

S. Y. R. COPY

THE YORK RITE
of
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of
F L O R I D A

1946

**GRAND CHAPTER, ROYAL ARCH MASONS
GRAND COUNCIL, ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS
GRAND COMMANDERY, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR**

Grand Chapter
Royal Arch Masons





HARRY R. THOMPSON
Grand High Priest
1946-1947

PROCEEDINGS
of the
Grand Chapter
Royal Arch Masons
of the
STATE OF FLORIDA

GEORGE ALBERT LAMBE
Grand High Priest
PRESIDING

HARRY ROBERT THOMPSON
ELECTED

HELD IN THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE
MAY 21 AND 22, A. D. 1946, A. I. 2476

OFFICERS
of the
Grand Chapter
Royal Arch Masons
of the
State of Florida
for
1946-1947

Harry Robert Thompson.....	<i>Grand High Priest</i>
4100 S. W. 13th St., Coral Gables	
Loren Lambert Dilger.....	<i>Deputy Grand High Priest</i>
1512 Gonzalez St., Pensacola	
David Meyer Winans.....	<i>Grand King</i>
P. O. Box 34, Monticello	
Leslie Clayton Bortle.....	<i>Grand Scribe</i>
1924 S. W. 17th Ave., Miami	
Riley James McMaster.....	<i>Grand Treasurer</i>
2911 Angeles St., Tampa	
John Bridges Phelps.....	<i>Grand Secretary</i>
P. O. Box 283, Miami	
Dorsey Howard Rutter.....	<i>Grand Chaplain</i>
205 Oak Street, Melbourne	
Carl Henry Papier.....	<i>Grand Captain of the Host</i>
Route 2, Box 25, St. Petersburg	
Orville Ambrose Clark.....	<i>Grand Principal Sojourner</i>
3210 St. Augustine Rd., Jacksonville	
Richard Houghton.....	<i>Grand Royal Arch Captain</i>
Bartow	
Wilbur Willing Masters, Jr.....	<i>Grand Master Third Veil</i>
817 Dante Place, Jacksonville	
Thomas Erasmus Dickenson.....	<i>Grand Master Second Veil</i>
602 Sanchez St., So., Ocala	
Harmon Edward Newson.....	<i>Grand Master First Veil</i>
P. O. Box 263, Cocoa	
Frederick Carlton Briggs.....	<i>Grand Sentinel</i>
698 West Garden St., Pensacola	

NINETY-NINTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION

1946

The Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of the State of Florida convened in its Ninety-ninth Annual Convocation on the seventh floor of the Masonic Temple, in the City of Jacksonville, at 9:30 A. M., on Tuesday, May 21st A. D., 1946, A. I., 2476.

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

GRAND OFFICERS

George Albert Lambe.....	<i>Grand High Priest</i>
Harry Robert Thompson.....	<i>Deputy Grand High Priest</i>
Loren Lambert Dilger.....	<i>Grand King</i>
David Meyer Winans.....	<i>Grand Scribe</i>
Riley James McMaster.....	<i>Grand Treasurer</i>
John Bridges Phelps.....	<i>Grand Secretary</i>
Dorsey Howard Rutter.....	<i>as Grand Chaplain</i>
Frederick Carlton Briggs.....	<i>as Grand Captain of the Host</i>
Leslie Clayton Bortle.....	<i>Grand Principal Sojourner</i>
Carl Henry Papier.....	<i>Grand Royal Arch Captain</i>
Orville Ambrose Clark.....	<i>Grand Master Third Veil</i>
Wilfred Everett Froehlich.....	<i>Grand Master Second Veil</i>
Richard Houghton.....	<i>Grand Master First Veil</i>
Wilbur Willing Masters, Jr.....	<i>Grand Sentinel</i>

PAST GRAND HIGH PRIESTS

Henry O. Snow	John B. Phelps
Riley James McMaster	Jesse C. Clark
William B. Greer	Dorsey H. Rutter
Archie Aitchison	Frederic A. Riegel
Cleveland R. Horne	William L. Marshall
Joseph Edward Herring	

REPRESENTATIVES OF CONSTITUENT CHAPTERS

Florida.....	1—J. T. Williams O. E. Williams Lester Lewis
Gainesville.....	2—Ancil N. Payne Harold W. Vories
Tampa.....	3—John E. Simmons (Proxy)
St. Johns.....	4—(Not Represented)
Halifax.....	5—Harry G. Fletcher (Proxy)
Mount Horeb.....	6—J. Paul Cummings A. Clement Blount
Eureka.....	7—Herbert A. Fiske
Dade City.....	8—(Not Represented)
Putnam.....	9—E. W. Dixon (Proxy)
Jericho.....	11—J. Forrest Diehl Allen A. Simmon Walter Stephenson
Jacksonville.....	12—Arthur S. Stewart
Ocala.....	13—W. L. Tomlinson
Monroe.....	15—John B. Gove (Proxy)
Plant City.....	16—(Not Represented)
St. Augustine.....	17—C. G. Oldfather (Proxy)
Manatee River.....	18—B. L. Hudgins (Proxy) Henry D. Head
Lake Butler.....	19—John Holloway (Proxy)
Keystone.....	20—George R. Lovejoy (Proxy)
Thomas Brown.....	22—Russell S. Carleton
Lake Worth.....	24—W. E. Froehlich (Proxy)
Live Oak.....	25—J. W. Nelson (Proxy)
Jefferson.....	26—David Winans (Proxy)
Indian River.....	27—H. E. Newson A. F. Thomas
Joppa.....	28—(Not Represented)
Lakeland.....	29—W. B. Talley (Proxy)
Gadsden.....	30—James D. Godwin
St. Petersburg.....	31—Russell E. Strawn
Jackson.....	32—H. A. Duckworth (Proxy)
Eustis.....	33—John E. Marley
Leesburg.....	34—(Not Represented)
Sarasota.....	35—Frederic A. Riegel (Proxy)
Bay County.....	39—C. N. Raffield
Crestview.....	40—J. E. Stewart
Winter Haven.....	41—Glen E. Carpenter
Highlands.....	42—Edward Hasti
Clearwater.....	45—R. I. Carter (Proxy) Ross Haynes (Proxy)
Duval.....	48—Stuart W. Edwards Grady G. Zachry
Nassau.....	49—(Not Represented)
Poinciana.....	50—T. Porter Bartleson
Monroe D. Cushing.....	54—Joe B. Johnson (Proxy)
Hill City.....	55—(Not Represented)

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

Alabama.....	Joseph E. Herring
Alberta.....	Cleveland R. Horne
Arkansas.....	Loren L. Dilger
British Columbia.....	Ford J. DeHaven
California.....	Spencer L. Houston
Canada.....	H. J. Wendland
Colorado.....	H. A. Duckworth
Connecticut.....	Thomas E. Dickenson
Delaware.....	Sumner R. Hall
Dist. of Columbia.....	W. H. Whealton
Georgia.....	James Dawson Yeager
Idaho.....	Sparks Jones
Illinois.....	Archie Aitchison
Kansas.....	Jesse C. Clark
Louisiana.....	Norman C. Edwards
Maryland.....	Henry O. Snow
Massachusetts.....	James Booth
Mississippi.....	W. W. Masters, Jr.
Missouri.....	Harry J. Guy
Montana.....	George Albert Lambe
New Brunswick.....	Carl H. Papier
New Hampshire.....	H. E. Newson
New Jersey.....	William L. Marshall
New South Wales.....	Luther N. Garrett
New York.....	Harry B. Crozier
New Zealand.....	John D. Gove
North Dakota.....	Riley J. McMaster
Nova Scotia.....	A. C. Blount
Ohio.....	Dorsey H. Rutter
Oklahoma.....	William B. Greer
Oregon.....	Frederic A. Riegel
Pennsylvania.....	Orville A. Clark
Queensland.....	John B. Phelps
Rhode Island.....	George R. Lovejoy
South Carolina.....	Addison S. Vance
South Dakota.....	Richard Houghton
Tennessee.....	W. E. Froehlich
Texas.....	Russell W. Houston
Vermont.....	Jesse E. Ramsdell
Victoria.....	Allen A. Simmon
Washington.....	D. M. Winans

The Grand High Priest announced the appointment of the following committees:

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS		
Henry O. Snow	John B. Phelps	Riley J. McMaster
RETURNS AND CREDENTIALS		
Boyd L. Hudgins	Ralph G. Reynolds	Frank A. Vincent
UNFINISHED BUSINESS		
A. C. Blount	H. J. Wendland	J. Forrest Diehl
PROPOSITIONS AND GRIEVANCES		
J. Paul Cummings	T. E. Dickenson	Sparks Jones
DISPENSATIONS AND BY-LAWS		
H. A. Duckworth	George R. Lovejoy	H. E. Newson
THANKS		
C. N. Raffield	Glen E. Carpenter	Russell W. Houston
DISTRIBUTION		
John E. Simmons	A. S. Vance	Charlie E. Hill

The Committee on Distinguished Visitors, introduced the following: O. Frank Hart, M. P. Past General Grand Master and the present General Grand Recorder of the General Grand Council of R. & S. M. of the U. S. A., R. Hammond Etheredge, M. I. Grand Master of the Grand Council of R. & S. M. of South Carolina, Archie Aitchison, Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Florida, Frederic A. Reigel, Grand Master of the Grand Council of R. & S. M. of Florida.

An address of welcome was given by Companion A. S. Stewart of Jacksonville Chapter No. 12. Response by Loren L. Dilger, Grand King of the Grand Chapter of Florida.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MEMORIALS
(which was adopted)

To the M. E. Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Florida:

Companions, we are called today to render thanksgiving in a special manner to the great Jehovah because we are granted the privilege of meeting in this Grand Convocation.

This time last year, our Companions were dying in great numbers in the carnage of war; now, thank God, peace prevails over the whole earth.

We pause in our deliberations to pay homage to our departed Companions, and to greet those who providentially have returned to us.

Our departed Companions presented good work, square work, and true work to the Grand Overseer of the universe and because the laborer is worthy of his hire, have received their eternal reward. They overcame the temptations of life and were given to eat of the hidden manna, and a white stone on which a new name was written. They saw the temple of their life, which had been dedicated to the service of the most high God, completed. They successfully traveled over the rough and rugged road, passed through the veil of mortal life and were received into the Holy of Holies above; there they received that which natural man had lost.

Our active line of Officers remains unbroken but death took its toll from the subordinate Chapters, and also a rugged Past Grand High Priest.

WILLIAM RUSSELL O'NEAL—PAST GRAND HIGH PRIEST

This Illustrious Companion was born in Belpre, Ohio, June 4, 1864 and died in Orlando, Florida, January 22, 1946.

Companion O'Neal was educated as a lawyer. He came to Florida in 1885 and resided in Orlando the remainder of his life. At the age of eighteen, he became a registered sales agent of the Phoenix Life Insurance Co., and at the time of his death, was the oldest living agent of that Company. Soon after coming to Orlando, he and Frank Curtis opened a book and music store. Mr. O'Neal also operated a railroad ticket office where he carried on his insurance business.

He was Postmaster in Orlando for sixteen years. He served as President of the First Federal Savings and Loan Association and as Chairman of the Finance Committee of the American Life Insurance Co.

For fifty years, he was an outstanding leader in the development of Rollins College and during all that time, was a Trustee of that Institution. On five different occasions, he served as acting President of the college, also, he was Legal Advisor, Auditor and Treasurer. It was a great gratification to him that he had signed every diploma of every student to graduate from Rollins College since its inception. This institution awarded him the degree of Doctor of Laws and in 1937, the "Rollins Decoration of Honor" was conferred upon him.

In 1898, the Illustrious Companion joined the First Presbyterian Church of this City. He served as an Elder for forty-five years, but his crowning accomplishment was that he served most efficiently as Sunday School Superintendent for forty-four years. Amid a great concourse of admiring friends, his funeral services were conducted by his Pastor, Dr. M. C. Dendy in the Church he loved and served so efficiently. Under the direction of R. E. Grand Commander, Archie Aitchison, Olivet Commandery K. T. No. 4, conducted the services at the grave.

M. I. Companion O'Neal was raised in Orlando Lodge, F. & A. M., December 8, 1896; Exalted in Eureka Chapter No. 7, R. A. M., December 20, 1898; Knighted in Olivet Commandery March 24, 1899. He was elected Grand Commander, K. T. of Florida, 1915; and Grand High Priest, R. A. M. of Florida, 1916. Joined the Mystic Shrine, in Morocco Temple, 1903 and received the 32nd Degree in the Scottish Rite, 1906. "His life was gentle, and the elements

So mixed in him that all nature must stand up
And say, to all the world, 'This was a MAN'."

A most marked deduction of deaths is reported in our Sister Jurisdiction, yet grievous losses were sustained. The names of these departed Companions are as follows:

- DELAWARE—John Oliver, Past Grand High Priest, born November 2, 1877, died April 22, 1945.
- ILLINOIS—Isaac N. Tomlinson, Past Grand High Priest, born November 2, 1877, died April 22, 1945. David S. Davidson, Past Grand High Priest, born January 29, 1863, died July 10, 1945.
- INDIANA—Stanley G. Myres, Past Grand High Priest, born July 14, 1885, died December 9, 1945.
- KANSAS—Charles W. Garrison, Past Grand High Priest, born July 14, 1880, died January 16, 1946.
- KENTUCKY—Hanson Peterson, Past Grand High Priest and Grand Principal Conductor of Work, born August 10, 1869, died December 20, 1945.
- LOUISIANA—Louis Eschenbrenner, Grand Sentinel, born 1859, died November 15, 1945.
- MAINE—Frederic O. Eaton, Past Grand High Priest, born June 7, 1872, died October 13, 1945.
- MISSISSIPPI—Ray K. Smith, Past Grand High Priest, born July 17, 1886, died June 16, 1945. Jere H. Power, Past Grand High Priest, born July 23, 1865, died October 30, 1945. Clyde J. VanArsdall, Past Grand High Priest, born August 8, 1882, died December 4, 1945.
- MONTANA—Ray M. Armour, Past Grand High Priest, born February 4, 1883, died April 18, 1945. Rev. Oscar A. White, Past Grand Chaplain, born March 21, 1858, died April 15, 1945. Dr. Robert W. Getty, Past Grand High Priest, born January 20, 1868, died May 8, 1945.
- NEBRASKA—Francis E. White, Past Grand High Priest, born January 20, 1848, died June 11, 1945. David C. Hilton, Grand High Priest, born April 22, 1877, died December 12, 1945.
- NEW HAMPSHIRE—William E. Putnam, Past Grand High Priest, born November 24, 1865, died August 17, 1945.
- NEVADA—William B. S. Park, Past Grand High Priest, born January 12, 1879, died June 10, 1945. Charles E. Whitesides, Past Grand High Priest, born November 18, 1860, died June 30, 1945.
- NOVA SCOTIA—George D. MacDougall, Past Grand High Priest, born September 24, 1887, died August 14, 1945.
- OHIO—Clem A. Beal, Grand Scribe, born September 14, 1887, died August 14, 1945.
- OKLAHOMA—Ernest L. Wilson, Past Grand High Priest, born May 16, 1863, died January 19, 1945.
- OREGON—Herbert L. Toney, Past Grand High Priest, born December 21, 1878, died March 3, 1946.

SOUTH DAKOTA—Louis G. Levoy, Past Grand High Priest, born November 12, 1858, died October 16, 1945.

SOUTH CAROLINA—William W. Wannamaker, Past Grand High Priest, born August 17, 1872, died May 21, 1945.

WASHINGTON—Charles G. Smyth, Past Grand High Priest, born September 7, 1865, died September 9, 1945.

WISCONSIN—Fred S. Thompson, Past Grand High Priest, born February 19, 1872, died December 29, 1945. Donald W. Weaver, Past Grand High Priest, born May 27, 1900, died May 7, 1945.

"They are passing away, those dear old friends,
Life a leaf on the current cast,
With never a break in the rapid flow,
We watch them as one by one they go,
In the beautiful past".

"A man's not dead when he is dead
If he was living when alive.
Is Moses dead?
Have prophets ceased to cry
"Thus saith the Lord"?
Is harpist David silent?
The garden grave, though guarded,
Gave up its Christ.
So down the corridors of time
Walk spirits freed of flesh,
Whose length'ning shadows
Build more greatly
Than their hands had wrought.
The dreams and dares and hopes
Of yesterday
Are shining beacons
Through the darkened night,
And brilliant stars
Against tomorrow's morn.
So help us live, O living God,
That each day's work
May be a partnership with thee;
And grant that after honest toil,
When numbered tools are gathered in,
Then may our ended lives—BEGIN".

Courteously and fraternally submitted,

THE COMMITTEE.

A motion prevailed that as the minutes of the last Annual Convocation had been printed and distributed, that they be adopted as printed.

A motion prevailed that seven dollars per diem be granted for those in attendance at this Annual Convocation plus the usual mileage.

A motion prevailed that each High Priest for the year 1945, who may be in attendance at this Annual Convocation be granted mileage and per diem.

ADDRESS OF THE GRAND HIGH PRIEST

(which was adopted with exceptions)

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

Greetings:

Again we are assembled, one year later than was intended when the Companions conferred on me the highest honor in their power by electing me to serve them as Grand High Priest here in this same Temple two years ago.

Now it is my duty to report to you an account of my stewardship for the past two years. When I accepted and was installed as Grand High Priest I had definite plans and a sincere desire to render Masonry, Royal Arch Masonry in particular, a real service. A service that I could be satisfied with and which would be a great benefit to the Craft.

Many unusual things have happened since the 1944 annual convocation. All over the world people have lost faith. Logic does not prevail in discourses; reason and sound thinking seem to have lost power. Truth, that divine attribute and the foundation of every virtue has gone into hiding, and all the combined forces of destruction—relentlessly and viciously—have been destroying life and the things that make living worth while. We hear from many sources of small men in authority that we have won a great victory. We may have won a military victory of destruction. But, the truth is, we are fast losing the greatest war or fight in the history of man. No, there is no peace. The turbulence and suffering caused by the force of evil are far greater today than ever before and are fast obtaining sufficient power to enslave all the people of the earth. Masonry identifies that force and directs your special attention to it and teaches you how to protect and defend itself. How well are we prepared? How well are you informed of the great issues of life? Ask the man in the glass what he is doing to perpetuate the heritage our early Brothers and Companions gave us?

At this time I confess only a very few of the things which I had planned have been accomplished and there is still almost an unlimited amount of work to be done if Masonry is to continue to maintain its rightful place in the great game of life. The responsibilities are ours. We are Masonry in action. We are the living force of that great philosophy of life which has endured the adversities of the negative and destructive force since the beginning of time. Companions, when things go wrong and you feel that Masonry is not accomplishing what it should, or is not what it should be, do not blame Masonry; just look at the man in the glass. Ask him what he is doing, what he knows about Masonry and life, and what he is doing to assist the less informed Brother in acquiring knowledge of the philosophy of life, truth, the development of spirit and understanding, the universal Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man.

At this time I want to thank you for the honor you have conferred on me as your Grand High Priest two years ago. It has been a memorable two years for me. While I have left undone those things which I should have done, and perhaps done those things which I should not have done, I have tried to do my best and sincerely hope you will overlook my shortcomings.

At this time I want to offer the reason for serving you two years. In this I was guided by the wisdom and assistance of a number of the Most Excellent Past Grand High Priests and Grand Council Officers and not by my own convictions and I sincerely hope our actions meet with your approval. Pursuant to this I issued the following:

The order of the office of defense transportation which is in effect, prohibiting the assembly of more than 50 persons using the facilities of defense transportation, has placed your Grand Officers and the Grand Chapter of Florida in a position where they are forced to forego all the plans they had

made for our annual convocation or postpone it until the restrictions were removed, modified or a satisfactory program agreed upon by all representatives and delegates entitled to representation.

On the 16th of May the Council Officers and Jurisprudence Committee met in Jacksonville and discussed the possibility of meeting should the O. D. T. restrictions be modified or removed. After thorough discussion it was unanimously decided that the meeting be postponed until the time for the next annual convocation, the time and place to be decided upon by the Centennial Committee and the Grand Council Officers.

Since it becomes necessary that all of our convocations are held annually the following report of my stewardship less that portion which must be acted upon by the various committees and approved by the Grand Chapter is herewith submitted for your consideration:

VISITATIONS OF GRAND HIGH PRIEST—1944-45

JUNE 20, 1944, QUINCY—Visited Gadsden Chapter No. 20 with M. E. Companions Marshall, Greer and some Companions from Jackson Chapter and other Chapters. There were 36 present. The Companions of that Chapter are to be congratulated on the manner in which they conferred the Royal Arch Degree.

JULY 14, 1944, MIAMI—With R.E. Companion Harry Thompson, M.E. Companion John Phelps, and Excellent Companion Russell West visited Jericho Chapter.

JULY 15, 1944, WINTER HAVEN—With Grand Master Reynolds, John Phelps and their Super Excellent Master Degree team I visited Winter Haven Council and the Super Excellent Master Degree was conferred on a large class. This was an inspiring meeting and much good was accomplished for Masonry.

AUGUST 3, 1944, MARIANNA—Fellowship meeting. Chapters represented—Dothan, Gadsden, Jackson, together with a large number of Master Masons. M.E. Companion Greer gave the main address. Much interest was created especially among Master Masons present.

AUGUST 18, 1944, PENSACOLA—With Eminent Commander L. L. MacKinnon of Chipola Commandery No. 22 and Albert Korst, I visited Mt. Horeb Chapter No. 6. They conferred the Royal Arch Degree on a class of about 33 candidates.

AUGUST 23, 1944, PARKER—Visited 50th Anniversary of Parker Lodge in the interest of Royal Arch Masonry and Bay County Chapter. I was introduced and talked to about 150 Master Masons.

OCTOBER 15, 1944, TAMPA—With Excellent Companion Dr. A. S. Vance, D.D.G.H.P., Excellent Companion Carl Papier, G.R.A.C., and Most Excellent P.G.H.P. Archie Aitchison I visited Monroe D. Cushing Chapter No. 54.

OCTOBER 18, 1944, ST. PETERSBURG—Excellent Companions Dr. A. S. Vance, Papier and Most Excellent Companion Aitchison accompanied me on a visit to St. Petersburg Chapter.

OCTOBER 20, 1944, TAMPA—Visited Tampa Chapter No. 3 with M. E. Companions Snow, McMaster, Stewart, Excellent Companions Vance and Papier. The Companions conferred Mark Master Degree. Your Grand High Priest was presented with Honorary Membership by Tampa Chapter No. 3.

NOVEMBER 20, 1944, ORLANDO—Visited Eureka Chapter with Major Everette E. Dodge, Grand King, Grand Chapter of Wisconsin, P.G.H.P. Rutter, and D.D.G.H.P. Jesse Ramsdell. They conferred the Mark Master Degree.

NOVEMBER 21, 1944, EUSTIS AND LEESBURG—At Eustis I could only find Secretary J. R. Ashmore, who gave me a very complete report about the condition of Eustis Chapter. Needless to say this was anything but good as to activities. Visited Leesburg Lodge in the interest of Leesburg Chapter after a

report from Secretary Pegram. The conditions there were very different from those at Eustis. These Companions have a splendid opportunity to accomplish much for York Rite but had sold themselves on the idea that nothing could be done.

DECEMBER 6, 1944, PENSACOLA—With E. Companion Duckworth and Companion Korst of Jackson Chapter No. 32, visited Mt. Horeb Chapter No. 6.

DECEMBER 15, 1944, ST. PETERSBURG—An official visit of Acting Grand Commander John Phelps with Deputy Grand Commander Aitchison, visited Sunshine Commandery.

DECEMBER 15, 1944, BROOKSVILLE—Visited with the officers of Brooksville Chapter No. 55. They reported exalting eight, with the aid of Ocala Chapter.

DECEMBER 16, 1944, DADE CITY—I called on officers of Dade City Chapter. The Secretary's report was not available. The retiring High Priest made a fair report.

DECEMBER 18, 1944, BRADENTON—With Carl H. Papier and Dr. H. J. Wendland I visited Sarasota and Manatee River Chapters in joint meeting. M.E. Companion Reigel was also present and about 20 Companions.

DECEMBER 19, 1944, TAMPA—Met with the officers of Tampa Chapter No. 3 in the Hillsborough Lodge, in an effort to satisfy the Companions and myself concerning some difficulties that existed there.

JANUARY 12, 1945, MARIANNA—Visited Jackson Chapter No. 32, an official visit to my own chapter.

JANUARY 15, 1945, LAKE BUTLER—Restored Charter to Lake Butler Chapter with the aid of District Deputy Thomas E. Dickenson and Companions from Ocala, Jackson, Gainesville and Halifax Chapters.

JANUARY 17, 1945, WEST PALM BEACH—With Past Grand Commander Joseph E. Borman and others attended Palm Beach Commandery No. 18, K. T. for installation of officers. Past Grand Commander Borman installing and Sir Knight Young as Marshal.

JANUARY 18, 1945, FORT LAUDERDALE—With R.E. Companion Harry Thompson, Excellent Companion J. Russell West and M.E. Companion John Phelps I visited Keystone Chapter No. 20 at an informal meeting.

JANUARY 19, 1945, MIAMI—Had a very pleasant visit with these Sir Knights of Miami Commandery No. 13. They conferred the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross. Your Grand Generalissimo was elected as honorary member of Miami Commandery. No greater honor can anyone receive.

JANUARY 20, 1945, FORT MYERS—With District Deputy Grand High Priest H. J. Wendland I visited an informal meeting at Fort Myers of Poinciana Chapter No. 50.

FEBRUARY 6, 1945, DEFUNIAK SPRINGS—With some of the Companions of Jackson Chapter No. 32 I attended the Grand Master's official visit of the second district at DeFuniak Springs.

FEBRUARY 8, 1945, BLUE LODGE AT GRAND RIDGE, FLORIDA—I attended Grand Master's official visit of our fourth Masonic District at Grand Ridge, Florida. This was a grand meeting and I was received and introduced with all honors that could possibly be given and our Grand Master extended a most generous compliment to Capitular Masonry, endorsing the work of Royal Arch Masons, assuring them they would be suitably rewarded for their efforts.

FEBRUARY 12, 1945, PANAMA CITY—Restored Charter to Bay County Chapter No. 39, assisted by Norman C. Edwards and John Register of Jacksonville and a number of Companions from my own Chapter, Jackson No. 32.

FEBRUARY 19, 1945, OCALA—Accompanied by Thomas E. Dickenson and other Companions of Ocala. Attended reorganization meeting of Eustis Chapter. There were 20 members and visitors present.

FEBRUARY 20, 1945, ORLANDO—We attended regular Blue Lodge meeting in Orlando and I am convinced that they really appreciated having us present.

FEBRUARY 21, 1945, TITUSVILLE—Visited Indian River Chapter No. 27. There were 52 Royal Arch Masons present. I was accompanied by Jesse E. Ramsdell and Companions from Orlando.

FEBRUARY 22, 1945, ORLANDO—Olivet Commandery No. 4. There were 27 present and two petitions received. Order of Red Cross conferred in splendid form.

FEBRUARY 23, 1945, OCALA—Visited Ocala Chapter No. 13. There were 27 present and 11 petitions were on the Secretary's desk. District Deputy Thomas E. Dickenson attended with us.

MARCH 1, 1945—WINTER HAVEN—With M.E. Companion John Phelps and Excellent Companion Richard Houghton visited Winter Haven Chapter No. 41. This was a district meeting of that district. All but one of the chapters of the district was represented. They conferred the M.E.M. Degree.

MARCH 7, 1945, JACKSONVILLE—Attended a York Rite meeting honoring Grand York Rite Officers at Jacksonville. Those present were M.E. Companion John Phelps, Excellent Companions Orville Clark, W. W. Masters, Jr., Richard Houghton, R. E. Joseph E. Herring, Eminent Sir Knights Ford DeHaven, Norman C. Edwards, and J. T. Lord.

MARCH 8, 1945, CRESTVIEW—On Thursday evening, March 8, Crestview Commandery knighted 25. Sir Knights Blount, Dilger, Briggs and several other Sir Knights from Pensacola were present.

APRIL 16, 1945, CRESTVIEW—Visited Crestview Chapter No. 40 with Dr. Budde of Jackson Chapter. Most Excellent and Royal Arch Degrees were conferred.

APRIL 21, 1945, WARSAW—Visited Warsaw Lodge No. 39. There were 31 Master Masons present. These Brothers were very much interested in Royal Arch Masonry work and of the 31 present there were 12 Royal Arch Masons and will be more as the result of this meeting. They informed your Grand High Priest they were going to petition for a charter. This alone will give some idea of their interest.

In reporting the visits I have omitted many visits made in this report. I am reporting only the visits made in the interest of Capitular Masonry. Many of the visits to Commanderies were made in the interest of Masonry only and not reported here.

The following visits were made in 1946:

Gainesville Chapter—January 21, with District Deputy Thomas E. Dickenson and several Companions from Ocala.

St. Augustine Chapter—January 22, accompanied by Albert Korst, a former member of that Chapter.

Nassau Chapter—January 23, visited Fernandina with good intentions, but was disappointed, as the Companions there failed completely. This was the first blank to date.

Jacksonville Chapter—Jan. 24, with M.E.C. Joe E. Herring, Excellent Orville A. Clark, W. W. Masters, Jr., and Ralph Reynolds.

Duval Chapter—January 25, visited Duval Chapter. This is a small Chapter, yet their interest excels and their attendance is encouraging. Ralph Reynolds, Past Grand Commander, W. W. Masters, D.D.G.H.P., accompanied me on this visit.

York Rite meeting at Pensacola—Feb. 23, attended York Rite meeting with M.E. John Phelps.

Visited Leesburg Chapter March 6—Made a second dark meeting. Special report of this experience will be delivered to your incoming Grand H.P.

Visited Winter Haven Chapter March 7—Winter Haven certainly had a splendid Convocation. All Chapters in the District were represented but one.

Visited Jericho Chapter March 8, with Most Excellent John B. Phelps and R.E. Harry Thompson, D.G.H.P.

Visited Joppa Chapter No. 28 March 9—Special meeting. Before opening Chapter, they arranged a special dinner, served by the O.E.S. for all the ladies and visitors.

Visited Bay County Chapter No. 30 March 28—The newest Chapter. These Companions are doing fine. Only a little over a year old. They conferred the Degrees with credit.

Visited Jefferson Chapter April 13, with R.E. Companion Winans and D.D.G.H.P. Bellinger. The Masons of Monticello are laboring under extreme difficulties. Their temple was burned and everything lost in 1945 and their new building has progressed very slowly.

BY-LAWS APPROVED

On April 7, 1945, I approved the following article and Section of By-Laws of Mt. Horeb Chapter No. 6 to read:

"It is hereby proposed that Article VII, Section 2 of By-Laws of Mt. Horeb Chapter No. 6, Royal Arch Masons, as amended February 11, 1943, reducing total fees to \$15.00, be amended to read as follows: The fees for the several degrees conferred in this Chapter shall be \$25.00.

Approved change in By-laws for Lakeland Chapter No. 29, Lakeland, reducing fees from \$35.00 to \$20.00. To hold meetings twice a month on first and third Friday instead of fourth Tuesday for a period of 90 days.

Resolution changing By-laws in regard to fees presented November 3 and adopted November 17, is approved so as to read: "Resolved that the fees for the Capitular degrees of the Royal Arch in Tampa Chapter No. 3, R.A.M., shall be \$30.00."

On November 24, 1944, approved amendment of By-laws of Poinciana Chapter No. 50 to read:

"The regular Convocation of Poinciana Chapter shall be held on the 2nd Tuesday in each month, at 8:00 P.M."

On November 24, 1944, I approved amendment of By-laws of Live Oak Chapter No. 11, so as to read: "From second Friday night to second Tuesday night as adopted by the Companions of that Chapter."

On September 19, 1944, I approved amending By-laws to Clearwater Chapter No. 45 changing regular Convocations from the first and third Friday to the second and fourth Friday.

October 17—Gave permission to Joppa Chapter to change Convocations from the first Friday to the first Thursday night.

On January 26 approved change in By-laws of Tampa Chapter No. 3. Convocations to be held on the first and third Mondays.

March 1, 1944 approved change of Convocations of Lakeland Chapter No. 29 so they would not be on same night as adjoining chapters.

October 4, 1945—Approved change in By-laws of Clearwater Chapter. Changing Convocations from second and fourth Thursdays to first and third Thursday nights.

September 20, 1945—Approved change in By-laws of Keystone Chapter, changing Convocations from second Friday to first and third Mondays.

November 5—Approved By-laws as regularly adopted by Jackson Chapter No. 32.

CONCURRENT JURISDICTION ALONG GEORGIA-FLORIDA AND ALABAMA-FLORIDA LINE

June 27, 1945—I received a request through the Grand Secretary from Grand Secretary R. A. Masons of Georgia concerning jurisdictions of Chapters along the State line. In Georgia they seem to have established a concurrent jurisdiction with all adjoining Grand Jurisdictions provided the adjoining Grand Jurisdiction, also, had concurrent jurisdiction. In answer to the request, after thoroughly checking our records, I wrote to our Grand Secretary as follows:

"The letter addressed to you from the Grand Secretary, Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Georgia concerning jurisdictions of Chapters has been given consideration. On the information I have concerning concurrent jurisdiction with Grand Chapter of Georgia does not specifically state that we have established concurrent jurisdiction and in order to promote the interest of the craft I feel that we should and do hereby concede to the Chapters in the States adjoining ours the privilege of receiving petitions and conferring the Chapter Degrees on citizens of Florida whose residence would be nearer to such Chapter in Georgia and Alabama, providing those Chapters are chartered by the Grand Chapters of Georgia and Alabama; provided that the same privileges are extended to the Chapters of this State by said jurisdictions.

Article VI of our Constitution provides a limit of 5 miles over the State line, provided that there are no organized Chapters of his own jurisdiction within 10 miles of the petitioner's residence.

I requested District Deputy A. S. Vance to install Excellent Companion Carl A. Papier, as Royal Arch Captain, which was complied with on June 7th at a regular Convocation of St. Petersburg Chapter No. 31, assisted by A. F. Battey, Secretary of St. Petersburg Chapter No. 31.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

During the past two years it has been necessary to make several recommendations for representatives near Florida.

7-11-1944—H. A. Duckworth, Marianna.....	Colorado
7-11-1944—Richard Houghton, Bartow.....	South Dakota
3-19-1946—Luther N. Garrett, Jacksonville.....	New South Wales
3-19-1946—Charlie Shaw, Clearwater.....	Western Australia
3-19-1946—Allen A. Simmon, Miami.....	Victoria
3-19-1946—A. C. Blount, Pensacola.....	Nova Scotia
3-19-1946—George R. Lovejoy, Ft. Lauderdale.....	Rhode Island
3-19-1946—H. E. Newson, Cocoa.....	New Hampshire
3-19-1946—H. J. Wendland, Bradenton.....	Canada
3-19-1946—F. J. De Haven, Winter Haven.....	British Columbia

I appointed Grand Representatives near other Grand Jurisdictions of Florida:

5-29-1944—Paul P. Belser—Chelsea, Michigan—near Michigan.
5-18-1944—Jas. MacKenzie—Scotland—near Scotland.
9-11-1944—Howard B. Donaldson—New York—near New York.
10-10-1944—A. E. Davies—Nelson, New Zealand—near New Zealand.
1-10-1945—William Cave—Manitoba—near Manitoba.
3- 3-1945—J. C. McCormick—Devils Lake, N. Dakota—near N. Dakota.
10- 2-1945—Roland J. Pettit—Sackett Harbor, New York—near New York.
5-15-1946—Gerald E. Huonberg—Connecticut—near Connecticut.

CHARTERS

Nassau Chapter No. 49 had no Charter since it was reorganized, as it had either been completely lost or destroyed. Not being able to locate a copy I had a Charter issued and presented to them by D. D. G. H. P. W. W. Masters.

Jefferson Chapter No. 26 Temple burned and lost the Charter and a new Charter was issued and delivered to the office on May 13.

DISPENSATIONS

September 26—Granted special dispensation to act on petition at special convocation at the request of St. Petersburg Chapter No. 31.

October 30—Approved action of High Priest of Tampa Chapter No. 3 in regard to balloting and conferring degrees on candidates. A complete record of this is in the files, turned over to the Grand Secretary and I felt that the errors that may have been made were in good faith and the interest of Masonry was not impaired; therefore, felt that no harm could be done by approving their actions.

June 19, 1944—Issued Jackson Chapter No. 32 dispensation to elect High Priest on June 19.

July 11, 1944—Issued special dispensation to St. Augustine Chapter No. 17 for election of officers.

February 5, 1945—Issued dispensation to Halifax Chapter No. 5 to elect High Priest and any other office that may be vacated by such election.

March 26, 1945—Issued dispensation to Jefferson Chapter to meet in Court House until such time as new building is completed.

February 28, 1945—Issued Lakeland Chapter No. 29 dispensation to hold election of officers for 1945.

November 28, 1944—Granted dispensation to Tampa Chapter No. 3 to open Chapter at 7 o'clock instead of 8 o'clock, the stated hour, for the purpose of electing officers and preparation.

June 9, 1944—Received request on June 9th from Monroe Chapter No. 15 to elect Secretary. I replied that no dispensation was necessary referring them to Section 12 of the Constitution.

Refused dispensation to conduct regular business at a special meeting.

MONUMENTS

On July 4, 1944—Appointed the following committees on monuments:

L. L. Dilger, Jesse Clark and F. C. Briggs on monument for Joseph R. Keller.

John Phelps and Ralph Reynolds on monument for F. B. Stoneman.

David Winans and W. L. Marshall and W. H. Bellinger on monument for Dabney B. Palmer.

Joseph E. Herring, Orville Clark, and W. W. Masters, Jr., on monument for J. Lloyd Head.

November 15, 1944—Committee reported M. E. Companion Frank Stoneman was cremated and his ashes placed in the new building of the Miami Herald.

February 9, 1945—W. L. Marshall made report on monument of D. B. Palmer. This report was submitted to the Grand Master of the Grand Council for his approval. On being approved by both bodies the monument was erected and completed on April 10, 1945.

February 9, 1945—Joseph E. Herring made oral report on J. Lloyd Head, which I approved. This has not been completed as of date of this report.

On October 4, 1944—Received a report of committee on monument for J. R. Keller from Loren L. Dilger which I approved.

Material was not available to make suitable plate at time report was approved.

April 25—Was informed material was now available so I ordered bronze plate from Gulf Brass Works of Tampa, Florida, for marker on monument of J. R. Keller as recommended by the Committee. The file will be turned over to the incoming G. H. P.

January 29—Requested John D. Gove to arrange for suitable monument for Companion O'Neil.

Failed to appoint anyone to arrange for monument for Most Excellent Companions T. P. Warlow and John L. Hall, and refer this to the incoming Grand High Priest.

ESSENTIALS

Soon after I was installed as your Grand High Priest, I began receiving many requests for Essentials. In an effort to locate these Essentials, the Grand Secretary sent me his records which were made when W. P. Webster was Grand Secretary. I immediately wrote to all those District Deputies that had received these Essentials and received the following reply from all but five.

On March 14, 1945, John Pasco stated that he could not find any records of the Essentials referred to in his receipt and had no Essentials at the present time.

On December 8, 1944, H. J. Dame reported he could not locate Essentials and did not remember who succeeded him. It is possible that they may be stored in Fort Pierce in the law office of D. C. Smith with other Masonic matters. The records were checked there and no Essentials located.

On February 21, 1945, Riley J. McMaster reported he could not locate the Essentials nor a record of where they could be.

On November 15, 1944, Stafford Caldwell reported that he was unable to locate the Essentials and would let me know if he could find them among his 35 years accumulations deposited in the files.

On December 16, 1944, T. T. Todd returned Rituals but was unable to find or locate any Essentials.

Archie Aitchison reported that the Ritual he had was evidently passed on to Frederick Riegel, Sarasota, Florida.

C. A. Bangert reported that the Ritual he had was returned when Lloyd Head was Grand High Priest at Tampa. The Essentials turned over to Thomas E. Dickenson, District Deputy Grand High Priest at Ocala, Florida. Thomas E. Dickenson returned this copy to the Grand Secretary.

Letter to Alex B. Steuart at Tampa, Florida, was returned unclaimed.

Chester C. Snow, Daytona Beach, Florida, letter returned, moved away several years ago. No forwarding address.

I have received no answer from other five letters about Essentials.

EDUCATIONAL LOAN FUND

The Grand Secretary informs me that there is \$771.58 in this fund.

In 1944 I requested the Educational Committee to collect all that was possible on this account and I wish now to compliment them on their accomplishment.

I have given this account a lot of careful study and I have been forcibly convinced the manner in which it has been handled we have made a complete

failure in accomplishing any good. I, therefore, recommend that this account be closed and turned into the general fund and closed out as a separate account and that all money now outstanding be collected and turned into the general fund. In closing this account, I do not mean that the Masonic Education of the members of the craft should be discontinued, but feel that much more good can be accomplished by setting up under the directions of the Grand High Priest a committee on Education. This committee to be composed only of well-informed Masons and to operate in much the same manner and charged with the same duties as the committee on work in the Grand Lodge of Florida. This committee may be composed of only one or two members, together with the Grand High Priest and could accomplish greater results by working directly through the District; holding schools of instructions as many times as they deem necessary in order to get all of the Deputies well enough informed to instruct the Chapters in their District, and that the expense of this committee and the District Deputy be budgeted and paid from the general fund.

PUBLICATION

After having served you for over one year and a half, with a sincere desire to try and unite Masons and bring about a closer Fraternal relationship, I have also become convinced that a monthly publication issued to every Royal Arch Mason in this Grand Jurisdiction, giving them information and a method of communication or from every Chapter and the Grand Officers, with the Council and Grand Commandery would be one of the best investments in the interest of Masonry that could possibly be made. In order to prove this, I attempted to issue a monthly news letter, placing it in the hands of all the members that I had a mailing list of and was pleasantly surprised at the reaction I received. When I started it I had plans to carry it on through to the end of my term of office. In this I failed, due to conditions beyond my control.

Now, I earnestly recommend that this Grand Chapter provide some means and set up the necessary requirements to continue a publication and provide funds to finance it for one year, this to be done under the direction of the Grand High Priest through a committee carefully selected for that purpose.

This will require considerable funds and it will necessitate the raising of per capita tax approximately thirty-five cents per member in order to issue a sufficient number to cover our membership. If we start this program, I think this should be made as a special appropriation or to be called a special fund.

You all know our present per capita is only one dollar per member which is not sufficient to carry on the actual necessary expense of the Grand Chapter, as it should be in keeping with the dignity of our order.

In order to get our financial condition in better shape and be able to accomplish the things most needed, I recommend a budget system be set up and our per capita tax be raised so as to bring in sufficient revenue to take care of the necessary expenses and to provide sufficient funds to publish the monthly news letter. This to be done by a special finance committee under the direction of the Grand High Priest with the committee on publication.

LAKE BUTLER

Soon after restoring the Charter of the Lake Butler Chapter they requested from our Grand Secretary a reimbursement of the funds collected when the charter was arrested.

I referred this request to the Jurisprudence Committee for an opinion of what could be done as there is nothing in our Constitution, rules and regulations covering a situation of this kind that I could find. The committee varied in opinion. I, therefore, notified Lake Butler their request would be referred to the Grand Chapter at its next Annual Convocation for their consideration.

In considering this I believe that the Grand Chapter should set up or outline, either by regulation or otherwise, definite instructions limiting the time

in which Chapters may petition for restoration of Charter and disposition of funds and equipment taken up when Charters are arrested. I earnestly recommend that Lake Butler be given due consideration and that you will in your action eliminate any question of this kind in the future.

I signed vouchers 1-28 inclusive and 1-31 inclusive in amount of \$5,518.71.

EXPENSE ACCOUNT

Up to April 1, 1945, I made 30 visits to Chapters out of Marianna, traveling 8,538 miles at an actual expense of.....	\$584.44	
Postage	35.00	
Mimeographing and Stationery	15.00	
Less the stationery furnished or ordered by the Grand Secretary.		
From April, 1945, to May 17, 1946, I made 16 visits out of Marianna on special Chapter work. The actual expense account was lost when my briefcase was removed from my car while I was in Gainesville and I do not know what they amounted to.		
Actual mileage traveled on these visits since April 16, 1945, was 2,780 miles at 5c per mile.....	\$139.00	
Postage	44.00	
Mimeographing and Stationery	64.00	
Less the stationery furnished through the Grand Secretary's offices.		
Paid expense of District D. G. H. P.....	47.40	
Total Amount	\$928.84	
By Check		\$634.44
Credit by difference between actual expense to April 16 and 5c per mile allowed by the Grand Chapter.....		\$158.54
Balance	\$135.66	

DISTRICT DEPUTIES AND GRAND OFFICERS

During 1944-1945 the Districts were carried on just as they had been set up by Most Excellent Grand High Priest Joe Herring. During that year two more Chapters were added. I, then found that it was going to be necessary to add other Deputies or change the District. I, thought it best to make such changes in the Districts, to enable the Deputies to visit without traveling so far and to visit frequently. In so doing, the state is now divided into 10 Districts, beginning with Miami District No. 1 and No. 10 in the West. This arrangement seemed to prove very satisfactory during 1945 and up to the present time. My records and files on this will be turned over to the incoming Grand High Priest.

If it were not for the splendid work of the District Deputies, no Grand High Priest would ever be able to do so much, for upon them depends our accomplishments. Had it not been for the splendid work of these Deputies, I would have accomplished but little.

At the beginning of 1944, our membership was 3,172. Now I am informed that our present membership is over 5,000.

When I called a meeting of the District Deputies at the beginning of this year, some of them asked to be relieved. I, therefore, made such changes as was necessary and added one record of which is attached to this report.

In the past two years the cooperation of the Grand Officers has been one of the most encouraging anyone could ever hope to have, especially John Phelps, the Grand Secretary who has always been on the job and never called upon for anything that he did not promptly give. I must also mention the assistance and encouragement given by Most Excellent Companion O'Neill. His experience and knowledge of the Craft has rendered me invaluable assistance. To these two Companions I owe a great portion of my success. If I have ac-

complished anything for the good of Masonry it has been due to the cooperation and assistance of this group of officers and the Companions throughout the state. For everything you have done I now wish to thank you.

In the past two years we have made splendid progress not only in enlarging our membership but the improvement in interest and knowledge of what we are doing. The contributions that you have so unselfishly made in the interest of Masonry are commendable.

While we have made wonderful progress in membership and interest let us also consider the loss we have sustained in freedom of assembling as well as other privileges, so that we may be as successful in our progress overcoming them as we have been in our accomplishments physically.

In considering the course of events leading to our present condition we are forcibly reminded of destruction of Masonry in other countries and of the influence of the same force in our midst, and to which the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter of the U. S. A. directs our attention in the Constitution and duties of the General Grand Officers.

SECTION 12: "Whereas, Royal Arch Masons note with concern the activities of certain organizations and groups whose principles, theories and tenets are in absolutely irreconcilable conflict with the fundamental and constitutional government and the rights of citizens of such governments to liberty, to freedom of speech and of conscience, and to the fruits of their honest labor, in that they would destroy the family as an institution and wipe out every other institution in the community which fosters and encourages patriotism, morality and religion, and would rear youth in the belief that the worship of Almighty God is the mark of superstition and decadence; and

WHEREAS, the success of such subversive organizations in their aims would destroy the very civilization which Masonry has helped to build and would debase all mankind; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America in Triennial Convocation assembled that it denounce all and several of the bodies, groups, parties, cliques and movements which seek under the cover of the protection afforded by our democratic form of government to undermine our institutions, to destroy our liberties, to shatter our faith in God, and to crush out in crass materialism every spiritual impulse in the hearts of men, and calls upon Royal Arch Masons throughout the world to combat to the uttermost these baleful and pernicious influences, wherever and however and under whatever name they may manifest themselves".

I recommend this resolution adopted by the General Grand Chapter to the serious consideration of every Mason as we are now faced with a challenge never before existing since the revival of Masonry in 1717. Never before has there been such a necessity for a true knowledge and understanding of our teachings as at the present time. At no time in the past has there ever been such a demand for Masons to unite in a universal understanding of those principles and precepts so that we may move forward as a united, harmonious organized body to overcome the force of those subversive organizations referred to by the General Grand Chapter.

Many well informed Masons have called our attention to the increasing influence of this force and the necessity for us to fortify ourselves with knowledge of their activity so we can unite on a progressive program that will overcome this force and perpetuate our existence, *therefore let us not be found wanting.*

Fraternally submitted,

G. A. LAMBE,
Grand High Priest.

A motion prevailed that the address of the Grand High Priest be referred to the Committee on Distribution.

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT
(which was adopted)

The M. E. Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Florida:

Your Grand Treasurer submits the following report:

May 1st, 1944—Balance Page 14—Proceedings 1944.....	\$ 3,574.19
Received from Grand Secretary.....	5,146.71
	<u>\$8,720.90</u>

DISBURSEMENTS

Warrant No. 23	\$ 8.70
Payroll	707.23
Warrants 1-31 inclusive—less No. 29	2,352.61
Bank Charges	1.09
May 1st, 1945—Balance	\$ 5,651.27
Received from Grand Secretary.....	6,344.84
	<u>\$11,996.11</u>

DISBURSEMENTS

Warrants 1-28 inclusive	\$2,927.10
Bank Charges62
Balance	\$ 9,068.39
May 1st, 1946—First National Bank of Tampa.....	\$9,253.74
Less Warrants Nos. 26-27-28 outstanding	185.35
	<u>\$9,068.39</u>

INVESTMENTS

U. S. Baby Bonds 7/1/1944	\$2,490.00
Accrued Earnings 5/1/46	60.00
	<u>\$2,550.00</u>

EDUCATIONAL LOAN FUND

May 1st 1944—Balance	\$ 397.83
Received from Grand Secretary	365.00
Bank Interest	8.75
	<u>\$ 771.58</u>

First National Bank of Tampa	
Savings Account No. 50601.....	\$771.58

Fraternally submitted,

RILEY J. McMASTER,
Grand Treasurer.

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT
(which was adopted)

To the M. E. Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of the State of Florida:

Your Grand Secretary submits the following report.

All commissions for Grand Representatives were issued or forwarded promptly.

RETURNS

Tampa No. 3, overpaid 1945 dues in the amount of	\$ 5.00
Putnam No. 9, overpaid 1945 dues in the amount of	2.00
Plant City No. 16, owes an old balance of	119.00
St. Augustine No. 17, paid all balance due on old account.....	75.00
Lake Butler No. 19, overpaid 1945 dues in the amount of	3.00
Live Oak No. 27, paid \$20.00 on old account—owes a balance of.....	80.00
Poinciana No. 50, overpaid 1945 dues in the amount of	1.00

All other Chapters have paid their dues and made proper returns.

STATISTICS

The number of members listed last year—page No. 4	3,962
Exalted	903
Reinstated	197
Affiliated	127

Total additions

1,227

DEDUCTIONS

Died	63
Demitted	82
Suspended	37

Total deductions

182

Total membership at the end of the year 1945.....	5,007
Net gain for the year 1945	1,045
Emeritus members	157
Ministers	174

Total exemptions

331

FINANCE

Balance in Bank as shown on page No. 4, of 1945 proceedings.....	\$ 5,659.97
Receipts all sources	6,344.84
Total	\$11,004.81
Disbursements—	
Warrants No. 1 to 28	\$2,927.10
Bank charges62
Total disbursements	\$2,927.72

Balance in Banks as of May 1st, 1946

\$9,077.09

EDUCATIONAL LOAN FUND

Balance in Bank as of May 1st, 1945.....	\$ 426.80
Receipts from payments on loans	340.00
Interest on Savings	4.78

Balance in Bank as of May 1st, 1946

\$ 771.58

Fraternally submitted,

JOHN B. PHELPS,
Grand Secretary.

A motion prevailed that the reports of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary be referred to the Committee on Distribution.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DISTRIBUTION
(which was adopted)

To the M. E. Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Florida:

Your Committee on Distribution reports as follows:

We recommend that, that portion of the Grand High Priest's address as refers to memorials be referred to the Committee on Memorials. That portion referring to finances be referred to the Committee on Finance, and all portions of his address where it refers to the law of Capitular Masonry be referred to the Committee on Capitular Jurisprudence.

We recommend that, that portion of the Grand Secretary's and Treasurer's reports that refers to finances be referred to the Committee on Finance, and that portion which refers to returns and credentials be referred to the Committee on Returns and Credentials.

Respectfully submitted,

THE COMMITTEE.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON UNFINISHED BUSINESS
(which was adopted)

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida:

Your Committee on Unfinished Business, having examined the Proceedings of the last Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Florida, find the following items to report:

Until present time there has not been presented a Constitution, Rules and Regulations for adoption in accordance with the proposed amendment shown on page 17 of the 1944 Proceedings relative to Section 5, Article 4. We know of no action being presented to this Grand Chapter for consideration.

After submitting the foregoing items, we find nothing further for the action of this committee.

Fraternally submitted,

THE COMMITTEE.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PROPOSITIONS AND GRIEVANCES
(which was adopted)

To the M. E. Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Florida:

Your Committee on Propositions and Grievances is pleased to report that no matters have been referred to it for consideration.

Peace and harmony prevails throughout this Grand Jurisdiction.

Respectfully submitted,

THE COMMITTEE.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RETURNS AND CREDENTIALS
(which was adopted)

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

We, your Committee on Returns and Credentials, find that the list of Grand Officers and Grand Representatives of Chartered Chapters are correct as furnished by the Grand Secretary at roll call.

We find that all Chapters are represented except:

St. Johns No. 4, Dade City No. 8, Plant City No. 16, Joppa No. 28, Leesburg No. 34, Nassau No. 49, and Hill City No. 55.

All Chapters have made correct returns and paid their dues with the following exceptions:

Tampa No. 3, overpaid 1945 dues	\$ 5.00
Putnam No. 9, overpaid 1945 dues	2.00
Plant City No. 16, owes an old balance of	119.00
St. Augustine No. 17, paid all balance due	75.00
Lake Butler No. 19, overpaid 1945 dues	3.00
Live Oak No. 27, paid \$20.00 on old account, owes a balance of.....	80.00
Poinciana No. 50, overpaid 1945 dues.....	1.00

Fraternally submitted,

THE COMMITTEE.

REPORT ON DISPENSATION AND BY-LAWS
(which was adopted)

To the M. E. Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Florida:

We, your Committee on Dispensations and By-Laws, find that all matters submitted by the Grand High Priest have been properly done.

Respectfully submitted,

THE COMMITTEE.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THANKS
(which was adopted)

To the M. E. Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Florida:

We, the members of your Committee on Thanks, wish to express our deepest appreciation to the Companions of Jacksonville Chapter No. 12, for their excellent hospitality extended to this Grand Chapter. They received our Grand Officers in royal fashion.

We are not unmindful of the vast amount of effort which they have exerted extending through many weeks in preparation for our coming. For many, they have made reservations in the various hotels and publicized the coming of our Grand Bodies through their newspapers. We wish to thank these newspapers for the splendid cooperation which they have given you, and the courtesy with which they received us.

We, also, are not unmindful of the vast amount of effort which the ladies of our host Companions, and the ladies of the Eastern Star Chapters have exerted in preparation for the entertainment of our visiting ladies.

We recall that in the early years of the Grand Chapter, this was our permanent home and while we have enjoyed visiting in other parts of the

State, we are always happy to come home to Jacksonville and this Temple, made dear and sacred to us by the associations of Companions of other days.

Respectfully submitted,

THE COMMITTEE.

Companion O. A. Clark made a verbal report relative to a monument for our late Companion J. Lloyd Head, Past Grand High Priest. The report was accepted and the committee discharged.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON JURISPRUDENCE
(which was adopted)

To the M. E. Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Florida:

We, your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was submitted such portions of the report of the M. E. Grand High Priest, would respectfully report that we have examined the same, and congratulate the M. E. Grand High Priest on the energy and attention which he has given to the office during these most trying times.

The increase in membership over the past year speaks well of the effort which he and his associates have made.

We have numbered "by-laws approved" from one to fourteen inclusive. We approve all of these.

We have numbered the dispensations granted from one to eight inclusive. Relative to number one we approve, inasmuch as the candidate was in the Armed Service and was about to be called overseas. We approve number two, three and five. We also approve numbers four, six and seven, but these dispensations were not necessary.

Relative to concurrent jurisdiction, along the Georgia-Florida line, and along the Alabama-Florida line, we find that the Grand High Priest was correct and that his decision was in accord with the laws of this Grand Chapter.

We commend the action of the Grand High Priest relative to the Order of DeMolay at Orlando. However, we advise that the subject matter be not printed in the Proceedings.

Respectfully submitted,

THE COMMITTEE.

Each of the District Deputies made reports on the activities of the Constituent Chapters in this area. The reports were very gratifying to all present as it was shown that every Chapter in the State of Florida is now active and doing very good work.

The Grand Chapter of Florida is exceedingly grateful to these fine Deputies for their splendid work.

Companion O. Frank Hart made a splendid address at this time. We of Florida hold Companion Hart in the highest esteem and an Annual Convocation without his presence would be void of one of its greatest attractions.

A motion prevailed that Companion William L. Marshall have printed and distributed copies of the proposed Constitution to the

following: One copy to each of the Grand Officers; 1 copy to each of the Past Grand High Priests; and 1 copy each to the High Priest, King and Scribe of each of the Constituent Chapters.

The committee appointed by the Grand High Priest for procuring a suitable monument for the late Companion William R. O'Neal, made their report and the Grand Chapter authorized this committee to purchase the monument proposed.

Many of the High Priests of our Constituent Chapters addressed the Grand Chapter on the activities of their Chapter.

A motion prevailed that a thousand dollar bond be purchased with the money now in the Educational Loan Fund.

At this time the Grand High Priest called for election of officers, with the following results:

Harry R. Thompson.....	<i>Grand High Priest</i>
Loren L. Dilger.....	<i>Deputy Grand High Priest</i>
David M. Winans.....	<i>Grand King</i>
Leslie C. Bortle.....	<i>Grand Scribe</i>
Riley J. McMaster.....	<i>Grand Treasurer</i>
John B. Phelps.....	<i>Grand Secretary</i>
Dorsey H. Rutter.....	<i>Grand Chaplain</i>

The Grand High Priest-elect announced the following appointments:

Carl H. Papier.....	<i>Grand Captain of the Host</i>
Orville A. Clark.....	<i>Grand Principal Sojourner</i>
Richard Houghton.....	<i>Grand Royal Arch Captain</i>
Wilbur W. Masters, Jr.....	<i>Grand Master of the Third Veil</i>
Thomas E. Dickenson.....	<i>Grand Master of the Second Veil</i>
Harmon E. Newson.....	<i>Grand Master of the First Veil</i>
F. Carlton Briggs.....	<i>Grand Sentinel</i>

At this time, an invitation was issued by the High Priest of Florida Chapter No. 1 on behalf of the Companions of that Chapter to the Grand Chapter of Florida to hold its next Annual Convocation in the City of Tallahassee. This invitation was accepted and the Third Tuesday in June of 1947 was designated as the time.

A motion prevailed to refund to Lake Butler Chapter No. 19, such moneys represented by the difference between the amount collected from this Chapter at the time their Charter was arrested (which was three hundred dollars) and the amount actually due the Grand Chapter by Lake Butler Chapter.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
(which was adopted)

To the M. E. Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Florida:

We, your Committee, have examined the books of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, and find them correct with the following:

First National Bank of Tampa (General Fund).....	\$ 9,068.39
First National Bank of Tampa (U.S. Bonds).....	2,550.00

We have examined the books of the Secretary and Treasurer of the Educational Loan Fund, and find them correct with a balance in the

First National Bank of Tampa.....	\$ 771.58
Grand Total.....	\$12,389.97

From the General Fund of \$9,068.39, we recommend the following appropriations:

Pay Roll attached.....	\$ 1,503.25
Balance in full Expenses Grand High Priest.....	135.66
And District Deputies.....	36.45
Typing Constitution for W. L. Marshall.....	19.85
Rental — Masonic Temple.....	20.00
Pro-rata on badges.....	7.00
Grand Secretary salary.....	800.00
Grand Treasurer salary.....	100.00
O. Frank Hart, Grand Recorder Gen. Grand Council.....	30.00
R. H. Etheredge, M.I.G.M. Grand Council of S. Car.....	10.00
For purchase of Government Bonds.....	3,000.00
Pro-rata expense of banquet served in Morocco Temple.....	152.85

That the Grand Secretary be authorized to draw warrants, and the Grand Treasurer pay same, for the expenses of the Grand High Priest to attend the Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter of the U.S.A. Also that the Grand Secretary be authorized to purchase and have ready for presentation, a Past Grand High Priest apron, jewel, watch or ring, whichever is selected, at our next annual Convocation, and that the Grand Secretary be authorized to draw warrants and the Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay same for the necessary expenses of this Grand Chapter while in recess.

Respectfully submitted,

THE COMMITTEE.

Companion Harry R. Thompson, Grand High Priest-elect, requested Companion John B. Phelps, P.G.H.P., and the present Grand Secretary to install the officers who had been chosen to serve the Grand Chapter for the ensuing year. Companion Phelps, assisted by Companion Henry O. Snow, P.G.H.P., as Grand Marshal, installed the officers.

The Grand High Priest appointed the following committees:

JURISPRUDENCE

George A. Lambe.....5 years
 Joseph E. Herring.....4 years Dorsey H. Rutter.....2 years
 William L. Marshall.....3 years William B. Greer.....1 year

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

George Albert Lambe

PRINTING

John B. Phelps

HISTORY

John B. Phelps

Ralph G. Reynolds

Leslie C. Bortle

MEMORIALS

Dorsey H. Rutter

John D. Gove

Archie Aitchison

CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

William L. Marshall

William B. Greer

Robert A. Gray

FINANCE

Jesse E. Ramsdell, 3 years Russell W. Houston, 2 years
 Joel A. Fite, 1 year

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS

District

- 1 George R. Lovejoy
- 2 H. J. Wendland
- 3 S. A. Salter
- 4 Richard Houghton
- 5 H. A. Fisk

District

- 6 Thomas E. Dickenson
- 7 W. J. Walker
- 8 W. H. Bellinger
- 9 H. A. Duckworth
- 10 C. Paul Cummings

John B. Phelps presented George Albert Lambe a Past Grand High Priest Jewel and Apron.

No further business appearing, the Grand Chapter closed in ample form with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

Attest:

John B. Phelps.
 Grand Secretary

Harry R. Thompson.
 Grand High Priest

ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD

Annual assembly May 22nd, A. D. 1946, A. B. 3859.

The annual assembly of the Order of High Priesthood was held on the seventh floor of the Masonic Temple in the City of Jacksonville, Wednesday morning, May 22nd, A. D. 1946, A. B. 3859, at 8:00 A.M. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The roll call showed the following officers present:

William B. Greer.....*President*
 Archie Aitchison.....*Vice President*
 Dorsey H. Rutter.....*Chaplain*
 John B. Phelps.....*Secretary-Treasurer*
 Russell W. Houston.....*Acting Master of Ceremonies*
 Loren L. Dilger.....*Acting Conductor*
 Jesse E. Ramsdell.....*Acting Herald*
 Richard E. Houghton.....*Acting Steward*
 Ford J. DeHaven.....*Acting Sentinel*

The reading of the minutes of the last annual assembly having been printed and distributed, were dispensed with and they were adopted as printed.

The Secretary-Treasurer made his report showing that he had on deposit in the First Savings Loan Association of Miami the sum of \$339.29 as of May 15th, 1946. From this amount was to be deducted \$82.42, which was the cost of 25 Bibles ordered by the President. The motion prevailed that the report be adopted.

The motion prevailed that the fees be set at the sum of \$5.00 for each membership.

Election of officers resulted as follows:

William B. Greer.....*President*
 Archie Aitchison.....*Vice President*
 Dorsey H. Rutter.....*Chaplain*
 John B. Phelps.....*Secretary-Treasurer*
 Russell W. Houston.....*Master of Ceremonies*
 Loren L. Dilger.....*Conductor*
 Jesse E. Ramsdell.....*Herald*
 Richard E. Houghton.....*Steward*
 Ford J. DeHaven.....*Sentinel*

Petitions for the Order were received from the Present and Past High Priests which were accepted and elected to receive the Order as follows:

J. T. Williams, Florida Chapter No. 1.
 Ancil N. Payne, Gainesville Chapter No. 2.
 Antonio Muniz, Tampa Chapter No. 3.
 J. Paul Cummings, Mount Horeb Chapter No. 6.
 Frederick C. Briggs, Mount Horeb Chapter No. 6.
 Herbert A. Fisk, Eureka Chapter No. 7.
 James D. Yeager, Jericho Chapter No. 11.
 J. Forrest Diehl, Jericho Chapter No. 11.
 Arthur S. Stewart, Jacksonville Chapter No. 12.
 K. G. Soderbloom, Monroe Chapter No. 15.
 Charles G. Oldfather, St. Augustine Chapter No. 17.
 George R. Lovejoy, Keystone Chapter No. 20.
 J. W. Nelson, Live Oak Chapter No. 25.
 Herman E. Newson, Indian River Chapter No. 27.
 James D. Godwin, Gadsden Chapter No. 30.
 Russell E. Strawn, St. Petersburg Chapter No. 31.
 Walter W. Caffyn, St. Petersburg Chapter No. 31.
 William R. Sprague, St. Petersburg Chapter No. 31.
 H. A. Duckworth, Jackson Chapter No. 32.
 John E. Marley, Eustis Chapter No. 33.
 Frank B. Knoff, Winter Haven Chapter No. 41.
 Edward Hasti, Highlands Chapter No. 42.
 T. Porter Bartleson, Poinciana Chapter No. 50.
 Coy N. Raffield, Bay County Chapter No. 39.
 Stewart W. Edwards, Duval Chapter No. 48.

The above named candidates were all anointed, consecrated and set apart to the Order of High Priesthood.

A motion prevailed that the Secretary-Treasurer be given \$25 for his services and expenses.

Minutes were read and adopted and the Council closed with prayer by the Chaplain.

JOHN B. PHELPS,
Secretary

WILLIAM B. GREER,
President

To the Memory of the
 Companions of This Grand
 Jurisdiction

Who have passed on to that eternal life
 during the year

—
 This Page we fraternally dedicate

*God of the living, in whose eyes
 Unveiled thy whole creation lies,
 All souls are thine; we must not say
 That those are dead who pass away,
 From this, our world of flesh set free,
 We know them living unto thee.*

—John Ellerton.



LIVING PAST GRAND HIGH PRIESTS

With the Year of Service and Address

1920	Henry O. Snow.....	First National Bank Building, Tampa
1924	Earl L. Wirt.....	Babson Park
1925	T. T. Todd.....	Pensacola
1926	E. L. Shear.....	147 Fairview Ave., Daytona Beach
1928	Riley J. McMaster.....	2911 Angeles St., Tampa
1929	John Pasco.....	P. O. Box 47, Raleigh, N. C.
1930	Stafford Caldwell.....	Tallahassee
1931	Alex B. Steuart.....	c/o McDonald Const. Co., Lakeland
1932	William B. Greer.....	Quincy
1934	Archie Aichison.....	2600 Fairfield Ave. So., St. Petersburg
1935	George A. Dame.....	Fernandina
1936	Cleveland R. Horne.....	Tallahassee
1938	John B. Phelps.....	P. O. Box 283, Miami
1939	Jesse C. Clark.....	P. O. Box 521, Pensacola
1940	Dorsey H. Rutter.....	205 Oak Street, Melbourne
1941	Frederic A. Riegel.....	1021 Citrus Ave. So., Sarasota
1941	Dr. F. William Schultz (Honorary).....	Sarasota
1942	Wm. L. Marshall.....	322 E. Call St., Tallahassee
1943	Joseph Edward Herring.....	324 E. Seventh St., Jacksonville
1944-46	George Albert Lambe.....	Marianna

OFFICERS
of the
 General Grand Chapter
of
 Royal Arch Masons
of the
 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1944-1945-1946

Ray Vaughn Denslow.....	Trenton, Missouri	<i>General Grand High Priest</i>
Early Hurt Johnson.....	Court House, Columbus, Georgia	<i>General Grand King</i>
Edward Whipple Spottswood.....	Missoula, Montana	<i>General Grand Scribe</i>
Edmund Elmer Morris.....	Union National Bank, Kansas City, Mo.	<i>General Grand Treasurer</i>
Roscoe Raymond Walcutt.....	1605 Eight E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio	<i>General Grand Secretary</i>
Earl Elliot Dusenbery.....	209 Masonic Temple, Des Moines, Iowa	<i>General Grand Capt. of Host</i>
Robert J. Janes.....	1 Fifth Avenue, New York City, N. Y.	<i>General Grand Principal Sojourner</i>
Tom Q. Ellis.....	Jackson, Mississippi	<i>General Grand Royal Arch Captain</i>
Albert Leon.....	93-95 Smith Street, Perth Amboy, N. J.	<i>General Grand Master of Third Veil</i>
Walter Charles Haight.....	P. O. Box 127, Visalia, California	<i>General Grand Master of Second Veil</i>
Ward Abram Rowbottom.....	705 East Wells Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin	<i>General Grand Master of First Veil</i>
William Ewart Pool.....	207 Van Brunt Street, Mankato, Minnesota	<i>General Grand Custodian of Work</i>
Harry Warner Harvey.....	7511 University Avenue, Chicago, Illinois	<i>General Grand Custodian of Work Emeritus</i>
James Luther Jordan.....	P. O. Box 747, Baton Rouge, Louisiana	<i>General Grand Sentinel</i>
Henry Fitzhugh Collins.....	Camden, South Carolina	<i>General Grand Chaplain</i>