five hundred miles; his wages being the pleasure which comes from meeting old friends and the making of new ones.

Not particularly onerous appears to have been his necessary activities, and which included the refusal to grant a dispensation for a Chapter to receive the application of a Master Mason who had only been raised "a few weeks previous"; also to hold a regular convocation at a place not designated on the Warrant of the Chapter.

He reported no decisions, all questions being referred to the Constitution; however, he suggested that a closer study of it would obviate many inquiries. Another was that an application for membership could not be voted on by reason of a typographical error in the spelling of the name.

Much general information was found in the detailed reports of the Grand Superintendents, a custom generally prevailing throughout Canadian Masonry.

Among other actions noted was changing the official title from "Janitor" to "Tyler;" exempting the payment of dues of Companions of thirty or more years' continuous good standing; and commending Companions for the amount spent during the year for benevolent purposes, being in excess of previous years. It was noted that in numerous cases Companions living several miles from Chapter were more regular in their attendance than those living in town.

The appointive officers include a Grand Senior and a Grand Junior Sojourner and four Grand Masters of Veils.

In the replies of the distinguished visitors one was from M. E. Comp. M. M. Downey, "the head of the High Priesthood of Alberta," who stated that the Order is of American origin and has been in existence in the Province since 1921. There appears to be no other recorded account of its Pro-

ceedings. Other Conventions are held in the Provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Ontario.

Companion Downey also represented the Cryptic Rite in Alberta and stated that it was the intention to institute a Council of Royal and Select Masters in Edmonton at the close of the Annual Convocation.

The concise and informative report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is the collaboration of the four members with M. E. Comp. S. H. Middleton as the chairman; but, unfortunately, Florida was not among the Proceedings received and reviewed.

Next Annual in the City of Calgary, March 18-19, 1931.

John W. G. Morrison, Vermilion, Grand First Z.; Clifford R. Wentzel, 809 9½ St., N. W., Calgary, Grand Scribe E.; S. H. Middleton, Chrm., Cardston, Correspondent.

ARIZONA—1930

Chapters, 12. Members, 1,371. Exalted, 133. Net Gain, 92

JOSEPH A. E. IVEY, Grand High Priest

Perhaps not excelled by any other Grand Chapter is the percentage of gain in membership for the year 1929, and so smoothly did matters Capitular move along during the year that the proceedings of the Fortieth Annual Convocation which met in Douglas, February 29, 1929, indicate but little to interest the outlanders, and might be an illustration of where "they marched up and they marched back again." Congratulations.

Additional proof of this happy state of affairs is evidenced by the statement of Grand High Priest Ivey in his address, "that Capitular Masonry in Arizona today is much brighter, clearer and stronger than it has ever been before," but, he modestly adds, "I claim absolutely no credit is due me for this condition."

A distinguished and most welcome visitor on this occasion was M. E. Comp. O. Frank Hart, General Grand Master of the Grand Council, and who also represented the Gen-

eral Grand High Priest. Unfortunately Florida's Grand Representative was not present to share in the honors and make a report to the Grand Body which he represented. Companion Hart was made an honorary member of the Grand Chapter.

The Grand High Priest was not called upon to make any decisions, and all the Chapters were officially visited by him. At the close of his year's labors he declared, as have many others, "Capitular Masonry means more to me now than ever before, and I am ready to take up my post in the trenches." Grand Chapter said, "We approve;" also, pertaining to committee reports and resolutions, "same be adopted."

Thirteen Companions, including one from New Mexico, were anointed and set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood. Several changes occur in the list of officers.

There is no report on correspondence, other than approving the appointment of Grand Representatives.

Next Annual in the City of Globe, Feb. 10, 1931.

James Claffey, Winslow, Grand High Priest; Harry A. Drachman, Tucson, Grand Secretary.

ARKANSAS—1930

Chapters, 90. Members, 7,636. Exalted, 358. Net Loss, 285

ANDREW J. RUSSELL, Grand High Priest

Only fifty-three Chapters were represented, at the Eighty-First Annual Convocation, held in Little Rock, March 4, 1930; it having been deemed desirable to change by reason of road conditions from Eureka Springs, as originally planned. The heads of other State Grand Bodies were in attendance, but Florida was not represented.

Grand High Priest Russell, in his comprehensive address, takes "pardonable pride in the fact that Arkansas has produced some of the most illustrious Masons in the history of the world." He noted, among others, Albert Pike, who, he states, "is regarded by all Masonic authority as the greatest Mason of this or any other age" (some may disagree); Chas. E. Rosenbaum, who recently passed away and who "is credited with being responsible for the present dramatic form of

the presentation of the Scottish Rite degrees;" and last, but not least, Fay Hempstead, who belongs to Masonry "whithersoever dispersed." It is a pleasure to reproduce this tribute, which presents flowers to the living and while they can be enjoyed:

Fay Hempstead is the oldest of the twenty-four living Past Grand High Priests. He enjoys many distinctions as a Mason. He is now in his eighty-third year, active and alert. He has been Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas since 1881. He was Most Puissant General Grand Master of the Grand Council of North America from 1921 to 1924. He was coronated an Honorary Inspector General in the Scottish Rite in 1901. And perhaps the highest gift in the power of Masonry to bestow—certainly the most distinctive of her honors—was conferred upon him October 8, 1908, at Chicago, when he was crowned Poet Laureate of Freemasonry, an honor which has been bestowed upon only two others in the history of the Fraternity—Robert Burns and Robert Morris.

The latest honor to this distinguished Most Excellent Companion was the instituting of a new Chapter which was named "Fay Hempstead," notwithstanding that the laws provide that "no Chapter shall be named after a living person." However, Grand Chapter fully approved because, it was stated, "it was the only opportunity, perhaps, that Capitular Masonry would ever have of conferring such a significant and lasting honor on so distinguished a Mason, in his lifetime, along with those which have been bestowed by other branches of Masonry."

Certainly broad and comprehensive is this blanket dispensation: "To all fifteen District Deputies authorizing the calling of meetings for the purpose of receiving petitions, balloting upon candidates and the conferring of degrees during the months of December and January." All classes to be exalted during that period were to be "in honor of the office of the Grand High Priest," and several were reported.

One of the Edicts of the Grand High Priest was that the refusal of a Companion to accept one office, would not preclude him from being elected to some other office.

Grand High Priest Russell, in his address, expressed regret that by reason of Grand Chapter changing the time of holding its Annual Communications deprived him of representing it at the next Triennial. However, by reason of his economical administration, he was deemed worthy to share in

the "spoils" and he accompanied Grand High Priest Williams to Tacoma.

Grand Chapter did not approve the placing of a bronze tablet at the Arkansas Children's Home and Hospital which would "make known to the public the charity it has extended."

Quite notable in connection with the Order of High Priesthood was that one of the Companions present was the High Priest of the oldest Chapter in the State, and another, his son, was the High Priest of the youngest Chapter in the State.

It is always a pleasure as well as an inspiration to come to the Report on Correspondence by Past Grand High Priest Mark P. Olney, and his eleventh production seems to be an improvement over previous ones, this being his conclusion: "We have much to feel proud of in Chapter Masonry and little to discourage, so let us press on to a continued success."

Ever since meeting Companion Olney in his home baliwick, two or three years ago, Arkansas Masonry possesses a great significance to ye scribe and who believes another sojourn in the Southland State by Companion Olney, who some years ago visited Tampa, would at least be enjoyable and perhaps helpful. "Come and see." His careful review of Florida is appreciated.

Next Annual in Little Rock, March 3, 1931.

O. E. Williams, Lonoke, Grand High Priest; John C. Bone, Batesville, Grand Secretary; Mark P. Olney, Mena, Correspondent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA—1930

Chapters, 27. Members, 2,847. Exalted, 128. Net Gain, 30

WILLIAM T. PHILLIPS, Grand Z.

Deeming that the best interests of Capitular Masonry would be best served, the Grand Z. decided to hold the Twelfth Annual Convocation in Vancouver, instead of Powell River, as originally planned. Florida was not represented when Grand Chapter was opened in Ample Form on June 18, 1930, with M. E. Companion George F. Burgess, Grand Z., of Saskatchewan, a distinguished visitor in attendance.

The address of Grand Z. Burgess was largely a record of activities and visitations and with but little to disturb, thus indicating a dozen years of steady growth and increasing importance. Noting that recognition was not accorded the Grand Chapter of South Australia, he recommended exchange of courtesies, which Grand Chapter approved, as it did also that of recognizing the recently amalgamated Grand Chapters of Queensland.

He reported granting a dispensation for a new Chapter at Mission and a charter was later granted. He visited officially about half of the Chapters, and regretted he could not have done better, and he was "much struck with the earnestness and sincerity displayed in the exemplification of the ceremonies of the Order."

An approved Chapter By-law amendment indicated lesser dues for non-resident members, a condition seldom noticed.

He referred to the then coming General Grand Chapter Triennial in Tacoma as "an outstanding event in the history of Capitular Masonry in the Pacific Northwest," and urged the Companions to assist in every way they could, and which they did by sending several representatives. Ye scribe on his way back home from this memorable event spent several days in Victoria and Vancouver, and his only regret is that there was no Chapter Convocation held in either city during time he was there; but he was greatly pleased to visit several Lodge Communications in each of those cities, as well as Lodges in Winnipeg.

All the acts of the Grand Z. were fully approved as well as the numerous committee reports, one of which, referring favorably to the examination in open Chapter of the Royal Arch degree, pertinently added: "All Chapters should do this, and a Chapter is not deserving approbation for so doing."

There is no Order of High Priesthood.

A well prepared Report on Correspondence is again presented by R. E. John W. Prescott whom ye scribe had the great pleasure of meeting, but which unfortunately does not include Florida.

Next Annual June 17, 1931, place to be given later.

Ernest P. Allen, Victoria, Grand Z.; John W. Prescott, Vancouver, Grand Scribe E. and Correspondent.

CALIFORNIA—1930

Chapters, 130. Members, 26,756. Exalted, 1,148. Net Gain, 290

ANGUS L. CAVANAGH, Grand High Priest

"There being a sufficient number of Chapters represented," reported the Grand Secretary, the Grand Chapter was opened in Oakland, April 8, 1930, without particular ceremony and with all officers, five earthquake and fire survivors, heads of the other Grand Bodies and the representatives of 122 subordinate Chapters present, but Florida was not represented.

Having been in public school work for many years, the clear and concise address of Grand High Priest Cavanagh naturally stressed education and service, emphasized team work, traveled over 15,000 miles, and this is his modest conclusion: "My report is the story of Companions earnestly doing the work of Grand Chapter throughout the Jurisdiction." It concluded for him twenty years of continuous active service in behalf of Masonry.

He was also a student of the doings of the Craft, for he occasionally referred to "a review of the Proceedings of various Grand Jurisdictions," but seldom mentioned by presiding officers generally.

The two Chapters previously granted charters were constituted, but he refused to grant a dispensation for a new Chapter where investigation showed one was not needed, for, he added, "The purpose of a new Chapter should be to extend Arch Masonry to those who cannot be served by existing Chapters."

He enthused over the good results of Chapter visitations and District meetings, which California is stressing and which he believed is "developing a greater interest in Capitular Masonry," and which seems to promise much for the future. Some of the tangible results of this movement, he stated, is favorable publicity, extended influence, keener interest, proficiency in the ritual, better work and more of it.

He emphasized that outstanding dues leads to loss of membership, and also that it is fully as important to preserve membership as it is to acquire new members. He outlined several lines by which membership might be furthered, but in the final

analysis he believed "the one person finally responsible in the Chapter for its condition at the close of the year is the High Priest."

While much has been accomplished in Capitular education, through the efforts of the various Associations, yet he is sure there is still a great "opportunity for someone with a clear vision of the need and the inspiration to express it."

Inquiry revealed that only three times in three-quarters of a century has there been anything referred to the Grievance Committee, so Grand Chapter decided as a permanent institution it was no longer necessary, and its duties were transferred to the Jurisprudence Committee.

During the year two meetings of the elective Grand Officers were held for the purpose of discussing Grand Chapter matters and particularly considering "candidates for appointment," and which it appears is a constitutional requirement.

Grand Chapter did not approve abolishing the office of Deputy Grand High Priest. Nor did it grant the Grand High Priest the sole power to appoint the Grand Captain of the Host and the Grand Royal Arch Captain. It saw no necessity for conferring special honors upon Past Grand High Priests of other Jurisdictions merely because they now happened to be permanent residents of the State. Grand Chapter favored continuing recognition of the newly Amalgamated Grand Chapter in Queensland. The matter of having a full-time Grand Lecturer was referred back to the subordinate Chapters for consideration.

Grand Chapter looked with approval upon the suggestion of the Grand High Priest to shorten the time for conferring the Royal Arch degree by having the candidates make the discoveries, they having been previously prepared and instructed, while the Chapter is being opened. The Grand Lecturer will work it out.

Eighty-five candidates were anointed and set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood.

California lost a masterly reviewer by the passing to the Great Beyond of E. Comp. Arthur A. Willoughby, whose imperative summons came not long after the close of the 1930 Grand Chapter. His review, and his "swan song" as well, was one of the outstanding Capitular productions of the

year. His mantle has fallen on E. Comp. William T. Paullin, of Oakland, and his initial effort will be eagerly awaited,

Next Annual in San Francisco, April 21-22, 1931.

Samuel A. Clark, 762 Fulton St., Grand High Priest;
Thomas A. Davies, Masonic Temple, Grand Secretary; both
of San Francisco; Wm. T. Paullin, 710 Oakland Bank Bldg.,
Oakland, Correspondent.

CANADA (In Ontario)—1930

Chapters, 156. Members, 26,141. Registrations, 977. Net Gain, 6

EDWIN SMITH, Grand Z.

Suspensions for n.p.d., more than half the number of registrations, were largely responsible for the very small net gain in membership, and which prompted the optimistic statement by the Committee on Condition of Masonry that "the future of this institution depends not so much upon the quantity, as upon the quality of that increase," and that "an annual increase in membership is a definite part of our year's program."

Very few absentees were noticeable, except Florida's representative, at the convening of the Seventy-second Annual in Toronto, February 26-27, 1930, and being assisted by a large coterie of distinguished notables from neighboring Grand Bodies.

Among those to pass to the Great Beyond were M. E. Comp. Sir John Gibson, an honorary Past Grand First Principal, and R. E. Henry T. Smith, Grand Scribe E. since 1916, and who has left a deep impress on Capitular Masonry.

The address of the Grand Z. was largely a record of official visitations, and he greatly regretted the list could not have been longer.

The Grand Z. sustained a previous ruling that a Companion may sever his connection with a Craft Lodge and "still be a member and hold office in the Chapter." This would not hold good in Florida, and ye scribe wonders if it would in many other Grand Chapters.

He strongly opposed the use of Masonic insignia on autos and outward publicity of this kind. He also disapproved of moon schedules for Chapter convocations and urged calendar dates.

Much detailed Capitular information is found in the Grand Superintendents' reports covering a hundred and fifty pages, or such a matter, and which are replete with harmony, goodwill and enthusiasm.

In the matter of benevolence, stress is made that "color, creed or nationality offer no bar to a participation in the distribution of our charitable grants." It is also stated that the introduction of a revised Ritual "is responsible for a rejuvenation of interest on the part of many."

It is a pleasure to come to the always worth while Capitular Review by Past Grand Z. William N. Ponton, whose quotations sometimes exceed the comment, but which nevertheless are particularly pertinent. Unfortunately, however, Florida did not reach him.

Next Annual at Niagara Falls, Feb. 25-26, 1931.

Walter G. Price, Port Credit, Grand Z.; Edwin Smith, London, Grand Scribe E.; Wm. N. Ponton, Belleville, Correspondent.

COLORADO—1930

Chapters, 51. Members, 7,820. Exalted, 150. Net Loss, 149

SIDNEY A. KNILL, Grand High Priest

Evidently the Capitular pendulum has not begun to swing the other way, for the above statistics indicate that the total number of exaltations for the year only exceeded by one the net loss, according to the Proceedings of the Fifty-sixth Annual Convocation, held in the city of Denver, September 19, 1930.

This occasion was made memorable by having as its most distinguished guest M. E. Comp. John W. Neilson, who had been elected General Grand High Priest less than three weeks previous at the Tacoma Triennial.

The address of the General Grand High Priest at that time was an excellent presentation of Masonic ideals in which

it was strongly emphasized that the Royal Arch degree was the keystone of the Masonic system and binds it in symmetrical union with ancient Craft Masonry. It is regrettable that conditions do not permit its reproduction and a summary would not do it justice.

Four Chapters from the more remote sections of the State were not represented at the Annual Convocation, neither was Florida. An appropriate annual custom is the calling of the roll of the deceased Past Grand High Priests, and the Grand High Priest responding with the date of death. Two names were added to the roll at this time, M. E. Comp. Joseph W. Milson, Grand High Priest in 1906, and M. E. Comp. Samuel J. Sweet, in 1921.

The address of Grand High Priest Knill was a straightforward presentation of the activities of the year. He was commended for his zeal and efforts, and enviable record. This positive assertion by him is worthy of being preserved in *bold face type*, and also to be read previous to every election of officers, and need not necessarily be confined to Colorado, either:

I want you to bear this in mind and say for me at your Annual Convocation that any Companion who may be elected or appointed to office in your Chapter is under no obligation to accept that office, but if he does and suffers himself to be installed, he thereby assumes full responsibility of that office and should see that the duties attached thereto are discharged to the best of his ability, and by your ability I mean that every officer should be able to recite the duties of his office as well as that office that comes next in rotation.

His other recorded activities brought out no particularly new principles and all passed inspection. None of the amendments increasing Grand Chapter dues as well as life membership found favor with Grand Chapter. The recent amalgamation of the two Queensland Grand Chapters was recognized.

Unquestionably the proficiency of Chapter officers has much to do with attendance and consequently with the much discussed n.p.d. suspensions. Particularly interesting in the report of Grand Lecturer C. L. Young is a table which shows that in the most proficient Chapter the High Priest could confer all four degrees in full, the King two degrees in full and the Scribe four degrees in full, while in seven Chapters no

principal officer could confer any part of any degree; also that five of these Chapters had no work during the year, and two had conferred no degrees in several years. Companion Young truly adds: "An installed officer should be able to do the work expected of him if he expects to retain the respect of his Companions."

M. E. Comp. Neilson was also an interested visitor at the Grand Council of the Order of High Priesthood, at which twenty-six Companions were set apart in Due and Solemn Form.

Somewhat out of the ordinary was the address of the Excellent President, M. E. Comp. Frank D. Burns, in which he presented much pertaining to the origin of the Order, the Ritual of which seems to have been first submitted to the General Grand Chapter, which was held in the City of Providence, Rhode Island, and was adopted January 10, 1799. Companion Burns credited the authorship of the degree to Thomas Smith Webb and his co-workers, Benjamin Hurd, Jr., and James Harrison, and further added: "No degree of Masonry has more of the elements of sublimity and impressiveness than has this, or are they more scriptural and appropriate for that for which it is intended."

This is the seventh time that Past Grand High Priest H. W. Woodward has presented a review of Proceedings. This one, he stated, was written from a hospital cot. It is a well prepared presentation of Capitular activities and is coupled with suggestive comments. Unfortunately Florida seems not to have reached him.

Next Annual in Denver, September 17, 1931.

L. D. Crain, P. O. Box 512, Ft. Collins, Grand High Priest; Wm. W. Cooper, Grand Secretary; H. W. Woodward, Correspondent; both Masonic Temple, Denver.

CONNECTICUT—1930

Chapters, 46. Members, 16,657. Exalted, 384. Net Loss, 143

LEWIS C. HULL, Grand High Priest

Representatives from every constituent Chapter and distinguished Craftsmen from every Grand Chapter which could get there, a dozen and a half, assisted the Grand High Priest

and the other officers in formally opening the One Hundred and Thirty-second Annual Convocation in Hartford, May 18, 1930. However, Florida was absent.

Routine and straightforward was the address of Grand High Priest Hull with no special high lights. Considerable prominence was given to official visitations, so that during his four years he had visited every Chapter in the state, some several times. Not every Grand High Priest has such a record to his credit.

He ruled that while it is the duty of the High Priest to preside, he may allow a Companion to confer degrees in his presence, but he emphasized "this is a favor conferred by courtesy of the High Priest."

He granted in advance several dispensations holding convocations, four being for officers to attend Grand Chapter "with the understanding that all these officers intended to be present;" but according to the report of the Credentials Committee the officers of only one Chapter remembered the agreement. "Promises are easily made and easily broken." However, Grand Chapter by action remedied this condition.

The Grand High Priest recommended making the Order of High Priesthood compulsory, but Grand Chapter postponed action till next year.

Grand Chapter finds it necessary to economize. Wonder why not begin by eliminating most of the 250 pages of "Returns of Constituent Chapters," which are of special value to mail order houses? Florida gets practically the same results in half a dozen pages.

Grand Chapter appears to be getting satisfactory results from its Budget Committee and it will be made a standing committee.

Hereafter Grand Chapter will have the roll of Chapters called "just before the close of Grand Chapter." Also it has ordered that the word "Subordinate" is to be stricken out and the word "Constituent" used whenever applied to Chapters.

Referring to the lack of interest in Chapters the Committee of Custodians truly stated: "When this is true two things may be said: first, the officers are careless about attending convocations, and second, the officers do not know their

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work." Too true, too true! This committee also desired to revise the Past Master's degree by "eliminating everything which could in any way detract from its dignity," but unfortunately finding "that such a revision would not be acceptable we decided to have the degree exemplified in its present form in a dignified manner." What is that about being "wedded to their idols?" It also believed that the committee "can be of greater assistance at a rehearsal than at an exemplification." This is a recommendation worthy of more general consideration, as ye scribe sees it.

Well attended was the Order of High Priesthood, and thirty Companions were consecrated and set apart.

Past Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary George A. Kies again presented an exemplary review of other Grand Chapters which is of intense interest from A to Izzard.

He called the address of Grand High Priest McMaster "a laudably terse and straightforward report of his official acts." This is what would naturally be expected from a banker.

It is true that any charge rhetorically delivered from memory is "impressive," but does it convey the same idea of being an official pronouncement as when read from the accepted book of laws and regulations?

Next Annual in Hartford, May 12-13, 1931.

Albert F. Lewis, Naugatuck, Grand High Priest; George A. Kies, Hartford, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

DELAWARE—1930

Chapters, 5. Members, 1,887. Exalted, 29. Net Loss, 98

OBADIAH CLARK, Grand High Priest

Well attended, including distinguished Craftsmen from nearby Grand Jurisdictions, was the Sixty-second Annual Convocation held in Wilmington, January 15, 1930, but with Florida's Grand Representative missing.

The address of Grand High Priest Clark was a succinct summary of his activities for the year, which indicated that harmony prevailed, and that there was nothing alarming about

the net loss in membership. However, it causes one to wonder how much longer this "period of adjustment" is to continue?

Uniformly brief were the various committee reports, and which generally concluded with this somewhat stereotyped statement: "By motion the report was accepted and ordered recorded in the minutes." Each of the Chapters were officially visited.

Five Companions were set apart to the Order of High Priesthood at the Annual Convocation.

E. Comp. Thos. J. Day, the chairman, for the fourteenth time presented a Report on Foreign Correspondence, concerning the brevity of which he has acquired a nation-wide reputation, and for centering his comments around some one or more salient features. However, nothing special in Florida attracted his attention, and a general commendation seems to be given.

Next Annual in Wilmington, January 31, 1931.

Wm. O. Wingate, Grand High Priest; John W. Macklem, Grand Secretary; Thos. J. Day, Correspondent, all of Wilmington.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Chapters, 16. Members, 6,003. Exalted, 156. Net Loss, 135

WALTER F. SMITH, Grand High Priest

Present and Past Grand Chapter officers in goodly array were in attendance when the gavel sounded for the convening of the Sixty-third Annual Convocation, held in Washington, February 12, 1930. Florida's representative was one of the few absentees.

Co-operation and fraternalism as well as optimism were stressed in the address and activities of Grand High Priest Smith, who seems to have been a dependable worker of high ideals wherever duty called him. While his recorded activities indicate an uneventful year, yet careful attention was given to details. In addition to the required visitations made by himself, he encouraged the other Grand Officers to make visitations in their official capacities, and with gratifying results.

Somewhat out of the ordinary and productive of censure was the futile effort to confer three degrees in one night on the same candidate, who received the Past and Most Excellent in one Chapter, and later the same evening, the Royal Arch in another. The Grand High Priest approved the first Chapter's action, as it was constitutional, but ordered that the candidate be re-obligated at the next stated convocation, and that the particulars be so reported to the Grand Secretary. How often true that "haste makes waste."

Encouraging reports were received from the Masonic Employment Bureau and ultimate success will follow the hearty co-operation of the Masonic employers. Companions can now transfer membership without first dimitting. Schools of instruction are conducted twice a month by the Committee on Work and Lectures.

Grand Chapter sustained a great loss in the passing of M. E. Comp. Alexander McKenzie, Grand High Priest in 1891 and the dean of that body.

The Order of Anointed High Priesthood seems to be taken at full face value in this Grand Jurisdiction, for each of the sixteen installed High Priests were elected to receive that degree, which was conferred at a special Convention held a month later.

Past Grand High Priest W. W. Jermane again presents the Doings of the Various Grand Chapters in the Capitular World as only a trained newspaper man can, emphasizing important features and overlooking the lesser ones.

The most interesting part of the Florida Proceedings, in his opinion, was the action taken to unite the forces of the Grand Bodies of the American Rite. This, he says, "means team work, and team work means bringing the forces of the fraternity into co-operation for a single purpose."

Next Annual in Washington, February 11, 1931.

J. Whiting Estes, Grand High Priest; J. Claude Keiper, Grand Secretary, both Masonic Temple, Washington; W. W. Jermayne, Colorado Bldg., Washington, Correspondent.

ENGLAND—MARK MASTER MASONS

As soon as the Million Memorial Building for the United Grand Lodge of England in London is completed, the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons will be obliged to vacate their present premises which they have occupied so many years, as there will not be room for this body in the new Temple. However, the Mark Master Lodge has secured a location near by and will soon erect a temple of their own, and plans for financing are well under way.

American Mark Master Masons will no doubt be interested in this as showing one of the differences between the Mark Master Mason degree as one part of American system of Capitular Masonry and the Mark degree as conferred in an English Mark Master Lodge, as evidenced in the report of the Board of General Purposes of the latter body:

It has been brought to the notice of the General Board that many Lodges are not in possession of the Tracing Board of the Mark Degree. It would like to remind Lodges that the Tracing Board forms part of the Lodge furniture and should be displayed at the Junior Warden's pedestal immediately the Lodge has been opened and reversed at the closing of the Lodge.

Another pertains to Grand Honors or Salutes, as prescribed in the Book of Constitutions, and which quite likely applies equally to other Masonic bodies as well:

The Salutes when given will be as follows: Most Worshipful Brethren, eleven; Present and Past Deputy Grand Masters, nine; other Right Worshipful Brethren, seven; Very Worshipful Brethren, five; other Present and Past Grand Officers, three; and within their own Provinces and Districts, Deputy Provincial and Deputy District Grand Masters, five; other Present Provincial and District Grand Officers, three. No Brother when acting in a higher office may receive a salute other than that to which he is personally entitled.

In the construction of the Masonic Million Peace Memorial in London, it became necessary for the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons to secure a new location and construct a Temple for their use. At the September Quarterly it was reported that contributions to the New Premises Fund, as it

is called, are coming in freely, not only from the home bodies, but also from the overseas Lodges which are located in various parts of Asia, Africa, South America and the Isles of the Seas.

ENGLAND—ROYAL ARCH MASONRY

It appears that the Board of General Purposes of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masonry of England has had under consideration for sometime a request for recognition by the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch for France. This came in the nature of a recommended report from the Board of General Purposes at the August Quarterly, and which further states that this "Grand Chapter was constituted as a consequence of the formation of the Independent and Regular National Grand Lodge of France and the French Colonies." The report further recommended that as that Body "has been duly recognized by the United Grand Lodge of England, the Grand Chapter of the Royal Arch of France be also recognized." The report was unanimously adopted. The question naturally arises, if this be a Regular Grand Chapter, how many subordinate Chapters united in requesting its formation, and when and where and how were these latter Chapters formed?

Another feature at the same quarterly was the report of the deputation which recently returned from a Mission of Installation of Officers of the Chapter working under the English Constitution in Turkey, Jerusalem and other parts of the Holy Land. This deputation was headed by E. Comp. Sir Colville Smith, Grand Scribe E. One of the Chapters consecrated was Temple Chapter, at Jerusalem, the first Chapter to be founded in Palestine, and was attached to the Lodge of King Solomon's Temple No. 4611, also the first Lodge to be founded in Palestine under the English Constitution.

Among the places visited was Megiddo, where excavations have brought to light what is said to have been King Solomon's stables for 500 horses and chariots. Another interesting experience was meeting with King Solomon's Quarries Lodge of Mark Master Masons which are "held in the

actual quarries situated under ground beneath the very heart of Jerusalem."

It was stated that this "Deputation's contact with Freemasonry in so many parts of the Near East brought home to it as nothing else could, the great problems and difficulties which Overseas Brethren and Companions have to face." And as one Worshipful Master expressed, "your visit here has made a lasting impression and it has put new blood into every member of the Lodge."

The twelve petitions received for new Chapters included one each from Ceylon, Madeira and the Gold Coast Colony.

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER

CHARLES C. DAVIS, General Grand High Priest

Only one Grand Chapter belonging to the General Grand, West Virginia, was missing when the General Grand Chapter met in its Forty-first Triennial Communication in Tacoma, Washington, August 28-29, 1930. Also representatives were present from the subordinate Chapters under its immediate control in Hawaii, Philippine Island, Canal Zone and Mexico.

During the past Triennium the imperative summons came to M. E. Comp. Arthur G. Pollard, General Grand High Priest 1903-1906, and to M. E. Comp. Bernard G. Witt, General Grand High Priest, 1912-1915.

Largely advisory is the General Grand Chapter in matters pertaining to the Grand Chapters, and its legislative acts apply more specifically to the subordinate Chapters under its immediate control—where no Grand Chapter has been formed. However, there is a happy as well as a desirable inspiration which comes from "rubbing elbows" at these gatherings which time does not efface, and which makes each Triennial partake of the nature of a big family reunion.

In the allotted three years General Grand High Priest, Charles C. Davis, met with most of the Grand Chapters with the result, as he expressed it, "that I have never left any jurisdiction without the feeling that it was really worth while."

The other Grand Chapters were visited by one of the other line officers.

One new Chapter was constituted at Monterrey, Mexico; and another was instituted in Cordova, Alaska, by the High Priest of Anchorage Chapter, it requiring nine days for him to make the round trip.

Two deaths having occurred in the Trustees of the Permanent Fund, they were filled by the appointment of Past Grand High Priest Louis Emmerson of Illinois and Past Grand High Priest Cary B. Fish of Florida, both of whom were later regularly elected. This gives Florida a permanent representative in the General Grand Chapter for the next nine years, and Companion Fish was also made President of the Board.

There was practically no new legislation of a general character and but little pertaining particularly to the subordinate Chapters. It was deemed inadvisable to make the High Priests of the subordinate Chapters under the immediate control of the General Grand Chapter, permanent members of the General Grand Chapter, but it did look with favor upon allowing them three votes instead of one as heretofore. It will now permit these Chapters to confer degrees in other places than the regular meeting place without a dispensation, and by inference this would likewise be permissible in any of the Grand Chapters. It also decided that the General Grand Chapter has no control over the Order of High Priesthood.

Undoubtedly the largest delegation to the Tacoma Triennial was what was known as the General Grand Officer Train, which was made up in St. Louis. It was composed largely of the representatives, and members of their families, nearly two hundred people, from the Eastern, Central and Southern States, so that by the time Colorado was reached the train was made up of eleven Pullman sleepers and two diners. Daytime stops were made at Kansas City, Denver, Colorado Springs, Glenwood Springs, Salt Lake City, Ogden, Boise and one or two other places. At each of these places the travelers were royally entertained with auto rides, breakfasts, luncheons and dinners with all the characteristic western hospitality and which will long be remembered.

This train arrived in Tacoma, Sunday morning, August 24th, the headquarters being at the Winthrop Hotel but which was not large enough to accommodate all the State delegations. Florida was in a nearby hostelry.

Monday and Tuesday were given to the General Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, which was very ably presided over by M. E. Comp. O. Frank Hart, who is so beloved and well known from coast to coast. The sessions were largely routine and with no important legislation. Most Illustrious Grand Master George J. Tolson of Florida was appointed one of the tellers and who also was the only Grand Council representative in the party, all the others being members of the Grand Chapter as well.

Wednesday was given over to a visit to the Mt. Ranier National Park, where many of the visitors for the first time saw a real glacier. This one is named Nusqually and extends up some nine or ten thousand feet, nearly to the top of the Peak. The auto road to Paradise Inn, where the noonday luncheon was served, passes within a comparatively few hundred feet from the outlet, or "snoot" as it is called, of the glacier, and from which there was a magnificent unobstructed view up to the top. Several of the party, more ambitious than others, continued the pilgrimage up the trails to snow line and brought back handfuls of the snow as evidence of their mountain climbing abilities.

The General Grand Chapter was formally opened Thursday morning, August 28th, by General Grand High Priest Charles C. Davis and the two days was largely routine business. Florida was recognized by the appointment of E. Comp. Dorsey H. Rutter, who held the proxy of Grand High Priest Stafford Caldwell, and who was made a member of the Committee on Memorials of the Dead. R. E. Comp. Alex. B. Steuart was appointed one of the Tellers. Past Grand High Priest Ely P. Hubbell, at the beginning of the triennium, was appointed a member of the standing Committee on Foreign Relations, this being the second time he had served on that committee. And he was again recognized by General Grand High Priest Neilson by being made chairman of the same committee for the ensuing three years.

While the General Grand Chapter was formally closed Friday, August 28th, all those who were not compelled to leave that night were the guests of the Seattle Companions for all of Saturday, August 29th. The entertainment included a drive to the mammoth salmon packing houses where they saw frozen fish stacked up like cordwood, also in blocks of ice and other fantastic designs; and was followed by a drive through the city and to Snoqualmie Falls for luncheon.

Among the other entertainments along the way was an auto drive to the top of Pike's Peak, at Colorado Springs; a seventy-five mile auto ride on the magnificent Columbia National Highway out of Portland; and a water trip to the Bremerton Navy Yards, the largest on the Pacific Coast and the second largest in the country.

As all things must come to an end, the Forty-first Triennial Convocation was brought to a final close with another beautifully arranged banquet given by the Seattle Companions Saturday night. Following this the very congenial party broke up. Some of the visitors returned almost directly to their homes. Judge Fish took the boat for San Francisco, going thence to Los Angeles and returning via Dallas, Texas, where he attended the Supreme Council. Ye scribe and his daughter came back through the Canadian Rockies, stopping at Victoria, Vancouver, and Winnipeg. He attended several Lodge communications in these cities but was disappointed in not being able to find any of the Canadian Chapters open, at that time.

Too much praise cannot be given to M. E. Comp. O. Frank Hart who was in charge of the special train from the time it left St. Louis till the Companions disbanded at Seattle, and who spared neither time nor effort, much of the preliminaries being directed while seriously ill and in bed; and so admirably and satisfactorily were the details supervised and looked after that ye scribe has yet to hear a single "grouch" or a complaint of any kind, a remarkable tribute to a remarkable Companion. And all are gratified that he still remains in active service, having been unanimously elected General Grand Recorder of the General Grand Council, a station on which his legions of admirers are quite sure he has a life lease. So mote it be.

Florida's delegation consisted of E. Comp. Dorsey H. Rutter, holding the proxy of Grand High Priest Stafford Caldwell; A. B. Steuart, Deputy Grand High Priest; William B. Greer, Grand King; Past Grand High Priests Elmer E. Haskell, Joseph R. Keller, Dabney B. Palmer, William V. Carter, Henry O. Snow, Ely P. Hubbell, Emmett L. Shear and Cary B. Fish, and Illustrious Grand Master George J. Tolson, of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters.

Past Grand High Priest Henry O. Snow again had the unanimous endorsement of Grand Chapter for General Grand Master of the First Veil. A vigorous effort was made to secure his election, he having been defeated three years previously, and his enthusiastic followers were quite confident of a successful outcome. However, there was a strong sentiment that the great Northwest, which had never been recognized in General Grand Chapter, should at this time be represented, and with the result that M. E. Comp. Edward W. Spottswood, of Missoula, Montana, was elected on the first ballot. Companion Spottswood is highly commended and appears to possess the necessary qualifications for the high office to which he has been elected.

M. E. Comp. John W. Neilson, Deputy General Grand High Priest, was unanimously elected General Grand High Priest, and the other line officers were of course advanced an additional station. General Grand Treasurer Gustav A. Eitel and General Grand Secretary Charles A. Conover were also unanimously re-elected.

General Grand Chapter starts off auspiciously and with indications for a harmonious and prosperous administration.

The next Triennial will be held in the City of Washington, date to be announced later.

John W. Neilson, Concordia, Kansas, General Grand High Priest; Charles A. Conover, Coldwater, Mich., General Grand Secretary.

GEORGIA—1930

Chapters, 158. Members, 15,438. Exalted, 412. Net Loss, 692

WILLIAM B. GRAHAM, Grand High Priest

Distinguished visitors at the One Hundred and Eighth Annual Convocation, held in Macon, April 30 to May 1, 1930, included M. E. Comp. O. Frank Hart, who hereafter will be known as General Grand Recorder of the General Grand Council. Florida was not represented.

"Like father, like son," very appropriately seems to apply to Grand High Priest William B. Graham whose father, M. E. Comp. W. A. Graham, was Grand High Priest in 1884, and right well does the present Grand High Priest apparently resemble the honored father who is referred to as being—

Of that old school of Southern gentlemen whose conduct was adorned by all of the graces and amenities of polite life and whose character shone forth with the grandeur of decided conviction, unquestioned courage and unrelenting purpose. In their vocabulary there were no such words as feebleness, abjectness, submission, irresolution, vacillation, or cowardice.

The Grand Chapter of Georgia at that time numbered thirty-three Chapters, with a membership of 905.

Grand High Priest Graham reported the arresting of four charters. No dispensations for new Chapters were issued. Apparently present conditions are not overly promising for the charters of nearly a score of Chapters were arrested and as many more were placed on probation. This seemed to emphasize a warning by the Grand Lecturer that it will be necessary to use every effort if "we are to hold our own in a field where competition is keen." It seems regrettable to ye scribe, to say the least, that it should be deemed advisable to use the word "competition" in connection with Capitular Masonry, or any other of the Masonic Orders for that matter.

Recognition was extended to the newly amalgamated Grand Chapter of Queensland, which was congratulated on the happy solution of "their imaginary difficulties."

The electing of "three accredited representatives" to the General Grand Chapter as suggested by a presented resolution,

would be "in conflict with the constitution" and was not approved.

A resolution requiring cards of admission for accredited representatives to Grand Chapter, with regulations pertaining to attendance, was not approved.

Grand Chapter approvingly referred to the Educational Loan Fund as its "greatest piece of constructive work."

Two score of Companions were anointed and set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood.

Somewhat condensed is the sixth annual review of the Proceedings of other Grand Chapters by E. Comp. Pleasant T. McCutchen, who calls himself "a newspaper squibster," and well does he produce the work naturally expected of a Companion of the Fourth Estate.

He calls the address of Grand High Priest McMaster, "a business document with no attempts at oratory."

Next Annual in Macon, April 29-30, 1931 (?)

Charles L. Bass, Macon, Grand High Priest; Augustus G. Miller, Macon, Grand Secretary; P. T. McCutchen, Franklin, Correspondent.

IDAHO—1930

Chapters, 23. Members, 2,591. Exalted, 100. Net Loss, 94

ALONZO CONE, Grand High Priest

Only one Chapter failed to respond to roll call when the Twenty-second Annual Convocation convened in Blackfoot, May 13, 1930, with all the Grand Officers, many Past Grands and other lesser lights present, besides M. E. Comp. Charles C. Davis to give proper dignity, and even more so, for it was stated that Comp. Davis was the second General Grand High Priest to have honored Grand Chapter with an official visit.

Official visitations appear pre-eminent in the address of Grand High Priest Cone, notably that at Silver City, a once famous silver mining camp, and out of its present membership of forty-two, only six or seven reside within forty or

fifty miles, and who are called "resident members." Every officer but one was present, several of them coming from 100 to 150 miles, a commendable evidence of zeal and loyalty of the nineteen members who live within a radius of 150 miles.

The Grand High Priest reported the consolidation of two Chapters; and his one decision was that with reinstatement in Lodge one is automatically reinstated in Chapter. That does not apply in Florida. He did not approve Master Masons waiting a specified time before applying for Chapter degrees, and recommended its repeal.

Grand Chapter extended fraternal recognition to the newly amalgamated Grand Chapter of Queensland. It adopted a memorial service for departed Companions. One subordinate Chapter reported no "uncollected dues." Grand Chapter adopted an amendment requiring all petitioners to be members in good standing in some Masonic Lodge. This causes ye scribe to wonder what the previous requirement could have been.

Grand Chapter deemed that the absence of a quorum at a Grand High Priest visitation evidenced a distinct "lack of courtesy to that high office" and would be so considered; also that this applies to all visitations of any Grand Officer.

There appears to be no Order of High Priesthood.

For the first time E. Comp. Frank G. Burroughs, the then Grand Master of Third Veil, presented a somewhat abbreviated Capitular review, and which commends him for membership in The Guild, notwithstanding he facetiously (?) stated: "So far as I have been enabled to judge from a reading of the reviews, the members of the reviewers' table are a critical bunch, with mean dispositions." He complimented Florida by stating "the spirit was so fine that nothing out of the ordinary happened."

Next Annual at Sandpoint, May 19-20, 1930.

Edward R. Chrisman, Moscow, Grand High Priest; Edward H. Way, Boise, Grand Secretary; Frank C. Burroughs, Correspondent.

ILLINOIS—1930

Chapters, 242. Members, 86,965. Exalted, 1,684. Net Loss, 2,431

DAVID S. DAVIDSON, Grand High Priest

General Grand Chapter, Michigan and Missouri sent specially honored Royal Craftsmen to the Eighty-first Annual Convocation held in Chicago, October 30-31, 1930. Florida was also represented.

Two days after the close of the previous Annual Convocation Grand Master of the Second Veil William F. Lockwood and Past Grand High Priest John C. Ferrin, who were on their way to attend a reception in honor of retiring Past Grand High Priest Charles C. Davis, were in an auto wreck which resulted in the death of Companion Lockwood and serious injuries to Companion Ferrin.

Largely routine were the activities reported by Grand High Priest Davidson in his comprehensive address, who omitted oratorical display and confined himself to actualities. He did not find it necessary to render any decisions nor to discipline any Chapter, which is a splendid tribute to the Companions as well as indicating that peace and harmony prevail.

He was convinced that the system of district visitations was the best and most efficient so far found for keeping the constituent Chapters in touch with the administration. Also that the Schools of Instruction are a pronounced success and each year are producing results, concerning which he stated:

I am firmly of the opinion that no matter how large in membership any Chapter may be or how satisfactory may be its condition from a financial standpoint, there is no one thing that will arouse interest among its members or tend to keep up attendance on the part of both members and visitors, than a correct and intelligent rendition of the ritual and work of the several degrees, and I am certain that if the officers and interested members will strive to maintain such degree of proficiency their Chapters will continue to grow both in number of membership and attendance.

Among the Interstate courtesies was a request for Tampa Chapter No. 3 to confer the degrees for Chicago Chapter No. 127, Chicago. Recognition was granted the recently amalgamated Queensland Grand Chapters.

Every District Inspector made brief reports, in which a hopeful spirit of better conditions generally prevailed and also that practically every Chapter was visited.

The total number of exaltations for the year show a decrease of nearly twenty-seven per cent from the year previous, while the suspensions increased thirteen per cent. After considering the causes which may have influenced these conditions, the Committee on Chartered Chapters found a disinclination on the part of individuals to join a fraternity founded on the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man until there be some change or improvement; and also added:

Some would advocate modernizing the fraternity to make it more popular and up-to-date, make it more in harmony with the spirit of the times, but we feel the vast majority would prefer to preserve its ancient landmarks which form its greatest appeal. For to remove them would leave it as hollow and empty as sounding brass or tinkling cymbal.

Past Grand High Priest Everett R. Turnbull again presented the report of the Committee on Fraternal Relations which is both interesting and instructive and deserves a thoughtful reading by every Illinois Companion. He believes that every organization "must justify its existence or disband." However, he further added:

To assist a needy, worthy Brother it is not necessary to parade the streets with a band. Help can be rendered in a quiet, unobtrusive way that will have a more lasting effect and create a fraternal feeling that will live and grow years after the spoken word has been forgotten.

Next Annual in Chicago, October 29-30, 1931.

Harry L. Kelly, 615 Peoria Life Building, Peoria, Grand High Priest; James E. Jeffers, Box 174, Springfield, Grand Secretary; Everett R. Turnbull, Carlinville, Correspondent.

INDIANA—1931

Chapters, 116. Members, 31,564. Exalted, 702. Net Loss, 912

WILLIAM H. BAUGH, Grand High Priest

As usual, interesting preliminaries preceded the formal opening, and this time they included a pilgrimage to the last resting place of M. E. Comp. William B. Smith, the first Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Indiana, which was during the years 1845 and 1846. Comp. Smith was exalted seven years previous, January 6, 1838, in King Solomon Chapter, which is the present host Chapter.

No Grand Officer absentees were reported at the Eighty-fifth Annual Convocation, which was held in Richmond, October 22-23, 1930, with distinguished guests from Missouri and Ohio, and Florida was represented as well.

Education and inspiration permeated the constructive address of Grand High Priest Baugh, who stated that it had been his policy to cheer rather than criticize, and he urged the necessity of strengthening the influence of Capitular Masonry for good in every community where Chapters exist; he also emphasized that "much will depend upon those who are at the head of the different Chapters."

Comparatively few visitations were reported. One was to a Tri-State Convocation in St. Louis, Mo., where the Mark degree was conferred by a Kansas City Chapter, the Past Master by an East St. Louis Chapter, the Most Excellent by a St. Louis Chapter and the Royal Arch by a Terre Haute Chapter. Undoubtedly this was very interesting to the side lines; but what knowledge of Capitular Masonry will the candidates have, they being the most interested, providing they were the same persons in each degree? There is nothing to indicate otherwise.

So many Chapters reported reductions in fees that one wonders if it is becoming an epidemic? Does it pay to cheapen Freemasonry? Often that which costs little is valued accordingly.

One of the rulings of the Grand High Priest was that it was improper to use only one candidate in a class in the Past

and Most Excellent degrees and permit the other candidates to be seated. Another was that it was illegal to elect a petitioner by affiliation without a dimit, although the Grand High Priest found "a rather common disposition on the part of Chapters to ignore this requirement of General Laws."

The charter of one Chapter was arrested for "the practice of rapid-fire conferring of degrees" (whatever that may be), and another charter was arrested where "four 'teams' were exalted in the short space of three hours;" and still another where the record stated:

The Chapter opened at 9:30 A. M. and conferred the Mark, Past and Most Excellent degrees, preliminary to the Royal Arch. The Chapter opened on the Royal Arch at 4:00 P. M., conferred that degree on five "teams," and closed in time for dinner at 6:30 P. M.—that is two and one-half hours to open, exalt five teams, and close. The obligation, the general rules and the ritual certainly indicate that only one team at a time can be legally exalted, and good practice requires at least two and one-half hours to do the work properly on one team. Incidentally, the Council of Royal and Select Masters met, after dinner, at 7:30 P. M. and greeted nine Companions, taken from the above Chapter teams, who had been elected one week before receiving the Royal Arch degree!

Evidently some of the Indiana Companions have a working knowledge of the "steam roller." The Capitular laws having been violated, "there was no other course left me but to suspend the charter," stated the Grand High Priest, and he further added:

It is my firm conviction that Capitular Masonry loses far more than it gains when subordinate Chapters refuse to be guided by the laws laid down for their government. We are presumed to be an orderly institution; let us therefore safeguard our laws and do what we have to do in decency and in order.

Grand Chapter agreed with the Grand Lecturer and directed one Chapter, which is called "a chronic offender," to "elect a Secretary at its next annual election who will attend to the duties of that office in a proper manner and in accord with the Regulations." Attention was also called to the "deplorable condition" of law violations; and that unless citizens and members of societies are willing to submit to constituted

authority, he continued, "we cannot justly complain at the penalties we are called upon to pay for the violation of such laws."

The Council of Anointed High Priests in addition to consecrating fifty-seven Companions will also provide a traveling card if desired by paying twenty cents. One of the out-of-state visitors complimented the M. E. President, Comp. John J. Clendenning, as "a Companion now eighty-five years young, and who has occupied the exalted position as President of the Indiana Council since his election, October 21, 1908."

Grand Secretary and Past Grand High Priest Robert Archer Woods, for the twentieth consecutive time, presented the Capitular Review in which he stressed the great need of "leadership all along the line" as well as "the incentive to work," and then pertinently asked: "Companions, it is up to you. What are you going to do about it?"

Companion Woods justly complains that last year's Florida Proceedings only credited him with presenting his "eleventh" review instead of his "nineteenth." That was inexcusable carelessness somewhere, for ye scribe knew better.

Next Annual in South Bend, October 21-22, 1931.

Troy L. Puckett, Winchester, Grand High Priest; Robert A. Woods, Masonic Temple, Princeton, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

IOWA—1930

Chapters, 120. Members, 21,196. Exalted, 554. Net Loss, 709

CHARLES A. SCHLICHTER, Grand High Priest

Council Bluffs, which was host city for the Seventy-seventh Annual Convocation of Royal Arch Masons, held in that city, October 16-17, 1930, was in the early days a strategic point in the dealings with the original inhabitants.

Two members of the General Grand Chapter, one from the General Grand Council, specially favored dignitaries from Kansas and Nebraska and heads of other Iowa Masonic Orders were in attendance, as well as "the largest number of Grand Representatives ever present at one Convocation," it

was stated, and which naturally included Companion Orie H. Miller for Florida.

The imperative summons came during the year to two who had "borne the burden in the heat of the day:" M. E. Comp. Arthur S. Lawrence, Grand High Priest in 1904-1905, and M. E. Comp. George A. Riemcke, Grand High Priest in 1911-1912.

Desire, time, enthusiasm and willingness to serve characterize the address of Grand High Priest Schlichter who, in season and out of season, seemed to be willing to give of his best for the advancement of the Royal Craft. He was gratified over the building up of a Grand Chapter Charity Fund to care for the unfortunate members needing assistance. He regretted that more could not be done for the unemployed and urged every one to do his part.

The reference to an action of Grand Lodge providing for a Masonic Employment Bureau evidently "died a borning," as no further mention was noticed.

Among the numerous remedies suggested for overcoming suspensions for n.p.d, have been the so-called "Service Committees," which have been appointed in several Grand Jurisdictions, and whose duties are indicated by the word "service," which in these days is taken to mean anything and everything that produces success.

Grand High Priest Schlichter outlined a plan in the form of a general circular letter which was sent to all High Priests. It called for a "Service" or "General Utility" standing committee, also a "Membership Committee." Satisfactory results followed, he stated, when the plan was honestly and conscientiously put into practice. This is particularly shown by a summary from the report of Iowa Chapter No. 1, and which shows what one Chapter did accomplish. It would seem that a similar plan might be worked out by any Masonic body which would put in the necessary time and energy. Briefly summarized:

The committee of two made a partial canvass of the 700 members of the Lodges subject to the jurisdiction of that Chapter. The committee visited the members at opportune times, in business hours or at their homes. The character of the Chapter degrees were explained and an

invitation given to take another step in Masonry. The result was that out of 150 visitations, 52 petitions were secured for the Chapter and several for the Council. The others of this number, the report stated, "without exception," expressed a desire to advance in Masonry, but for personal reasons could not at that time. This committee was further of the opinion "that not ten per cent of the number would have petitioned without this legitimate Masonic stimulation." It was also revealed that in many Lodges the Masons had never even been asked to join the Chapter, did not understand what Chapter Masonry meant, and "concluded they were not wanted."

Recognition was given to the recently amalgamated Queensland Grand Chapter.

Among the adopted amendments was one that when a Chapter fails to ballot upon a petition within four months, or fails to confer the first three degrees within the same time, the petitioner may petition any other Chapter of that Grand Jurisdiction.

General Grand High Priest John W. Neilson, in his address before Grand Chapter, stressed the importance of the Capitular degrees, and quoted from Mackey, who said:

"No event in the history of Speculative Masonry has so important an influence upon its development into a system of symbolism as the invention of the Royal Arch degree and in the words of Dr. Kuhn, 'It is not a higher degree, but the last volume of the series in the sublime story, revealed through symbolism—the climax of Ancient Craft Masonry.'"

"The Master's degree without the Royal Arch is a story half told, a song half sung, and a promise unfulfilled."

And, very pertinently added Comp. Neilson, "every Master Mason should complete his Masonic story by receiving the Royal Arch degree." Also, as ye scribe looks at it, it is likewise the real completion of the spiritual temple according to the designs as originally delineated on the Master's trestle board.

Following the consecrating and setting apart of twenty-six Companions to the Order of High Priesthood, Excellent President Huttenlocher made an address giving some facts connected with the Order, and which was further enlarged upon by Comp. (Rev.) Amos A. Rideout, a member of the class.

Past Grand High Priest Edward M. Willard again presented the Report on Correspondence which gave evidence of much thought and research. Florida is courteously reviewed, Comp. Willard finding considerable of interest in the address of Grand High Priest Pasco.

Next Annual in Sioux City, October 8-9, 1931.

Charles H. Haney, Hampton, Grand High Priest; O. F. Graves, Harlan, Grand Secretary; E. M. Willard, Atlantic, Correspondent.

KANSAS—1930

Chapters, 96. Members, 20,154. Exalted, 438. Net Loss, 1,154

FRED T. NYE, Grand High Priest

Colorful, officially speaking, must have been the Sixty-fifth Annual Convocation held in Topeka, February 17 and 18, 1930, with distinguished guests present representing the heads of both the General Grand Chapter and the General Grand Council as well as some of the lesser lights, besides the Grand High Priest, also the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Colorado, and for full measure Florida's Grand Representative.

Surviving this distinguished presentment, Grand Chapter settled down to routine business being well prepared to listen attentively to the recounting of the activities of the administration of Grand High Priest Nye, of whom it was said: "He will be remembered in the years to come as one who served us faithfully and well and we commend him for his earnestness in the discharge of his duties and his interest in Capitular Masonry."

He reported granting a dispensation to waive statutory time in the case of a Brother who was at home after an absence of three years in Sumatra, and in ten days was to return to that country for an indefinite period. In no way questioning the action, it would seem that about the only benefit a Companion could hope to receive would be the possibility of sometime visiting Chapters working under English or Scottish Constitutions in the Far East or in some of the Aus-

tralian States, and it is to be hoped he may have such an opportunity.

Although the Grand High Priest sent a personal letter to each High Priest, calling attention to the new sections in the revised Grand Chapter laws, he stated, "there has been much evidence shown by the Companions that these new laws have not been carefully read and are not fully understood." One of the great problems of the day is how to interest Craftsmen generally in matters Masonic, where there are so many other activities and pleasure requiring less effort.

The Grand High Priest ruled that the election of a Companion as High Priest who had never served as King or Scribe, was illegal, and another election should be held because, he stated, "the election of other officers usually depends on who is chosen as High Priest." He refused to grant a dispensation to form a new Chapter where the present Chapter most affected was "having a hard time to keep going."

After a year's trial of holding group Chapter meetings for the purpose of receiving instructions from the Grand Lecturer, he found they did not receive the support they should, and he believed a return to the former custom of having the Grand Lecturer visit the Chapters individually would prove more profitable.

For the sixth time the committee reported that no Chapter was "denied representation" by reason of delinquency in receiving reports.

Among those who have gone to their reward was M. E. Comp. John Powers who, it was stated, "passed directly from the Easter service of his home church to the Heavenly Courts." He was Grand High Priest in 1916. Another interruption came in the summons to E. Comp. W. Ameer Burnett, who for twenty years had "guarded the outer courts of Grand Chapter," and who was said to have been one of the "most widely known Masons in Kansas."

Half a hundred Companions received the Order of High Priesthood.

The leading thought in the Report on Correspondence by Past Grand High Priest Albert K. Wilson seems to be that "the lack of interest of those who are elevated to the position

of Grand High Priest is increasing each year and is undoubtedly largely accountable for the growing losses in Capitular Masonry."

Referring to the recommendation of Grand High Priest Riley J. McMaster that Chapters be furnished additional copies of the ritual, Comp. Wilson observes:

Having had a reasonable amount of experience along this line, the writer feels that it is a serious mistake for a Grand High Priest to make a recommendation of this kind without a full knowledge of the duties which devolve upon the Grand Secretary in keeping track of these books. One ritual should be sufficient for any Chapter.

Next Annual in Wichita, Feb. 16-17, 1931.

Otto R. Souders, Wichita, Grand High Priest; Elmer F. Strain, Topeka, Grand Secretary; Albert K. Wilson, Topeka, Correspondent.

KENTUCKY—1930

Chapters, 124. Members, 16,235. Advanced, 370. Net Loss, 757

HUGH MOORE, Grand High Priest

Out-of-State distinguished Craftsmen present at the One Hundred and Thirteenth Annual Convocation, held in Louisville, October 21-22, 1930, included R. E. Comp. T. E. Doss, Grand Secretariat of the Tennessee Grand Bodies. Florida was also represented.

M. E. Comp. Charles H. Fish, Grand High Priest in 1891, dean of the Past Grands, and M. E. Comp. George B. Winslow, Grand High Priest in 1916, passed within the veils during the year.

Not having been called upon to make any real decisions nor had any appeals been referred to Grand High Priest Moore, his address was largely a recital of visitations made, and which convinced him "that Chapters largely reflect the vision, enthusiasm and spirit of their officers," and he truly added:

No Companion should accept office without a determination to give his best efforts to the discharge of his duties. Failure to meet regu-

larly, no real hardship upon the part of those elected to office, failure to confer impressively the ritualistic work, allowing Companions to be suspended for non-payment of dues when personal contact and interest would save them; these, in my opinion, are some points wherein we fail to measure up, and in which we can and should make a better record. Masonry becomes dignified and impressive by a high standard of proficiency in work, and nothing so increases our prestige before the world as the life of an upright Mason. Let us cling to the old landmarks and dignity. To offer the inducements of some present day organizations would lessen the influence of, and destroy our reverence for, Masonry. Whatever our problems, the "thinkers and doers" are still with us and there is wisdom and loyalty sufficient to counteract existing conditions.

Grand Chapter did not approve a recommendation of Grand High Priest Moore that a Chapter failing to have a convocation in six months should lose its charter, nor that Chapters should secure the approval of Grand Chapter before financing building or other improvements; but it did approve the appointment of a committee to formulate and present another year plans for some charitable objective to be undertaken by Grand Chapter.

The Grand High Priest positively refused to grant a dispensation to any Chapter to hold a regular convocation at a date "separate and apart from that named in the Chapter by-laws." And why not, as it was unlawful? Too many law evasions these days. He urged that the Council officers of a Chapter make a personal investigation and report on each Companion eligible for suspension before the ballot is taken.

It was stated that the Order of High Priesthood had been dormant the past six years, owing to the failing health and later the death of its President, M. E. Comp. Chas. H. Fisk. However, it was stated by the Acting President that the Order will be revived and a convocation will be held in 1931.

Excellent Companion William W. Clarke again presented a very creditable and informative report of the Doings of Other Grand Chapters in which the quotation procedure predominates. For the information of Companion Clarke, Florida Grand Chapter does not require the payment of dues on suspended members beyond the time of suspension; the action

which he queried was intended to apply only to the remission of the per capita for the year the suspension was made.

Next Annual in Louisville, October 20-21, 1931.

A. W. Whitehead, Williamsburg, Grand High Priest; G. Allison Holland, Lexington, Grand Secretary; W. W. Clarke, Owensboro, Correspondent.

LOUISIANA—1930

Chapters, 59. Members, 8,305. Exalted, 243. Net Loss, 627

GUY W. HOPKINS, Grand High Priest

Particularly honored by the presence of General Grand High Priest Charles C. Davis, and General Grand Master O. Frank Hart, was the Eighty-third Annual Convocation, held in New Orleans, February 17 and 18, 1930. Florida was represented.

So commonplace were the activities or so smoothly did Capitular affairs move along that the Grand High Priest found comparatively little to report to Grand Chapter. He reported issuing a dispensation to form a new Chapter at Jonesville, but later when he waived statutory time for investigation, because "all the Companions were well acquainted with the candidates," the Committee on Masonic Law and Jurisprudence thusly protested and Grand Chapter upheld:

We believe the Grand High Priest erred in giving this dispensation for the reason that we do not consider the traditional prerogative of Grand Masters to make Masons at sight inheres in Grand High Priests in the making of Royal Arch Masons. Furthermore, we consider the giving of dispensations very unwise in present conditions. Without affecting the status of the Companions exalted under the dispensation, we recommend that it be prohibited in the future.

Grand High Priest Hopkins deplored the "lack of knowledge of the esoteric work" on the part of the officers throughout the State which he said "was almost universal." His recommendation was a continuation of the plan of "direct supervision" by the Grand Officers and the duty of inspecting each

officer under his care, at least once a year, and to report directly to the Grand High Priest. Grand Chapter apparently approved.

Ten Companions were set apart to the Order of High Priesthood and the former officers were re-elected.

It is quite certain that a cordial welcome will be given E. Comp. Herman J. Duncan who succeeds Grand Secretary Davilla as fraternal correspondent, for his "first offense" passed inspection at this station and undoubtedly will at all others. He paid a merited tribute to Comp. Davilla "whose praises have been sung throughout the Capitular world."

Companion Duncan, noting the "tremendous duplication of effort," on the part of correspondents in preparing reviews or reports, made this suggestion:

If all or several of the Grand Chapters could only get together and have a common Report on Correspondence, a more comprehensive report could be secured for all at less expense than at present, and the reporter could be paid more nearly what his material is worth.

This idea has been advanced before, if ye scribe correctly recollects, but the plan did not seem to find much favor either by Grand Bodies or by the correspondents themselves. It looks to ye scribe to be more theoretical than practical; and while reasons in favor can be advanced, perhaps a greater number in opposition might arise.

Next Annual in New Orleans, Feb. 3-4, 1931.

Frank M. Milliken, Crowley, Grand High Priest; John A. Davilla, Masonic Temple, New Orleans, Grand Secretary; Herman A. Duncan, Alexandria, Correspondent.

MAINE—1930

Chapters, 68. Members, 17,444. Exalted, 360. Net Loss, 182

PERLEY C. DRESSER, Grand High Priest

By a queer coincidence the net losses this year were exactly the same as the previous year, but the suspensions were a few less, as were also the exaltations, and lends encouragement to a gradual "return to normal times."

All the Grand Chapters which could do so, appeared to have sent favored high dignitaries to the One Hundred and Fifth Annual Convocation, which convened in Portland, May 6, 1930, with practically all the Official Family present and a host of Permanent Members, including Past Grand Scribe Oren W. Ripley for Florida.

Faithfulness in the performance of duty is evidenced in the address of Grand High Priest Dresser as well as by his official family, all of whom gave much attention to visitations, so that only one Chapter was missed, and that was unavoidable, a commendable record.

Only one decision was made, and that was local in effect. Two dispensations for special convocations were granted, but neither were anticipated ahead of time. The recommendations were likewise local in nature. All of which indicate that Maine Companions are conversant with Capitular laws and believe in living up to them.

There is so much ritual tinkering these days that this statement by the Grand Lecturer, M. E. Samuel Furbish, is noteworthy:

Forty-six years have passed since this Grand Chapter adopted the ritual now in use and it surely would be gratifying to the committee who had the compilation in charge, to see how generally the degrees are conferred in conformity to the original idea.

Now that an amalgamation has been effected between the two Grand Chapters, fraternal recognition was granted to the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Queensland.

Thirty-two candidates were received and anointed into the Order of High Priesthood. The total membership of this Order is now a little over 800. A supper and program will precede the work at the 1931 meeting.

Much interest was shown in the Second Annual Meeting of the Maine Masonic Secretaries' Association which is looking to the establishment of a Masonic publication in Maine and the work will be continued through every Secretary and Recorder in Maine, who will report a year hence.

Past Grand Master Thomas Hodge again presented a Report on Correspondence replete with interest and information from start to finish, in which he states:

I wish it distinctly understood that the opinions are my own and not binding on anyone else. I try to explain the difference between our customs and laws and those of other jurisdictions, when such exists, but that does not necessarily mean we are right and others wrong; rather it is to bring out the difference and get the readers to thinking.

This is also the attitude taken by ye scribe, only he does not seem to be able to say it quite so forcefully.

Referring to a dispensation issued by Grand High Priest McMaster to receive and ballot on petitions at a special convocation, Companion Bodge quite pertinently stated:

As that Chapter holds stated convocations twice a month when petitions may be received, referred and balloted on, it would appear at this distance no such dispensation should have been needed; however, the Jurisprudence Committee said it was all right.

There is so much of real constructive value in the report of Companion Bodge that the Grand Chapter of Maine could with propriety adopt it as an educational text book, and it is regrettable that it is not available to our Florida Capitular students.

Next Annual in Portland, May 5-6, 1931.

Perley C. Dresser, Portland, Grand High Priest; Chas. B. Davis, Portland, Grand Secretary; Thos. H. Bodge, Augusta, Correspondent.

MANITOBA—1930

Chapters, 16. Members, 1,820. Admitted, 91. Net Gain, 29

J. C. WALKER REID, Grand Z.

Distances seem to be considered immaterial in the great Northwest. Distinguished Royal Craftsmen from Saskatchewan, North Dakota and Minnesota, helped to make memorable the Seventh Annual Convocation of Manitoba, held in Winnipeg, February 5, 1930, and it would have been more so had Florida been represented to hear the gracious words of welcome given to the other Grand Representatives by the Grand Z.

The maintenance of high Masonic standards, apparently characteristic of the man, were emphasized in the address of M. E. Comp. Reid, the Grand Z. In speaking of the spirit of Fraternity, which lies in the practice of brotherliness between man and man, he truly added:

It is of no more use to make professions of Fraternity in Lodge or Chapter room and not put them into practice, than it is to go to church, make profession of religion there and still have no religion. It is the practice and not the profession that counts. Masonry is organized Brotherhood and is a proof that men can work best for humanity when banded together in such an institution as ours, and how to attain this Fraternity or Brotherhood is taught in Freemasonry.

That no official ruling or official decision has been requested, is a tribute to the clarity of the constitution as well as to the existing internal harmony. Hence there was nothing doing for the Committee on Constitution, Laws and Jurisprudence. Happy condition.

He recommended setting aside each year a specific sum to be used in some particular branch of philanthropic work. He paid just tribute to the Fraternal Correspondence Report of E. Comp. John Parton and hoped a synopsis of it would be given in each subordinate Chapter. There is no better educational propaganda.

Grand Chapter favored a constitutional amendment which would give concurrent jurisdiction to all territory outside of the cities and towns in which Chapters were located.

In the eulogy of R. E. Comp. Gerald Pennefather, a District Superintendent, this deserved tribute was paid not only to him but also to the "country doctor," as well, whoever and wherever he may be:

For forty years he practiced as a physician in the rural districts of this Province. For thirty years, mid storm and wind and rain, in fair weather and foul, over the hills, and through the valleys, along the Cypress River, he answered the calls of distressed humanity. I wonder how many of us realize today, what a wealth of sacrifice and service was symbolized in the life of a country doctor in Manitoba forty years ago, before the days of roads, automobiles, telephones and hospitals? Ian McLaren's beautiful character in "the Bonnie Brier Bush," Doctor McClure, was such a man; Dr. Pennefather was another.

It was the privilege as well as the pleasure of ye scribe to meet R. E. Comp. George Syme, Grand Scribe E., and to receive many courtesies as well, last fall, during a brief sojourn in the City of Winnipeg on his return from the General Grand Triennials at Tacoma, Wash.

There is no Order of High Priesthood.

A comprehensive and informative report on Correspondence by Companion John Parton makes interesting reading and well deserves the commendation given him by the Grand Z. Florida is given sympathetic consideration. Incidentally there is also the information that R. E. Comp. Parton gets his title by reason of being a Past elected Grand Officer, and not as fraternal correspondent. This is also Florida custom.

Next Annual presumably in Winnipeg, Feb. 4, 1931.

W. W. Bentley, 936 Ingersoll St., Grand Z.; George Syme, Masonic Temple, Grand Scribe E.; John Parton, Correspondent; all of Winnipeg.

MARYLAND—1929

Chapters, 57. Members, 9,840. Exalted, 228. Net Loss, 83

ROY DANZER, Grand High Priest

Every Chapter was represented at the One Hundred and Thirty-second Annual, held in Baltimore, at an afternoon session, December 10, 1929, with no vacancies in Grand Officers, and a host of Permanent Members and Florida as well present. Distinguished guests included General Grand High Priest Charles C. Davis and General Grand Master O. Frank Hart, while letters of regret were received from Past General Grand High Priest Henry DeWitt Hamilton and others.

Nothing out of the ordinary was disclosed in the address of Grand High Priest Danzer, whose duties did not appear to have been onerous. Summarized, the four reasons advanced for the small net loss in membership were: The rapid growth of service clubs; prolonged ritualistic work; advent of automobile, radio and moving pictures; a stepping stone to extended degrees; to which he added:

I have no desire to be classed as a revolutionist, and frankly do not know which, if any, of the above thoughts are most responsible for our decline in membership; and I do sincerely hope none will misinterpret my meaning, but I do most seriously recommend the matter to your most earnest consideration, particularly to the advisability of shortening our ritualistic work without in any way destroying the beautiful lessons it teaches.

If Grand Chapter took specific action ye scribe failed to notice it. The recommendation to reduce the per capita from seventy-five cents to fifty cents was considered to be an amendment and probably will come up another year.

Eighteen Companions were set apart to the Order of High Priesthood, and Companion Charles Zimmerman was elected M. E. President.

Really worthwhile was the well prepared Correspondence Report by E. Comp. Howard M. Emmons, and it deserved a much more careful reading than it received because this review was written while ye scribe was temporarily sojourning beyond the reach of the exhilarating and inspiring Gulf breezes of the Peninsular State, and if there be a better place in which to spend twelve months out of each year than Florida, ye scribe has not found it.

Referring to the dispensation of Grand High Priest McMaster to permit a Chapter to receive and ballot on petitions at a Special Convocation, Comp. Emmons comments: "Skating on thin ice here, Most Excellent." And referring to the candidacy of M. E. Comp. Snow: "Maryland would be honored to have its Grand Representative so recognized." Thank you.

Next Annual December 9, 1931.

Ernest Green, Grand High Priest; Gustav A. Eitel, Grand Secretary; Howard M. Emmons, Correspondent; all of Masonic Temple, Baltimore.

MASSACHUSETTS—1930

Chapters, 97. Members, 40,110. Exalted, 697. Net Loss, 816.

WINTHROP J. CUSHING, Grand High Priest

Three Quarterly Communications, and an Annual beside, seem to be required to record the activities of the Grand Chapter, all of which are held in Masonic Temple, Boston, and at none of these was there any one to represent the Grand Chapter of Florida.

The death of M. E. Comp. Arthur G. Pollard was reported at the June Quarterly. Companion Pollard attained high positions in the Masonic fraternity, which included that of General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter from 1903 to 1906. The records also show that during the Capitular year three Past Grand Kings and one Grand Scribe had also joined the silent majority.

Largely routine were the proceedings of the three Quarterlies, which included the recognition of the two amalgamated Grand Chapters in Queensland.

The Annual Convocation was held December 9, 1930, the morning and evening sessions being given over largely to the exemplifications of the Capitular degrees, emphasis being given to the time for each: Mark Master requiring one hour and thirty-four minutes; Past Master, twenty-seven minutes; Most Excellent Master, fifty-eight minutes; and the Royal Arch, one hour and fifty-three minutes. This emphasized efficiency and with no lost time. The General Grand Chapter, nine Grand Chapters and each of the Concordant Chapters of the State were represented.

The address of Grand High Priest Cushing graphically portrayed Capitular progress and the accomplishments of the year as well as the spirit of fraternalism and friendship generally existing. The reports on the address of the Grand High Priest as well as many of the committee reports are made at the first Quarterly in the succeeding year.

Much attention is attached to the official pilgrimages of the Grand High Priest, outside as well as inside the confines of the Grand Jurisdiction, and in which he was accompanied

by numerous other Grand Officers. To some of the Subordinate Chapters it was the first official visitation of a Grand Presiding Officer. It is some of these somewhat isolated Chapters which more often need the inspirations which come from official visitations. Not overly burdensome appear to have been the necessary demands upon that high official.

Grand Chapter adopted the report of the Ritual Committee, which recommended:

First—That the Past Master's Degree be conferred only by communication by administering the obligation to the candidates and investing them with the signs, grip and word of the Degree.

Second—That the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts declares that exaltation to the Degree of Royal Arch Mason occurs at the moment when the G. O. R. A. word is communicated.

Third—That the circumambulations of the P. S. and candidates in the Royal Arch Degree, between the episode of the B. B. and beginning of the journey through the veils, be omitted and the ritual of the P. S. during this period, be delivered while the candidates are in the West facing the entrance to the veils.

Fourth—That hoodwinks shall be removed immediately following the obligation.

The adoption of the Educational Program by the Grand Chapter carried with it the assurance that this feature "furnishes sure evidence to all that we are mindful of the tenets of our Masonic profession."

The Paul Revere Medal was presented to retiring Grand High Priest Cushing after three years of signally successful service, and who it appears created and designed this distinguished service medal.

Thirty-seven petitioners were consecrated and set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood. Ritualistic changes include that now the historical scripture readings are to be by the Chaplain instead of the M. E. President, and which conforms to Florida procedure.

R. E. Comp. Raymond T. Sewall, for the third time, presented a concise report of correspondence in which some of the more important happenings are sketched, Florida not being overlooked.

Jesse E. Ames, Brookline, Grand High Priest; Raymond T. Sewall, 203 Masonic Temple, Boston, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

MICHIGAN—1930

Chapters, 166. Members, 46,161. Exalted, 1,436. Net Loss, 726

ALBERT TREBILCOCK, Grand High Priest

Departing somewhat from common custom, the numerous distinguished guests in attendance at the Eighty-second Annual Convocation, which convened in Kalamazoo, May 21, 1930, were first formally received so that they might witness the ceremonial of opening the Grand Chapter. Florida was not represented.

An interesting incident in connection was the presentation to the Grand High Priest of a gavel with historical associations. It was made from one of the wooden trusses taken from the White House in Washington. Twenty-six Presidents have lived in this historic mansion, including President Madison and his famous wife, Dolly, who, it is stated, made a hasty departure when the British soldiers in 1814 set fire to that structure which destroyed much of the interior and part of the roof; but it was not until 1926 that it became necessary to remove the truss from which the gavel was taken.

In the passing to the Great Beyond of M. E. Geo. W. Leedle, Grand High Priest in 1914, and Grand Lecturer 1920-1929, and R. E. Emerson M. Newell, Grand Treasurer 1895-1929, Grand Chapter suffered a great loss.

Partaking somewhat of the nature of an encyclical letter was the address of Grand High Priest Trebilcock. He stated he made no visitations outside the Grand Jurisdiction, but that he endeavored to maintain "traditional felicitations" by sending other Grand Officers. And because of limited time his visitations to constituent Chapters were likewise restricted.

Taking into consideration the conditions and difficulties many of the Chapters were experiencing, he said, he pursued a somewhat "liberal attitude" in granting dispensations. As all his acts met the approval of Grand Chapter, they of course conformed to law. Some of these, however, were to permit work to be done according to the Grand Jurisdiction from which the visitors came. Ye scribe does not presume to question, but when this is done he wonders if the candidate

may not be confused when he desires to prove himself worthy to visit a strange Chapter?

One of the decisions of the Grand High Priest pertained to a lack of understanding arising from using a transfer certificate in lieu of a regular dimit; these are conditions occasionally noticed in Grand Jurisdictions where members transfer by certificate.

Grand Chapter did not approve assessing constituent Chapters each year for the entertainment of the Grand Officers and delegates at the Annual Convocations.

Action was postponed another year on proposed constitutional amendments pertaining to the increase in n.p.d. suspensions. Other Grand Bodies will be on the lookout for this much-to-be-desired legislation.

Several of the distinguished visitors addressed the Grand Council of High Priesthood and nearly four score Companions were set apart to that Holy Order.

For the fourth time Past Grand High Priest Harry L. Izor presented the Annual Capitular Review. His researches convinced him that the committee plan of assisting Chapter Secretaries in the collection of dues and the retaining of membership predominated, when properly supported by "Leadership" and "Education," with emphasis on the former.

He referred to the address of Grand High Priest McMaster as being "the soul of brevity." Companion Izor being a member of the Fourth Estate, has the happy faculty of combining comment and quotation in a "just right" proportion.

Next Annual in Saginaw, May 20-21, 1931.

Warner K. McSween, Ionia, Grand High Priest; Charles A. Conover, Coldwater, Grand Secretary; Harry L. Izor, Durand, Correspondent.

MINNESOTA—1930

Chapters, 87. Members, 16,759. Exalted, 518. Net Loss, 158

WILLIAM B. VAN HOUSSEN, Grand High Priest

Our new General Grand High Priest, M. E. Comp. John W. Neilson, is establishing a splendid record in visitations thus early in his administration, for this is his fourth

one in the different Grand Chapter Proceedings as they have reached the desk of ye scribe, almost one a week since his election, and there may be others yet to "sandwich" in. Manitoba and South Dakota were also in evidence at the Sixty-ninth Annual, held in St. Paul, October 14-15, 1930, with Florida's Grand Representative to form the square.

Death, the leveler, during the year called M. E. Comp. George W. Stowe, Grand High Priest in 1918.

Educational, interesting, enthusiastic—these three words aptly describe the address of Grand High Priest Van Housen in which he portrayed the activities of the year, which were varied and all passed the "unerring square." He strongly urged each Chapter to provide for holding two convocations per month, because among other reasons "men of today are accustomed to having their business affairs attended to with dispatch;" and in connection he favored reducing the Chapter fees to \$30.00, which several of the Minnesota Chapters have done.

Although several dispensations were granted to hold elections on dates other than designated in By-laws, he urged "to let nothing interfere, if humanly possible, with holding elections on stated date." Florida has little of this kind of trouble as all elections in all the Florida Bodies are held at the first meeting in December and the installations are December 27th or as soon thereafter as possible and no dispensations are required.

He refused a dispensation for a Minnesota Chapter to confer the Royal Arch degree as the guest of a Wisconsin Chapter. He also refused a dispensation to temporarily reduce fees to \$30.00 to apply only to sixty-five candidates who would constitute their "Sixty-fifth Anniversary Class." But he stated they could amend their By-laws to that amount and later on amend again, if desired.

Grand Chapter did not look with favor upon memorializing the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Scotland to recognize exclusive jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of New South Wales and for that Body to charter no new Chapters in that State. It did, however, approve the amalgamation of the two Queensland Chapters. Neither did it favor the addition of any additional wording or ceremonies

in conferring the Royal Arch degree not contained in its new ritual.

One of the surprises of the Grand Lecturer was to learn how few Chapters knew the boundaries of their own territory, and whose members claimed "they did not know they could accept a petition from any Lodge except the one where the Chapter was located." Wonder who was responsible for such a condition? Trust it was not intentional.

There are many pertinent and helpful suggestions in the report of the Grand Lecturer which Minnesota Companions could heed with profit, and would be equally applicable elsewhere as well.

The next Annual will consider authorizing an annual payment of ten per cent of the annual fees and dues to the Masonic Home Association; also when a Chapter becomes inactive for six months the Grand High Priest may establish concurrent jurisdiction with the nearest Chapter to receive petitions for degrees and membership. Other important matters were considered but conditions do not conduce to further reference.

An evening was given to the Holy Order of High Priesthood, when thirty-seven candidates were anointed and set apart.

Although not specifically stated, it is safe to assume that the Report of Foreign Correspondence is the work of E. Comp. Charles S. Schurman, whom ye scribe had the pleasure of meeting last fall in St. Paul. Comp. Schurman has our permission to return the visit "in person" in Florida.

The "Foreword" is given to a consideration of the "Elimination" of the Chapter degrees, which it is reported will be proposed by the Grand Commandery of Illinois at the Grand Encampment in Minneapolis in June. The fallacy of such action was forcefully portrayed by Companion Schurman. It does not seem credible that such a move could be seriously considered, for, it is stated that Ancient Craft Masonry consists of the Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft and Master Mason degrees together with the Holy Royal Arch, according to the original designs laid down upon the Master's trestleboard.

Florida is given discriminatory as well as courteous consideration and his comments are constructive and uplifting. He quoted at length from "Net Loss in Membership."

Next Annual in St. Paul, October 13-14, 1931.

J. Arthur Jensen, Minneapolis, Grand High Priest; John Fishel, Grand Secretary; Chas. S. Schurman, Correspondent; all of St. Paul.

MISSISSIPPI—1930

Chapters, 63. Members, 7,156. Exalted, 294. Net Loss, 193

ROBERT W. HINTON, JR., Grand High Priest

Both of the General Grand Bodies were represented in person by their presiding officers besides others of great importance at the Eighty-second Annual held in Clarksdale, March 18 and 19, 1930. Quite a number of Chapters were not represented, as well as Florida.

Three members of the Permanent Family responded to the last summons during the year: M. E. Comp. Austin D. Bailey, Grand High Priest in 1888, the dean of that body; M. E. Comp. Harry T. Howard, Grand High Priest in 1912, and M. E. Comp. Clarence S. Cullens.

Matters Capitular appear to have moved along so methodically that but few demands seem to have been made upon Grand High Priest Hinton. To furnish material for the reunions which seem to be an important part in connection with the visits of the Grand Lecturer, M. E. Comp. Hinton stated that he "granted every request made." Practically no other official acts are reported.

Quite encouraging is the report of the Grand Lecturer whose practice was to select a team for only one degree from any one Chapter, and in this way he stated, "Twenty entirely new teams have been trained to do their degrees almost perfectly and with the right effect this year;" and further "about half of these teams have been developed in Chapters where I was assured that it was impossible to have such a team at all." Other Chapters can well "take due notice and govern themselves accordingly."

One Chapter was fined \$25.00 for failure to put impression of seal on the annual returns, as required by Mississippi Capitular law.

Evidently Grand Chapter officers are automatically advanced, for the Proceedings record only the election of Grand Master of the First Veil; and the Deputy Grand High Priest and Grand Chaplain are appointed.

Seventeen qualified Companions were consecrated and set apart to the Order of High Priesthood; and hereafter election of officers will be annually instead of every three years.

For the fifth time Past Grand High Priest H. C. Yawn presented a creditable and informative Report on Foreign Correspondence. He found so much worthy of reproduction that there appeared to be little space left for criticism; a commendable procedure, as ye scribe looks at it. Florida is generously and fraternally considered.

Next Annual in Oxford, March 18-19, 1931.

I. J. Scharff, Corinth, Grand High Priest; Edward L. Faucette, Meridian, Grand Secretary; Henry C. Yawn, Lumberton, Correspondent.

MISSOURI—1930

Chapters, 110. Members, 32,217. Exalted, 694. Net Loss, 1,224

EDWARD F. VON GUNDEN, Grand High Priest

Among the distinguished highlights honoring the Eighty-fourth Annual Convocation, held in Monett, April 22-23, 1930, was M. E. Comp. O. Frank Hart, of the General Grand Council, and the General Grand Chapter was represented by M. E. Comp. Ray V. Denslow, General Grand Master of the Third Veil, as well as Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Missouri, and from his adaptability to that work apparently has a lifelong "job." California sent its Deputy Grand Lecturer, and Florida responded to roll call. An excellent beginning, but not sufficient to fully overcome the great loss occasioned by the descent into the vault for the last time of M. E. Comp. Louis E. Vogelsang, which

occurred less than a fortnight previous, and who was the first Grand Lecturer to spend all his time teaching the Royal Arch Ritual.

Touching the high spots and avoiding "filling the ears with platitudes," as Grand High Priest Von Gunden puts it in his address, he stressed the appointment of a committee of "some of our best minds to get together and endeavor to work out some solution and remedy for the present depression on Freemasonry." His administration showed that he was not sparing in either time or energy in devotion to the Royal Craft and for which he was commended "for the skill and diplomacy with which he administered Capitular affairs," which "endeared him" to the Fraternity without as well as within the Grand Jurisdiction.

Few occasions requiring official action are recorded, and they were of little outside interest. Having early recognized the first Grand Chapter formed in Queensland, he now recommended the recognition of the consolidation of the two Chapters, a happy ending of a troublesome matter.

Substantial progress was reported by the Committee on Royal Arch Masonry in Missouri, and of particular value is the synopsis of the plan to be followed, for it appears to suggest a program which in substance could well be adopted by any Masonic Body contemplating preparing a similar history, which it would seem should be a common purpose. If Masonry means anything, and surely it does, or more than four million persons would not be interested in it, then present day events ought to be so recorded together with all available previous happenings, that our successors may not have to depend upon legend, but rather be in possession of facts.

Although there was a Grand Chapter law prohibiting the conferring of Chapter degrees during an Annual Convocation, yet it made an exception and permitted a Chapter to open and confer the Most Excellent Master degree. Not only did the work elicit much favorable comment, but what was evidently of greater importance was the "proving that no Chapter in Missouri was too small to attempt to present the degree in full form."

Conditions permit only a brief reference to the really worthwhile report of Grand Lecturer George C. Marquis, who is

always a leader in this activity. Referring to his more or less mythical Chapter, these pertinent quotations are worthy of much consideration:

With all its "ups and downs" the Chapter has exerted an influence for good; its "ups" have usually been when its officers were men of ability, leaders in civic affairs, its "downs" have, as a rule, been in those years when the High Priest was merely "passing the chairs."

The remedy is using careful thought in the selecting of leaders. The mere fact that a Companion is a good man, able to commit to memory portions of the ritual, does not mean that he is necessarily qualified to be a good High Priest. The great need is that busy men of affairs who can enlist the active support of others assume leadership in our Masonic institutions.

Further comments with value and propriety could be made but there is a limit.

Some three score Companions were set apart to the Order of High Priesthood. Workers will look with interest to the report of the committee authorized to prepare a historical statement in the form of a prologue for use in the second part of the degree.

One of the greatest privileges of ye scribe was to meet a year ago M. E. Comp. Corona H. Briggs, in his home baliwick, who is the fraternal correspondent of the Grand Chapter of Missouri, as well as one of its most beloved and revered Craftsmen. There is much encouragement in his statement:

Those who have been suspended for non-payment of dues does not necessarily mean that they have lost interest in the principles of Royal Arch Masonry. Of course many were exalted in recent years on whom we labored in vain, but it may be true that the larger part of the Companions who have ceased to retain their Chapter membership may be better men because of what we have done for them.

Florida's major activities are given due consideration and his approval is appreciated. He will know more about us when he makes that tentatively promised visit. Wherever he may go he will find the latch-string out.

Next Annual in Booneville, April 28-29, 1931.

Fred O. Wood, Springfield, Grand High Priest; Ray V. Denslow, Trenton, Grand Secretary; Corona H. Briggs, R. R. 9, Springfield, Correspondent.

MONTANA—1930

Chapters, 36. Members, 4,641. Exalted, 107. Net Loss, 53

FRANK W. HASKINS, Grand High Priest

Customary preliminary exercises preceded the formal opening of the Forty-first Annual Convocation, held in Bozeman, in a country of much natural beauty, July 8, 1930, with a full complement of Grand Officers and as many more Past Grands present, and with Florida's Representative to give added dignity.

During the year five of its permanent members received their summons from the Supreme Chapter on High: Squire C. Kenyon, Grand High Priest in 1898; George T. Slack, in 1901; Emil H. Renisch, in 1902; Maurice A. Walker, in 1909; and Rev. J. F. McNamee, Grand Chaplain in 1907-1908.

The record of a year of Masonic activities appear in the address of Grand High Priest Haskins, and who, Grand Chapter stated, "repaid the honors conferred upon him with the gold coin of service." His interstate visitations were necessarily declined, and his official visitations, not as many as he desired. However, he found conditions improved, but not altogether satisfactory, by reason of the suspensions, for which he could offer no remedy.

Life membership was the basis of the three decisions of the Grand High Priest, seemingly more or less troublesome wherever in force, but fortunately, as ye scribe looks at it, not yet common Florida practice.

Grand High Priest Haskins made this reference to a notable Chapter Convocation held in Helena:

Probably never in Capitular Masonry has it happened that the degree of Royal Arch was conferred upon a team composed exclusively of Associate Justices of the Highest Court in the State, in which a Chief Justice of that Court took a part, and, solely by Past Grand High Priests and the Grand High Priest.

Among the recommendations of the Grand High Priest, and which Grand Chapter approved, was that:

Any Grand Officer or Grand Representative failing to attend two consecutive Convocations without adequate excuse be dropped from such

committee or office, and that the Grand High Priest of the Jurisdiction from which Grand Representative is an ambassador be requested to appoint another representative to such place.

During the year thirty-eight Montana students were assisted in their educational work by the Cornelius E. Hedges, Jr., Memorial Educational Fund, thirty-seven of these attending some one of the State institutions. The loans totaled \$6,370, an increase of more than \$1,000 over the year previous, and the consensus of opinion of the committee was that "loans definitely strengthen the character for honesty and integrity."

The members of the Montana Convention of Anointed High Priests seem to have the custom of serving a "delicious dinner" previous to the Annual Assembly where the "service is good and the company is congenial and happy." This is an ancient as well as commendable Masonic custom. Others might copy.

Past Grand High Priest H. S. Hepner, who is referred to as "that old War Horse and dear Companion to all," again reports his invisible visitations to the Capitular Quarries, and with this reaction to the "mutterings of pessimism" and "lamentations over suspensions," which he characterizes:

All this is bosh! No real Craftsman should ever tire of countless repetitions of the beautiful ceremonials and teachings of the Rite; those who tire will protest against repetitions of the words of the Lord's Prayer; they are born tired; live tired, and will die tired, without having seen the real manifold beauties of life.

However, he reports finding none of these conditions in the Florida Quarries, but he did find considerable to quote yourself how we do things in the Southland State. Next Annual in Billings, date to be announced later.

Alfred J. Rowland, Miles City, Grand High Priest; Luther T. Hauberg, Helena, Grand Secretary; H. S. Hepner, Helena, Correspondent.

NEBRASKA—1930

Chapters, 56. Members, 8,118. Exalted, 207. Net Loss, 218

Fred G. BOSSHAMMER, Grand High Priest

Iowa and the other Grand Bodies of Nebraska were in evidence at the Sixty-fourth Annual Convocation, held in Omaha, December 3-4, 1930, with Past Grand High Priest Walter L. Spear to represent Florida.

During the year three of the reverend Permanent Members joined the silent majority: M. E. Comp. John D. Moore, Grand High Priest in 1885; M. E. Comp. Francis McGiverin, in 1905, and M. E. Comp. Oscar K. Allen, in 1908.

Possibly, as Grand High Priest Boshhammer stated in his address, it may not have been "crammed full of rhetoric and beautiful phrases," but it did contain much wisdom and admonition which might with propriety be presented to any Masonic Body.

His Chapter visitations, not as many as he had expected to make, but he said, without exception, he "accepted every invitation extended." He noted among other things that Chapter work "does not have the appeal it had several years ago," which may be accounted for in part at least, he continued, "because the Chapter meetings do not start on time, halls are not properly prepared for degree work, officers are late in arrival, stations are filled by substitutes, who stumble through work and read out of rituals, all of which do not make the impression permanent," and continuing, he further added:

The High Priest who conducts the business of his Chapter with promptness and dispatch, and leaves the oratory to those who wish to orate and argue after the Chapter closes, is to be commended. All who do not intend to fill the stations are elected and appointed. All they want is honor and glory, and they are imbued with the idea that they will "get by" somehow. The remedy lies in proper selection of officers, and perhaps fewer Chapters. Chapters sometimes advance the line with a total disregard for their ability to properly fill the stations. Although a shakeup some times causes friction and disrupts the harmony of a Chapter for the time being, it generally accomplishes some good. Chapters spend too much money for entertainment and not enough for paraphernalia.

The Grand High Priest attended an Interstate Convocation in St. Joseph, Mo., with several hundred in attendance. Officers from a Nebraska Chapter conferred the Mark Master degree, and the other degrees were conferred by Chapters from Iowa, Kansas and Missouri, with nothing to indicate whether the same candidates were used in each of the four degrees.

A consolidation of two Chapters was effected. Action to change date of holding Annual Convocation was postponed until another year. The amalgamation of the two Queensland Grand Chapters was approved. Grand Chapter remained standing during the reading of the report on Fraternal Dead. The reports showed that there were ninety-five adult residents in the Nebraska Masonic Home at Plattsmouth, and sixty-five orphaned children in the Masonic-Eastern Star Home at Fremont. Action on the proposed new ritual was laid over for another year, when the degrees according to the new ritual will be exemplified by Omaha Chapters.

Grand Chapter decided that a Companion who has been expelled from the Lodge, automatically dropped from the Chapter, and later reinstated in Lodge, will be entitled to a Grand Chapter certificate in place of dimit, which will become null and void if not presented to a Chapter within one year.

To stimulate interest in Chapters a banner, to be gratuitously furnished by the Grand Secretary, will be presented to the Chapter showing the greatest per cent gain during the year.

Well attended was the Annual Convention of the Order of High Priesthood when forty-six Companions were separately anointed and set apart.

A well prepared report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Past Grand High Priest George N. R. Browne, but with no opening or closing comment. It is good and instructive reading, but unfortunately did not include Florida Proceedings.

Next Annual in Omaha, December 2-3, 1931.

Emmett I. Ellis, Tekamah, Grand High Priest; Lewis E. Smith, Masonic Temple, Omaha, Grand Secretary; George N. R. Browne, Hastings, Correspondent.

NEVADA—1930

Chapters, 9. Members, 670. Exalted, 35. Net Gain, 24

HORACE J. BROWN, Grand High Priest

Honorary memberships were conferred upon Deputy Grand High Priest Roy D. Woodward and Grand King Carl Barnard of the Grand Chapter of California, who were the distinguished Royal Craft visitors at the Fifty-seventh Annual Convocation held in Reno, June 10, 1930, with Florida's Grand Representative being about the only important personage missing.

To be sure it is a long way to our fair Southland State, but just the same we do not like to be overlooked. It is pleasing, however, to note that many Grand Representatives sent greetings, even though Nevada's Representative in Florida did not, neither was he reported present at our last Annual, hence it looks as though "honors" were about even.

No decisions were requested and a recapitulation of necessary duties characterized the address of Grand High Priest Brown, in which official visitations predominated. Committee reported "nothing doing," and harmony, good will and progress appear to prevail all the way from Diessner to Searchlight. This is also apparent in the statement of the Grand High Priest: "From my observations I feel safe in stating that Capitular Masonry in Nevada is at the threshold of a revival that will terminate in a great and lasting upbuilding of the York Rite." Hope it is so and may the good work go on.

After considerable discussion regarding the adoption of a standard ritual, it was decided to let the matter rest, "as each Chapter was now using the California Work, although not all using the same edition," and it was left to the Chapters "to adopt that edition which seems best to each of them." After all there is much to be said in favor of being "free moral agents."

Apparently there were no petitions for the Order of High Priesthood. There must be some Companions who do not know what they are missing.

It is a pleasure to welcome the return of the Capitular Review in the Nevada Proceedings. A concise and illuminat-

ing report was made by V. E. Frank D. King, Grand Secretary and Grand High Priest in 1902, and who was stricken while preparing to attend Easter service and passed away in the performance of Masonic duties. Although limited in space yet Companion King said a great deal in a few words and which breathed the true fraternal spirit. His successor, Grand Secretary Frank R. King, will be cordially welcomed by The Guild.

Next Annual in the City of Ely, June 9, 1931.

James D. Wallace, Ely, Grand High Priest; Frank R. King, Box 595, Reno, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—1930

Chapters, 26. Members, 5,603. Exalted, 118. Net Loss, 66

WALTER M. HUBBARD, Grand High Priest

Nine Grand Chapters sent favored Companions to the One Hundred and Eleventh Annual Convocation, held in Concord, May 20, 1930, but Florida was not represented.

Largely a record of necessary activities was the address of Grand High Priest Hubbard, in which special attention was given to visitations, the subordinate Chapters having been assigned to the four Grand Council Officers, and apparently every Chapter was visited.

An interesting incident was the visit of Companion Hubbard to his home Chapter, Cheshire No. 4 at Keene, which he states is one of the oldest in the state, "antedating the formation of the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire," and quite naturally he was proud "of its past record."

No decisions are reported and but few other acts are recorded, and all of which received the "o. k." of the powers that be.

Due search was carefully made and the only other noteworthy incident seemed to be the presentation of the Past Grand High Priest's jewel by M. E. Comp. O. Frank Hart.

Companion Hart was also a visitor at the Council of the Order of High Priesthood, when half a dozen Companions

were "elected, introduced, obligated and instructed." Each retiring President is presented with a jewel. This custom has not reached Florida, that official being seldom changed.

Basing comments and observations on what "seems to us a practical view of Masonry," is the theme of the thirteenth Report on Foreign Correspondence by E. Comp. Charles B. Spofford, apparently the senior High Priest of Webb Chapter No. 6, Claremont, and who spends his winters in DeLand, Florida, where no doubt much of his writing is done, and where nature's surroundings naturally provide inspiration for his commendable work.

He seems to be "agin" the Grand Representative System, which he designates as a "seemingly useless bestowal of rank." May be so, but it is a custom that has commendable features with possibilities that might be advantageously encouraged.

Florida was favorably considered and the address of Grand High Priest McMaster was called a "business document."

Next Annual in Concord, May 19, 1931.

John M. Kendall, Manchester, Grand High Priest; Harry M. Cheney, Concord, Grand Secretary; Chas. B. Spofford, Claremont, Correspondent.

NEW JERSEY—1930

Chapters, 58. Members, 20,152. Exalted, 564. Net Loss, 359

MATTHEW ARMSTRONG, Grand High Priest

Distinguished visitors from nine Grand Jurisdictions, a baker's dozen Past Grands and numerous other Permanent Members, including Florida's Representative, with a full corps of Grand Officers, were present when the Seventy-fourth Annual Convocation was opened in Ample Form in its new Temple in Trenton, May 14, 1930.

During the year three zealous and permanent members were summoned into the Heavenly Grand Chapter: M. E. Comp. Joseph Mason, Grand High Priest in 1903; James S. Ware in 1908, and Fred E. Tilden in 1924.

After referring with pleasure to the satisfaction it was for Grand Chapter and its members to have a permanent

abiding place dedicated to Masonry, the address of Grand High Priest Armstrong was largely a resume of the activities of the year. For the first time there was a small loss in membership, the suspensions only lacking an even dozen of equalling the exaltations. This, however, he did not consider alarming.

Among the causes having a direct bearing he named the increase in rentals for the maintenance of new temples, neglect to regularly pay dues and the indifference of Chapters to take action. This he believed would be remedied by increasing the dues. To this latter suggestion Grand Chapter did not fully agree, but instead suggested a more careful administration by the Chapter Officers, thus creating a deeper interest in the work of Royal Arch Masonry and recommended that a committee give this subject special study and report its findings a year hence.

Approval was not given to a Chapter By-law which proposed to create a special entertainment fund to be derived partly from a fund on hand, partly from annual dues and the balance from the profits from dances and other forms of entertainment.

Neither did it approve a life membership of \$100.00, which should revert to the Companion's heirs on his death; but Grand Chapter did by amendment provide for life membership by a straight payment of \$50.00.

No other decisions are recorded and the acts of the Grand High Priest were approved; likewise the committee reports.

Action was taken looking to a fitting celebration next year of the Grand Chapter's seventy-fifth anniversary. Hereafter each incoming Grand High Priest will be presented with a suitably inscribed gavel which becomes his personal property and which it is presumed will be his symbol of authority at official visitations.

More than three score Companions, an unprecedented number, were set apart to the Order of High Priesthood, with many of the distinguished visitors in attendance. Particularly appropriate at this time were the remarks of M. W. Donald J. Sargent, Grand Master of Masons of New Jersey, in which he urged that the efforts as Masons should be concentrated upon true Masonic work, in a ritualistic as well as benefi-

cent sense, as taught in the Masonic bodies, and not rely upon supposedly affiliated Masonic associations "to shoulder our own responsibilities and obligations."

The fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man were stressed in the foreword of the Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence by its chairman, R. E. (Rev.) A. Boyland Fitz-Gerald. Referring to conditions in the Antipodes he quite pertinently said:

It is our hope that some agreement can be had between the native Chapters in the British Empire in the East and Scotland. Confidently do we expect that all this will work out properly, for we are to learn through these contests that there is a real fatherhood of God embracing a genuine brotherhood of man and that our fault has been that we have been endeavoring to set up both these conditions quite independent of each other which is impossible. The fatherhood breaks down without the brotherhood, and a brotherhood in reality cannot be set up without a fatherhood.

Florida is given approving consideration. Thank you.
Next Annual in Trenton, May 13, 1931.

Robert McCormick, Arlington, Grand High Priest;
Charles D. McCracken, Lambertville, Grand Secretary; A.
Boyland Fitz-Gerald, Bayonne, Correspondent.

NEW MEXICO—1930

Chapters, 15. Members, 2,008. Exalted, 112. Net Gain, 4

JOHN W. TURNER, Grand High Priest

Quite honored was the Thirty-second Annual Convocation, held in Clayton, March 20, 1930, in having as its distinguished guest M. E. Comp. John W. Neilson, Deputy General Grand High Priest and the personal representative of the General Grand High Priest.

This is one of the few Grand Chapters which appear to get along nicely, thank you, without Grand Representatives, the utility of which is being questioned. Certainly they do no harm, and ye scribe fails to see why they are not of potential advantage.

Unfortunately a serious accident to Grand High Priest Turner early in the Capitular year, proved handicaps to the program he had outlined at the beginning of his administration.

Conforming to the instructions of a previous convocation, the Grand High Priest arrested the charter of the Chapter at Artesia. This reference carries ye scribe back about thirty years to the first time he passed through Artesia, an aggregation of a few houses and a box car removed from the trucks for a depot. The next time, a year or less later, it was a place of several hundred people with flowing artesian wells, each sufficient, it was stated, to irrigate a quarter section of land, and later its population increased into the thousands. Owners of wells were prodigal of the water, evidently believing the supply inexhaustible. The decadence of this one flourishing Chapter would demonstrate there is no such thing as indestructibility.

Grand Chapter rescinded its previous action to establish the Order of High Priesthood. Although a resolution was presented to discontinue the twenty-five cent Triennial Fund Assessment, Grand Chapter believing that the delegates' expenses could probably be paid from some other available funds. It did approve the suggestion of divorcing Grand Chapter from the same week of Grand Lodge, on account of existing financial conditions; but it did not approve an amendment which would permit a Companion who had not attained the rank of High Priest holding office in Grand Chapter. Such action carried out to a logical conclusion might result in electing a Companion Grand High Priest who had never been a High Priest, which would surely be an innovation. An approved amendment will permit conferring more than one degree at any convocation, excepting the Royal Arch, for which the candidate must pass a satisfactory examination. Florida permits conferring all degrees at one convocation, although such action is seldom followed and is not generally approved. However, no examinations are required in any of the Chapter degrees.

Somewhat concise is the Report on Foreign Correspondence by Past Grand High Priest Reuben Perry, and made to appear more so by the use of small type faces. Ye scribe

often wonders if such compression is conducive to the general reading and consideration it deserves? There is a close typographical connection between type sizes and lengths of lines to ensure easy reading which is worthy of thought. Florida is given due consideration, with no adverse comment.

Next Annual in Carlsbad, March 19, 1931.

Peter Cameron, Grand High Priest; Alpheus Keen, Grand Secretary; both of Albuquerque.

NEW SOUTH WALES—1929

Chapters, 76. Members, 3,821. Net Gain, 103.

NEVILLE W. MONTAGUE, Grand First Principal

Almost wholly routine are the Quarterly Convocations of the Grand Chapter of New South Wales, being largely reports of visitations by the Grand First Principal and the Grand Inspector of Workings. Much importance is given to the installations of officers and the Companions were urged to be prepared to make short addresses upon the history and significance of Royal Arch Masonry.

In numerous instances it was found that the country and suburban Chapters were more prosperous than those meeting in the city, due largely, he believed, to improved transportation facilities; also that in the aggregate there were evidences of general prosperity in Capitular Masonry as well as a growing tendency toward fraternal inter-visitations.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence is composed of seven members who are elected. The "Foreword," apparently, was written by E. Comp. A. H. Moginie, who is convinced that the main reason for the depression in Masonic affairs is "the dying off of the rank growth which followed the Great War." He further believed that the mission of Freemasonry is not so much in the dispensing of Masonic charity as it is in "helping a Brother to help himself" by providing employment for those out of work and which he adds is "far better than providing the out-of-work Companion with a little financial aid, or a free home when he is old."

"There seems to be a decided inclination in some Royal Arch Jurisdictions in America," stated Companion Moginie, "to take part Masonically in international as well as in domestic policies." This statement will come as a surprise to many of our readers, at least, and also causes ye scribe to wonder just where he found those conditions. However, he continued:

This kind of thing is foreign to British Masonry, which prefers to go on the principle that if our members are imbued with Masonic teachings, they can be safely left to do their duty as individual citizens.

Like Banquo's ghost "which would not down," is the strong hold which Scottish Freemasonry has in Lodge as well as in Chapter, and which is so closely interwoven, not only in New South Wales but also throughout the Australian Commonwealth, that this from Comp. Moginie's "foreword" will be enlightening:

Royal Arch Masonry throughout the world from time to time registers its disapproval of the stand the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland maintains in its attitude to New Zealand and New South Wales. The position obtaining is deplorable and shows that Masonic teachings are mere platitudes to our Scottish Companions—just precepts that they "mouth" and which they have no intention of practicing until they are positively forced to—and why? We may just as well be frank about the matter. The District Grand Chapter of Scotland in New South Wales is the brightest gem in the hands of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland because it is the latter's biggest source of revenue—hence her reluctance to part with it. The golden calf is still the great thing worshipped even today, in some quarters where things other than material are supposed to be the aim.

However, Companion Moginie is disposed to look more optimistically upon conditions generally, as his closing resume indicates:

Taking a broad view of the Masonic world from its Royal Arch published proceedings, the only smudge on the fair escutcheon of Freemasonry is the unmasonic behavior of Scotland. Despite the depressing conditions prevailing all over the world, we feel we can view the future undismayed in the firm belief that Royal Arch Freemasonry is sound at heart, except in Scotland, and will still prevail when other institutions have failed and been lost in the limbo of the past.

Florida is reviewed by J. T. S. (presumably J. T. Smiles) and he calls the address of Grand High Priest McMaster

"short and sweet but effective." He takes ye scribe to task for referring in a review to "Companion Charles T. Martin, Past Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter of Australia." Ye scribe well knows there is no "Grand Chapter of Australia," and also that each State has its own Grand Chapter. Investigation shows there is no reference to that personage or Grand Chapter in the Proceedings reviewed, and no reason can be given for making the declaration.

Frederick R. Sinden, Manchester Unity Building, 160 Castlereagh St., Sidney, is Grand Scribe E.

NEW YORK—1930

Chapters, 229. Members, 70,958. Exalted, 1,921. Net Loss, 1,044

WILLIAM R. CONDIT, Grand High Priest

Invited guests from Maine to Michigan and from Canada to Delaware, none apparently being overlooked and none forgotten, attended the One Hundred and Thirty-third Annual, held in Albany, February 4 and 5, 1930. To conserve time Grand Honors were given only once, at the close of the reception of the honored ones, and that quite appropriately following the introduction of M. E. Comp. Henry DeWitt Hamilton, Past General Grand High Priest, who in his address called attention to an event in the early history of the Royal Craft in the Empire State that would seem almost incredible in terms of present day conditions:

I think of what the history in our Grand Chapter tells us of the early struggles to maintain this body. I think of the time when it was necessary to postpone the opening of this Grand Chapter because we could not get a quorum, not because of dissension in the Craft, not because of insufficient Royal Arch Masons in the State, but because of the rigors of winter and the insufficient means of conveyance from place to place. The Erie Canal had not been built the year I speak of. The Hudson River was frozen. The stage coaches were stalled. The only way to reach Albany was to come on horseback. They were very slow in arriving. It was the beginning of the following week before the Grand Chapter was able to find a quorum to open and transact its business.

However, ye scribe recalls one winter when he was a boy there was one hundred and thirty-one days of steady sleighing in his home town in that state, and without the customary "January thaw."

There are so many matters of interest in the address of Grand High Priest Condit that one is at a loss to know how much to leave out. Attention is first directed to the passing of three highly revered sages: M. E. Comp. Rollin M. Morgan, the senior of the Grand Body and who wore the purple in 1903; M. E. Comp. Jay B. Kline, in 1910, and M. E. Comp. William E. Prouse, in 1918.

It became a difficult matter to secure surety bonds for the Grand Treasurer, because under the law he become a guarantor of the banks in which the Grand Chapter funds were deposited. This was adjusted by an amendment which limited his responsibility to his personal acts and yet obtain a satisfactory surety bond which will protect all concerned.

Being contrary to the statutes, a dispensation was refused to confer the Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch degrees the same evening, because "the Grand High Priest has no authority to waive constitutional requirements." Such acts are unlawful, he said, "and must not be permitted."

The Grand High Priest favored the formation of associations or club which call together Companions from various sections in close relations and companionship, as well as district schools of instruction. And the official visitations were largely to Chapters which were not so visited the previous year.

Tuberculosis relief appears to be the major activity of this Grand Body, its disbursements for that purpose alone averaging approximately \$7,000.00 yearly. A tuberculosis foundation has been established, concerning which the Grand High Priest pertinently comments: "No better way can be found to help mankind after you are gone than to provide in your will a legacy to be added to the foundation." He further truly adds: "Grand Chapter is not primarily a benefit organization; charity is not given as a matter of right."

Probably no one essential receives more consideration than the ritual, and tinkering with it seems almost perennial in many Grand Jurisdictions. New York's last revision gave

partial satisfaction, and further revision was headed off by the Grand High Priest urging another year's trial; however, the Ritual Committee stated: "We are now prepared to furnish all Chapters with three actual plans worked out by three different Chapters." Next year's report should be interesting.

Order of High Priesthood being a necessary prerequisite to presiding, it often became necessary to hold Conventions at other times than during Grand Chapter.

Past Grand High Priest George E. Briggs presents a dignified and informative report on correspondence in which statistics are prominent. He emphasized that the Order of the Eastern Star and the DeMolay "are creeping more and more into the picture, heretofore exclusive, of Royal Arch Masonry." He believed that much of the "valuable time lost by Grand High Priests in approving By-laws and amendments," might easily be done by a Standing Committee on By-laws.

Under Florida, Grand High Priest Briggs refers to "a rather dark and gloomy picture" painted by Grand High Priest McMaster by reason of the net loss of 399 members. Wonder how New York's "picture" with its net loss of 1,044 might be designated?

Next Annual in Albany, Feb. 3-4, 1931.

Chauncey B. Hammond, Elmira, Grand High Priest;
Chas. C. Hunt, New York, Grand Secretary; Geo. E. Briggs,
Peekskill, Correspondent.

NEW ZEALAND—1930

Chapters, 68. Members, 4,118. Exalted, 318. Net Gain, 185

G. S. GORDON, Grand Z.

It seems customary for the retiring Grand Z. to deliver his valedictory address at the opening of the Annual Convocation, the Thirty-eighth being held in Napier, February 26, 1930. He found Royal Arch Masonry steadily progressing, although only one new Chapter was consecrated during the year; and it is just as well, he said, "not to make new Chapters too frequently, particularly if they are close together;"

but, he further added, "of course this does not apply to making new Companions." All of which is just as applicable in America as in Australia.

Evidently our New Zealand Companions are particular who receive financial information, for the Grand Treasurer stressed that "every registrated member of Grand Chapter has had a copy of the balance sheet." He further stated, referring to a relief case, "we hope it may be the means of bringing her son up to take an interest in Freemasonry and ultimately become a distinguished member of the Royal Craft." Might this be considered as tending toward "solicitation"?

The great problem continually confronting Freemasonry in the Dominion of Australia is the stand taken by the Grand Lodges as well as the Grand Chapters of England and Scotland, each of which still have provincial Grand Bodies in many of the Australian states, and insist on the right to grant charters upon the petitions of the Brethren who were originally made members by bodies working under these Constitutions.

Under the terms of agreements previously made, the New Zealand Brethren had hoped there would be no further efforts made on the part of both England and Scotland, and which they are lawfully entitled to make, but New Zealand's hope of sovereign jurisdiction has had another set-back by the courteous information from the Grand Chapter of England of the intention to charter two new Royal Arch Chapters in New Zealand. And as under English Masonic law one does not complete his actual Master Mason education until he has received the Holy Royal Arch, and each Masonic Lodge may have a Chapter attached, and there are forty-one Masonic Lodges in New Zealand still working under the English constitution, the final amalgamation of every Chapter into one sovereign body working solely under one constitution is still somewhat of a dream.

Referring to the very informative discussions this brought out and the action taken, a summary even of which is not feasible, by the newly elected First Grand Principal, M. E. C. H. Critchley, in his inaugural address, who said in part:

And so with the difference which has arisen between us and the Grand Chapter of England, and I say without hesitation, that I am quite in accord with the decisions reached on both questions at this afternoon's session.

C. W. Neilsen, P. O. Box 236, Wellington, Grand Scribe E.

NORTH CAROLINA—1930

Chapters, 56. Members, 7,846. Exalted, 100. Net Loss, 520
(Of the Net Loss, 281 members were lost through Charters surrendered—N. C. Proceedings.)

W. J. ROACH, Grand High Priest

Both the General Grand Chapter and the General Grand Council were represented and other distinguished Royal Craftsmen were present at the Eighty-second Annual Convocation held in the City of Concord, May 13-14, 1930, as well as many past Grands and Florida's Ambassador.

If all the committee reports and other important matters were given in full and freely discussed the Companions in attendance certainly got a "mouthful," and may have pre-inspired Grand High Priest Roach in his constructive address to state:

Although some few of our Chapters have been in *extremis*, and although the spirit of discord has crept into a few, and even the stormy petrel has circled round, yet I trust that into this fair haven of concord, the Dove of Peace and the Spirit of Harmony and good fellowship will prevail.

As ye scribe recalls, very few if any other Masonic presiding officers could have made such a statement as this: "It is my grateful privilege here to record that during my ten years of service as an official of this Grand Chapter there has not been a single break in the Grand Lines caused by death."

The Grand High Priest reported having made forty-nine official visitations, a splendid record, and the importance of which he strongly emphasized. Two charters were arrested and four Chapter consolidations were effected. No decisions

are reported, and he concluded his address with this pertinent statement:

I have purposely left out of my report all the details and have tried to give you the important and essential facts of my administration. I trust the brevity of this report will not be accepted as the measure of my activity. The half has not been told, and if any one thinks the task of administering the affairs of this Chapter is all honor, I wish he might have been with me all last month.

Very thorough and comprehensive was the report of the committee which investigated and made "a survey of the conditions of Royal Arch Masonry in North Carolina to ascertain, if possible, the causes of lack of interest by members," but which conditions do not permit reproducing, approximately of 5,000 words, nor the report of the Jurisprudence Committee, not quite so long, substantially endorsing, and which Grand Chapter approved. This ought to have a stimulating effect upon Capitular Masonry in the North State.

The substance of the investigating committee's report apparently was the inspiration for a set of resolutions, somewhat in the nature of a minority report, which was presented and referred to a special committee to report a year later. These resolutions in part provide:

That the Grand Chapter of North Carolina do hereby approve the setting of the precedent of rotating in an established order from district to district the naming of new Companions for the starting in line of office; also the appointment of a committee of one Companion from each district with authority to fix the established order.

For the purposes of facilitating a more active interest in York Rite Masonry in the state it shall be divided into five York Rite districts.

There shall be a Board of Grand Counselors, consisting of five Companions, one member from each district.

In each of these districts there shall be a board of five District Counselors.

The duties of the Grand Board shall be to act as an advisory board with whom the Grand High Priest may consult when he so desires, and to devise ways and means for facilitating a broader contact between Grand and Subordinate Chapters; also to co-operate with the Grand High Priest in promoting the good of the Order throughout the state.

To hear and give consideration to all recommendations and matters referred to them from the District Boards, and to refer to all the District Boards all matters deemed of sufficient importance to warrant referendum.

To make careful inquiry into the character, Masonic activities and qualifications of all Companions suggested by the District Boards for the starting in line of office, and to make a written report to the Grand Chapter, for information only.

No Grand Officer of the Grand Chapter may serve as a member of the Grand Board, and the appointing or electing as a Grand Officer any member of the Grand Board immediately vacates his place on the Grand Board.

No Grand Officer of the Grand Chapter may serve as a member of a District Board, nor may any two members of a District Board be members of the same Chapter.

That no further appropriations be made to the present Masonic Loan Fund; and that if further appropriations be made for educational loan purposes a new fund be created with the stipulation, "Preference be given to applications from worthy sons and daughters of Masons."

In connection with the latter clause and of major importance was the report of the Masonic Loan Fund Committee, which was adopted and which it would seem is sufficiently enlightening to clear up many of the queries which appear to be perplexing the Craft.

A submitted constitutional amendment, if adopted, will do away with the office of Deputy Grand High Priest.

Twenty-six Companions were consecrated and set apart to the Anointed High Priesthood, and under the custom of rotation the officers were each advanced one station.

In a class by itself is the 200-page Correspondence report by E. J. Comp. J. Edward Allen, which is of a topical nature. Each Chapter is separately reviewed, and it would be nearer to par value were Florida included. Although ye scribe does not agree with some of the conclusions reached by Comp. Allen, yet that is of minor importance, and a controversy would not probably change the mind of either and neither would little if any benefit come from it.

Next Annual in the City of Asheville, May 12, 1931.

Claud S. Chamberlain, Kingston, Grand High Priest; John B. Griggs, P. O. Box 365, Elizabeth City, Grand Secretary; J. Edward Allen, Warrenton, Correspondent.

NORTH DAKOTA—1930

Chapters, 27. Members, 3,854. Exalted, 128. Net Loss, 94

BLANDING FISHER, Grand High Priest

Proverbial North Dakota hospitality was, no doubt, one reason why the "invisible line" was no barrier to the large aggregation attracted to the Forty-first Annual Convocation, which was held in Fargo, January 28-29, 1930. Florida was also represented. The expressions of pleasure of the visitors attest the value of these annual gatherings.

Evidences of efficient and enthusiastic leadership feature the comprehensive address of Grand High Priest Fisher, who was heartily commended for his activities as well as his faithful administration. Suggestive and far-reaching is his statement: "Decisions—none."

He found it desirable to issue several dispensations to receive and ballot on petitions at Special Convocations to furnish material for the York Rite Festivals which appear to be gaining in popularity, although it prompted the Juris-Consults to thus admonish, and Grand Chapter approved:

We recognize the Grand High Priest was perfectly within his prerogatives in granting these dispensations, but would take this opportunity to urge constituent Chapters to be more thoughtful, and plan their work in advance, so that a smaller number of requests may be made in the future.

York Rite Festivals seem to be unknown in Florida. This causes ye scribe to wonder if they do not often produce what are sometime designated as "contributing members," as distinguished from working members.

Over-burdened, apparently, was the Educational Fund, as \$1,000.00 advanced by Grand Chapter was returned to that Body, which, it appears, was the pioneer in the education movement.

Although the Grand Lecturer in his visitations found that many of the officers were giving the work without the use of rituals, he also found that "many of them were merely reciting something they had learned and without any great appre-

ciation of what it meant;" and to which he added this trite comment: "Attendance ceases to be a problem when good work is the invariable rule."

Truly it was a "hot time" in Fargo, July 26th, at the reception tendered General Grand High Priest Charles C. Davis and General Grand Master O. Frank Hart, it being stated that "the temperature that afternoon was 103 in the shade and at other points in the state 108." Ye scribe has never experienced anything like that in his beloved Southland State.

Of transcendent interest to the select few is the annual convening of The Circle of Elders, the plebian name being Past Grand Officers' Association, the emphasized objective being "breaking bread and having salt together," with the privilege of each paying for his own "eats." It has a ritualistic ceremony of its own.

Only a small number of Companions were set apart to the Order of High Priesthood.

Like Hamlet without the ghost would be the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of North Dakota without the Fraternal Correspondence Report of Past Grand High Priest E. George Guthrie. Our vocabulary of words are inadequate to appreciatively review it, which grows better each year, and he truly observes, "Looking ahead should be the definite policy of those who aspire or achieve, whether in business or in Masonry."

Questionably complimentary, perhaps, is his statement that Grand High Priest McMaster "presented a very modest report, being remarkably stingy with an elaboration of his doings, as he had much to do and did it," and which is followed by this pertinent admonition:

We fear there is too much local inaction, and the Companions need the tonic of energy injected into their officers and past officers. Much more can be accomplished by go-getters than playing a Micawber role, and this does not apply to Florida alone.

Comp. Guthrie states "we have been to Florida and like it." Of course you did. Come again at a time when you are

shoveling snow and paying coal bills and you may be assured there will be no "shattering and scattering storms."

Next Annual in Fargo, Jan. 27-28, 1931.

William Hall, Jamestown, Grand High Priest; Walter L. Stockwell, Fargo, Grand Secretary; E. Geo. Guthrie, Fargo, Correspondent.

NOVA SCOTIA—1930

Chapters, 21. Members, 2,572. Exalted, 104. Net Gain, 7

GEORGE L. WILLIAMS, Grand High Priest

Having jurisdiction over Prince Edward Island and the Island of Newfoundland, the former having its own Grand Lodge, and the latter a Provincial Grand Lodge under the English Constitution, the Sixty-first Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia was held in Halifax, June 10, 1930, with distinguished Craftsmen from Pennsylvania and Canada in attendance, but Florida was not represented. The guests were given Grand Honors at the Altar, while on some other similar occasions the Grand Honors are not given until after being escorted to the East. Ye scribe wonders why the difference; also is there any law or custom governing?

Memorial tribute was given to the late M. E. T. Carbonell, Grand High Priest in 1922, and M. E. Pius J. S. Otto, Grand High Priest in 1924 and 1925.

Optimistic was the address of Grand High Priest Williams who was much encouraged over existing conditions. He ruled that a Chapter should not use slides without the permission of Grand Chapter; that a Brother having lost his arm in overseas service could receive the degrees; and that a reinstated Companion should pay his dues in full for the time he is suspended.

Several of the dispensations granted anticipated failure to hold Convocations on regular dates, which quite a number of Masonic Grand Bodies look upon as exceeding the powers and prerogative of a Grand Presiding Officer.

Each of the twenty-one constituent Chapters was officially visited by the Grand High Priest, a commendable record;

although he was unable to attend any of the reunions. Looks like he acted wisely.

Among the communications received was one from E. Comp. David Pottinger, who is said to be the "sole remaining charter member of this Grand Chapter." Following in line with other Grand Chapters, fraternal recognition was extended to the amalgamated Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Queensland.

Grand Chapter did not agree to the approval of By-laws of a U. D. Chapter, because until such time as the Chapter is granted "the Chapter is the creature solely of the Grand High Priest and By-laws for its government are unnecessary."

Much stress was given to the necessity of fully observing the recent legislation which made instruction and examination of candidates compulsory.

Particular attention was called to the imperative requirement of complying with Grand Chapter law that the Order of High Priesthood "must be conferred upon all sitting High Priests within two months of the Annual Convention." This required the holding of seven or eight Special Conventions.

Grand Secretary Brenton F. Porter for the twelfth time presented an admirable Report on Foreign Correspondence, his main theme seeming to be to show how Chapters can be made attractive and what is being done "to stem the tide of suspensions." Florida is given thoughtful consideration.

Next Annual in Halifax, June 9, 1931.

Laughlin M. MacKinnon, Montague, P. E. I., Grand High Priest; Brenton F. Porter, Truro, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

OHIO—1930

Chapters, 209. Members, 78,558. Exalted, 1,357. Net Loss, 1,471

WILLIAM H. TATEMAN, Grand High Priest

Many distinguished guests from half a dozen Grand Quarries with other local sons of prominence were in attendance at the formal opening of the One Hundred and Fourteenth An-

nual Convocation, held at Columbus, October 2-3, 1930; also Florida's Grand Representative as well.

After more than three score years of Masonic Service, having been made a Mason April 1, 1867, the final summons came to M. E. Comp. Levi C. Goodale, who had acquired prominence in all the branches, and was Grand High Priest in 1902.

Sincerity and careful attention to the fundamentals of our beloved Order characterized the address of Grand High Priest Tateman, and so close did he adhere to these principles that his entire administration received the unqualified approval of Grand Chapter. Referring to the net less in membership so common to a large majority of Grand Chapters, he truly stated:

Masonry was never founded upon numbers; its basic requirement is character, and the ability to carry out an obligation assumed. Without these, no man is fitted to become a Mason, still less remain a Mason. Let us rather enjoy a feeling of relief that our Fraternity is being purged of that which adds no value to it.

It was made plain by him that the time of holding a stated convocation being fixed by the by-laws the Grand High Priest is without power to set it aside.

The Grand High Priest held that when the full fee accompanies a petition only one ballot is required, otherwise a ballot is required for each degree. He further held that Grand Chapter could not recognize the Mark Master degree as conferred in a Lodge of Master Masons under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, but that the candidate must have all four degrees conferred upon him.

Referring to the renewed interest created by the use of the new ritual, as well as the objections from those opposed, he somewhat caustically added:

In Chapters where the officers are suffering from mental inertia and are too lazy to rehearse the degrees, complaints are heard that the new ritual is too hard to learn and to confer, and they can't "get" it. The same complaints would be heard if you gave them a ritual in words of one syllable and no floor work to do. They lack the vision to grasp the opportunities they now have.

The Grand Master concluded his address with these ten precepts, and which are equally applicable to any and all Masonic bodies:

Open the Chapters promptly at the hour set; delayed openings discourage attendance.

Close your Chapters promptly; late closing spoils what might otherwise have been an interesting and instructive Convocation.

Strive at all times to give candidates and your members the best presentation of the ritual you can possibly give.

Provide robes, paraphernalia and equipment that conforms to the requirements of the ritual. Good ritualistic work is often hampered by the lack of proper equipment.

See that harmony prevails among your Companions—harmony being the strength and support of our institution.

Educate your members to pay their dues promptly, thereby maintaining your membership and relieving the work of your secretary.

Don't hesitate to drop the delinquents; they are of no value to your Chapter. They contribute nothing, why should they be honored by association with you?

Arrange an occasional social function; it relieves the routine and stimulates the interest of your Companions.

Be prompt in extending relief to your Worthy Companions, and visit the sick with unfailing regularity.

As Royal Arch Masons, let your light so shine that others may see your good works and desire to affiliate themselves with you.

Distinguished Craftsmen from New York and Pennsylvania were present when 125 qualified Companions were consecrated and set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood.

Instead of the customary report of correspondence by M. E. Comp. Orion P. Sperra, and who is a long time acquaintance of ye scribe, is the statement, "Owing to the continued illness of Companion Sperra, no review of the proceedings of other Grand Chapters is available."

Next Annual in the City of Lima, Sept. 30-Oct. 1, 1931.
Emmit E. Everitt, Lima, Grand High Priest; Mont C. Hambricht, Springfield, Grand Secretary; Carl W. Sperling, Oak Harbor, Correspondent.

OKLAHOMA—1930

Chapters, 64. Members 12,569. Exalted, 485. Net Loss, 734

FRANK SMITH, Grand High Priest

Several very distinguished Craftsmen were present when the Twenty-first Annual Convocation was formally opened in Weatherford, April 22, 1930, but Florida had no part in it.

Freemasonry suffered a distinct loss in the recent death of M. E. Joseph S. Murrow, "Father Murrow," as he was affectionately called. He was the first Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Oklahoma which was in 1890. Primarily he was a missionary in the Indian country, and following the Civil War he did much to "restore broken bones, reunite broken ties, rekindle dwindling fires." He was made a Mason in 1866.

Zeal in behalf of the Craft and consideration of its problems characterize the address of Grand High Priest Smith. His official acts were largely routine and, conforming to law, were approved.

He ruled that the Excellent Master's degree could not be conferred in public; also that there should be two officers in each group when conferring the G. R. A. W.

Although the General Grand Chapter ritual had been adopted, yet he found considerable dissatisfaction, and he recommended the appointment of a special committee to prepare a new ritual and to report a year hence, there being still a lingering desire to return to the old "flesh pots"—to the discarded ceremonies which many believe do not harmonize with the displayed Great Lights and what they mean.

During the year \$9,375.00 were loaned by the Educational Committee to forty-five different students. Past loans are coming in slowly, and there are no indications of permanent repudiation.

Now that there is nothing to prevent, fraternal recognition was extended to the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Queensland.

Satisfactory progress was reported in the preparation of the Capitular History of Oklahoma.

Many helpful suggestions were brought out at the Secretaries' Association combining those offices, in both Chapter and Council, but it was not thought wise at this time to solicit the similar officers from the Lodge and the Commandery, although they may become members if they desire. In one of the addresses it was emphasized, that "an organization should not pay a salary to a secretary just because he needs a job but that they should pick a man who is competent and able to do things and keep the organization alive and prosperous."

Only twenty-three Companions desired the Order of High Priesthood. There must be some who do not know what they are missing.

Past Grand High Priest Hamilton presented a Report on Foreign Correspondence, in which courteous and helpful comment is judiciously mixed with the workings of the shears and paste-pot—a combination when rightly used, as in this case, is hard to beat.

Next Annual in Shawnee, April 22-23, 1931.

John W. Rackley, Cherokee, Grand High Priest; Ira B. Kirkland, Muskogee, Grand Secretary; Eugene Hamilton, Chickasaw, Correspondent.

OREGON—1930

Chapters, 50. Members, 6,914. Exalted, 197. Net Loss, 193

HERBERT L. TONEY, Grand High Priest

Partaking somewhat of the nature of a "love feast," evidently, were the messages of encouragement and good will expressed by the distinguished Craftsmen who were present at the formal opening of the Seventieth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Oregon, held in Corvallis, April 19, 1930, and with Florida's Representative among the missing.

Untouched during the year were the ranks of the Permanent Grand Officers, for which the Grand High Priest expressed gratitude in his constructive address in which he reviewed the activities of the year and for which he received the congratulations of Grand Chapter.

Of the many matters brought to his attention, he stated, prominence was given to those of major importance. He especially noted that Chapters which occasionally held social evenings and invited Master Masons and their wives to attend were the Chapters "that are making real progress."

He approved the formation of a drill team of Knights Templar, many of whom were Past Commanders and Past High Priests, to exemplify the Royal Arch degree, and to be preceded by a Knight Templar drill in full Templar uniform.

His official visitations convinced him that with the acquisition of good roads which facilitated auto travel, a consolidation of weak nearby Chapters which experienced difficulties in holding regular convocations would strengthen Capitular Masonry.

Among the dispensations granted was one to waive statutory time in favor of a petitioner who was leaving the State. Of course it was granted and approved, as were all the other acts of the Grand High Priest. But it causes ye scribe to wonder why there are so many belated or "death bed" requests, as it were. What about our duty to dispense true Masonic Light and Knowledge to our less informed Brethren?"

Reports state that nine deserving young people were assisted by the Student Loan Fund to complete their college year, the loans averaging \$110.00 each.

Grand High Priest Toney believes that Grand Representatives "can be made of service" by requesting each one to present to his own Chapter the outstanding activities of the Grand Chapter he represents. Good idea. Why not try it once?

He also found from a study of the Proceedings of other Grand Chapters that those which had some "real worthwhile objective for the benefit of humanity" were the progressive ones."

Both the Grand Chapter and the Grand High Priest are to be congratulated that during the year he was not called upon "to render a decision, nor was there filed a report of any grievance."

Recognition was given the newly amalgamated Grand Chapters in Queensland. Action on a proposition to make all

Past High Priests members of Grand Chapter was postponed a year. This works well in Florida.

Twenty-seven Companions were consecrated and set apart to Hodson Council, Order of High Priesthood, and which, by the way, is the only Council with a distinctive name which ye scribe recalls.

E. Comp. Walter O. Haines for the ninth time presented a readable and instructive review covering numerous activities. In his "Introduction" he stressed this thought, to which some may not fully agree:

We believe it is not the province of a Jurisprudence Committee to recommend action on various matters that have been submitted where there is no violation of any law of Capitular Masonry and the matter is one for the Grand Chapter to consider as a matter of policy. * * * More and more we feel that Jurisprudence Committees have the power to guide the Grand Chapters in their consideration of various subjects but any appearance of dictating action should be scrupulously avoided.

He quotes quite freely and with evident approval from the report of ye scribe and for which, "thank you."

Next Annual in Portland, April 13, 1931.

George T. Cochran, LeGrande, Grand High Priest; D. Rufus Cheney, Portland, Grand Secretary; Walter O. Haines, Portland, Correspondent.

PENNSYLVANIA—1930

Chapters, 153. Members, 61,575. Marked, 1,877. Net Loss, 177

AUGUST P. KUNZIG, Grand High Priest

Adhering closely to ancient usages and customs this Grand Chapter finds it desirable to hold four Quarterly Communications during the year, the first three being evening sessions only, and the fourth includes the afternoon as well. Reports are received and the election of officers occurred at the fourth Quarterly.

The Annual Communication was held on St. John's Day night, and it is pleasing to note that Florida's Grand Representative was in evidence at all the Communications. He is

E. Comp. William F. Goodrich, Grand Master of the Second Veil, and who seems to have been of special service in accompanying the Grand High Priest in his official visitations.

Grand High Priest Kunzig brought to a close two years of successful administration, in which he stated that "business had been conducted with absence of friction, all types of service had functioned well and the spirit of co-operation was continually in evidence." He further stated that the year was marked by an increased number of Chapter inter-visitations as well as those outside the State.

Grand High Priest-elect Thomas N. McKee, in an address at the beginning of his administration, as seems customary, stressed the importance of District Meetings, in which he stated:

From information obtained it is my firm conviction that the system of District Meetings in vogue for some years past should be continued, not only for the purpose of maintaining accuracy and consequent uniformity in the ritualistic work (which would be accomplished with less effort and expense by other methods), but for the greater reason that they provide a medium of contact between the Companions, peculiar to themselves, and so essential to effective mobilization of our host of 61,000 members for moral effort against the insidious enemies of our government and its institutions. I am not an alarmist, but in my opinion there has never been a time in the history of our nation when it was so necessary for good, thinking men to rally to the support of our social, religious and political structures as at the present. We are undergoing a transition, the outcome of which even the most profound students hesitate to predict. It is therefore incumbent upon us, and I trust every Royal Arch Mason in this jurisdiction will exemplify in his daily life those principles and duties we are taught within the tyled doors of our Chapter halls.

The report of the Committee on Correspondence is a joint affair, with Past Grand High Priest John M. Core its chairman, who, in the "Foreword" stated that the report is intended to cover that which "we think of interest to the Companions of Pennsylvania." Continuing, he further added in part:

Pennsylvania does not have an organization of Anointed High Priests, neither do we have in our Capitular system the Past Master Degree, further, the M. E. Grand High Priest can make a Royal Arch Mason at sight. While this often arouses the curiosity of the new correspondent, yet in time he gets used to it, and he settles down to the view that, as we have gotten along for one hundred and twenty-five years that way, maybe we will survive for a time yet to come.

We cannot estimate the value of the report on Correspondence. Some Jurisdictions seem to get along very well without any such report. It would seem to be a purely American custom. We have no recollection of ever seeing such a report in any Grand Chapter in Europe or Australia. [Comp. Core seems to have overlooked New South Wales and Queensland]. Canada, however, in most of her Jurisdictions furnishes such a report. One thing we do note, however, the effect of these reports through a period of years is bringing more uniformity among different Grand Chapters. It may be that only a few Companions in each Grand Chapter read these reports; but it seems to be also true that these Companions who do read the Proceedings and Correspondence reports have much to do with directing and molding the work of the different Grand Chapters.

Florida is reviewed by E. Comp. H. Franklin Brossman who noted some of the important high-lights and with apparent approval. Thank you.

All Communications are held in Masonic Temple, Philadelphia.

Thomas N. McKee, Kittanning, Grand High Priest;
Joseph E. Quinby, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, Grand Secretary.

QUEBEC—1930

Chapters, 23. Members, 3,834. Exalted, 153. Net Gain, 30

W. J. EDWARDS, Grand First Principal Z.

Massachusetts sent a distinguished delegation to assist at the Fifty-third Annual Grand Convocation held in Montreal, March 26, 1930; Florida was also represented. Among the regrets received were those sent by M. E. Companion E. T. D. Chambers, the dean of Past Grands, as well as dean of Fraternal Correspondents.

Quiet and dignified appears to have been the administration of M. E. Companion Edwards, as indicated in his address, all of whose acts and numerous activities passed inspection at all stations, and who was pleased to report an increase in both membership and finances.

His visitations included Toronto. He was accompanied by the Ritual Committee and most of the Grand Officers and Past

Grand Principals. So impressed were they with the ritual as used in the Province of Ontario that it was unanimously decided to adopt it as the official ritual for the Grand Chapter of Quebec. On his visitation to the Grand Chapter of Vermont he was received into the Order of High Priesthood.

Quite a number of the special dispensations issued would not be required in Florida and possibly some others might not have been granted. Comprehensive reports were received from each of the District Superintendents, which gave much light on the inner workings of the Craft. They also indicate that dispensations are granted to wear regalia when attending divine services and at other functions.

The Jurisprudence Committee reported nothing doing; however, it was resolved "that the report be received and adopted."

There is no Order of High Priesthood. This raises the query: Would this Order conflict or not harmonize in any particular with the Canadian ritualistic work?

The Proceedings state that the Report on Fraternal Correspondence by M. E. Comp. E. T. D. Chambers was received and ordered printed, but it does not appear. Wonder why. The report will be greatly missed by every member of The Guild.

Next Annual in Montreal, March 25, 1931.

F. W. Knowlton, Montreal, Grand Z.; W. W. Williamson, Montreal, Grand Scribe E.; E. T. D. Chambers, Quebec, Correspondent.

QUEENSLAND—1930

JOHN A. FRASER, Deputy First Grand Principal (in the chair)

History of the recently amalgamated two Grand Chapters of Queensland began at the Regular Convocation held in Brisbane, April 2, 1930. Unfortunately the Grand First Principal was unable to be present by reason of illness, but his station was efficiently filled by the Deputy Grand First Principal. Three new Chapters were consecrated by the Deputy Grand First Principal, one of which required a journey of 561 miles

and another 318 miles. This gives some idea of the area of the State of Queensland. A charter was granted for another Chapter. While acting as First Principal at one of the new Chapters, in working the Royal Arch degree, Companion Fraser wore the same robe that he did when Principal of this same and his mother Chapter a quarter of a century previous.

So smoothly are matters Capitular progressing that M. E. Comp. Fraser in his address stated that he had almost forgotten, "even at this early stage in the new history we are making, that there ever were two Grand Chapters in Queensland." He also stated that the younger Chapters are entering into the work with great enthusiasm, and are also considering the formation of "Red Cross and Cryptic Councils, and the taking of the Higher Degrees," the latter of which sounds somewhat strange to American Capitular Masons.

Reference is also made to a letter from our M. E. Comp. E. R. Turnbull, chairman of the committee on Foreign Relations of the General Grand Chapter, whose report to that body at the Tacoma Triennial resulted in the recognition of the newly amalgamated Grand Chapter of Queensland.

The First Annual Convocation of the newly amalgamated Grand Chapter was held in Brisbane, October 1, 1930, with M. E. Robert N. F. Quinn, First Grand Principal, in attendance, and who made his first formal address at this time, in which he expressed pleasure "with the results so far achieved throughout the State;" also that "we have received many congratulatory letters from other Grand Chapters, which may be interpreted as a preliminary to universal recognition." He further expressed his gratification to see Companions "previously divided meeting in our various Chapters with many expressions of esteem and good-will."

American Royal Craftsmen would be interested in seeing the Mark Tracing Board which the Grand First Principal stated each Chapter possessed and which, he said, "enables the Companions to follow the Mark lecture as it is recited." Also there are other references to officially attending the opening of a Red Cross Council, the opening of a Cryptic Council, and attending a meeting of Royal Ark Mariner Lodges, all in connection with Chapter visitations.

At this time it was reported that recognition had been accorded by nine Grand Chapters, and other Grand Chapters, their proceedings indicate, are rapidly falling in line.

The chartering of one new Chapter was reported, which brought the total number of Chapters up to ninety-six. Their combined membership is not stated.

The serious illness of R. E. Comp. Joseph St. Clair Bernard, Grand Scribe E., was reported seriously ill at the annual, and a notation at the end of the printed proceedings stated that he passed away October 27, 1930, but there is nothing to indicate his successor.

RHODE ISLAND—1929

Chapters, 16. Members, 10,265. Exalted, 294. Net Loss, 151

ARTHUR WHITEHEAD, Grand High Priest

Seven nearby Grand Chapters sent several of their distinguished Craftsmen to the One Hundred and Thirty-second Convocation, for Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, which was held in Providence, March 12, 1929. Florida was also represented.

Constructive and timely and indicating a forward movement, was the address of Grand High Priest Whitehead (his second term), and his duties do not appear to have been overly arduous. His acts and activities evidenced a practical knowledge of Capitular Masonry, and were approved.

After careful investigation into the request from one of the large Chapters for concurrent jurisdiction he was convinced there was not sufficient need, in this case, and at his suggestion the request was withdrawn.

He granted a dispensation to form a new Chapter in the city of Providence, to be known as Thomas Smith Webb Chapter. And while the Companions had presented evidences of good work, yet having overlooked providing the necessary paraphernalia, although it had been ordered, yet he believed that in justice to all the dispensation should be continued another year, and Grand Chapter was like-minded.

His other acts were largely of a local nature and brought out no new principles.

Grand Chapter approved the recommendation of the Grand High Priest, and at each annual convocation a Committee on Royal Arch Service will be appointed, the general purpose being to provide means for united effort to harmonize activities and to assure co-operation in Masonic Service, education and relief.

The matter of assessments, in addition to dues, seeming to be a recent innovation was as necessary for a card as the payment of dues, if properly provided for in the By-laws. Why not?

Apparently now it will be just as necessary for every member to present his card each time desiring admission, showing both dues and assessments properly paid, as it will be for visitors, when that is required in his home Chapter.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence reported that it would prepare a digest covering the reviews of Proceedings, and that the printing of same would be left to the discretion of the Grand High Priest.

No Companions were reported at the Convention of Anointed High Priests, and the former officers were re-elected and no installation ceremony was required.

RHODE ISLAND—1930

Chapters, 16. Members, 10,130. Exalted, 213. Net Loss, 135

WALTER H. NICHOLS, Grand High Priest

Many distinguished Craftsmen from nearby Grand Chapters as well as favored sons within the Jurisdiction attended the One Hundred and Thirty-third Annual Convocation held in Providence, March 11, 1930; but Florida's representative was not present.

Fitting memorials were presented honoring M. E. Fayette B. Bennett, Grand High Priest in 1901, and M. E. Frank B. Wilson, Grand High Priest in 1905.

Largely routine was the well prepared address of Grand

High Priest Nichols, in which he rendered an account of his stewardship.

Among the dispensations granted was one considerably out of the ordinary. It was for a Chapter to hold its stated convocations in a Masonic Hall within the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, this arrangement having been approved by the Grand High Priest of Massachusetts. There must always be a first, and this is the first of its kind that ye scribe can recall. Another was to change the date of a convocation falling on Christmas Day, with the understanding that the Chapter's By-laws be amended to provide for a change in date when falling on a holiday. However, the Grand High Priest was not advised, and Grand Chapter says, "we deprecate the apparent deficiency." Wonder if that might be considered a reprimand?

Thomas Smith Webb Chapter U. D., whose dispensation had been continued from last year, made an excellent showing in work, finances, and paraphernalia and a charter was granted.

Every Chapter was visited by the Grand High Priest, mostly unexpectedly and unannounced, and he found the work was being done in a satisfactory manner, but he noticed quite a lack of uniformity in the opening and closing ceremonies, which probably will be given attention by the Grand Lecturer.

The matter of dual and plural membership, which had previously been considered and constitutional amendments had been submitted, were given close attention by the Jurisprudence Committee in an extended report which brought out conditions that seemed to need further adjustment, and action was deferred another year. Ye scribe suggests a careful reading of the Jurisprudence Committee's report to the 1930 Grand Chapter of Rhode Island by any interested in dual and plural membership.

The Committee on Correspondence reported that it had received the Proceedings of other Grand Chapters and found no matter "of such usual importance as to require reference or consideration by Grand Chapter." No other report appears.

A new set of officers were elected at the Convention of Anointed High Priests and the President announced his in-

tention "to work the degree at some future time, probably at an evening meeting."

Next Annual in Providence, March 10, 1931.

George C. Clark, Providence, Grand High Priest; Wilbur A. Scott, 87 Weybossett St., Providence, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

SASKATCHEWAN—1930

Chapters, 27. Members, 2,643. Admissions, 114. Net Gain, 11

J. R. YORKE, Grand First Principal

Dignitaries from several of the neighboring Grand Chapters honored by their presence the Seventh Annual Convocation, held in the city of Moose Jaw, February 26, 1930, but Florida's representatives sent no regrets for his absence.

Although Grand Chapter did not fully agree with the Grand First Principal in a minor matter or so, it did approve all his official acts and congratulated him "upon the zeal he has shown during his term of office," and which is what really counts. A vein of constructive optimism runs not only through his address but also through his activities. And he well said: "It is the value not the price we are putting on Royal Arch Masonry. We must maintain and raise the standard. There should be nothing cheap about this great intellectual Order." Many of his utterances are epigrammatical.

The Grand Z. refused to approve a By-law amendment which would permit a regular convocation to be held "at an hour to be set by the Excellent Z." He constituted one new Chapter. He was generous in his Chapter visitations and he regretted that by reason of illness he could not have made more visitations. Some of the dispensations which he granted do not appear to apply under Florida laws. So familiar seem to be the Saskatchewan Companions with the laws that no decisions were requested.

So closely do our Canadian Companions connect Capitular Masonry with Craft Masonry that one of the District Superintendents, in his report, deemed it advisable to direct attention to what he termed "a carelessness in putting on work

which would not be tolerated in a Craft Lodge." Continuing, he added:

In my visits I found one Chapter that did not open in the R. A. degree unless they were conferring it; several that never opened in the Mark or M. E. M. whether they were conferring the degree or not; several that cut down the circumambulations in the first two degrees to once around; one that did not prepare the Lodge when conferring the M. M. M. or M. E. M. by removing the pedestal and other paraphernalia peculiar to the R. A. degree, and left the volume in the inferior position which it occupies in the R. A. symbolism.

It is pleasing to note the cordial reception given a delegation from the Grand Chapter of the O. E. S. which, on behalf of the Grand Matron, expressed fraternal greetings and good wishes to the members of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

Another equally interesting episode was the presentation of an American flag by a quartet of North Dakota Companions, which included our long-time side partner, M. E. Comp. E. George Guthrie. M. E. Comp. J. R. Yorke, in accepting the Stars and Stripes, said in part:

Our flags differ somewhat in design, yet both are washed and made white with the blood of our forefathers who stood the acid test of "manhood" in shaping the destiny of two great Anglo-Saxon peoples who are in many ways—Masonic in particular—banded together for the greatest good for the greatest number.

Words are not mine to fully express the feelings of all the Masons of Saskatchewan and of Canada, yet in the highest terms of brotherly love and affection from one people to another, one great Christian nation to another, we accept from your friendly hands the flag of your great nation to be placed beside our Union Jack as a two-fold tie of that great Masonic friendship, never to be loosed so long as the G. A. O. T. U. permits such great peoples to reside along and on each side of the forty-ninth parallel of latitude.

The Report of the Committee on Capitular Masonry referred to a condition not so commonly discussed in Capitular affairs, but which is gradually gaining pre-eminence, whether or not it may be desirable:

You know there exist two Schools of Thought regarding Masonry. First that which sees in this institution a system of morality; a standard of life and conduct to which the individual member must measure

up or the institution fails to the extent that it fails to elevate individual lives. And the second school is that which holds that the institution only succeeds when, as a result of united and concerted action, it makes some tangible contribution to society as a whole.

It is a question of Masons being something or doing something. The one seeks to discover, as a result of Masonic connection, higher individualism. The other would determine success by contributions made unitedly or as an institution towards the betterment of society—public service.

There is no reference to an Order of High Priesthood as yet, though it is gradually gaining favor among our Northern Companions.

R. E. Comp. F. B. Reilly, Grand Scribe E., presented the Report on Correspondence which, though brief, is exceedingly interesting and bears the impress of its author being a member of the Fourth Estate. He labels Grand High Priest McMaster's address, "would be in order with us." It was quite a disappointment to ye scribe that it was not so he could have made a stop at Regina in passing through the Province last September.

Next Annual in Saskatoon, February (?), 1931.

G. F. Burgess, Assiniboia, Grand Z.; F. B. Reilly, 312 Westman Chhrs., Regina, Grand Scribe E. and Correspondent.

SCOTLAND—1930

Probably no other Royal Craftsman outside of the United States is better known among the American Grand Chapters than The Earl of Cassillis, who was again installed First Grand Principal of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland at the 1930 Annual Convocation, which station he has so successfully and satisfactorily held for a considerable number of years. His unassuming manner greatly impressed all who came in contact with him at the Denver Triennial, and his inability to be present at the Tacoma Triennial was a great disappointment to many.

Some interesting information pertaining to this Grand Chapter is found in the toast, "The Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland," proposed by M. E. Comp.

Finley, at the Celebration of the Vernal Equinox, following the Annual Communication, in which the speaker said in part:

I just venture to ask, how many Masons there are present who do not know that there was an Earl of Cassillis who was an office-bearer in Mother Lodge Kilwinning in the year 1672? That is a fine Masonic tradition, and his descendant can tell you more about Royal Arch Masonry, and Freemasonry in general, both here and in America, in five minutes than I would be able to tell you in as many moons. Lord Cassillis has on various occasions gone round the world in the interests of Royal Arch Masonry, and I venture to think that he should now be nominated and appointed officially as our Royal Arch Ambassador Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Companionship of the world. As a humble Consul, I must yield to our Ambassador at once. But, let me say, finally, that I think you will agree with me that there is no man in Scotland who more nearly fulfills the requisites of what we consider to be an ideal Royal Arch Mason than our First Grand Principal, Lord Cassillis, and I therefore ask you, Companions, to be upstanding and to drink fervently to the health of "The Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland," coupled with the name of our First Grand Principal, Lord Cassillis.

In replying to this toast, the Earl of Cassillis stated that the number of exaltations for the year was 3,197, and that during the same time there were granted eight charters to new Royal Arch Chapters, also four new Lodge and Council Charters and four new Cryptic Council Charters, thus indicating that these degrees have never been separated from the Royal Arch Chapter as they have been, with a couple of exceptions, in this country. Continuing he said:

I personally will long remember all the kindnesses I met with in the United States and in Canada during my visits. Certainly I can bear out what Companion Finley said, and if you travel in the United States, particularly as Lady Cassillis and I traveled, with Masonic Brothers and their friends, you will certainly not be treated as strangers.

The readers will also appreciate this complimentary reference to General Grand Secretary Charles A. Conover, who had been seriously ill, but who recovered sufficiently to attend the Tacoma Triennial:

He is a man of the most kindly manner, and has for many years displayed the greatest tact and ability in the conduct of the affairs of the General Grand Chapter. He is a most learned and able student of

Masonry, and is the editor of the very fine Royal Arch Mason's Bible, and he is also the author of a very interesting History of the Royal Arch Degree.

Recognition was accorded the recently amalgamated Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapters of Queensland.

The Agreement submitted by the General Grand Master of the General Grand Council of the United States, removing the obstacles which stand in the way of the members of Keystone Chapter No. 354, Manila, Scottish Constitution, obtaining the Cryptic degrees were approved, pending certain desirable minor amendments.

Reports indicated progress and activity in the Chapters throughout New Zealand. So enthusiastic are those Companions that they think nothing of visiting Chapters 250 miles apart. Some idea of distances may be gathered from the report of one Superintendent who traveled nearly 2,500 miles to install the officers of his District. The Superintendent of the Transvaal District in Africa stated that with few exceptions by reason of the shifting population in the diamond districts, most of the Chapters were making progress and that "there are always a few stalwarts who endeavor to carry on, even under trying conditions." This is true of Freemasonry the world over.

George A. Howell, 76 Queen St., Edinburgh, is Grand Scribe E.

SOUTH CAROLINA—1930

Chapters, 38. Members, 4,998. Exalted, 81. Net Loss, 416

R. T. GOODALE, Grand High Priest

During the last four years the Palmetto State has been almost constantly in the limelight, by reason of the indefatigable activities of its beloved Craftsman, M. E. Comp. O. Frank Hart, the head of the Cryptic Rite in the United States; and we shall miss in the various Proceedings the references to himself and the equally well known M. E. Comp. Charles C. Davis, General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter, the largest Masonic Body under one head in the world.

Both of these Most Excellent Companions were present at the One Hundred and Eighteenth Annual Convocation, which was held in Charleston, April 1, 1930, as also were distinguished visitors from Tennessee, Georgia and Florida, as well as a goodly number of lesser lights.

Interesting and instructive was the address of Grand High Priest Goodale, who is also Florida's Grand Representative, and who sought to strongly impress upon the officers the idea that they should not only get the vision of the great opportunities to build up a strong membership by intelligently conferring the degrees, but also that they should labor to interest and hold them. There being no patent or strings to these suggestions the Craft whithersoever dispersed are privileged to use them to the *nth* degree.

His activities were neither burdensome nor out of the ordinary and were approved at all stations. The committee reports indicated a tranquility, perhaps too great, and which might have a bearing upon the losses by dimit and n.p.d. It is sometimes a good plan to begin the year by "taking stock."

Only four Companions were elected, anointed, and set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood.

For the second time E. Comp. George T. Harmon presented the Review of Proceedings and upon which much thought appears to have been given. They are well worth a careful reading. Referring to the continuous losses by suspensions, so generally deplored, he finds the consensus of opinion to be "that the responsibility rests at the door of inactive and apathetic High Priests who accept the honors of Masonry without the willingness to pay the price of inspirational and constructive leadership." These conditions might be lessened if there were a less tendency to rotation and advancement in office and more consideration given to ability and efficiency.

Companion Harmon found much to interest him in the address of Grand High Priest McMaster and which seems to be approved; also the comments are pertinent. He is a welcome addition to The Guild.

Next annual in Columbia, April 22, 1931.

R. T. Goodale, Camden, Grand High Priest; O. Frank Hart, Columbia, Grand Secretary; George T. Harmon, Sumter, Correspondent.

SOUTH DAKOTA—1930

Chapters, 40. Members, 5,624. Exalted, 196. Net Loss, 179

MARION E. CROCKETT, Grand High Priest

Grand Honors were given to the Presiding Officers of both the General Grand Bodies, the Grand Encampment, Supreme Council S. J., and from several Grand Chapters, also Florida's representative, who were in attendance at the Forty-second Annual Convocation held in Rapid City, June 12, 1930; a wonderfully enchanting country of high hills and low vales.

Grand Chapter suffered a grievous loss in the passing of M. E. Comp. Robert T. Sedam, Grand High Priest in 1893. Sincerity of purpose and devotion to duty characterized the address of Grand High Priest Crockett, who stated he was not "one-half as much concerned about the responsibilities" entrusted to him as he was "to the efficiency and quality of the service he may have rendered to the Craft." His work passed inspection at all stations.

Feeling the need of a closer and more personal touch with the Craft, after much thought, he designed and put into practice a Work Card on which was recorded the petitioner's name and particulars of his degree progress. This card was sent to the Grand High Priest after each degree for inspection and record, its return being accompanied with a personal letter.

He also worked out a Rehearsal Card which called for three rehearsals preceding the conferring of each degree, and with as many substitutes as there were workers. In this plan the Mark Master degree was conferred by the Captain of the Host, the Past Master by the Scribe, the Most Excellent Master by the King and the Royal Arch by the High Priest.

The official visitations showed that where these plans were faithfully carried out there was increased proficiency

in the ritualistic work; it placed the burden of each degree "where it logically belonged," and it also automatically made every Past High Priest a master of each of the degrees; and further, he also stated:

It produces, through the line of substitutes for each officer, a double set of ritualists, eliminates rituals in the Chapter work, by the substitute working the degree for the officer for whom he is substituting, and thereby not only familiarizing double the number of Companions in the ritual at the same time, but also increasing the interest in the substitutes in the work; thus likewise increasing the attendance and also displays to the Chapter the capability of each ritualist and substitute, before the degree is conferred, and enabling the membership to more readily select the most capable Companion in the Chapter at all times to put on the work.

In carrying out this plan the Grand High Priest said his files showed over five hundred carbon copies of letters written to constituent Chapters and Grand Officers "without the assistance of a stenographer."

His other activities disclosed nothing out of the usual routine and with no recorded decisions, which indicates a careful study of the laws and regulations by both officers and members. Therefore the Jurisprudence Committee did not make a written report; "simply stated there was nothing for the committee to report."

According to the Grand Secretary the large part of the losses was on account of the numerous suspensions in the Blue Lodge and the membership in a dead Lodge.

Twelve Companions were consecrated and set apart to the Order of High Priesthood.

There is no Report on Correspondence.

Next Annual in Yankton, June 11, 1931.

Eldon W. Clark, Yankton, Grand High Priest; George A. Pettigrew, Sioux Falls, Grand Secretary.

TENNESSEE—1930

Chapters, 90. Members, 10,528. Exalted, 253. Net Loss, 453

ARTHUR G. HUDSON, Grand High Priest

South Carolina sent a distinguished visitor, but Florida was not represented at the One Hundred and First Annual, held in Nashville, January 27-28, 1930. Memorials were presented for M. E. Comp. Charles H. Byrn, Grand High Priest in 1928.

Somewhat out of the ordinary at the opening was the action "that the rules be set aside and that Grand Chapter go into the election of Grand Secretary, and that Companion Stith M. Cain be re-elected." This was probably necessary by reason of the serious illness of Companion Cain several months previous and from which he gradually recovered, but during his illness another had been commissioned to temporarily take over the duties of Grand Secretary.

Grand High Priest Hudson in his address reminded the Craftsmen of the "wonderful achievements" recorded by the Royal Craft, with the hope that they might be "stimulated to greater activity * * * and make the history of Capitular Masonry in Tennessee more serviceable and benevolent in the future than it has been in the past."

His decisions and other acts which were approved were local and seem to conform to Florida practice. His visitations were principally for reunions and group meetings, which are becoming popular and apparently needful in some jurisdictions and which brought him, he said, in "direct contact with at least one-half of the Chapters," and he regretted that he was unable to do more visiting.

It was somewhat embarrassing to the Grand High Priest in not having a fund available to use in times of great disasters. Hereafter this will be obviated by Grand Chapter setting aside a special fund for such purposes.

Somewhat of an innovation will be an amendment, if adopted a year hence, prescribing minimum fees and dues for subordinate Chapters which in brief are:

The net revenue from fees (after deducting Grand Chapter fees, etc.) shall be applied to the permanent fund of the Chapter.

Each Chapter shall maintain a Charity Fund, to be used for charity purposes only, to which shall be applied at least one dollar of all dues collected.

Subordinate Chapters must fix the annual dues to be paid by each member upon a basis sufficient to provide a Charity Fund, and also an Operating Fund sufficient to cover all operating expenses of the Chapter, including Grand Chapter Dues.

High Priests from less than half the number of Chapters represented were set apart to the Order of High Priesthood, which was conferred by a special team, new officers being elected each year.

Past Grand High Priest A. C. Morgan presented, for the first time, a Report on Correspondence which is creditable to Grand Chapter, and it is quite certain that he will be a welcome member to The Guild.

Florida was given close inspection, and noting that all the acts of Grand High Priest R. J. McMaster were approved, Companion Morgan exclaims: "Truly, the millenium approaches." This is quite common in Florida Grand Bodies. Referring to the dispensation to hold a Special Communication, receive and ballot on petitions, he "doubts the wisdom of permitting such dispensations." But he believes the permitting a Companion to purchase a ritual is a "step in the right direction."

Next Annual in Nashville, January 26, 1931.

E. B. Duke, Nashville, Grand High Priest; Stith M. Cain, Nashville, Grand Secretary; A. C. Morgan, Clarksville, Correspondent.

TEXAS—1930

Chapters, 296. Members, 41,210. Exalted, 971. Net Loss, 1,665

GEORGE G. WHITE, Grand High Priest

Capitular conditions in the Lone Star State seem to be tersely stated in the somewhat brief but none the less illuminating report of Grand Secretary Thos. M. Bartley, at the

Eighty-first Annual Convocation, held in Waco, December 1-2, 1930, in which he said:

This report is submitted for two reasons: One is because the law requires it; and the other is that you may decide what to do about it.

On June 24, 1929, we had 304 Chapters. On June 24, 1930, we had 926; but we do not have that many now. What are we going to do about it?

On June 24, 1929, we had 42,875 members. On June 24, this year, we had 41,210, and not that many now. What are we going to do about it?

We lack 1,665 having as many members as we had at the beginning of the year. (This includes a loss by demised Chapters of 545.) What are we going to do about it?

The above quotations seem to be a fitting prelude to the address of M. E. Comp. White, who stated in reporting his official acts of the year that "it did not take me very long to discover that the position of Grand High Priest of this vast jurisdiction was no sinecure."

The Grand High Priest granted a dispensation to form a new Chapter. Texas law requires "that a petition for a new Council must also accompany the petition for a Chapter unless there is a Council located in the same County. However, after this Chapter had been instituted it was found that the Companions were not proficient in the work of the Council degrees, and the Illustrious Grand Master refused to institute the Council until they had become proficient. For this reason the Chapter was continued under dispensation. Another dispensation to form a new Chapter was held up because the charter of a Council in the same county had been forfeited for failing to meet in the required three months. It appears that the Companions must be proficient in the work of both Chapter and Council before a charter will be granted.

Several Chapter charters were arrested for failing to send in their reports within the required time, and a penalty of ten per cent is required before a dispensation to resume labor will be granted. Another cause for the arrest of a charter is failing to meet for three consecutive months.

Among the rulings of the Grand High Priest was that Chapters could only meet and transact business in the place where located; that Chapter regalia can be used only in a

Chapter of Royal Arch Masons; that Past High Priest honors can be conferred only upon a Companion who has served a full twelve months or longer.

During the year the Angel of Death summoned M. E. Comp. John M. Strayhorn, Grand High Priest in 1902, who during his lifetime had the remarkable record of being a member of eight different Lodges, a charter member of three and Worshipful Master of five; likewise a member of four different Chapters, a charter member of one, and High Priest of three. Others who were called were: M. E. Comp. A. S. Bunting, the dean of the Past Grands, Grand High Priest in 1895, and M. E. Comp. B. K. Hawkins, Grand High Priest in 1918.

Fraternal recognition and exchange of Grand Representatives were granted to the newly amalgamated Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Queensland.

Some idea of the magnitude of the Home for Aged Masons, owned and operated exclusively by the Grand Chapter of Texas, appears in the Auditor's report, which shows the total assets of the Home to be \$1,069,781.29. At the close of the year the Home was caring for seventy-four Grand Chapter wards and thirty-one Grand Lodge wards, with an average cost per day, including those in the hospital, of 76.72 cents.

The Committee on Grand Officers' Reports considers matters affecting the policy of the Grand Chapter; while the Jurisprudence Committee considers the legal phases. It was discovered that hardly a High Priest or Secretary replied to the first letter of the Grand High Priest. So prodigious was his correspondence that "the carbon copies made a bundle weighing four pounds." The committee also found "that there were ten High Priests and ten Secretaries in the State who would permit a suspension of a Chapter rather than write a letter or extend the simple courtesy of replying to a letter of the Grand High Priest." "We approve," with possibly a minor exception or two, was the verdict of the committee, and Grand Chapter said, "Me, too."

According to an adopted resolution any Past or Present High Priest suspended for unmasonic conduct loses all Past

High Priest rights and "can regain them only by later being elected and installed a High Priest."

Six o'clock in the morning appears to be rather early for the Texas Companions, as only twenty-six were anointed and set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood.

There are Capitular reviewers and other kinds of reviewers, but there is only one Sam Helm, of Corsicana, Texas, and his work, be it in Chapter or any other body, always passes 100 per cent plus. Nuf sed.

Companion Helm found much to interest and apparently approve in the Florida Proceedings. He stated that the portrait of Grand High Priest Pasco "indicates that he is nineteen or twenty years of age and full of pep—if a late photo was used." He referred to ye scribe in his connection with the Order of High Priesthood, adding: "That is sufficient mention of the Order, but Hubbell and I are ex-newspaper men and, if we should write that paragraph for the AP today, it would have to read like this:

Eli B. Hubble, 65, alleged citizen of Bradenton, opened the High Order of Councilhood, officers said, at 8 A. M. (Eastern Standard Time); thirty-two candidates are alleged to have been initiated, police said, with dew and ancient ferns. Elisha C. Hobbell, 62, allegedly President, is said to have been elected at 10:14:02 A. M. (Daylight Saving Time), officers said.

Next Annual in Waco, commencing November 30, 1931. E. C. Couch, Weslaco, Grand High Priest; Thos. M. Bartley, Waco, Grand Secretary; Sam Helm, Corsicana, Correspondent.

UTAH—1930

Chapters, 8. Members, 1,300. Exalted, 43. No Net Gain or Loss
SANFORD BALLINGER, Grand High Priest

Idaho and the General Grand Chapter, other State Grand Bodies, as well as every constituent Chapter, were represented at the Nineteenth Annual Convocation, held in Park City, May 12, 1930; almost ancient history, more than a year having passed and Utah was the last Grand Chapter proceedings

to reach the reviewer's table. Florida was not represented, the Utah Proceedings giving the Grand representative's name as Emmett M. Carter, Washington, D. C., while the Florida Proceedings names David R. Beebe, of Provo.

About the middle of the year occurred the death of R. E. William H. Wilkins, Grand King, and also for a few years Fraternal Correspondent; and a few days previous to the Annual Convocation the summons came to R. E. Robert B. Barrowman, Grand Lecturer.

The address of the Grand High Priest was a concise business-like statement of his acts which met approval of Grand Chapter. Serious illness interfered with his work, but he "carried on" just the same. The golden thread of optimism runs through his administration and was reflected in the acts of his officers generally.

Believing that conditions and the advancement of the Craft warranted, he recommended placing the minimum fee for the Capitular degrees at \$25.00, which Grand Chapter approved, hoping that it would stimulate petitions.

Another approved recommendation gives each Chapter exclusive jurisdiction over petitions in the County where situated, and concurrent jurisdiction where no Chapter exists. Also that Chapters can ballot on petitions for degrees or membership as soon as reported by membership committee, which is also Florida Chapter law.

But Grand Chapter did not look with favor upon the repeal of the One Year Probation law, pertaining to petitions from Master Masons for additional degrees, and tabled it for another year. Other legislation was of local nature. For some reason the naming of time and place of Annual Convocations is by common custom accorded to the Grand Council.

Action on the recognition of the amalgamation of the two Grand Chapters of Queensland was postponed a year. This is the first legislation of this nature that ye scribe recalls having seen. All acts leading to the consolidation of the two Grand Chapters appeared to have been regular. Wonder why the delay?

Four petitions for the Holy Order of High Priesthood were accepted and the petitioners were duly consecrated and set apart.

It would seem that an award for brevity in correspondence reports could with propriety be awarded to R. E. Comp. J. W. Dunlap, who compressed the reviews of forty-five Grand Chapters into twenty printed pages, and which are withal interesting as well.

Florida gets a baker's dozen of lines, in which it is noted that Grand High Priest Pasco "gave some interesting decisions on Capitular law and granted one dispensation."

Next Annual in Provo, May 11, 1931. (Date already passed).

William W. Ragen, Grand High Priest; J. M. Dunlap, Masonic Temple, Salt Lake City, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

VERMONT—1930

Chapters, 30. Members, 5,870. Exalted, 151. Net Loss, 30

H. PERLEY CLARK, Grand High Priest

Although this Grand Chapter was apparently organized in 1804, yet the One Hundred and Thirteenth Annual Convocation convened at Burlington, June 10, 1930, this difference being due to the anti-Masonic wave which reached its height in 1831 with Presidential nominees and at the election which followed these candidates, states Mackey's Encyclopedia, "received but seven votes, being the whole electoral vote of Vermont, which was the only state that voted for them."

Fraternalism is stressed in the concise address of Grand High Priest Clark which he seemed to demonstrate in his official visitations.

Among his decisions was one that a suspended Companion must pay all intervening dues when applying for re-instatement and which Grand Chapter approved; yet the committee makes this somewhat apparently conflicting pronouncement:

We hold that it is discretionary with the Subordinate Chapter whether an applicant for reinstatement shall be required to pay dues during period of suspension plus amounts due at time of suspension, or shall be required to pay only what is due when suspension takes place.

He found that the Royal Arch degree "has been overdone in a good many Chapters," and hoped that the High Priests would see that it was corrected. Wonder if it was?

Finding a disinclination on the part of the younger members to spend the necessary time to study and master the degree work, the Grand Lecturer recommended a "complete revision of the ritual with the hope that it might be an incentive to stimulate their interest." More likely this will be brought about when the Brethren "have a mind to work."

More than ordinary interest must attach to the Order of High Priesthood, judging by the number of Companions who were anointed, consecrated and set apart to this Holy Order.

Past Grand High Priest Archie S. Harriman, as well as Grand Secretary, makes his comments as he trenchantly reviews the various Proceedings, and therefore does not find it desirable to have much of a "head" and no "tail" to his sixth presentation. Good idea.

Companion Harriman seems to think that some of the time spent by Masonic Secretaries in trying to collect dues is "not appreciated and is unfruitful." Ye scribe has served at different times as Secretary to nearly every Masonic body, and his reaction is not the same, and he has no regret for any time spent that way. It always brought results, although of course not all that could be desired.

Next Annual in Burlington, June 9, 1931.

Cady L. Earle, St. Albans, Grand High Priest; Archie S. Harriman, Burlington, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

VIRGINIA—1931

Chapters, 74. Members, 17,314. Exalted, 309. Net Loss, 315

S. TATE STERRETT, Grand High Priest

Florida's Grand Representative again appears to be about the only notable absentee from the One Hundred and Twenty-third Annual Convocation, which was held in Richmond, October 28-29, 1930. The presiding officers of both the Grand Lodge and the Grand Commandery were honored guests.

Overtaken in the midst of life's duties were M. E. Comp. William B. Chesney, Grand High Priest in 1909, and M. E. Comp. William Chapman, Grand High Priest in 1922.

Comparatively little of outside importance appears in the address of Grand High Priest Sterrett, who stated that it was his desire to visit every Chapter, but, he added, "The Supreme High Priest has seen fit to rule otherwise." He does not state whether this was occasioned by illness or some other cause; consequently his visitations were quite limited. However, he attended every Royal Arch School.

One dispensation was granted for a new Chapter and which was given a charter. Other necessary dispensations were also granted; but, he added: "Have declined in every instance to set aside sections of the Digest."

The Grand Lecturer, who spent the entire year visiting Chapters and conducting Schools of Instruction, reported a high degree of efficiency in ritualistic work.

The Hubbard Memorial Loan Fund Committee reported that the available fund was exhausted early in the year, the maximum loan of \$250.00 being extended in most cases, but never exceeding \$500.00 to any one applicant.

Through voluntary contributions there are about \$175,000.00 in interest bearing bonds to the credit of the Masonic Relief Foundation of Virginia; but the management stated that "we cannot expect to erect a Home for the Aged until Grand Lodge provides for raising a sufficient fund to maintain a Home." However, fifty-seven patients were admitted into the George W. Wright Memorial Sanatorium and sixty-three were discharged, and in most cases they were again able to take up the duties of life.

Much of the minor business is transacted through the Committee of the Whole, which meets the second morning. Nothing of specific importance was reported.

Forty-one High Priests-elect were consecrated and set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood, and the old officers re-elected.

For the fourth time Past Grand High Priest E. Fenno Heath presented the Correspondence report, which is as interesting as it is instructive. He noted that the attendance of Grand Representatives is increasing, but also added "there is still room for improvement." Our Past Grand High Priest

Stafford Caldwell is always on hand to respond for Virginia, but the absence of Florida's Representative in Virginia appears to be chronic.

Referring under Florida to a minister who was expelled from his church because he refused to renounce Masonry, Companion Heath pertinently remarked:

That incident serves to remind us how easy everything is made for us these days. Perhaps a little opposition would be the best remedy for rejuvenating Capitular Masonry where it has fallen into a state of lethargy. By opposition only does a nation or a man reach great heights of success.

Next Annual in Richmond, Oct. 27-28, 1931.

William M. Davis, Chatham, Grand High Priest; James M. Clift, Masonic Temple, Richmond, Grand Secretary; E. Fenno Heath, P. O. Box 103, Newport News, Correspondent.

WASHINGTON—1930

Chapters, 53. Members, 9,222. Exalted, 277. Net Loss, 139

ROBERT E. SULLIVAN, Grand High Priest

Seattle, the metropolis of the Northwest, one of the largest landlocked ports in the United States, and which handles something like half of the Pacific Coast foreign commerce, was host for the Forty-second Annual Convocation, which was held in that city, May 12-13, 1930, with distinguished visitors present from the other Coast Grand Jurisdictions, but Florida was not represented. The many hundred Companions and their family members who attended the Tacoma Triennials will long remember the cordial welcomes and almost boundless hospitalities shown them in every city in their sojourn in that wonderful part of our country.

That the year's administration of Grand High Priest Sullivan was a labor of love, his address indicates, also that he gave the greater part of his time, and the "wages" were the Grand Chapter's commendation "for the great interest he has shown in Royal Arch Masonry."

The constructive work of the Grand High Priest was shown early in his year in urging each Chapter to appoint

several committees in preserving the membership. The duties of the Committee on Attendance and Delinquents were to visit those behind in their dues and prevent their being dropped for n.p.d.; on Ritualistic Work, to make that more impressive by raising its dramatic quality; on Petitions, to assist the officers in securing reputable petitioners; and the Social Committee, to promote greater sociability by providing suitable entertainments, "ever bearing in mind that Royal Arch Masonry pays homage to the teachings of holy writ;" and his observations were that wherever done "many happy results followed."

He approved and urged regional meetings which brought about a better understanding of the principles of Capitular Masonry through discussions and exchange of ideas. It was gratifying to him that no decisions had been requested. He strongly favored the exchange of inter-visitations with the other Pacific Coast Grand Jurisdictions and which he said, does much to more closely cement the already existing cordial relations.

After due consideration the Jurisprudence Committee reported on two questions presented the year previous, and which in substance were: Grand Chapter having adopted the General Grand Chapter ritual, no other ritual could be used in conferring any of the Royal Arch degrees upon a candidate. Another was its complement, in that "it is not within the power of the Grand High Priest to grant permission to any body of men using a different ritual to confer any of the Royal Arch degrees within this State." In other words, whenever such work may be desired a "dummy" candidate must be used. As ye scribe looks at it, this ruling might well be eminently proper in any Grand Jurisdiction.

Grand Chapters seeking to entertain the General Grand Triennial Bodies will do well to look at the authorized budget for the Tacoma gatherings which called for \$11,500. During the year two Assemblies of the Order of High Priesthood were held when over two score Companions were anointed and set apart to that Holy Order.

In a well prepared and interesting report Grand Secretary Wesley C. Stone submitted his second annual review of Capitular Masonry, although in a dozen instances he refers to it as "Templar reviews." Wonder why?

He gave considerable attention to the decrease in membership, and attributed the losses chiefly to these conditions: Those unable to pay dues; those able to pay but have lost interest, and those who carelessly let their dues accumulate. However, he believed that there is no real reason for discouragement, and he has the feeling that the "worthwhile" are continuing to hold their membership. Florida is given due consideration.

Next Annual in Walla Walla, May 12-13, 1931.

Fred Matthies, Pomeroy, Grand High Priest; Wesley C. Stone, 401 Hyde Building, Spokane, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

WEST VIRGINIA—1930

Chapters, 46. Members, 11,829. Exalted, 322. Net Loss, 109

LAWRENCE G. KINCHELOW, Grand High Priest

When the gavel sounded which formally convened the Sixty-sixth Annual Convocation in the City of Wheeling, October 6-7, 1930, in addition to distinguished Craftsmen from Pennsylvania and Ohio who were in attendance, it had the rare privilege of having present an American Indian who was also a Royal Arch Mason, Companion Francis Boyce, who began his remarks by quoting, first in the Indian language and then in English, the Indian prayer, which he said, "was customary among our Indian ceremonies. And I hope it will impress you that the Indian is not the Pagan of which you have read; and also that these people are religious."

Tributes were paid to the memories of M. E. Comp. Cyrus S. McKenzie, Grand High Priest in 1901, and M. E. Comp. Samuel N. Myers, Grand High Priest in 1929.

Concise and strictly business was the address of Grand High Priest Kinchelow, who found it unnecessary to render any decisions. Much to his regret he was able to accept only a part of the invitations for visitations. Other activities do not appear to have been overly burdensome, and his administration was approved.

He emphasized what so many other Masonic presiding officers are saying, in substance, that conditions will not improve "until the Chapters select officers who accept wholeheartedly and understandingly the duties which their leadership entails." And further, that the convocations must be made attractive and that the *officers must know the work*.

Fraternal recognition was granted the recently amalgamated Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Queensland.

Grand Chapter does not favor paying the expenses of a representative to the General Grand Chapter.

By an amended law no Chapter can now advance a candidate until he has shown proficiency in the signs, grips and passes of the preceding degree, nor until he has selected and recorded his mark.

Nineteen Companions were consecrated and set apart to the Order of High Priesthood.

It is presumed that the Annual Reviews of other Grand Chapters is by Grand Secretary George M. Ford, although probably through a typographical oversight, his name does not anywhere appear. It is a good piece of work of which the author "needeth not to be ashamed." Notwithstanding that "we are still losing members," he said, yet he is optimistic enough to hope that "the next year will prove that we are beginning to mount upward." So say we all.

Referring to ye scribe's comment last year that it seemed "strange" to read of R. M. and S. M. degrees in connection with a Royal Arch school, Comp. Ford replies: "As you know, Companion Hubbell, some of us old 'dyed in the wool' still think that these degrees rightly belong before the Royal Arch." There are two sides to this question, and there are some reasons, as ye scribe looks at it, why it would have been well if they had never been divorced.

Next Annual in the City of Fairmount, October 5-6, 1931.
Carney M. Layne, Huntington, Grand High Priest;
George M. Ford, Wheeling, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

WISCONSIN—1930

Chapters, 188. Members, 26,381. Exalted, 979. Net Gain, 79

ARTHUR A. DUSTY, Grand High Priest

General Grand High Priest Charles C. Davis and General Grand Custodian of the Work Harry W. Harvey were the two premier star attractions at the Eighteenth Annual Convocation, held in Milwaukee, Feb. 18-19, and the lesser luminaries included Grand Officers from Illinois and Minnesota, with Past Grand High Priest W. F. Owen representing Florida to preserve the balance.

Capitular Masonry has suffered a grievous loss in the passing the veils for the last time; M. E. Comp. Samuel Wright, Grand High Priest in 1895, and for many years chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence and also for a long period President of the Order of High Priesthood; M. E. Comp. Thomas R. Mundy, Grand High Priest in 1826; R. E. Comp. William W. Perry, Grand Secretary and Grand Secretary Emeritus, 1909 to 1929. Truly their works will live long after them.

Clear and concise was the address of Grand High Priest Dusty in extolling the teachings of Capitular Masonry who stated a truth that in these days often seems to be lost sight of: "No one is in possession of all ancient Craft Masonry without the Royal Arch degree." And much stronger, it seems to ye scribe, might this fact be stated.

Much to the regret of Grand High Priest Dusty, two important factors, finance and personal business, limited his official visitations. But it would seem that the ones made were beneficial. Of course he was "received with all the honors due the office;" but why mention it? for anything different would be an unheard of innovation. In one or more instances the ritual of the General Grand Chapter in the Royal Arch Degree was exemplified, which he calls "very good and very impressive and gives the degree solemnity;" however, he added:

I think our Wisconsin ritual is par excellence, and will answer our Chapter for many years to come. If we were to change our ritual it

would mean a very great expense to our Grand Chapter and it would mean that Past High Priests of our Chapters would be eliminated from the work entirely. Past High Priest Night is a big event in mostly all our Chapters throughout the State and means much to the Capitular Degrees of Masonry.

All of his decisions, conforming to law, were approved, but Florida laws might construe some of them differently. One Chapter was constituted.

Exceeding other reports in length, thus indicating its importance, was the space given to the Order of DeMolay, much stress being given to the "Sell DeMolay to Wisconsin" drive, which seemingly means that every Chapter is to sponsor a Chapter of DeMolay, \$1,200.00 being appropriated for the work. Sometime ago the Grand Council established the Legion of Honor, composed of active workers over twenty-one years of age, and which it was stated corresponds to the Thirty-third degree in Scottish Masonry, and allows one for "every one hundred members each year."

Nearly all the Constitutional amendments proposed the year previous were not adopted, and several new ones were presented and laid over for another year, and which would introduce some drastic changes if approved. One of which, if correctly understood, would eliminate the possibility of having as a Grand High Priest a Companion who had never been a High Priest.

Hereafter the Report of the Committee on Correspondence will not be printed and distributed as heretofore, but after being "approved by the Grand High Priest" will be filed with the Grand Secretary and printed in the Proceedings. As ye scribe looks at it, if it is worth the cost of preparation it is worth the comparatively little additional expense to give it as wide readings as possible by having it distributed at Grand Chapter Convocations.

The report this year is a dual effort, the chairman, Past Grand High Priest Samuel Wright, having passed away during the year, the mantle fell on Past Grand High Priest Edward T. Hayhurst, who it is believed will prove a worthy successor, as another year of his individual efforts will de-

termine. His review of Florida this time is substantially a statistical recapitulation.

Next Annual in Milwaukee, Feb. 17-18, 1931.

Wallace M. Comstock, Oconto, Grand High Priest; Wm. F. Weiler, 470 Van Buren St., Milwaukee, Grand Secretary; Edward T. Hayhurst, 106 Montgomery St., Watertown, Correspondent.

WYOMING—1930

Chapters, 18. Members, 2,253. Exalted, 82. Net Gain, 20

WILLIAM N. SCOTT, Acting Grand High Priest

Owing to a serious illness soon after assuming the office of Grand High Priest, N.E.Comp. Elmer A. Kell was obliged to seek a lower altitude in a distant eastern State, and his condition not improving the duties of that office were assumed by R.E.Comp. William N. Scott, the Deputy Grand High Priest, who presided at the Twenty-second Annual Convocation, held in Laramie, July 15, 1930, and at which Florida was not represented.

Two times during the year did the imperative summons come to Permanent Members, M.E.Comp. Jacob F. Hoop, Grand High Priest in 1911, and M.E.Comp. Hudson W. Darrah, Grand High Priest in 1923.

Hoping against hope that M.E.Comp. Kell would be able to return and assume the duties of his office, but which did not materialize, the address of Acting Grand High Priest Scott was a brief synopsis of the routine matters requiring attention. Comparatively few official visitations were made by himself and others of the line officers. However, they reported that encouraging conditions prevailed.

Grand Chapter did not favor making an appropriation for sending a representative to the General Grand Triennial, "believing that it might lead to abuses in the future." However, Wyoming was well represented by its present Grand High Priest, M.E.Comp. William N. Scott.

Recognition was granted the newly amalgamated Grand Chapter in Queensland.

Again running true to form, the Grand Convention of Wyoming, Holy Order of High Priesthood, was favored by an address by its first as well as revered President, M.E.Comp. Jesse Converse, and three Companions were anointed and set apart to that Holy Order.

E.Comp. Henry G. Watson, the present Grand Royal Arch Captain, in presenting his third annual review, branded as "way off" the statement "that his vocation was journalism." It could easily be something worse.

Next Annual in Casper, July 14, 1930.

William N. Scott, Green River, Grand High Priest; Richard E. Repath, Cheyenne, Grand Secretary; Henry G. Watson, Cheyenne, Correspondent.

All Grand Chapter Proceedings which have been received have been reviewed. Those missing are New Brunswick, not received, and South Australia and Western Australia, comparatively small Grand Chapters and which it is understood do not regularly publish their proceedings. None have ever been received from either of these two latter Grand Chapters.

Respectfully submitted,

Ely P. Hubbell

For the Committee.

Bradenton, Florida, May 1, 1931.

OFFICERS
OF THE
M.:E.:Grand Chapter of Florida
FOR
A. D. 1931 ---- A. I. 2461

M.:E.:ALEX B. STEUARTGrand High Priest, Tampa
R.:E.:WILLIAM B. GREERDep. Gr. High Priest, Quincy
R.:E.:R. P. BUCKMASTERGrand King, Orlando
R.:E.:ARCHIE AITCHISONGrand Scribe, St. Petersburg
M.:E.:MARCUS ENDELGrand Treasurer, Jacksonville
M.:E.:WILBER P. WEBSTERGrand Secretary, Jacksonville
R.:E.:W. B. Y. WILKIEGrand Chaplain Emeritus, Dunedin
R.:E.:DORSEY H. RUTTERGrand Chaplain, St. Augustine
E.:GEORGE A. DAMEGrand Capt. of the Host, Inverness
E.:CLEVELAND R. HORNEGrand Prin. Sojourner, DeFuniak Spgs
E.:J. LLOYD HEADGrand Royal Arch Capt. Jacksonville
E.:JOHN B. PHELPSGrand Master Third Veil, Miami
E.:J. C. CLARKGrand Master Second Veil, Pensacola
E.:RICHARD B. LOVETTGrand Master First Veil, Tampa
E.:JOHN W. CAPPERGrand Guard, Jacksonville
E.:DORSEY H. RUTTERGrand Lecturer, St. Augustine

The next Annual Convocation will be held in the City of
Tampa on the third Tuesday in May, 1932