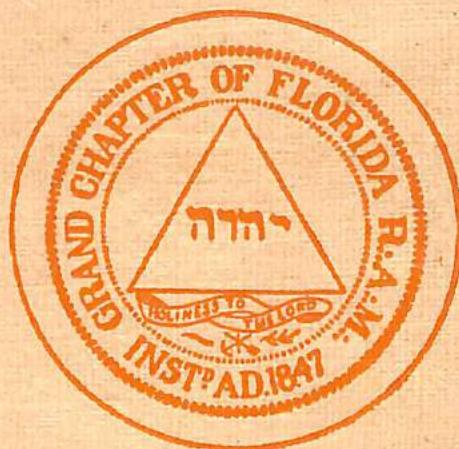
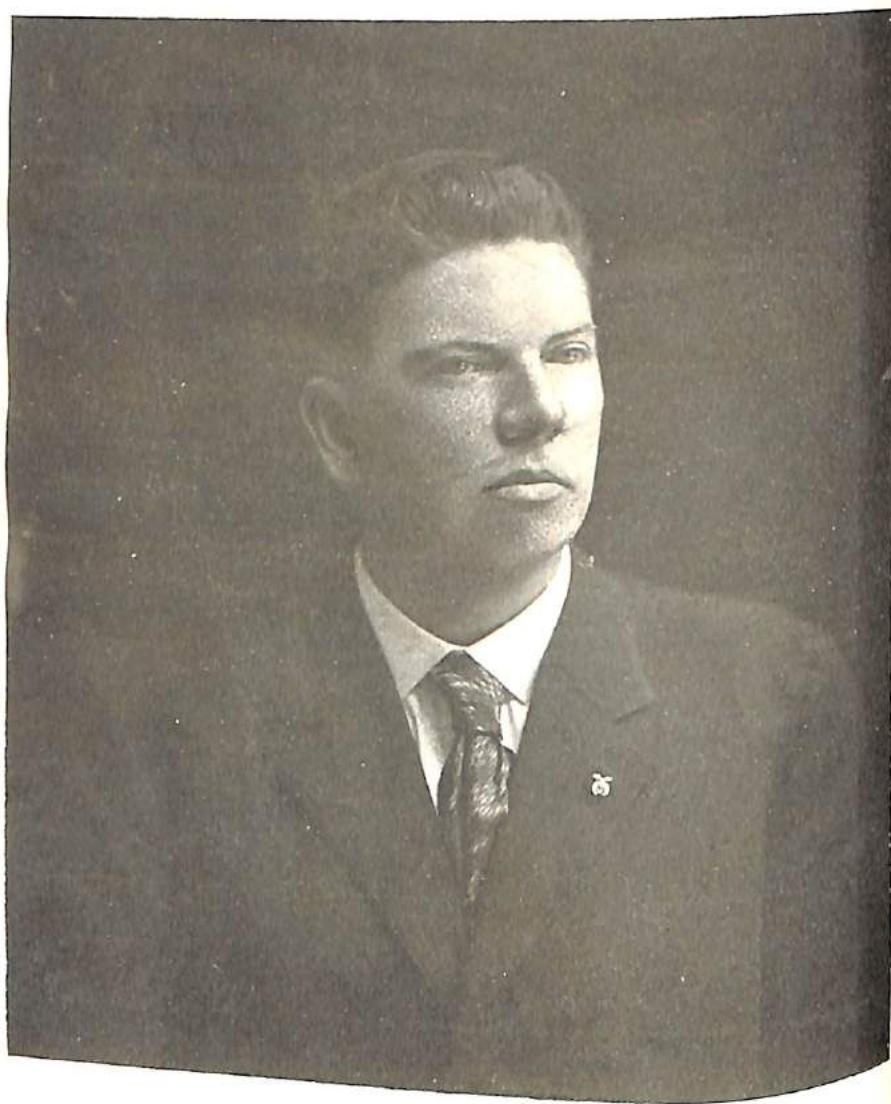


Proceedings
Grand Chapter
Royal Arch Masons
of Florida



Seventy-Second Annual Convocation
Held in the City of Jacksonville,
May 21 and 22, A. D. 1918, A. M.
2448



DABNEY B. PALMER
GRAND HIGH PRIEST
1917

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Chapter
Royal Arch Masons

OF THE

STATE OF FLORIDA

Volume One

Artistic Edition

Held in the City of Jacksonville, May 31, 1918

A. D. 1918, A. I. 2448

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Chapter
Royal Arch Masons

OF THE

STATE OF FLORIDA

Seventy-Second
Annual Convocation

Held in the City of Jacksonville, May 21-22

A. D. 1918, A. I. 2448

DABNEY B. PALMER
GRAND HIGH PRIEST
1917

GRAND OFFICERS
OF THE
M.:E.: Grand Chapter of Florida
FOR
A. I. 2448, A. D. 1918

M.: E.: CHARLES H. KETCHUM, Grand High Priest, Key
West.
R.: E.: L. F. BLALOCK, Deputy Grand High Priest, Miami.
R.: E.: W. V. CARTER, Grand King, Port Orange.
R.: E.: H. O. SNOW, Grand Scribe, Tampa.
M.: E.: MARCUS ENDEL, Grand Treasurer, Jacksonville.
M.: E.: WILBER P. WEBSTER, Grand Secretary, Jacksonville.
R.: E.: W. B. Y. WILKIE, Grand Chaplain, Dunedin.
E.: JOHN L. HALL, Grand Captain of the Host, Jacksonville.
E.: O. L. TAYLOR, Grand Principal Sojourner, Sanford.
E.: R. J. KISHPAUGH, Grand Royal Arch Captain, West
Palm Beach.
E.: E. L. WIRT, Grand Master Third Vail, Bartow.
E.: T. T. TODD, Grand Master Second Vail, Pensacola.
E.: C. R. HORNE, Grand Master First Vail, Jasper.
E.: JOHN W. CAPPER, Grand Guard, Jacksonville.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
M.:E.: Grand Chapter of Florida
Seventy-Second Annual Convocation

1918

The Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of the State of Florida assembled in its seventy-second Annual Convocation in the Masonic Temple in the City of Jacksonville at 10 o'clock a. m., Tuesday, May 21, A. D. 1918, A. I. 2448.

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

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

GRAND OFFICERS

Dabney B. Palmer	M.: E.: Grand High Priest
Charles H. Ketchum	R.: E.: D. G. High Priest.
L. F. Blalock	R.: E.: Grand King.
W. V. Carter	R.: E.: Grand Scribe.
Marcus Endel	R.: E.: Grand Treasurer.
Wilber P. Webster	R.: E.: Grand Secretary.
Irving E. Webster	R.: E.: Grand Chaplain.

S. May Walker-----E.: Gr. Capt. of the Host.
 O. L. Taylor-----E.: Gr. Principal Sojourner.
 Chester DeRocher -----E.: Gr. Royal Arch Captain.
 E. L. Wirt-----E.: Gr. Master Third Vail.
 John L. Hall-----as E.: Gr. Master Second Vail.
 T. T. Turnbull-----E.: Gr. Master First Vail.
 John W. Capper-----E.: Gr. Master First Vail.
 E.: Grand Guard.

PAST GRAND HIGH PRIESTS

Marcus Endel, J. W. Boyd,
 Irving E. Webster, Silas B. Wright,
 W. P. Webster, Louis C. Massey,
 Olin S. Wright, W. S. Ware,
 T. P. Warlow, F. B. Stoneman,
 Robt. McClellan, H. N. Sweeting,
 J. M. Caldwell, W. C. Andress.

REPRESENTATIVES OF CONSTITUENT CHAPTERS

Florida No. 1.—H. G. Hays, K.
 Gainesville No. 2.—S. F. Collison, H. P.
 Tampa No. 3.—O. G. Sexton, proxy for H. P.
 St. Johns No. 4.—S. B. Wright, proxy for Officers.
 Halifax No. 5.—E. L. Shear, H. P.
 Mt. Horeb No. 6.—H. G. Forchimer, proxy for H. P.
 Kissimmee No. 10.—M. D. Alexander, K.
 Jericho No. 11.—T. P. Way, K.
 Jacksonville No. 12.—J. S. B. Moyer, H. P., H. D. Morris, K.,
 Ocala No. 13.—J. A. Bouvier, H. P.
 Inverness No. 14.—G. A. Dame, proxy for H. P., H. J.
 Dame, proxy for S.
 Monroe No. 15.—O. L. Taylor, proxy for H. P.
 Plant City No. 16.—T. C. Calmes, proxy for H. P.

St. Augustine No. 17.—H. J. Peiper, H. P., Harry Brown, proxy for K., W. B. Edminster, proxy for S.
 Manatee River No. 18.—R. E. Scott, H. P., Chas. S. Hill, K., Cary B. Fish, proxy for S.
 Lake Butler No. 19.—C. H. Register, H. P.
 Keystone No. 20.—H. S. Sweeting, H. P.
 Island No. 21.—Earl Hathaway, H. P.
 Thomas Brown No. 22.—E. L. Wirt, proxy for K.
 Lake Worth No. 24.—E. W. Bunker, H. P.
 Live Oak No. 25.—Lamar G. Carter, proxy for H. P.
 Jefferson No. 26.—F. J. Sattler, proxy for H. P.
 Indian River No. 27.—Edwin E. Macy, H. P.
 Joppa No. 28.—Stephen F. Reade, S.
 Lakeland No. 29.—F. H. Thompson, H. P.
 Gadsden No. 30.—Paul S. Thomson, proxy for H. P.
 St. Petersburg No. 31.—Alan H. White, H. P.
 Jackson No. 32.—C. H. Ryals, H. P.
 Eustis No. 33.—W. S. McClelland, H. P.
 Leesburg No. 34.—H. L. Schaeffer, H. P.
 Jasper No. 36.—C. R. Horne, H. P.
 Walton U. D.—A. F. Bullard, H. P.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

California -----W. S. Ware
 Connecticut -----W. S. Ware
 Delaware -----W. P. Webster
 Dist. of Columbia -----Silas B. Wright
 Iowa -----John M. Caldwell
 Kansas -----Olin S. Wright
 Kentucky -----James W. Boyd
 Massachusetts -----I. E. Webster
 Minnesota -----E. P. Hubbell
 Mississippi -----D. B. Palmer

Missouri	James W. Boyd
Nebraska	Robert McClellan
New Jersey	Chas. H. Ketchum
New York	Marcus Endel
North Carolina	John L. Hall
North Dakota	Marcus Endel
Nova Scotia	T. Picton Warlow
Ohio	Ely P. Hubbell
Oklahoma	Olin S. Wright
Oregon	Harry N. Sweeting
Pennsylvania	Louis C. Massey
Quebec	Louis C. Massey
Tennessee	Frank B. Stoneman
Vermont	I. E. Webster
Victoria	John L. Hall
Washington	Silas B. Wright

Telegrams were received from R. J. Kishpaugh, Grand Master Third Vail and William R. O'Neal, Past Grand High Priest, expressing their regrets at being unable to be present on account of important business matters.

The Grand High Priest and Deputy Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter sent greetings and regrets that conflicting dates prevented their meeting with the Grand Chapter at this time.

The M. E. Grand High Priest announced the appointment of the following committee on

RETURNS AND CREDENTIALS

Chas. S. Hill,
H. G. Hayes, John L. Hall.

Upon motion of Past Grand High Priest Warlow the reading of the minutes of the last Annual Convocation was dispensed with, they having been printed and dis-

tributed, and they were adopted as printed.

Upon motion of Past Grand High Priest Endel all Royal Arch Masons in good standing were invited to seats in this Grand Chapter as visitors.

The Committee on Returns and Credentials made a verbal report that the list of Grand Officers and Representatives of constituent Chapters present was correct as furnished by the Grand Secretary at roll call and asked for further time in which to make final report.

Upon motion the report was received and further time granted.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. S. York,	
Roscoe E. Scott,	George B. Ames

PROPOSITIONS AND GRIEVANCES

Cary B. Fish,	
H. J. Peiper,	L. C. Massey

DISPENSATIONS AND BY-LAWS

Olin S. Wright	
Lamar G. Carter,	H. L. Schaeffer

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE

Marcus Endel,	J. W. Boyd,
I. E. Webster,	Silas B. Wright
L. C. Massey,	O. S. Wright,
W. S. Ware,	T. P. Warlow,
F. B. Stoneman,	Robert McClellan,
H. N. Sweeting,	J. M. Caldwell,
	W. C. Andress.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

F. J. Sattler, H. O. Snow,
E. L. Wirt.

MEMORIALS

S. L. Reade, W. B. Y. Wilkie,
J. M. Caldwell.

VISITORS

H. L. Brown,
George A. Dame, P. S. Thomson.

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

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ADDRESS

*Companions of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of
Royal Arch Masons of the State of Florida.*

An All-wise Providence has permitted us to again assemble in Annual Convocation in apparent peace and harmony, while all around us are the evidences of the grim fact that our country is engaged in the greatest war in the history of the world.

Many of our Companions, some of our sons and kinsmen are enlisted in the fight and are even now, many of them, at the front, ready if need be to sacrifice their lives, that the principles of freedom and justice for which our great Government stands shall still prevail on the earth.

Who would have dreamed a little over one year ago

GRAND CHAPTER OF FLORIDA

that America could ever become the closely United Nation it is today, welded and fused into a single purpose, sought by one hundred million hearts? Could there be loyalty more clearly universal, when newcomer vies with native in a thousand proofs of ardent patriotism?

If the war has united us, it has also broadened us; widened our sympathies, expanded our horizon. We are now truly citizens of the world; we shall never again be provincial. Our generosity is as broad as the earth, our readiness for self-sacrifice knows no bounds of race or country. We are unstintingly giving our money to Liberty Bonds; we are ready to undergo great privations. The lesson of self-surrender grows clearer day by day. We are already in need of all the consolation which our thought of the world's great agony can bring us. We shall soon need it more. Ere long every day's report will bring us news of death and loss and poignant suffering. It may be that in our own Sons, Brothers and Companions, we shall feel the wrench of immediate woe. May it find us strong and uplifted with a vision of the noble part we, too, can take.

We are not doing well if we begrudge our loved ones. We have not felt the thrill of the cause to which we and they have dedicated ourselves, nor seen the beauty of their courage and devotion if we could deny them the elation of their great adventure.

Let each of us, Companions, when called upon to do our part, whether of fighting over there or of doing our bit here, shirk not our duty, but rather lay our all upon the altar, and if need be, seal our patriotism with our blood.

NECROLOGY

The journey of life lies along the dark valley of the shadow of death. Death knocks alike at the hovel of

the poor and the palace of the rich. There is no spot or place on this pilgrimage where its presence is unknown. There is no family that will not feel the sting of it sooner or later.

Today there is many an eye that is weeping and many a heart that is bleeding; there is many a home whose light is extinguished and whose altars are draped in testimonials of sorrow. There seems to be but a step between life and death, and man is carried from time into eternity by the breath of destiny. All the wisdom of all the ages stretches no further than the little span of life bounded by the cradle and the grave.

Among the many deaths which have occurred in this Grand Jurisdiction none brought greater sorrow to me personally than that of James Carnell, Past Grand High Priest. The death of any human being is always attended with sadness. We are all aware that sooner or later the grim messenger will knock at the door of every one of us. Yet, notwithstanding this fact, notwithstanding it is declared that "it is appointed unto man once to die," yet, with each recurring death our hearts are touched with sorrow.

So when the light in the life of James Carnell went out there came sorrow and sadness which was not confined only to his own household, but which reached out to a great constituency and throughout the Grand Chapter of Florida.

My acquaintance with my companion extended over a period of twelve years, and during that time this acquaintance ripened into a genuine friendship. Therefore I consider the death of James Carnell a personal loss. He was one of the fairest-minded men I have ever met. He was just, and he believed that all his fellows possessed the same virtue. He was generous. He knew that men were human and liable to err. Therefore when

he discovered that no wilful error or mistake was made, he was willing to accept the excuse. He was honest. He did what he thought was right and then clung to it. Moreover he was a gentleman and a mason. He was kind and considerate. He was at all times modest and retiring, yet he remembered the dignity of his position in life. He belonged to that old fashioned honest class of gentlemen that is fast disappearing. The world needs more of them—the ones who meet one with glad handclasp and the cheery good-morning.

Such was James Carnell. Long will he live in the memory of his associates, and longer will he live in the thoughts and lives and hearts of his companions.

He was born September 30, 1849, in Leicester, England. He was elected and served as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Florida in 1901-2, Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons of Florida in 1899, Grand Commander Knights Templar of Florida in 1905, Grand Master of the Grand Council Royal and Select Masters of Florida in 1912, Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter of the Eastern Star in 1904, and held the title of Knight Commander Court of Honor in the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite at the time he passed to his reward on June 17th, 1917.

It being impossible for me to attend the funeral, I appointed Past Grand High Priest Silas B. Wright to represent me, and issued the following memorial upon notice of his death:

M. E. GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL
ARCH MASONS
STATE OF FLORIDA

Monticello, Fla., June 27, 1917.

*To the Officers and Members of our Grand Chapter
and of the Chapters in our Grand Jurisdiction,
and of all Grand Chapters in Fraternal
Correspondence:*

"There is no death, the stars go down,
To rise upon some fairer shore,
And bright in Heaven's jeweled crown,
They shine for ever more."

On June the 17th, 1917, The Supreme High
Priest of the Universe called to another world our
Friend and Companion,

JAMES CARNELL
Past Grand High Priest

He was cut down just as he reached the zenith
of splendid and successful manhood.
His loyalty to his friends was known and ad-
mired by the people with whom he was thrown in
daily contact.

He established a reputation for honest dealing,
and when the final summons came, which will
sooner or later come to each one of us, he went
without a murmur of complaint against the decree
of Him who doeth all things well, handing down to
his four children, now fatherless by Divine decree,
the heritage of a good name that is respected alike
by the most influential members of our community,
as well as by those who move in the humbler ranks
of society.

Companion Carnell was born September 30, 1849,
in the Town of Leicester, County of Leicester,
England.

Initiated December 30, 1871, in Harmony Lodge,
No. 20, at New Britain in the State of Connecticut,
Passed January 13, 1872. Raised January 20, 1872,
in the same Lodge.

Exalted to the Royal Arch Degree November 19,
in 1884, in St. Johns Chapter, No. 4, at DeLand in
the State of Florida.

Received the degrees of Cryptic Masonry.
Knighted September 21, 1894, in Palatka Com-
mandery, No. 5, at Palatka in the State of Florida.

Received the Degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite September 14, 1900.

Served the Grand Lodge of Florida as Grand Junior Deacon 1893, Grand Junior Warden 1897 and 1898, Grand Senior Warden 1899 and 1900, Grand Master 1901 and 1902, and was a Member of the Committee on Work since 1899.

In the Grand Chapter of Florida he was Grand Royal Arch Captain 1896, Grand King 1897, Deputy Grand High Priest in 1898, Grand High Priest in 1899, and Member of the Committee on Work since 1897.

In the Grand Council of Florida he was Grand Principal Conductor of Work in 1910, Deputy Grand Master in 1911, and Grand Master in 1912.

In the Grand Commandery of Florida he was Grand Junior Warden in 1900, Grand Senior Warden 1901, Grand Captain General 1902, Grand Generalissimo 1903, Deputy Grand Commander 1904, and Grand Commander 1905.

He moved to Florida in 1876. Affiliated with Halifax Lodge, No. 81, at Daytona, April 30, 1879, and served as Worshipful Master four years. He assisted in organizing Halifax Chapter, No. 5, and Oriental Commandery, No. 9, as a charter member.

He was a charter member of Live Oak Chapter, No. 5, O. E. S., at Daytona, and a member of the convention organizing the Grand Chapter, O. E. S. of Florida, at Sanford, June 7, 1904, at which time he was elected Grand Patron.

He married January 1, 1879, Miss Caroline E. Kitchell, of Dayton, Ky., who with three sons and one daughter survive him.

The many important and responsible positions he filled and the high honors which marked the career of our Brother and Companion as a Mason, indicate the esteem, regard and confidence in which he was held by those who were associated with him.

In memory of our departed Companion and as a token of our sorrow at the loss we have sustained, it is my order that this communication be read aloud in each Chapter throughout this Grand Jurisdiction at the first stated convocation after it is received, and preserved in the archives of the Chapter.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Grand Chapter, this 27th day of June, A. D. 1917, A. I. 2447.

Attest:

W. P. WEBSTER,
Grand Secretary.

DABNEY B. PALMER,
Grand High Priest.

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER

The General Grand Chapter has suffered an irreparable loss in the death of Bestor Gaston Brown, General Grand Scribe, and Thomas Jacob Shryock, General Grand Treasurer. No words of mine can add to the regard and esteem with which they were held by the Royal Craft. They have proven by their daily lives that there is something better than the cold chastity of the purist; something stronger than the placid purity of the devotee; something nobler than the icy innocence of the ascetic, which is so ably set forth in the following memorials issued by the General Grand High Priest.

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL
ARCH MASONS OF THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL GRAND HIGH PRIEST

Washington, D. C., Sept. 1, 1917.

To the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons and
to all Royal Arch Masons to whom these pres-
ents may come:

It is with profound sorrow that I announce to
you the death of one of the best, most highly es-
teemed and widely known officers of the General
Grand Chapter.

COMPANION BESTOR GASTON BROWN
General Grand Scribe.

died in the City of Battle Creek, Michigan, July 10,
1917, aged 56 years, and his body was consigned to
Mother Earth with Masonic honors in the City of

Topeka, Kansas, on July 13, 1917.
Bester Gaston Brown was born in Bluffton, In-
diana, November 22, 1861. In 1872 his parents
moved to Kansas City, Missouri, and a few months
later to Topeka, Kansas, where Companion Brown

maintained his residence. He was of English-
Quaker stock and his ancestors settled in Phila-
delphia contemporary with William Penn. His
father was a lawyer of distinction. Our Compan-
ion was educated in the schools of Topeka and the
colleges of Washburn, Ann Arbor and Cornell.
His natural qualities of leadership asserted them-
selves in the class-room, in athletics and in social
life. He was a member of Psi Upsilon Fraternity.

He had a varied and interesting business career.
For a time he had charge of a special dramatic and
literary department of the "Topeka Capital." Then
for seven years he was an employe of the First
National Bank of Topeka. He then entered busi-
ness for himself as an investment broker, with
marked success until the general collapse of the
early nineties in Kansas swept away his fortune.
He then became interested in uniforms and society
goods. His experience as a military man and as a
Masonic worker, his rich knowledge of history and
precedent and his rare artistic ability, combined to
give him a unique place in the business world, and
as a designer of Masonic costumes, paraphernalia
and stage settings he stood at the head of his pro-
fession. He was in charge of the Kansas City
Branch of the M. C. Lilley & Co. in this line of
work.

On December 4, 1884, he was married to Emma
J. Kellam, a popular and highly accomplished young
woman of Topeka. Three years later the wife
died, leaving one child.

We will let his intimate Masonic associates,
those who knew him best, speak of him as man and
Mason. They say that "to know him best was to
appreciate and love him most." Richly endowed
by nature, possessed of rare charm of personal man-
ner and speech, he was a natural leader of man. A
thorough student in Masonic law, a firm believer in
Masonic truth—one to whom its mystic usages were
not as sounding brass and tinkling cymbals, but who
drank deep of the fountain of immortality that
flows from the smitten rock of their teachings, he
gave to Masonry an interpretation that was an in-
spiration to all who were privileged to share it.

"With those of us who were privileged to call
him friend, to know his personal loyalty and feel
his gentleness, yet greatness of character, his name
is engraved upon the sacred tablets of loving and
precious memories and will be cherished there so
long as life and memory shall last."

Companion Brown was made a Master Mason March 11, 1884, in Siloam Lodge, No. 225, at Topeka, Kansas; was Master in 1887, 1888 and Grand Master of the Grand Lodge in 1903. He received the Capitular degrees in Topeka Chapter No. 5, in 1884; was High Priest in 1887 and Grand High Priest in 1893; was made a Royal and Select Master in Zabud Council No. 4, at Topeka, January, 1888; was Thrice Illustrious Master in 1890, 1891, and Grand Master of the Grand Council in 1901. The Orders of Christian Knighthood were conferred on him in Topeka Commandery No. 5, in 1888, and was Commander in 1891, 1892, and Grand Commander in 1905.

In the Scottish Rite he was a 32^o and a Knight Commander of the Court of Honor of the Southern Jurisdiction. He was also a Knight of the Red Cross of Constantine and Grand Sovereign of the Imperial Council in 1905, 1906. Was a member also of the Mystic Shrine, the White Shrine of Jerusalem and of the Order of the Eastern Star.

How well and accentably our departed Brother served Masonry in its several Rites and bodies the foregoing amply testifies.

I request that the Grand Chapters, and the Chapters of our obedience, pay the usual respect to his memory.

GEO. E. CORSON,

General Grand High Priest.

Attest:

CHAS. A. CONOVER,

General Grand Secretary.

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL
ARCH MASONS OF THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL GRAND HIGH PRIEST

Washington, D. C., March 25, 1918.

To the Grand Chapters of Royal Arch Masons and to all Royal Arch Masons to whom these presents may come:

It has again become my sad and painful duty to announce to you the death of another well beloved and highly esteemed officer of the General Grand Chapter.

*COMPANION THOMAS JACOB SHRYOCK,
General Grand Treasurer,*

died at his home in the City of Baltimore, Sunday morning, February 3, 1918, after a brief illness. The tidings of his death came as a profound shock to his Masonic brethren of every Degree and Rite as they still hoped for him many more years of usefulness in the Fraternity he had so faithfully and efficiently served for nearly forty-four years.

Companion Shryock was the second son of the late Henry S. Shryock and Ann Ophelia Shields. He was born in Baltimore, February 27, 1851. The Shryocks (three brothers) came to this country prior to the Revolutionary War. One of these, Henry Shryock, great-grandfather of our Companion, was a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Sixth Battalion of the Maryland Line during that war, and afterwards a member of the Convention of 1788, which ratified the Constitution of the United States.

Companion Shryock was raised in Waverly Lodge No. 152, August 20, 1874, and two years later was elected Master, serving two terms.

After serving the Grand Lodge as Grand Inspector, Junior Grand Warden, Senior Grand Warden and Deputy Grand Master, he was elected Grand Master in 1885, and held that office continuously until his death—nearly thirty-three years.

He was exalted in Jerusalem R. A. Chapter June 14, 1875, and was elected High Priest in 1878. In 1910 he was the leading spirit in organizing Baltimore Chapter No. 40, which numbers more than 500 members and of which he was the Senior Past

High Priest. From 1881 to 1884 he served the Grand Chapter as Grand Treasurer. In 1912 he was elected Grand King, in 1913 Deputy Grand High Priest and in 1914 Grand High Priest. In July, 1915, he was appointed General Grand Treasurer as the successor of the late John M. Carter, and in September, 1915, at the San Francisco Triennial Convocation he was elected and installed as General Grand Treasurer.

In Cryptic Masonry he received the degrees in Druid Council and soon thereafter was elected Master. After serving two terms as Grand Treasurer of the Grand Council he was elected Grand Master in 1881.

He received the Order of the Temple in Beaumont Commandery No. 8, and held every office from Warden to Commander, being elected to the latter office in 1881, and again in 1892 and 1893. He was elected Grand Commander of the Grand Com-

mandery in 1897. In the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite he received the degrees in the early eighties and was made a 33^o Honorary in 1886, and was elected an Active Member of the Supreme Council, Southern Jurisdiction, and crowned Sovereign Grand Inspector General, October 21, 1911, and elected Treasurer General of the Supreme Council in October, 1917.

His Masonic honors were not confined to his own country but extended to foreign lands, as he was an Honorary member of many lodges in Europe and an Honorary Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge Nationale d' Egypt.

His activities and honors were not confined to Masonry as he was a successful business man and held many civil positions of trust and responsibility. He received a thorough business training from his father and engaged in the lumber business at an early age, in which he prospered and was President of the Lumber Company which bears his name from its organization until his demise.

In 1896 he was elected, by the legislature, Treasurer of the State of Maryland, and held the office for four years, and had the proud distinction of being the only Republican who had ever held this office up to that time. He was Brigadier-General on the staff of Governor Henry Lloyd, of Maryland, Police Commissioner of Baltimore City for four years, and connected with several Financial Corporations and Charitable Institutions as President and Director.

Companion Shryock was intensely patriotic and a great lover of his country and its institutions, and one of his activities in which he was greatly interested at the time of his death was the caring for the comfort and physical and social welfare of our fighting force, the officers and men of the army and navy, and particularly of the defenders of the flag, who are members of our craft.

Our departed Companion builded for himself a monument in the present Masonic Temple in the City of Baltimore, in which the 37th Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter will be held next October.

The following is an extract from a "Memorial minute" adopted by the Masonic Veteran Association of Maryland at its Annual Meeting February 22, 1918:

No doubt monuments will be erected to the memory of our late Grand Master; but none can be so appropriate as that which he has builded. We have seen his cold, inanimate form carried from this Temple; and yet he is here with us. In every line and angle of this building he is revealed, and in each stone and girder his knowledge and wisdom are displayed. In each column and decoration his exquisite taste speaks, and in each corridor and lodge-room his love and devotion are evident. Grand Master Thomas J. Shryock lives in his works; nor shall his memory fade while this Temple lasts or those who have been associated with him remain to speak his praise.

Such is the honorable record of the Companion whose passing away from among us we so deeply mourn. Well may we grieve over the loss of one so well beloved and highly esteemed and honored by those with whom he lived and daily associated. Let us bow with reverent submission to the will of the Great I Am.

He is survived by six daughters, one of whom is the wife of an officer in the U. S. Navy, also a son, who is an officer in the Artillery arm of the National Army.

On the day following his death, the body of our Companion was taken to the Masonic Temple where it lay in state in the Grand Lodge room until

the hour of the funeral, and during that time the remains were viewed by many thousands of Masons, business associates, friends and citizens of the city and from all parts of the surrounding countries and states. Beauseant Commandery No. 8 acted as a Guard of Honor and was in attendance from the hour his remains were brought to the Temple until they were consigned to earth in Loraine Cemetery.

His funeral took place on Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock, and the beautiful and impressive Masonic burial service was conducted by the officers of the Grand Lodge.

Grand Chapters and the Chapters of our obedience are requested to pay the usual respect to his memory.

GEO. E. CORSON,
Attest: *General Grand High Priest.*
CHAS. A. CONOVER,
General Grand Secretary.

OTHER JURISDICTIONS

Death has been at his appointed work in other Jurisdictions. The following deaths have been reported to me:

California.—Charles Joseph Willett, P. G. H. P., April 6, 1917, aged sixty-eight. Henry Ascroft, Grand Lecturer, June 8, 1917, in sixty-fourth year. John Thomas Shurtleff, Grand Chaplain, July 10, 1917, sixty years.

Colorado.—James Hamilton Peabody, P. G. H. P., November 22, 1917, sixty-five years. George D. Kennedy, P. G. H. P., Jan. 26, 1918, forty-nine years.

Connecticut.—Henry W. Coyle, P. G. H. P., Nov. 27, 1917, eighty-eight years. James McCormick, P. G. H. P., June 24, 1917, eighty-six years. Wesley U. Pearne, G. H. P., July 5, 1917, sixty-six years.

Kansas.—Charles Henry Chandler, Grand Scribe, Dec. 18, 1917, fifty-three years. Bestor Gaston Brown, P. G. H. P., July 10, 1917, fifty-six years.

Illinois.—Marcus M. Lord, P. G. H. P., March 5, 1918, seventy-five years.

Kentucky.—Howard Royal French, P. G. H. P., Sep. 11, 1917, seventy years. James W. Hopper, P. G. H. P., May 8, 1917, seventy-eight years.

Massachusetts.—J. Gilman Waite, P. G. H. P., June 22, 1917.

Michigan.—Horace Sheldon Maynard, P. G. H. P., Sep. 22, 1917, sixty-eight years. William Frederick Denfield, P. G. H. P., Oct. 4, 1917, sixty years. Reuben Charles Webb, P. G. H. P., March 9, 1918, seventy-five years.

Minnesota.—Ebenezer E. Corliss, P. G. H. P., July 21, 1917, seventy-six years.

Nebraska.—Frank Henry Orcutt Young, P. G. H. P., Dec. 24, 1917, sixty-five years.

New Jersey.—Joseph Ely Fulper, P. G. H. P., Dec. 1, 1917, sixty-six years.

Oklahoma.—Leo Edmond Bennett, Grand Secretary, May 29, 1917.

Nevada.—William McMillan, D. G. H. P., July 21, 1917, sixty-nine years.

New York.—Marvin I. Greenwood, P. G. H. P., Dec. 27, 1917, seventy-seven years.

North Carolina.—John Nichols, P. G. H. P., Sep. 28, 1917, eighty-four years.

Nova Scotia.—William Marshall Black, P. G. H. P., May 9, 1917, fifty-one years.

Quebec.—Will H. Whyte, Grand Scribe, Sep. 19, 1917.

South Dakota.—Park Davis, P. G. H. P., Aug. 20, 1917, eighty years. Edward Bolivar Bracy, P. G. H. P., Dec. 25, 1917, ninety-one years.

Virginia.—William James Hubbard, P. G. H. P., April 20, 1917, seventy-three years.

We have heard of these losses with deep regret and extend our fraternal sympathy to our companions in other Grand Jurisdictions that have thus suffered.

APPOINTMENTS

I have made the following appointments:

On recommendation of the Grand High Priest of Nevada, Companion Charles A. Thompson of Pioche, as our Representative near the Grand Chapter of Nevada, May 22, 1917.

Notice having reached me of the death of Companion Evans, and on recommendation of the Grand High Priest of Ohio, I appointed Companion Ernest B. Brown of Cleveland, as our Representative near the Grand Chapter of Ohio, February 22, 1918, to fill the vacancy.

BY-LAWS

On August 8, 1917, I approved the By-Laws of St. Augustine Chapter No. 17, allowing the Excellent High Priest, Treasurer, Secretary and Sentinel, such compensation as may be fixed from time to time by their Chapter, for the faithful performance of their duties.

On January 31, 1918, I approved the By-Laws of St. Augustine Chapter No. 17, changing the date of holding their annual election to the first convocation in December.

On February 12, 1918, I approved the By-Laws of Ocala Chapter No. 13, changing time of holding their convocations to the first Friday of every month.

On May 2, 1918, I approved the By-Laws of Manatee Chapter No. 18, which were drawn in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and regulations of the Grand Chapter.

CAPITULAR MASONRY

Realizing that the Chapter is the crowning Masonic Body in the realm of Symbolic Masonry, I have written every Blue Lodge in the State which has a membership of sixty or more with a view of establishing a Chapter among them, and have received many encouraging replies which would have been followed up with visits had my time not been entirely consumed in doing my bit toward moving men and materials for this war which is "rolling its red car over nations and devastating empires."

I have received a pamphlet entitled "The Necessity of the Royal Arch Degree to the Master Mason," issued by Past Grand High Priest W. H. Kuhn of Missouri, and distributed by Manatee Chapter No. 18, to all Master Masons within its jurisdiction, and I would recommend that this Grand Chapter get out something along this line for distribution among the Master Masons of Florida.

I feel that too much cannot be done for the good of Royal Arch Masonry in Florida, and would suggest that we look into the matter of a Lecturer or School of Instruction to work in connection with the Grand Lodge Committee on work and thus reduce the expenses to both bodies.

CHAPTERS U. D.

On August 21, 1917, I granted a dispensation to eighteen Companions at DeFuniak Springs, in Walton County, to form and hold a Royal Arch Chapter U. D., under the name of Walton Chapter U. D.

WORK BY COURTESY

It has been our pleasure to do work by courtesy for

the Grand Chapters of Maine, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Texas and Tennessee.

The Grand Chapter of Alabama has courteously assisted us in work.

SPECIAL DISPENSATIONS GRANTED

October 2, 1917, to Gainesville Chapter No. 2, to ballot upon a candidate for the degrees at a special convocation, all members having notice of such convocation and its purpose. This dispensation was granted only after I had been made satisfied that it was for the good of Capitular Masonry in Gainesville.

October 23, 1917, to Florida Chapter No. 1, to ballot on candidates at Special Convocation who had been called to colors, and were liable to be moved before the next regular convocation, all members were notified of the Special Convocation and its purpose.

July 13, 1917, to Tampa Chapter No. 3, to elect and confer degrees upon a class who expected to enter service of the U. S. Army at any time, the usual notice being given all members.

January 23, 1918, to Mt. Horeb Chapter No. 6, to elect and confer the degrees on three candidates at a special convocation who were members of the U. S. Navy and liable to be called away at any time, the usual notice being given all members.

January 26, 1918, to St. Petersburg Chapter No. 31, to elect a High Priest to fill the vacancy caused by their High Priest having moved out of the Jurisdiction of Florida.

February 22, 1918, to St. John's Chapter No. 4, to elect and install officers account not having a quorum at the prescribed time, and it appears they were unable to get a quorum at this convocation, and on April 1, 1918, I granted them another dispensation to elect and install

officers and do regular business at a special convocation, all members having notice of same.

FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE

The review of the proceedings of other Grand Jurisdictions has been ably accomplished by Companion Ely P. Hubbell in his usual interesting and instructive manner, and will be submitted to you. Companions, I earnestly commend this labor of love for Masonry to your careful consideration.

U. S. CIVIL SERVICE

Responding to an appeal from the United States Civil Service Commission for Typewriter Operators and Stenographers, I have distributed among the Chapters in this Jurisdiction, through our Grand Secretary, letters and bulletins from this Commission sent me by the General Grand High Priest, and trust that Florida has been able to furnish her share for the cause.

SECOND LIBERTY LOAN BONDS

On October 22, 1917, I approved and signed warrant for the purchase of a One Thousand Dollar Bond of the Second Liberty Loan.

MASONIC WAR RELIEF ASSOCIATION

I have received some correspondence from the Masonic War Relief Association of the United States of America and have referred same to our Masonic Relief Committee for such action as they deem proper.

WAR SAVINGS COMMITTEE

Arrangements have been made with Hon. Jas. F. Griggs, State Director of Florida for the National War Savings Committee to address this Grand Body at three

o'clock this afternoon, and it is hoped that all Companions will be present at that hour.

MONUMENTS

The Grand Chapter of Florida has been granted the privilege of sharing in the erection of a suitable monument over the remains of Past Grand High Priests Samuel Pasco and James Carnell.

We know that all earthly things are transient, and that in process of time, the decay of ages will crumble our monuments into dust, yet their life work has left in our thoughts, lives and hearts, a monument which shall be remembered "wherever meritorious action and endeavor have left an impress upon the memory of man."

NEW FORM OF RECEIPT

On June 13, 1917, I approved the new form of receipt for dues, as authorized by the Grand Chapter. They are along the general lines as those furnished by the Grand Lodge.

RED CROSS

"Since man's first disobedience and the fruit of that forbidden tree, whose mortal taste brought death into the world and all of our woe," no nobler virtue has warmed the Masons' heart, than gratitude.

We see our Sons, Brothers and Companions wounded, bleeding and dying upon that far stretched battle line in France, and our hearts leap with gratitude as this great net of mercy is drawn through this ocean of unspeakable pain.

This is Red Cross week, and I know this Grand Chapter will do its part.

RULINGS

I received the following letter from St. Augustine Chapter No. 17, dated April 15th, 1918:

"St. Augustine Chapter No. 17 has received several applications for membership in this Chapter, the petitioners residing in Hastings. As you know, Hastings is about nine miles from Palatka, and about eighteen from St. Augustine, and being in Palatka's Jurisdiction, we have asked Palatka Chapter to assent to grant joint jurisdiction in order that any who desire may join the Chapter of his choice, but have received no answer. One petitioner has stated that he would not think of joining Palatka Chapter, as his business and social relations were all with St. Augustine, which is naturally Hastings' business center, it being the County Seat. Would it be possible for the Grand Chapter to grant us joint jurisdiction over Hastings, so that we both may take in members? Joint jurisdiction would benefit both Chapters to a very great extent, as the enthusiasm displayed by the new members will surely influence others to put in their petitions. The petitions already presented to St. Augustine Chapter have been voluntary as we have discouraged any solicitation in this town. Can you give us any hope of relief?"

(Signed) W. W. BILGER, SEC'Y.

to which I replied under date of April 18th, 1918.

"Replying to yours of the 15th inst., stating that your Chapter had received several petitions for membership from Hastings, Florida, which is in the territorial jurisdiction of Putnam Chapter No. 9, and that you had written Putnam Chapter asking that they agree to concurrent jurisdiction in Hastings, and had received no reply. In justice to all concerned, the petitions should never have been received by your Chapter, for in so doing you are invading the territory of Putnam Chapter, but if the petitions were sent *you*, it would have been proper for you to have written Putnam Chapter and asked them to waive jurisdiction on the petitioners, and if they refused to do this, the petitions should be sent to Putnam Chapter, and after they had acted on same and it was not convenient for the candidates to go to Palatka, Putnam could ask your Chapter to do the work by courtesy, or on any terms agreeable to both Chapters."

I would suggest that the representatives of these Chapters appear before the proper committee, where no doubt the matter can be settled to the satisfaction of all.

VISITATIONS

On March 25, 1918, I visited Florida Chapter No. 1, and was received with all the honors befitting your Grand High Priest; I found the Chapter doing its usual good work and everything in good order.

I have met with my own Chapter, Jefferson No. 26, at every convocation, and am pleased to report that Capitular Masonry is doing its share for the betterment of mankind.

Owing to the great increase of work in moving the materials of war, which is taxing the Transportation Companies to their uttermost and keeping every employee at his post, it has been impossible for me to make any other visitations.

WARRANTS

I have signed warrants No. 1 to 37 inclusive, amounting to \$5,054.50.

Companions, before I close, I wish to assure you that it will be a pleasure during all my future life, to remember that I was chosen by you to fill this honorable station. No higher proof of your regard and confidence could have been given.

I desire also to express my sincere thanks to the other officers of the Grand Chapter, particularly the other members of the Grand Council, the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, for their assistance and co-operation in all the work of the year, and it will be my pleasure in the future, as it has been in the past, to do

all in my power to promote the interests of Royal Arch Masonry.

Fraternally,

DABNEY B. PALMER,

Grand High Priest.

Upon motion the foregoing address was referred to Companions H. O. Snow, S. B. Wright and W. V. Carter for consideration and distribution of subjects.

The "Special Committee on Ritual" made the following report which was received and adopted and the Committee continued:

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON RITUAL

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Florida:

Your Special Committee on Ritual beg leave to report that inasmuch as the General Grand Chapter has appointed a Committee to revise its ritual and report at their triennial Convocation to be held in the City of Baltimore, October 2, 1918, where some changes are sure to be made, which would necessitate further changes in our ritual, we recommend that no further action be taken at present.

Fraternally submitted,

DABNEY B. PALMER,

Committee.

Upon motion of Past Grand High Priest Stoneman the following telegram was ordered sent to the President of the United States:

*President of the United States,
Washington, D. C.*

L

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida in Annual Convocation assembled, voicing the loyal sentiments of thousands of Masons of this state, desires to express its loyal sentiment of approval of your great efforts for our beloved country in this crisis.

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

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT

Marcus Endel, Grand Treasurer,
In account with the Grand Chapter R. A. M. of Florida:

1917

Dr.

May 16.	To Balance on hand as per last report	\$11,244.60
July 12.	To Interest received from G. L. Trustees	50.00
Aug. 10.	To Received from Grand Secretary	84.00
Dec. 17.	To Received Interest U. S. Bonds	17.50
1918		
Jan. 12.	To Received from Grand Secretary	562.00
Jan. 18.	To Received Interest G. L. Trustees	50.00
Jan. 30.	To Received Interest U. S. Bonds	17.90
Feb. 5.	To Received from Grand Secretary	566.00
Feb. 13.	To Received from Grand Secretary	491.00
Mch. 11.	To Received from Grand Secretary	584.00
Mch. 28.	To Received from Grand Secretary	374.00
April 30.	To Received from Grand Secretary	557.00
April 30.	To Received from Grand Secretary	29.80
April 30.	To Received Interest G. L. Bonds	192.89
May 21.	To Received Interest Barnett Natl. Bank	123.00

By Paid Vouchers Nos. 1-37 Cr. \$14,943.69

Balance \$ 5,054.50

Liberty Bonds purchased with Vouchers Nos. 5, 26 \$ 9,889.19 2,000.00

Balance on hand \$11,889.19

Distributed as follows:

Barnett National Bank	\$2,989.19
U. S. Liberty Bonds	3,000.00
G. L. Certificate of Indebtedness	2,000.00
G. L. Temple Bonds	3,900.00

Books and Vouchers are herewith submitted. \$11,889.19

Fraternally,
MARCUS ENDEL,
Grand Treasurer.

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

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Florida:

COMPANIONS—I have the honor of reporting matters pertaining to the Grand Secretary's office for the year as follows:

Six hundred copies of the proceedings of our last Annual Convocation were printed and distributed in the usual manner.

In accordance with your instructions, a Past Grand High Priest's jewel has been purchased for M. E. Dabney B. Palmer, and same is ready for presentation at the proper time.

A supply of blank receipts for dues has been procured and our Chapters have been furnished with same.

A communication has been received from the General Grand High Priest stating that in view of the conditions now existing in Washington, owing to the war, it would not be possible to hold the 37th Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter in that city. He therefore changed the place of meeting to Baltimore, Maryland, and the Convocation will be held in that city, commencing at 10 o'clock A. M., Wednesday, October 2, 1918.

In view of the fact that a large number of the members of our Chapters are in the service of our Country, in Army and Navy, and many more going, together with the fact that most of our Chapters are remitting the dues of such members, I would recommend some action be taken at this Annual Convocation, relieving our Chapters from the payment of Grand Chapter dues for members in the service, during the present war, where annual dues are remitted by the Chapters.

I have found that although Nassau Chapter No. 23, whose charter was surrendered some time since, made returns and paid its dues to the Grand Chapter for the year 1914, it did not collect dues from any of its members for that year. As we are anxious

to have every Royal Arch Mason in the State affiliated, as far as possible, I would suggest that I be authorized to issue certificates to members of that Chapter on the payment of such dues as they may be owing up to the end of the year 1913.

On August 17, a dispensation was issued, by order of the Grand High Priest, to nine Royal Arch Masons, to form Walton Chapter, U. D. at DeFuniak Springs, with A. F. Bullard, H. P., D. B. Miles, K., and Angus Green, S. This Chapter has been regularly at work, having exalted twenty candidates, and it now comes before this Grand Body with a petition for a charter. The papers are ready to be placed in the hands of the proper committee.

All of our Chapters have made returns for 1917, and all have paid dues in full for that year except Tampa No. 3, which still owes a balance of \$23.

Live Oak Chapter No. 25 owes a balance of \$39 on back dues. Our tables will show that our Chapters have exalted 328 candidates during the year 1917, and that we have made a net gain of 243 or nearly nine per cent.

Fraternally submitted,
W. P. WEBSTER,
Grand Secretary.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

W. P. Webster, Grand Secretary,
In account with the Grand Chapter of Florida:

To	Dr.	
To Fines Collected		
Charter Fee Walton Chapter		\$ 15.00
Dues Gainesville No. 2 (1916)		50.00
Dues Florida No. 1 (1917)		79.00
Dues Gainesville No. 2		65.00
Dues Tampa No. 3		79.00
Dues St. Johns No. 4		197.00
Dues Halifax No. 4		42.00
Dues Mt. Horeb No. 6		139.00
Dues Eureka No. 7		117.00
Dues Dade City No. 8		140.00
Dues Putnam No. 9		50.00
Dues Kissimmee No. 10		38.00
Dues Jericho No. 11		49.00
		157.00

Dues Jacksonville No. 12	331.00
Dues Ocala No. 13	72.00
Dues Inverness No. 14	68.00
Dues Monroe No. 15	82.00
Dues Plant City No. 16	61.00
Dues St. Augustine No. 17	99.00
Dues Manatee River No. 18	66.00
Dues Lake Butler No. 19	50.00
Dues Keystone No. 20	46.00
Dues Island No. 21	31.00
Dues Thomas Brown No. 22	193.00
Dues Lake Worth No. 24	129.00
Dues Live Oak No. 25	83.00
Dues Jefferson No. 26	30.00
Dues Indian River No. 27	150.00
Dues Joppa No. 28	73.00
Dues Lakeland No. 29	96.00
Dues Gadsden No. 30	56.00
Dues St. Petersburg No. 31	122.00
Dues Jackson No. 32	120.00
Dues Eustis No. 33	43.00
Dues Leesburg No. 34	39.00
Dues Sarasota No. 35	43.00
Dues Jasper No. 36	41.00
	\$3,341.00

Cr.

Aug. 10, 1917. Paid Grand Treasurer	\$ 84.00
Jan. 12, 1918. Paid Grand Treasurer	512.00
Jan. 12, 1918. Paid Grand Treasurer	50.00
Feb. 5, 1918. Paid Grand Treasurer	566.00
Feb. 13, 1918. Paid Grand Treasurer	491.00
Mch. 11, 1918. Paid Grand Treasurer	584.00
Mch. 28, 1918. Paid Grand Treasurer	374.00
Apr. 30, 1918. Paid Grand Treasurer	557.00
May 20, 1918. Paid Grand Treasurer	123.00
	\$3,341.00

Books and vouchers herewith submitted for examination and approval.

W. P. WEBSTER,
Grand Secretary.

Companion Hubbell presented his Correspondence re-

port which was received and ordered printed in the proceedings.

Companion Hubbell extended fraternal greetings from the Grand High Priests of Ohio and Minnesota and upon motion he was directed to acknowledge same in behalf of the Grand Chapter.

The "Masonic Relief Committee" made the following report which was received and adopted:

MASONIC RELIEF

To the M. & E. Grand Chapter of Florida:

Your Committee on Masonic Relief submit the following report:

No request for relief or assistance has reached this Committee. The appropriation of \$1,000.00 is therefore intact and has not been withdrawn from the Treasury.

The M. & E. Grand High Priest has referred to this Committee the correspondence from the Masonic War Relief Association of the United States of America with the request that we give the matter careful attention and include our recommendations thereon in our report to the M. & E. Grand Chapter. After careful consideration of the entire subject, your Committee is constrained to express the opinion that the wisest policy that should prevail in this Grand Jurisdiction would be the conservation of its funds to be dispensed as occasion requires, to such of our own companions, that by reason of war conditions, may need assistance or relief. Therefore, we recommend that this Grand Chapter deems it expedient at this time to become a member of the said Association.

Fraternally submitted,

MARCUS ENDEL,
CHAS. H. KETCHUM,

Masonic Relief Committee.

Past Grand High Priest Silas B. Wright offered the following amendment to regulation No. 40 which was received and adopted:

Resolved that Regulation No. 40 be amended to read as follows: Reg. 40. Members of the Grand Chapter who are entitled to

per diem and mileage shall receive four (\$4.00) dollars per diem and four cents each mile necessarily travelled in coming to and returning from each Grand Convocation.

Companion Peiper offered the following amendment to Article IV, Section 8, which was received and referred to the Committee on "Masonic Jurisprudence."

Amend Article IV, Section 8, to read as follows:

The first five officers named in the last preceding section shall be elected annually by ballot, and by a majority of the votes cast, at the first regular Convocation of the Chapter in December of each year, or as soon thereafter as practicable, not later, however, than St. John the Evangelist's Day, and the remaining officers shall be appointed by the High Priest.

Companion Peiper presented the following resolution which was received and referred to the Committee on "Propositions and Grievances."

Whereas: St. Augustine being so situated that St. Augustine Chapter No. 17 has no field on the north, south, or east from which to draw members, being wholly dependent on Ashlar Lodge No. 98, F. & A. M., for new members, the nearest Lodge to the west being Hastings Lodge No. 183, which is in St. Johns County, but in the Jurisdiction of Putnam Chapter No. 9, and

Whereas: A number of Master Masons in Hastings Lodge have signified a desire to petition for degrees if allowed to do so in St. Augustine Chapter No. 17, they being bound to St. Augustine by political, business and fraternal interests, therefore be it

Resolved: That St. Augustine Chapter No. 17 request the Grand Chapter R. A. M. of Florida, to grant concurrent jurisdiction in St. Johns County, with Putnam Chapter No. 9, believing this will not only be fair to all parties concerned, but will be for the best interests of the Order.

Past Grand High Priest Endel presented the cause of the Red Cross and same was referred to the Committee on "Finance and Accounts" for recommendation.

The motion of Companion Snow prevailed, that when the Grand Chapter is called from labor to refreshment it

be to resume labor at 2:00 o'clock P. M., and that the first order of business be the exemplification of work in the M. M. degree.

Companion Wirt presented the following resolution which was received and referred to the Committee on "Propositions and Grievances:"

Resolved: That Sarasota Chapter No. 35, and Thomas Brown Chapter No. 22, be given concurrent jurisdiction in DeSoto and Lee Counties.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment.

IN GRAND CHAPTER

Tuesday, May 21, 2:00 P. M.

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

The minutes of the morning session were read and adopted.

Labor was dispensed with in the Grand Chapter and a Lodge of Mark Masters was opened under the direction of the Grand Chapter Committee on work.

The following brethren were advanced to the Honorary degree of M. M.; T. Hurd Kooker and Paul W. Wilson for Jacksonville Chapter No. 12; H. B. Rainey for Jefferson Chapter No. 26 and P. G. Prevatt for St. Johns Chapter No. 4.

The Lodge of Mark Masters was closed and labor was resumed in the Grand Chapter.

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

DISTRIBUTION

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Florida:
Your Committee to whom was referred the reports of the

Grand Officers for distribution, beg leave to report as follows:

We recommend that so much of the report of the M. E. Grand High Priest as refers to By-Laws approved, and rulings, be referred to the Committee on "Masonic Jurisprudence."

That so much as refers to Chapters U. D. By-Laws adopted and approved, be referred to the Committee on "Dispensations and By-Laws."

That so much as refers to Necrology and Memorials be referred to the Committee on "Memorials."

In the matter of appointment of Grand Representatives near other Grand Chapters; official visitations; special dispensations granted; work by courtesy; Red Cross work; U. S. Civil Service; Liberty Loan Bonds and Masonic War Relief Association; they each being within his prerogative, require no action or approval at our hands.

We are pleased to note his favorable comments in the matter of the able review of Fraternal Correspondence presented by our Companion, Ely P. Hubbell, and heartily concur in all of his recommendations therein. We trust that all of the members of the Grand Chapter present will procure and read copies of this report as it is well worthy of your careful consideration.

We congratulate the Grand Chapter on the painstaking manner in which our Grand High Priest has performed his labors during the year past and beg to assure him that his labors have not been unappreciated.

We approve of his action in the matter of calling to the attention of the subordinate Chapters the little pamphlet entitled, "The Necessity of the Royal Arch Degree to the Master Mason," and recommend that the matter of procuring copies of this pamphlet for free distribution among the Masons of Florida be referred to the "Finance" Committee.

It is with pleasure that we note that he has made arrangements for an address to be presented to this Grand Chapter by the Honorable J. F. Griggs, State Director of Florida for the War Savings Committee, and trust that all of our members in attendance will attend.

We are advised that the Committees appointed by the Grand High Priest for the erection of suitable monuments over the remains of Past Grand High Priests Samuel Pasco and James Carnell, report that their duties have been performed, that the monuments have been placed in position and are a credit to the Grand

Bodies who united in erecting the same, that they are suitable and appropriate for the marking of the resting places of those distinguished Companions.

We recommend that so much of the report of the Grand Secretary as pertains to receipts and disbursements be referred to the Finance Committee; that so much of his report as refers to action at this Grand Convocation relieving our Chapters from the payment of the Grand Chapter dues for members who are in the service of the armed forces of the U. S. during the war, be referred to the Jurisprudence Committee, and recommend that they formulate a suitable regulation to accomplish that purpose.

We recommend that so much of the Grand Secretary's report as refers to Nassau Chapter No. 23, and the granting of certificates to the Grand Secretary to the members of that Chapter, be referred to the Committee on "Propositions and Grievances."

That so much as refers to the dispensation issued to form Walton Chapter U. D. at DeFuniak Springs, be referred to the Committee on "Dispensations and Charters."

That so much as refers to Chapters who are in arrears for dues to the Grand Chapter be referred to the Committee on "Finance."

We recommend that the Treasurer's report be referred to the "Finance" Committee.

Fraternally submitted,

H. O. SNOW,
S. B. WRIGHT,
W. V. CARTER,
Committee.

The motion of Companion Caldwell prevailed, that when the Grand Chapter is called from labor to refreshment at the night session, it be to resume labor at 9:30 A. M. Wednesday and that the first order of business be the election of Grand Officers.

The motion of Companion Ketchum prevailed, that when the Grand Chapter is called from labor to refreshment at this session, it be to resume labor at 7:30 P. M. and that the first order of business be the exemplification of work in the P. M. degree, by the Grand Chapter Committee on Work.

In a memorial service in memory of our departed companion, Past Grand High Priest James Carnell, companion John M. Caldwell delivered the following eulogy:

Most Excellent Grand High Priest and Companions—It has been said, 'Criticism and censure for the living; flowers for the dead.' This was not true of our beloved and lamented Companion, James Carnell. During my intimate acquaintance with him for more than one-third of a century, I never heard a word of criticism, or censure, nor an unkind remark made of or about him by any one. 'None knew him but to love him, none named him but to praise.'

And, my Companions, there was good reason for this; brother Carnell was so large-hearted; so full of the milk of human kindness; so genial and social and loving and accomodating, that he gave no occasion for anything of the kind. For him it was flowers while he was living; for him it is flowers now that he is dead.

Companion Carnell was a pillar of strength to this Grand Chapter, and also to many of the particular Chapters and Lodges in which he labored as a member of our Committee on Masonic Work. His very presence in our Lodges was an inspiration to redoubled zeal and increased effort in Masonic work and duty, and an incentive to increased fraternal love and fellowship. I heard mention made in our proceedings today of a monument having been erected at his grave and I thought that in the ages to come, that monument might be crumbled to dust, but that Companion Carnell had before his decease, erected a monument for himself as imperishable as eternity. The seeds of kindness which he has scattered; the self-sacrificing labors he has so freely given; his heart so full of love for his brethren, and his deep interest in the welfare and progress of Masonry, coupled with the moral precepts he has inculcated, and the virtuous example he has given, has erected a monument to his memory which is as enduring as eternity itself; for the great light of Masonry, the Holy Bible, speaking of the pious dead, says that, "They rest from their labors and their works do follow them." Only eternity can reveal the result of the good works of Companion Carnell.

It is but natural that our hearts are filled with sadness because, in these halls we shall see his face no more, but, in fact, as those who loved him, we should be glad that his labors are ended, that he is free from care, pain and sorrow forever, and that though

his seat is vacant in this earthly Lodge, yet, he has a seat, a glorious station, in the Celestial Lodge just across the river. My Com- tells us, "For we know that if the earthly house of this Tabernacle were dissolved we have a building, a house not made with hands eternal in the heavens."

Then, Companions, let us emulate his virtues and imitate his worthy example.

Past Grand High Priest Stoneman delivered the following:

Most Excellent Grand High Priest and Companions:

It is very presumptuous for me to ask for a hearing on this subject, immediately following so splendid a eulogy as we have just heard, but I don't wish to be derelict to my duty to the frater- represent. Companion James Carnell was in a measure more particularly he was the institution of the whole State, but of the State. As my recollection goes, he was the inspiration, if not the actual instituting officer, for the creation of every Masonic Body on the South-eastern Coast of Florida between Daytona and Key West. He instituted all of the Masonic Bodies in my own City of Miami, and was actively interested in their welfare to the date of his death. We were peculiarly situated with reference to Companion Carnell, in that it was his custom, and it had been his cus- tom for more than twenty-five years, to spend from three to six weeks of every Summer in Miami, and during that time he was present at all of our meetings and took particular interest in the work of our Lodges, Chapters and Commandery. Particularly he was interested and active in the education of our younger brethren and no matter who the brother, how high or how low, if he showed an interest in instruction, Companion Carnell was al- ways at his service at any hour, day or night, for so long as the brother needed him.

The great growth of Masonry in our section of the State can be attributed more to the earnest work and the high character of Companion Carnell, much more, than to any other agency under Providence.

Companion Caldwell, in his beautiful eulogy, alluded to the splendid monument Companion Carnell has erected to himself in this State. The whole South-eastern portion of this Grand Juris-

dition is an enduring monument to the high character, great ability and loving kindness of James Carnell.

In appreciation of the work that he did for us, at the very earliest moment, Miami Lodge F. & A. M., his baby Lodge, the last one he instituted, changed its name from "Miami" Lodge to "James Carnell," hoping thereby to perpetuate his memory for all ages to come.

Companion Caldwell also alluded to the many tributes given to Companion Carnell during his life time. He said it was not denied him to have the flowers given to him, when he was living. It was my pleasure on the last occasion on which Companion Carnell met with a Masonic Body in Miami, at the time when we all knew that the hand of death was hovering over him, to say something as to the estimation held by all of the Masonic brethren of our section of the State, toward our beloved brother, and the inspiration came to me to ask permission to address Companion Carnell in behalf of all the Masons of our section of the State. I did what I could to impress upon his mind the great love we all felt for him. I now desire to add my tribute to his memory by these few words of appreciation, on what will probably be the last Masonic occasion in which reference will be made to Companion Carnell,

Past Grand High Priest, Marcus Endel, made a verbal report as follows:

"In accordance with the action of the Grand Chapter, as appears in the proceedings of 1917, your special Com- mittee appointed to visit Past Grand High Priest James Carnell and present to him the testimonial voted by the Grand Chapter and to extend to him the greetings and best wishes of the Companions for his speedy recovery, beg to report that on May 19th the following named Companions journeyed to the home of our beloved Companion Carnell and delivered the message. Marcus Endel, Silas B. Wright, E. E. Haskell, Charles H. Ket- chum, W. S. Ware, W. P. Webster and Arthur H. Carter.

Our visit to our beloved Companion was a most de-

lightful occasion. We expressed to him the loving greetings and fervent prayers of our Companions for his well being and speedy recovery to health and strength.

Companion Carnell was delighted to receive the evidence of the love and esteem thus manifested by the Grand Chapter, our brethren and Companions, and he appeared to appreciate their sympathy and encouragement beyond expression. We are sure that our visit was the means of causing him great happiness and comfort during the short remaining period of his life. We have cause to be exceedingly grateful that the opportunity was afforded us of being the means of producing this satisfaction and happiness to our beloved Companion."

In addition to this report Companion Endel delivered an eloquent eulogy on the life and character of our distinguished and beloved Companion.

Past Grand High Priest, Silas B. Wright, expressed to the Grand Chapter the thanks of Mrs. Carrie E. Carnell, the widow of Past Grand High Priest James Carnell, for the many courtesies extended to her and her family since his decease. She particularly requested that her thanks and appreciation be extended to the Grand Chapter, together with the other Masonic Grand Bodies for the beautiful monument erected by them over his last resting place. Her thanks were also presented for the beautiful memorial issued by Grand High Priest Palmer and for the eulogies by Past Grand High Priests Stoneman and Caldwell. It is her sincere wish that Our Father who art in Heaven and who tempers the wind to the shorn lamb, shall ever bless and protect each and every one of the Masons of Florida and especially the members of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment.

IN GRAND CHAPTER

Tuesday, May 21, 7:30 P. M.

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

The minutes of the afternoon session were read and adopted.

Labor was dispensed with, in the Grand Chapter, and a Lodge of Past Masters was opened under the direction of the Grand Chapter Committee on Work.

The following brethren were inducted into the O. C. of K. S. in due form.

T. Hurd Kooker and Paul W. Wilson for Jacksonville Chapter No. 12, H. B. Rainey for Jefferson Chapter No. 26 and P. G. Prevatt for St. Johns Chapter No. 4.

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

The following brethren were received and acknowledged as M. E. M.'s in due form.

T. Hurd Kooker and Paul W. Wilson for Jacksonville Chapter No. 12, H. B. Rainey for Jefferson Chapter No. 26 and P. G. Prevatt for St. Johns Chapter No. 4.

The Lodge of Most Excellent Masters was closed and labor was resumed in the Grand Chapter.

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

RETURNS AND CREDENTIALS

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Florida:

Your Committee on Returns and Credentials respectfully report that all Chapters have made correct returns and paid dues in full prior to April 1st, as reported by our Grand Secretary, with the following exceptions:

We find that Tampa Chapter No. 3 has made returns, but through an error in transferring figures, there still remains a bal-

ance due the Grand Chapter of \$23.00.

We find that Live Oak Chapter No. 25 has made correct returns for 1916 and 1917, but is still due a balance of \$39.00 for 1915.

We recommend that these irregularities be referred to the Grand Secretary for adjustment, that these Chapters be allowed representation in the Grand Chapter, and their Representatives be placed on the pay-roll.

Fraternally submitted,
 CHAS. S. HILL,
 H. G. HAYES,
 JOHN L. HALL,
 Committee.

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

PROPOSITIONS AND GRIEVANCES

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Florida:

Your Committee on Propositions and Grievances report that they have considered the resolutions which were referred to them and find the resolution that concurrent jurisdiction over DeSoto and Lee Counties be extended to Thomas Brown Chapter No. 22, and Sarasota Chapter No. 35, is contrary to Section One of Article Six of the Constitution, also that the application for concurrent jurisdiction between St. Augustine Chapter No. 17 and Putnam Chapter No. 9, is in conflict with Section One of Article Six of the Constitution, therefore we recommend that the said resolutions be not authorized or allowed.

In regard to that portion of the Grand Secretary's report in reference to Nassau Chapter No. 23, in which he states that Grand Chapter dues were paid for the year 1914, but that the dues of its members were not paid for that year, we recommend that the Grand Secretary be authorized to issue certificates to the members owing up to the end of the year 1913.

Respectfully submitted,
 CARY B. FISH,
 LOUIS C. MASSEY,
 H. J. PEIPER,
 Committee.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refresh-

IN GRAND CHAPTER

Wednesday, May 22, 9:30 A. M.

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

The minutes of the evening session were read and adopted.

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

MEMORIALS

To the Most Excellent Royal Arch Chapter of Florida:

Your Committee on Memorials submit the following report:

Every passing year takes its own toll of those with whom we have been associated and who are bound to us by the tender ties of brotherhood and companionship. We have long ago learned that death, the great leveler, is no respector of individuals or of classes.

The old Book tells us and observation confirms the testimony that there is no discharge in that war. Rich and poor, high and low, all alike must heed the summons when it comes and it is greatly wise for us to heed the word of the great Ruler of the universe, "Go thy way till the end be; for thou shalt rest and stand in thy lot at the end of the days."

The question is being asked today as it was propounded thousands of years ago, "If a man die, shall he live again?" And the answer of our hearts as Royal Arch Masons is the answer of the old Patriarch, "I know that my Redeemer liveth and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God, whom I shall see for myself and not a stranger, though my reins be consumed within me."

The tribute paid by the Grand High Priest to our late Companion, James Carnell, precludes any necessity for further words by this Committee.

We may not forget that since we last met many of our Companions have gone "where we cannot see nor follow, though we walk in haste." We may not grudge them the rest and reward on which they have entered. For ourselves we mourn their absence and sympathize with the particular Chapters in their loss, as we sympathize with the loved ones our Companions have left behind them in their homes. May the God of all comfort, comfort them as He alone can. He, the Father of the fatherless and the husband of the widow, will not leave them nor forsake them.

We sympathize with the Grand Chapters throughout our land who were called to mourn the loss of members, many of them men of great attainments and great in their knowledge of Masonic craft. "They are gathering homeward from every land, gathering one by one," gathering where knowledge shall be perfected, where they shall "see as they are seen and know even as also they are known."

What the future has in store for any of us we cannot tell. Almost surely sunshine and shadow both. In the glad sunshine let us not be tempted to think we can go on without the God whom we say we trust. With Him the days will be all the brighter and when the storms beat and the shadows darken, when shadows of manifold cares, of times of sickness, of failing health, of waning power, shadows of loss and bereavement fall upon our pathway, let us trust in the name of the Lord and stay ourselves upon our God. And when the last shadows of time shall darken over us, even then "at evening time it shall be light." Then as now, underneath and around are the everlasting arms of everlasting righteousness and eternal love.

Respectfully submitted,
WM. B. Y. WILKIE,
STEPHEN F. READE,
JOHN M. CALDWELL,
Committee.

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

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS
To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Florida:
Your Committee on Finance and Accounts beg leave to report
as follows:

We have examined the books and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary and find them correct with a balance on hand of \$11,889.19, distributed as follows:

Barnett National Bank	\$2,989.19
U. S. Liberty Bonds	3,000.00
Grand Lodge Certificate of Indebtedness	2,000.00
Grand Lodge Bonds	3,900.00

From which we recommend the following appropriations:

Pay-roll attached	1,423.24
Grand Secretary, salary	500.00
Grand Treasurer, salary	100.00
Extra clerical work	50.00
Contingent fund	700.00
Expenses of Committee on Fraternal Correspondence	100.00
Donation to American Red Cross	100.00

We also recommend that the Grand Secretary be authorized to procure a Past Grand High Priest's jewel for presentation to the Most Excellent Grand High Priest at our next Grand Convocation and that a warrant be drawn from the Contingent Fund for same. We also recommend that the Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary be authorized to draw warrants on the Contingent Fund for the purpose of defraying the necessary expense of printing, postage, stationery and other incidentals for the use of the Grand High Priest, Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, and for the expense of this Grand Convocation, and that they also be authorized to use any unused funds in the Contingent Fund, not to exceed \$300.00 for Camp work at Army and Navy cantonments in this State, and that the Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay the same. We also recommend that the Grand Secretary be authorized to draw warrants against any unappropriated funds and that the Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay same to cover the traveling expenses of the Grand Officers for official visitations to subordinate Chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction. We also recommend that the pamphlet referred to in the Most Excellent Grand High Priest's address entitled, "The Necessity of the Royal Arch Degree to the Master Mason," issued by Past Grand High Priest W. H. Kuhn of Missouri, distributed by Manatee Chapter No. 18, be recommended to the several Chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction, for distribution. Owing to war conditions we feel that it is not timely to employ a lecturer or have schools of instruction at this time.

We also recommend that a sufficient amount be appropriated to cover the expenses of the representative of this Grand Chapter at the Convocation of the General Grand Chapter at Baltimore.

Fraternally submitted,

H. O. SNOW,
E. L. WIRT,
F. J. SATTLER,

Committee.

PAY ROLL

Name	Mileage	Per Diem	Total
D. B. Palmer, G. H. P.	\$ 11.44	\$ 8.00	\$ 19.44
C. H. Ketchum, D. G. H. P.	41.76	8.00	49.76
L. F. Blalock, G. K.	29.28	8.00	37.28
W. V. Carter, G. S.	9.20	8.00	17.20
S. May Walker, G. C. H.	13.20	8.00	21.20
O. L. Taylor, G. P. S.	10.00	8.00	18.00
C. De Rocher, G. R. A. C.	19.20	8.00	27.20
John L. Hall, G. M. 2nd V.			
T. T. Turnbull, G. M. 1st V.	11.47	8.00	19.47
J. W. Capper, G. Guard			
J. W. Boyd, P. G. H. P.	29.28	8.00	37.28
L. C. Massey, P. G. H. P.	11.89	8.00	19.89
O. S. Wright, P. G. H. P.	15.12	8.00	23.12
W. S. Ware, P. G. H. P.			
T. Picton Warlow, P. G. H. P.	11.89	8.00	19.89
H. N. Sweeting, P. G. H. P.	13.20	8.00	21.20
J. M. Caldwell, P. G. H. P.	8.00	8.00	16.00
W. C. Andress, P. G. H. P.			
Silas B. Wright, P. G. H. P.	8.93	8.00	16.93
I. E. Webster, P. G. H. P.	5.60	8.00	13.60
Robt. McClellan, P. G. H. P.	5.60	8.00	13.60
F. B. Stoneman, P. G. H. P.	5.60	8.00	13.60
H. O. Snow, Com. on Work	29.28	8.00	37.28
C. E. Connor, Com. on Work	16.96	8.00	24.96
E. L. Wirt, Com. on Work	9.52	8.00	17.52
E. P. Hubbell, Com. on Work	16.16	8.00	24.16
Max Sirkin, Com. on Work	19.20	8.00	27.20
E. W. Bunker, Com. on Work	24.00	8.00	32.00
T. T. Todd, Com. on Work	24.00	8.00	32.00
Cary B. Fish, Com. on Griev.	29.60	8.00	37.60
	19.20	8.00	27.20

Chas. S. Hill, Com. on Cred.	18.96	8.00	26.96
Geo. B. Ames, Com. on Unfin. B.	13.20	8.00	21.20
Dr. A. S. York, Com. on Unfin. B.	16.96	8.00	24.96
Harry Brown, Com. on Visitors	3.04	8.00	11.04
G. A. Dame, Com. on Visitors	11.84	8.00	19.84
H. G. Hayes, Chapter No. 1	13.20	8.00	21.20
S. E. Collison, Chapter No. 2	5.60	8.00	13.60
O. G. Sexton, Jr., Chapter No. 3	16.96	8.00	24.96
Emmett L. Shear, Chapter No. 5	8.80	8.00	16.80
W. G. Forschimer, Chapter No. 6	29.60	8.00	37.60
M. D. Alexander, Chapter No. 10	13.20	8.00	21.20
T. P. Way, Chapter No. 11	29.28	8.00	37.28
J. S. B. Moyer, Chapter No. 12		8.00	8.00
J. A. Bouvier, Chapter No. 13	8.16	8.00	16.16
H. J. Dame, Chapter No. 14	11.84	8.00	19.84
T. C. Calmes, Chapter No. 16	15.12	8.00	23.12
H. J. Peiper, Chapter No. 17	3.04	8.00	11.04
R. E. Scott, Chapter No. 18	19.20	8.00	27.20
C. H. Register, Chapter No. 19	4.32	8.00	12.32
Earl Hathaway, Chapter No. 21	41.76	8.00	49.76
L. G. Carter, Chapter No. 25	6.56	8.00	14.56
F. J. Sattler, Chapter No. 26	11.44	8.00	19.44
E. E. Macey, Chapter No. 27	15.20	8.00	23.20
S. R. Reade, Chapter No. 28	19.36	8.00	27.36
F. H. Thompson, Chapter No. 29	15.12	8.00	23.12
P. S. Thomson, Chapter No. 30	15.20	8.00	23.20
Alan H. White, Chapter No. 31	16.96	8.00	24.96
C. H. Ryals, Chapter No. 32	18.64	8.00	26.64
W. S. McClelland, Chapter No. 33	12.44	8.00	20.44
H. L. Shaeffer, Chapter No. 34	11.10	8.00	19.10
C. R. Horn, Chapter No. 36	8.00	8.00	16.00
A. F. Bullard, Walton Chap. U. D.	23.20	8.00	31.20
W. B. Y. Wilkie, Chm. Com. Mem.	16.96	8.00	24.96
			\$1,423.24
		Total	

The motion of Companion Caldwell prevailed that in the event that another sale of Liberty Bonds is held before the next annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, the Grand High Priest and Grand Treasurer be author-

ized to purchase \$1,000.00 of same, if in their opinion the funds were available at that time.

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

DISPENSATIONS AND BY-LAWS

To the M. : E. : Grand Chapter of Florida:

Your Committee on Dispensations and By-Laws report as follows:

We have examined the records and papers submitted by Walton Chapter U. D. and find them according to our laws and usages and therefore recommend that their petition for charter be granted with officers as follows:

A. F. BULLARD, *High Priest,*

JOHN L. MOORE, *King,*

NIMROD MCGUIRE, *Scribe,*

and that their representative be placed on the pay-roll.

Fraternally submitted,

OLIN S. WRIGHT,

H. L. SCHAEFFER,

LAMAR G. CARTER,

The M. : E. : Grand High Priest appointed Companions Fish and Sexton as tellers and the Grand Chapter proceeded with the annual election of Officers with the following result:

GRAND OFFICERS ELECTED

Charles H. Ketchum	M. : E. : G. High Priest,
L. F. Blalock	R. : E. : D. G. High Priest,
W. V. Carter	R. : E. : Grand King.
H. O. Snow	R. : E. : Grand Scribe.
Marcus Endel	R. : E. : Grand Treasurer.
Wilber P. Webster	R. : E. : Grand Secretary.
W. B. Y. Wilkie	R. : E. : Grand Chaplain.

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

GRAND OFFICERS APPOINTED

John L. Hall	E. : G. C. of the Host.
O. L. Taylor	E. : G. P. Sojourner.
R. J. Kishbaugh	E. : G. Royal Arch Captain.
E. L. Wirt	E. : G. : Master Third Vail.
T. T. Todd	E. : G. Master Second Vail.
C. R. Horne	E. : G. Master First Vail.
J. W. Capper	E. : Grand Guard.

Past Grand High Priest I. E. Webster, assisted by Companion Hill, as Grand Marshal, installed the following Grand Officers:

INSTALLATION

Charles H. Ketchum	M. : E. : G. High Priest.
L. F. Blalock	R. : E. : D. G. High Priest.
W. V. Carter	R. : E. : Grand King.
H. O. Snow	R. : E. : Grand Scribe.
W. B. Y. Wilkie	R. : E. : Grand Chaplain.
John L. Hall	E. : G. Captain of the Host.
O. L. Taylor	E. : Grand Prin. Sojourner.
E. L. Wirt	E. : G. Master Third Vail.
T. T. Todd	E. : G. Master Second Vail.
C. R. Horne	E. : G. Master First Vail.

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

Companion Kishbaugh not being present to be installed as Grand Royal Arch Captain, he was authorized installed in his local Chapter by one of the Grand Officers.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment.

IN GRAND CHAPTER

Wednesday, May 22, 3:00 P. M.

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

The minutes of the morning session were read and adopted.

The following brethren were exalted to the August and Sublime degree of Royal Arch Mason, under the direction of the Grand Chapter Committee on Work.

Paul W. Wilson for Jacksonville Chapter No. 12.

H. B. Rainey for Jefferson Chapter No. 26.

P. G. Prevatt for St. Johns Chapter No. 4.

Companion Caldwell presented the following resolution, which was received and adopted:

Resolved: That the thanks of this Grand Royal Arch Chapter be and the same are hereby tendered to Jacksonville Royal Arch Chapter No. 12 and Jacksonville Chapter No. 15, O. E. S., for the use of their rooms for this Grand Annual Convocation.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment.

IN GRAND CHAPTER

Wednesday, May 22, 7:30 P. M.

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

The minutes of the afternoon session were read and adopted.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Florida:

Your Committee on Unfinished Business beg to report that they find no unfinished business appearing on the record.

Fraternally submitted,

A. S. YORK,
GEO. B. AMES,
ROScoe E. SCOTT,

Committee.

The Committee on "Masonic Jurisprudence" made the following report which was received and adopted.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of Florida:

Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence reports as follows:

Referring to that portion of the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, which was referred to us, we are of the opinion that the approval of the By-Laws of St. Augustine Chapter No. 17, changing the date of holding their annual election to the first Convocation in December, is not in accord with the provisions of Article IV. Section 8 of the Constitution, which provides that the election can be had only at the regular Convocation of the Chapter next preceding St. John the Evangelist's Day, or as soon thereafter as practicable. Your Committee is of the opinion that the best interests of the Chapters would be conserved if the Constitution be amended. We therefore, propose the following amendment to Article IV, Section 8 of the Constitution:

Section 8. The first five officers named in the last preceding section shall be elected annually by ballot by a majority of the votes cast at the first regular Convocation of the Chapter in December, or as soon thereafter as practicable, and the remaining officers shall be appointed by the High Priest.

Your Committee is of the opinion that the ruling of the Grand High Priest with reference to certain petitions from the Town of Hastings, which were sent to St. Augustine Chapter No. 17, should be approved, with the exception, that the direction to forward the petitions to Palatka Chapter should have been a direction to return the petitions to the petitioners.

Referring to this ruling, your Committee would direct attention to the fact that under Article VI, Section 1 of the Constitution, a Chapter cannot be divested of its territorial jurisdiction without its own consent, unless the Grand High Priest, for good cause, satisfactory to himself, shall by dispensation otherwise direct.

Referring to that portion of the address of the Grand Secretary, which was referred to us, we present the following as a regulation to be effective as of the year 1918, and recommend its adoption.

Resolved: That the dues and assessments of Constituent Chapters for all members thereof serving in the Army and Navy of the United States in any of its branches, during such term of service, in all cases where the Chapters have remitted or shall remit same, be and the same are hereby remitted.

Fraternally submitted,

MARCUS ENDEL,
J. W. BOYD,
I. E. WEBSTER,
SILAS B. WRIGHT,
LOUIS C. MASSEY,
O. S. WRIGHT,
W. S. WARE,
T. P. WARLOW,
F. B. STONEMAN,
ROBERT McCLELLAN,
H. N. SWEETING,
J. M. CALDWELL,
W. C. ANDRESS,

Committee.

The Grand Secretary was directed to forward to Past Grand High Priest Palmer, the jewel that had been procured for him, he not having been present in the Grand Chapter to receive same since the installation of Grand Officers.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Ely P. Hubbell,

O. S. Wright, L. C. Massey.

PRINTING

W. P. Webster,

S. B. Wright, Marcus Endel.

WORK

E. W. Bunker

Max Sirkin,	Chester DeRocher,
C. E. Connor,	E. P. Hubbell,
John T. Burroughs	Edwin E. Macy,
T. P. Way,	Allan H. White.

MASONIC RELIEF

John L. Hall, Three Years

Marcus Endel, Two Years.

E. E. Haskell, One Year.

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

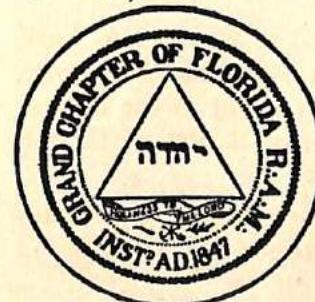
The Grand Chapter was closed in ample form with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

CHARLES H. KETCHUM,
Grand High Priest.

Attest:

WILBER P. WEBSTER,
Grand Secretary.

(SEAL)

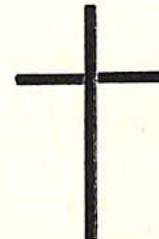


In Memory of
James Carnell
Grand High Priest
1899



Born September 30, 1849
Leicester, England
Died June 17, 1917
Ormond, Florida

In Memory
of the
Distinguished Dead
of
Other Grand Jurisdictions



Who were called to the Celestial Chapter
on High During the Past Year.

To the Memory of
Companions of
Our Jurisdiction

Who Passed Away During the Year 1917
This Page is Fraternally Dedicated



John C. Calhoun	Florida	No. 1, Oct. 1, 1917
W. Turner Pound	Gainesville	No. 2, July 18, 1917
J. E. Whitehead	Gainesville	No. 2, Sept.
James M. Graham	Gainesville	No. 2, Dec. 1, 1917
James Carnell	Halifax	No. 5, June 17, 1917
Wm. M. Shaffner	Halifax	No. 5, Jan. 6, 1917
Jas. E. Thompson	Halifax	No. 5, Feb. 17, 1917
Alfred A. Rickert	Eureka	No. 7, Feb. 23, 1917
J. M. Honnaker	Dade City	No. 8, Jan. 11, 1917
John Henry Norton	Jacksonville	No. 12, Nov. 2, 1917
Oswald K. Robinson	Jacksonville	No. 12, July 23, 1917
Thomas V. Cashen	Jacksonville	No. 12, Feb. 8, 1917
Joseph T. Craig	Jacksonville	No. 12, June 25, 1917
Francis O. Nichols	Jacksonville	No. 12, April 11, 1917
E. Hiller	Ocala	No. 13, Feb. 2, 1917
George W. de Muro	Inverness	No. 14, Mch. 29, 1917
DeWitt Webb	St. Augustine	No. 17, Apr. 15, 1917
J. C. Pelot	Manatee River	No. 18, May, 1917
William S. Costa	Island	No. 21, Dec. 4, 1917
Thomas O. Otto	Island	No. 21, Apr. 5, 1917
Samuel Pasco	Jefferson	No. 26, Mch. 13, 1917
R. E. Sloan	Jefferson	No. 26, Oct. 15, 1917
Frederick M. Taylor	Indian River	No. 27, Sept. 15, 1917
A. C. Ditmar	Joppa	No. 28, Jan. 24, 1917
George Munroe	Gadsden	No. 30, Jan. 19, 1917
Max Wedeles	Gadsden	No. 30, Mch. 20, 1917
Frank Radcliffe	Gadsden	No. 30, Sept. 29, 1917
Spurgeon J. Fletcher	Gadsden	No. 30, Nov. 1917
C. E. Scott	Jackson	No. 32, Nov. 17, 1917

Chapter Chartered May 22, 1918
 And Former Chapter of Members

WALTON No. 37

DeFuniak Springs, Walton County

A. F. Bullard, H. P.	Samson No. 137, Ala.
John L. Moore, K.	Walton U. D.
Nimrod McGuire, S.	Walton U. D.
Henry H. Bullard	Samson No. 137, Ala.
Daniel B. Miles	Samson No. 137, Ala.
William J. Miles	Samson No. 137, Ala.
Angus Green	Samson No. 137, Ala.
Jack G. Maulding	Samson No. 137, Ala.
W. L. Preachers	Samson No. 137, Ala.
N. A. Beckham	Samson No. 137, Ala.
W. S. Green	Walnut Grove, No. 75, Miss.
E. L. Huggins	Jackson No. 32, Fla.
James W. Bullard	Walton, U. D.
H. F. Scott	Walton, U. D.
E. V. Medernach	Walton, U. D.
D. H. Adams	Walton, U. D.
J. J. P. Perry	Walton, U. D.
George F. Carden	Walton, U. D.
Frank C. Keen	Walton, U. D.
W. K. Jennings	Walton, U. D.
G. B. Campbell	Walton, U. D.
C. B. McKinnon	Walton, U. D.
J. J. McCaskill	Walton, U. D.
H. L. Cawthorn	Walton, U. D.

T. P. Dupree	Walton, U. D.
J. D. Russ	Walton, U. D.
J. C. McSwain	Walton, U. D.
W. W. Harberson	Walton, U. D.
G. B. Anchors	Walton, U. D.
T. F. Nolin, M. E. M.	Walton, U. D.
R. E. L. McCaskill, P. M.	Walton, U. D.
H. J. Brett, P. M.	Walton, U. D.

Chapter Chartered May 22, 1918
 And Former Chapter of Members

WALTON No. 37

DeFuniak Springs, Walton County

A. F. Bullard, H. P.	Samson No. 137, Ala.
John L. Moore, K.	Walton U. D.
Nimrod McGuire, S.	Walton U. D.
Henry H. Bullard	Samson No. 137, Ala.
Daniel B. Miles	Samson No. 137, Ala.
William J. Miles	Samson No. 137, Ala.
Angus Green	Samson No. 137, Ala.
Jack G. Maulding	Samson No. 137, Ala.
W. L. Preachers	Samson No. 137, Ala.
N. A. Beckham	Samson No. 137, Ala.
W. S. Green	Walnut Grove, No. 75, Miss.
E. L. Huggins	Jackson No. 32, Fla.
James W. Bullard	Walton, U. D.
H. F. Scott	Walton, U. D.
E. V. Medernach	Walton, U. D.
D. H. Adams	Walton, U. D.
J. J. P. Perry	Walton, U. D.
George F. Carden	Walton, U. D.
Frank C. Keen	Walton, U. D.
W. K. Jennings	Walton, U. D.
G. B. Campbell	Walton, U. D.
C. B. McKinnon	Walton, U. D.
J. J. McCaskill	Walton, U. D.
H. L. Cawthorn	Walton, U. D.

T. P. Dupree	Walton, U. D.
J. D. Russ	Walton, U. D.
J. C. McSwain	Walton, U. D.
W. W. Harberson	Walton, U. D.
G. B. Anchors	Walton, U. D.
T. F. Nolin, M. E. M.	Walton, U. D.
R. E. L. McCaskill, P. M.	Walton, U. D.
H. J. Brett, P. M.	Walton, U. D.

GRAND SECRETARIES.

STATE	NAME	ADDRESS
General Grand Chapter		
Alabama	Charles A. Conover	Coldwater, Mich.
Alberta	Geo. A. Beauchamp	Montgomery.
Arizona	John E. Johnson	Calgary, 633 15th Av. W.
Arkansas	George J. Roskrue	Tucson.
California	John C. Bone	Batesville.
Canada	Thomas A. Davies	San Francisco.
Colorado	Henry T. Smith	Toronto, Temple Bldg.
Connecticut	Chas. H. Jacobson	Denver.
Delaware	George A. Kies	Hartford.
District of Columbia	Stuart J. Horn	Wilmington, Box 94
England	A. W. Johnston	Washington.
Georgia	Edward Letchworth	London.
Idaho	E. A. McLean	Macon
Illinois	Lewis W. Ensign	Boise.
Indiana	Geo. W. Warvelle	Chicago.
Iowa	Calvin W. Prather	Indianapolis.
Ireland	O. F. Graves	Harlan.
Kansas	H. E. Flavelle	Dublin.
Kentucky	A. K. Wilson	Topeka.
Louisiana	G. Allison Holland	Lexington.
Maine	John A. Davilla	New Orleans.
Maryland	Charles B. Davis	Portland.
Massachusetts	John H. Miller	Baltimore.
Michigan	Frederick T. Conne	Boston.
Minnesota	Chas. A. Conover	Coldwater.
Mississippi	John Fishel	St. Paul.
Missouri	Frederic G. Speed	Vicksburg.
Montana	Robert F. Stevenson	St. Louis, 510 Pine St.
Nebraska	Cornelius Hedges	Helena.
Nevada	Francis E. White	Omaha, Mas. Temple.
New Brunswick	E. D. Vanderlieth	Reno.
New Hampshire	J. Twining Hartt	St. Johns.
New Jersey	Harry M. Cheney	Concord.
New Mexico	Peter McGill	Bound Brook.
New South Wales	Alpheus A. Keen	Albuquerque.
New York	Alfred J. Burbidge	Sydney.
New Zealand	Charles C. Hunt	Masonic Temple, N. Y.
North Carolina	H. J. Williams	Wellington.
North Dakota	John B. Griggs	Elizabeth City.
Nova Scotia	Walter L. Stockwell	Fargo.
Ohio	S. J. Waddell	Truro, Box 596.
Oklahoma	Edwin Hagenbuch	Urbana.
Oregon	James A. Scott	Muskogee Phoenix Bldg.
Pennsylvania	James F. Robinson	Portland.
Quebec	George B. Wells	Philadelphia.
Rhode Island	William R. Greene	Providence.
Scotland	Alfred A. A. Murray	Edinburg.
South Carolina	O. Frank Hart	Columbia.
South Dakota	Geo. A. Pettigrew	Sioux Falls.
Tennessee	Stith M. Cain	Nashville.
Texas	T. M. Bartley	Waco.
Utah	Walter Daniels	Salt Lake City.
Vermont	H. H. Ross	Burlington.
Victoria	G. L. Marquand	Melbourne, 317 Collins.
Virginia	James B. Blanks	Petersburg.
West Virginia	D. K. Reed	Clarksburg.
Washington	Yancey C. Blalock	Walla Walla.
Wisconsin	William W. Perry	Milwaukee.
Wyoming	Adrian J. Parshall	Cheyenne.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

OF FLORIDA IN OTHER GRAND JURISDICTIONS	GRAND CHAPTERS	OF OTHER GRAND JURISDICTIONS IN FLORIDA
Robert T. Ward, Dadeville	Alabama	George H. White, Jacksonville.
Stephen Y. Taylor, Calgary	Alberta	James M. Wilson, Kissimmee.
Prosper Powell Parker, Phoenix	Arizona	T. G. Hutchinson, Jacksonville.
T. A. Turner, Jonesboro	Arkansas	Henry G. Aird, Jacksonville.
Edward R. Hedges, Oakland	California	Wm. S. Ware, Jacksonville.
James H. Cowan, Galt	Canada	Charles F. Filer, Miami.
Geo. W. Roe, Pueblo	Colorado	J. R. Wetherell, DeLand.
Wm. K. Wilson, Danbury	Connecticut	Wm. S. Ware, Jacksonville.
George W. Beatty, Wilmington	Delaware	W. P. Webster, Jacksonville.
Benjamin F. Odell, Washington	Dist. of Columbia	Silas B. Wright, DeLand.
Geo. H. Crafts, Dublin	Georgia	
F. M. Bybee, Idaho Falls	Idaho	A. E. Heyser, Miami.
Wm. B. Carlock, Bloomington	Illinois	Melville W. Carruth, Tampa.
Elmer Crockett, South Bend	Indiana	John M. Caldwell, Jasper.
A. D. Meeker, Marshalltown	Iowa	Olin S. Wright, Plant City.
Aaron H. Connell, Great Bend	Kansas	James W. Boyd, Miami.
Virgil P. Smith, Somerset	Kentucky	J. R. Wetherell, DeLand.
E. W. Drieboltz, New Orleans	Louisiana	Elmer E. Haskell, Palatka.
Henry R. Taylor, Machias	Maine	
L. D. Gassaway, Annapolis	Maryland	I. E. Webster, Gainesville.
Enoch G. Best, Greenfield	Massachusetts	E. P. Hubbell, Bradenton.
Herbert E. Blair, Waterville	Minnesota	D. B. Palmer, Monticello.
A. C. Lowe, Aberdeen	Mississippi	James W. Boyd, Miami.
C. C. Wood, St. Louis	Missouri	Robert McClellan, Gainesville.
Walter L. Spear, Geneva	Nebraska	John J. Jones, Micanopy.
Charles A. Thompson, Pioche	Nevada	Edgar A. Richards, Orlando.
W. H. B. Sadler, St. John	New Brunswick	Wm. R. O'Neal, Orlando.
Chas. L. Wentworth, Rochester	New Hampshire	Charles H. Ketchum, Key West.
Wm. Herbert Lowe, Patterson	New Jersey	Marcus Endel, Jacksonville.
Emanuel M. Kaiser, New York	New York	John D. Grether, Jacksonville.
John G. Moon, Sydney	New South Wales	John L. Hall, Jacksonville.
Wm. C. Brown, Winston-Salem	North Carolina	Marcus Endel, Jacksonville.
Oscar St. C. Chenery, Jamestown	North Dakota	T. Picton Warlow, Orlando.
W. P. Doull, Charlestown, P. E. I.	Nova Scotia	Ely P. Hubbell, Bradenton.
Ernest B. Brown, Cleveland	Ohio	Olin S. Wright, Plant City.
Daniel M. Hailey, McAlester	Oklahoma	Harry N. Sweeting, Tallahassee.
Ernest V. Carter, Ashland	Oregon	Louis C. Massey, Orlando.
Henry Oscar Kline, Pittsburg	Pennsylvania	Louis C. Massey, Orlando.
A. G. Adams, Montreal	Quebec	W. E. Lewis, Tallahassee.
Stephen Magown, Woonsocket	Rhode Island	
William Ingils, Edinburgh	Scotland	James F. Miller, Inverness.
Robert T. Goodale, Camden	South Carolina	Wm. R. O'Neal, Orlando.
John F. Schrader, Rapid City	South Dakota	Frank B. Stoneman, Miami.
Jake W. Brantley, Troy	Tennessee	Geo. P. Sullivan, Tampa.
William James, Fort Worth	Texas	J. J. Torrey, Jacksonville.
David R. Beebe, Provo	Tah	I. E. Webster, Gainesville.
Homer Thrasher, Newport	Vermont	John L. Hall, Jacksonville.
Baron Marks, Melbourne	Victoria	Jos. R. Keller, Pensacola.
W. S. Mathews, Big Stone Gap	Virginia	Silas B. Wright, DeLand.
Wm. G. Rowland, Tacoma	Washington	L. R. Phillips, Sanford.
Jere A. Miller, Wheeling	West Virginia	Lucien A. Spencer, Orlando.
E. A. Raymond, Green Bay	Wisconsin	Daniel O. Henry, Live Oak.
Christian H. Hofmann, Douglas	Wyoming	

PAST ELECTIVE OFFICERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF FLORIDA
From Its Organization to Date

GRAND HIGH PRIESTS	DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIESTS	GRAND KINGS	GRAND SCRIBES	GRAND TREASURERS	GRAND SECRETARIES	GRAND CHAPLAINS
1847 Thos. Douglas*--	John P. DuVal*--	Harry R. Taylor*--	Geo. W. Macrae*--	Edwin D. Nash*--	John B. Taylor*--	Edwin L. T. Blake*
1848 John P. DuVal*--	Isaac H. Bronson*--	Geo. W. Macrae*--	D. S. Graham*--	Thomas Brown*--	John B. Taylor*--	Edwin L. T. Blake*
1849 Isaac H. Bronson*--	Harry R. Taylor*--	D. S. Graham*--	R. A. Shine*--	Thomas Hayward*--	John B. Taylor*--	Charles E. Dyke*
1850 Harry R. Taylor*--	D. S. Graham*--	R. A. Shine*--	Gad Humphreys*--	David C. Wilson*--	John B. Taylor*--	Edwin L. T. Blake*
1851 Thomas Brown*--	Gad Humphreys*--	Alfred A. Fisher*--	Benj. Sawyer*--	David C. Wilson*--	John B. Taylor*--	Geo. M. McDonald*
1852 R. A. Shine*--	Samuel B. Stephens*--	Samuel Boardman*--	D. G. McLean*--	David C. Wilson*--	John B. Taylor*--	Charles E. Dyke*
1853 Sam' Boardman*--	J. M. W. Davidson*--	C. A. M. Mitchell*--	James S. Rust*--	David C. Wilson*--	John B. Taylor*--	E. G. Asay
1854 J. Wayles Baker*--	Thomas Y. Henry*--	James Ellenwood*--	John L. McKinnon*--	David C. Wilson*--	John B. Taylor*--	Homer Hendee
1855 J. Wayles Baker*--	Edward R. Ives*--	Joseph S. May*--	Thomas Hayward*--	John B. Taylor*--	John B. Taylor*--	Homer Hendee
1856 Thomas Hayward*--	Edward R. Ives*--	John L. McKinnon*--	James Ellenwood*--	R. A. Shine*--	John B. Taylor*--	Charles E. Dyke*
1857 Gad Humphreys*--	James Ellenwood*--	John L. McKinnon*--	David S. Walker*--	Thomas Hayward*--	John B. Taylor*--	J. R. Plummer
1858 Thomas Hayward*--	James Ellenwood*--	D. P. Holland*--	Charles E. Dyke*--	John S. Bond*--	John B. Taylor*--	John Penny*
1859 D. P. Holland*--	Geo. F. Baltzell*--	Geo. F. Baltzell*--	Calvin Davis*--	Thomas Hayward*--	John B. Taylor*--	John Penny*
1860 Thomas Y. Henry*--	Geo. F. Baltzell*--	Geo. D. Fisher*--	Josiah Payne*--	Thomas Hayward*--	John B. Taylor*--	John Penny*
1861 Geo. F. Baltzell*--	James Ellenwood*--	Franklin Branch*--	Charles Slager*--	Thomas Hayward*--	John B. Taylor*--	Edwin L. T. Blake*
1862 Geo. F. Baltzell*--	James Ellenwood*--	Charles Slager*--	D. C. Dawkins*--	Thomas Hayward*--	John B. Taylor*--	John Penny*
1863 Geo. F. Baltzell*--	James Ellenwood*--	Green H. Hunter*--	Wm. H. Arendell*--	Thomas Hayward*--	Hugh A. Corley*--	Thomas A. Carruth*
1864 Geo. F. Baltzell*--	James Ellenwood*--	Thos. K. Leonard*--	Wm. H. Arendell*--	Thomas Hayward*--	Hugh A. Corley*--	Columbus Smith*
1865 David Jones*--	D. C. Dawkins*--	B. S. Fuller*--	Elias Earle*--	T. Preston Tatum*--	Hugh A. Corley*--	Columbus Smith*
1866 David Jones*--	D. C. Dawkins*--	Elias Earle*--	A. J. Lea*--	T. Preston Tatum*--	Hugh A. Corley*--	Columbus Smith*
1867 David Jones*--	Wm. Morrill*--	Charles Slager*--	Chas. K. Sparhawk*--	T. Preston Tatum*--	Hugh A. Corley*--	Samuel C. Craft
1868 James Ellenwood*--	Wm. Morrill*--	Charles Slager*--	M. M. T. Hutchinson*--	T. Preston Tatum*--	Hugh A. Corley*--	Wm. A. McLean*
1869 D. C. Dawkins*--	M. M. T. Hutchinson*--	H. H. Berry*--	Michael Bowes*--	T. Preston Tatum*--	Edw. Bradford, Jr.*	Thomas A. Carruth*
1870 D. C. Dawkins*--	Chas. Slager*--	Charles Mundee*--	Samuel Pasco*--	T. Preston Tatum*--	Edw. Bradford, Jr.*	Thomas A. Carruth*
1871 D. C. Dawkins*--	James Ellenwood*--	Wm. Morrill*--	Theodore Ball*--	T. Preston Tatum*--	W. M. McIntosh*--	Edwin L. T. Blake*
1872 Wm. Morrill*--	Hugh A. Corley*--	John C. Ley*--	James L. Taylor*--	T. Preston Tatum*--	W. M. McIntosh*--	Thomas A. Carruth*
1873 Michael Bowes*--	Samuel Pasco*--	John S. Driggs*--	Ben G. Alderman*--	D. L. Oakley*--	Dew. C. Dawkins*--	John Penny*
1874 Michael Bowes*--	John S. Driggs*--	Benj. G. Alderman*--	D. C. Wilson*--	Wm. A. Young*--	Dew. C. Dawkins*--	John Penny*
1875 Henry W. Long*--	Edmund P. Jordon*--	Wm. T. Weeks*--	W. W. Tucker*--	D. L. Oakley*--	Dew. C. Dawkins*--	John Penny*
1876 John S. Driggs*--	Charles J. Allred*--	W. W. Tucker*--	John T. Miller*--	D. L. Oakley*--	Dew. C. Dawkins*--	John Penny*
1877 John S. Driggs*--	George R. Jones*--	W. W. Tucker*--	John T. Miller*--	L. McConline*--	Dew. C. Dawkins*--	John Penny*
1878 Enos Wasgate*--	Robert J. Perry*--	G. E. Wentworth*--	Geo. S. Hallmark*--	L. McConline*--	Dew. C. Dawkins*--	John Penny*
1879 Robert J. Perry*--	G. E. Wentworth*--	Geo. S. Hallmark*--	Hugh A. Corley*--	L. McConline*--	Dew. C. Dawkins*--	John Penny*
1880 Robert J. Perry*--	Geo. S. Hallmark*--	Wm. E. Anderson*--	Wm. A. McLean*--	L. McConline*--	Dew. C. Dawkins*--	John Penny*
1881 W. A. McLean*--	W. n. E. Anderson*--	Warren F. Scott*--	John G. Ellis*--	L. McConline*--	Dew. C. Dawkins*--	John Penny*
1882 W. A. McLean*--	W. n. E. Anderson*--	Warren F. Scott*--	G. S. Hallmark*--	L. McConline*--	Dew. C. Dawkins*--	John Penny*
1883 Geo. S. Hallmark*--	W. n. E. Anderson*--	Warren F. Scott*--	J. W. V. R. Plummer*--	T. S. Wilmarth*--	Dew. C. Dawkins*--	John Penny*
1884 Wm. E. Anderson*--	Warren F. Scott*--	J. W. V. R. Plummer*--	Angus Paterson*--	T. S. Wilmarth*--	Dew. C. Dawkins*--	Z. A. McLean*
1885 Wm. E. Anderson*--	J. W. V. R. Plummer*--	Angus Paterson*--	Marcus Endel*--	T. S. Wilmarth*--	Dew. C. Dawkins*--	W. A. McLean*
1886 Angus Paterson*--	Marcus Endel*--	F. S. Goodrich*--	John G. Ellis*--	T. S. Wilmarth*--	Dew. C. Dawkins*--	John S. Wharton
1887 Angus Paterson*--	Marcus Endel*--	F. S. Goodrich*--	R. A. Montsalvage*--	T. S. Wilmarth*--	Dew. C. Dawkins*--	W. A. McLean*
1888 Marcus Endel*--	Fred S. Goodrich*--	Wm. M. McIntosh*--	Chas. H. Munger*--	T. S. Wilmarth*--	Dew. C. Dawkins*--	W. A. McLean*
1889 Marcus Endel*--	Fred S. Goodrich*--	James W. Boyd*--	Chas. H. Munger*--	T. S. Wilmarth*--	Dew. C. Dawkins*--	W. A. McLean*
1890 J. W. Boyd*--	T. S. Wilmarth*--	F. P. Mersereau*--	Silas B. Wright*--	John H. Stephens*--	Dew. C. Dawkins*--	W. A. McLean*
1891 T. S. Wilmarth*--	F. P. Mersereau*--	I. E. Webster*--	John H. Stephens*--	Henry S. Ely*--	Dew. C. Dawkins*--	W. A. McLean*
1892 Irving E. Webster*--	Silas B. Wright*--	W. M. McIntosh*--	John H. Stephens*--	Henry S. Ely*--	Dew. C. Dawkins*--	W. A. McLean*
1893 Silas B. Wright*--	Wm. M. McIntosh*--	J. H. Stevens*--	Henry S. Ely*--	Warren Tyler*--	W. A. McLean*--	Irving E. Webster
1894 Wm. M. McIntosh*--	John H. Stephens*--	Wm. H. Jewell*--	Wm. H. Jewell*--	Wilber P. Webster*--	W. A. McLean*--	Irving E. Webster
1895 John H. Stephens*--	Wm. H. Jewell*--	Warren Tyler*--	Warren Tyler*--	Irving E. Webster*--	W. A. McLean*--	Wm. M. McIntosh*
1896 Wm. H. Jewell*--	Warren Tyler*--	W. P. Webster*--	Olin S. Wright*--	Irving E. Webster*--	W. A. McLean*--	Wm. M. McIntosh*
1897 Warren Tyler*--	W. P. Webster*--	James Carnell*--	E. E. Haskell*--	Irving E. Webster*--	W. A. McLean*--	Wm. M. McIntosh*
1898 Wilber P. Webster*--	James Carnell*--	E. E. Haskell*--	J. R. Wetherell*--	Marcus Endel*--	T. G. Hutchinson*--	Wm. M. McIntosh*
1899 James Carnell*--	E. E. Haskell*--	J. R. Wetherell*--	T. G. Hutchinson*--	Marcus Endel*--	W. P. Webster*--	Wm. M. McIntosh*
1900 E. E. Haskell*--	J. R. Wetherell*--	Louis C. Massey*--	Louis C. Massey*--	Marcus Endel*--	W. P. Webster*--	Wm. M. McIntosh*
1901 J. R. Wetherell*--	T. G. Hutchinson*--	Olin S. Wright*--	Olin S. Wright*--	Marcus Endel*--	W. P. Webster*--	Irving E. Webster
1902 J. R. Wetherell*--	T. G. Hutchinson*--	Joseph R. Keller*--	Joseph R. Keller*--	Marcus Endel*--	W. P. Webster*--	Irving E. Webster
1903 T. G. Hutchinson*--	Louis C. Massey*--	Wm. S. Ware*--	Wm. S. Ware*--	Marcus Endel*--	W. P. Webster*--	Irving E. Webster
1904 Louis C. Massey*--	Olin S. Wright*--	F. W. Armstrong*--	F. W. Armstrong*--	Marcus Endel*--	W. P. Webster*--	John H. Weddell*
1905 Olin S. Wright*--	Joseph R. Keller*--	T. Picton Warlow*--	T. Picton Warlow*--	Marcus Endel*--	W. P. Webster*--	John H. Weddell*
1906 Joseph R. Keller*--	Wm. S. Ware*--	F. W. Armstrong*--	F. W. Armstrong*--	Marcus Endel*--	W. P. Webster*--	John H. Weddell*
1907 William S. Ware*--	F. W. Armstrong*--	T. Picton Warlow*--	T. Picton Warlow*--	Marcus Endel*--	W. P. Webster*--	Irving E. Webster
1908 John H. Weddell*--	Samuel Pasco*--	T. Picton Warlow*--	F. B. Stoneman*--	Marcus Endel*--	W. P. Webster*--	Irving E. Webster
1909 Samuel Pasco*--	T. Picton Warlow*--	F. B. Stoneman*--	Robert McClellan*--	Marcus Endel*--	W. P. Webster*--	Irving E. Webster
1910 T. Picton Warlow*--	F. B. Stoneman*--	Robert McClellan*--	G. N. Sweeting*--	Marcus Endel*--	W. P. Webster*--	Irving E. Webster
1911 F. B. Stoneman*--	Robert McClellan*--	H. N. Sweeting*--	H. N. Sweeting*--	Marcus Endel*--	W. P. Webster*--	Irving E. Webster
1912 Robert McClellan*--	H. N. Sweeting*--	John M. Caldwell*--	John M. Caldwell*--	Marcus Endel*--	W. P. Webster*--	Irving E. Webster
1913 H. N. Sweeting*--	John M. Caldwell*--	Will C. Andress*--	Will C. Andress*--	Marcus Endel*--	W. P. Webster*--	Irving E. Webster
1914 John M. Caldwell*--	Will C. Andress*--	Wm. R. O'Neal*--	Wm. R. O'Neal*--	Marcus Endel*--	W. P. Webster*--	Irving E. Webster
1915 Will C. Andress*--	Wm. R. O'Neal*--	D. B. Palmer*--	D. B. Palmer*--	Marcus Endel*--	W. P. Webster*--	Irving E. Webster
1916 Wm. R. O'Neal*--	D. B. Palmer*--	C. H. Ketchum*--	C. H. Ketchum*--	Marcus Endel*--	W. P. Webster*--	Irving E. Webster
1917 D. B. Palmer*--	C. H. Ketchum*--	L. F. Blalock*--	L. F. Blalock*--	Marcus Endel*--	W. P. Webster*--	Irving E. Webster
		W. V. Carter*--	W. V. Carter*--	Marcus Endel*--	W. P. Webster*--	Irving E. Webster

*Deceased

CHAPTER DIRECTORY

CHAPTER	ON	HIGH PRIEST	KING	SCRIBE	TREASURER	SECRETARY	SEC.'S ADDRESS
Florida		1 Harry O. Wood	2 H. G. Hays	3 D. M. Lowry	4 H. N. Sweeting	5 A. G. Goodbody	6 Tallahassee.
Gainesville		2 S. E. Collison	3 A. E. Householder	4 Bernard Campbell	5 Herbert E. Taylor	6 Irving E. Webster	7 Gainesville.
Tampa		3 Fred E. Fletcher	4 A. B. Stewart	5 David M. Cook	6 R. J. McMasters	7 J. W. Dyke	8 Tampa.
St. Johns		4 V. H. Voorhis	5 T. C. Brooks	6 A. B. Prather	7 S. A. Wood	8 F. W. Taylor	9 DeLand.
Halifax		5 Emmett L. Shear	6 David Shultz	7 John P. Cartin	8 Joe Osborne	9 Arthur H. Carter	10 Holly Hill.
Mt. Horeb		6 Wm. H. Hansen	7 C. McK. Oering	8 W. F. Graham	9 J. S. Reese	10 T. T. Todd	11 Pensacola.
Eureka		7 Chas. P. Dow	8 J. E. Petris	9 L. S. Thornton	10 T. P. Warlow	11 Bert L. Blair	12 Orlando.
Dade City		8 C. A. Lock	9 R. A. McMahan	10 F. F. Zeigler	11 W. J. Porter	12 J. J. Brown	13 Dade City.
Putnam		9 Lewis A. Smith	10 Edward P. Ross	11 A. M. Hedick	12 Benj. I. Gay	13 Thomas R. Beggs	14 Palatka.
Kissimmee		10 Roma Thomas	11 M. D. Alexander	12 S. L. Lepfer	13 H. N. Bratton	14 J. M. Wilson, Jr.	15 Kissimmee.
Jericho		11 L. D. Gates	12 T. P. Way	13 C. L. Benedict	14 R. V. Atkisson	15 A. E. Culley	16 Miami.
Jacksonville		12 J. S. B. Moyer	13 H. D. Morris	14 S. E. Gregory	15 Chas. W. Johnson	16 W. P. Webster	17 Jacksonville, Box 618.
Ocala		13 J. A. Bouvier	14 A. E. Burnett	15 J. R. Herndon	16 W. V. Wheeler	17 Jake Brown	18 Ocala.
Inverness		14 B. M. Pearce	15 Wm. H. Warnock	16 C. S. Brooks	17 D. S. Flitz	18 W. E. Vann	19 Inverness.
Monroe		15 Frank L. Miller	16 Sidney G. Kennedy	17 James Moughton	18 Theo. J. Miller	19 O. L. Taylor	20 Sanford.
Plant City		16 Sheldon C. Wells	17 Jasper Evers	18 F. E. Cummins	19 Eben B. Trask	20 Olin S. Wright	21 Plant City.
St. Augustine		17 H. J. Peiper	18 Roy C. Dabbs	19 F. E. Weathers	20 Roy P. Davis	21 A. E. Cook	22 St. Augustine.
Manatee River		18 Roscoe E. Scott	19 Chas. S. Hill	20 F. W. Pledger	21 Jno. T. Campbell	22 B. G. Arnold	23 Bradenton.
Lake Butler		19 Chas. H. Register	20 John P. Sapp	21 J. Ed. Byrd	22 M. L. McKinney	23 A. D. Zacharias	24 Lake Butler.
Keystone		20 Harry S. Sweeting	21 J. L. Gibbons	22 Will J. Reed	23 J. E. Savage	24 H. V. Calder	25 Ft. Lauderdale.
Island		21 Earl Hathaway	22 Wm. W. Demeritt	23 Alfredo L. Recio	24 Henry Canfield	25 Chas. H. Ketchum	26 Key West.
Thomas Brown		22 D. E. Bivins	23 W. J. Parker	24 J. A. Gresham	25 E. L. Wirt	26 J. B. Howe	27 Bartow.
Lake Worth		23 E. W. Bunker	24 W. J. Tarver	25 L. T. Lockwood	26 Carl Kettler, Jr.	27 Fred E. Fenno	28 West Palm Beach.
Live Oak		24 Chas. Gildersleeve	25 Thos. J. Rhodes	26 Thos. A. Pack	27 Henry F. Alirth	28 B. W. Helvenston	29 Live Oak.
Jefferson		25 R. J. Mays	26 J. W. Garwood	27 A. N. Turnbull	28 J. E. Nobles	29 R. H. Daniel	30 Monticello.
Indian River		26 Edwin E. Macy	27 Wm. T. Winterhager	28 E. C. Langston	29 George W. Scobie	30 Aaron B. Tull	31 Titusville
Joppa		27 Daniel T. McCarty	28 Adrian M. Sample	29 Stephen F. Reade	30 Albert N. Hoofnagle	31 Rollin V. Ankeny	32 Ankona.
Lakeland		28 F. H. Thompson	29 J. W. Sumner	30 B. F. Driscoll	31 H. L. Swatts	32 C. E. McMullen	33 Lakeland.
Gadsden		29 E. M. Collins	30 John W. Hendrix	31 Walter L. Loffin	32 Stephen E. Key	33 Paul S. Thomson	34 Quincy
St. Petersburg		30 Alan H. White	31 Archie Aitchison	32 C. N. White	33 W. M. Brinker	34 E. A. Converse	35 St. Petersburg.
Jackson		31 John H. Carter	32 John H. Ryals	33 D. A. Robinson, Sr.	34 F. M. Golson	35 J. D. Stephens	36 Marianna.
Eustis		32 Edm. S. McClelland	33 W. A. Getch	34 David J. Caldwell	35 I. A. Field	36 Jacob F. St. John	37 Eustis.
Leesburg		33 W. L. Schaeffer	34 B. A. Williams	35 M. L. Andrew	36 G. G. Ware	37 W. M. Robinson	38 Leesburg.
Sarasota		34 John F. Burket	35 J. Claude Turner	36 Frank A. Walpole	37 C. E. Hitchings	38 C. M. Bundy	39 Sarasota.
Jasper		35 C. R. Horne	36 H. M. Tuton	37 B. B. Johnson	38 E. P. Smith	39 Ben M. Caldwell	40 Jasper.
Walton		36 A. F. Bullard	37 John L. Moore	38 Nimrod McGuire	39	40	41 Defuniak Springs.

CHAPTERS

Florida	1	64	52	10	67	1	51	10
Gainesville	2	72	55	10	79	3	3	10
Tampa	3	184	18	0	1	203	42	10
St. Johns	4	42	0	0	42	0	0	0
Halifax	5	120	12	1	135	3	6	12
Mt. Horeb	6	77	19	4	101	0	0	0
Eureka	7	136	55	3	144	1	11	9
Putnam	8	51	3	0	54	1	10	40
Kissimmee	9	38	2	0	40	0	0	0
Jacksonville	10	45	4	0	49	0	0	0
Plant City	11	132	12	0	149	5	4	21
Keystone	12	307	16	0	328	298	1	10
Inverness	13	63	5	0	69	1	11	67
Monroe	14	64	6	0	70	1	11	68
Plant City	15	58	18	2	74	1	11	66
St. Augustine	16	71	2	1	75	1	14	66
Manatee River	17	82	9	0	92	1	13	87
Lake Butler	18	73	0	1	74	1	13	69
Keystone	19	45	11	1	57	0	0	0
Island	20	44	0	2	46	0	0	0
Thomas Brown	21	38	0	0	38	2	5	10
Lake Worth	22	24	0	1	178	6	10	10
Live Oak	24	103	13	1	116	1	14	10
Jefferson	25	71	13	1	85	0	0	0
Indian River	26	34	1	0	35	3	4	10
Joppa River	27	55	33	0	120	1	12	10
Gadsden	28	51	12	0	64	1	11	15
St. Petersburg	29	80	8	3	94	0	1	5
Jacksonville	30	47	7	0	54	4	2	0
Fusius	31	93	13	1	12	1	12	93
Leesburg	32	68	27	0	1	96	43	118
Sarasota	33	43	2	0	44	39	37	26
Jasper	34	37	2	0	43	38	42	178
Walton	35	40	3	0	43	29	38	115
Total	37	32	20	0	9	29	29	85
	274	328	15	0	50	3133	2983	2983
	43	77	0	0	29	43	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

STATISTICS

Number
Membership Last Year
Exalted
Reinstated
Affiliated
Total
Died
Dimitted
Suspended N. P. D.
Suspended U. M. C.
Expelled
Rejected
Present Membership

REGULATIONS

ADOPTED SINCE THE PUBLICATION OF THE DIGEST

DIRECTORY OF CHAPTERS

CHAPTR	LOCATION	TIME OF MEETING
Florida	1 Tallahassee	Second Monday
Gainesville	2 Gainesville	Third Friday
Tampa	3 Tampa	First and Third Thursday
St. Johns	4 DeLand	Third Wednesday
Hallifax	5 Daytona	Second Thursday
Mount Horeb	6 Pensacola	Second Monday
Eureka	7 Orlando	First and Third Tuesday
Dade City	8 Dade City	Fourth Monday
Putnam	9 Palatka	Second and Fourth Monday
Kissimmee	10 Kissimmee	Second Monday
Jericho	11 Miami	Second and Fourth Thursday
Jacksonville	12 Jacksonville	Fourth Thursday
Ocala	13 Ocala	First Friday
Inverness	14 Inverness	Fourth Monday
Monroe	15 Sanford	Second and Fourth Tuesdays
Plant City	16 Plant City	Second Wednesday
St. Augustine	17 St. Augustine	Second and Fourth Tuesday
Manatee River	18 Bradenton	Second and Fourth Tuesday
Lake Butler	19 Lake Butler	First Thursday
Keystone Island	20 Ft. Lauderdale	Second and Third Tuesday
Thomas Brown	21 Key West	Second and Fourth Wednesday
Lake Worth	22 Bartow	Second and Fourth Friday
Live Oak	24 West Palm Beach	Second and Fourth Tuesday
Jefferson	25 Live Oak	First and Third Wednesday
Indian River	26 Monticello	Second and Third Thursday
Joppa	27 Titusville	Third Wednesday
Lakeland	28 Fort Pierce	First and Third Friday
Gadsden	29 Lakeland	First and Third Thursday
St. Petersburg	30 Quincy	Third Monday
Jackson	31 St. Petersburg	First and Third Thursday
Eustis	32 Marianna	Second and Fourth Thursday
Leesburg	33 Eustis	First and Third Friday
Sarasota	34 Leesburg	Second and Fourth Tuesday
Jasper	35 Sarasota	Second and Fourth Tuesday
	36 Jasper	Second Tuesday

BUSINESS

Regulation No. 6 is amended to read as follows:
6. No business shall be transacted at a special or
called Convocation other than that for which the meet-
ing was called. This rule is not applicable in cases where
every member of the Chapter is present at the meeting
and no objection is made to transacting such other busi-
ness. *Provided*, that receiving of petitions and balloting
for candidates cannot be done at a special Convocation
except by special dispensation of the Grand High Priest,
1916.

CANDIDATES

Physical Perfection is not required in a candidate for degrees in a Chapter. The question of physical qualification is to be determined by each particular Chapter.

DIMITS

A member paying his dues in full and applying for a
dimit prior to December 27th, is not chargeable with
dues for the following year for want of action by the
Chapter as action thereon should have been taken on, or
before, December 27th.

DISPENSATIONS—U. D. CHAPTERS

REGULATIONS—U. S. CH.
Regulation No. 25 is amended to read as follows:
25. No dispensation to form a new Chapter can issue by the Grand High Priest without the recommendation of the Chapter.

tion of the Chapter nearest to where the new Chapter is to be held, nor unless the petitioners therefor shall show that they are Royal Arch Masons, and in good standing as such, and have paid their dues in full for the current year. No charter shall be issued until the Chapter shall have given proof of its skill by labor under dispensation for at least three months. Provided, that the Grand Chapter may in Annual Grand Convocation grant a dispensation to nine regular Royal Arch Masons on the usual form of petition without the recommendation of any Chapter and later, after proof of skill, may grant a charter on same, and any Chapter U. D. so formed shall be under the immediate control of the Grand High Priest the same as if the dispensation had been issued by him.

DISTRICTS

Regulation 28 is amended to read as follows:

Regulation 28. This Grand Jurisdiction shall be divided into four districts, and one of these districts shall annually be assigned by the Grand High Priest to each of the four highest elective officers of this Grand Chapter, whose duty it shall be to make an official visit to each of the Chapters in his district at least once during the year. They may hold district conventions in lieu of such visits or both as they may deem expedient. The necessary expenses of such officers in carrying out this Regulation shall be paid by the Grand Chapter. 1917.

DUES

Section 14, of Article 4 of the Constitution does not prohibit the Chapters from remitting in whole or in part, arrears in dues, where reinstatement is voted. 1917.

The dues and assessments of Constituent Chapters for all members thereof serving in the Army and Navy of the United States, in any of its branches, during such

term of service, in all cases where the Chapters have remitted or shall remit same, be and the same are hereby remitted. 1918.

MASONIC RELIEF

Regulation No. Hereafter all charitable appeals for aid shall be made to the Masonic Relief Committee of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Florida, which committee shall be appointed by the Grand High Priest. Said Committee shall consist of three members of this Grand Chapter, and shall be appointed as follows:

The first of said Committee shall be composed of one member to be appointed for three years, one for two years and one for one year. Thereafter, one of said Committee shall be appointed for the term of three years at each Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter. Said Committee shall make full report of their acts at each Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter. All appeals for aid shall be considered, determined, and such relief administered as the Committee may deem proper or the Grand Chapter, or its authority direct. 1917.

QUORUM

51. Nine members of the Chapter are necessary to constitute a quorum to transact any business whatever, but for the purpose of opening and conferring degrees the quorum of nine may include Royal Arch Masons in good standing not members of the Chapter. Provided, That the High Priest may call meetings of the Lodges respectively to confer the Lodge degrees upon duly elected candidates, and do the work with the working quorums; Mark Master's Lodge 5, Past Master's Lodge 3, and Most Excellent Master's Lodge 2, all of whom are not required to be Royal Arch Masons; and for such

purpose the Chapter need not be opened in the Royal Arch Degree. 1914.

RESTORATION OF CHARTERS

If a chapter has surrendered its charter and Grand Chapter certificates have been issued to any who were members at the time of its surrender, a petition for restoration of the charter must be accompanied by the Grand Chapter certificates of the petitioners. If no Grand Chapter certificate has been issued to a Companion who is shown by the Grand Chapter records to have been a member of the Chapter at the time of the surrender and who signs the petition for restoration, no such certificate is necessary to be filed with the petition. 1913.

RETURNS

Reg. No. 52, amended to read as follows:

Reg. No. 52. Annual returns of chapters are required to be prepared immediately after the close of each Masonic year, and forwarded to the Grand Secretary. Annual dues should also be forwarded at the same time. Chapters failing to have their returns and dues in the hands of the Grand Secretary on or before April 1st, may be allowed representation in the Grand Chapter, and their representatives placed on the payroll by special action of the Grand Chapter, but a fine of five (\$5.) dollars shall be assessed against such chapters for such delinquency and collected by the Grand Secretary, who shall notify the High Priest and the Secretary of the delinquent chapter of the assessment of the fine. 1913.

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

Section 9, Article IV, amended to read as follows:

Sec. 9. Every member of a Chapter, in good standing, is entitled to one vote; but only High Priests and Past High Priests, Kings and Past Kings, Scribes and Past Scribes, are eligible to the office of High Priest. *Provided*, That when there are none such who are competent and willing to serve, personal merit only is the rule, and the Chapter is the judge of the competency of its members. 1917.

Section 3, Article V, amended to read as follows:

Sec. 3. The degrees of the Chapter shall not be conferred for a less sum than twenty dollars, which must be paid before receiving the Royal Arch degree, and then only upon Master Masons, who are members of Lodges in good standing, whose petitions have been duly presented in writing at a regular Convocation, reported upon by a Committee of Investigation, and unanimously accepted by the Chapter. *Provided*, That the fees and dues of ministers of the Gospel who are actively engaged in ministerial work may be remitted by the Chapters. 1917.

Proposed Amendment to Constitution.

The following amendment to the Constitution was proposed, sanctioned and ordered to lie over till the Annual Convocation in 1919, for final action.

Amend Article IV, Section 8, to read as follows:

Art. IV, Sec 8. The first five officers named in the last preceding section shall be elected annually by ballot, by a majority of the votes cast at the *first* regular Convocation of the Chapter in December, or as soon thereafter as practicable, and the remaining officers shall be appointed by the High Priest.

ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD.

ANNUAL CONVENTION

1918

The Annual Convention of the Grand Council of the Order of High Priesthood of the State of Florida was held in the Masonic Temple in the City of Jacksonville on Wednesday, May 22, A. D. 1918, at 2:00 o'clock, P. M., the following officers being present:

M. E. Olin S. Wright	President
E. John M. Caldwell	Vice-President
E. Irving E. Webster	Chaplain
E. W. P. Webster	Secretary and Treasurer
E. F. B. Stoneman	Master of Ceremonies
E. E. P. Hubbell	as Conductor
E. C. H. Ketchum	as Herald
E. F. H. Thompson	as Steward
E. W. C. Andress	Guard

The Grand Council was opened in ample form. Upon motion the reading of the minutes of the last Annual Convention was dispensed with, they having been printed and distributed, and they were adopted as printed.

Petitions for the Order were received from the following Companions:

S. E. Collison, H. P.	Gainesville Chapter No. 2.
E. L. Shear, H. P.	Halifax Chapter No. 5.
H. J. Peiper, H. P.	St. Augustine Chapter No. 17.
Roscoe E. Scott, H. P.	Manatee River Chapter No. 18.
Earl Hathaway, H. P.	Island Chapter No. 21.

E. W. Bunker, H. P.—Lake Worth Chapter No. 24.
 Edwin E. Macy, H. P.—Indian River Chapter No. 27.
 A. H. White, H. P.—St. Petersburg Chapter No. 31.
 A. F. Bullard, H. P.—Walton Chapter No. 37.

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

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

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

SECRETARY AND TREASURER'S REPORT

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

To balance as per last report	Dr.	\$46.57
To Fees		18.00
	Cr.	\$64.57
By Paid Guard for Services and Supplies		\$ 2.55
By Paid Express on Bibles		1.20
		\$ 3.75
		\$60.82

To Balance on Hand.

Fraternally submitted,

W. P. WEBSTER,
 Secretary and Treasurer.

Upon motion the Secretary was directed to pay the Guard 65 cents for supplies and \$2.00 for services.

The annual election being held, the following officers were duly elected for the ensuing year:

OFFICERS ELECTED

M. E. Olin S. Wright	President
E. John M. Caldwell	Vice-President
E. Irving E. Webster	Chaplain
E. W. P. Webster	Secretary and Treasurer
E. F. B. Stoneman	Master of Ceremonies
E. Marcus Endel	Conductor
E. Charles H. Ketchum	Herald
E. William R. O'Neal	Steward
E. W. C. Andress	Guard

Upon motion of Companion Stoneman the Secretary was authorized and directed to purchase a suitable service set for use in this degree.

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

The Grand Council was closed in ample form.

Attest:

OLIN S. WRIGHT,
President.

W. P. WEBSTER,
Secretary.

REGISTER OF MEMBERSHIP

NAME	DATE
John F. Benezet	Consecrated January 12, 1865
Charles H. Munger	Consecrated January 19, 1888
Fred S. Goodrich	Consecrated January 19, 1888
William A. Griffith	Consecrated January 19, 1888
William M. Somerville	Consecrated January 19, 1888
Marcus Endel	Consecrated January 19, 1888
James W. Boyd	Affiliated January 19, 1888
Robert McClellan	Consecrated January 18, 1890
Thomas S. Wilmarth	Consecrated May 7, 1890
Frank P. Mersereau	Consecrated May 7, 1890
Silas B. Wright	Consecrated May 7, 1891
Irving E. Webster	Consecrated May 13, 1891
Edgar A. Richards	Consecrated May 13, 1891
William S. Jordan	Consecrated May 11, 1892
Elijah H. Bunker	Consecrated May 11, 1892
Charles J. Hays	Consecrated May 11, 1892
Dougal McLachlan	Consecrated May 10, 1893
Olin S. Wright	Consecrated May 10, 1893
Alexander C. Martin	Consecrated May 18, 1894
Wilber P. Webster	Consecrated January 18, 1894
Everard F. Barns	Consecrated January 18, 1894
Thomas J. Smith	Consecrated March 5, 1894
William M. Dunn	Consecrated May 9, 1894
James E. Pound	Consecrated January 7, 1895
Joseph Townsend	Consecrated January 7, 1895
Lowell C. Ruter	Consecrated January 7, 1895
Joseph T. Tolbert	Consecrated January 15, 1895
James Harden	Consecrated January 15, 1895
Andrew E. Gleason	Consecrated January 15, 1895
George W. Hyde	Consecrated January 18, 1895
Henry F. Airth	Consecrated January 24, 1896
Henry Payne	Consecrated May 13, 1896

NAME	DATE
John R. Wetherell	Consecrated May 13, 1896
Charles R. Oglesby	Consecrated May 13, 1896
John N. Bradshaw	Consecrated May 13, 1896
Eugene P. Mickel	Consecrated Dec. 27, 1896
Louis C. Massey	Consecrated May 11, 1897
Roque V. Rogero	Consecrated May 11, 1897
Elmer E. Haskell	Consecrated May 12, 1897
Wm. E. Ballough	Consecrated May 12, 1897
Geo. P. Ballough	Consecrated May 12, 1897
Charles E. Waite	Consecrated May 12, 1897
Thomas G. Hutchinson	Consecrated January 21, 1898
Ludwig W. Buchholz	Consecrated January 21, 1898
William H. Hausman	Consecrated May 9, 1898
Abraham H. West	Consecrated Dec. 27, 1898
John T. Miller	Consecrated January 19, 1899
H. V. R. Schrader	Consecrated May 10, 1899
Joseph G. Torrey	Consecrated May 10, 1899
T. P. Warlow	Consecrated January 19, 1900
Henry N. Sweeting	Consecrated May 9, 1900
Arthur H. Carter	Consecrated May 9, 1900
W. W. Farris	Consecrated January 17, 1901
Joseph R. Keller	Consecrated May 15, 1901
Thomas West Gary	Consecrated May 15, 1901
Frank W. Armstrong	Consecrated May 15, 1901
Bascom H. Palmer	Consecrated October 23, 1901
William S. Ware	Consecrated January 23, 1902
Z. T. Merritt	Consecrated January 23, 1902
James M. Chesser	Consecrated January 23, 1902
Orson J. Hill	Consecrated May 14, 1902
Benjamin F. Hough	Consecrated May 14, 1902
James F. Miller	Consecrated May 14, 1902
Franklin L. Rees	Consecrated June 24, 1902
Mordicai G. Buck	Consecrated January 7, 1903

NAME	DATE
Hugh W. Wear	Consecrated May 13, 1903
George H. Clark	Consecrated May 13, 1903
James O. Harris	Consecrated May 13, 1903
Melville W. Carruth	Consecrated May 13, 1903
Victor F. Balcom	Consecrated May 13, 1903
Louis Harrison	Consecrated May 13, 1903
John MacDiarmid	Consecrated May 13, 1903
Henry W. Davis	Consecrated May 18, 1904
John J. Jones	Consecrated May 18, 1904
Daniel D. Beekman	Consecrated May 18, 1904
Lucien A. Spencer	Consecrated May 18, 1904
Clarence S. Hammatt	Consecrated May 18, 1904
James E. Terwilleger	Consecrated May 18, 1904
Joseph Dawson	Consecrated January 19, 1905
Will C. Andress	Consecrated January 19, 1905
L. R. Philips	Consecrated January 19, 1905
John C. White	Consecrated May 10, 1905
William G. Hobbs	Consecrated May 10, 1905
James D. Girtman	Consecrated May 10, 1905
Wilmot R. Fitts	Consecrated May 9, 1906
John H. Hibbard	Consecrated May 9, 1906
Wm. R. O'Neal	Consecrated May 9, 1906
Frank B. Stoneman	Consecrated May 9, 1906
Geo. H. White	Consecrated May 9, 1906
Louis Thompson	Consecrated May 15, 1907
Albert S. Munson	Consecrated May 15, 1907
Henry Koert DuBois	Consecrated May 15, 1907
John D. Grether	Consecrated May 15, 1907
Samuel E. Curry	Consecrated May 15, 1907
Harry A. Stacy	Consecrated May 13, 1908
Galen B. Seaman	Consecrated May 13, 1908
Charles S. Bonacker	Consecrated May 13, 1908
William S. Murrow	Consecrated May 13, 1908
Robert F. Hall	Consecrated May 13, 1908

NAME	DATE
Herbert Bradley	Consecrated May 13, 1908
Jacob Espedahl	Consecrated May 12, 1909
Jeff D. Miller	Consecrated May 12, 1909
William G. Tilghman	Consecrated May 12, 1909
James B. Young	Consecrated May 12, 1909
William N. Cone	Consecrated May 12, 1909
Marcey B. Darnall	Consecrated May 12, 1909
Marion E. Gruber	Consecrated May 12, 1909
Dabney B. Palmer	Consecrated May 12, 1909
Frederick L. Hemmings	Consecrated May 12, 1909
Willoughby A. Cox	Consecrated May 12, 1909
James Laurens Young	Consecrated April 16, 1910
Henry Benj. Wordehoff	Consecrated April 16, 1910
Samuel Edward Mays	Consecrated April 16, 1910
Earl Walton Mays	Consecrated April 16, 1910
George Pierce Sullivan	Consecrated April 16, 1910
August Wm. Windhorst	Consecrated April 16, 1910
Charles F. Filer	Consecrated May 11, 1910
John M. Caldwell	Consecrated May 11, 1910
John C. Calhoun	Consecrated May 11, 1910
John H. Wynn	Consecrated May 11, 1910
Richard R. Turnbull	Consecrated May 11, 1910
Marvin O. Thomas	Consecrated May 11, 1910
L. F. Blalock	Consecrated May 11, 1910
John O'Donald	Consecrated May 11, 1910
Robert B. Rutherford	Consecrated May 11, 1910
James W. Eley	Consecrated May 11, 1910
James C. Adkins	Consecrated May 11, 1910
John T. Burrows	Consecrated May 11, 1910
John W. Williams	Consecrated May 5, 1911
Vivian B. Collins	Consecrated May 5, 1911
James L. Love	Consecrated May 5, 1911
Pedan B. Haynes	Consecrated May 5, 1911
Arthur Williams	Consecrated May 10, 1911

NAME	DATE
William V. Carter	Consecrated May 10, 1911
Lucius L. Payne	Consecrated May 10, 1911
Alfred W. Bumby	Consecrated May 10, 1911
Wm. O. Richtmann	Consecrated May 10, 1911
J. Perry Hodge	Consecrated May 10, 1911
Allen E. Heyser	Consecrated May 10, 1911
John A. Bouvier	Consecrated May 10, 1911
Benjamin E. Dyson	Consecrated May 10, 1911
William Moody	Consecrated May 10, 1911
J. Jones Stewart	Consecrated May 10, 1911
Charles H. Ketchum	Consecrated May 10, 1911
Benjamin Burnett	Consecrated May 10, 1911
Wm. C. Simmons	Consecrated May 10, 1911
Paul S. Thomson	Consecrated May 10, 1911
William Mosedale	Consecrated May 10, 1911
John B. Pruitt	Consecrated May 22, 1912
Len J. Lester	Consecrated May 22, 1912
George F. Smith	Consecrated May 22, 1912
George E. McCulloch	Consecrated May 22, 1912
W. Irving Porter	Consecrated May 22, 1912
John L. Hall	Consecrated May 22, 1912
Chester DeRocher	Consecrated May 22, 1912
Charles E. Bayley	Consecrated May 22, 1912
David S. R. Jones	Consecrated May 22, 1912
Richard Whyte	Consecrated May 22, 1912
John F. Wilson	Consecrated May 22, 1912
Angus L. Hinson	Consecrated May 22, 1912
William B. Pope	Consecrated May 22, 1912
James M. Henderson	Consecrated May 5, 1913
Harry B. Roberts	Consecrated May 5, 1913
S. May Walker	Consecrated May 21, 1913
Dorsey H. Rutter	Consecrated May 21, 1913
Claude E. Connor	Consecrated May 21, 1913

ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD

NAME	DATE
Alvah H. Perkins-----Consecrated	May 21, 1913
William W. Davis-----Consecrated	May 21, 1913
Albert D. Leonard-----Consecrated	May 21, 1913
Elmer C. Howard-----Consecrated	May 21, 1913
Alfred Brost-----Consecrated	May 21, 1913
Alfred Recio-----Consecrated	June 24, 1913
John J. Brown-----Consecrated	June 24, 1913
Henry O. Snow-----Consecrated	Feb. 28, 1914
Henry L. Swatts-----Consecrated	Feb. 28, 1914
Thomas C. Calmes-----Consecrated	Feb. 28, 1914
Jasper Evers-----Consecrated	Feb. 28, 1914
Albert Schneider-----Consecrated	Feb. 28, 1914
F. W. Fleming-----Consecrated	Feb. 28, 1914
O. L. Taylor-----Consecrated	May 19, 1914
Le Due Roberts-----Consecrated	May 19, 1914
Gabriel Ferro-----Consecrated	May 19, 1914
B. L. Smith-----Consecrated	May 19, 1914
Claud F. Olmstead-----Consecrated	May 19, 1914
Benjamin F. Barnes-----Consecrated	May 19, 1914
W. W. Birchfield-----Consecrated	May 19, 1914
John M. Dillon-----Consecrated	May 19, 1914
A. J. Holt-----Consecrated	May 19, 1914
J. Lloyd Head-----Consecrated	May 19, 1915
George A. Dame-----Consecrated	May 19, 1915
Ely P. Hubbell-----Consecrated	May 19, 1915
Henry V. Calder-----Consecrated	May 19, 1915
E. L. Wirt-----Consecrated	May 19, 1915
R. J. Kishbaugh-----Consecrated	May 19, 1915
W. L. Lowry-----Consecrated	May 19, 1915
W. E. Tylander-----Consecrated	May 19, 1915
W. J. Millikin-----Consecrated	May 19, 1915
H. L. Shaffer-----Consecrated	May 19, 1915
Arthur A. Brown-----Consecrated	May 19, 1915
C. H. Tilden-----Consecrated	May 17, 1916
	Consecrated May 17, 1916

ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD

NAME	DATE
R. E. McMahon-----Consecrated	May 17, 1916
J. M. Wilson, Jr.-----Consecrated	May 17, 1916
Thomas Griffith-----Consecrated	May 17, 1916
Roy P. Davis-----Consecrated	May 17, 1916
E. E. Coulson-----Consecrated	May 17, 1916
Charles H. Register-----Consecrated	May 17, 1916
Guy E. Phipps-----Consecrated	May 17, 1916
R. M. Oglesby-----Consecrated	May 17, 1916
Max Sirkin-----Consecrated	May 17, 1916
John Pasco-----Consecrated	May 17, 1916
H. E. Crooks-----Consecrated	May 17, 1916
C. L. Willoughby-----Consecrated	May 17, 1916
W. M. Brinker-----Consecrated	May 17, 1916
Ira G. Archibald-----Consecrated	May 17, 1916
C. R. Horne-----Consecrated	May 17, 1916
R. E. Goodman-----Consecrated	May 17, 1916
T. T. Todd-----Consecrated	May 17, 1916
J. R. M. Beatty-----Consecrated	May 16, 1917
B. C. Webb-----Consecrated	May 16, 1917
C. T. Meakins-----Consecrated	May 16, 1917
F. M. Say-----Consecrated	May 16, 1917
R. S. Clark-----Consecrated	May 16, 1917
Wm. W. Scott-----Consecrated	May 16, 1917
Frank H. Thompson-----Consecrated	May 16, 1917
George W. Stiles-----Consecrated	May 16, 1917
C. H. Ryals-----Consecrated	May 16, 1917
William P. McKee-----Consecrated	May 16, 1917
W. S. McLellan-----Consecrated	May 22, 1918
S. E. Collison-----Consecrated	May 22, 1918
E. L. Shear-----Consecrated	May 22, 1918
H. J. Peiper-----Consecrated	May 22, 1918
Roscoe E. Scott-----Consecrated	May 22, 1918
Earl Hathaway-----Consecrated	May 22, 1918

ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD

NAME	DATE
E. W. Bunker-----Consecrated May	22, 1918
Edwin E. Macy-----Consecrated May	22, 1918
A. H. White-----Consecrated May	22, 1918
A. F. Bullard-----Consecrated May	22, 1918

FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE

Report of Committee on Fraternal Correspondence

To the Most Excellent Royal Arch Chapter of Florida.

This second Review of the Proceedings of the several Grand Chapters is submitted for your consideration.

In as brief a space as seemed adequate to the subjects under consideration we have endeavored, to the best of our ability, to present the essential Capitular acts of the year, noting matters of special interest in connection therewith. Occasionally we have alluded to the similarities or differences, as we understand them, to Florida Rules and Regulations, but with no intention of criticising any Sovereign Grand Body, and only that our Companions may better know what is being done in other Grand Jurisdictions. In so doing may it not be possible there are suggestions, which if worked out, would lead to the advancement of the Royal Craft?

In any event we take pleasure in presenting our work, wrought in accordance with our understanding of the designs on the Trestle Board, and trust the same will pass the Overseers' squares.

ALABAMA—1917

Chapters, 64. Members, 5,292. Exalted, 649. Net Gain, 399.

JOHN HENRY McCORMICK, Grand High Priest.

So that the Companions might have an opportunity of witnessing the proper method of receiving Grand Officers and other distinguished visitors, a change was made in opening the Ninety-First Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Alabama, which met in the City of Montgomery, December 3, 1917, with all Grand Officers in attendance, as well as nine Past Grand High Priests and Representatives from 54 Subordinate Chapters.

The Grand Chapter was opened in due form by the R. E. Deputy Grand High Priest, after which the Grand Captain of the Host and the Grand Principal Sojourner were ordered to proceed to the office of the M. E. Grand High Priest and inform him that the Grand Chapter was now open and awaits his will and pleasure. He was then escorted into the Grand Chapter, his entrance being proclaimed by the Grand Marshal. Grand Honors were given, and the Grand High Priest was conducted to the East.

In a concrete and systematic manner, Grand High Priest McCormick reviewed the work of the year, which evidenced the fact that he had used his best efforts to conscientiously perform the duties incumbent upon him, and noting that at no time since the war between the States has Capitular Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction passed through such a crisis as that which has befallen the Craft during the present Masonic year.

He deemed this Convocation a fitting time to express and emphasize the fraternal relations with the several Masonic bodies in the jurisdiction in order that a closer bond of fellowship might be more firmly established. To this end an official invitation was extended to the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master of the Grand Council, the Grand Commander of the Knights Templar, and the Sovereign Grand Inspector General for the State of Alabama, of the A. A. S. R., for the Southern Jurisdiction. These distinguished visitors were present and received in a manner befitting the exalted office each occupied. It appears this is the first time an attempt had been made to bring together the presiding officers of the several Grand Bodies for the purpose of according them official recognition and welcome.

He noted that M. E. Companion Francis H. Bates, who was Grand High Priest in 1905, had passed through the veils of the Inner Sanctuary in quest of Eternal Light, as well as our own beloved Past Grand High Priest, M. E. Companion James Carnell.

His official acts include the granting of a dispensation to form a new Chapter at Abbeville, as well as other dispensations to re-organize Chapters, to continue work and to elect and install officers. Noting that criticisms had been visited on this Grand Chapter for issuing dispensations to ballot out of time and confer degrees, he resolved to prevent further criticism by not granting such dispensations except under extraordinary circumstances. We believe many Companions will agree with the Grand High Priest that the rushing through of a large number of candidates at one time has a decided tendency to weaken the

impressions sought to be made, proper instructions are often abbreviated or entirely omitted, material for subsequent work is exhausted and interest in the Chapter wanes until new material again enables the process to be repeated. He, however, did grant six dispensations to confer degrees for meritorious causes; three account of York Rite Reunion, two account of entering army, and one account of a fraternal visit of a degree team. All requests for fraternal courtesies were granted, and a number of Grand Representatives were appointed.

The Grand High Priest established a record which future Grand High Priests may equal but none excel—he officially visited every Chapter in his jurisdiction. He was gratified to note that there was not a single Chapter in which peace and harmony did not prevail, which he calls "a truly wonderful record," and further evidenced by the fact that he has not been called upon to make a single official decision during the year. His official visitations further convinced him that the inspection plan as used in that state was a failure and should be abolished, and he recommended instead the appointment of a Grand Lecturer. But Grand Chapter, for financial reasons, at least, thought it best not to make a change at this time and District Inspectors were again appointed. With this exception all the acts of the Grand High Priest were fully approved.

In common with other Grand Chapters, the dues of all members serving in the Army and Navy were remitted while in such service.

Falling in line with a movement gaining in favor, an amendment to the Constitution was offered, which

provides that all Grand Officers shall be elective, and this will come up for action at the next Annual Convocation.

E. Companion Robert T. Ward, Florida's Legatee, the present Grand Captain of the Host, was among the Grand Representatives who were heartily welcomed by the Grand High Priest, the response being given by the Deputy Grand High Priest, R. E. Companion Henry F. Reese.

Ten Companions petitioned for the Order of High Priesthood, who were elected and solemnly consecrated in due form. Companion George A. Beauchamp was re-elected M. E. President.

Past Grand High Priest Lawrence H. Lee again presents the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, in which he reviews fifty-three jurisdictions, Florida receiving courteous and fraternal consideration. He notes the question raised by Grand High Priest O'Neal regarding the nice surplus in the treasury, and also that "the Grand Chapter took no action except to purchase \$1,000 in Liberty Bonds."

Companion Lee is "rather well pleased" with our first report, and also that it will continue to be an annual treat. Thank you.

Next Annual in Montgomery, December 2, 1918.

Henry F. Reese, Selma, Grand High Priest.

George A. Beauchamp, Montgomery, Grand Secretary.

Lawrence H. Lee, Montgomery, Foreign Correspondent.

ALBERTA—1917

Chapters, 18. Members, 1,737. Net Gain 936.

FRED S. WATSON, Grand Z.

An Emergent Convocation of The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Alberta was held in Calgary, October 27, 1916, to receive the report and issue Charters to Chapters operating under the Grand Chapter of Canada who had petitioned, and also to authorize the Grand Z. to issue Charters to other Chapters who might petition before the next Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter.

The Third Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Alberta convened in the City of Edmonton, on March 14, 1917, with most of the Grand Officers occupying their stations and Representatives present from each of the 17 Warranted Chapters and one U. D. Chapter.

"One important duty of Grand Officers is the visiting of subordinate Chapters," is a forceful statement made by the Most Excellent Grand Z. in his address, and he appears to have made good, for the records show that he not only visited all of the original Chapters, but also most of those formerly belonging to the Grand Chapter of Canada which had affiliated with the Grand Chapter of Alberta during the year.

He noted a substantial increase in membership which he considered gratifying when the conditions were considered:

"On January 1, 1916, we had seven Chapters with a total

membership of 801. During the year we had issued dispensations to a Chapter at Youngstown. (A Charter was granted this Chapter during the Convocation.) In these eight Chapters we have had a numerical net growth of 137. We have also issued Charters to a number of Chapters formerly under the Grand Chapter of Canada, with a membership of 799. This finds our Grand Chapter at this date with 18 Chapters and a membership of 1,737."

"Now that we have reached an end of all disturbances, and the Companions in Alberta are left alone to work unitedly for the good of our Grand Chapter, we may expect that the year 1917 will be one of progress, in spite of the war conditions."

During the year an exchange of Grand Representatives was made with all Grand Chapters recognizing the new Grand Chapter, and Florida was signally honored in having as its Ambassador Past Grand High Priest Stephen Y. Taylor, and who is also Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

The Grand Z. is opposed to advancement without proficiency and recommended that examination in open lodge be required. This was approved by the Grand Chapter, and the Work will be the same as that of the Grand Chapter of Canada, which was adopted at the 1914 Convocation.

The Grand Z.'s address is referred to a committee appointed for that purpose, and which appears to take the place largely of the Jurisprudence Committee in Florida, and who report directly to the Grand Chapter. This seems to leave the latter committee with nothing to do, for its report states that "No business had

come before it for consideration."

Another important committee report is that "On the Condition of Capitular Masonry," in which under the sub-heading of "Material" are some observations which are equally applicable to Florida or any other Grand Jurisdiction:

If a Chapter desires to have permanent active members it can attain that object only by a judicious selection of material; it would be well to ascertain what kind of a Craft Mason a candidate is before accepting him; if he be careless in his duties or an absentee in the Blue, it is no more than fair to assume he will be in the Royal Arch. There are also candidates who seek the Royal Arch simply as a stepping stone to something else, such "Ships that pass in the night" should not be encouraged, but, on the other hand, no effort should be spared to secure the admission of good Master Masons, that they may round off their Masonic education by receiving the completion of the Master's Degree and thus add strength to the Royal Craft.

From the report of the Committee on Foreign Relations and Correspondence it is learned that the Grand Chapter of Arizona was the first to accord recognition to the Grand Chapter of Alberta. Florida was a close second; that part of the report of its Jurisprudence Committee anent the question, being reproduced in full. The recognition by Vermont occurred very soon thereafter. This report further states:

We desire to convey our warmest thanks to the Companions of these three Grand Chapters for taking the initiative in granting that favor which we claimed as our just due, and which although acceded as our rightful claim was withheld for the time being by other Grand Jurisdictions.

One of the General District Superintendents re-

commended "That a General Grand Chapter for the Dominion is not only desirable, but advisable." But the Committee on the Condition of Capitular Masonry did not agree to this, because "present conditions do not warrant or demand the services of such a body." It thought, however, that in the dim and distant future when each province had its own Grand Chapter, there might be some excuse for the formation of a General Grand Chapter.

No report on correspondence, but the appointment of M. E. Companion Stephen Y. Taylor as chairman of that committee, indicates that such a report may be forthcoming in the near future. The writer of this report, as one of the newest members of the Guild, extends a cordial welcome.

Next Annual in High River, March 13, 1918.
Robert Paterson, M. L. A., Macleod, Grand Z.
John E. Johnson, Calgary, Grand Scribe E.

ARIZONA—1917

Chapters, 9. Members, 828. Exalted, 76. Net Gain, 56.

EDWIN SEYMOUR MILLER, Grand High Priest.

When the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Arizona commenced its Twenty-seventh Annual Convocation in the City of Phoenix, only two vacancies were recorded in the list of Grand Officers, both appointive, and both were temporarily filled. There were also present 11 Past Grand Officers not otherwise reported and Representatives from each of the nine Chapters. Florida being happily

represented by Past Grand High Priest Prosper P. Parker.

Though brief, yet sincere and thoughtful, was the address of the Grand High Priest. It pleased him to report that the year drawing to a close had been prosperous, the actual gains in membership having been larger than any previous year; that peace and good fellowship prevailed and no grievances had been brought to his notice; also that the membership of the Grand Chapter was still unbroken.

He granted a dispensation to form Cochran Chapter U. D. at Yuma, and a Charter was granted it at this Convocation, it being Number 10. The only other dispensation was to hold a special election.

He made a favorable decision as to the eligibility of an applicant for Royal Arch degrees who had lost part of his left arm, but used an artificial hand with which he was able to operate a typewriter and perform many other things, this decision being based on the rulings of the General Grand Chapter. He was able to make only one visitation. All of his official actions were approved and accepted by Grand Chapter.

R. E. Companion Frederick P. Cruice, chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, reported that no business or correspondence had been referred to it during the year. No Correspondence Report.

None of the other special or standing committees having anything to report, Grand Chapter closed in due form.

Companion Rickmer Nickels Fredericks, President of the Order of High Priesthood, made a brief address, following which four Companions were elected

and set apart to this Holy Order, and the previous officers were re-elected.

Next Annual at Tucson, February 13, 1918.
Louis S. Moyers, Globe, Grand High Priest.
George J. Roskruge, Grand Secretary.

ARKANSAS—1917

Chapters, 89. Members, 4,835. Exalted, 424. Net Gain, 220.

ALLEN WINHAM, Grand High Priest.

Fifty-nine Subordinate Chapters were represented when the Grand High Priest assisted by his proper Officers opened in Ample Form the Sixty-eighth Convocation of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in the City of Little Rock, Nov. 22, 1917.

More than half of the address of the Grand High Priest was in the nature of memorials of departed Companions, particular mention being made of the passing away of Past Grand High Priests Caleb H. Stone and Robert Liddell.

One dispensation was issued to organize a new Chapter at DeWitt.

He had long cherished the desire that when he should be found worthy to wear the purple he would "spend the year among the Chapters in personal touch with the Companions," but he deeply regretted "that conditions in my own affairs rendered it impos-

sible" to carry out that plan, his official visitations being limited to three.

He decided that an investigating committee was justified in reporting unfavorable on a petitioner, who owed money to a member of that committee, provided the money was due and the debtor evinced a disposition to defraud.

One Chapter desired to pass a resolution to the effect that all petitioners for Chapter degrees must enclose with their petitions their Blue Lodge receipt. He ruled that such action would prescribe a new condition, and it is not within the power of a Subordinate Chapter to change the uniform code of by-laws enacted by the Grand Chapter.

Apparently the Grand Lodge of Arkansas has taken drastic measures in regard to the so-called Cernau Scottish Rite, and Grand Chapter has recognized this action, as the following pledge of a Companion, which was accepted by the Grand Chapter and ordered printed in its proceedings, states:

In view of the fact that the Grand Lodge of Arkansas has adopted an edict refusing membership by Master Masons in the so-called Cernau Scottish Rite Bodies, and, because of my love for Masonry and my desire to be closely affiliated with the Masonic cause in this State, I hereby withdraw my affiliation with the said Cernau Bodies and renounce the same in deference to the edict of the Grand Lodge. T. A. TURNER.

Additional interest attaches to this as Companion Turner is not only the present Grand Master of the Second Vail but also the Grand Representative for Florida.

Grand Chapter decided to invest \$5,000 of its

funds in the next Liberty Loan Bonds.

No reference is made to an Order of High Priesthood.

Companion Gordon Huffmaster presents an instructive but somewhat brief report on Foreign Correspondence.

He notes that "this time we have a big book from Florida;" that the annual address of Grand High Priest O'Neal "was a good one," and also quoting from his comments relative to meetings and visitations.

Next Annual in Little Rock, November 21, 1918.

Thomas J. Woods, Evening Shade, Grand High Priest.

John C. Bone, Batesville, Grand Secretary.

Gordon Huffmaster, Boonville, Com. Correspondence.

CALIFORNIA—1917

Chapters, 108. Members, 13,816. Exalted, 706. Net Gain, 208.

CASMIR JACKSON Wood, Grand High Priest.

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of California assembled for its Sixty-third Annual Convocation in Sacramento, April 17, 1917, Companion Casimir Jackson Wood, Grand High Priest, presiding, with all of the officers except Grand Captain of the Host present; also six Past Grand High Priests. All

survivors of the earthquake and fire of April 18, 1906, representatives of 93 chartered Chapters and 52 Past High Priests. Florida's accredited ambassador, Companion Edward Richard Hedges, was not included in the 19 Grand Representatives who were welcomed by the Grand High Priest.

Four of California's most distinguished Masonic Lights went out during the year: M. E. Companion William Abraham Davies, who was Grand High Priest in 1873, and Grand Secretary from 1899 to 1915; M. E. Companion Samuel Hopkins Wagener, Grand High Priest in 1901; M. E. Companion George Hays Monroe, Grand High Priest in 1909; and M. E. Companion Charles Joseph Willett, Grand High Priest in 1907.

Highly commendatory was the written report of the official acts of the Grand High Priest. He constituted two new Chapters and granted a dispensation to form another, which was given a Charter by Grand Chapter. Special dispensations in two cases were issued to use two substitutes in conferring the Royal Arch degree; one to re-ballot on a petition, and one to ballot on a petition without reference to a Committee. The foregoing acts were approved by Grand Chapter. According to Florida law the first two dispensations would not be necessary. He was pleased to report that no decisions had been required during the year. He made 19 official visitations, accompanied by Grand Lecturer Ascroft.

Grand Chapter adopted his recommendation to consider the erection of some adjunct to the Masonic Home, and the present Grand High Priest was instructed to appoint a committee of five to report at the next Annual Convocation.

He recommended the purchase of new jewels for officers at a cost not to exceed \$60 per jewel, but the Finance Committee believed that at this time no appropriations ought to be made that were not strictly necessary for the conduct of the Grand Chapter.

He found quite a sentiment among the Chapters that a lower initiation fee would be of benefit, and accordingly recommended an amendment making the minimum initiation fee \$10, but Grand Chapter thought otherwise and rejected a resolution to that effect, as well as one to make the minimum fee \$20.

Hereafter the retiring Grand High Priest will be presented with a Past Master's Jewel or other testimonial having a maximum value of \$150, the selection of which to be left to the Grand Secretary.

"Words fail to express our admiration for the untiring efforts displayed by him in the exercise of his duties," was the high encomium paid by the special committee to whom was referred the report of the Grand Lecturer, R. E. Companion Henry Ashcroft. On account of poor health he was granted a vacation of several months, in hopes of restoration. But an addenda to the Proceedings states that Companion Ashcroft was demitted to the Celestial Grand Chapter June 8, 1917.

At the previous Convocation Grand Chapter contributed \$100 to the George Washington National Memorial Association, "with the condition that the contribution be in no manner construed as a subscription to stock or membership in the association." Contrary to the action of this body, a Certificate of Membership was sent the Grand Chapter, and the Grand

Secretary was instructed to return the certificate with a certified copy of the resolution referring to this action.

Companion William Kettner, by reason of his duties as Representative in Congress at Washington, tendered his resignation as Grand Captain of the Host, which was reluctantly accepted.

The Grand Chapter unanimously passed a resolution endorsing without reserve the Government of the United States "in its action to uphold the honor of our beloved country in the present world crisis and to secure freedom and peace to all nations."

The Grand Chapter of Alberta was recognized as a regular Capitular Grand Body. And from the report of E. Companion Chas. Albert Adams, chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, we learn "that our Grand Chapter was by our written law precluded from recognizing the Grand Chapter of Alberta until so recognized by the Grand Chapter of Canada."

A proposition to allow each Past High Priest a vote in Grand Chapter was disapproved by the Committee on Jurisprudence because it would unnecessarily increase the number of votes, and Grand Chapter concurred.

At the last Convocation an amendment was offered providing that an application for degrees may be either by petition or proposition. This brought on a spirited debate which ended in the defeat of the proposed amendment.

Finance Committee reported adversely on the

proposition to present each living Past Grand High Priest with a Past Grand High Priest's Jewel, the financial condition of the Grand Chapter not warranting the expenditure, and Grand Chapter concurred. This committee recommended that hereafter the lunches provided at the expense of the Grand Chapter be discontinued, but the Companions thought differently, and they will continue to be patrons of the "free lunch counter."

Grand High Priest E. B. Spencer, in a brief address after his installation in accepting the responsibilities of his high office, added:

I want to say to those Companions who have charge of the respective districts that they shall act for me in any emergency which may arise, if they have not time to communicate with me, and that I shall approve their acts, and shall endeavor to co-operate with them in every way possible.

Thirty-six Excellent Companions were elected and received the Order of High Priesthood at the Fifty-eighth Convention of Anointed High Priests.

The report of the Committee on Correspondence was read in Grand Chapter by E. Companion Charles Albert Adams, chairman of the Committee, and referred to the special Committee on Grand High Priest's address. Apparently this report did not find favor for no action seems to have been taken on his somewhat drastic recommendations, unless it be that we notice that in the appointment of the new Correspondence Committee Companion Hugh King McKeitt was made the chairman and Companion Adams' name does not appear.

Companion Adams takes the ground that the prep-

aration and presentation of Correspondence reports to Grand Chapter should be abolished, it being his "conviction that these reports made to Grand Chapter are not worth anything like what they cost either in time or money."

The foregoing is only one of the many arguments advanced by Companion Adams in support of his contentions. But it must be that the Grand Chapter of California did not take his recommendations seriously for it appropriated \$200 to pay the Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence the coming year.

The writer of this article believes that many read the Reports on Correspondence, and also that they are essential to the proper understanding and effective carrying out of the great work in which so many thousand Craftsmen are actively engaged.

Next Annual at San Francisco, April 16, 1918.

Edward Byron Spencer, Los Angeles, Grand High Priest.

Thomas A. Davies, San Francisco, Grand Secretary.

CANADA—1917

Chapters, 167. Members, 18,982. Admissions, 1,384. Net Loss, 197

W. R. S. MURCH, Grand Z.

An Emergent Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada was held in Toronto, Sept. 12, 1916, for

the purpose of receiving a report from M. Ex. Comp. W. R. S. Murch of his visit to the Western Chapters, and also to take into consideration the sanctioning of the agreement of adjustment entered into between him, as Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Canada, with M. Ex. Comp. F. S. Watson, Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Alberta. This report states:

1. That the Companions of Alberta were misled as to the opinions of the Grand Chapter of Canada in connection with unexpressed desires of the Province of Alberta to form a Grand Chapter in that Province.
2. That the Companions of Alberta never requested separation from the Grand Chapter of Canada.
3. That the majority of Chapters in said Province of Alberta were desirous of retaining their allegiance to the Grand Chapter of Canada.
4. That having learned the facts in connection with their separation and formation of a Grand Chapter in the Province of Alberta, and having expressed their regrets, as a Grand Chapter, for their action;

Therefore be it resolved, that this, the Grand Chapter of Canada, accept the agreement of adjustment presented by the Committee appointed by the first Grand Principals of the Grand Chapter of Canada, and the Grand Chapter of Alberta, and hereby declare that the difficulty existing between the Grand Chapter of Canada and the Grand Chapter of Alberta be now harmoniously adjusted;

That the Grand Chapter of Alberta be forthwith recognized, as an independent Grand Body, on having expressed its regret, because it had not made a request for its formation and that the Grand First Principal be requested to establish fraternal relationship with the Grand Chapter of Alberta.

The Fifty-ninth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter convened in Toronto, Feb. 28, 1917,

with most of the elective officers and representatives from 112 Warranted Chapters present, besides distinguished visitors from the Grand Chapter of New York. Florida's Grand Representative, R. Ex. Comp. James H. Cowan, a former Grand Superintendent, was among those who were welcomed by the Grand Z., accorded Grand Honors and invited to seats on the dais.

"While other parts of the world are suffering," remarks the Grand Z. in his address, "the G. A. O. T. U. has kept the people of this country from hunger, want and distress." He was highly gratified that both the immediate Past Governor General of Canada as well as the Present Governor General were Royal Arch Masons.

He was pleased to note that notwithstanding the large withdrawal of members, consequent upon the Alberta adjustment, the continued increase in membership almost overcomes that loss. He granted three dispensations for new Chapters. He made five rulings of a local nature. He gave a concise account of his western trip which resulted in the adjustment of the Alberta difficulty. As noting the great interest taken in Royal Arch Masonry in that part of the country, he stated that he thought he had traveled some distance in an auto to attend a special meeting, but at an early hour in the morning, "several of the Companions present started home in their cars, having come over 100 miles to attend that meeting."

He recommended that every fourth or fifth year the Annual Convocation should be held in one of the Western Provinces. He also suggested that there should be one Grand Chapter for the Great Dominion,

and a Provincial Body for each Province, but action on this will not be taken while the war continues. And the further recommendation that \$1,000 be turned over to the Grand Chapter of Alberta will stand until all the conditions of the agreement of settlement have been fulfilled.

Recognizing that requests from other Provinces for the formation of Grand Chapters are more than likely to be made, the Grand Chapter of Canada clearly sets forth what action it considers necessary to be taken:

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter of Canada records its readiness to recognize and approve of the establishment of a Grand Chapter in any Province, now within the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Canada, as soon as a proper memorial is received from the majority of the Companions and Chapters of that Province in good standing expressing their well considered desire to that effect.

That in accordance with the above, permission be given to the Chapters of this Jurisdiction, in any Province, to meet for the purpose of considering what action, if any, they may deem advisable to take towards the formation of a Grand Chapter for any such Province, and that the M. Ex., the Grand Z. and the Executive Committee are hereby authorized to take such steps, in the matter, as they may consider for the best interests of Royal Arch Masonry.

The Grand Chapter of Canada is divided into twenty-one Districts, each in charge of a Grand Superintendent, each of whom submit detailed reports of what they had done, and which shows only eleven Chapters failed to receive an official visit from a Grand Superintendent. These reports are referred to the committee on Condition of Capitular Masonry, which truly states: "Grand Chapter is to be congratulated on the able, painstaking and energetic

manner in which its Grand Superintendents have performed their work."

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is by R. Ex. Comp. Edward B. Brown, who prefaces the same by saying:

Your Committee, not being a bishop or a corporation sole, is yet a body composed of one man; and that man sets out upon his second annual examination and review of the proceedings of the Grand Chapters of the British Empire and the United States with a pleasant anticipation of entertainment and profit.

Florida receives brief mention because he finds nothing in the proceedings to interest those outside the Grand Jurisdiction and there is no correspondence report.

Next Annual, Toronto, Feb. 27, 1918.

A. S. Gorrell, M. D., Regina, Sask., Grand Z.

Henry T. Smith, Toronto, Ont., Grand Scribe E.

Edward B. Brown, Toronto, Foreign Correspondent.

COLORADO—1917

Chapters, 47. Members, 6,086. Exalted, 461. Net Gain, 344.

JAMES R. KILLIAN, Grand High Priest.

Deep interest in Capitular Masonry in Colorado is evidenced for every Grand Officer was in his right ful station when the Grand High Priest opened in Ample Form the Forthy-third Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Colorado, in Den ver, Sept. 20th, with Representatives from 43 of the

47 Chartered Chapters present, also 17 Past Grand Officers.

Among the letters of regret received at this convocation was a typical one from M. E. Comp. Henry T. West, now living in Idaho, and a one-time acquaintance of the writer of this review, and who was Grand High Priest in 1893. Comp. West was one of the early settlers of that state, having been associated with the late Horace Greeley in the founding of the so-called "Greeley Colony" in the Centennial State. Comp. West regretted that "the weight of years (93) forbid my personal appearance, but in spirit I am there, right up in the N. E. Corner, where I stood for the first time sixty-five years ago."

Another impressive feature in connection with the opening ceremonies is the calling of the roll of deceased Past Grand High Priests by the Grand Secretary, the M. E. Grand High Priest responding as each name is called, with the date of his birth.

The Grand Representatives of foreign Grand Jurisdictions were introduced and welcomed by the Grand High Priest, who requested that

Each take occasion to report to your Grand Chapter, and tell them that we are very happy in Colorado; that everything is harmonious with us; that peace prevails among us; and bear to them our very best wishes and very kindliest greetings.

The response to this inspiring welcome was given by Comp. William D. Todd, who was Grand Treasurer in 1876, and with one exception the senior living Past Officer of that Grand Jurisdiction. Florida shared in this welcome through our Ambassador, Past Grand High Priest, George W. Roe.

Knowledge and understanding of Capitular Masonry coupled with loyalty and patriotism prevailed in the address of Grand High Priest Killian, who took pleasure in again "greeting those of the household of faith, true Companions in the pilgrimage along the way toward the higher and better things of life."

He noted among those who had been transplanted from terrestrial scenes to the celestial abode, M. E. Comp. Christopher C. Gird, who was Grand High Priest in 1886.

He issued dispensations to form two new Chapters, one at Las Animas and the other in Denver, both of which were granted Charters at this Convocation.

He made 26 official visitations in addition to a number of informal visits, one of which was at his home Chapter, which appears to have been a genuine home-coming, for "every member of the Chapter known to be in the State was present at the banquet table." Another memorable event which he attended was a reception tendered Lawrence N. Greenleaf, Past Grand Master and Past Grand High Priest, in commemoration of the fifty-first anniversary of his service as Worshipful Master of Denver Lodge No. 5, and the fiftieth anniversary of his service as High Priest of Denver Chapter No. 2.

He recommended that Chapters remit the dues of Companions engaged in the service of their country, which the Committee concurred and Grand Chapter approved.

He recommended also that the faithful and efficient services of Grand Secretary Charles H. Jacobson

be appreciated by an increase in salary corresponding to the action of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, and which was likewise approved, the increase being \$400. Very gratifying to him was the great growth in membership during the year of 344, being the largest increase in number in any single year in the history of that Grand Chapter.

The Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Victoria was recognized and an interchange of Representatives made possible.

In the report of the Committee on Necrology reference is made to the passing away of our own M. E. Comp. James Carnell.

An entire evening is given to the Grand Council of the Order of High Priesthood, when 31 Companions were presented and set apart to the Order of High Priesthood in due form. Comp. Lawrence Greenleaf was re-elected President.

Once more are we favored with an epitome of the doings throughout the Capitular Jurisdictions by Past Grand High Priest Ernest LeNeve Foster, which is as instructive to the readers as the duty of preparing it appears to be pleasurable to that gifted writer.

Florida receives suitable consideration, several references being made to the address of Grand High Priest O'Neal, all of which appear to find favor.

This is the first Correspondence Report reaching us in which mention is made of our 1917 Review. Companion Foster very kindly encourages us, by saying that we

Make a very complete canvass of the Proceedings of 55 Jurisdictions, so that after a study of it, the reader is well

grounded in what has transpired in the Capitular world.

He offers no criticism and among other references quotes from our "Finally." We thank you.

Under Alabama he pays tribute to the Order of High Priesthood:

We like the Order, believe it very proper to support, and for over 30 years have attended every session held, being Herald for 16 years, and Vice President as many more.

Under Idaho, referring to a Committee report favoring uniform records and books, says, "Perhaps it is good, but we are inclined to the belief that individuality in records is better than exact uniformity."

Commenting on the Grand High Priest of Illinois granting dispensations to dispense with stated Con vocations, he pertinently observes, "We see no necessity for a Dispensation to do nothing."

Under Massachusetts we learn that he considers that it is the correct form for a Grand Chapter to use Companions when exemplifying degrees in in structing subordinate Chapters.

He closes his report on Correspondence with a list of "Decisions Found in the Proceedings of Other Grand Chapters."

Next Annual in Denver, Sept. 20, 1918.

William S. Pickarel, Durango, Grand High Priest.

Charlese H. Jacobson, Denver, Grand Secretary.

Ernest LeNeve Foster, Denver, Chrm. Com. on Correspondence.

CONNECTICUT—1917

Chapters, 40. Members, 10,173. Exalted, 586. Net Gain, 393.

BURTON L. TUTTLE, Grand High Priest.

With the exception of the Grand King, Rev. Rt. Ex. Companion James H. George, who responded to the final roll call January 19, 1917, every station was filled by its rightful official when the One Hundred and Nineteenth Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Connecticut was convened by the Grand High Priest in the City of Hartford, May 8, 1917; also fifteen Past Grand High Priests, and Representatives of 38 subordinate Chapters were present, besides a large number of distin guished visitors from New York, New Jersey and Massachusetts and also General Grand High Priest George E. Corson. And yet with all this distin guished array, Florida's Grand Representative was again absent.

From the address of the General Grand High Priest we learn that the second Convocation to form a Grand Chapter, which afterwards became the General Grand Chapter, assembled in Hartford, Jan. 24, 1798, three Connecticut Chapters being represented, and at this convention was organized the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Northern States of America, which comprised the States of Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut and New York, Ephraim Kirby, of Litchfield, being elected Grand High Priest, Connecticut thus having the honor and distinction of furnishing the first Grand High Priest of the first Grand Chapter that was ever organized.

One year of active service deeply impressed the Grand High Priest, not only of the love and loyalty that exists among Royal Arch Masons, but also that peace, harmony and prosperity are chief characteristics of the Connecticut Companions.

Usual recommendations relative to Grand Representatives were received and acted upon, and three dispensations issued pertained to the Chapters directly interested. He also rendered three decisions, one being that a Chapter may strike from the roll of membership without notice the name of a Companion who is in arrears for dues and has not been heard from in seven years. In Florida we can prefer charges and suspend a Companion who is more than one year in arrears for dues. Another decision was that a Companion of thirty years good and regular standing in the jurisdiction is not subject to dues.

It appears that in some of the Chapters there are officers who have never witnessed a degree conferred outside their own Chapter; therefore His Excellency recommended that the incoming Grand High Priest call a special convocation of the Grand Chapter to witness a degree. Apparently the excellent system of inter-visitation as practiced by the various Grand Chapters does not extend to the subordinate Chapters. Subordinate Chapter visitation works well and furnishes interest and enthusiasm in many parts of the country and we wonder why it would not in the Nutmeg State.

He seriously recommends as a slogan to be adopted by subordinate Chapters, "Favorably impress your candidates," which if borne in mind will eliminate many of the abusive features in the Past Master and Royal Arch degrees.

Owing to circumstances beyond control he was unable to accept a number of invitations, but among those he did accept was one to a Fifteenth Anniversary where the "celebration began with a Compounce Sheep Bake in the banquet room, which was greatly appreciated." That sounds good, anyway.

He looks back with happy memories on the last four years as the most pleasant of his Masonic life, during which time he has been privileged to visit all of the forty Chapters in that Grand Jurisdiction. That is a record of which to be proud, and which might with propriety be generally imitated by other Grand High Priests. Very encouraging reports of visitations were made by the other principal elective officers, nearly every Chapter in the State having been officially visited during the year.

An amendment to the Constitution prevailed which increased the salary of the Grand Secretary from \$400 to \$600 per annum.

Recognition was given to the Grand Chapter of Alberta with request for interchange of Grand Representatives.

Nineteen Companions were consecrated and set apart to the Order of High Priesthood, and M. E. Companion Reuben N. Tucker was re-elected M. E. President. Companion Tucker presented the Convention with a book containing a complete record of the proceedings of the Order of High Priesthood in Connecticut.

M. E. Comp. George H. Kies, Past Grand High Priest, has the "pleasure of presenting our Ninth Annual patch-work (Correspondence Report), assembled during odd moments of the past year," in

which he groups the U. S. Chapters first, following with the Foreign ones, all alphabetically arranged. He further states, "We are still miles away from attaining even fair ability to compile any kind of a report on the so-called topical plan." To our way of thinking his report is well-balanced and instructive and ought to be read by every member of Connecticut's Royal Craft.

Florida receives a very brief mention, apparently nothing being recorded worthy of either comment or criticism.

In the review of Colorado where objection is made to the action taken by Delaware in adopting the address of the Grand High Priest as amended, he adds:

We go further, and claim that no deliberate body has a moral right to amend any report, especially when such "amendment" makes the signer say the opposite of what he means. Of course we admit the body's right to reject the report in toto, but not to garble it. The latter trickery we regard as cheap and contemptible pettifoggery.

And in Iowa, where comment is made under Florida that the "prevailing reason for non-visits is pressure of business and want of time," he continues:

It is undeniable that some short-sighted men are ambitious for honors who are unwilling to make the smallest sacrifice in the way of service. Such men are guilty of defrauding the Craft. While the latter cannot with reason demand that a brother unduly neglect his business interests, they are entitled to require that any one who is unable or unwilling to make proper effort to efficiently meet the demands of his office should decline the same. Masonic "honors" without service are indeed "as sounding brass and tinkling cymbal."

Under the head of Massachusetts, relative to ro-

tation in office, it is his positive opinion:

That the matter of fitness and ability should in every instance be the determining factor in selecting officers. When any "system" conflicts with this principle, it should be suspended, whatever it is.

Under Ohio, commenting on compensation paid Correspondents we fully agree with his conclusion, where he says: "Until we entered the field we had small comprehension of the amount of time, thought and labor involved."

Many other forceful comments have been marked but for obvious reasons are omitted.

Next Annual in Hartford, second Tuesday in May, 1918.

Edward W. Avery, So. Windham, Grand High Priest.

George A. Kies, Hartford, Grand Secretary and Correspondent.

DELAWARE—1917

Chapters, 4. Members, 1,273. Exalted, 87. Net Gain, 51.

JOHN W. MACKLEM, Grand High Priest.

When the Forty-ninth Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons opened in Wilmington, at 4 o'clock on Jan. 17, 1917, two stations were filled by appointment. A large corps of Permanent Officers were present as well as Representatives from the several subordinate Chapters, besides honored guests from New York and New Jersey.

The Grand High Priest in his address, which seems to be a clear and explicit history of Capitular Masonry in that jurisdiction for the past year, was pleased to report that during the year nothing had occurred to even suggest the slightest discord among the Royal Craft. He officially visited each Chapter and was gratified to note the proficiency attained by the officers and the interest manifested.

He granted a dispensation to one Chapter to open an hour ahead of time, and to another Chapter to install officers prior to required time. He was not called upon during the year to render a decision or interpret the law. He recommended the recognition of the Grand Chapter of Alberta. He recommended the issuing of a certificate of life membership in the Chapter to be co-existent with life membership in a Blue Lodge. All the foregoing actions were approved by the Grand Chapter. His recommendation that the Sentinels of subordinate Chapters be required at least once a year to examine the Credentials of Companions hailing from other Grand Jurisdictions for the purpose of ascertaining if they were in good standing, was not approved. After which, on motion, the address of the Grand High Priest was adopted as read.

The Centennial Anniversary of this Grand Chapter will be observed January 16, 1918, which will also be the date of the next Annual Convocation.

Unfortunately Florida's Grand Representative was not present to be received in due form by the M. Ex. Grand High Priest, each one represented to be present on this occasion. As this could not be, he said:

I ask you at your earliest convenience after the meeting

of this Grand Chapter to communicate with the Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter you represent and convey to him my regards and best wishes and through him to the Grand Chapter over which he presides, the kindest hopes and best wishes of the Grand Chapter of Delaware for their present and future welfare, prosperity and success.

Petitions were received from three High Priests asking to be advanced to the Order of High Priesthood, at the annual Convention, which was held January 1st. M. Ex. Comp. A. Henry Berlin was re-elected President.

The Report on Correspondence is by Past Deputy Grand High Priest Thos. J. Day, and is a condensed summary of the Proceedings of the 41 Grand Jurisdictions submitted to him.

Florida receives fraternal notice.
Next Annual, Wilmington, January 16, 1918.
George S. Scott, Wilmington, Grand High Priest.
Stuart J. Horn, Wilmington, Grand Secretary.
Thos. J. Day, Wilmington, Correspondent.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—1917

Chapters, 13. Members, 3,372. Exalted, 193. Net Gain, 20.

WILLIAM C. FOWLER, Grand High Priest.

When the semi-centennial Convocation of this Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons convened in the City of Washington at 7 o'clock p. m. on Feb. 14th, with one exception all the Grand Officers were present, besides many Past Grand Officers, Past High Priests and a large number of representatives

from each of the 13 Chapters. For some reason Ex. Comp. Benj. F. Odell was not present to represent Florida.

The Grand High Priest in reviewing the work of the year noted that three Past Grand High Priests and one Past Grand Treasurer had been summoned into the presence of the Great I Am.

All matters referred to him for decision were disposed of by reference to the Book of the Law.

He declined to grant a dispensation to open a Chapter at a stated convocation at an hour earlier than that named in its by-laws, believing that it is not within the dispensing power of the Grand High Priest to set aside the by-laws of a Chapter.

Following out the instructions of the last Grand Chapter he caused to be printed and distributed a thousand copies of the pamphlet prepared by M. E. Companion Kuhn on "The Necessity of the Royal Arch Degree to the Master Mason." The good fruits of this missionary enterprise are apparent in the increase in membership during the past year of nearly three years.

As a reward of merit to one Chapter for its particularly successful work during the year the officers of the Grand Chapter conferred the Royal Arch Degree in its Chapter room, General Grand High Priest George E. Corson taking part in conferring the degree. Distinguished Companions from neighboring Grand Jurisdictions were present.

The Jurisprudence Committee approved all the acts of the Grand High Priest and also recommended that the Grand Chapter of Alberta be given full recognition.

The General Committee on Entertainment of the General Grand Council and General Grand Chapter reported "progress" and were continued.

An amendment to the Constitution provides that the Annual Convocation shall be held on the second Wednesday in February "at such hour as the Grand High Priest may designate."

At the annual meeting of the Convention of Anointed High Priests the Excellent President announced the death of eight members during the year; thirteen High Priests were elected to receive the Order, and which was conferred on six at a subsequent meeting; also Ex. Comp. John R. Hykes, Past President of Keystone Chapter, Shanghai, China, was elected to membership, the Order of Past High Priesthood having been previously communicated to him. Ex. Comp. Benj. F. Larcombe was elected President. The annual dinner of the Convention of Anointed High Priests was held on March 30th.

The doings of the various Grand Chapters comprising the Capitular World are concisely reviewed by E. Comp. Roe Fulkerson, who is now the Grand Royal Arch Captain of that Grand Jurisdiction. He fears that he is growing "finicky or discriminating," for he finds, "as the years pass and report after report drifts across our desk, less and less which we think will interest our craft here at home." That might be so if no new Companions were coming forward and into prominence in the work, but it might be well to remember that what may seem worn and threadbare to the old timers is quite likely to create interest and enthusiasm to the newer members, particularly when dressed up in the attractive manner which Comp. Fulkerson so well knows how to do.

Florida receives concise mention. In referring to the decision of Grand High Priest Andress making the Grand Lodge law covering dimits the Chapter law, he states that the District of Columbia rule is that dimits are granted where no charges "are pending or about to be made."

Under the heading of Arkansas, he quotes from the report of Comp. Gordon Huffmaster who, he says, like himself, "saw something funny in the address of the Grand High of Florida," [M. E. Comp. Caldwell] and then adds:

Great guns! What a combination of promoters that pair would make! They could sell building lots in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean or riparian rights to town lots in Phoenix, Arizona!

Next Annual, Washington, Oct. 2, 1918.
Wm. W. Jermane, Washington, Grand High
Priest.
Arvne W. Johnston, Washington, Grand Secre-
tary.
Roe Fulkerson, Washington, Chairman Corre-
spondence.

ENGLAND—1916-17

Quarterly communications of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies are held in Mark Mason's Hall in London in March, June, September and December, with R. W. R. Loveland, K. C., Deputy Grand Master, on the Throne. The proceedings at each of the Quarterlies are largely routine.

At the December, 1916, Quarterly congratulatory resolutions were tendered His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, K. G., the Most Worshipful Grand Master, "on his safe return to England after his long and distinguished services as Governor General of Canada." Also to the M. W.

Pro. Grand Master Col. The Earl of Stradbroke, C. V. O., C. V., "in having arrived in England safely after a very providential escape from the Arabia, which was torpedoed."

Much of the business is transacted by the General Board, which reports its findings to the Grand Lodge, and in one instance regrets "that it has been compelled to admonish and fine two Brethren for grave irregularity in proceeding to instal as Worshipful Master a Brother who to their knowledge has not served the office of Master in a Craft Lodge." From another report we learn that the R. W. Grand Master with the assistance of the Officers of the Grand Lodge, "laid in solemn form and in accordance with the ancient rites and ceremonies of Mark Masonry, a Foundation Stone." Also that every subscribing member of Star of Burma Lodge, No. 88, meeting at Rangoon in the District of Burma, was given permission to wear a Commemoration Jewel on the completion of the 50th year of the Lodge's exist-

An appeal was made to the Grand Lodge by a Brother of Edaljee Khory Lodge, No. 436, meeting at Singapore in the Straits Settlement, from the refusal of the Grand Secretary to alter his mark as registered. The appeal was dismissed because whatever Mark is "returned for registration in the books of the Grand Lodge cannot afterwards be changed."

At the March, 1917, Quarterly the M. W. Grand Master, the Pro. Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master, were each proclaimed re-elected, and at the September Quarterly they were proclaimed installed. The report of the General Board June 30, 1917, showed the total number of Mark Certificates registered to be 71,972, and the total registered Royal Ark Mariner Certificates to be 13,227.

A Quarterly Convocation of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England was held at Freemason's Hall, London, Nov. 7, 1917, with M. E. Comp. Rt. Hon. Thomas Frederick Halsey as First Grand Principal and the other stations appropriately filled, besides a large number of Past Grand officers of varied distinctions and lesser lights in attendance.

The principal object of this gathering seems to have been to receive and act upon the Report of the Committee on General Purposes. First of which was a brief reference to the passing of the late Grand Scribe E., Sir Edward Letchworth, one of the leading workers in English Masonry and one whose death means a great loss to the Royal Craft. Four petitions were received for Chapters to be attached to particular Lodges, and which were granted, as well as a like number of memorials to remove Chapters from one location to another, one of which coming from India. It seems that Chapters have a habit of being lost in that distant land as well as nearer home.

Noticeable is the closer connection between Symbolic and Capitular Masonry as evidenced by this

Grand Body being both opened and closed in "Ancient and Solemn Form," coupled with the singing of a verse of the National Anthem.

At the August Quarterly the Most Excellent Grand Principal commemorated the Centenary of the Union of the Grand Chapters by promoting and appointing to Past Rank a large number of Companions, ranging in gradation from Past Grand Scribe N. to Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies.

GEORGIA—1917

Chapters, 156. Members, 9,842. Exalted, 810. Net Gain, 535.

J. F. BELL, Grand High Priest.

Following the opening in Ample Form of the Grand Chapter of Georgia, Royal Arch Masons, on Wednesday, April 25th, with each Grand Officer occupying his rightful station, was held what might be aptly termed a Capitular Love Feast. There were present eight Past Grand High Priests, one of whom, M. E. Comp. J. W. Taylor, is also a Past General Grand High Priest, who when his name was called announced that this was the fiftieth consecutive Convocation of the Grand Chapter he had been permitted to attend. As a slight token of the love and esteem in which he is held by his Companions he was presented with a watch chain. He, with E. Comp. J. A. Z. Shell, were likened to the Biblical characters of Moses and Aaron. Other notables present were Past Grand High Priest Henry Banks, General Grand

Royal Arch Captain; Ex. Comp. Joe C. Greenfield, General Grand Conductor of the General Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, and the present Grand Captain of the Host of the Grand Chapter of Georgia; also Past Grand High Priest F. O. Miller, the present Grand Master of Free and Accepted Masons of Georgia.

Notwithstanding representatives from 115 chartered Chapters were present, as well as 40 Past High Priests, Florida's Grand Representative failed to respond to roll call.

The Grand High Priest, in opening his address, noted that almost a century had passed since the first gavel of authority fell constituting the First Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Georgia. To be exact, by referring to the list of Past Grand Officers, it is learned that this date was 1822, and that the first Grand High Priest was William Schley, who was continuously in office until 1846, although it appears no Grand Chapter was held from 1831 to 1841, altogether a notable record and perhaps unparalleled in the history of Capitular Masonry in America.

Although the first few months of the Grand High Priest's administration were spent in a sanitarium, physically unable to attend to business, yet the records show that his was a business administration, one of the best in the history of that Grand Body. All of his decisions, which pertained to jurisdiction matters, were approved and with two exceptions his recommendations as well: One of which was that Grand High Priests have power to arbitrarily transfer the Charter of a Chapter to some other location, for failure to comply with the regulations. The other was to divide the State into four divisions and

assign them to the four principal officers, whose duty it would be to visit the Chapters in their respective districts. This is the Florida plan, which at the last Convocation were given the additional authority "to hold district conventions in lieu of such visits, or both, as they may deem expedient."

He recommended the appointment of four Grand Representatives and commissioned three others. Sparta Chapter was constituted during the year. In concluding his address, he refers briefly in a general way to the sublime principles of our ancient and honorable Fraternity:

He who first enters at the door of our great Fraternity, does so with the solemn statement that he sincerely desires to render service to others. This is the reason that Masonry has lived and has blessed the world, and this is the reason why Masonry will live as long as the planets shall follow their majestic orbits in the universe of God.

A resolution adopted at the previous Grand Convocation requires the Chairman of the Committee on Grand High Priest's Address to be present one day in advance of the opening of the Grand Convocation to prepare his report, and read the same immediately after it has been delivered by the Grand High Priest and properly referred. This plan seems to work well.

The Code was amended so that now all the officers are elected except Chaplain and Sentinel, a practice which is growing in favor.

One year ago the office of Grand Secretary and Grand Lecturer was combined, and the results met if not exceeded expectations, for the incumbent, R. Ex. E. H. McHan was re-elected to that dual office. In

addition to his Secretarial duties he made more than 150 visitations; assisted in conferring the Mark Master's degree on 315 candidates; the Past Master's on 330; the Most Excellent Master's on 400; the Royal Arch on 460, and to have addressed at least 5,000 Masons. He also makes this significant comment: "I have yet to find the first place where candidates cannot be found for the Chapter degrees, where the Companions are willing to do the work."

Thirty-one High Priests were elected to receive the Order of High Priesthood, and M. E. Comp. Robert L. Colding was re-elected President for the coming year.

E. Comp. Charles L. Bass submitted his fourth annual report of Foreign Correspondence, in which he carefully and comprehensively reviews 48 Grand Jurisdictions, giving each the prominence to which in his opinion it is entitled, Florida being among the lesser lights. He expressed regret that Georgia's Ambassador was not present when the roll of Grand Representatives was called. He is hopeful that the Report on Foreign Correspondence, which the Committee was instructed to prepare, will be published at the proper time.

Under Illinois, referring to the ceremony to "present the flag," he comments thusly: "All of which was very pretty and patriotic (and just now we can almost excuse it), but unusual and unmasonic." He states in his "Conclusion" that he has re-viewed the world of Capitular Masonry and as heretofore it has been a pleasure:

We have met old friends, made new ones. But we have lost some dear ones. The year has been marked by an unusual mortality among the Correspondents and Grand Secretaries.

Companions W. F. Cleveland, Charles J. Phelps, Virginius V. Harrison, Marsh O. Perkins and W. A. Davis have each dropped their pens and slipped away from the Round Table. True Masons, scholarly writers, dear friends, we will miss them all. But expect to meet each in the Lodge above.

Next Annual, Macon, April 24, 1918.

Thomas H. Jeffries, Atlanta, Grand High Priest.
E. A. McHan, Macon, Grand Secretary.

Charles L. Bass, Atlanta, Correspondent.

IDAHO—1917

Chapters, 19. Members, 1,532. Exalted, 128. Net Gain, 90.

THOMAS M. FLEMING, Grand High Priest.

Owing to the serious flood condition which prevailed in Northern Idaho about the time designated for holding the Ninth Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, Grand High Priest Fleming postponed the date to August 21st and 22nd, at which time the Grand Chapter was convened in Ample Form in the City of Kellogg, with three of the lesser stations filled by appointment and the same number of Chapters not represented; likewise Florida's Grand Representative does not appear to be among those who were at the proper time welcomed by His Excellency and urged to convey the best wishes of the Grand Chapter of Idaho to their respective Grand Chapters.

Gravity, pride and pleasure characterize the address of the Grand High Priest as he presents for scrutiny the record of his official acts. He granted

High Priest authorizing the Idaho petitioning Chapter to first communicate to the brother the Mark and Past Master degrees, and then confer upon him the remaining degrees. Although this action was approved by the Jurisprudence Committee, yet the Committee was of the opinion that the applicant should have petitioned for and had conferred upon him all the degrees.

All the Chapters were officially visited by one of the Grand Officers.

The Grand Chapter of Alberta was recognized, and fraternal relations were established.

A resolution to confer degrees as a matter of courtesy and without fee did not meet the approval of the Jurisprudence Committee, the reason being:

We believe that the General Jurisprudence

Correspondence and value is prepared by having a Chapter, in which Florida receives recognition. He disagrees with Grand High Priest Andrew in the latter's decision regarding Cerneadism. If such a situation presented itself where I was president of Masonry such as to be the case. If he has accepted that branch of Masonry to further his own aspirations, he has forfeited the respect of all worthy Masons, and deserves nothing but the contempt of the fraternity, and I for one could not extend any courtesies to him in any manner, and I should not be slow in apprising him of that fact. Of course this is only my view of the question, but from the teachings of "Mother Lodge" I could not do otherwise. If at any time he has been a member in any regular Lodge he certainly knew what he was doing, and is worthy of no consideration at our hands.

Replying to this criticism and for the information of Companion Gauger as well as other Companions who may not be familiar with Florida regulations who may be familiar with the

a dispensation to form a new Chapter at Rupert. The work of the year passed inspection and this Chapter was granted a charter. Another dispensation after some hesitation was granted to confer the Most Excellent and Royal Arch degrees upon a brother who thirty years previous has received the Mark and Past Master degrees in a Montana Chapter. Originally the request came from the Montana Chapter, but later this Chapter waived jurisdiction the complication being finally settled by the Grand High Priest authorizing the Idaho petitioning Chapter to first communicate to the brother the Mark and Past Master degrees, and then confer upon him the remaining degrees. Although this action was approved by the Jurisprudence Committee, yet the Committee was of the opinion that the applicant should have petitioned for and had conferred upon him all the degrees.

All the Chapters were officially visited by one of the Grand Officers.

The Grand Chapter of Alberta was recognized, and fraternal relations were established.

A resolution to confer degrees as a matter of courtesy and without fee did not meet the approval of the Jurisprudence Committee, the reason being:

We believe that the General Grand Chapter has no jurisdiction over Chapters attached to Grand Chapters and such Subordinate Chapters should determine matters of courtesy and favor for itself, especially where expense might be entailed.

We recall no such similar action taken by any other Grand Chapter.

Out of the ordinary, if we understand it cor-

rectly, is the following amendment as to the manner of preferring charges for the non-payment of dues:

And upon the report of the Secretary that a Companion is in arrears for dues for two years or more, a Chapter shall order charges signed by the Scribe in the following form:

No mention is made of an Order of High Priesthood.

Idaho's Proceedings this year is greatly enhanced in both appearance and value by having a Report on Correspondence prepared by Companion Edward L. Gauger, in which Florida receives recognition.

He disagrees with Grand High Priest Andress in the latter's decision regarding Cerneauism, saying:

If such a situation presented itself where I was presiding, he certainly could not enter, nor would I sit in a Chapter of Masonry to further his own aspirations, he has forfeited the respect of all worthy Masons, and deserves nothing but the contempt of the fraternity, and I for one could not extend any courtesies to him in any manner, and I should not be slow in apprising him of that fact. Of course this is only my view of the question, but from the teachings I received in the "Mother Lodge" I could not do otherwise. If at any time he has been a member in any regular Lodge he certainly knew what he was doing, and is worthy of no consideration at our hands.

Replying to this criticism and for the information of Companion Gauger as well as other Companions who may not be familiar with Florida regulations relative to Cerneauism, it may not be out of place to state that this entire matter was decided by the Grand Lodge of Florida quite a number of years ago, when it adopted resolutions that as Master Masons, the Grand Lodge had nothing whatever to do with any body or rite of the so-called higher degrees. It

has never declared a member of a Blue Lodge as clandestine or irregular in any way because he belonged to the Cerneau Rite. It has refused to declare whether the Cerneau Rite is regular or not.

In Florida we do not recognize the Scottish Rite nor even the Knights Templar as being a legitimate part of Freemasonry. It adopted the rule which was adopted by the Grand Lodge of England at the time of the Union of the two Grand Lodges in 1812-13, wherein that Grand Lodge says:

We recognize as Ancient Craft Masonry, the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, Master Mason, together with the Holy Royal Arch.

It is possible, therefore, for a man who is declared clandestine in such states as have declared the Cerneau Rite as clandestine, to be a member in good standing of the Blue Lodge, Royal Arch Chapter, and Knight Templar, in Florida.

We thank Companion Guager for his good wishes as well as welcome to the list of "tyros" who journey through the Capitular world, and we are enjoying the talented company we are meeting in our fascinating pilgrimage.

Next Annual in Pocatello, May 16 and 17, 1918.

Homer David, Moscow, Grand High Priest.

Lewis W. Ensign, Boise, Grand Secretary.

Edward L. Guager, Wallace, Committee Correspondence.

ILLINOIS—1918

Chapters, 215. Members, 45,737. Exalted, 3,552. Net Gain, 2,147.

JAMES E. JEFFERS, Grand High Priest.

Numerically leading the Capitular host in the United States, the Sixty-eighth Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Illinois convened in Chicago, Oct. 25, 1917, with all Grand Officers in their proper stations.

Unforeseen circumstances prevented General Grand High Priest Corson being present, he, however, being well represented by Companion Charles C. Davis, Grand Master of the Second Veil of the General Grand Chapter; other distinguished visitors being Past Grand High Priest Robert A. Wood of Indiana, and Companion Austin H. Scroggin, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, who stated that the Grand Lodge of Illinois had appropriated \$100,000 for the use of the two Masonic Homes in that state, and he further urged that a substantial sum be raised for the aid and assistance of those who are in France at this time. Another noted guest was Companion Chas. H. Randolph, Grand Commander of the Knights Templar of Illinois, who unreservedly protested against the resolutions recently introduced in the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States, that the membership of Knights Templar be chosen from lodge members only, having no other conditions precedent. And we opine this protest will find general favor not only with Florida Companions but among those wheresoever dispersed.

We are pleased to note that Past Grand High Priest William B. Carlock represented Florida when the accredited Representatives were welcomed by the Grand High Priest with assurances of good will for the respective jurisdictions they represented.

Zeal and energy and a close attention to the exacting duties of the high office which he so well filled characterize the address of Grand High Priest Jeffers, who firmly believes that in the trying times through which we are passing the standard of Royal Arch Masonry will be upheld and strengthened in a way to reflect credit and bring glory to its cause.

He noted that the spirit of Robert L. McKinlay, who was Grand High Priest in 1903-4, was at rest and refreshment.

He glories in the fact that Illinois is again the premier Grand Chapter of the World; one year ago for the first time leading New York by the small margin of twenty-two in its net gain, but this year having a net gain of 885 to the good, and he believes that its first place is now so strongly fixed that it should be held against all contestants.

During the year six new Chapters were constituted and dedicated, and dispensations were issued for the formation of two other new Chapters.

The Grand High Priest ascribed much of the great numerical growth of the past year to two causes—careful and painstaking work of the twenty-seven District Inspectors, and the five Schools of Instruction held during the year, which system has his unqualified approval. In his instructions to the District Inspectors we very much like these words:

Above all, counsel and advise the strictest adherence to

the ceremonies as provided by our ritual, impressing on their minds in the strongest manner possible that any deviation from, any addition of wording or movement not provided for by the ritual is positively forbidden.

Following somewhat the plan recently adopted by the Florida Grand Lodge, Illinois has a Board of Grand Examiners before whom any Companion may appear, and when they pass a satisfactory examination they are duly commissioned as Grand Lecturers, the value of which is reflected in increased interest and ability shown by the Chapters located near these Companions by whom they are inspired to greater ability.

Among the many Interstate courtesies granted was one for Jackson Park Chapter of Chicago to confer the Royal Arch degree upon a Brother for Inverness Chapter No. 14, of this state.

While many questions concerning the interpretation of the laws were submitted to the Grand High Priest, none were of such character as to require a decision.

This Grand High Priest appears to have but little patience with Companions who after they get into official line and advance until finally crowned with the highest honors complain of the duties they have to perform, adding that:

In my short experience and limited observation I do not recall a single instance of these dignified and honored offices being forced upon any Companion. On the contrary, I have heard it whispered that there have been times when the office did not seek the man, but rather that the reverse was the case.

The Grand Chapter of Alberta was recognized and relations of amity and correspondence established.

Among the interesting facts brought out by the report of the Committee on Chartered Chapters we learn:

Thirty-five Chapters report no Chaplain.

Two Chapters manage their affairs without the aid of a Treasurer.

Three Chapters have no Master of Third Veil, and two Chapters have no veilsmen at all.

Two Chapters confer the Royal Arch Degree with no Principal Sojourner at all.

One Chapter has no need of a Captain of the Host.

Twenty-four Chapters report no work during the year.

A proposed amendment to change the Annual Convocations to the first Monday in September was presented and will be reported on next year.

The Committee on Jurisprudence placed the seal of approval on all the acts of the Grand High Priest.

A Masonic gem of real worth was the oration given by the Grand Chaplain, Companion H. E. Neff, whose theme was "A Noble Purpose," speaking from the words, "without hope of fee or reward."

A feature of this Annual Convocation of the Order of High Priesthood of Illinois was the address of the Most Excellent President, Companion Geo. M. Moulton. Thirty-two Companions petitioned and received the Order of High Priesthood, and the officers of the previous year were re-elected.

Past Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary Geo. W. Warvelle, in presenting his sixteenth annual Correspondence Report or "epistle," regrets that he has nothing new, strange or startling to offer. However, years of experience enables him to separate the grain from the chaff, and we get whole wheat each

time. Florida receives a generous share of his attention. The acts of Grand High Priest Wm. R. O'Neal meet with his approval, commenting in particular on granting a dispensation to place a keystone in a church:

"It is true there was no precedent for an action of this kind. But what of it? Every recognized custom of the Craft was at the inception thereof an innovation. The act seems to have been highly proper and in keeping with ancient tradition. That is enough. At all events, Florida now has a precedent.

He appears to take exceptions to our practice of conferring the Degrees at each Annual Grand Chapter by the Committee on Work, and we would respectfully call his attention to our explanation of this feature in our review of Idaho.

We thank him for bidding "the new receiver welcome to a seat at the round table."

He concludes his somewhat brief review with "The Postscript," being a ramble through the proceedings with comments on a few of the trifles picked up on the way. As these gems of thought and consideration precede the Revised Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, which are printed in full in the 1917 proceedings, we doubt not that thousands of the Companions of Illinois have read both and are thereby the wiser. Those who have not have missed something worth while.

Next Annual in Chicago, Oct. 24, 1918.

Arthur E. Wood, Gibson, Grand High Priest.

George W. Warvelle, Chicago, Grand Secretary and Committee on Correspondence.

Exception were taken by this committee to the

Kings and Clerics joining in petitions for the election

of High Priests. Also to the conferring of degrees

contrary to law, but this was condoned, as no real

harm was done and the recipients were about to

enter the service of the country. Practical Masonic

charity is often shown in observing the spirit of the

law, even though it may appear to overstep the letter.

He refused to grant dispensations to act on peti-

tions in less than statutory time, a situation not

occurring in Florida. Also that it was not necessary

to have a dispensation to move from one point to

another in the same town or territorial jurisdiction.

With one exception, all questions asked were

answered by citations to the General Regulations,

and that one he deemed an "extraordinary case," the

happy review of the work of the year, and was

Ramsey comprehensively Grand High Priest

conclusively and comprehensively Grand High Priest

was not present to represent Florida.

Form in the City of Indianapolis, Oct. 17, 1917. But

Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Indiana in Ample

Seventy-second Annual Convocation of the Grand

Officers with 15 Permanent Members opened the

Grand High Priest and his full roster of Grand

Representatives from 117 of the 122 chartered

Chapters, 124, Members, 20,627, Exalted, 1,664, Net Gain, 1,108

Calvin H. Ramsey, Grand High Priest

INDIANA—1917

GRAND CHAPTER OF FLORIDA

Jurisprudence Committee.

Exception were taken by this committee to the

Kings and Clerics joining in petitions for the election

of High Priests. Also to the conferring of degrees

contrary to law, but this was condoned, as no real

harm was done and the recipients were about to

enter the service of the country. Practical Masonic

charity is often shown in observing the spirit of the

law, even though it may appear to overstep the letter.

He refused to grant dispensations to act on peti-

tions in less than statutory time, a situation not

occurring in Florida. Also that it was not necessary

to have a dispensation to move from one point to

another in the same town or territorial jurisdiction.

With one exception, all questions asked were

answered by citations to the General Regulations,

and that one he deemed an "extraordinary case," the

happy review of the work of the year, and was

Ramsey comprehensively Grand High Priest

conclusively and comprehensively Grand High Priest

was not present to represent Florida.

Form in the City of Indianapolis, Oct. 17, 1917. But

Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Indiana in Ample

Seventy-second Annual Convocation of the Grand

Officers with 15 Permanent Members opened the

Grand High Priest and his full roster of Grand

Representatives from 117 of the 122 chartered

Chapters, 124, Members, 20,627, Exalted, 1,664, Net Gain, 1,108

Calvin H. Ramsey, Grand High Priest

jurisprudence Committee.

Exception were taken by this committee to the

Kings and Clerics joining in petitions for the election

of High Priests. Also to the conferring of degrees

contrary to law, but this was condoned, as no real

harm was done and the recipients were about to

enter the service of the country. Practical Masonic

charity is often shown in observing the spirit of the

law, even though it may appear to overstep the letter.

He refused to grant dispensations to act on peti-

tions in less than statutory time, a situation not

occurring in Florida. Also that it was not necessary

to have a dispensation to move from one point to

another in the same town or territorial jurisdiction.

With one exception, all questions asked were

answered by citations to the General Regulations,

and that one he deemed an "extraordinary case," the

happy review of the work of the year, and was

Ramsey comprehensively Grand High Priest

conclusively and comprehensively Grand High Priest

was not present to represent Florida.

Form in the City of Indianapolis, Oct. 17, 1917. But

Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Indiana in Ample

Seventy-second Annual Convocation of the Grand

Officers with 15 Permanent Members opened the

Grand High Priest and his full roster of Grand

Representatives from 117 of the 122 chartered

Chapters, 124, Members, 20,627, Exalted, 1,664, Net Gain, 1,108

Calvin H. Ramsey, Grand High Priest

jurisprudence Committee.

the Royal Arch degree there was an "absence of everything that savors of frivolity, or rough usage of candidates." This same Inspection Officer does not hesitate to criticize when necessary, for he cited one instance where the officers of the Chapter "seemed to be of the opinion that being able to read the ritual was all that was required of them."

By resolution the Grand Chapter authorized the Chapters of Indiana to remit the dues each year of Companions as long as they are in the service of their country; also to give every attention and consideration to their families.

A unanimous rising vote of sympathy was tendered the R. E. Grand Secretary, Calvin W. Prather, in the serious illness of his wife, whose earthly pilgrimage was drawing to a close. (Personal information received by the writer states that Mrs. Prather entered into rest April 14, 1918).

President Wilson was sent a telegram unanimously pledging the loyalty of the Grand Chapter and the service of every member in the great cause which he so worthily leads.

An important feature of each Grand Convocation is the Annual Dinner, which this time partook of a patriotic nature. A prominent feature was the address by Comp. Judge Charles J. Orbison, the general theme being that history is repeating itself in the great conflict of the present time, and closing with a vivid vision of Masonry, which he said Craftsmen must make a reality.

Considerable prominence is given to the Council of High Priests of the State of Indiana, devoting two sessions to its deliberations. At the first one 58

petitions were received and Comp. John J. Glendening was re-elected M. E. President. At the evening session the Companions elected in the afternoon were introduced and consecrated to the Holy Order in solemn form.

M. E. Comp. Robert Archer Woods presents his seventh Capitular epistle to the elect, noting with apparent pleasure a "still small voice" presaging a fraternal settlement of the Scottish invasion of our Philippine territory. The Review is a noteworthy contribution to the Masonic literature of the year, and should be carefully read by every Companion of the Hoosier State as well as by others who may be fortunate enough to come in possession of a copy of it.

Florida receives careful consideration. The address of Grand High Priest O'Neal apparently meets with full approval. Not so, however, is the conferring of degrees by the Committee on Work of the Grand Chapter of Florida. Perhaps the objection may be owing to a lack of understanding of this Florida custom which we have endeavored to make clear in our review of Idaho.

The writer of this review is given a cordial welcome by Companion Woods, also an invitation to join the Round Table, which we hasten to do by remitting the fee. We thank him for the many nice things he has to say about our work, which he is pleased to call "estimable," adding:

My own view is that it is what his Grand Chapter has needed for a long time, and that it ought to stimulate that body to greater effort and the correction of a few errors. The review is well written and complete.

There are many pertinent and instructive comments and sidelights in the various reviews of the Grand Chapter Proceedings which are of great value to the Craft and which we would like to reproduce did space permit.

Next Annual in Indianapolis, Oct. 16, 1918.

Elwood Barnard, Greenfield, Grand High Priest.

Calvin W. Prather, Indianapolis, Grand Secretary.

Robert A. Woods, Princeton, Chrm. Com. on Cor.

IOWA—1917

Chapters, 128. Members, 15,603. Exalted, 1,322. Net Gain, 969.

CHARLES A. DEWEY, Grand High Priest.

Pleasing brief preliminary exercises preceded the formal convening of the Sixty-fourth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, in the City of Cedar Rapids, Oct. 11, 1917. This city has the unique distinction of having a building devoted exclusively to Masonic library purposes. All stations were filled by their rightful occupants, and Florida was represented by Companion A. D. Meeker, of Marshalltown, one of the Deputy Custodians, when the Grand Representatives were welcomed by the Grand High Priest, a pleasing custom in many Grand Jurisdictions.

Replete with optimistic views was the patriotic and eloquent address of the Grand High Priest, who

although apparently a very busy man, seemed to find time to perform during the year much labor for Capitular Masonry, which shows a normal and substantial increase. One new Chapter was constituted at Clear Lake. Among the dispensations which he granted and which did not meet the approval of the Jurisprudence Committee was one to hold a stated convocation in advance of the time when the stated convocation should have been held; and another one, presupposing a lack of quorum at a regular convocation to elect officers, changed the time to a later date; and two others were to ballot on petitions out of regular order, by reason of the brethren entering the army. The Committee did not question the patriotic motive, but did not consider the sentiment as sufficient to justify a disregard of the provisions of the Constitution. This is surely observing the letter of the law.

During the year he rendered several decisions, of which he characterizes as of no great importance, but of sufficient interest to be sent out in the report. On one of which he asked a decision of the Jurisprudence Committee, and which he stated was at variance with the Iowa Grand Lodge, to the effect that a Companion who is elected and installed High Priest of a Chapter upon retirement from office, regardless of length of time, becomes a Past High Priest and entitled to the honors of that dignity. This was approved, as it would be in Florida. Another was that a Chapter has the right to donate its funds to Red Cross work, for "Masonry and charity are so closely related and interwoven that the giving of funds to the Red Cross is considered as a Masonic purpose, because it is for noble charity." He refused

to allow a member to act as a substitute in the Royal Arch degree, although approved by the General Grand Chapter and followed in Florida as well as in some other Grand Jurisdictions.

Two Chapters were consolidated, which, according to Iowa laws takes the name and number of the older Chapter. One Chapter surrendered its charter, believing it better to quit than to drag along for years doing nothing.

Recognition was accorded the Grand Chapter of Alberta, and fraternal relations were severed with the Grand Chapter of Scotland.

While the Grand Secretary reports that the net increase of 960 in membership is the largest in the history of the Grand Chapter, the Committee on Chartered Chapters report that 25 Chapters have done no work during the year. The report of this Committee as well as that of the Board of Custodians stresses the necessity of officers of Chapters being proficient in their work.

Much importance is given to the Order of Anointed High Priesthood, one evening being set aside for this occasion, at which 33 worthy Companions presented petitions and were accepted, following which Companion George A. Riemcke, the Excellent President, addressed the Order, giving a historical summary of the leading characters mentioned in the ceremonies. This is an Order of which but comparatively little is known, it being one of the most, if not the most exclusive of all the Masonic degrees, as none but actual High Priests or Past High Priests are eligible to membership. We wish that this address might be in the hands of more of those who

are entitled to participate in these solemn ceremonies. Also that brochure issued a few years ago by Past Grand High Priest and the present Grand Secretary of Illinois, M. E. Companion Geo. W. Warvelle.

The Report on Correspondence is by Companion F. A. Lee, of Waverly, who from his "Proem," we learn was prevented from taking up this delightful occupation, which he denominates as a "man's job," until after time it should have been in the hands of the printer. However, he was equal to the emergency, and gives a creditable and interesting review, even though he did have to "hike to a ten-cent store and purchase a pair of snips."

He notes that the address of Grand High Priest O'Neal is not lengthy and that it "contains much food for thought," quoting liberally from it. Also that some of his recommendations were along the lines of advanced Masonic thought and full of practical "horse sense." He likewise approves our maiden report, which he is pleased to call "ably written."

Next Annual at Fort Dodge, Oct. 17, 1918.
Isaac T. Forbes, Marshalltown, Grand High Priest.

O. F. Graves, Harlan, Grand Secretary.
C. O. Greever, DesMoines, Committee on Correspondence.

IRELAND—1917

The proceedings of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Ireland for the year 1917, is contained in the Report of the V. E. Grand Registrar, Henry E. Flavelle. In it we note the gratifying record that

the "progress of Irish Freemasonry during the past year was one of unprecedented prosperity, the number of new members who were exalted being "considerably in excess of any previous year," but the report does not give the number.

During the year a new edition of the Laws and Constitutions were issued and sent to the Chapters. Permission was given to keep the old ones for reference, but were not to be used in conducting the Chapter's business. Six Warrants were issued during the year to establish new Chapters, and two other Warrants were restored.

The Right Hon. The Lord Musker is the M. E. Grand King, but the records do not show whether he is re-elected annually.

KENTUCKY—1917

Chapters, 114. Members, 10,109. Advanced, 621. Net Gain, ⁹³

GEORGE B. WINSLOW, Grand High Priest.

Only two of the living Past Grand High Priests were missing when the Grand High Priest opened in Ample Form the Centennial Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky, Royal Arch Masons, in Louisville, Oct. 16, 1917, with the Grand Secretary's chair vacant, he having been admitted to the Silent City just a month previous.

Replete with valuable information and inspiration to the Royal Craft in Kentucky was the annual address of Grand High Priest Winslow. In prepar-

ing this carefully thought out production he apparently went through the entire printed Proceedings of that Grand Body from its beginning, for he states that for the first few years of the Grand Chapter's existence no mention was made of a formal address, and then beginning with half a page the annual address has year by year lengthened until "now the Grand Chapter either expects to be afflicted, or each Grand High Priest insists on inflicting it, with some twenty-five to thirty pages."

In addition to the death of the late Grand Secretary, M. E. Comp. Howard R. French, he also paid tribute to another Past Grand High Priest, the late M. E. Comp. James W. Hopper, who also passed away during the year.

The station made vacant by the death of Grand Past High Grand Priest G. Allison Holland, who for several years had prepared the excellent reports on the Doings of Grand Chapters.

After filling the vacancies of Grand Representatives as they occurred, and making a careful examination and finding no law requiring or authorizing their appointment, he came to the conclusion there was "no earthly use for the system," and that the time consumed in going through the form of introducing the Grand Representatives to the Grand Chapter was "substantially an infringement or trespass upon the rights of the Committee on Doings of Other Grand Chapters," and recommended that "no further attention be paid to this useless practice." The Jurisprudence Committee was likeminded, but their report brought out a spirited debate in Grand

Chapter and the recommendation was non-concurred in.

From a paragraph in the report of Grand Secretary Holland, formerly the Committee on the Doings of Other Grand Chapters, he states that as such Committee "a part of my duty consisted in looking after the fraternal relations existing between this Grand Chapter and all other Grand Bodies of Royal Arch Masons." If it be true that a Grand Representative is a useless appendage, why not make him something besides ornamental by assigning to him duties similar to those mentioned above?

He refused to grant a dispensation to ballot on candidates short of time, for the reason:

The Grand High Priest has no authority to grant a dispensation for any such purpose, and as a matter of fact, if he were to go through the form of granting one, the Chapter to which it was issued would have no more right to ballot within that time than if the request was refused entirely.

If this be true in Kentucky, why do not similar conditions prevail in other Grand Chapters? Why not follow Florida's plan and allow petitions for Chapter degrees be received and acted upon at any time the members of the Chapter desire?

It appears that divers manners of official visitation have been used successfully by this Grand Chapter, and in the opinion of the Grand High Priest the one used during the year past was productive of much good, for all but two of the Subordinate of Chapters were officially visited during the year, and reports were received from those two. The plan divided the State into Districts, along Congressional lines, the Inspectors being required to attend Grand Chapter and make a written report for the year.

He mentioned making only one decision, and that was the interpretation of certain regulations and of local interest only.

He recommended that the \$10,000 of the funds of the Grand Chapter then invested in interest bearing securities be sold and the proceeds invested in the third issue of Liberty Bonds, but Grand Chapter amended by reducing this amount to \$5,000 and then including \$2,000 additional from the available cash in the hands of the Grand Chapter Treasurer. Following which Past General Grand High Priest Bernard G. Witt proposed that he "would take pleasure in lending the Grand Chapter the \$5,000 at four per cent. interest without any collateral attached."

The large membership of this Grand Body permits it to undertake practical charity on a scale that would be prohibitive in Grand Chapters of lesser membership, even with a Grand Chapter dues of one dollar, from which twenty-five cents are taken for Masonic Home use. The report of the Educational Trustee shows that it has assisted in defraying the expenses of sixteen boys and girls during the school year.

Recognition of St. Andrews Grand Chapter in Belgium was postponed pending a formal recognition by the Supreme Grand Chapter of England.

The One Hundredth Anniversary of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky was most appropriately observed by a get-together celebration on the night of October 18th, when a most comprehensive historical sketch was presented by the centennial Grand High Priest, George B. Winslow, and which will be of great value not only to the Craft in Kentucky, but contains

information that will no doubt often be referred to in various ways by Capitular orators in the years to come.

No mention is made in the Proceedings of an Order of High Priesthood, but under the heading of Meeting of Kentucky Grand Bodies, it is learned that the Annual Convention was held in the afternoon of October 16th. From other sources it is learned that its proceedings are separately recorded, a condition which to our knowledge does not prevail in any other Grand Jurisdiction.

Of real value to the Craft is the Report of the Doings of Grand Chapters by Past Grand High Priest G. Allison Holland.

He noted that the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Florida held May 15th, reached his office June 20th, which he notes "beats the record of getting out the Proceedings of any Grand Chapter, as far as we have observed." While there are Grand Secretaries and Grand Secretaries, we hold that R. E. Comp. Wilbur P. Webster, our beloved Grand Secretary, is equalled by few and excelled by none.

Companion Holland agrees with Grand High Priest O'Neal and quotes liberally from his address, particularly that the Chapter degrees are not to be used as stepping stones to the so-called higher degrees, and adds that "an effort ought to be made to educate Masons to such an extent that they will understand exactly what Capitular Masonry means."

Next year the report will be prepared by Past Grand High Priest George B. Winslow, and judging from his address as Grand High Priest as well as his historical sketch before the Centennial Celebra-

tion, the forthcoming report will be one to look forward to with pleasurable anticipation.

Next Annual in Louisville, October 15, 1918.
Isaac T. Woodson, Louisville, Grand High Priest.
G. Allison Holland, Lexington, Grand Secretary.
George B. Winslow, Carrollton, Correspondent.

KANSAS—1917

Chapters, 94. Members, 11,221. Exalted, 971. Net Gain, 654

JOHN POWERS, Grand High Priest

After the Grand High Priest had congregated the Companions the Fifty-second Annual Convocation of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Kansas was opened in ample form in Wichita, February 19, 1917, with the usual Grand Officers except Masters of Vails, which this Grand Chapter apparently does not require, also 14 Past Grand High Priests and Representatives from 71 Subordinate Chapters. Florida's Grand Representative M. E. Aaron H. Connett, Grand Treasurer, with other Ambassadors present, were received by the Grand High Priest. This Grand Convocation was also honored by having as guests of honor, two of its permanent members, M. P. Edward P. Wellington, General Grand Master of the General Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, and M. E. Bestor G. Brown, General Grand Scribe of the General Grand Chapter.

A concise, business-like statement of the affairs

of the fraternity characterized the address of the Grand High Priest, who feelingly referred to the calling to their final reward of Past Grand High Priest Augustus O. Wellman and Past Grand Secretary Wm. M. Shaver. He issued a dispensation to establish Pratt Chapter U. D. He was pleased to note that the relations with other Grand Jurisdictions were pleasant and harmonious.

Lack of interest in Capitular Masonry was the cause of his arresting the Charters of two Chapters. One new Chapter, Rosedale No. 95, was constituted.

Finding no specific legislation governing the right of subordinate chapters to confer degrees outside its home temple, which it appears is frequently done upon request, he recommended that the Grand Chapter take definite action.

He reported having made but few official visits, but those he did make were sources of pleasure and profit. He rejoices over the glorious achievements of the past and believes the future is one of splendid promise. He concludes with this truthful suggestion:

There is little in life if we fail to live *for* one another as well as *with* one another, and the opportunity for such living must not be deferred if we hope to derive from life its fullest fruition.

From the Grand Secretary's report we learn that the growth of the year is in excess of previous years, one Chapter, Topeka No. 5, having exalted 139, exceeding that of any Chapter during the history of Capitular Masonry in that State.

Following up a custom which is growing in favor with both Grand Lodges and Grand Chapters generally, this Grand Chapter will pay mileage to the chairmen of the committees on Correspondence and

Necrology and to members of other standing committees.

The Jurisprudence Committee reported that under existing laws as well the common law of Masonry, which has from time immemorial prevailed in the Masonic system, "a Chapter does not and should not possess discretionary freedom" to confer degrees outside of its home temple.

The Holy Order of High Priesthood was conferred upon 39 petitioners and R. E. John A. Ferrell was re-elected President.

Past Grand High Priest Matthew M. Miller presented his ninth annual report upon the Capitular Masonry of the world.

Under District of Columbia he anticipates great things for Capitular Masonry, because:

Those who attend the meetings of the General Grand Bodies in 1918 will always thereafter remember with the greatest pleasure and satisfaction the opportunities afforded to study and enjoy the memorials of the great patriots and Masons who formed such a great part of those who founded, built and preserved our nation to be the abode of liberty, equality and brotherhood.

Under Florida he quotes from the report of the Jurisprudence Committee on the recognition of Alberta which he believes "is the general concensus of the law governing in such cases."

After reviewing the proceedings of all the Chapters received he reaches a "Conclusion," closing with this suggestion:

We trust the time is not far distant when all men and all nations will voluntarily discard their weapons, and show by their action a disposition to adopt the latest Kansas formula: Cultivate more maize and dispense with hell fire.

Next Annual, Topeka, February 18, 1918.
 Charles A. Conkling, Hutchinson, Grand High
 Priest.

Albert K. Wilson, Topeka, Grand Secretary.
 Matthew M. Miller, Topeka, Correspondent.

LOUISIANA—1917

Chapters, 44. Members, 4,257. Exalted, 338. Net Gain, ¹⁵²

SOL LEVY, Grand High Priest.

With all stations filled and a large number of Past Grand High Priests, Past High Priests and Representatives from 39 constituent Chapters, the Seventy-eighth Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Louisiana was called to order in the City of New Orleans on February 6th by the Grand High Priest, and after an invocation to the Supreme High Priest, was declared open in due and ample form, Florida being represented by R. E. Ernest W. Driebholz.

In half a dozen pages the Grand High Priest sums up his official acts of the year, and was pleased to report that the membership had increased in a gratifying ratio with that of Symbolic Masonry and that due care had been exercised in the selection of material. He reported that five Chapters had been granted charters and that a dispensation for one new Chapter had been issued. He reported having made five official visitations. He commissioned four Grand Representatives and recommended one other. He reported that the hand of the Angel of Death had

removed Past Grand High Priest Henry Fishler Rugan and Past Grand High Priest George Washington Booth.

The Grand Chapter of Alberta was recognized as a lawful Grand Chapter and an exchange of Representatives was ordered.

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances reported that there had not been a discordant note in the ranks of Capitular Masonry in the State during the year.

Two sessions of the M. E. Grand Council of High Priesthood was held. At the first session M. E. President Herman C. Duncan delivered an address, and five petitions for membership were received and accepted, who at the second session were solemnly anointed and set apart to the Holy Order.

It is a pleasure to record that Past Grand High Priest Herman C. Duncan has been restored to health and for the twenty-second time presents the Report on Foreign Correspondence. Years of service and a thorough understanding of Capitular Masonry enables him to briefly review the essential features of each proceedings.

Florida receives eight lines.

In commenting upon the establishment of a School of Instruction in Maryland he wants it to be remembered that something more than attending lectures is necessary to assure competency in a workman; an examination to ascertain if the student has imbibed the lectures is important.

Under Washington he evidently considers the proposed amendment to the Constitution making all officers occupying stations elective, the outcome of

the growing habit of rotation in office. "Would it not be better," he suggests, "to reform the prevailing habit, and have it clearly understood that a Grand High Priest is to be elected solely on merit, and not forsooth for the reason that he is at the time a Deputy Grand High Priest? Is the habit of rotation in office so firmly fixed that it cannot be done away with?"

Next Annual, New Orleans, February 5, 1918.
John S. Thibaut, Donaldsonville, Grand High Priest.

John A. Davilla, New Orleans, Grand Secretary.
Herman C. Duncan, Alexandria, Chairman Cor. Com.

MAINE—1917

Chapters, 65. Members, 10,966. Exalted, 579. Net Gain, ²⁴⁹

JAMES A. RICHAU, Grand High Priest.

Only two of the Grand Masters of Vails were absent when the Ninety-second Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine was opened in full and ample form in the Masonic Temple, at Portland, May 1, 1917. We notice that the list of Grand Officers include three District Deputy Grand High Priests and two Grand Stewards, and we wonder what may be the duties of Stewards in Grand Chapter. The report of the Credential Committee shows that 57 Chapters were represented, also a score of Permanent Members were present, including R. E. Henry R. Taylor, Florida's Grand

Representative and who was Grand Scribe in 1873 and 1874.

In nine pages the Grand High Priest presents a concise summary of his official acts of the year and without padding. He noted one break in the chain of Grand Officers, the passing to the Great Beyond of M. E. Henry S. Webster, who was Grand High Priest in 1895 and 1896, and also the death of E. Comp. Leander M. Kenniston, Grand Representative for New Jersey, nearly 77 years old, and who had been a regular attendant at the sessions of all of the Grand Bodies for 30 years.

As a result of the official visits of Grand and other inspecting officers to the subordinate Chapters each year he was pleased to note that the "ritual work is becoming more and more uniform." But he regretted that it had seemed feasible to hold only one school of instruction during the year.

He called particular attention to the lax manner in which the visiting officer is received in some of the Chapters, and that it is embarrassing to a Grand Officer to be asked if he wished to be received in form. To overcome this he suggests that each Chapter establish the custom of correctly receiving Grand Officers and carry it out on all proper occasions. This should be the custom everywhere.

No decisions were required during the year, all questions being easily answered by reference to the Constitution or Text Book. Two Chapters were constituted, one at Old Town and one at Bingham.

He granted a dispensation to one Chapter to confer the Mark and Past Master degrees the same date, but refused this same Chapter a dispensation

to receive, refer and ballot on an application at the same convocation, because conditions did not warrant it. In Florida we can receive, ballot and confer degrees at the same convocation without dispensation. It works well here. He refused a dispensation to ballot on the petition of a brother who had not resided in the state a year. This is also Florida law. But what was there to prevent getting a waiver from the Chapter holding jurisdiction over him? He inspected three of the Chapters assigned to him and was unable to make appointments for inspecting three others.

Inspiring and instructive reports were presented by the other Inspecting Officers, showing that they faithfully discharged their respective duties, unless prevented by storms or inability to make appointments.

"Immortality" is the theme of the report of the Committee on Memorials, presented by Comp. Thomas H. Bodge, in which we read:

Instinctively the heart and thought of man rebel against the idea that death ends all; that beyond the grave there is no other sphere where those who have mingled in this world's pleasures and duties will meet and know each other. Probably no one of us could formulate even in his own mind what he expects that future state to be, but that is of little consequence. Had the Almighty Father and Creator wished man to know of the life beyond He could have given him that knowledge; but instead he implanted in his mind the need of, and the confident belief in a future existence. Our best preparation for it is a proper use of this.

Grand Representatives for Louisiana and New Jersey presented their credentials and were received and welcomed. The Grand Chapter of Alberta was recognized and exchange of Grand Representatives

authorized. A resolution was adopted removing the limit from the term commissions of Grand Representatives, leaving them at the pleasure of the Grand High Priest, which is also the Florida custom. Nothing was submitted to either the Committee on Jurisprudence or Grievances and Appeals. Surely a peaceful, prosperous and happy condition. The Finance Committee deemed it inadvisable to make any appropriation for the George Washington National Memorial Association.

At the Council of the Order of High Priesthood credentials were presented from 36 candidates, of which 35 were received and appointed. Candidates for membership in the Council must present a certificate of election and installation under seal of the Chapter and present themselves at that or the ensuing annual session or the election elapses. In Florida Past High Priests can be received into the Order at any annual convention.

When it came to the election of Grand Secretary, the following was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand R. A. Chapter of Maine make our beloved Grand Secretary, Stephen Berry, who has served this Grand Chapter for these many years, Grand Secretary Emeritus, *ad vitam*, and that he receive the same salary as last year, payable monthly.

Comp. Berry was first elected Grand Secretary in 1892, having served continuously a quarter of a century, and this is certainly a proper tribute for services well and faithfully rendered, thus practically "spreading his pathway with flowers, his table with plenty."

One of the most helpful, instructive and inspiring

reviews of the 1917 Proceedings is the Report on Correspondence by Past Grand High Priest Thomas H. Bodge, Chairman of the Committee, it being a judicious combination of comment and extract, and ought to be read by every Royal Craftsman. Any Companion may borrow our copy—providing he will faithfully promise to return it.

Florida receives courteous and apparently favorable consideration. However, he refers to the dispensation granted by Grand High Priest Andress to hold an election to fill vacancy caused by death of High Priest, and inquiries "why should not the King and Scribe succeed as they are obligated to?" In Florida these officers succeed in order only in the temporary absence of the High Priest, and vacancies occur by death, resignation, demit or removal after election beyond the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter. Vacancies in any of the elective offices except High Priest, may be filled at any regular convocation, but a dispensation is required in the latter case. He also thinks \$20 a pretty low minimum for the degrees, "and to exempt ministers of the gospel is a mistake, and it will be a bigger mistake for the ministers to take advantage of it." We notice that many other Correspondents have similar opinions.

Comp. Bodge is "listening" for our Report on Correspondence, and we hope he will not be disappointed when it reaches him.

We have read with great interest his reviews of the 1916 Proceedings and note that his approvals and disapprovals are similar to what we either attempted to say or would have said if we could have put our words together so they would have sounded as convincingly as do his. And it likewise marks the great

difference between what a Past Grand High Priest does and says and what a mere Past High Priest tries to do.

Next Annual, Portland, May 7, 1917.
Frederick O. Eaton, Rumford, Grand High Priest.
Charles B. Davis, Portland, Grand Secretary.
Thomas H. Bodge, Augusta, Com. on For. Cor.

MARYLAND—1917.

Chapters, 24. Members, 4,497. Exalted, 360. Net Gain, 229.

EMMET L. PETTIT, Grand High Priest.

Between the hours of 7 o'clock p. m. and 10 o'clock p. m. on November 22, 1917, was held the One Hundred and Twentieth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland, with the Grand High Priest in the Grand East, assisted by his Royal Family, and with the presence of ten Past Grand High Priests and representatives from 20 Subordinate Chapters, Florida be represented by Comp. L. Dorsey Gassaway.

Although not having fully recovered from a nervous breakdown which he suffered at the beginning of his term, Grand High Priest Pettit presented a concise summary of his stewardship, in his address.

From a foot-note in connection with the announcement of the death of Most Excellent Companion Bestor G. Brown, General Grand Scribe of the General Grand Chapter, we gather this interesting bit of general information:

He was said to be the original "Buster Brown," a sobriquet earned by him while a student at Cornell University, on account of his large size and propensity for playing pranks upon his fellow students and his name being Bestor.

Grand High Priest Pettit endeavored to follow out the Grand Chapter Regulations by visiting officially nearly all of the Subordinate Chapters. He reported that all questions submitted to him for decision were covered by existing laws.

His first recommendation was the advisability of changing the Statutes so as to elect the entire line of officers, but the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers were "loath to deprive the M. E. Grand High Priest of that prerogative and therefore do not concur in this recommendation." Grand Chapter agreed. All his other acts were approved.

This Grand Chapter will invest \$4,000 in the third issue of Liberty Bonds, and \$100 was appropriated for the expenses of the four Representatives to the next General Grand Chapter.

Owing to the war conditions in the City of Washington, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the District of Columbia having found it impossible to properly entertain the General Grand Chapter at the next Triennial Convocation in October, a special Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Maryland was held January 11th, at which time an invitation was extended to the General Grand Chapter to hold the next Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter in Baltimore. The invitation has been accepted by the General Grand High Priest, and the next Triennial Convocation will be held in Baltimore instead of Washington.

In the afternoon preceding the Grand Chapter

the Annual Convention of the Council of M. E. High Priests was held, and fifteen Companions were duly set apart to the Order of High Priesthood. Comp. James F. Allen was re-elected M. E. President.

Rev. Henry Branch, D. D., again submits an Annual Review of the Proceedings of the several Grand Chapters in which Florida receives favorable consideration.

He particularly approves of Grand High Priest O'Neal's recommendation relative to visitations, as well as that referring to Chapter degrees not being a stepping stone, and to which he adds a hearty "Amen."

He also notes that the Report on Correspondence "has passed the Junior Overseer's inspection." Thanks.

Next Annual in Baltimore, November 21, 1918.
J. H. Ferd. Han, Baltimore, Grand High Priest.
John H. Miller, Baltimore, Grand Secretary.
Rev. Henry Branch, D. D., Baltimore, Com. Correspondence.

MASSACHUSETTS—1917

Chapters, 83. Members, 26,385. Exalted, 1,437. Net Gain,⁷⁶⁷.

ARTHUR D. PRINCE, Grand High Priest.

Quarterly Convocations of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts are held in Masonic Temple, Boston, in March, June, September and December of each year, the December Convocation being the Annual. Grand High Priest Prince presided at each

Quarterly. Florida's Grand Representative Comp. Enoch G. Best, M. D., was present at the Annual only.

Alberta was officially recognized at the March Quarterly. This session being so near the eightieth birthday of the Grand Secretary, M. E. Comp. J. Gilman Waite, in recognition "of his many years of devoted service to the Craft," the Grand High Priest presented him in their behalf a sheaf of carnations to "gladden the completion of his four score years." This was a beautiful and most appropriate act of bestowing appreciation to the living, for on the 22nd of June following Companion Waite passed to the Great Beyond. The Fraternity in Massachusetts in particular and the Craft in general will long remember his virtues and imitate his worthy example.

Grand High Priest Prince in his address at the September Quarterly referred to the custom of requiring separate installation in the P. M. Degree and the separate exaltation of each group in the Royal Arch degree and considered it responsible for a lack of interest so apparent in many Chapters. He thought the time had come to investigate this matter thoroughly with a view of devising some lawful alleviation of the existing conditions. It was referred to a committee to consider the abbreviation of the Ritual in these two degrees.

Uniformity in jewels and regalia in both Grand and Subordinate Chapters is provided in an amendment submitted at the December Quarterly.

Several years ago an Official Ritual was prepared and placed in the custody of the Grand Secretary. A recommendation to place a copy of this Ritual in the Western Part of the State did not meet the

approval of the Committee, and Grand Chapter concurred.

The Grand High Priest ruled that a Chapter could not remit any portion of the initiation fee to a petitioner who had been required to make a payment to the Grand Lodge for being healed by that Grand Body.

Dual Membership is permitted in both Lodge and Chapter. The Grand Lodge, it seems, has made a ruling that a member suspended in one Lodge retains his privileges in the Lodge in which he keeps his standing. But the Grand High Priest is of the opinion that a member who allows himself to be suspended from any one Chapter should be deprived of his privileges in every Chapter, and so recommended.

He also recommended conservation of the use of funds for entertainment purposes, and "that all refreshments be limited to plain fare and served at an hour when food is usually taken."

Under the system prevailing every Chapter is officially visited by a District Deputy Grand High Priest, and the visits of the Grand High Priest are more than a score during the year.

At the Annual Assembly of the Massachusetts Convention of High Priests 26 Companions were appointed High Priests after the Order of Melchizedek. At the close of the banquet which followed M. E. Comp. Frederick T. Comee told of the varying laws and customs in different jurisdictions in this country.

For the sixth time Past Grand High Priest and now Grand Secretary Frederick T. Comee reported

the proceedings of the different Grand Jurisdictions in his customary able and instructive manner. Florida is scrutinized and reference is made to some parts of Grand High Priest O'Neal's address, but without comment. He calls our first report "an excellent one," adding that he hopes to have the pleasure of reading others.

In his "Conclusions" he notes that some good Companions claim that the good accomplished by Correspondence Reports are not commensurate with their cost, and that they should be discontinued. He strongly disagrees with those ideas, and believes that the reports giving account of the laws, customs and acts of the different Grand Chapters increase interest and lead to greater activity, and further that it is the duty of every Grand Chapter to provide every possible means for the Capitular education of its Companions that is within its power and ability.

Arthur D. Prince, Lowell, Grand High Priest.
Frederick T. Comee, Grand Secretary and Com.
on Correspondence.

MICHIGAN—1917

Chapters, 155. Members, 24,833. Exalted, 1,555. Net Gain, 1,759

ROBERT H. HUNT, Grand High Priest.

Every Officer was in his station when the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Michigan was called to order in the City of Jackson, May 15th, for the Sixty-ninth Annual Convocation. It was found that 146 Chapters were represented,

and 16 Past Grand Officers and 27 Past High Priests, not Representatives, were present. Two additions were made to the Roll of Honor of the Grand Chapter, by the deaths of M. E. Companions Eugene Phillips Robertson and Theron Francis Giddings, which occurred during the year.

In presenting the report of his official acts, the Grand High Priest believed that the time was rapidly approaching when the Masonic bodies of this country will be called upon, as never before in their history:

To prove that our tenets are real and that our teachings are builded upon a rock from which they cannot be shaken. Under all these trying conditions I have an abiding faith that the members of our Royal Craft will rise to their duties and privileges and that the world at large will be better served because the spirit of Freemasonry is abroad and leading in this noble work.

He instituted one new Chapter at Pigeon, and made 35 official visits during the year. Referring to the visitation at Durand: "The Royal Arch Degree was conferred with every chair but one filled by a Grand Officer. It was a revelation to those present to see the Grand Chapter officers come out of retirement and put on such a creditable performance. It established a custom that I hope may continue for years to come." Wonder if other Grand Jurisdictions under similar conditions, would make as good a showing?

His only unpleasant duty during the year was to reprimand a High Priest who permitted the use of a substitute in order to make a team for the Royal Arch degree, stating that a repetition of that offense would lead to drastic action. We look at it differently

in Florida and permit the use of substitutes, and so does the General Grand Chapter.

He decided that the limited suspension of the charter of a Blue Lodge did not affect the Chapter, as the members are still Master Masons in good standing and under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge.

He also decided that a Chapter could not receive the petition of a Brother who had removed from the jurisdiction of a Lodge more than six months previous and had not established a continuous residence of at least six months preceding date of application.

The Jurisprudence Committee unanimously gave the Grand High Priest a clean bill of health, adding that the decisions rendered by him were "correct interpretations of our law and showed a mind well trained by long familiarity with Capitular Masonry." Grand Chapter concurred.

Evidently Grand Secretary Conover's office is strictly up-to-the-minute, for the Grand High Priest states that the affairs of the Grand Chapter as conducted by the Grand Secretary are "carried on with a precision, accuracy and promptness equalled by few and surpassed by none in this or any other jurisdiction." As that allows us to also include our own Grand Secretary, R. E. Comp. Webster, we move the adoption of the report.

R. E. Chas. A. Conover is also the Committee on Correspondence, and his report, which was adopted by Grand Chapter, recommended that the Grand Chapter of the Province of Alberta be recognized and welcomed as a regular Grand Chapter. Under the head of Scotland, he also recommends that the Grand Chapter declare for the American principle

of exclusive jurisdiction, but significantly adds:

"However, in view of the fact that very recent developments in the Philippine Islands give promise of a possible adjustment of the matter at an early date, your committee would counsel further deliberation and that no action be taken in the matter at this time."

As Comp. Conover is also General Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter it is fair to presume that he knows what he is talking about, and it suggests a consummation devoutly to be hoped for.

This Grand Chapter contributed \$1,000 to the Red Cross and purchased \$5,000 worth of Liberty Bonds.

The work of the Grand Lecturer, R. E. Comp. Horace S. Maynard, was given hearty commendation, and he being in poor health, was granted a leave of absence from active labor for one year under pay.

At the Fifty-seventh Annual Convention of the Grand Council of Anointed High Priests of the State and Jurisdiction of Michigan, 32 Excellent Companions were set apart and anointed to the office of High Priesthood in Ancient and Ample Form.

"Fifteen years is a long time to look ahead and make plans for, but how rapidly they pass and what a short space of time it appears to be after it has passed into the has been. Fifteen years ago I started on my first correspondence report and it seems but yesterday," is the "Introduction" to the Annual Review of Capitular Masonry by Charles A. Conover, Grand Secretary, which he follows by the names of the correspondents of that time, all of whom he states have ceased their arduous labors and far the greater majority have passed into the "Great Be-

yond." He follows this with several articles from his Masonic "Scrap Book," reproducing entire that splendid article prepared by Dr. Wm. F. Kuhn, P. G. H. P., of Missouri, and now General Grand King, entitled "The Necessity of the Royal Arch Degree to the Master Mason." The Grand Chapter of Missouri distributed over 50,000 copies in book form through its subordinate Chapters to the Master Masons of that State. It has also been printed in the proceedings of Mississippi and Oklahoma and we further note that some other Grand Bodies are using it for missionary purposes.

The Proceedings of fifty-three Grand Chapters are reviewed with wisdom and discretion and the right thing is reproduced or said at the right place. Florida receives proper consideration.

He noted the granting of a dispensation to fill vacancy caused by the death of a High Priest, and asks how about the King succeeding? The Florida Constitution provides that vacancies can occur only by death, resignation, demit or removal after election beyond jurisdiction of Grand Chapter, but the first three elective offices cannot be vacated by resignation. Vacancies in any of the elective offices, except that of High Priest, can be filled at any regular Convocation, but a dispensation is necessary to elect a High Priest, which must be applied for by the King and Scribe and a two-thirds vote of the members present.

He further noted that Grand Scribe, Comp. C. Ketchum, did good work visiting. He suggests that the names and addresses of all the Grand Chapter officers be printed on the back of the cover.

Being a migratory body the next Annual will be in Detroit, May 21, 1918.

Elmer S. Atherton, Durand, Grand High Priest.
Charles A. Conover, Coldwater, Grand Secretary
and Correspondent.

MINNESOTA—1917

Chapters, 75. Members, 10,297. Exalted, 660. Net Gain, 411.

TREVANION W. HUGO, Grand High Priest.

Preceding the convening of the Fifty-ninth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Minnesota, in St. Paul, October 9, 1917, was a half-hour organ recital on the new pipe organ recently installed in the Masonic Temple. Grand High Priest Hugo believing that the strength of Masonry is in its perfect solidarity had invited as the guests of honor for this occasion: Comp. Albert Berg, M. W. Grand Master of Masons; Comp. Thomas Morris, Deputy Grand Commander of Knights Templar, and Comp. James Trent; 33° Hon., representing the Scottish Rite Bodies, all of Minnesota, who were formally introduced, with "Old Glory" at the head and the organist playing the "Star Spangled Banner." Grand Secretary then called the roll and finding present 14 Grand Officers, 14 Permanent Members and Representatives from 60 Chapters, Grand Chapter was opened in Ample Form by the Grand High Priest. And with all this array of Capitular glory Florida was not represented, although our Ambassador's residence is given as from the other "Twin City."

Prolific of many valuable suggestions and recom-

mendations for the Royal Craft of Minnesota in particular and possibly to others as well, was the comprehensive record of the official acts of the Grand High Priest, as expressed in his address, in which he particularly stressed efficiency and the dignity and sovereignty of Royal Arch Masonry, which he rightly insists is the peer of any of the several bodies styled Masonic. In carrying out this propaganda he made use of the opportunities as they passed by including representatives from the various other Masonic bodies in his official visitations.

In carrying out his plan of efficiency and economy of time he appointed a special committee on Sub-division and Reference of Reports, to whom was assigned in advance his address. This worked out so satisfactorily that he further recommended amendments to the Grand Chapter Bylaws providing for such committee as well as for one on Legislation. Finding upon inquiry a tendency to minimize the ceremony of installation of Chapter officers, he personally prepared such a form, which was tried out during the year and being found suitable for public as well as private ceremonials, he submitted it for approval.

As a means of getting Capitular Masonry on the map and into the Masonic sun of recognition, he recommended the contribution of ten per cent of the gross income of the Grand Chapter for the support of some special feature of the Masonic Home, and suggesting that it might be a childrens' ward or building.

But perhaps the most far-reaching of all his recommendations were the ones referring to the Americanization of Aliens and its companion, the

Americanization of America, being suggested by the wave of lawlessness and disloyalty which has been accumulating in extent and intensity, the origin of a great part of which he believes can be traced to the Alienization of America. While there may be some delay in bringing this about, his plan is:

Each Mason can study up on the question and be ready to advocate and encourage night schools for the teaching of the American language, and to make it possible for every person in America to be able to reasonably express himself or herself in the language of the country. Immigrants can be reached individually so that each member can at once get to work. A list of those who are not citizens of the United States ought to be compiled. Employers should be impressed with the necessity of refusing work to the alien who will not take the oath of allegiance, or declare his intention to do so, to the country which is supporting him. Such a person is not a desirable neighbor, because he is neither grateful nor loyal and therefore to be avoided. These things can be carried out by every Companion in every locality. Why not get into the work?

When you have Americanized the aliens, then there is the Americanization of a great many Americans, even native born, who can stand a great deal of instruction in their duties as citizens before they know much about it.

Then our schools must be Americanized in a whole-souled vigorous effort to Americanize the child, no half-hearted routine methods have any influence on the child, and the teacher who cannot get right into the subject and show that he or she is in earnest, and not merely earning a salary by going through some motions, is not the teacher loyal citizens want for their children, no matter what the measure of his erudition or diplomas, and again guard the little Red School House for its particular enemy.

With the exception of the foregoing, all the recommendations and other acts of the Grand High Priest were approved by the various committees and

adopted by Grand Chapter. But this being of such momentous matter the special committee to whom it was referred, while endorsing "every word written," recommended that the matter be taken up with every Chapter in the State and a report submitted at the next convocation of the action taken.

Dispensations were received to form new Chapters at Olivia and Alexandria and Charters were granted them by Grand Chapter.

A request for affiliation was presented by a Companion holding a certificate of membership in a Chapter in Queenstown, South Africa, under the jurisdiction of the Supreme G. R. Chapter of Scotland, with a letter from the Grand Scribe E., stating that it is not the custom of Chapters under their obedience to issue Demits. The Grand High Priest ruled that the letters were not sufficient in the way of a demit, and further that "the Grand High Priest nor anybody else can give a dispensation to overrule an article of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the U. S. A." to admit him under the circumstances.

The work of the year being so well covered by the Grand High Priest in his report that about all that was left for the Grand Chapter to do was the approving of the reports of the various committees.

At the Grand Convention of Anointed High Priests held during the noon hour 16 Companions elected and set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood, and Companion Henry M. Tusler was re-elected President with power to select his own associates.

Past Grand High Priest presents another one of his compressed reports on Foreign Correspondence,

in which Florida receives due attention. He is also pleased to add: "A highly creditable first report on foreign correspondence was prepared by Comp. E. P. Hubbell, filling another vacancy at our Round Table."

Next Annual at St. Paul, October 8, 1918.

William P. Roberts, Minneapolis, Grand High Priest.

John Fishel, Grand Secretary, St. Paul.

Irving Todd, Hastings, Chrm. Co. on Cor.

MISSISSIPPI—1917.

Chapters, 67. Members, 4,197. Exalted, 310. Net Loss, 75.

JOHN J. MCINTOSH, Grand High Priest.

Representatives from 56 Subordinate Chapters were present when the Grand High Priest and other Officers opened the Sixty-ninth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Mississippi in the City of Jackson, February 15, 1917, there being also in attendance 11 Past Grand High Priests, but Florida's Grand Representative was absent.

In submitting an account of his stewardship, the Grand High Priest was glad to report the Official Family unbroken by the hand of death.

With a previous record of 60 dormant Chapters, and six more Charters surrendered during the year, he consideres the situation serious, and wants to know what is the trouble. While various causes may have assisted in bringing about this unfortunate

condition, yet it sounds a warning to all Chapters "that there is no greater danger to a Chapter, no surer way to kill it, than the election of an unfit Companion as Secretary." Another danger to the growth of the Chapter, he believes, is the failure to more rigidly enforce suspensions for non-payment of dues.

He had not been called upon for any official decisions during the year, which he attributes to a close study of the Regulations and Digest. He reports having made 18 official visitations, and regrets the number was not larger. He notes that "in some cases the Secretary seemed never to bring his minute book to Chapter Rooms, and I urged this ought not to be." To this we certainly agree. He further says: "I have made no effort to further institute new Chapters, but have been much more active in trying to revive those we had." And from the report of the Chairman of the Committee on the State of the Craft we infer he was successful.

Encouraging conditions are reported by the Grand Secretary, who states that the Chapters as a whole are on the upgrade, and that more degrees were conferred than last year, but significantly adding "conferring degrees is not all."

The report of the Grand Lecturer also indicates a healthy and steady growth, and he finds special pleasure in adding that the "last of the soap-boxes and cracker cases that have so long and so faithfully served as 'arks' have been relegated to their natural sphere, the kindling pile."

Fraternal relations with the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland were withdrawn, and the

Grand Chapter of Alberta was recognized and Grand Representatives exchanged.

The report of the Committee on Law, which was adopted, begins, "We, your Committee on Cryptic Law, etc." Why Cryptic?

The Proceedings state that Companion William A. Roane was elected as Honorary Past Grand High Priest, but the reason for this action is not stated.

Nine High Priests who were elected to receive the Order of High Priesthood were admitted and duly appointed. M. E. Comp. John S. Brooks is the President.

For the eighth consecutive time the Report on Foreign Correspondence is by M. E. Comp. Oliver Lee McKay, Past Grand High Priest. In lieu of an introductory he presents an address delivered by Brother W. S. Fly, 33° Honorary, Past Grand Master of Texas, on "The Two Rites," which was published in The Texas Freemason for October, 1916, and is well worthy of perusal by all Companions.

Florida receives generous treatment. He notes the death of Past Grand High Priest John Henry Weddell. He quotes the Cerneau decision, because it will prove of interest in Mississippi, but gives no additional reason. Companion McKay may also be interested in the further reference to Cerneauism in our review of Idaho. He notes that Companion D. B. Palmer, our most Excellent Grand High Priest this year, and also Grand Representative for Mississippi, was present. He reproduces a Table of Statistics of Connecticut, and then comes to this conclusion:

A careful study of the proceedings reviewed reveals a field laden with peace, prosperity and pure beneficence; in

fact, such conditions are so marked as to leave the Correspondent little on which to comment. It remains for the General Grand Chapter of Scotland to furnish the only discordant note.

The pursual of reports like this of Past Grand High Priest McKay and other well known writers causes some of us lesser lights to realize how little we really know about the workings of the Royal Craft.

Next Annual at Natchez, February 21, 1918.
William H. Carter, Columbus, Grand High Priest.
Frederic Gordon Speed, Vicksburg, Grand Secretary.

Oliver Lee McKay, Meridian, Correspondence Reporter.

MISSOURI—1917.

Chapters, 109. Members, 16,016. Exalted, 1,475. Net Gain, ^{779.}

GEORGE T. BURNHAM, Grand High Priest.

As in many other States, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Missouri is a traveling body, and the Seventy-first Annual Convocation of that Grand Body was held in St. Joseph, beginning April 24th, guests of Mitchell Chapter, No. 14, whose Charter was granted in 1849, and this was the first time the Grand Body had honored them with its presence. Every station was filled by its rightful occupant.

While none of the immediate Official Family have

been called during the year, 227 of the Companions who have wrought their regular hours have fallen during the year, and partaken of the cup that all must sooner or later partake.

"Peace and harmony, accompanied with zeal and energy, brought 1,475 new Companions during the year," exultantly exclaims the Grand High Priest in his address.

But, he continues, the Royal Arch Masons of Missouri have done far more important things than conferring degrees; they have been busily engaged in the active duties of life and putting into practice the great principles of Freemasonry.

He accepted many invitations to visit Chapters and was gratified to find no contention or discord. On the occasion of his visit to Missouri Chapter No. 1, at St. Louis, 66 candidates received the Mark Master and Past Master Degrees during the day without abbreviations, and in the evening the entire class were received and acknowledged Most Excellent Masters. He noted another Chapter credited with 47 exaltations, "all because these Companions know how to confer the degrees."

He granted a dispensation to Westport Chapter, which he set to work on August 19th, and it closed the year with a record of 50 exaltations and a total membership of 136. It was granted a Charter. With one exception all his official acts and decisions were approved, and that related to granting a demit and liability to Grand Lodge dues, it being covered by Grand Lodge Laws, and which is also Florida law.

Certain changes in the ritualistic methods, which had been approved by the Grand Lecturer, were adopted, and it would be interesting to know what

they were, but for obvious reasons they were not made public.

From the report of the Grand Lecturer it is learned that immediately after the officers of one Chapter had been installed each selected a substitute to learn the work, and by mutual agreement it is the duty of each officer to see that his substitute is present if for any reason he must be absent. This it would seem might be an example worthy of emulation by other Chapters.

Florida was honored by having its Grand Representative present, M. E. Comp. Charles C. Woods, who was Grand High Priest in 1884.

Twenty-one installed High Priests were appointed and set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood at the Annual Grand Convention. Comp. David M. Wilson was elected Most Excellent President.

A concise and carefully prepared Report on Foreign Correspondence is made by Comp. John Henderson Miller, who both begins and closes the same with some thoughts suggested by the letter "G", in which he states that in all the more than two hundred addresses of Grand High Priests he had reviewed he has never found a discordant word or expression indicating passion; that with men of such caliber to give direction, Royal Arch Masonry is sure to have a leading part in the final adjustment of affairs affecting the destinies of the human race.

Florida receives due consideration. He noted that the items of business as reported by the Grand High Priest indicated that he was not "overtaxed by the demands of his office;" that while unable to make official visits himself, the reports of the Grand King and Grand Scribe showed they had labored for

the good of the cause. Also that there was no report on Correspondence, "as usual." Some other expression will now have to be substituted.

Next Annual, St. Louis, April 23, 1918.

Albert E. Dimant, St. Louis, Grand High Priest.

Robert F. Stevenson, St. Louis, Grand Secretary.

Rev. John Henderson Miller, Kansas City, Correspondent.

MONTANA—1917

Chapters, 24. Members, 2,600. Exalted, 277. Net Gain, 238

LEW L. CALLAWAY, Grand High Priest.

Celebrating the silver anniversary of the founding of the M. E. Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Montana, the Twenty-seventh Annual Convocation was held in the City of Butte, August 29, 1916. Two Grand Officers were not present and two Chapters were not represented.

In a well written address the Grand High Priest reviews his work for last year. He was gratified to learn that with comparatively few exceptions the Chapters generally both opened and closed in full form. He says there may be instances where the short form is permissible, but such instances are rare. He noted that almost every Chapter was derelict in keeping a "book of marks," and suggested that no Companion should be exalted until his mark had been properly recorded, but apparently this was not adopted. Florida requires it. He is a strong believer in banquets or "spreads," because they

accentuate the practice of social virtues, and the development of good friendship. He officially visited nine Chapters, and all but three of the remaining Chapters were visited by the other elective Grand Officers. He issued a special proxy to Grand King M. R. C. Smith to constitute Polson Chapter No. 24. His five decisions were local and covered by existing laws.

From the report of the Grand Secretary it is learned that every Chapter during the year had work. There is not a defunct Chapter on the roll, rounding out the first quarter of a century as a Grand Chapter with a clear record in this respect. Chapters are the only Masonic bodies in that jurisdiction permitting life membership, and are granted to any member who has continuously paid dues in one Chapter 25 years, there being now 34 such Life Members. The salary of the Grand Secretary was increased to \$500.

A history of this Grand Chapter, prepared by Past Grand High Priest Emil H. Renisch shows that it was organized in the Masonic Temple in the City of Helena, June 25, 1915, by representatives from ten Chapters. Comp. Richard O. Hickman was the first M. E. Grand High Priest, and Comp. Cornelius Hedges was the first R. E. Grand Secretary. He held that office continuously until 1907, when he was succeeded by his son, Comp. Cornelius Hedges, Jr., who is the present incumbent of that office. This Grand Chapter has steadily grown in membership from 567 members in 1891, to 2,600 in 1916.

A dispensation was granted to form a Chapter at Chouteau.

The amounts charged by Montana Chapters for

dues vary from \$3.00 to \$6.00, the average being \$3.54; for fees from \$40.00 to \$75.00, the average being \$52.50.

There is no report on Correspondence, but in lieu appear decisions found in the proceedings of other Grand Chapters, as prepared by M. E. Comp. Ernest LeNeve Foster, of Colorado.

On the day following this Grand Convocation, August 30th, the Grand Lodge, A. F. and A. M. of Montana, at its Annual Communication celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its birth.

Next Annual, August, 21, 1917.

Dr. R. E. Hathaway, Glendive, Grand High Priest.
Cornelius Hedges, Jr., Helena, Grand Secretary.

NEBRASKA—1917

Chapters, 53. Members, 5,504. Exalted, 406. Net Gain, 264.

CARROLL D. EVANS, Grand High Priest.

Three days before the opening of the Fifty-first Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Nebraska in Omaha, Dec. 12, 1917, E. Comp. John Kelley, Grand Captain of the Host, received his last summons to appear before the Supreme Council. The records further show that Representatives from 41 of the 53 Chartered Chapters were present when the Grand High Priest with his court opened the Grand Chapter in full form. Also that Florida was represented by E. Comp. Walter L. Spear, High Priest of Triune Chapter, at Geneva.

Full of food for earnest thought was the address of Grand High Priest Evans, who seemingly could not too highly commend those who were responsible for the success and splendid conditions pertaining to the Masonic Home in that Grand Jurisdiction.

While he had not been called upon to make any decisions during the year, he had four requests for advice. One was to allow two substitutes, and which he got around by permitting a candidate from another Chapter to fill the team. In another case a Brother who had lost his leg below the knee was an applicant, and the Grand High Priest replied that if he was mentally and physically qualified to fulfill the requirements of each degree his petition could be received, and that it was for the Chapter to which he applied to decide upon his moral qualifications. Query: Did he receive the Capitular degrees? Another was where two Companions who were suspended from their Lodge and afterwards paid their dues and were reinstated and the question was asked if that reinstated them in the Chapter, and he quoted the following law:

When a Companion has been suspended in his Chapter on account of suspension in his Lodge, and due notice is given his chapter of his reinstatement, the High Priest shall announce his reinstatement in the Chapter.

In Florida his reinstatement is by action of the Chapter after he has been reinstated by the Grand Lodge or other competent body in which he was suspended or expelled.

Apparently the question of the value and usefulness of a Report on Correspondence has previously occupied the attention of this Grand Body, for the Grand High Priest states:

The main question to be considered is whether the amount of good derived from the Report on Correspondence justifies the expense of preparing and printing it. If the report could be kept down to a reasonable cost, or if it could be prepared on a topical plan, so as to include only the things that are of interest to this Grand Jurisdiction, and not so much the personal opinions of the writers, it might be worth what it costs to produce it.

This matter was discussed at length in the report of the Committee on Correspondence, prepared by Past Grand High Priest Frank E. Bullard, and which takes the place of the conventional report usually appearing as an Appendix to the Proceedings. Companion Bullard assumes that these reports are read by only a few, and that whatever value they may contain is practically thrown away. The report is too long to reproduce, and a summary would be equally unsatisfactory. However, it is well worth perusal and study to those who are interested in this form of Capitular economy.

The writer of this report is not called upon to express his views upon this subject, and even if he were, it would be just the opinion of a lay member. However our opinion of a report differs materially from what we understand to be the position taken by Past Grand High Priest Bullard. Personally we are of the opinion that it would be a great and irreparable loss to the Craft generally if Correspondence Reports were eliminated. The reading of these, was what more than anything else led us to begin a more thorough study of the Craft, and it is leading us to a far greater understanding of Freemasonry than we had ever dreamed of or could possibly express in words. And we believe that what has impressed the writer of this may also similarly affect others.

As the result of Companion Bullard's report it was ordered that until further action by the Grand Chapter no reports on correspondence be published. However, we notice that among the appropriations was that of \$50 for the Committee on Correspondence, half of what had previously been appropriated.

All the acts and doings of the Grand High Priest were approved by the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers, which seemingly takes the place of action by Jurisprudence Committees in many other Grand Chapters. The only report from this latter Committee, according to the Index, was in 1816.

Concurrent jurisdiction was provided for with other adjoining Grand Jurisdictions.

The Annual Grand Convention of the Order of High Priesthood was held in conjunction, and 21 Companions were appointed.

Next Annual in Omaha, Dec. 13, 1918.

John R. Stine, Omaha, Grand High Priest.
Francis E. White, Omaha, Grand Secretary.

NEVADA—1917

Chapters, 10. Members, 536. Exalted, 43. Net Gain, 31.

CHAS. H. GORMAN, Grand High Priest.

Every Grand Officer was in his appointed station, as well as 15 Most Excellent Past Grands together with representatives from each of the subordinate Chapters when the Grand High Priest opened in Ample Form the Forty-fourth Annual Convocation of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch

Masons of Nevada, in Reno, June 11, 1917, a record in representative attendance that larger and more pretentious Grand Chapters might with propriety emulate.

A distinguished visitor was Companion Alfred W. Holmes, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of F. and A. M. of Nevada. We regret to note that Companion C. A. Thompson, of Pioche, Florida's Representative near the Grand Chapter of Nevada, was not among the Ambassadorial Corps who were graciously welcomed by the Grand High Priest and asked to convey Nevada's greetings to their respective Grand Bodies. In common with the custom now so generally observed, Old Glory was patriotically displayed.

Service and the high interests of the Royal Craft were characterized in the carefully prepared address of the Grand High Priest, finding expression in "let me live by the side of the road and be a friend to man." He regretted that it was "his fate to be engaged in an occupation that made it impossible to take the time to make the visits that he would have liked to have made," only three Chapters being honored by his official presence. That such a condition might not again prevail, owing to the long distance between Chapters in that State he suggested that the incoming Council agree upon the certain chapters that each would visit the coming year, and an appropriation was made to cover such visitations. He also recommended that the stars and stripes be displayed at all meetings of Grand and Subordinate Chapters which met with approval, as did all the other acts of the Grand High Priest.

Regrets were received from the General Grand High Priest of his inability to be present.

Grand Chapter adopted the suggestion of the Grand Secretary for a uniform receipt and identification card, with the Grand Secretary's certificate on reverse side, similar to that which Florida and many other Grand Chapters are now using. He also reported that "quality, not quantity," was the watchword of the Chapters, and as long as that rule is adhered to harmony and prosperity will characterize the Royal Craft wherever dispersed.

Recognition was extended to the Grand Chapter of the Province of Alberta.

In order to carry out the request of the General Grand Chapter relative to the conferring of degrees by courtesy, the Constitution was amended so "that no contribution will be required for any degree conferred by courtesy for any Chapter of any sister jurisdiction."

And this causes ye scribe to wonder why we always say "sister jurisdictions" when the membership is composed exclusively of Brothers or Companions.

If we correctly understand that section of the Constitution pertaining to "Revenues," each Subordinate Chapter in Nevada pays to the Grand Chapter, in addition to one dollar for each Royal Arch Mason borne on its rolls, two dollars and fifty cents for each Mark Master's, Past Master's, Most Excellent Master's and Royal Arch degree conferred during the year. In Florida the Grand Chapter dues are one dollar for each member and one dollar for each exaltation.

At the Grand Convention of Anointed High

Priests four petitions were received and the postulants were consecrated in solemn form, the proceeds being donated to the Young Women's Christian Association of the University of Nevada.

Are we making our Masonry Royal a source of blessing? Are we workers in the vineyard of our fathers? Or are we falterers, drifters, taking the sweets of interest and pleasure that the Royal Craft has to give without the duty?

These are some of the pertinent queries with which Companion Edward D. Vanderlieth prefaces his Report on Fraternal Correspondence, reviewing the Proceedings of fifty-five Grand Chapters.

He notes that "the warmth of Florida radiates from the cover of its neat journal," and characterizes the address of Grand High Priest Andress "an inducement to the year's business, earnestly told. He indulges in no pyrotechnics either in opening or closing." While noting no report on correspondence, he adds:

But we are to have one next year. Good! Masonry's interest in spreading light and knowledge is one of the jewels in her crown. By it her interest in the world and humanity is measured. The reports on correspondence are a means to this end. Through them the Craft lends help to the pupil in helping educate himself. Every means must be employed to aid others in learning how to know and feel the soul of goodness and truth. God help the Scribes to do their bit for able and devoted Craftsmen.

This report is a pleasure as well as an inspiration to the reader and we hope the Companions of Nevada appreciate as well as appropriate the fund of valuable information therein contained. We will lend our copy if the borrower will solemnly promise to return it.

Next Annual at Tonopah, June 11, 1918.

Robert Lewers, Grand High Priest.

Edward D. Vanderlieth, Grand Secretary and Committee on Fraternal Correspondence.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—1917

Chapters, 26. Members, 4,598. Exalted, 151. Net Loss, ¹

EDWARD O. FIFIELD, Grand High Priest.

Every Grand Officer was present when the M. E. Grand High Priest opened in Ample Form the Ninety-eighth Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Hampshire, in the City of Concord, May 15, 1917. There were also present eight Past Grand High Priests, a large contingent of Past High Priests, and representatives from 20 subordinate Chapters. Florida was well represented by E. Companion Charles L. Wentworth, who was promoted from Grand Royal Arch Captain to Grand Principal Sojourner. A distinguished guest of honor was M. E. Companion George E. Corson, General Grand High Priest, who was fraternally received and accorded Private Grand honors. During the ceremony of introduction the Companions who held commissions from other Grand Chapters were grouped about the altar.

The efficient manner in which the Grand High Priest discharged the duties of his office were brought out in his address, when he said, "It has been my aim to give to this Grand Chapter my best efforts," and in the thirteen years since he was first

named a Grand Officer his heart has been in his work. There was no break in the Grand Family during the year. He stated that it was his plan to make a fraternal call on every Chapter, and he did so, as far as he could. He highly commended the Masonic Home, in which the Royal Arch Masons were directly interested by their Lodge membership.

For the first time in many years, there has not been a gain in membership, there being a net loss of one. An analysis of the statistics disclosed that deaths and suspensions for non-payment of dues were greater than usual, which he took as an occasion to suggest that every Chapter should clear its membership list of delinquents once a year, but added:

In doing so make sure that you suspend only those who can pay their dues, but will not do so. The suspension of one who literally cannot pay his dues would be no less than a Masonic crime.

He decided that it was unlawful to use a dummy in conferring the Royal Arch degree, but on looking up the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter he found:

The use of substitutes is not a violation of the ritual or of the installation charges delivered to a High Priest; they should be used only to complete a class when necessary.

Later he cancelled and annulled his decision, although he continues to believe "that the ties of our obligation are of more consequence than the convenience of Chapters in doing degree work." Florida uses substitutes, and in many cases it would work a real hardship on Chapters not to be able to do so.

He brings his address to a close with this high thought:

Freemasonry, as I have tried to grasp some of its teachings has, I believe, led me closer to Him whom we know as our Great I Am. It has afforded experiences to me that have given the deepest satisfaction. This tendency is one of the things that make Freemasonry great. I cannot forego the opportunity which this day affords, hence I attempt to bring you into the thoughtful mood, wherein you shall see the inappropriateness of any man saying to others that he is a Freemason and then swinging into the use of God's name in a profane way. It always gives me pain to hear Companions in their profanity. I ask you to think of the pledges you have made and then to let others see the influence of our institution in your every day lives. Companions, if this disease is in your system, take the cure.

Very encouraging reports were made of official visitations by the other three principal elective officers. Following this an opportunity was given all to personally greet the General Grand High Priest. After which he made an address, in which he took occasion to refer to the early proceedings of the General Grand Chapter and the part New Hampshire took in the forming of the General Grand Chapter.

Announcement was made of the absence and serious illness of E. and Rev. Companion Josiah L. Seward, Grand Chaplain and also Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence. Elsewhere in the proceedings appears the announcement that Companion Seward passed away at his home in Keene, July 14, 1917.

Last year the High Priest of a Chapter was suspended from the functions of the office for unmasonic conduct. His trial was before the Com-

mittee on Jurisprudence who recommended that he be denied the honor of being a Past High Priest of his Chapter, and the report was adopted. Fraternal recognition was extended to the Grand Chapter of Alberta. The yearly salary of the Grand Secretary was increased to \$450.

Seven Companions were consecrated in ancient form members of the Order of High Priesthood.

Owing to the protracted illness of E. Companion J. L. Seward the greater part of the year, the Report on Foreign Correspondence is a brief and modest one, in which he made a number of comments as a whole without applying them to individual cases. Although expressing hope of being able "to do better another year," it proved to be his "Swan Song."

Our brief acquaintance with Companion Seward was gained by reading two or three of his reports, and he impresses us as being one whose "life was gentle, and the elements so mixed in him that nature might stand up and say to all the world, this was a man."

Next Annual, Concord, May 14, 1918.
Ephraim Frank Boomer, Dover, Grand High Priest.

Harry Morrison Cheney, Concord, Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY—1917

Chapters, 43. Members, 8,371. Exalted, 714. Net Grain, 454.

FREDERICK C. CRANE, Grand High Priest.

Two special convocations were held during the year for the purpose of constituting new Chapters,

one being at Roseville and the other at Ocean City, both of which were honored by the presence of the Grand High Priest.

Grand High Priest Frederick T. Crane convened the Sixty-first Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of New Jersey in the City of Trenton, May 9, 1917. He was assisted in opening in Ample Form by all of his Official Family, except the Grand Master of the Second Vail. There were also present fourteen Past Grand Officers. There were also present fourteen Past Grand Officers, six Assistant Lecturer Representatives from all but two of the subordinate Chapters, besides more than three score of Past High Priests, evidencing that Capitular Masonry is a vital force in New Jersey.

Representatives of Grand Jurisdictions near the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Jersey were introduced to and received by the Grand High Priest and invited to seats in the Grand Council, Florida having the honor to be represented by R. E. Companion Wm. Herbert Lowe, who now occupies the Grand East.

Grand High Priest Crane presented the Capitular occurrences of the year as his specimen of willing and effective service in the field of labor, stating that peaceful and harmonious relations prevailed and the large increase in membership was an evidence of prosperity in the organization.

He noted the passing away of M. E. Comp. Nathan V. Compton, who was Grand High Priest in 1889, and of E. Comp. William Landix, Grand Chaplin.

The High Priest of a Trenton Chapter inquired if there was any objection to the exemplification of the Royal Arch Degree in a Foreign Jurisdiction, and the Grand High Priest decided that there might

be no objection to the exemplification, but work on a candidate in a Foreign Jurisdiction would require permission from the Grand High Priest of that Jurisdiction.

He favored requiring or permitting the Grand Captain of the Host, Principal Sojourner and Royal Arch Captain to make official visits as well as the Council Officers, possibly to lessen the official visits of these latter officials, as their reports show that they were faithful to the trusts confided to them; and likewise do the reports of the Assistant Lecturers.

From the report of the Committee on Ritual we learn that law and precedent in New Jersey require that a Chapter shall be opened on the Royal Arch Degree, notwithstanding that only Lodge Degrees are to be worked. This committee recommended opening and closing when a Special Convocation is held for the sole purpose of working one or more of the preparatory degrees. This is practically the procedure in Florida, only special convocations are not required to be opened in the Royal Arch degree.

A resolution was adopted whereby the Grand Chapter pledged "absolute loyalty to our President and our flag."

Much importance is attached to the Grand Convention of Anointed High Priests, one evening being set apart for that Grand Body, and a large number of Excellent Companions being present to assist in receiving two score petitioners. After the re-election of the officers of the previous year, the Most Excellent President, Companion Henry S. Haines, delivered an instructive address pertaining to the Order and its teachings, and concludes that "as the wisest of men

have failed to solve this perplexing problem, we must allow it to remain, as it has always remained, an impenetrable mystery."

More than half of the 1917 Proceedings is given over to the enlightened observations of Past Grand High Priest Henry S. Haines, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, in which he intelligently reviews nearly all of the 1916 proceedings of the various Grand Jurisdictions, but somehow Florida was overlooked, and we wonder why.

Companion Haines does not hesitate to express approval or disapproval, but he has the happy faculty of clothing his expressions in such gracious language that even censure is sugar-coated and pleasant to take. Evidently his shears and paste-pot are out of commission, for not a single extract appears to mar the symmetry of his report, and such quotations as he sparingly makes are uniformly "run in."

Next Annual at Trenton, May 15, 1918.
William Herbert Lowe, Paterson, Grand High
Priest.

Peter McGil, Bound Brook, Grand Secretary.
Henry S. Haines, Burlington, Chrm. Corr. Com.

NEW MEXICO—1917.

Chapters, 17. Members, 1,217. Exalted, 106. Net Gain, 46.

ALEXANDER D. GOLDENBERG, Grand High Priest.

Four Emergent Convocations of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Mexico were held in different parts of the State for the purpose of installing as Grand Officers those who were not present at the previous Annual Grand Chapter.

The Twentieth Annual Convocation of this Grand Royal Arch Chapter was held in the City of Las Cruces, October 11, 1917. This city, which name signifies The Crosses, commemorates events which happened in the early settlements of what is now a part of what is known as the Southwest, and has to do with the massacre of missionaries and others from Old Mexico when under Spanish dominion. This city retains much of the old Mexican style of homes, as an entirety perhaps more so than any that the writer of this report remembers having seen when "making that State out of Denver," some years ago.

Every Grand Officer filled his appropriate station and twelve of the Chartered Chapters were also represented, a goodly attendance when one considers this is a state of magnificent distances, with the Chapters widely separated. A unique event in connection with opening preliminaries was the presentation of the Traveling Bible, belonging to and being circulated by a Chicago Lodge, and which was used during the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge which had just closed its session, and which was used on the altar during this Convocation. We wonder if it will sometime reach Florida in its travels? The writer remembers being present several years ago at a somewhat similar event in Denver, the occasion being the reception of a Traveling Trowel sent out by a New York Lodge and which was expected to visit every Grand Jurisdiction, including those overseas.

Carefulness and efficiency are distinctive features of the address of Grand High Priest Goldenberg, as well as a disposition to shirk no official duty, and

which no doubt has characterized his more than a score of years of Masonic activities.

He notes that the Angel of Death has invaded the ranks and the toll has been heavy, including Past Grand High Priest John C. Slack, who also had held the offices of Grand Master, Grand Commander, and Grand Patron of the O. E. S.

Four dispensations were granted and two refused, all conforming to existing laws. And his two decisions were based on the same law, and would be equally good in Florida. He made an enviable record in visiting all but two of the Chartered Chapters, and these were widely separated. His reason was a good one, his time being fully taken in financing the erection of a new Masonic Temple in his home town. Following the instructions of the previous year, the Charter of the Chapter at Socorro was surrendered and taken up. A great disappointment to him was the inability of General Grand High Priest George E. Corson to fulfill his promise made at the General Grand Chapter in San Francisco to be present at this Grand Convocation, his government duties preventing.

At the beginning of the year, carrying out the instructions of the previous Grand Chapter, he divided the State into four districts for official visitations, which were assigned to the four principal officers, but receiving no report from any of them regarding their visits, he believes that system unsatisfactory, and recommended the return to the former system of District Deputy Grand High Priests. This was the only action that the Committee on Grand High Priests' addresses disapproved and who in the face of the lack of results by the system, insisted that

visitation by the four Grand Officers be continued another year. However, this report was amended by returning to the old system of visitation by Deputy Grand High Priests. We shall await with interest the results.

New Mexico requires proficiency examination in the several degrees before exaltation, and it seems this requirement has not been strictly enforced, and the Grand High Priest recommended that the laws be lived up to, to which Grand Chapter concurred, as also the remission of Chapter and Grand Chapter dues to Companions in the service of the army or navy during the war.

There seems to be no reference to the Order of High Priesthood.

E. Companion James H. Wroth presents a Review on Correspondence in which extract and comment are most judiciously used. Florida receives considerable attention. He notes that "Most Excellent Wm. R. O'Neal has some good meat in his address, even if it did have some 'poor sledding.'" Companion Wroth is inclined to censure us because the committee did not take up with the suggestions to use some of our funds for educational purposes. It is a long way from New Mexico to Florida and the viewpoint may be different, but we opine that most excellent uses will be made of our funds when the proper time comes.

He appears to look with favor upon our "flying start," as he designates our first review. We are doubtful about measuring up to his estimate of our abilities.

We spent an evening with his review and if we retain only a modicum of the information therein contained we consider the time well taken.

Next Annual at Tucumcari, October 17, 1918.
 Herbert B. Holt, Las Cruces, Grand High Priest.
 Alpheus A. Keen, Albuquerque, Grand Secretary.
 James H. Wroth, Albuquerque, Correspondent.

NEW SOUTH WALES—1916

Four Quarterly Convocations of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of New South Wales were held in Sydney, respectively on February 7, 1916; May 10th, August 9th, and November 10th; M. E. Companion A. Chandler, Grand Z., presiding at each Convocation. The chief event at each Quarterly was the Grand First Principal's address, in which he gave detailed accounts of his official visitations. At the February Quarterly he noted the death of Companion William M. Cyrus, New South Wales Grand Representative near the Grand Chapter of Florida, and the appointment of Companion John D. Grether to the position. Also that an unofficial Conference had been held with representatives of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, looking to an agreement and unification of interests. And at the May Quarterly he reported that a settlement of the long discussed question appeared to be in sight. The Grand Chapter Officers were declared duly elected at the August Quarterly, M. E. Companion A. Chandler being re-elected Grand Z.

The business of this Grand Body is cared for by the Grand Committee of General Purposes, who also make quarterly reports. It appears that this Grand Committee held 11 meetings during the year, and that there are 24 Subordinate Chapters in the Grand

Jurisdiction, but we fail to find the total membership. Alf J. Burbidge, Sydney, is Grand Scribe E.

NEW YORK—1917

Chapters, 209. Members, 42,077. Exalted, 2,246. Net Gain, 855.

JARED A. REED, Grand High Priest.

Formidable and unsatisfactory as well, is the attempt to review in a limited space the Proceedings of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of New York, which convened in its 120th Annual Convocation, in the City of Albany, February 6, 1917, with apparently all the Grand Officers present, also 17 Past Grand High Priests and the Representatives of 203 Constituent Chapters; Florida's Representative, E. Companion Daniel Jones, was also included with other Grand Representatives who were admitted to the Grand Chapter and introduced to the Grand High Priest, who in his reply said:

I trust, Right Excellent Companions, that after the close of this Convocation you will each convey to the Grand High Priest of the Grand Jurisdiction which you individually represent, the kindly greetings and best wishes of the Grand Chapter of the State of New York.

We wonder how many really did as requested? An appropriate response to the cordial greeting was made by the Representative to the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.

One of the features of the opening session of this Grand Chapter is the receiving and welcoming of Invited Guests, including those from the Grand

Council and Grand Commandery of New York, the Grand Chapters of New Jersey, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Pennsylvania and the General Grand Chapter.

It means something to be the Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of New York. Fifty pages of the Proceedings are required to render an account of his stewardship, which he states was the busiest year of his life. In presenting his work for inspection, he says:

At no time have I tried to rule, but at all times have I tried to serve this Grand Chapter to the best of my ability, knowing full well that every act of mine would be reviewed and judged by you.

He noted that the Grand Chapter meets with ranks unbroken. He refused a dispensation to receive petition, elect and confer degrees short of time, because "the Grand High Priest had no power to authorize a Chapter to violate the Constitution." He announced that the slight misunderstanding of last year relative to change of Grand Representatives with Nova Scotia had been settled. He granted dispensation to form three new Chapters. Also to a Chapter to meet and work, having mislaid its charter; it appearing that several of the Past High Priests had mistaken the Royal Arch Proclamation for the Charter, it having been handed them for the Charter, and they not examining it, supposed it was all right. Later the real Charter was found.

A particular pleasing event of his year was the reception tendered him at his home Chapter, Newark No. 177, at which every one of his Associate Grand Officers were also present. He attended the formal

opening of gift to Kinderhook Chapter, which gives it the proud distinction of being the only Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in the United States owning a Temple.

Among his decisions is one concerning physical perfection, that it must be decided by the High Priest of the Chapter, and conforming substantially to actions taken by other Grand Chapters, including Florida. Another was that of a legal summons "must be actually signed by the High Priest or Secretary; that a printed, stamped or simulated signature is not sufficient."

He firmly believes that the best plan of official visitation is to divide the State into districts and assign a district to each Grand Officer. That was done and he had the pleasure of reporting:

Every Chapter in this Grand Jurisdiction has been visited by at least one of the Grand Officers, and in many instances by more than one. I also report that in many Chapters, it is the first time that a Grand Officer has ever entered its tabernacle. I have personally visited 73 Chapters. In making these visits, and in the performance of other duties upon me as Grand High Priest, I have traveled more than 20,000 miles. I have met the Officers and many Companions of at least 150 of the Chapters of this state. On many of these visits no work has been done, on other occasions I have witnessed the conferring of degrees. Some of them are doing no work, a few do not meet unless they have work to do. These Chapters take the ground that unless there is degree work to do, there is no use of meeting. Every Chapter should meet on its stated meeting nights, whether there is work to do or not. I visited one Chapter, 106 years old, that had never had a Grand Officer in its tabernacle.

I am convinced that our constituent Chapters must solve two problems, one is to get new members, the other is to keep them. In New York, the proportion of Royal Arch Masons to Master Masons has varied less than one per cent

in twenty years. The main difficulty in the problem of getting candidates is ignorance on the part of Master Masons of the real value of the teachings of the Chapter in the Masonic system. Master Masons must be taught that Capitular Masonry is an important Masonic body, and so important that without it, a Master Mason's knowledge of Ancient Craft Masonry is incomplete.

Why do men lose interest in Royal Arch Masonry, and what can we do to hold them? Go into any Chapter where the ritualistic work is first class, and there you will find a good average attendance of Companions and plenty of candidates.

On the other hand go into a Chapter where there is apathy, and lack of interest, and you will find, in most instances, that it is traceable to the fact that the officers are not sufficiently versed in the ritual to confer the degrees intelligently.

The first thing to do to infuse new life into a dormant Chapter, is to elect a set of officers who will perfect themselves in the ritual. One crying need of our Chapters is better ritualistic work. Importance should also be given to the social side of Chapter life, as well as the necessity of a closer bond between the Chapters and the Grand Chapter. The only argument against this system is that it takes too much of the time of the Grand Officers.

I firmly believe that no Companion should accept any office in this Grand Body, either elective or appointive, who is not willing to give a portion of his time to the service of the Craft. I have always been of the opinion that honors in Masonry should come as the result of service, and have no sympathy with those who seek honor, but are not willing to pay the price.

The foregoing sentences taken from the Grand High Priests's address are certainly strong expressions and can be read with equal profit by Companions generally, be they officers or not.

The Committee to whom the address was referred presented a report which was adopted, congratulating

the Grand Chapter on having at its head such an enthusiastic Mason and wise counsellor. All his acts and decisions were approved.

The Grand Chapter of Alberta was recognized. At two Grand Councils of Anointed High Priests 137 Companions were received into the Order of High Priesthood.

"Masonry Our Monitor" was the title of the notable address given by Rev. Pierre Cushing, Grand Chaplain, before that Grand Body.

The Correspondence Report is by the Chairman of that Committee, M. I. Greenwood, Past Grand High Priest, who for the thirteenth time reviews the conditions which he finds existing in the several Grand Jurisdictions. It is interesting, comprehensive and instructive, and ought to be read by the Companions generally of the Empire State.

In Florida he finds but little of interest and nothing apparently worthy of comment.

He notes that Scotland remains the only source of discord in the fraternity, and he believes "we can get along some way, if she does not associate with us; much as we would wish to have it otherwise. But some day she will see her error."

Next Annual in Albany, February 5, 1918.
C. Wesley Orr, Brooklyn, Grand High Priest.

Charles C. Hunt, Grand Secretary.

M. I. Greenwood, Newark, Chairman Foreign Correspondence.

NORTH CAROLINA—1917

Chapters, 53. Members, 4,187. Exalted, 366. Net Gain, ²³⁴

H. E. REID, Grand High Priest.

Two familiar faces were missing when the Grand High Priest opened in Ample Form the Sixty-ninth Annual Convocation of the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina in the City of Fayetteville, May 8, 1917. Eight Past Grand High Priests were present and 23 Chapters were not represented. Ex. Companion W. C. Brown responded for Florida.

A commendable record of work well done was exhibited in the report of the stewardship of the Grand High Priest, who found it good to gather together, renew old friendships and welcome the new Companions on whose shoulders the burdens must some day fall. He noted that the official rank had been broken during the year by the passing through the veils of the Grand Principal Sojourner, R. E. Companion Edwin Glamon, and who was also President of the Order of High Priesthood. Another honored Companion who had passed to the future life was Past Grand Priest John C. Dreyery, who was both Grand High Priest and Grand Commander in 1902, and whose memory was further commemorated by having a new Chapter named after him.

Among his official acts to promote interest in the Royal Craft was the holding of Triangle Meetings, composed of groups of three Chapters, in which each Chapter was to confer at least one degree. This plan met the approval of Grand Chapter.

He issued dispensations to form new Chapters at Weldon and Concord, each of which presented satisfactory work and were given Charters by Grand Chapter. Efforts to revive Louisburg Chapter failing, its charter was arrested. He refused to grant one dispensation to communicate the degree, a most unusual request, it seems to us, and was made on the ground that it seemed impossible to get enough Companions to assemble and do the work. He decided that a Chapter could not return an initiation fee after the petitioner had been elected, even though owing to financial conditions the petitioner asked to withdraw and have his fee returned. The Jurisprudence Committee approved the decision, as being strictly in accordance with Grand Chapter Law, yet it also believed that the High Priest could have ruled that financial inability to take the degrees brought it within the "sufficient cause," as set out in Grand Chapter Law, and that the fee could have been returned and no further action taken by the Chapter.

A study of previous reports convinced the Grand High Priest that too small a per cent. of the Master Masons of the State take the Capitular degree, because

The Chapter has too long been regarded as merely a stepping stone to something else, and of no particular value of itself. The only way to correct this is by education. Master Masons must be taught that Capitular Masonry is an important Masonic Body, so important that without it, a Master Mason's knowledge of Symbolic Masonry is incomplete.

We endorse the assertion of the Grand High Priest that many Companions lose interest in Royal Arch Masonry because Chapters elect officers who do not

perfect themselves in the ritualistic work so that they can confer the degrees intelligently.

Additional interest in Capitular Masonry is expected as a result of districting the State and appointing Deputy Grand High Priests over each District.

The report of the Educational Committee shows that several worthy young people are being assisted towards receiving an education.

So carefully did the Grand High Priest study Grand Chapter law before making his rulings that the Jurisprudence Committee found practically nothing left for that august body to pass upon.

Out of 346 Companions in the State of North Carolina who are eligible for the Order of High Priesthood, that degree has been conferred upon 139 Companions. At the Grand Convention of the Order of High Priests applications from 17 Companions were received for that degree, which was duly conferred. Ex. Companion J. F. Rhem was elected President. It appears that all funds of the body over and above necessary expenses are presented to the Masonic and Eastern Star Home and to the Oxford Orphanage.

Although the Proceedings show the appointment of Companion Leon Cash as the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence, the copy which we have contains no report nor any mention of one whatsoever.

Next Annual in Southern Pines the first Tuesday in May 1918.

O. W. Spencer, Salisbury, Grand High Priest.
John B. Griggs, Elizabeth City, Grand Secretary.

NORTH DAKOTA—1917

Chapters, 24. Members, 3,048. Exalted, 263. Net Increase, 163

CHARLES E. BEST, Grand High Priest.

Every Chapter save one was represented, and only two Grand Officers were absent when the Twenty-eighth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of South Dakota was convened in Grand Forks, June 20, 1917, by Grand High Priest Best. We are informed that "the opening was well done, and the improvement the past two years was most gratifying."

A guest of honor was M. E. Companion Peter Picton, who is the Senior Grand High Priest in the jurisdiction both in point of service and in years (eighty-seven years young), having been Grand High Priest of the Territorial Grand Chapter of Dakota in 1886-87. He was welcomed to the East with the Grand Honors of Masonry. He is highly revered throughout that jurisdiction for his truly commendable Christian character.

Comparatively brief was the inspiring address of the Grand High Priest, who was pleased to advise the Companions that

Despite the depressing conditions of an almost total crop failure and severe winter, with railway lines frequently blockaded, making it almost impossible for Companions to reach their lodge rooms on convocation nights, we have not retarded, but have experienced a substantial gain in our membership.

The year was free from differences, with good fellowship and brotherly love prevailing. Although no dispensations were issued to form new chapters,

there was one prospect, he said. He also added that every Companion who asked counsel received it, and that every visit that could be made was made. Surely this conscientious Royal Craftsman has made an enviable record.

The ranks of the Grand Officers remained unbroken during the year, but the final summons came to M. E. Companion Theodore F. Branch, who was Grand High Priest in 1895-96.

He issued four commissions to Grand Representatives near other Grand Chapters. He constituted Rabboni Chapter at Bowbells. Two dispensations were issued to use substitutes in the R. A. degree. He made eight visitations and "found good work, true work, square work being done" in each Chapter. By reason of distance and expense he reluctantly declined the invitation to participate in the meeting of the George Washington Memorial Association.

He made three decisions which were approved. Two of them differ somewhat from Florida practice:

Query: If a brother petitions a Chapter for the degrees and is elected, and before taking any of the degrees, he desires to withdraw, can the chapter lawfully return to him the fees collected?

Answer: The Chapter may lawfully return the fees. Membership should be voluntary, and though it might be legal to retain the fee, it would not be equitable or Masonic.

Query: When balloting on a petition if but one black ball appears, must another ballot be taken?

Answer: No. The ballot must be unanimous, and while it may be well to take the second ballot to avoid or correct error, it is not obligatory.

The year previous the sum of \$450 was set aside as a Student Loan Fund, and during the year eight worthy young men were enabled to complete

their education, the sums loaned ranging from \$25 to \$75 each. These loans are made, according to the provisions of the fund, for a period of five years, but if possible should mature in one year after the school course is completed, and draw no interest until after maturity, and then only six per cent. And for the purpose of carrying on this laudable undertaking another year, \$600 was set aside for this Fund.

The Grand High Priest believed the time had come when Capitular Masonry should stand alone, and not be a trailer to the Grand Lodge, and so he recommended that two whole days be set aside for the Grand Chapter Convocation, being convinced that it would impress the brothers and companions that Capitular Masonry is a power by itself and not merely a stepping stone to other orders. Grand Chapter thought the same way, and hereafter its Annual Convocations will be held on the Thursday and Friday following the Grand Lodge.

Grand Secretary Walter L. Stockwell in bringing his well prepared report to a close is "reminded of the flight of time," it being, he adds "twenty-five years since we made the journey from Babylon to Jerusalem figuratively."

The Grand Chapter of the O. E. S. being in session at the same time, a committee bearing greeting was sent to that grand body of noble women who are doing so much in their way to advance the cause of Masonry.

Grand Chapter unanimously adopted the report of the Committee on Good of the Order, appropriating \$500 to the National Red Cross Society, \$500 to the Army Y. M. C. A., and that \$5,000 be invested in

Liberty bonds, that being all the funds available for such purpose.

By-laws were adopted granting reciprocal jurisdiction with adjoining states.

Recognition was granted to the Grand Chapter of Alberta and provisions made for an exchange of Grand Representatives.

Florida's Grand Representative, E. Companion Oscar St. C. Chenery, Grand Royal Arch Captain, who had started for this annual convocation was compelled to return home on account of illness, and was thus deprived of the inspiration that he would otherwise have received. He was re-appointed to the same station for the coming year.

We notice that South Dakota with Florida and many other Grand Chapters do not consider it necessary to re-install re-elected or re-appointed officers.

Nine Companions were duly elected and received in the Order of High Priesthood and the officers of the past year were re-elected.

M. E. Companion E. George Guthrie, in his third journey from the Everglades of Florida to the Olympic Range of Washington is impressed with the "vastness of OUR COUNTRY, and the magnificent resources contained therein, as well as the splendid fellowship existing therein."

He was pleased to attend (in spirit at least) the Seventieth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Florida, and noting that the Grand Treasurer was authorized to lend the Trustees of the Masonic Temple certain funds, made this request:

We hereby make application to Companion Endel for some of the funds; as no Temple is specified, we assume that no

Trustees are exempt from asking for a loan and receiving it, for any Temple in or out of Florida.

He states he is looking for our Report on Correspondence and we are wondering how it will be received, for we have written our second review of North Dakota as well as of many other proceedings before learning whether our work is passing such inspection as will entitle us to wages.

We have read Companion Guthrie's review with a great deal of pleasure as well as profit, and if it be proper for a mere Past High Priest to express himself, it is that our views, largely unexpressed, coincide very closely with those of our South Dakota Companion.

Next Annual in Fargo, June 20 and 21, 1918.
Emil L. Mackinroth, Fargo, Grand High Priest.
Walter L. Stockwell, Fargo, Grand Secretary.
E. George Guthrie, Fargo, Correspondent.

NOVA SCOTIA—1916.

Chapters, 17, Members, 1,548. Exalted, 81. Net Gain, 20.

WALTER P. DOULL, Grand High Priest.

It is almost ancient history, reviewing the proceedings of a Grand Body which occurred nearly two years previous to the time this will reach its readers, but they did not reach us until near the close of 1917.

The Forty-seventh Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Nova Scotia (with jurisdiction over the Provinces of Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland) was convened in

the Town of Annapolis Royal, N. S., June 13, 1916. Every Grand Officer was in his appointed station, there being no Deputy Grand High Priest but we notice a Grand Steward and a Grand Standard Bearer. There were also present 17 Past Grand Officers and Representatives from 14 Chapters. Florida was especially honored, as its Grand Representative was the Grand High Priest, who cordially welcomed other Representatives of the sister jurisdictions.

After the necessary preliminaries, including the reading of letters and telegrams of regret from distinguished Companions and the sending of a congratulatory telegram to E. Companion Thomas Mowbray, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, A. F. & A. M. on his fiftieth anniversary of wedded life, Grand High Priest Doull gave a carefully prepared account of his stewardship. He appropriately noted the death of M. E. Companion S. W. Crabbe, who was Grand High Priest in 1892, and R. E. Companion T. A. Cossman, who was Grand Scribe in 1890. He also called attention to the death of the oldest Blue Lodge and Chapter Mason, E. Companion Adam Murray, who had been for 55 years a Past Master.

He noted that there had been a larger number than usual of Grand Representative commissions issued to and from Sister Jurisdictions, by reason of their commissions terminating with the triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter, which he states is "a luxury we do not have in Canada."

With two exceptions all dispensations issued were for election and installation of officers, and one of those two was to attend divine service and the other to use two substitutes. It is not customary for

Florida Chapter Masons to attend divine services as a body, and no dispensation is necessary to use substitutes.

It took him five weeks to visit every Chapter and he traveled 3,000 miles in so doing. He noted that before going overseas, and it caused him to wonder if the object in taking this step might not be for personal gain rather than to be of personal service to the craft. He believes that a time limit and examination between degrees as in Blue Lodge would tend to make the Chapter to a lesser degree a mere stepping stone to some other purpose. And as a result of some "tall thinking" he adds:

When you see a young man rushing headlong until he can wear a Shrine pin and seldom if ever darkening the door of a Blue Lodge or Chapter you begin to wonder whether there are not more mistakes made with the white balls than with the black ones.

He noted that the action of the year previous that suspension in the Lodge should not act as a suspension in the Chapter was causing some confusion, and in this connection Grand Chapter stated that the Chapter should have satisfactory evidence of the suspension in the Lodge. Other Grand Chapters are wrestling with this problem and have not yet found a satisfactory solution. He reported that indications were favorable for the institution of a Chapter in Prince Edward Island and another in Cape Breton.

He commended to every Royal Arch Mason the movement now well under way for a Masonic Lodge of Research under the direction of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia. He recommended the holding of a

session of the Grand Chapter in New Foundland, but Grand Chapter did not think it feasible at that time. Not being "a candidate for a second term" he felt free to suggest that a Grand High Priest should have at least two years in office, but we fail to find any notice being taken of it by Grand Chapter.

Capitular Masonry is an active force in New Foundland, one Chapter holding twelve regular and six emergent convocations. It exalted six Companions during the year previous, and the official visit of the Grand High Priest was one of satisfaction and delight to the Companions of New Foundland.

There is no published report of a Convention of Anointed High Priests, but apparently it exists in some form and that it was organized in 1871, for the Proceedings contains a list of members from that date.

There is no report of Foreign Correspondence. Next Annual in Truro, N. S., June 12, 1917.
Frederick L. Shaffner, Middleton, N. S., Grand High Priest.

S. J. Waddell, Truro, Grand Secretary.

NOVA SCOTIA—1917.

Chapters, 17. Members, 1,614. Exalted, 122. Net Gain, 66.

FREDERICK LEWIS SHAFFNER, Grand High Priest.

Owing to the critical illness of Mrs. Shaffner, the Grand Scribe, R. E. Companion Wilbert A. Creelman, opened in Due Form the Forty-eighth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons

of Nova Scotia in Truro, June 12, 1917, three Chapters not being represented.

The address of the Grand High Priest was read by Past Grand High Priest Geo. D. MacDougall, and was a brief resume of the official acts of the year. In it was noted the death of Past Grand High Priest Wm. M. Black. Two simple decisions were made. Of the seven dispensations, three were to use two substitutes, one to wear Royal Arch Clothing at divine service, and one for a P. H. P. to open Council Officers being absent. Seven Chapters were officially visited. Apparently the Grand Chapter work is not being universally used, for he suggested that every Chapter procure that and make it the Chapter's work, adding that while he was exalted in the United States, that work "does not compare with the work of Nova Scotia's Grand Chapter Ritual for impressiveness or beauty."

The Grand Chapter of Alberta was recognized. From the report of Past Grand Scribe W. A. Ellis, the Grand High Priest's Representative from New Foundland, it is learned that Capitular Masonry is making progress in that island. Although there was a strong petition to hold the next Convocation there, on account of existing war conditions it was deemed inadvisable.

Florida's Grand Representative, Past Grand High Priest Walter P. Doull, was with those who were welcomed and asked to convey fraternal greetings to the various Grand Bodies represented. We wonder if that was done.

Eight Excellent Companions were invested with the Order of High Priesthood.

Owing to the illness and death of Past Grand High Priest W. M. Black, the Report on Correspondence was not completed in time for the 1916 proceedings, but it is included in the 1917 proceedings. Two younger Companions have been appointed to assist the other member of the committee, Grand Secretary S. J. Waddell, and next year we are promised a "double header."

Florida's 1915 Proceedings received careful attention, Grand High Priest Caldwell being eulogized for his "true patriotic spirit and optimism."

Next Annual in Halifax, June 11, 1918.
Joseph R. Bennett, Halifax, Grand High Priest.
S. J. Waddell, Truro, Grand Secretary.

OHIO—1917.

Chapters, 187. Members, 44,590. Exalted, 3,625. Net Gain, 2,875.

WILLIAM A. BELT, Grand High Priest.

Almost like a "letter from home" is the report of the proceedings of the One Hundred and First Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons which convened in the City of Toledo, October 3, 1917, and with the exception of the Grand Marshal every Grand Officer was in his appropriate station, a visible evidence of Capitular Masonic strength in the Buckeye State.

With the exception of Senior Past Grand High Priest James W. Iredell, Jr., who was confined at his home by illness, all the other living Past Grand High Priests were present as well as Representatives from

151 subordinate Chapters.

The distinguished visitors present on this august occasion were M. E. Companion George E. Corson, General Grand High Priest; R. E. Companion Charles A. Conover, General Grand Secretary, and M. E. Companion Elmer S. Atherton, Grand High Priest of Michigan, all of whom were received with appropriate Grand Honors. The responses to these fraternal welcomes were characteristic of the Companions and appropriate to the occasion.

In an able and scholarly address Grand High Priest Belt reviewed the work accomplished in this first step of the second year's history of this beloved Order, admonishing the Royal Craft:

Masonry and democracy are parallel in aims and to an understanding Mason, perfectly synonymous terms, so in the balance at this very hour hangs the fruition of all our teachings. Shoulder to shoulder we must stand, for ourselves and for our loved ones, and for all mankind. Let not a word pass the lips of a Mason that would cloud the bright horizon of hope for the future.

He was pleased to report that the year just closing was the banner one for the Grand Chapter of Ohio in all its history, the net gain of 2,875 being 296 over the Centennial year.

Our Florida Companions will be particularly interested in the tribute the Grand High Priest paid to the memory of M. E. Companion William E. Evans, who was Grand High Priest in 1913, and who was also the Grand Representative of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Florida near the M. E. Grand Chapter of Ohio:

To our last Convocation came Most Excellent Companion William E. Evans, tottering, with one foot in the grave, as

it were, from the effects of a cerebral hemorrhage, yet smiling and pleased, like one coming home on a visit. Though the lustre of his eye was dimming, the springiness of his step was gone, the erectness and soldierly bearing of his carriage had passed. We saw him in his going . . . The great bell, in the great belfry of time, tolls on; some one of its strokes will be ours.

Mention is also made of the passing from us our beloved Past Grand High Priest, James Carnell.

Following the plan adopted by the Ohio Grand Lodge the Grand High Priest settled on the District Lecturer System. The State was divided into nineteen districts. All but six of the districts had a Grand Officer living within its bounds, and to whom was assigned that district, and for the remaining six districts Past High Priests were appointed. The result was that every Chapter in the State was inspected, and some, where needed, were visited more than once. The conclusions reached were not only that the "plan worked perfectly," but the line officers "gained experience and information which will better fit them for advanced responsibility."

He issued dispensations to form new Chapters at Cleveland Heights and Loudonville, and which were given Charters at this Grand Chapter.

He granted an emergency dispensation to a Chapter to act upon the petition of a young brother, son of a member of that Chapter, who was about to enter the services of his country, the petition by some oversight not arriving by a few hours in time to be acted upon at the regular convocation of that Chapter, saying:

There is no existing law covering unusual times like these, nor do I know of a precedent, but I will assume all the

brunt in the case and say to you this:

- 1st. Where the applicant is a Mason in good standing;
- 2nd. His father also a member of the Chapter petitioned;
- 3rd. Where you all know the applicant;
- 4th. Above all this, if applicant is being hurried away to serve his country and wants the Chapter degrees before he goes;
- 5th. God forbid that any Companion should say a word concerning the exactness of hours.

Receive the petition, enter it upon the minutes, refer it to a committee, and put the young brother on the back for me.

He also granted a similar dispensation for a young midshipman of the U. S. Army home on sick leave, and for a medical officer, because the army orders made it impossible for him to receive the degrees otherwise. The Grand High Priest justifies his action in these words:

If you, my Companions, see fit in your wisdom, not to approve these Emergency Dispensations, which I know are not in strict accord with our law, on you will rest the results. Because, having sent to France of my own flesh, and blood, a son, some months ago, to our country's call, and I myself being on the roll, subject to call at any time, how could I not obey the dictates of my heart, although my mind knew no legal way.

All the acts of the Grand High Priest were approved, except the Emergency Dispensations, which were directly contrary to the law of the Grand Chapter, but in view of the present conditions, the Grand Chapter, exercising its right, adopted the following offered by the Jurisprudence Committee:

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter recognizes no cases of emergency except that a petition for affiliation or for Chapter degrees, if that of a sailor or soldier of the Army or Navy, may be declared a case of emergency by the Grand High Priest at any time during the duration of the present war.

From the decisions we learn that it is un-Masonic to have or use any other Cipher Ritual than that prescribed by the Grand Chapter of Ohio; that an objection holds good for three years, and likewise that a petition for degrees or membership cannot be acted upon after three years, but must be filed anew; that a certificate from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge is equivalent to a demit and must be used accordingly.

Corroborating the report of the Grand High Priest, the Grand Secretary is mightily pleased that the records show that the work and gains in the first year of the new century largely exceeds that of any other year; yet he is compelled to admit his "first failure in nineteen years to collect the entire amount due the Grand Chapter from its subordinates."

Grand Chapter unanimously adopted a resolution to send to the next Triennial Convocation the first four officers, the Grand High Priests who presided in 1916 and 1917 and the Grand Secretary.

We notice that the Foreign Correspondent, M. E. Companion Orion P. Sperra, is classed among the Appointed Grand Officers who were duly installed into their respective stations. Wonder what that particular installation ceremony would be.

During the year East Palestine Chapter and John K. Corwin Chapter in Cleveland were constituted and consecrated.

Pardonable pride of the Craft in Ohio is their magnificent Masonic Home at Springfield, and the exhaustive report of the Superintendent shows that the receipts during the year was \$101,130.08; disbursements, \$89,975.52; balance in the hands of the treasurer July 31st, was \$210,280.51. Florida has

a Home in process of making, but we opine it will be sometime before it will be of the magnitude of the Ohio Home.

An important adjunct in connection with the Grand Chapter is the annual meeting of the Association of Most Illustrious Past Grand Masters and Most Excellent Past Grand High Priests of Ohio, and the Eleventh Annual gathering held October 2nd was a notable affair. The addresses read mighty good to an outsider, and we can only surmise what must have been the impressions and inspirations to the elect who were privileged to be present.

An excellent report of Foreign Correspondence by Past Grand High Priest Orion P. Sperra who reviews all the Grand Bodies except Scotland, in which he succinctly summarizes the important features and High Priests.

"Of more than usual interest" is the 1917 Florida proceedings. With excellent discernment he designates as coming from a patriotic American who was "likewise fervent in his official efforts for Capitular advancement," quoting from that address concerning the place of the Chapter as a factor in Masonry.

He commends our first Report on Fraternal Correspondence which he charitably says reads like the work of a veteran, adding "Hubbell is an Ohio product and demonstrates what an Ohio man can do when he tries."

Next Annual at Cleveland, October 9, 1918.
John H. Baehr, Grand High Priest.

Edwin Hagenbuch, Urbana, Grand Secretary.
Orion P. Sperra, Ravenna, Foreign Correspondent.

OKLAHOMA—1917.

Chapters, 75. Members, 6,169. Exalted, 680. Net Gain, 50⁴

JAMES A. SCOTT, Grand High Priest.

With the exception of Grand Secretary Lee E. Bennett, who was very ill at his home in Muskogee, all the regular Grand Officers assisted the Grand High Priest in opening in Ample Form the Twenty-eighth Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Oklahoma, in Tulsa, April 17, 1917. Sixty-five Chapters were represented. The calling of the Roll of Honor revealed that four Past Grand High Priests could no longer personally answer "Here." When the Roll of Representatives of other Grand Chapters was called and those answering were presented before the altar, they were welcomed by the Grand High Priest and greeted with Grand Honors by Grand Chapter, Florida being represented by E. Companion Daniel M. Hailey.

The address of the Grand High Priest was a satisfactory showing of the work and growth of the year. He found comfort in the fact that the Messenger of Death had not invaded the line of officers during the year.

He issued one special dispensation to ballot on three petitions regardless of time. But upon "reflection" and a study of Chapter Law he became convinced that a Grand High Priest did not have authority to issue such dispensations, and thereafter refused all similar requests. He, however, recommended that when a Grand High Priest did exercise this perogative each candidate should pay a fee of five dollars to be

set aside for special charity purposes. The Jurisprudence Committee approved the dispensation but disapproved the suggestion.

He recommended non-intercourse with the Grand Chapter of Scotland and the recognition of the Grand Chapter of Alberta

Pauls Valley Chapter not having conferred a degree in three years, and also being delinquent for several years past, he arrested the Charter. Marietta Chapter had conferred only fourteen degrees in five years, and was steadily growing worse, so he effected a consolidation with Ardmore Chapter. One strong Chapter is much preferable to two weak ones. Three dispensations were issued for U. D. Chapters. Three Companions were commissioned Grand Representatives and four others recommended.

A brother received the Mark Master degree in Palmyra Chapter. Later the Secretary of that Chapter wrote a letter addressed "To any Royal Arch Chapter in Oklahoma," stating the above fact and also that the bearer was worthy to receive the P. M., M. E. and R. A. degrees by any Chapter to whom he might make application. He made application to Enid Chapter for the remaining degrees, accompanying the letter with the letter. The Grand High Priest decided the letter acted the same as a waiver and that he would become a member of Enid Chapter which would be entitled to the fee. Another decision was that dues should be refunded where a Companion has paid in advance but demits before the time for which his dues are paid. Both decisions were approved.

Early in the year he caused a set of questions to be sent to each High Priest referring to the condition of the Chapters, fees and dues charged, and

various other matters, the replies to be sent direct to the Grand High Priest. He reported that fifty Chapters had submitted their statements to him. As this request was suggestive, not mandatory, only two-thirds of the Chapters gave it courteous attention.

He paid a merited and deserving tribute to Grand Secretary Bennett, who was too ill to be present, and from a foot note on the back cover of the Proceedings we learn he crossed the Great Divide May 29, 1917. The Grand High Priest stated that he received his first appointment thirty years previous as a compliment from Companion Bennett, then Grand Master. We hope every Royal Arch Mason in Oklahoma has read the conclusion of Grand High Priest Scott's address. If he did not he has surely missed something well worth his time and attention. We also notice that Companion Scott was appointed Grand Secretary for the remainder of the year. At this distance it looks as though the right thing was done at the right time.

At the close of the address a committee of three visited the home of Grand Secretary Bennett, taking with them a floral offering as a visible evidence of the love, sympathy and best wishes of his Companions.

Among the recommendations of the report of the Committee on Inspection which were adopted were: That all Chapters be required to place their Secretary and Treasurer under bond; that no inspection be made by a member of the subordinate Chapter being inspected.

Companion Hulme, President of the Order of High Priesthood, was given authority to organize a Council of the Order of High Priesthood at Panama.

The question came up: Could a member of the Grand Chapter represent the subordinate Chapter when the High Priest was present, and the Jurisprudence Committee reported there was no such provision when either of the three principal officers were present, and Grand Chapter concurred.

The 35 candidates who petitioned the Grand Council of the Order of High Priesthood were unanimously elected, introduced and set apart to the Holy Order. Companion Isham H. G. Humle as M. E. President and all other old officers were re-elected.

From a sketch in the Proceedings it is learned that Companion James A. Scott, the returning Grand High Priest, through merit and service alone, has filled practically every station in the various constituent bodies and also of the Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery in both Indian Territory and Oklahoma.

Seven Proceedings of Grand Chapter were reviewed by Companion Leo E. Bennett, the late lamented Grand Secretary, and which included Florida. It was somewhat abbreviated, no doubt owing to his severe illness at the time, although most of the acts worth while received due attention.

While there is no statement made either at the beginning or close of the report who reviewd the other Grand Chapter Proceedings, our guess is that it was from the facile pen and well informed mind of the Acting Grand Secretary, M. E. Companion James A. Scott. Whoever it may be, he well states that it takes time, patience and ability to produce a comprehensive and beneficial Correspondence Report. If the result in this case is the result of "glancing

over the proceedings in a hurried manner" we wonder what the finished product will be. It is certainly a readable, fascinating and instructive resume.

Next Annual in Enid, April 16-17, 1918.
Bert Duncan Ashbrook, El Reno, Grand High
Priest.

James A. Scott, Muskogee, Grand Secretary.

OREGON—1917

Chapters, 36. Members, 4,203. Exalted, 192. Net Gain, ¹⁴.

S. S. SPENCER, Grand High Priest.

With one exception, all the Grand Officers were in their proper stations when the Grand High Priest opened in Ample Form the Fifty-seventh Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in the City of Portland, June 11, 1917, together with Past Grand Officers and Representatives from 30 Subordinate Chapters. Past Grand High Priest W. Irving Latimer, of Michigan, was a distinguished visitor. We regret to chronicle that our Grand Representative Ernest V. Carter is again missing from the list of Excellent Companions who were received and welcomed by His Excellency.

In the painstaking address which followed Grand High Priest Spencer was pleased to report that the Grim Reaper had not invaded the ranks of the Grand Officers during the year. He granted a dispensation to form a new Chapter in Portland, and stated that one of the first duties of his successor will be to grant one for a new Chapter at Cottage Grove.

Two dispensations were granted to install as High Priests Companions who were not qualified in point of service, and he took the occasion to inform the Chapters that he strongly disapproved of such actions, deeming it a great error to keep one Companion in the same office for a number of years, to the exclusion of others who would fill the place with credit to themselves and to the Order. So say we. He rendered three decisions which were in keeping with the law and satisfactory to the Jurisprudence Committee and Grand Chapter. He carried out the instructions of last Grand Chapter and arrested the Charter of Chapter No. 36, the affairs being in bad condition, dues uncollected, and in two instances no fees or dues had ever been paid. He appointed Representatives to the Grand Chapter of Oklahoma and New York.

He is favorably disposed towards the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association, but owing to distance no representatives were appointed. He noted that while the reports from the subordinate Chapters show that the usual amount of work has been done, yet nearly double the number of names were stricken from the rolls for non-payment of dues, which together with the two score lost by the arresting of Kirk Chapter leaves a very small net gain. He closes his address with this regret:

"Under stress of business I have not been able to accomplish all the work that I hoped to do when I accepted the high honor."

Grand Chapter adopted the reports of Companion Henry B. Thielsen, Committee on Foreign Correspondence, recommending the recognition of the Grand

Chapter of Alberta; indefinitely postponing recognition of St. Andrews Grand Chapter of Belgium, and severing relations with Supreme Chapter of Scotland.

Most interesting was the address of the Grand Orator, E. Companion Frederick Stanley Dunn, in which he likened the condition of the world at this time to a Brother being "exalted to the august degree of Royal Arch Mason," the world passing, unwittingly perhaps, through the circumambulations of a mighty lodge, guided by the unseen hand of the All-Wise Principal Sojourner, until—

Out of this shuddering abyss, for which war is all too gentle a name, there shall spring, like the winged Pegasus from the blood-drops of the Gorgon, like the violet from the mire, a federation of the nations, whose avowed watchword shall be the glorious dictum of Isaiah, uttered thousands of years ago, "there shall be no more war."

Two resolutions pertaining to the Code were presented, adopted and referred to the Jurisprudence Committee to report next year. One was an amendment providing that a member of a Constituent Chapter must be at all times a member in good standing in some regular Lodge of Master Masons. The other was a Penal Code as an amendment to the Capitular Law.

A resolution was adopted exempting Chapters from paying Grand Chapter dues on Companions engaged in military or naval service during the war, and recommending that subordinate Chapters relieve all such Chapters from payment of dues until the war is over.

At the Annual Convention of the Grand Council of the Order of High Priesthood twelve Companions

were set apart to this Holy Order, and the officers of previous year were re-elected.

We have read the Report on Correspondence by Past Grand High Priest Henry B. Thielsen, the Correspondence Committee, "from kiver to kiver." There is not an uninteresting page in it and it is as full of information as a nut is of meat. Fifty Proceedings were reviewed, Florida receiving favorable consideration. He noted that although the Grand High Priest had made no official visits, "owing to business," and the Grand King no more than his chief, "but the Grand Scribe, M. E. Companion C. H. Ketchum, had been busy and visited all but two of the Chapters assigned to him, in person, and we predict that he will make a record for himself when he is elected Grand High Priest in 1918." And this reminds us, we saw no mention in the Oregon proceedings of any official visitations being made. Perhaps they are not needed there.

Companion Thielsen appears to be unable to fully reconcile the report of our Grand Secretary with the statistical table. We felt positive that our very reliable Grand Secretary could not have been in error, but to make sure we referred the query to him and this is his reply:

In regard to Lake Butler Chapter No. 19 being referred to as having forfeited its charter in 1912 and still the table of statistics carried this charter in its list. If the respondent had looked a little further he would have seen that Lake Butler Chapter has been carried in our table of statistics constantly since 1912. The mention made by me about this chapter was really in regard to the standing of a member of that Chapter who was unable to get his demit and to show how long he had been trying to do so. I mentioned the fact that it was before the charter was forfeited

in 1912. By referring to the proceedings for 1913, pages 14 and 15 in the address of the Grand High Priest, it will be seen that in accordance with instructions from the Grand Chapter he arrested the Charter of that Chapter on June 27, 1912, and by reading the next paragraph it will be found that as the Grand Chapter also authorized him to restore the charter to them on the payment of their back dues, if he thought it best to do so, a check for the dues having been received, he restored the charter to them on July 11th of the same year, consequently as I said before, this Chapter is in our table of statistics and has been constantly for years.

In regard to Jasper Chapter No. 10 having asked for a restoration of its charter and that Chapter also appearing in the table of statistics as No. 36, will simply say that our regulations require us to assign lowest vacant numbers to newly chartered Chapters and in consequence, while Jasper Chapter was dormant its number ten was assigned to the Kissimmee Chapter, and the Grand Chapter at its annual Convocation in 1916, having authorized the restoration of the charter, the first vacant number had to be assigned to them.

Owing to unavoidable existing conditions our second review of Oregon will be in print before we shall have any knowledge of what our Oregon Companions think of our "first offense."

We have marked a number of places in the different reviews which read good to us and have found nothing that we would wish to otherwise than approve, unless it be that the address of the Fraternal Correspondent is given as Manatee River, when as a matter of fact he is a member of Manatee River Chapter of Bradenton, which is on the Manatee River, in "the Land of Manatee," and in Manatee County.

Next Annual, Portland, June 10, 1918.
 Silas M. Yoran, Eugene, Grand High Priest.
 Jas. F. Robinson, Portland, Grand Secretary.
 Henry B. Thielsen, Salem, Cor. Committee.

PENNSYLVANIA—1917

PORTER W. LOWRY, Grand High Priest.

Pennsylvania still holds to the plan, not generally observed in this country, of holding Quarterly Communications as well as an Annual Communication. Most of the business of the Quarterlies are of a routine nature.

At the June Quarterly, when the Most Excellent Grand High Priest called for the report of the Committee on Charity, Past Grand High Priest M. E. Companion George W. Kendrick, Jr., Chairman, there was no response, and after an impressive silence, the formal announcement was made of the passing away of M. E. Companion Kendrick, the Grand High Priest adding in part:

All the honors of Masonry were heaped upon him, and from my recollection of the history of Masonry in this state, our deceased Companion stands alone in having been placed at the head of all of the Grand Bodies in this Jurisdiction. He served well, and his Masonic career was active, enthusiastic and unceasing to the day of his death.

At the June Quarterly memorials were presented upon Past Grand High Priest George Washington Kendrick, Jr., and also upon M. E. Grand Secretary Stockton Bates, who passed out of this life on March 12, 1916. M. E. Companion Geo. B. Wells was appointed to fill the latter's station.

At the September Quarterly the Grand Secretary presented his report, from which it is learned that the membership Dec. 27, 1915, was 35,964, a net gain during the year of 846. There are also two Mark Lodges with a membership of 192.

At the September Quarterly an amendment to the Constitution was presented to increase the annual dues for each member of the Chapter from 30 cents to 50 cents, and at the December Quarterly this was defeated.

The Annual Grand Communication was held Dec. 27, 1916, in the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia with only two Grand Officers absent, and not as large a membership of Past Grand Officers and Representatives present as at the December Quarterly. Florida's Grand Representative, E. Companion H. Oscar Kline, was only present at the September and December Quarterlies.

As briefly as possible the Grand High Priest gave an account of his stewardship, stating that the general condition of Royal Arch Masonry in this Jurisdiction was satisfactory, and that a material increase in membership had been made over the previous year. In his report of official visitations he was pleased to commend the high standard of work attained and practiced as well as the material prosperity of the Chapters generally.

He granted several dispensations to confer the Royal Arch degree out of time on account of removal from Jurisdiction; and in refusing a dispensation to open a Chapter ahead of time, added: "In my humble judgment there is entirely too much hurry in the doing of matters Masonic nowadays." To this we with many others will agree.

All but three of the requests to him for decision were answered by referring to the Constitution. It is easier to ask questions than it is to dig out the answers; and then, he adds, what do we elect presiding officers for, anyway, unless it is in part to answer

questions? He made three decisions, each of which pertained to petitioning for degrees and balloting on the same, the facts in connection with one of which being decidedly out of the ordinary:

Where a petition for the degrees and membership was approved, and immediately thereafter, a member who cast a favorable ballot made an oral objection to the petitioner becoming a member of the Chapter and immediately followed this by rising and asking leave to withdraw the objection.

Decided: That the Chapter could proceed and confer the degrees upon the petitioner, in the absence of any further objection by any member. * * But, to say the least, this whole proceeding was not only peculiar, but reprehensible.

He is a firm believer in the benefits to be derived from visits of Grand Officers of the different Grand Chapters, because it gives opportunities of renewing old acquaintances and discussing matters pertaining to the Craft that should be discussed in a Companionable way. Some one having remarked, "We Pennsylvania Masons are a peculiar people," the Grand High Priest added:

This statement is absolutely correct. We are much criticized and frequently misunderstood, but we go along in the even tenor of our way, with the good will, Brotherly love and hearty handshake of our beloved Companions of the different Jurisdictions, with whom we may differ in some things, and yet maintain the real spirit of Companionship in all. Long may the spirit of Peace and Harmony continue between us. Amen. So mote it be.

Practically the only disturbing matter during the year has been that of "direct line measurement," and that other one so closely related, "Masonic inquiry." After showing the injustice and harshness traceable to the use of the "direct line" rule, from cases brought to his attention, he recommended the adoption of a resolution or an amendment to the Constitu-

tution changing the direct line of measurement rule. When the Officers who had been elected at the December Quarterly had been properly installed and proclaimed the newly elected Grand High Priest, M. E. Companion Thomas McConnell, Jr., presented his address. After congratulating the Craft upon the growth and progress of this particular branch of the Masonic family he pertinently added that which Companions generally will do well to bear in mind:

We cannot fail to observe a tendency to crowd out the Royal Arch degrees in the anxiety to spread in other directions. All Royal Arch Masons should unite in a persistent and determined effort to stem this fluctuation of the tide and to lead all Master Masons toward the summit of perfection of Masonry. This is not only a privilege but a duty.

The Report on the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is made by the five members, the Grand Chapters being divided alphabetically and equally, and Past Grand High Priest Wm. B. Meridith also giving the introductory, in which he states that Capitular Masonry is not keeping pace with Symbolic Masonry, the membership of the Subordinate Chapters in that Jurisdiction being not quite thirty-one per cent of the subordinate Lodges, and which he does not fully understand:

We believe that the Masonic student, those who believe in its principles and adhere to its teachings, should desire to complete their knowledge of Ancient Masonry, which can only be done by receiving the Royal Arch Mason degree.

By the division referred to Florida is reviewed by Past Grand High Priest A. G. Criswell Smith, who finds but little of interest or worthy of comment. He noted that the Grand High Priest "made no official visitations owing to business," but reported attending

the General Grand Chapter; also that the Grand Scribe "did considerable visiting and makes an interesting report." (This Grand Scribe will be Grand High Priest by the time this report is published). He also thinks the regulation "as to dimits is very just."

The entire report is exceptionally interesting and instructive and well worth perusal by all those fortunate enough to have a copy of the Proceedings.

Next Annual Philadelphia, December 27, 1917.
Thomas J. McConnell, Jr., Philadelphia, Grand High Priest.

George B. Wells, Philadelphia, Grand Secretary.

QUEBEC—1917

Chapters, 14. Members, 1,743. Received, 131. Net Gain, 63.

E. O. DYER, Grand Z.

Immediate Past Grand Principal, M. E. Companion Arthur B. Wood, called to order the Fortieth Annual Grand Convocation of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec in the Masonic Temple in Montreal, March 28, 1917, after which the Grand Principals were announced and received. Many Past Grand Officers and Representatives from all but one of the Chapters were present; Florida's Grand Representative being among the missing.

Quietness in Capitular Masonry characterized the year in this Grand Jurisdiction, Grand First Principal Z. in his address stating that no new Chapters

were consecrated, no district meetings held, and no dissensions of any kind.

He asked the Grand Body to join in expressing sincere sympathy to their late Governor General, H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught, Grand Master of Masons of England, in the bereavement which has come to him, the death of H. R. H. the lamented Duchess of Connaught, "whose memory will long be revered among us for her sympathies in all that concerned the best interests of our country, and of its people, as well as the brave men who are fighting our battles in Europe."

He was greatly pleased that the trouble regarding the Grand Chapter of Alberta had been amicably settled and that peace and harmony in Capitular Masonry prevailed throughout the whole Dominion of Canada. Later Fraternal recognition was granted Alberta together with exchange of Representatives.

All of his official acts were approved. He made several visitations, and regrets were expressed that the other Chapters were deprived of the pleasure and advantage of a visit from the M. E., the Grand Z.

An important and inspiring part of the Proceedings are the encouraging reports from the Grand Superintendents, every Chapter having been visited once and many of them more frequently. This may account for the fact that while the net increase for the year was only 63, yet it was three times as many as for the year previous; all the Chapters, with one exception, reporting the reception of new members.

No matters of any kind had been submitted to the Committees on Jurisprudence, Grievances and Appeals.

Owing to the sudden death of his brother-in-law,

the Grand Scribe was not present at the closing session, and the sincere sympathy of the Grand Chapter was extended to M. E. Companion Will H. Whyte and Mrs. Whyte.

The excellent Report on Foreign Correspondence is by M. E. Companion E. T. D. Chambers, P. G. Z. He believes that if it be true that the United States and the British Empire have been brought closer together by the misfortune of war,—

It is equally true that a closer and more intimate union than ever, of the Masonry of the two peoples must necessarily result from it; because Masonry pre-eminently stands, and has always stood, for those qualities and those virtues for which the Allied nations are contending.

He strongly disapproves of the suggestion of M. E. Companion Murch of Canada, that there should be only one Grand Chapter for the Grand Dominion and a Provincial Body for each Province, and which he says, was "happily given an immediate quietus by his Grand Body," and concerning which he further comments:

By no logical reasoning can it be shown that there is anything in common between a United British Empire and a General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the Dominion of Canada. Admirable in every respect, in our eyes, is the working of that marvelous creation, so wonderfully formed of precedent built upon precedent, which is known to us and revered by us as the British Constitution, that it sounds almost like blasphemy to hear compared with it a system of Masonic government which would be as foreign to the free ideas of much of the Masonry of the Canada of ours, as would be in our day, that system of taxation without representation which led up to the Boston tea party and to the far reaching subsequent proceedings.

Florida receives brief mention, there apparently

being nothing to either approve or disapprove. Companion Chambers is, however, free to comment and to the point, whenever occasions seem to require. He is a strong admirer of the "American doctrine" of exclusive jurisdiction, for under Scotland he says:

Regret was expressed that American Royal Arch Masons could not see eye to eye with those of Scotland in the matter of jurisdictional affairs, but hope was expressed that in time they would come to do so. Our American system of exclusive jurisdictional sovereignty is, of course, in the eyes of our British Brethren and Companions, somewhat of a novelty,—a matter of a hundred years or so being but a brief space out of the book of European history. It will be many a long day, however, before what is known as the American doctrine will cease to command the respect and obedience of American Masons, and it is a matter for sincere regret that this is not better and more widely understood and appreciated on the other side of the water.

Next Annual Montreal, March 27, 1918.

Dr. E. O. Dyer, Sutton, Grand Z.

Will H. Whyte, Montreal, Grand Scribe E.

E. D. T. Chambers, Fraternal Correspondent,
Quebec.

RHODE ISLAND—1917

Chapters, 11. Members, 4,984. Exalted, 306. Net Gain, 181.
FREDERICK E. LEONARD, Grand High Priest.

Many distinguished visitors from New York, Vermont, and Connecticut, as well as the General Grand King and General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter were present when the One Hundred and Nineteenth Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of

Rhode Island was opened in Ample Form by the Grand High Priest in Providence, March 13, 1917. Every Chapter was represented besides a goodly number of Past Grand and Subordinate officers. The special guest of honor was M. E. George E. Corson, General Grand High Priest.

In connection with the felicitous words in which he expressed his pleasure in being present, General Grand High Priest Corson stated that Rev. Companion Clarke, of Providence Chapter, was the first Grand Chaplain of the Grand Chapter of the Northern States after its organization in September, 1798, and that he was also Grand Chaplain at the second regular meeting of the Grand Chapter held in Providence, January, 1799, at which meeting the title of the body was changed from Grand Chapter to General Grand Chapter.

Zeal and action characterize the good work done by Grand High Priest Leonard, as brought out in his simple and concise official address. He reported that he visited every Chapter, and some several times and quite informally. Finding a strong interest manifested in the welfare of the Order, he states with confidence and pride "that Capitular Masonry in Rhode Island is enjoying the most prosperous period of its existence." He with other members of his royal court were the recipients of many courteous recognitions in connection with their fraternal incursions into the neighboring jurisdictions. All of the dispensations which he granted as well as the Grand Representatives which he commissioned and recommended were approved, as were his other acts.

He made two rulings, although he did not consider them of vital importance. One was that after

a petition for membership had been unanimously approved by the investigating committee, the Chapter could, by a unanimous vote, allow the petitioner to withdraw his petition, even though he gave no reasons for so doing. This would not be permitted in Florida. He also, very rightly, we believe, refused to allow a Chapter to vote collectively on nine applications, giving this excellent reason that balloting "is a duty that should not be executed hurriedly or frivolously, but with serious intent for the best good and protection of the Craft."

The Grand Lodge of Rhode Island is providing for a Masonic Home and the Grand High Priest urged that every Chapter be liberal in its contributions to this worthy cause.

From the reports of the official visitations of the several Grand Officers it seems that one of their duties is to preside over the election and installation of the officers of subordinate Chapters.

Grand Chapter approved the action of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence in recognizing the Grand Chapter of Alberta, and also in severing relations with the Grand Chapter of Scotland and in not recognizing the request for recognition of the so-called Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Belgium.

Memorials were presented relative to the demise of Past Grand High Priests Charles B. Manchester and Newton D. Arnold, Past Grand King Albert H. Cushman and Past Grand Scribe Ara Hildreth, the latter being in his ninety-seventh year and was "the oldest Royal Arch Mason in the State and probably in the United States, having been exalted to the Royal Arch degree August 17, 1846." In the memorial of Elisha H. Rhodes, Past Grand Master of Masons in

1892, we learn that "by reason of a provision in the constitution of the Grand Chapter in force at that time, he became, at his election as Grand Master of Masons, a member of this body"

Wendell R. Davis, who was elected President of the Convention of Anointed High Priests, announced his intention of calling a meeting of the Convention for the purpose of conferring the Order of High Priesthood.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is given by Past Grand High Priest S. Penrose Williams, who in his review of Florida seems to question the action Grand High Priest Andress took in connection with his disposition of "Cerneauism." In reply we would respectfully call the attention of Companion Williams to the reference to this subject in our review of Idaho.

Next Annual in Providence, March 12, 1918.
 Charles T. Glines, Providence, Grand High Priest.
 William R. Greene, Providence, Grand Secretary.
 S. Penrose Williams, Providence, Committee on Correspondence.

SCOTLAND—1917

While apparently four Quarterly Convocations are held by the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, we have received only the official minutes of the Quarterly held June 15, 1917; and of a Quarterly Meeting of the Supreme Grand Committee held Sept. 7, 1917, together with a circular sent out by Grand Scribe E., September 26th.

M. E. Companion Robert K. Inches, Deputy

Grand Z., presided at the June Quarterly and the Supreme Grand Chapter was opened in Full Form. A memorial was presented relative to the passing of the vails of the late M. E. Companion the Earl of Heddington, K. T., who held the high office of Grand Master of Scotland, and who presided over the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland from 1891 to 1901, with the exception of two years, and who had attained the ripe old age of ninety years.

Three independent charters were issued for Chapters, one being in India, one in Edinburg and one in Fort William; as well as a number of charters being issued for Lodges in connection with Chapters, and also for Councils of Royal and Select Masters in connection with Chapters, indicating a much closer connection prevails between those bodies than in this country. One Chapter was erased from the rolls, and one Companion expelled. The salary of Grand Scribe E. was fixed at 350 pounds sterling. It was also announced that news had that day been received that the Scottish Chapters in New South Wales, which was stated form the majority of the Chapters there, had decided by a large majority in favor of retaining their Scottish allegiance.

At the Quarterly meeting of the Supreme Grand Committee a question was presented by a Scotland Chapter as to meeting for business purposes on Sunday, and the Committee unanimously resolved that they deprecated such a practice.

A close relation seems to prevail between the Order of Constantine and the Supreme Grand Chapter, for Grand Scribe E. was instructed to repay

a temporary loan received from the Order of Constantine.

Differences in methods of procedure is suggested in the circular letter of Grand Scribe Z. to the Ex-Scribe E. of each Chapter:

In the Annual Roll you will find the list of recognized Grand Chapters. Questions are frequently asked and often emerge as to which Royal Arch Companions are entitled to admission and degrees. The list provides the answer. As regards Master Masons who can legitimately be exalted in a Scottish Royal Arch Chapter the list of the Grand Lodge Roll is not conclusive, but in any case not mentioned there enquiry should be sent to me before exaltation.

All the Convocations and Meetings are held in the Royal Arch Chambers in Edinburg.

SOUTH CAROLINA—1917

Chapters, 34. Members, 3,297. Exalted, 221. Net Gain, 87.

GEO. T. BRYAN, Grand High Priest.

When the Official Family of the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of South Carolina assembled to labor in its One Hundred and Sixth Annual Grand Convocation in the City of Columbia, April 10, 1917, the station of the Grand Treasurer was vacant. Right Excellent Companion C. Frank Jackson, who had continuously served this Grand Chapter as Grand Treasurer since 1858, had been summoned to the Celestial Chapter above. He was Grand Treasurer of the Grand Council for 46 years, and was South Carolina's representative in the

formation of the General Grand Council in Detroit, Michigan, in 1880. He was also Treasurer of the Chapter, the Council and the Commandery in Columbia, in which city he had continuously lived since "the late unpleasantness."

We wondered why none of the Grand Officers below that of Grand Captain of the Host were not given in the official list until we discovered that the Constitution provides that the stations of Grand Principal Sojourner and Masters of Veils are filled at each Convocation by the High Priests of the oldest Chapters who may be present.

Five Past Grand High Priests, together with representatives from 30 subordinate Chapters, assisted in opening the Grand Chapter in Ample Form, but we regret to notice that Companion R. T. Goodale, Florida's Ambassador, was absent.

This Grand Chapter was honored with the presence of the General Grand High Priest, Companion George E. Corson, who after being received with the Grand Honors, addressed the Companions, in which he stated that the Grand Chapter of South Carolina was honored by the election of Albert General Grand Chapter held in New York in 1816, its representative at that time being that great Masonic ritualist, Thomas Smith Webb. And in 1859 South Carolina was honored by the election of Albert G. Mackey, the eminent scholar and Masonic author, as General Grand High Priest, which office he continued to hold until 1865. Companion Corson concluded his address by this admonition, which is as applicable to Florida as though it had been given in person:

And now, my Worthy Companions, what of Capitular Masonry here in your state? Is it thriving, is it expanding? Is its benign influence spreading out into and being felt in all of your several communities? These are pertinent questions and unless you can answer them affirmatively it goes to show that you should redouble your efforts and labor more persistently in the cause. Should you not inaugurate a campaign of education among the Master Masons suggesting to them the desirability of enlarging their Masonic knowledge, of perfecting their Masonic education and rounding out their character by acquiring the knowledge which the Chapter degrees will impart to them? You violate no landmark nor do you infringe any general Masonic law by informing a Master Mason that his Masonic knowledge is not complete, that he has much to learn before he can boast of having received all the light Masonry can shed upon his mind and heart.

From the address of the Grand High Priest we learn that he liberally exercised the prerogative of his office in the matter of granting dispensations "for what appeared to me good and sufficient reasons," all of which must have conformed to South Carolina law, as neither Committee nor Grand Chapter reported on them. One dispensation was granted to a chapter "to receive petition, ballot upon same and confer the four Chapter degrees upon a candidate at a convocation." The only dispensation that was refused was to a Chapter "to confer all the degrees at one convocation, feeling that it would be more hurtful than helpful to the brethren receiving the degrees under such conditions." We are wondering why this discrimination?

Upon the recommendation of the Grand High Priest, South Carolina has fallen in line with Florida and many other jurisdictions by amending its code so that now all correspondence with Chapters of foreign jurisdictions pertaining to interchange of

courtesies, waivers of jurisdictions, conferring degrees, etc., shall be handled through the Grand High Priests of the jurisdictions at interest.

He made 19 official visitations, as many as his business interests and business engagements would permit, and in which he found much interest and pleasure. Certainly a commendable record.

He attended the Seventh Annual Convention of the George Washington National Memorial Association, and is pleased to state that, with the exception of Virginia, no State in the Union has shown greater interest in the work, by the number of its Representatives present, than South Carolina.

At the Grand Convention of Anointed High Priests ten Companions were received into membership. At the election the officers of the previous year were moved up a peg, Companion Wm. E. Gantt being the President the present year.

This is one of the States which each year publish a complete roll of officers and members of Subordinate Chapters. It furnishes an excellent mailing list for advertising purposes.

Past Grand High Priest Michie tersely submits his Seventh Annual Review of the Capitular World, covering 56 Grand Jurisdictions, although the proceedings of half a dozen Grand Bodies across the water failed to reach him.

He seems to find only routine business of purely local interest, and very little of that, in Florida proceedings.

Companion Michie is quite decided in his comments on the customs and practices of other Grand Bodies, which apparently pleases his constituency, for he was reappointed to the same position. Seem-

ingly, he considers the practice of introducing "distinguished visitors" is being overdone, particularly when that Companion happens to be a member of the Grand Chapter in which the introduction takes place and it is made because he holds an office in some General Grand Body.

He states, under Iowa, that "for nearly 20 years he has been conferring degrees in Lodges and Chapters all over the State, and never once had he seen smoking in open Lodge, Chapter, Council or Commandery." Wonder if he ever visited in Florida?

Under Massachusetts he gives the information that in South Carolina the "Lectures" are on the same lines as in the Blue Lodge, are given by the Presiding Officer, and contain the history and symbolism of each degree. He also contends that the word "lecture," as used in the phrase, "without giving a lecture, or a part of a lecture," refers to the opening and closing ceremonies.

Other equally informing comments might be added.

Next Annual in Anderson, April 9, 1918.

Wm. A. Giles, Graniteville, Grand High Priest.

O. Frank Mart, Columbia, Grand Secretary.

James L. Michie, Darlington, Correspondent.

SOUTH DAKOTA—1917

Chapters, 36. Members, 3,817. Exalted, 272. Net Gain, 112.

JOHN A. CLEAVER, Grand High Priest.

Two members of the Official Family were absent when Grand High Priest Cleaver opened in Ample

Form the Twenty-eighth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of South Dakota, June 14th, in that beautiful little Black Hills City of Hot Springs, which he so fittingly describes as "nestling among those mighty hills where the Grand Architect of the Universe has lavished the wealth and grandeur of his handiwork." The writer of this well remembers the similar pleasurable emotions which he experienced the first time he visited there some years ago when "traveling out of Denver," having come from the sagebrush plains further west.

Representatives from 32 Chapters answered to roll call, there being also present an even dozen of Past Grand High Priests and more than a score of Past High Priests. Florida was signally honored in having as its Grand Representative M. E. Companion John F. Scrader, who was Grand High Priest in 1888, and who is dean of that august body.

His Excellency, in rendering an account of his stewardship, deemed it a privilege to report that peace and harmony reigned throughout that Grand Jurisdiction. He noted that the Angel of Death had called Most Excellent George Herbert Perry, who was Grand High Priest in 1904.

He granted a number of dispensations for the use of a substitute in conferring the Royal Arch degree, which will not be necessary hereafter, as this sensible amendment to the By-Laws was adopted: "Substitutes may be adopted in conferring the Royal Arch degree." Another dispensation was to allow Bonesteel Chapter to confer the Mark, Past and Most Excellent degrees in Dallas, in the same jurisdiction, but with the understanding that the Royal Arch should be conferred only at the regular meeting place.

He was not called upon to make any decisions, which he takes to indicate that the Craft are well posted in Capitular Masonic Law, and which prompts the Jurisprudence Committee, in approving all the acts of the Grand High Priest, to "sincerely hope that such state of affairs may long continue to exist."

He regretted that "on account of business and other causes" he was unable to visit all the Chapters. South Dakota is a large state and it is a "long way" from the "Black Hills country" to the Missouri River. He was led to wonder if contemplated or attempted visits were looked forward to with pleasant anticipations by the various Chapters, and we believe Companions generally will approve this conclusion.

Such visitation should not be looked upon as inspections, but rather as conferences for the welfare and upbuilding of Capitular Masonry in each Chapter, and consequently throughout the Grand Jurisdiction.

He made an attempt to visit one Chapter, remained there three days, but "failed to meet any of the Companions." Following a joint meeting was held in a neighboring Chapter which was well attended, the first being relatively in the "low dales" and the other on the "high hills."

One Chapter was arrested, the Grand Lecturer having spent several days there in a vain attempt to get a quorum, although four members came twenty miles to attend. From the Grand Lecturer's report we note that "when the Royal Arch work has been put on the attendance has been satisfactory; at other times light."

The Grand High Priest is a firm believer in concurrent jurisdiction with other Grand Chapters, saying that "any law which tends to place obstructions

in the pathway from a Companion's residence to his Masonic home, has all the appearance of being un-Masonic and unfair." Grand Chapter thought the same way, and hereafter Brothers living on the border line may apply to Chapter most convenient, even if in some other Grand Jurisdiction.

Apparently some Chapters have been using other ritualistic work, for the Committee on Ritual reports and Grand Chapter concurs: "Our ritual is full, complete and satisfactory to the Companions. We deprecate any changes, and the practice of using other rituals than our own. Quit tampering with the ritual."

Grand Chapter adopted the special reports of Past Grand High Priest L. G. Levoy, Committee on Correspondence, recognizing the Grand Chapter of Alberta, also severing fraternal relations with the Grand Chapter of Scotland.

Committee on Grievances were "delighted to report that no matters of grievances have been brought to our attention."

Six Companions petitioned for the Order of High Priesthood and were solemnly consecrated in Ample Form. Companion Louis G. Levoy was re-elected M. E. Grand President, and Companion Geo. A. Pettigrew E. Grand Secretary. We sometimes wonder why more of the E. Companions do not avail themselves of the privilege of becoming acquainted with the solemn and impressive ceremonies of this Holy Order. It has been aptly termed by some as the "most exclusive degree in Freemasonry."

Patriotic indeed is the Report on Correspondence by Past Grand High Priest L. G. Levoy, for "Our Flag" precedes the Report with the stirring sentiment, "Our country, may it ever be right; but right

or wrong, our country." And the finale is also the flag and these words:

I pledge allegiance to my flag, and to the Republic for which it stands; one Nation—indivisible—with Liberty and Justice for all.

The proceedings of 56 Grand Chapters are concisely and pleasantly reviewed in some eighty pages, Florida getting favorable consideration and no adverse comment.

Next Annual at Aberdeen, June 13, 1918.

West Babcock, Sioux Falls, Grand High Priest.

Geo. A. Pettigrew, Sioux Falls, Grand Secretary.

Louis G. Levoy, Webster, Committee on Correspondence.

TENNESSEE

Chapters, 87. Members, 5,846. Exalted, 296. Net Gain, 101.

PHILIP N. MATLOCK, Grand High Priest.

Every Grand Officer responded to roll call when the Eighty-eighth Annual Convocation of the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Tennessee was opened in Ample Form in Nashville, January 29, 1917, together with Past Grand High Priests, Past High Priests and Representatives from 87 Chapters. We note that Florida was not represented.

Zeal and faithfulness to duty characterized the address of the Grand High Priest, who noted that Past Grand High Priest Caswell Anderson Goodloe had passed the dark vail, and also calling attention to a member of his own Chapter who at the age of 89

years was laid to rest, having been a Mason for 67 years.

He issued dispensations to form two U. D. Chapters, one at Fayetteville and the other at Ellenwood. He arrested one Chapter because there seemed no possible chance to arouse it from its dormant condition. He made 26 official visitations. At one Chapter where there was great interest he found that the High Priest was then at his home drunk and had been drinking to excess for several months. He suspended him for the balance of the term. He also found that this Chapter had no Charter. Notwithstanding the Grand Secretary's office showed no duplicate of this charter in its records, the Committee on Dispensations recommended that a duplicate be issued.

In reply to the question, can a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons be legally opened without displaying the "The Three Great Lights," he ruled that they are a part of the great foundation upon which Capitular as well as Symbolic Masonry rests, are indispensable, and that Grand Chapter of Tennessee will never permit nor can it tolerate the opening of a Chapter or its appendant Lodges without the open presence of the Holy Bible, Square and Compasses.

He also ruled that the solicitation of members by Royal Arch Masons should be tempered with much discretion and prudence. That the individual member could much better devote his time and energy to the building up of the Chapter itself, and that when earnestly and well done, will prompt membership without visitation.

From personal visitations and reports of Grand Visitors he learned that one-half of the Chapters cannot confer the degrees intelligently, owing to lack

of knowledge of the Ritual. And that on the whole, Capitular Masonry in this Jurisdiction is not keeping up with the procession.

An article of great historical interest, which originally appeared some years ago in a periodical, and was prepared by M. E. Companion C. H. Smart, the present Grand High Priest, on the "Early History of Capitular Masonry in Tennessee," was made a part of the Proceedings. From among many interesting bits of general information, we learn that the date of the organization of the Grand Chapter of Tennessee, Royal Arch Masons, is unknown. A case showing the loose manner in which business was transacted in those days: a Royal Arch Mason petitioned and was elected to receive the Most Excellent Master's degree.

Fraternal recognition was extended the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Alberta and Grand Representatives were exchanged.

An entire evening was given to the Fifty-third Annual Convocation of the Order of High Priesthood for the State of Tennessee, at which 40 High Priests were consecrated and set apart to that Holy Order. Excellent Companion C. F. Wallace was elected Most Excellent Grand President.

Past Grand High Priest J. H. McClister thus begins his Report on Correspondence: "We have trimmed our Faber and sharpened our scissors and started on our fourteenth journey through the Capitular world."

In this pleasant duty he notes that at Florida's seventieth Annual, Tennessee's Representative was absent. Referring to the dispensation to elect a High Priest he states that in Tennessee the King assumes the prerogatives until the next election. Also that in

the matter of visitations the Grand Scribe "was on his job, and reports in detail of the visits to all his Chapters." He is sure that "it is a safe bet" that all accepted the invitation of Jacksonville Chapter to take a boat ride, especially as the Ladies of the Eastern Star furnished the refreshments. Also that a report on correspondence was ordered for the following year.

Next Annual, Nashville, January 28, 1918.

C. H. Smart, Nashville, Grand High Priest.

Stith M. Cain, Nashville, Grand Secretary.

Jas. H. McClister, Morristown, Chairman Correspondence Committee.

TEXAS—1917

Chapters, 228. Members, 23,231. Exalted, 2,265. Net Gain, 1,595

BEN. F. DWIGGINS, Grand High Priest.

It takes nearly 500 printed pages to record the Proceedings of the Sixty-eighth Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas, which convened in Waco, Dec. 3, 1917, with two of the lesser Grand Officers absent. There were also present several Past Grand Officers and representatives of eighty-six Chartered Chapters. Florida was represented by E. Companion William James.

In an exalted spirit of patriotism Grand High Priest Dwiggins, in the foreword of his address, deplores the horrors of war, also reminding us that we who remain at home are no less patriotic than those who follow our beloved flag:

As Washington's barefooted soldiers tracked the snow at Valley Forge with their blood, so we must fall in line with our might and main to assist in planting the ensign of this republic so high, that the eagles will pluck the moss off its mighty heights for material to line their nests in the mountains of time.

At the 1915 session of the Grand Chapter there was a call for a voluntary subscription of \$2 from each member of the Royal Craft for the Home for Aged Masons. This appeal meeting with comparatively little response, the Grand High Priest caused a communication to be sent each Chapter with the request to divide the membership into teams of five, and each team to bring in one new petition during the year. Many Chapters responded with the result that the Grand Secretary's report showed the highest number of exaltations in any one year. While the Committee to whom the address was referred commended the Grand High Priest for his zeal, they believed he was "unduly alarmed as to its financial condition," for the Royal Craft of Texas will never "commence anything which they will not energetically and successfully carry through." And proceeded to bring this about by requiring each Chapter to remit five dollars for every candidate exalted, which is to be placed to the credit of the endowment fund of the Home; and each Chapter was permitted to amend its by-laws by adding five dollars to its initiation fee.

One Charter was revoked because the members were not sufficiently interested to hold a meeting. Three Chapters who had forfeited their charters for failure to meet for three consecutive months were granted dispensations to resume labor. One Chapter which had been dormant since 1908 was refused a

dispensation to resume work because the Grand Chapter Laws forbids restoration of Charters after a period of five years. He refused a number of Chapters permission to receive petitions before applicants had lived in the state twelve months.

He granted four dispensations to receive and ballot on application of Master Masons for membership at special convocation, as the brethren had volunteered and would leave for the front before the next regular convocation. The Jurisconsults regretted that—

Patriotic enthusiasm should have led our Most Excellent Grand High Priest to overlook the plain limitation of our laws as they read; and the Committee feels constrained to express its disapproval of the action of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest in issuing the special dispensations named above, believing that it is best in all cases to adhere strictly to the statutes as adopted by this Grand Chapter.

He ruled and Grand Chapter concurred:

That Chapters have the right to do as they will with their money, so long as they pay their per capita dues to the Grand Chapter, "and do not remit any portion of moneys received for fees."

That Chapters have the right to receive the petition of Royal Arch Masons for affiliation regardless of the time they have lived in the jurisdiction.

That physical disability does not disqualify a candidate to receive the degrees of the Chapter, providing his disability does not interfere with his receiving or imparting the secret work.

By reason or errors in the existing Chapter Monitor it will be revised and a new edition published.

A resolution was presented to repeal that part

of the Grand Laws which provides that the Mark and Past Master Degrees shall be conferred on but one person at a time; also giving the Grand High Priest power to waive distance and grant dispensations for new Chapters; and to grant dispensation for new Chapters with concurrent jurisdiction in cities of 40,000 inhabitants and over.

"For the fifth time, by the grace of our Grand High Priest, and the indulgence of the Companions," Ex. Companion Carlton E. Mead presents the Report on Royal Arch Masonry, as shown by the work of the various Grand Jurisdictions. It is a most commendable production and worthy of the Lone Star State.

The Florida Proceedings appeals to him and he is particularly pleased to see that Old Glory "finds an honored place in Royal Arch Masonry." He quotes liberally from the address of Grand High Priest O'Neal and with apparent approval. In referring to the conferring of the Chapter degrees on three actual candidates by the Committee on Work, is inclined to think:

This would be much more instructive and entertaining than a great many of the long-winded, hot-air ebullitions that are wont to be inflicted on the members and visitors of some of the Grand Chapters.

He comments favorably on our Fraternal Correspondence Report, finding the work meritorious, and adding "we see no objection to his laudable desire to merit the approval of the members of the Round Table."

No, Companion Mead, we did not purchase a "flier" with the "princely allowance;" we bought a Liberty Bond.

Next Annual in Waco, December 2, 1918.
 O. M. Longnecker, Houston, Grand High Priest.
 T. M. Bartley, Waco, Grand Secretary.
 Carlton E. Mead, Marfa, Chrm. Cor. Committee.

UTAH—1917

Chapters, 6. Members, 749. Exalted, 49. Net Gain 29.

HOWARD P. KIRTLEY, Grand High Priest

The Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Utah, the baby Grand Chapter, now a sturdy youngster, convened in Ample Form in Sixth Annual Convocation at the Masonic Temple in Salt Lake City, May 9, 1917, with every Chapter represented, besides several Past Grand and Subordinate officers. While many of the Grand Representatives near the Grand Chapter of Utah brought fraternal greetings from their jurisdictions, Florida was not represented. Past Grand High Priest C. F. Jennings is also the R. W. Grand Master of Utah. He was presented and received with Grand Honors.

Owing to the fact that the Grand High Priest belonged to the Medical Reserve Corps of the regular army, the previous June he was ordered to Fort Douglas and the Mexican border, and was absent the greater part of the year. His report was necessarily brief.

His only official visit was to Price Chapter, U. D., which he found working enthusiastically. This Chapter exalted nine during the year and he recommended the granting of a charter, which Grand Chapter issued.

Nothing requiring official decision in interpreting the laws was brought to his attention during the year.

In his address the year previous he made a number of recommendations, some of which were rejected, some owing to lack of time did not receive consideration, and others were referred to a committee for future action. But the one question which impressed him most strongly was the imperative necessity of making some change in the matter of jurisdictional boundary lines. Owing to the peculiar topography of Utah, determining jurisdictional lines by the "way the crow flies," while it may mean a distance actually short in miles, it is liable to be woefully long in hours, or even impossible by direct travel. And after much thought on the matter he recommended that "all of the chartered chapters of Utah be made of concurrent jurisdiction." The Jurisprudence Committee decided the same way and Grand Chapter adopted the report. This we believe is the first Grand Chapter to grant all of its subordinate Chapters concurrent jurisdiction over an entire state. It no doubt will result in a material growth in membership for it will enable Brothers to petition for membership where it will be most convenient to attend, regardless of railroad schedules or airship flights. The new Grand Lodge by-law governing reads:

Sec. 58. Each of the several Chapters in this jurisdiction shall have concurrent jurisdiction with every other Chapter; but that Chapter first receiving an application for degrees of membership shall have exclusive jurisdiction of the applicant until such application shall have been acted upon.

Another matter for which he contended the year

previous and which this year received favorable action was that of providing for the proper protection of the Grand and Constituent Chapters from visitation by members not in good standing, and resulted in the passing of the following new sections to the Grand Lodge By-Laws:

Sec. 135-a. The Secretary of any constituent Chapter shall not issue to any member a receipt for dues until such member shall, in addition to the payment of such dues, furnish to said Secretary satisfactory evidence that he is a member in good standing of a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, recognized as such by the Grand Lodge of Utah.

Sec. 135-b. It shall be the duty of the Sentinel of constituent Chapters, before passing Companions of another jurisdiction, or of the jurisdiction of Utah, into such Chapter, to satisfy himself that such visiting Companion is, at that time, a member in good standing of a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons and of a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

At the Annual Convention of the Order of High Priesthood three Companions were duly appointed and set apart to this Holy Order.

Companions Arvis S. Chapman, Rev. P. A. Simpkins and Walter Daniels constitute the Correspondence Committee, and the Report on Correspondence seems to be the work of these Companions with possibly one or more others, Florida apparently failing to Companion Chapman, whose review is brief, but may be all it deserved. The excuse for this brevity being the claimed high cost of paper, but seeming to us somewhat a case of "skimping at the spigot and leaking at the bunghole," for in printing parlance had there been less "whiting out" with blank space, more lines could easily have been added to each page without materially affecting the appearance or the cost of the same.

Next Annual in Provo, May 8, 1918.
Sam H. Goodwin, Provo, Grand High Priest.
Walter Daniels, Salt Lake City, Grand Secretary.
A. S. Chapman, Salt Lake City, Correspondent.

VERMONT—1917

Chapters, 30 Members, 4,599. Exalted, 252. Net Gain, 107.

JAMES R. ROBERTS, Grand High Priest.

One hundred years of Capitular Masonry was the great theme of the Centennial Convocation of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Vermont, which convened in the City of Burlington, June 15, 1917, with all Grand Officers present, except two minor stations, which were filled by appointment. We notice this Grand Body has a Senior and Junior Grand Steward and a Grand Tyler, and we wonder what their duties are. No one appeared to respond for Florida when the Secretary called the roll of Grand Representatives.

This gathering was honored by a large number of distinguished Companions from the Grand Jurisdictions of Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Massachusetts and Quebec and M. E. George E. Corson, General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of the United States. The latter Companion made a particularly appropriate patriotic address.

From the address of the Grand High Priest it is learned that labors were suspended in the Grand Chapter of Vermont from 1834 to 1849, but today

every seventh man in the Green Mountain State is a member of the Royal Craft, and he is "firmly convinced that Royal Arch Masonry has in a marked manner helped to make Vermont a better state, and her people consequently wiser and happier."

Twice during the year were the Companions of this Grand Jurisdiction called upon to pay sorrowing tribute to the memory of departed leaders. Past Grand High Priest Charles Arba Calderwood passed away June 25, 1916. And on August 7, 1916, Past Grand High Priest Kittredge Haskins, who had received the highest honors in the gift of the craft, passed into that realm of which "eye hath not seen nor ear heard." The year previous he was appointed Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence to succeed the gifted Marsh O. Perkins, who achieved a national and enviable reputation in the Masonic world. Companion Haskins will long be remembered for his exhaustive special report on the standing of the Grand Chapter of Alberta.

The Grand High Priest did not find it necessary to refuse any request for dispensation, although there had been instances where it might have been necessary, had not a personal discussion with the interested parties resulted in a satisfactory adjustment.

He attended all the District Meetings and noted the spirit of emulation which prevailed as well as the zeal shown by both District Deputies and Chapter Officers.

All of the official acts of the Grand High Priest were approved and he brought an apparently successful year to a close with the satisfaction of having faithfully performed his duties to the Craft.

An especially noteworthy feature of this gather-

ing was the historical address by Past Grand High Priest George W. King, which traced both Symbolic and Capitular Masonry from its beginnings up to the present time. The Grand Lodge came into being in 1794, and the Grand Chapter in 1805. Both Grand Bodies passed through some crucial periods between 1829 and 1834, by reason of the anti-masonic excitement which prevailed, and which brought about a cessation of labors in the Grand Chapters in 1835 and which were not resumed until 1849.

Each of the eight District Deputy Grand High Priests submitted an encouraging report of the state of the craft and that they visited many of Chapters assigned to them.

Two notable Companions were guests of honor at the Convention of the Order of High Priesthood which convened June 14th, the General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter and the First Grand Principal the Grand Z. of Quebec. At this time 16 candidates were elected and anointed.

What Vermont may lack in territorial area it fully makes up in the standing and ability of its individual citizens, and which is so forcefully shown in the able Report of the Committee on Correspondence, having been prepared by M. E. Companion Eugene S. Weston, Past Grand High Priest, and is his first review. His 45 years membership in the Institution enables him to concisely present the salient features of each Proceedings. Florida is given kindly consideration, but without comment, which is taken to be equivalent to approval. He noted that the Grand Scribe made six visitations, also that the Grand Chapter of Florida has nothing

to do with Cerneauism. For reasons why see our review of Idaho.

In his "Conclusion" he states that the preparation of the Report was "a labor of love," and right well does its perusal bear out the statement. And we would like to be permitted to add that the same sentiment prompts us in the work we are trying to do, and which to us is far from satisfactory, but it is the best we know how.

Next Annual in Burlington, June 14, 1918.

George N. Tilden, Barre, Grand High Priest.

Henry H. Ross, Burlington, Grand Secretary.

Eugene S. Weston, New Haven, Correspondence Chairman.

VICTORIA—1917

Chapters, 21. Members, 1,034. Exalted, 122. Net Gain, 34.

REV. A. T. HOLDEN, Grand Z.

Quarterly Convocations are held in July, October, January and April, the Grand Z. presiding at the first and last only. He was absent the greater part of the time, having been assigned to the Defense Department as one of the four Chaplains-General to the Australian Forces, his duties being to visit all the hospitals, camps, and depots where Australian soldiers were quartered in England, France and Egypt.

The greater part of the time at the different Quarterlies is taken up in listening to and acting upon the reports of the Committee of General Purposes, and which is mostly routine and of interest only to those concerned.

Of special interest at the October Quarterly must have been the address by R. Em. Companion Rev. E. Rodda, P. G. J. on "The Banners of Israel," in which the Tabernacle and its uses as well as the ensigns displayed in the Chapter were reviewed, and the symbolism of the banners explained. He also delivered another address at the October Quarterly on "Ancient Hebrew Temples."

At the January Quarterly the Grand Chapter of Alberta was formally recognized, and the recommendation of the Committee was adopted, which prohibits all Companions of enemy birth from attending Grand or Subordinate Chapters, until such time as the Grand Chapter shall determine. At this time Rev. A. T. Holden was renominated First Grand Principal. He and the other officers were elected and installed at the April Quarterly. In the address which followed the M. Em. stated that in his judgment the "ceremonies might be made more impressive and attractive by the addition of suitable music, and by a wider distribution of the work in the Exaltation Ceremony."

WASHINGTON—1917

Chapters, 38. Members, 4,763. Exalted, 257. Net Gain, 98

FRANK G. H. BAKER, Grand High Priest.

All the Grand Officers were present when the Grand High Priest called to order the Thirty-third Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Washington in the City of Bellingham, Sept. 10, 1917; also a large number of Past Grand High Priests and Past High Priests and

Representatives of all but one of the Chartered Chapters were present.

From the address of the Grand High Priest we learn that on June 5, 1884, representatives of three Chapters working under Charters granted by the General Grand Chapter met in Spokane Falls, petitioned for authority, and on October 5th of the same year organized the Grand Chapter of the Territory of Washington at Walla Walla.

The Official Circle was not broken during the year, but two Past Grand High Priests, M. E. Companions Andrew Nilsson and William H. Acuff, passed over the Celestial River; mention was also made of the deaths of two of Florida's Past Grand High Priests, M. E. Companions Samuel Pasco and James Carnell.

Among the Chapter By-laws approved by the Grand High Priest was one abolishing the affiliation fee and requiring one year's dues in advance with each affiliation. Several dispensations were granted to confer degrees, excepting the Royal Arch in other lodge halls, also to use one substitute in the Royal Arch degree. Four Grand Representatives were commissioned.

In response to an inquiry from a High Priest: "Is it legal to hold Chapter while Grand Chapter is in session?" he replied, basing his opinion on the Washington Masonic Code, "Not until after Grand Chapter closes on Tuesday afternoon." In this State both Lodge and Chapter meet irrespective of the Grand Bodies.

With one exception, he visited every Chapter in the State, and that was not purposely omitted. While the general conditions were highly encouraging, he

found a few High Priests who had not taken enough interest in their work to learn to open or close their Chapters creditably. He found one High Priest, who was serving his second term, who had never before heard or seen the Cryptogram explained; and one Chapter had not conferred a degree in seven years.

He advised his associates that he would ask them to confer the Royal Arch Degree at the Annual Convocation, but by reason of the strenuous objection of one member of the Grand Council he was compelled to abandon that plan. He found only one Chapter that was living up to the Ritual by posting its candidates. He is a firm believer in thorough proficiency in ritualistic work, and that there is little danger of members dropping out if the High Priest and other officers confer the degrees well.

Having a sense of the responsibility to the body which had conferred upon him its high honor, he felt obliged to think out measures which in his judgment would promote its growth and efficiency. He accordingly made a number of recommendations, some of which the Jurisprudence Committee found were already covered by existing laws, and others were approved. His recommendation regarding the election of candidates for the degrees by proposal without petition was not adopted.

Action on an amendment making all officers of the Grand Chapter elective except the Grand Chaplain was postponed until the next Annual Convocation, as was also an amendment changing the time of Annual Convocation.

The dues of all members serving in the Marine Corps, Army and Navy will be remitted during the present war. In the future Chapter secretaries will

be required to make their annual returns with type-writer.

M. E. Companion Peter Pieton, aged 87, and who was a Past Grand High Priest in the original State of Dakota, and now a resident of Washington, was elected an Honorary Member of that Grand Chapter.

Florida's Grand Representative, E. Companion Arthur A. Miller, was not among those who were chronicled as being assembled around the Altar and welcomed by the Grand King.

The Order of High Priesthood was conferred upon 24 Companions and M. E. Horace W. Tyler was re-elected President.

For the twenty-seventh time Grand Secretary Yancey C. Blalock presents his Report on Correspondence, covering 52 Proceedings, which included Florida.

Next Annual at Chehalis, Sept. 9 and 10, 1918.

Charles G. Smyth, Leavenworth, Grand High Priest.

Yancey C. Blalock, Walla Walla, Grand Secretary and Committee on Correspondence.

WEST VIRGINIA—1917

Chapters, 43. Members, 7,437. Exalted, 458. Net Gain, 305.

W. K. COWDEN, Grand High Priest.

Unable to be present, on account of illness, a special Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was held at Beverly, Nov. 27, 1916, for the purpose of installing E. Companion Stark L.

Baker as R. E. Grand Scribe. On May 27, 1917, he entered into rest, thus leaving a vacant station at the Forty-seventh Grand Annual Convocation, which convened in the City of Parkersburg, Nov. 12, 1917. All the other stations were filled by the rightful occupants. There were also present fifteen Past Grand High Priests and Representatives from thirty-seven Subordinate Chapters. We are pleased to note that when the roll of Grand Representatives was called M. E. Companion Jere A. Miller, who was Grand High Priest in 1883, responded for Florida.

The distinguished visitor on this occasion was General Grand High Priest George E. Corson.

Appreciating the magnitude and great honor of High Priesthood, M. E. Companion W. K. Cowden in his address, congratulated the Grand Chapter on the substantial growth made during the year, which included the constitution of two new Chapters. Three Grand Representatives were nominated and one commissioned. He attended one School of Instruction, noting that the attendance was only fair.

He decided that a West Virginia Royal Arch Mason holding Lodge membership in another State and engaging in the sale of liquor in such other State, is guilty of unmasonic conduct, and is subject to discipline by his Chapter in West Virginia. Also that a petitioner for degrees who fails to receive his degrees within one year from his election, must present his petition anew.

He attended the 110th Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Virginia:

I was much impressed with the fact that that Grand Chapter has had but three Grand Secretaries in the last one

hundred years: John Dove, of revered memory, served in that office fifty-eight years; Companion Isaacs for nineteen years, and James G. Blanks for the past twenty-three years, and is still in the harness.

He noted that during the year two Past Grand High Priests had answered the final summons. He brought his address to a close with a reference to the Great War and the hope that the unspeakable Turk would be driven out of and beyond the borders of the Holy Land.

This address received the special commendation of the committee to whom it was referred, and the Jurisprudence Committee approved all the decisions made and dispensations granted.

At the 1916 Grand Convocation a Special Committee was appointed to collect data and make recommendations as to the advisability of separating the Council Degrees of the Royal and Select Masters from the other degrees conferred in the Royal Arch Chapter. After carefully considering the information obtained, the report concludes: "Frankly, your committee does not feel sufficiently informed to make a recommendation at this time." And Grand Chapter being like minded, by a decisive vote, decided to make no change, but retain control of the Council Degrees. The unfortunate result of this action is that West Virginia Royal and Select Masters will, as heretofore, be prevented from fraternizing with Companions in other Grand Jurisdictions.

Grand Chapter appropriated \$9,000 to assist in establishing a Masonic Home, and will assess each Subordinate member twenty-five cents in addition to present annual dues.

Thirteen applicants having paid the required fee

were appointed and set apart to the Order of High Priesthood. M. E. Companion Braxton D. Gibson was re-elected President.

A brief Review of Other Grand Chapters without either introduction or signature is given. A concise reference is made to Florida, noting the "very patriotic and business-like address of the Grand High Priest," and that no decisions were rendered.

Next Annual at Wheeling, Nov. 11-12, 1918.

L. H. Clark, Kyle, Grand High Priest.

P. D. K. Reed, Clarksburg, Grand Secretary.

Kephart D. Walker, Fairmount, and James A. Bryan, Parkersburg, Committee on Correspondence.

WISCONSIN—1917

Chapters, 90. Members, 12,526. Exalted, 734. Net Gain, 464.

ALDRO JENKS, Grand High Priest.

"Not a ripple of discord has been heard and our efforts have been crowned by a healthy and substantial growth," is the cheering message the Grand High Priest brings to the Sixty-seventh Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Wisconsin which convened in Milwaukee, February 20, 1917, with all Grand Officers, many Past High Priests and Representatives from all but five subordinate Chapters present.

This Grand Body sustained a real loss when the venerable Past Grand High Priest, David Husted Wright, and also the Grand Treasurer, was gathered to his fathers. The latter vacancy was filled by the appointment of Past Grand High Priest Frank C. Jackson to that station.

"Is a Mark Master entitled to wear a Keystone as a watch Charm, hanging from his watch chain in plain view?" was asked the Grand High Priest, who made this decision:

The keystone is the proper jewel of a Mark Master Mason. Every Mark Master is entitled to have one and carry it with him. Whether he shall wear it suspended from his watch chain or watch fob is a question of good taste on his part. Usually this is postponed until after he shall have taken the Royal Arch degree, but there is no law to prevent its use earlier, even as soon as the Mark is conferred.

The jewel of a Royal Arch Mason is entirely different, and is seldom worn. It consists of a triple-tau-cross within a triangle, the whole circumscribed by a circle.

The "tau" was a mark mentioned by Ezekiel by which those were to be distinguished who were to be saved from the general destruction of the wicked. Hence the triple tau is symbolic of the peculiar and more eminent separation of Royal Arch Masons from the profane; the triangle is a symbol of the sacred name of deity, known only to those who are thus separated; and the circle is a symbol of eternal life, which is the great dogma taught by Royal Arch Degree. Hence, by this jewel, the wearer makes a profession of his separation from the unholy and profane, his reverence for God, and his belief in the future and eternal life.

The Grand High Priest recommended the appointment of R. E. Companion E. A. Raymond of Green Bay, the present Grand King, as the Grand Representative of Florida.

The Grand Representatives were graciously received by the Grand High Priest. At this time Florida's Ambassador presented the greetings sent by Grand High Priest, Wm. R. O'Neal, and was instructed to make suitable reply to same.

The Grand High Priest highly commended the annual reviews of the doings of other Grand Chapters by Past Grand High Priest Samuel Wright, stating

that the "compensation" of one hundred and fifty dollars annually was a misnomer, to any one at all conversant with the labor. And he recommended that the compensation be fixed at at least double the amount, which recommendation was agreed to.

He stated that he was not entirely in sympathy with the regulation that requests for conferring the degrees by courtesy should pass through the offices of the Grand High Priests of both Grand Jurisdictions; but, he adds, "It is easier, however, to comply with than to attempt to combat the custom." Two new Chapters were constituted, and dispensations were granted for three U. D. Chapters.

Referring to the recommendations of the year previous to provide a suitable jewel for the office of Grand Lecturer, he reported that it had not been done "because no suitable design could be found." But he feels the absence of an official badge will not be greatly missed for "our Grand Lecturer is himself a jewel."

The report of the Grand Lecturer would be quite proper reading for Chapter officers anywhere. He well says:

The High Priest of a Chapter, to be a success as such, must possess patience, perseverance, tact, and enough enthusiasm to spare a little of it for his subordinates. He must love Masonry for what it is, and must be able to impart to his co-workers enough of his surplus energy to keep them up to their work. * * * The theory that any way to stumble through the work will do, has no business in Masonry.

The Grand Chapter of Alberta was recognized, and fraternal intercourse with the Grand Chapter of Scotland was withdrawn.

At the Convention of Anointed High Priests

15 Companions were set apart to the Holy Order of High Priesthood. M. E. Companion Samuel Wright is the President.

Much valuable instructive information in Ancient Craft as well as in Capitular Masonry is found in the Report on Foreign Correspondence prepared, as the Grand Chapter Proceedings inform us, by Past Grand High Priest Samuel Wright, although the Report carries with it no signature.

He notes under Florida that the proceedings "were conducted with marked ability and dispatch." Concerning the promised report on Correspondence, he adds:

As this jurisdiction has among its Past High Priests, Masons of national reputation as authorities on the ancient customs, usages, landmarks and jurisprudence of Freemasonry, it is fair to presume that their reports will be interesting.

We sympathize with the readers as they realize that the writer of this report fails to measure up to the high standard anticipated by Companion Wright.

Next Annual, Milwaukee, February 19, 1918.

John E. Langdon, La Crosse, Grand High Priest.

Wm. W. Perry, Milwaukee, Grand Secretary.

Samuel Wright, Com. on Correspondence.

WYOMING—1917

Chapters, 12. Members, 1,021. Exalted, 70. Net Gain, 25.

SAMUEL CORSON, Grand High Priest.

With one exception, all the constituent Chapters were represented, as well as most of the Official Family and six Past Grand High Priests, when the

Grand Chapter of Wyoming, Royal Arch Masons, met in Ninth Annual Convocation in Sheridan, March 15th. Florida's Grand Representative was not present to be introduced and given a cordial welcome by the M. E. Grand High Priest.

Untiring efforts in behalf of Capitular Masonry characterized the administration of the retiring Grand High Priest, who was pleased to note that the spirit of comradeship and fraternity had made the work of the year one of the most agreeable experiences it had ever been his privilege to meet with.

While no dispensations or Charters for new Chapters had been issued, it had nevertheless "been a good working year, marked with satisfactory Masonic growth and progress." He urged the necessity of raising the standard of degree work to the highest possible grade of excellence so as to permanently impress the minds of the candidates. One member of the Grand Chapter, E. Companion Charles T. Wolf, Grand Royal Arch Captain, had been called to the House not made with hands.

Being requested to render an official opinion regarding soliciting members, the Grand High Priest gave as his opinion that it was right and proper to talk with a Master Mason on the subject of Capitular Masonry and to encourage him to unite with the Royal Craft, but that utmost care and discretion should be exercised, ever remembering that "character, rather than mere numbers is the great thing to be considered and kept continually in view."

In the comparatively new and sparsely settled portions of Wyoming, where one Chapter has jurisdiction over several counties, it sometimes becomes necessary to grant dispensations that in more thickly

settled localities would be unnecessary, one such dispensation being granted to ballot and confer degrees upon six sheepmen "whose business called them out upon the range by April 1st, to be away all summer."

He reported that he had enjoyed the privilege and pleasure of making an official visit to every Royal Arch Chapter in the State, and his experience was that these visits are mutually helpful. In one Chapter he visited he noted an innovation which is as new to the writer and may be to some of the readers as it was to the Grand High Priest himself:

In opening the Chapter, a pass was taken up, which is something I have never met with in this or any other Jurisdiction where I have visited, and as our ritual, which is that of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, does not provide or call for this being done, I believe it better that this practice be not introduced in this Grand Jurisdiction until such time as the General Grand Chapter may authorize or require it to be done.

In closing his concise address he says: "The work has proved neither very arduous nor very difficult, the main requisites being time and attention, and has at all times been a labor of love."

A committee previously appointed by the several Grand Masonic Bodies of the State, and the Order of the Eastern Star, to consider the advisability of meeting at the same place during the same week, recommended that these various Grand meetings be held during the week beginning with the second Monday in September, but the Jurisprudence Committee reported that it would be better to continue with the Grand Commandery, and hereafter

the Grand Chapter Annual Convocations will convene the second Wednesday in July.

Ten Excellent Companions received the Holy Order of High Priesthood, and M. E. Companion Jesse Converse was re-elected President. He took great pleasure in welcoming them to active membership, and sought to convey to them the exalted dignity of Masonic High Priesthood:

This Holy Order is an adjunct to the Grand Chapter, laboring to impress upon those Companions who have been chosen by their Companions to preside over their Chapters, the importance of the exalted office they have been called upon to occupy; the importance of their qualifying themselves not only to preside over the Chapter or to confer the several degrees of the Chapter, but to inform themselves of the importance of Capitular Masonry, of its objects and its mission, that they may the better instruct their less informed Companions, for as High Priests their province is to teach Capitular Masonry.

The Report on Correspondence, being the seventh annual, is prepared by M. E. Companion Adrian J. Parshall, Wyoming's first Grand High Priest, who, with M. E. Companion Jesse Converse, are two of this Grand Jurisdiction's most tireless and efficient Royal Craftsmen. Companion Parshall notes that the year has been a quiet one, and that very little has transpired calling for comment or criticism. His qualifications for this important duty are surely unquestioned.

He finds but little to say concerning Florida, although he notes that the recognition of the Grand Chapter of Alberta "was somewhat in advance of the recognition of Alberta by the Grand Chapter of Canada." Which is quite true, Florida being the second Grand Chapter to recognize Alberta, and we

have sometimes wondered if the recognition of Alberta's claims by those few Grand Chapters in advance of Canada did not have some influence in causing the latter Grand Body to be generous as well as just.

There are many timely as well as instructive comments in the various reviews, and the Companions of Wyoming especially are to be congratulated on being able to share in their wisdom.

Next Annual, Cheyenne, July 11, 1918.

Robert I. Turner, Rawlins, Grand High Priest.

Adrian J. Parshall, Cheyenne, Grand Secretary
and Com. on Correspondence.

CONCLUSION

For some reason the 1917 Proceedings of Virginia, New Brunswick and New Zealand have failed to reach us. All the others, with scarcely an exception, report substantial increase in membership. The only element of discord noticeable is the gradual severing of fraternal relations with Scotland. Although war in some form is the all absorbing topic yet we have refrained from referring to it, for the reason that nothing we could write will mitigate its horrors or change its course.

Each year some of the Grand Chapters decide to make the minor offices elective and others are seriously considering so doing. This is a proceeding which is in keeping with the prevailing democratic tendencies of the times. The appointive system makes it possible for the retiring High Priest to select his successor.

It was with many misgivings that we took up the work of preparing a Correspondence Report, and with something approaching heart failure we turned to see what our Companion Knights of the Round Table had to say of our "first offense." The returns so far received indicate that our work will pass inspection and entitle us to wages. If we were engaged in starting a new enterprise, a newspaper for instance, doubtless we would "feature" what our contemporaries had to say of us with appropriate "scare heads." As it is we have referred briefly, if at all, to the many expressions of approval, but

we nevertheless sincerely thank you, Companions,
for your kind words. With best wishes to one and
all, we wish you "God speed."

Fraternally submitted,

ELY P. HUBBELL,

For the Committee.

Bradentown, Fla., May 7, 1918.

GRAND OFFICERS
OF THE
M.E. Grand Chapter of Florida
FOR
A. I. 2448, A. D. 1918

M. E. CHARLES H. KETCHUM, Grand High Priest, Key West.

R. E. L. F. BLALOCK, Deputy Grand High Priest, Miami.

R. E. W. V. CARTER, Grand King, Port Orange.

R. E. H. O. SNOW, Grand Scribe, Tampa.

M. E. MARCUS ENDEL, Grand Treasurer, Jacksonville.

M. E. WILBER P. WEBSTER, Grand Secretary, Jacksonville.

R. E. W. B. Y. WILKIE, Grand Chaplain, Dunedin.

E. JOHN L. HALL, Grand Captain of the Host, Jacksonville.

E. O. L. TAYLOR, Grand Principal Sojourner, Sanford.

E. R. J. KISHPAUGH, Grand Royal Arch Captain, West Palm Beach.

E. E. L. WIRT, Grand Master Third Vail, Bartow.

E. T. T. TODD, Grand Master Second Vail, Pensacola.

E. C. R. HORNE, Grand Master First Vail, Jasper.

E. JOHN W. CAPPER, Grand Guard, Jacksonville.

The next Annual Convocation will be held in the City of Jacksonville, at 10 a. m., on the Third Tuesday in May, A. D. 1919.