

One Hundred Years of
Cryptic Masonry in Illinois

1953

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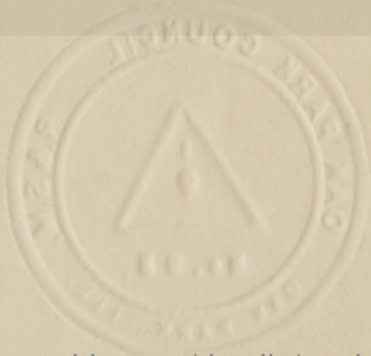
William H. Harrison

1954





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One Hundred Years
of
Cryptic Masonry
in
Illinois

PUBLISHED
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Introduction

The semi-centennial of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of Illinois was observed in Chicago on October 29, 1902. In commemoration of this event, "Fifty Years of Cryptic Masonry in Illinois" was written. George W. Warvelle, M.I.P.G.M., wrote the historical section. Gil. W. Barnard, then Grand Recorder, wrote the biographies of Past Grand Masters.

At the annual assembly held in Ottawa on October 8, 1948, the 100th Anniversary Committee was appointed. At the annual assembly held in Kankakee on September 30, 1950, the Committee on Cryptic Review and Information was appointed. The latter committee was directed to write a history entitled, "One Hundred Years of Cryptic Masonry in Illinois."

The present members of these two committees are:

100th Anniversary Committee:

OLIVER I. UNDERWOOD (20), Chairman
 LORNE W. CHRISTIAN (13)
 CHARLES C. WODETZKI (83)
 ERNEST H. DAMMANN (53)
 GEORGE K. CRICHTON (116)

Cryptic Review and Information:

WILLIAM H. KNUTZ, M.I.P.G.M. (124), Chairman
 ARNIM G. OLSON (124)
 MYRON K. LINGLE (2)
 ALLEN H. MILLER (30)
 RALPH S. DAVIS (93)

Committee members of previous years also contributed to the writing of the history. William W. Lewis (92) wrote the biographies of Past Grand Masters from 1923 to 1937 inclusive. Howard B. Shappard wrote on the subjects: "Early Titles," "Transfer of Cryptic Degrees to Chapters," and "Past Grand Master's Jewel." Dewey F. Britton reviewed historical subjects

Authors of other sections of the history are generally shown in the text. Arnim G. Olson wrote the biographies of Past Grand Masters from 1938 to 1953 inclusive, and William H. Knutz from 1903 to 1922, inclusive.

This history briefly covers 100 years of Cryptic Masonry in Illinois. The biographies of Past Grand Masters covers only the last 50 years; those of the first 50 years being recorded in the history written in 1902.

The present work is largely drawn from the proceedings of the Grand Council of Illinois. Several outstanding articles by George W. Warvelle are reproduced, as are a number of items from "The Illinois Cryptic Mason."

Considerable effort has been made to avoid a chronicle of routine business transactions. For this reason many items are presented in topical form. For ready reference, statistical tables covering "Constituent Councils," "Membership," "Annual Assemblies," and "Past Grand Masters" are included.

The authors gratefully acknowledge their indebtedness to others who have given encouragement and valuable aid in the writing of this history. We thank the following:

HOWARD DEFORD TRAINOR, M.I.G.M., Illinois

CHARLES A. RAU, M.I.P.G.M., Illinois

CHARLES W. KEYS, M.I.P.G.M., Grand Recorder, Illinois

ASAHEL W. GAGE, T.I.P.M., author, Illinois

WILLIAM MOSELEY BROWN, M.W.P.G. Virginia

EVERETT R. TURNBULL, M.E.P.G.H.P., Illinois

JOHN BLACK VROOMAN, I.P.M., Missouri

Early Cryptic Masonry

By George W. Warvelle

Taken from the book "Fifty Years of Cryptic Masonry in Illinois."

Among the many systems of Exalted Masonic Symbolism now practiced in the United States, none has received a more general recognition or hearty acceptance than the beautiful allegory known as the Rite of the Secret Vault. Yet, like the great mass of our traditions, degrees and ceremonial observances, its origin is unknown, and its early history, for the most part, consists merely of legends that are incapable of verification and, in some instances, unworthy of belief. Its fundamental principles may, indeed, be traced to the English Masonry of the revival, but there is no evidence that its degrees, as such, were ever known or practiced outside of our own country prior to the commencement of the last century, and the preponderating opinion of Masonic archaeologists now is that they are the works of the early American ritualists.

The statement has been freely advanced, by no inconsiderable number of brethren who have heretofore written upon this theme, that all of the council degrees were derived primarily from the Scottish Rite and that they are of French or German origin. An analysis of the sources of information must, however, leave a doubt in the mind of every candid and unbiased investigator, and to this is added the further facts that they bear neither legendary affinity nor chronological sequence to any of the continental Royal Arch Systems, past or present, or to that now employed in the A.A.S.R. The degree of Select Master can be made to synchronize with the 14th degree of the latter rite, while the scene of action in both degrees is identical, to wit: the S. V.; but the action itself is entirely dissimilar and the circumstance of location implies nothing more than to indicate a remote common ancestry for both degrees. It is not impossible that the early forms of all of the council degrees may have been conceived in France as elaborations of the English Royal Arch, and that when the Rite of Perfection was established they were discarded as inapplicable to the Royal Arch system which was developed in that rite, or, it may be, that they existed, if at all, only as incidents in the then crude and unformed English Royal Arch legend, and that they were segregated therefrom and given distinctive names in pursuance of that mania for multiplication of degrees which so strongly characterized French Masonry during the 18th century. The evidence of their continental origin is, however, extremely doubtful, resting mainly upon vague and uncertain hearsay and the unsupported declarations of those whose interest it was to secure and retain their control, while all the presumptions are violently opposed to such a theory.

There is not a scintilla of evidence to show that either the Royal or Select degrees were ever known on the continent of Europe. The names are not mentioned in any of the schedules given by Lenning, Thory, Ragon, or Rebold, nor do they occur in any of the patents, genuine or spurious, which purport

to have been issued by the dignitaries of the Rite of Perfection during the latter half of the eighteenth century. There is not a ritual in existence, so far as known, which antedates the year 1800, and the oldest forms of either degree which we now possess unmistakably show a direct connection with Webb's remodeled Royal Arch. Webb's work seems to have been done during the last decade of the eighteenth century and the Cryptic degrees first came into notice during the decade immediately following.

As to their development on American soil there is much diversity of opinion, while the too positive utterances of interested historians, in which fancy and fable have been interwoven with the strands of truth, have still further tended to complicate the question and confuse the searcher after facts. It is generally conceded, however, that both the Royal and Select degrees, and possibly the Super-Excellent, were, at or near the commencement of the last century, "side" or detached degrees floating in the Masonic nebulae of the time, in much the same manner as the Royal Arch had been a few years preceding. They seem, originally, to have had no connection with each other and first became known, through entirely different instrumentalities, in widely separated parts of the country. They were conferred, with little or no show of authority, by individual communication, and when finally erected into organized assemblies or Councils, were, for a number of years, conducted as separate and distinct bodies.

Whatever may have been the origin of the degrees it may be said that the history of Cryptic Masonry, as a coherent and connected system, commences with the year 1818, and that it owes its present existence to the zeal or cupidity, or both combined, of Jeremy L. Cross. It has been clearly established that Cross received the degree of Select Mason from Philip P. Eckle, at Baltimore, in May, 1817, and thereupon actively entered into the work of its dissemination; that early in 1818 he, in some manner, became "possessed" of the degree of Royal Master Mason, which, prior to that time, had been mainly controlled by Thomas Lownds and his associates, at New York, and that he then conceived the project of uniting the two and forming a new system, to which he gave the name Royal and Select Masters. The exact time when this was consummated has never been definitely ascertained, but it was probably at some period between May and August of the year 1818. It does not seem, however, that the plan was fully perfected until the year following. From this period, then, may be dated the commencement of the Cryptic Rite and its existence as an organized branch of Freemasonry.

But in order to obtain a more intelligent conception of the development and progress of the Cryptic degrees during the years which have intervened since Cross first gave them a general publicity, it will be necessary to indulge in a brief retrospect of the high degrees of all systems during the same period, and to institute a few comparisons between the United States and other countries where they are practiced.

The original purport of all "high degrees" was superior knowledge; the possession of some part of the mysterious arcana unknown by or denied to

the great mass of the initiated. As a necessary corollary, membership was limited in point of numbers, and the exclusive character thus imparted to such degrees formed one of the earliest and strongest incentives for their acquisition. This was the general condition of the high-grade Masonry in the United States at the time Cross entered upon his Cryptic mission, and which so continued for many years, and this, practically, is its special characteristic in England and Continental Europe at the present time. It was not expected that the multitude would either desire or appreciate the more profound philosophy of the high degrees, nor was it intended that they should participate in the ultimate secrets, and in all countries, except our own, this policy has never been departed from. During those early years many initiates failed even to attain the Master's degree, while the number who were admitted to the mysteries of the Royal Arch were few indeed. In the chivalric orders the same rule prevailed. The Knights Templar was then, as now, the popular branch of these orders, but as this body, at that time, appealed only to the intellectual and religious element of the Craft, its numbers were always limited. If we may judge from the published transactions of the first thirty years of the last century, it would seem that in point of numbers and influence the Cryptic Rite equaled that of the Order of the Temple, and this was its comparative standing when, in 1826, the blight of Morganism fell upon the Masonic world. From 1830 to 1840 the high degrees, generally, were in a dormant condition. From 1840 to 1850 there was a period of convalescence, but it was not until 1860 that full recovery was effected. About this time the A.A.S.R. commenced to relax its theretofore exclusive character by the creation of working bodies; two years later the Grand Encampment gave impetus to Templarism by discarding the ancient badge of a Mason—the apron—which, prior to that time had always been worn, and adopting a showy uniform and the mimicry of military usages. The council, which, in the general awakening had measurably kept pace with other organizations, then commenced to suffer by comparison, yet at all times its numbers have been fairly in proportion to the number of Master Masons in the country and, gauged by the standards which prevail elsewhere, and to which allusion has just been made, its growth, though not large, has yet been eminently satisfactory and in keeping with its traditions and declared exclusive character.

* * *

Before and during the experimental stages of constitutional organization the "superior grades" were handled mainly by itinerant lecturers and degree peddlers, as articles of merchandise, for the benefit of the ambitious and the credulous. Men purchased what was offered with little or no inquiry as to the seller's title or right to convey, while manufactured pedigrees and forced deeds, were generally sufficient to satisfy those who perchance might demand an inspection of the muniments. Therefore, like most of the other "high degrees" practiced in the United States, those of the Cryptic Curriculum will not bear severe critical investigation in tracing the derivation of the authority by which they are conferred. While there are legitimate and recognized sources from which they flow, yet the channels of transmission, in many cases, are either unknown or unconnected with the original fountain. The

records of a number of jurisdictions show that in many instances Councils were established on no other authority than such as they assumed for themselves or the equally doubtful powers of some self-constituted "deputy" or "agent," while the degrees, in numberless instances, were "conferred" individually by simple oral communication and without any pretense of authority or semblance of right, other than that which accompanies mere possession.

* * *

Aside from a few unauthenticated instances of communication by certain of the "Inspectors General," the primary dissemination of the degrees, in organized bodies, and under constitutional authority, must be conceded to Henry Wilmans and Philip P. Eckle at Baltimore, and Thomas Lownds at New York, the former controlling the Select, the latter the Royal degree. The Baltimore body, if indeed it can be called a body, never seems to have developed into a permanent organization, but rested rather in the caprice of the "chiefs" who controlled, or assumed to control, the degree of Select Mason. By these men temporary councils were organized whenever it was deemed expedient and the degree was conferred upon persons of their own selection. During the entire period of its exploitation by Wilmans, Eckle and Niles, commencing at about 1795 and ending with the assumption of jurisdiction by the Grand Chapter of Maryland in 1824, it does not seem that any body, bearing any similitude to those then or subsequently established to control or confer the other degrees of Masonry, was ever organized. There was indeed a vague and ill-defined something known as the Grand Council over which Eckle was supposed to preside as "Grand Puissant," but this body never materialized sufficiently to afford a good view, and from all that we can now learn it would seem that Eckle, as Grand Puissant, held and conferred the degree in a sort of proprietary right.

Lownds, on the other hand, subjected his degree of Royal Master Mason to constitutional authority by the organization, in 1810, of a permanent body for its control and diffusion, and this body, which has successfully withstood all the destructive influences of time, is still in existence as Columbian Council No. 1, of New York.

From these two bodies, mediately or immediately, is derived the Cryptic system instituted by Cross in 1818, and promulgated by him and his "deputies," as well as appropriated and imitated by others who came after him.

For a number of years Cross was very active in establishing councils and conferring degrees. The common report says that he found the business very lucrative, and as none of his charter fees ever found their way to his reputed principal, the "Grand Council of the Select" at Baltimore, there is much reason to believe that these rumors were not altogether unfounded. Finding the growing demand beyond his power to supply without aid, he deputized one Cushman to assist him in the work and a number of councils were organized by his lieutenant. Rival peddlers afterward appeared upon the scene, the most active of whom was John Barker, who by virtue of the "high power" in him vested by the "Grand Constitutions of the Thirty-third de-

gree," sold Cross' lectures and organized councils. The combined efforts of these organizers, together with others of lesser note, soon had the effect of producing a very thorough and widespread diffusion. Cryptic Masonry became popular; it was cheap and at the same time "way up" and had nothing interfered to stop its onward march we may reasonably assume that it would in time have developed the full beauty of its still latent symbolism and have become one of the great Masonic expositors of the world. But being an exotic, it was acutely sensitive to every depressing influence, and when, by 1830, the fires of fanaticism had been fanned to their fiercest heat, nearly every council in the country had ceased its labors and passed into a condition of dormancy. For a period of ten years, or from 1830 to 1840, the Cryptic page is almost a blank. Then came a slow awakening, but in many localities dormancy had passed into death, and so complete was the extinction that even the memory of Councils and Grand Councils was lost until in after years the student, groping amid the debris of long forgotten days, discovered and brought to light the old records and other evidences of former life. From 1840 to 1850 may be termed the period of the revival, and from this latter date until the present time the rite has made substantial progress, but with periods of depression that can be better explained in connection with other topics embraced in the chronological review of Grand Council.

* * *

The degree of Super-Excellent Master has been conferred in this jurisdiction, "off and on," for many years. For a brief period it formed a part of the regular scale, but with no very definite ideas either as to its fitness or the position it should occupy. It seems to have been imported from Connecticut, or, at all events, was not a part of the ritualistic teachings we received from Kentucky when our Grand Council was organized.

Of the origin of this degree nothing is positively known. That there was a degree of this name conferred in this country as early as the last half of the eighteenth century is shown by the records of St. Andrew's Chapter, of Boston, but by the year 1800 it seems to have become lost, nothing remaining but the name. It is presumed, however, to have been the old English degree employed in connection with the Royal Arch, and not the one in present use. The earliest mention of the Super-Excellent degree, in connection with Cryptic Masonry, is December 22, 1817, when a "Lodge" of Super-Excellent Masters was organized within Columbian Council of Royal Masters at New York. There is much reason for surmising that the degree originated at that time and in that body. Prior thereto several now unknown side degrees seem to have been conferred in this Council, all of which were discontinued after the new degree appeared. The incidents, teachings and ritualistic expression of the American degree bear no resemblance whatever to the English degree of that name, and would seem to have been suggested by the legend of Webb's Royal Arch.

* * *

While the degree of Royal Master seems to have been originally conferred on Master Masons, that of Select Master has always been considered as

an extension or explanation of the Royal Arch degree, and its earliest known exploitation was as an adjunct of a Chapter or under Royal Arch auspices. This was its distinctive character while it remained under the control of the Companions who first gave it publicity at Baltimore, and the only authority for its dissemination ever received by Cross, contemplated the retention of this idea, and, although it was soon abandoned by him, its effect was visible for many years, and is still urged in those jurisdictions where Capitular domination continues to be exercised.

In the year 1824 it was formally incorporated as a part of its system by the Grand Chapter of Maryland, and thenceforward, until very recent years, continued to be worked in its regular scale of Capitular degrees. About this time numerous self-constituted "agents" and emissaries were driving an active and lucrative business in the sale of the degrees, which induced the Maryland Companions to appeal to the General Grand Chapter. The matter came up at the session held in 1829, when a resolution was adopted recommending the councils to place themselves under the authority of State Grand Chapters, and granting authority to the Grand Chapters to make such arrangements as might be found necessary for conferring the Cryptic degrees in the Royal Arch Chapters of their obedience.

While the General Grand Chapter thus formally recognized the degrees of Royal and Select Master as legitimate parts of the Capitular system, it did little or nothing in the way of carrying out the resolution of 1829, and in 1844, upon the revival of Cryptic interest, the matter again came before it, when, after reaffirming the resolution of 1829, a rule was entered, that the conferring of the Cryptic degrees should be subsequent to that of the Royal Arch. In 1850 a committee was appointed to inquire into the expediency of forming a General Grand Council for the United States, but the committee reported that the measure was inexpedient, and the matter was dropped. In 1853 the Cryptic question was again presented, but by this time Councils and Grand Councils had very generally assumed jurisdiction and labor, and the question was definitely settled by the adoption of a resolution declaring that the General Grand Chapter and the governing bodies of Royal Arch Masons affiliated with and holding jurisdiction under it, had no rightful authority or control over the Royal and Select degrees, and thereafter would entertain no question growing out of the government or working of the same. Thus matters remained until the session of 1877, when petitions were received from several Grand Chapters, asking permission to take cognizance and jurisdiction of the Cryptic degrees, and permit the conferring of same by their constituent Chapters. The matter was referred to a committee, which reported adversely to the prayer of the petitioners, but the General Grand Chapter was "on the fence" that year, and consideration of the report was postponed until the next ensuing triennial session. In the meantime, the Grand Chapters pursued their own course, and when the General Grand Body reconvened in 1880, nine of its constituents had practically absorbed the Councils in their respective jurisdictions.

Of the attitude of State Grand Chapters, respecting the control of the

degrees, but little can be said based upon official action. In Virginia, at an early day (1841), a mistake of fact induced a dissolution of the Grand Council and a surrender of the degrees to the Chapter which has ever since retained them. Michigan, at its organization, assumed control over the degrees as of right. Maryland always maintained that position, but in most of the States they were tolerated simply when conferred under the auspices of the Chapter. After the decisive action of the General Grand Chapter in 1853, the State Bodies generally disclaimed jurisdiction, and from that time until the "merger," the Cryptic degrees were recognized as an independent and totally distinct branch of the American Masonic System.

The Grand Council

1852-4

By George W. Warvelle

The degrees of the Cryptic Rite were authoritatively introduced into the State of Illinois from Kentucky in 1852, although they had been conferred for some time prior thereto in several of the Royal Arch chapters. The first council chartered within the present jurisdiction was located at Knoxville and was known as Illinois Council, No. 15, of the registry of the Grand Council of Kentucky. During the year 1853 a further charter was granted by the same authority to Alton Council, at Alton, and the Grand Puissant was instructed to issue a charter to Springfield Council, at Springfield, upon the receipt of its returns, which it seems had miscarried in the mails.

Under the impression that such charter had been granted to Springfield Council, a call for a convention was issued by Illinois Council, and on September 29, 1853, pursuant to such call, delegates from Illinois and Alton Councils met at Mason's Hall, in the city of Jacksonville, for the purpose of establishing an independent government for Cryptic Masonry in this commonwealth. From the records we learn that N. D. Morse, James Price, Wm. McMurry, Cyrus C. Palmer, Robert Keith and Jacob Brewer appeared as the delegates from Illinois Council, and James H. Hibbard and Wm. H. Turner from the Alton Council. The convention organized by electing Nelson D. Morse, President, and Harman G. Reynolds, Secretary, and a committee was appointed to draft and report a constitution. On the day following the convention again assembled and James H. Matheny, Charles W. Chatterton, James L. Anderson and A. R. Robinson appeared as delegates from Springfield Council. The Committee on Organization reported back a form of Constitution and General Regulations for the government of the Grand Council, which were unanimously adopted, and thereupon the convention dissolved. Immediately after such dissolution a Council of Royal and Select Masters was opened, with James H. Hibbard as Thrice Illustrious Master and the other official stations filled by men whose names have long been historic in the Masonic annals of Illinois. By a formal resolution the body then declared itself to be a Grand Council, and at the election which followed Comp. Hibbard became the first "Grand Puissant."

The first sovereign act of the new Grand Council was to introduce and "heal" a number of companions who had received the degrees under the authority of Royal Arch chapters. The next step was to receive and act upon the petitions of three Royal Arch Masons who "were duly elected, and the degrees conferred upon them by and with the consent of the members of Illinois Council present." Now, whether this means that Illinois Council or Grand Council conferred the degrees the record leaves in doubt; but it would seem that Grand Council performed the work, and, presumably, took the

fees, as the record says, "fees paid." At this juncture occurred another singular proceeding, for Grand Council "called off" to meet at Springfield the next day and the record discloses that it was actually called to labor in that city on the evening following. At this adjourned session the order of precedence was established and Illinois Council was registered as No. 1, Springfield as No. 2, and Alton as No. 3. Then, by way of diversion, Grand Council performed a little more work for Illinois Council and the assembly closed.

But it would seem that the companions who thus assumed to create a new governing body were a trifle premature, and while their convention had been held "under the impression derived from a reliable source" that charters had been granted to Alton and Springfield Councils, yet, as a matter of fact, the charter of Springfield Council, owing to reasons before mentioned, was not actually issued until February, 1854. When this fact became known a new call was made and a second convention was held at Springfield on March 10, 1854, at which delegates were present from all three of the chartered councils of the State. The constitution of September 30, 1853, was readopted, and the convention dissolved. A council was then opened, with William A. Dickey as T.I.M., and after a solemn declaration that the delegates present do *now* form a Grand Council for Illinois, the "elections, resolutions, orders, and proceedings" of the meeting at Jacksonville on September 1, 1853, were adopted as the acts "of this Grand Council" and "in all respects legalized and confirmed." But nothing was said specifically of the companions who were "healed" at the former meeting. Indeed, the Grand Council seems to have entirely changed its attitude toward all such companions, for it was now resolved that all Royal Arch Masons receiving the Cryptic degrees in Chapters, after September, 1851, should be treated as clandestine and in no event should be healed or admitted to councils in any other than the regular manner.

A "Grand Annual Convocation" was held at Jacksonville on September 27 of the same year (1854), with James H. Hibbard presiding, and representatives present from the three constituent councils. It would seem that the first official act of the Grand Puissant was to grant a dispensation to the J. V. Z. Blaney and others to form a council at Chicago, and at this assembly dispensations were also issued for councils at Jacksonville and Rushville.

James H. Hibbard was re-elected Grand Puissant.

At this time the Grand Council had in its obedience three councils under charter and three more under dispensation, with a total membership, as disclosed by the returns, of ninety-nine.

—From "*Fifty Years of Cryptic Masonry in Illinois, 1902.*"

The First Fifty Years

FOUR CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECTS

During the first fifty years of Cryptic Masonry in Illinois four subjects received considerable attention. An understanding of these questions of the day may be obtained from correspondence reports printed annually in the proceedings. Levi R. Jerome, Grand Master in 1876, wrote these reports for the years 1886 to 1891 inclusive, six years. George W. Warvelle, Grand Master in 1890, wrote for the years 1892 to 1939 inclusive, 48 years.

These reports are long, humorous at times, and clearly stated the thoughts of the writers. On controversial subjects the opposition received no mercy. These four subjects are briefly reviewed.

Prerequisite to Chivalric Masonry

The desirability of making the Council degrees prerequisite to the orders of the Commandery was advocated in Illinois, and in other jurisdictions, many times. On several occasions recognition from the Grand Encampment was vigorously urged. Recognition has never been granted, nor was the subject given serious consideration by the Grand Encampment. Some of our most able scholars, George W. Warvelle was one, were convinced that such recognition would not benefit Cryptic Masonry.

Super Excellent Master Degree

The Super Excellent Master degree was often a controversial subject. It has occupied the several positions of; unrecognized, regular degree of Cryptic Masonry, and side or honorary degree. This degree will be discussed more fully in a topical chapter.

Affiliation with General Grand Council

George W. Warvelle repeatedly expressed the view that the legality of the General Grand Council was open to question. This view was also held by Levi R. Jerome. Early Illinois correspondence reports devoted much space to this subject, assailing all who proposed affiliation, and surrender of sovereignty. Several times efforts were made within our own circle to effect affiliation but the opposition had the strength to defeat them.

Transfer of Council Degrees to Chapters

Failure to make the Cryptic degrees prerequisite to the Chivalric orders, together with economic factors of the time, resulted in drastic changes in Illinois and in other jurisdictions. A brief review of our history from 1860 to 1883 will help toward an understanding of these trying times.

As early as 1860 the Grand Puissant called the attention to the fact that

the Cryptic degrees were not required for the order of Knighthood. He recommended "that all reasonable means be adopted to promote the knowledge of these degrees, and extend the order in this state."

In 1870 a committee was appointed to seek recognition of the Grand Commandery for the Council degrees. The Grand Commandery replied that it had no right to require these degrees as a prerequisite.

However, the subject of recognition was pursued during the following years and a resolution was forwarded to the Grand Encampment in 1876 to make the Cryptic degrees a prerequisite to the order of Knighthood. This petition was rejected by the Grand Encampment.

Due to this rebuff, and to the panic of 1873, the officers of the Grand Council believed Cryptic Masonry in Illinois was on the verge of extinction, and that only drastic action would save it. A like condition existed in some other jurisdictions, and in Mississippi the Council degrees had been transferred to the Chapters. Such action became known as the Mississippi Plan.

In Illinois the Most Puissant Grand Master recommended that a committee be appointed to meet with a like committee of the Grand Chapter to arrange for the transfer of the Council degrees to Chapters. These committees were appointed, reported favorable, and both Grand Council and Grand Chapter being in agreement, the merger was effected in 1877.

During the merger Grand Council continued to assemble, except in 1881, and elect officers. No per capita tax was collected. The stated position of Grand Council was that they agreed, with Grand Chapter approval, to let Royal Arch Chapters in Illinois confer the Council degrees for Grand Council.

By 1880 a majority of Grand Councils and Grand Chapters, who had adopted the merger plan, begun to believe the arrangement a mistake. In Illinois the termination of the plan was made easy for the reason that Grand Council had never abandoned its organization. A resolution to terminate the merger was made in 1882 and Grand Chapter returned the Council degrees to Grand Council on January 1, 1883.

Some held the view that the merger saved Cryptic Masonry. Others thought it ill advised. One certain result was complete confusion as to the number of candidates greeted in Chapters and the numerical strength of Cryptic Masonry in Illinois. Estimates as to the number of candidates greeted in Illinois Chapters vary from 4000 to 6000. When Councils resumed conferring degrees but few of those greeted in Chapters affiliated with Councils. This loss was great and may be largely attributed to Grand Council requiring healing of all candidates greeted in Chapters. This action was regrettable and cannot be defended because Chapters were acting on authority granted by both Grand Council and Grand Chapter.

Early Titles

The first full compliment of Grand Council officers, shown at the close of the annual assembly of 1854, was as follows:

GRAND PUISSANT
 DEPUTY GRAND PUISSANT
 GRAND THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS
 GRAND PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR OF THE WORK
 GRAND RECORDER
 GRAND TREASURER
 GRAND CHAPLAIN
 GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD
 GRAND STEWARD
 GRAND SENTINEL

In 1875 the title Grand Puissant was changed to Most Puissant Grand Master. In 1885 it was again changed to Most Illustrious Grand Master, the title Grand Thrice Illustrious dropped, and the title and office of Grand Marshal added. James H. Hibbard was the first to hold the title Grand Puissant. Edward Blackshaw the first to hold the title Most Puissant Grand Master, and Harvey E. Huston was the last to hold this title. Companion Huston was re-elected and became the first Most Illustrious Grand Master. At least one jurisdiction still uses the term Puissant.

The title Thrice Illustrious Grand Master was early used to designate the presiding officer of a Council, and the transition to Most Illustrious Grand Master to designate the presiding officer of a Grand Council was quite natural. Puissant means mighty, potent, and forcible. Illustrious means noble, brilliant.

In 1896 the title Thrice Illustrious Grand Master, used to designate the presiding officer of a Council, was changed to Thrice Illustrious Master. In many jurisdictions this title is shortened to Illustrious Master.

Past Grand Masters' Jewel

No formal action was taken in regard to supplying the Past Grand Masters with an emblem recognizing their labors until 1892. Up to that time the Grand Council was not in financial condition that would warrant the spending of money for such an emblem.

The Committee on Condition of the Rite, after diligent search was unable to find that the Grand Council had ever made any official definition of a Past Grand Master's jewel, and in 1892 succeeded in having the following resolution adopted:

"The official jewel of a Past Grand Master of this Grand Council shall consist of a representation of nine arches in perspective, covering a 'mosaic pavement' of alternate black and white squares. In the inmost recess is

suspended a triangular plate having engraved thereon the sacred yod. On the keystone of the first arch is engraved a trowel. The whole design to be suspended or inclosed within a circlet having incrustated upon its outer surface a wreath of laurel and upon its upper part the word 'Illinois.' The circlet to be suspended by a grosgrain ribbon of royal purple fastened to a horizontal bar and pin. On the outer surface of bar three triangles with a dot in each angle, representing the illumination of the S. V. The jewel to be of gold with appropriate enamels, and all substantially as set forth in the design herewith submitted and made a part of this report. No other ornamentation of any kind shall be permitted, nor shall said jewel be set with any precious stones, and any Companion entitled of right to wear this decoration who shall make any variation in said design, or procure any ornamentation other than as set forth, shall thereby forfeit his right to wear such jewel at any of the sessions of this Grand Council or in any of the Councils of its obedience."

A similar jewel has been adopted for the use of the Grand Master. In this jewel a triangle replaces the circlet. The words "Grand Master" appear at the bottom of the triangle and the bar contains the words "Grand Council", with "Illinois" inscribed below.

Other items of historical or informative nature, relating to the first fifty years of Cryptic Masonry in Illinois, will follow in topical form.

Rite of the Secret Vault

By George W. Warvelle

INTRODUCTION

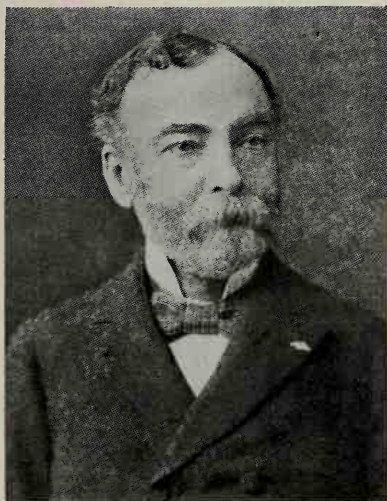
Companion George W. Warvelle, M.I.P.G.M. of the Grand Council of Illinois was, in his day, among the most widely known Masonic historians and students, and wrote and spoke often of the early formation of various degrees and bodies. Speaking at the 41st annual assembly of the Grand Council in 1893, he talked of the early formation of the Royal Masters degree, as he had talked about the early formation of the Select degree in

his 1892 address. These two addresses are too long to re-print in full but high-lights will be taken from both in an effort to give you the benefit of his wide knowledge of the real formation of the Council degrees of Royal and Select Master.

The following excerpts from the speeches are all taken from 1892 and 1893 proceedings and are credited directly to Companion George W. Warvelle.

The Cryptic Rite, or the Rite of the Secret Vault, is the distinctive name which modern usage has applied to those degrees which comprise the curriculum of Councils of Royal and Select Masters, but, in point of fact, it includes as well the Royal Arch, which is an integral and indispensable part of the system. Concerning the origin of this branch of Freema-

sonry but little is positively known. The utmost efforts of English and continental scholars have thus far been unavailing to fix any precise date for its introduction, or trace, with any degree of success, the sources of the legend. The story was undoubtedly drawn from that rich mine of Ancient Rabbinical lore, the Talmud, and its associated writings, and its adaptation to the purposes of Masonic symbolism seems to have been effected not far from the year 1750. What its original form may have been we shall probably never know, but it is certain that it was vastly different from that which it wears today. Whether it contemplated a deposit as well as a recovery, we cannot tell, yet from Oliver's recital of the legend of the English Royal Arch, it would seem that the theory, if not reduced to practice, was at least recognized. Brother



GEORGE W. WARVELLE

M.I.G.M., 1890

Distinguished Masonic Scholar

Mitchell, in his Masonic History, asserts that the Select degree was formerly a part of the Royal Arch, but furnishes no authority for the statement, nor have I been able to find any direct evidence that such was the fact, yet I am inclined to believe that, in its essence, Brother Mitchell was not far from right in so placing it, and there is much circumstantial evidence that can be adduced to support the theory. Thus, we have a strong reason for believing that the ceremonies of the Secret Vault constituted a part of the work or instruction of the Arch in the remarkable fact that sessions of the Chapter located at York are known to have sometimes been held in the "Crypt" of the Cathedral.

As to the exact method of the introduction of these degrees, or to whom shall be ascribed that honor, there is a hopeless confusion of historical data. It is generally conceded that both the Royal and Select degrees, and possibly the Super-Excellent, were, at or near the commencement of the present century, "side" or detached degrees floating in the Masonic nebulae of the time, in much the same manner as the Royal Arch had been a few years preceding. They seem, originally, to have had no connection with each other and first became known through entirely different instrumentalities in widely separated parts of the country. They were conferred with little or no show of authority by individual communication, and when finally erected into organized assemblies or Councils, were for a number of years conducted as separate and distinct bodies, a union being affected through the efforts of Cross about 1820.

ROYAL MASTER DEGREE

1892-1893 PROCEEDINGS

Among the many degrees that ambition or avarice brought into existence or rescued from oblivion was that of "Royal Master Mason." From whence it was derived or how it originated we know absolutely nothing, and, though there has not been wanting astute historians to trace its genealogy and declare its primary symbolism, no proof has yet been offered to substantiate the statements or support the theories which these ingenious gentlemen have advanced.

From all I have thus far been able to learn, I am strongly of the opinion that the degree of Royal Master was invented during the early part of the present century and that it had its origin at the City of New York. If it existed prior to the year 1800, or was ever conferred at other places, no record thereof has ever been found nor is any reference made thereto in contemporary documents. I have made a most diligent search through the channels at my command and have through an extensive correspondence, pushed my inquiries in every direction from whence a knowledge of this subject might be expected. By whom it was invented we do not know, yet it is certain that for its promotion and diffusion we are indebted to Brother Thomas Lownds. This fact has been placed beyond

dispute by the comparatively recent discovery of the old minute books of the Council established by Lownds at New York, and a number of hitherto doubtful questions in connection with the early exploitation of this degree have, by this discovery, been definitely solved.

From these old records it would seem that on Sept. 2, 1810, at St. Johns hall in the city of New York, sixteen persons met and organized a Council of Royal Master Masons, to "be known and distinguished by the name of Columbian Grand Council". This was the first systematic effort at organization ever made of either of the Cryptic degrees although the fact that sixteen persons met for the purpose above indicated establishes, as a necessary corollary, the further fact that, at this time, the degree was in existence and had been conferred by other authority and that parties were then in possession of it. The natural inference, therefor, is that prior to the establishment of Columbian Council the degree, like many others of that period, had been conferred by individual communication.

Columbian Council, from the time of its organization until 1823. met regularly as an independent body, but in this year a Grand Council was formed to control the degrees of Royal and Select Master, and the Columbian Council surrendering its title of "Grand," became a constituent of the new body as No. 1 of its registry.

From minutes dated June 12, 1812 the following was taken:

CONSTITUTION OF THE ROYAL MASTER ORDER

"No person can be admitted a member of this Order except he has regularly passed the three Symbolic Degrees of Masonry.

"The stated meetings of a Grand Council shall be holden on the eighth day of every lunar month when the sun is at its meridian.

"The annual election shall take place on the 21st of June, when the sun is at its meridian.

"More than two candidates shall not be received at the same time in any Council, as there were but two Grand Masters when H. was K.

"The fees for admission shall be left to the discretion of the Grand Council, but every member thereof shall pay into the funds of said Council the sum of a Didrachm on the third day of every Lunar month.

"On the 5th day of Tamuz, if it so falls out, if not, on election day, after all the expenses of the Council have been paid, there appears any cash to be left in the treasury, it shall be distributed among the poor members.

"A Hebrew Didrachm is equal to twenty-five American cents."

In 1816 it would seem the Council abrogated the rule which permitted Master Masons to receive the degree, and from this time on only Royal

Arch Masons were accepted. In December, 1817, a communication was received from Boston, Mass., showing that a Council of Royal Masters had been established there "within the present year", and that "they acknowledge, with much respect, the senior establishment in New York, and with their advocates do honor the same". They further pray for "written sanction" and "that they may be confirmed in their Masonic labors". This sanction was granted. It would thus appear that this Council was regarded at this time as a legitimate source of authority for the dissemination of the degree.

Such, Brethren, is a brief outline of the beginning of the Royal degree in America so far as the same is now known. To Thomas Lownds must be ascribed the credit for its life, and to Columbian Council the honor of its first organized existence.

SELECT MASTER DEGREE

1892-1893 PROCEEDINGS

As to the true origin of the Select degree the Baltimore claim presents far the better claim for our consideration, while its documentary evidence is undoubtedly authentic and reliable. In support of this claim it is stated that one Henry Wilmans, a Grand Inspector General, but of what Rite is not known, erected in the year 1792, at the City of Baltimore, a Grand Council of Select Masons, and wrought therein to the great benefit of the Craft and to the profitable extension and elucidation of the mysteries of Masonry, and that by lawful succession the powers so exercised became vested in Philip P. Eckle and Hezekiah Niles. Where Wilmans obtained his degree or from what source he derived his powers is not known. He does not seem to have been connected with the Rite of Perfection in any way, and it is not unlikely he conferred them upon himself, a proceeding by no means uncommon in his day. He seems to have been a man of considerable Masonic standing, and in 1794 was Grand Master of Masons in Maryland.

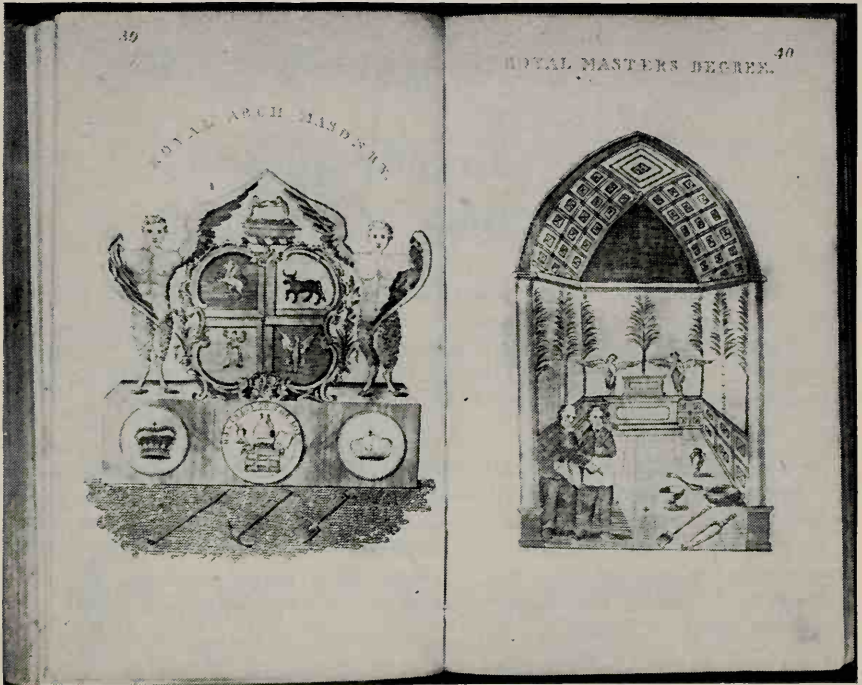
The evidence of the foregoing is derived from an old document without date over the signature of Eckle and Niles, which was evidently intended as a charter for a "Chapter" of Select Masons in Baltimore. It is generally conceded that Eckle believed himself to be the sole and rightful custodian of the degree of Select Mason after the death of Wilmans, which occurred in 1795, and that, with the approbation and consent of the Grand Chapter of Maryland, he conferred same at his pleasure upon Royal Arch Masons in the city of Baltimore, in Councils temporarily organized for that purpose, that a large number of persons, both resident and non-resident, received the degree at his hands, and that, in 1824, it passed into the possession of the Grand Chapter who retained it as a part of the Capitular system until very recent years.

In the fall of 1816 Eckle conferred the degree upon Jeremy L. Cross,

who had just been appointed Grand Lecturer of the General Grand Chapter, and from this circumstance comes the actual vitality that infuses the Rite today. Cross was so struck with the beauty of the degree, as well as its utility as a complement of the Royal Arch, that he asked, and in May 1817, received permission to disseminate it among Royal Arch Masons and to grant warrants to open Councils of Select Masons. The permission so given was by a warrant under the hand of Eckle by the title of "Thrice Illustrious and Grand Puissant in the Grand Council of Select at Baltimore", and attested by "H. Niles as Ill. in the Grand Council". Armed with this authority, he carried it to Windsor, Vt. where the first permanent organization of Select Masters in the world was formed July 5, 1817.

In 1817 Cross, in some manner, became possessed of the Royal Degree, and he thereupon enlarged "the high powers" in him vested by the Eckle warrant and forthwith commenced to grant charters for Councils of Royal and Select Masters. Bro. Drummond, who has given much careful attention to the history of the Rite, is of the opinion that to Cross is due the credit for the original idea of the union of the two degrees, and that under his ministrations it was first accomplished. The time has not been definitely ascertained, but it is believed that the system was perfected between May 1818, and August 1819, for after the latter date all of the Cross charters are for the dual body. Columbian Council is supposed to have first adopted the Select Degree about 1821 by the absorption of a previous established Cross Council.

And now, as a summary of the preceding remarks, I offer the following as my belief relative to the origin of the Rite. In considering our origin and tracing our descent, we may safely assert that our extraction is honorable and compares favorably with any of the bodies that came into existence with us contemporaneously. We are not the illegitimate offspring of the Scottish or any other Rite, nor are our liturgies the side degrees of any system. Our inception may be traced by internal evidence to the Ancient York Rite, the mother of all speculative Masonry. Our birth was that of an independent organization with no fealty or other incident of servitude to any foreign body. Our growth and development has been upon the lines of freedom that characterize the York Rite and distinguish it from all others. Our government is in consonance with the cherished principles of democratic equality first practiced by the Masonic Guild, while our symbolism, allegories and moral teachings complete and fully perfect the Masonic system of the York-American Rite. That the Cryptic Rite will survive in some shape as long as Masonic symbolism shall endure, I do not doubt; that it will ever be one of the agencies for the diffusion of pure Masonry seems equally certain, but of the manner of that existence, or the instrumentalities to be employed to effect the same, the experience of the past furnishes no sufficient grounds on which to predicate the future. It is for the Companions of the Royal Arch, to whom it was first given and to whom it rightfully belongs, to solve the question.



Pages 39 and 40 in "The True Masonic Chart" by Jeremy L. Cross, published in 1824. Reproduced by permission of the Massachusetts Grand Lodge Library.

Cryptic What Does It Mean?

In our 1905 Proceedings the late Companion George W. Warvelle refers to a statement of Companion Charles K. Francis, P.G.M. of the Grand Council of Pennsylvania, crediting Robert Morris with originating the title "Cryptic Masonry." The "American Freemason," published by Robert Morris at Louisville, Kentucky, in the year 1855, is quoted as follows:

"We have long cast about for a proper adjective to express the degree of the Council (Royal and Select Masters) as those of the lower and higher orders are expressed. Cryptic, of course, relates to crypt, and may be defined 'relating to a subterranean cave.' Then the Cryptic Order of Masonry must signify that which relates to a subterranean Masonry, which is exactly appropriate to our subject. It was considered a happy expression of Dr. Mackey's to express the Chapter degrees by the word 'Capitular.' Give us then the credit of 'Cryptic'."

Companion Warvelle accepts the origin of the title but not the definition. He wrote: "for Cryptic does not mean 'relating to a subterranean cave' any more than to any other place of concealment. The origin of the verb means hidden or to hide, and hence in the old days when the bodies of deceased persons were buried under the church, the place where the remains were deposited, or hidden from view, was called a crypt. At the present time the space under a building which cannot be seen is called a crypt, not because it is underground, but because it is hidden. A large number of words have been added to the language, based on the root word Crypta, which have no reference whatever to 'subterranean caves,' but do refer in some way to concealment. They refer to letters, to animals, to plants and other objects, even to men. Viewed in the light of its true meaning we certainly must admit that Morris was right when he said that the term 'is exactly appropriate to our subject,' which is not a 'subterranean cave,' but something that was buried, concealed, hidden, and which remained in that condition, as we are told, for four hundred and seventy years."

Bibliographical

Following is a reprinting in part of an article which the late George W. Warvelle inserted in several of our earlier Proceedings:

The Grand Council of Illinois was organized September 29, 1853, but, owing to an irregularity, was reorganized March 10, 1854. It has held annual assemblies from 1853 until the present time and, except as hereafter stated, has regularly published its proceedings.

In 1877 the Cryptic degrees were placed under the control of Grand Chapter (the so-called "merger") but Grand Council continued to hold annual assemblies except in the year 1881, when no assembly was held. In 1883, the "merger" ceased and Grand Council resumed control of the degrees.

The proceedings from 1853 to 1877 are published in separate pamphlets. Proceedings for 1878, 1879, 1880 and 1882 are published only with the proceedings of Grand Chapter. A reprint of these years was made in 1892 by James W. Stanton, of Kentucky. This pamphlet is now scarce.

Nothing has been issued for 1881 as Grand Council held no assembly that year.

From 1883 until the present an annual volume has been issued.

Original proceedings prior to the year 1877 are now very rare and some years are practically unattainable.

In 1909 Grand Council published a reprint of the proceedings from 1853 to 1870. This reprint is a faithful reproduction of the journals for the years mentioned but does not contain the appendixes of the originals. The proceedings are published in one volume — — —.

In 1902 Grand Council issued a souvenir volume in commemoration of its Fiftieth Anniversary. This contains a brief sketch of Cryptic Masonry in Illinois, with a synopsis of the annual proceedings to 1901; brief biographies, with portraits of the "ancient worthies" and summary of the exercises attending the semi-centennial celebration. — — —

Grand Council has also published a number of tracts dealing with matters of Cryptic history but these are now out of print and have become very rare.

Editor's note:—The omissions refer to publications then available but now believed to be rare.

Cryptic Masonry in Illinois Before 1850

Organized Cryptic Masonry came to Illinois in 1852 when Illinois Council, No. 15 on the register of the Grand Council of Kentucky was formed in Knoxville. The first minutes, bearing the date April 12, 1852, are still in existence and Illinois Council, now our No. 1 uses the same place of assembly used in 1852 and enjoys the distinction of being the largest council in the state.

However, Cryptic Masonry existed in Illinois before the organization of Illinois Council, even before the organization of the Grand Chapter on April 9, 1850.

Companion Everett R. Turnbull has discovered an issue of the Masonic Trowel, Vol. 1, No. 10, dated November 15, 1862, which states that on June 20, 1845, Rev. William F. Walker, then Grand Master of Masons in Illinois, conferred the Royal and Select Master Degrees in Springfield Chapter upon Companions: Cabiness Springer, J. H. Mathenet, Lavelly, Chatterton, Swizler, Reed, Doyle, Robinson, McNamara, Wickersham, Richmond, and McNeill. The Masonic Trowel was edited by Harman G. Reynolds, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Illinois from 1851 to 1867.

From the Masonic Trowel we take the following quotations:

August 5, 1847: "The R. & S. degrees were conferred on Comps. Campbell and Dickey."

December 18, 1848: "The degrees of R. & S. Master conferred on Comps. Munsell and Stout."

January 6, 1849: "The degrees of R. & S. conferred on Comps. Gov. McMurty, A. E. Ames, and Evey."

January 27, 1849: "The R. & S. Degrees conferred on Comps. Wm. Tichener, U. F. Linder, and Geo. W. Gilson."

January 3, 1850: "The degrees of R. & S. Master conferred upon Comps. Hershfield Lemon, I. R. Diller, R. W. Diller, Fisher and Dorwin."

The name Lavelly, greeted June 20, 1845, probably refers to William Lavelly, seventh Grand Master (1847-1848) of our Grand Lodge. It should be remembered that in transcribing information from written records spelling is sometimes altered. In the above record, was Gov. McMurty's name or title altered? He was not a governor of Illinois.

Companion Edward E. Core, Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Illinois, kindly gave permission to reproduce the following from the "Centennial History of the Grand Royal Chapter of the State of Illinois:"

The charter of Springfield Chapter No. 1 issued in 1841 by the General Grand Chapter authorized the conferring of the chapter degrees and "a Council of Select Masters"; that of La-Fayette No. 2, 1844, included "Royal and Select Master"; Jacksonville No. 3, had on the back of the dispensation the following notation:

"N.B. Order of conferring degrees as established by the G. C. Chapter, Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, Royal Arch Mason, Royal Master, Select Master. The last two ad libitum."

Nothing is known of the charter issued to Horeb No. 4; Quincy No. 5 had authority under the dispensation to confer the Council degrees but there is nothing to show that these degrees were ever conferred. The charter of Shawneetown reads:

"said degrees usually conferred in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons."

Peoria No. 7 has no record of the Council degrees. The charter did not include these degrees.

When the Grand Chapter was organized one of the foremost questions before the Capitular world was the status of the Council degrees. In some states Grand Councils had been formed and the chapters in most states were surrendering their control over those degrees. In 1851 this question was presented to the Grand Chapter and the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That all Chapters under this jurisdiction are hereby ordered not to confer the degrees of Royal and Select Master, or to suffer the same to be done in their Chapters."

In 1852 the Grand High Priest read a long dissertation on the rights of chapters to confer council degrees and ended by proposing:

"that this Grand Chapter, by resolution, invite other Grand Chapters now claiming control of the Royal and Select Master's degrees, and all Grand Councils of Royal and Select Masters in the United States, to appoint delegates to a convention to be held at the same time and place with the General Grand Chapter of the United States, said delegates to have full power to confer together and devise and adopt such measures as a majority of them shall approve for the proper regulation and control of the Royal and Select Master's degrees in the United

States, and, it thought best, to form a General Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters for the United States, to whom shall be given up all authority and control now claimed, or of right belonging to the Grand Chapters or Grand Councils, who shall then and there be represented by delegates."

The committee to whom the recommendation was referred reported, in view of the fact that a council had already been chartered at Knoxville by the Grand Council of Kentucky, and of the policy already adopted by this Council,

"they deem it inexpedient to recommend further action upon the subject at the present session."

The following year the Grand Council, R. & S.M. of Illinois was organized and the first official act was to "heal" a number of companions who had received the degrees in chapters.

Our First Councils

The Grand Council of Illinois was legally organized on March 10, 1854. The first assembly to organize, held on September 29, 1853, did not meet legal requirements because Springfield Council had not received a charter.

The three Councils forming the Grand Council were: Illinois, Springfield, and Alton, all chartered by the Grand Council of Kentucky. The Grand Council of Kentucky has no records, as far as annual proceedings are concerned, earlier than 1882. However, the Kentucky Pandect (Code) gives the following interesting dates pertaining to our first three Councils:

Illinois Council No. 15, Knoxville; dispensation and charter both granted on September 1, 1852.

Alton Council No. 16, Alton; dispensation granted on August 30, 1852, charter granted on August 31, 1852.

Springfield Council No. 17, Springfield; dispensation granted on August 30, 1852, charter granted on August 31, 1852.

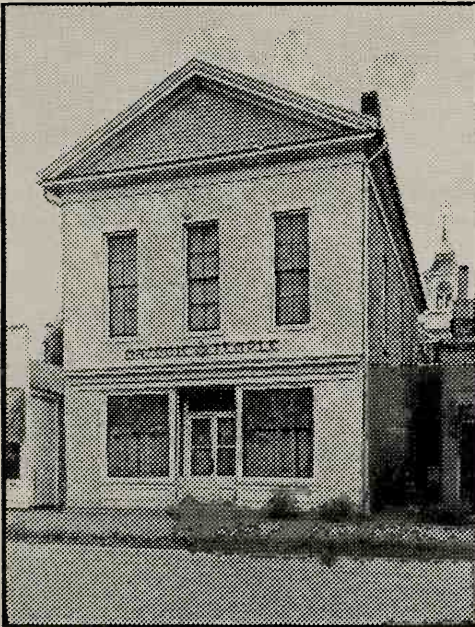
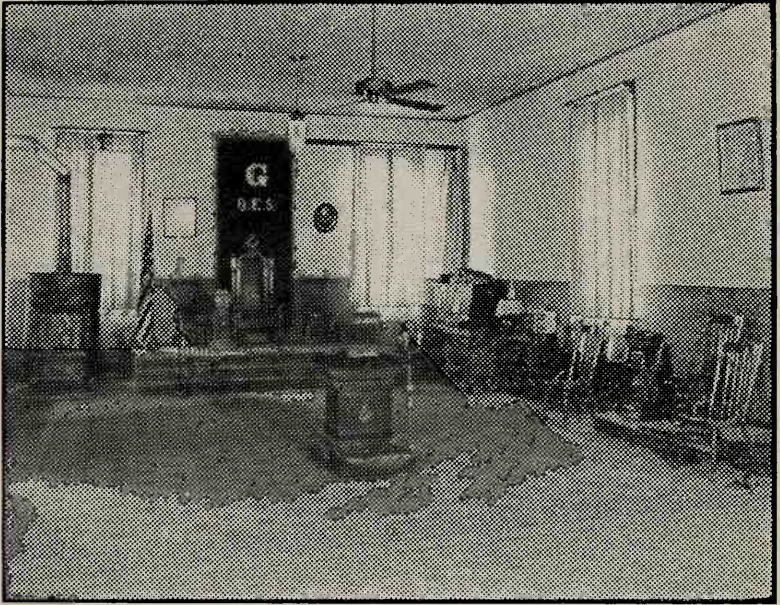
Correspondence and search of available records fail to disclose the discrepancy between the above dates and the early minutes of Illinois Council dated April 12, 1852, which states that a petition for dispensation had been favorably acted upon by the Grand Council of Kentucky. The minutes are here reproduced.

The records of Springfield Council were destroyed in a fire in 1871, and again suffered a like fate in 1924. We do know that their charter from the Grand Council of Kentucky was delayed in delivery. According to the Kentucky Pandect, charters for both Springfield Council and Alton Council were authorized on August 31, 1852. Alton Council received theirs as is known from the assembly of September 29, 1853. Springfield Council did not receive their charter until February 1854. It appears that the Pandect dates are, in this case, in error.

Companion Jess E. Ferree, Recorder, has supplied considerable information about the early records of Alton Council No. 3. The following has been condensed from the minutes:

The minutes of Alton Council contain no record of receiving a charter. The minutes do show that six assemblies were held in 1853; February 24th, June 2nd, July 21st, August 15th, November 10th, and December 22nd. The December 22nd minutes is the first record to show Alton Council as No. 3. The June 2nd minutes record \$23.00 paid to the Grand Council of Kentucky for a charter.

Our first three Councils, Illinois No. 1, Springfield No. 2, and Alton No. 3, are still active and strong. Illinois Council No. 1 holds its assemblies in the original hall in Knoxville, and is the largest Council in Illinois.



**Home of Illinois
Council No. 1
Birth Place
of
Cryptic Masonry
in
Illinois**

ABOVE: Interior of Knoxville Masonic Temple, located on the east side of the Square in Knoxville.
LEFT: Exterior view of Knoxville Masonic Temple.

Organized Cryptic Masonry came to Illinois in 1852 when the Grand Council of Kentucky issued a charter to Illinois Council No. 15 at Knoxville. When the Grand Council of Illinois was organized in 1853, Illinois Council became No. 1 on the Illinois register. The original minutes of Illinois Council, still in existence, bear the date April 12, 1852.

Illinois Council No. 1, with a membership of 502, largest in Illinois, still holds its assemblies in the historic building shown on the front page. Companion Sylvester Stevens, Grand Master in 1858, was a member of Illinois Council. He introduced the Super Excellent Master degree in Illinois.

Illinois Council of Royal and Select Masters.

At the request of several Companions who had received the degrees of Royal and Select Masters in Councils established under the jurisdiction of Royal Arch Chapters, Comp. Harmon C. Reynolds, High Priest of Hoveb Chapter No. 4, Royal Arch Mason, prepared a petition to Three Illustrious Companions Philip Swigert, Grand Pursant of the Grand Council of Kentucky, of Royal and Select Masters, praying for a Dispensation to be granted to Companion Wm. A. Seaton, of Monmouth, in the State of Illinois, and formerly a member of Louisville Council R. & S. M. at Louisville, Kentucky, to heal Companions Harmon C. Reynolds, Adam Brewer, George L. Lanphere, Berj. Hebard, Isaac Culiker, Samuel G. Dean, Esau S. Cooper, Wm. Mc Murtry, J. M. Mitt, Charles Clarke, Stephen Hitchcock, Elisha H. King, Jonathan J. Mason, Alton D. Morse, Caleb Finch, Augustus C. Ong, Henry Cooper, David Norton, and Stephen Dolbear;

Also, for a dispensation to said Companions Seaton, Lanphere, Reynolds, Dolbear, Hebard, Brewer, Culiker, Hitchcock and Ong, Dean Cooper, Mc Murtry, Mitt, Clarke, Hitchcock, King, Mason, Morse Finch, Henry Cooper, & Norton to form and open a Council of Royal & Select Masters at Knoxville to be called "Illinois", which was signed by said Comps. Seaton, Reynolds, Lanphere, Hebard, Brewer, Hitchcock, Dolbear, Culiker & Ong, and forwarded to said Grand Pursant with \$25. borrowed of Hoveb Chapter No. 4. by said Comp. Reynolds.

Also, a petition was forwarded for authority to confer the degrees of Royal and Select Masters, on Companions James Price, Harvey Hadley, Lewis C. Palmer, and Joel Lee, members of said Hoveb Chapter, R. A. Masons.

Said Petitions having all been favorably acted on by said Grand Pursant, a meeting was called, and several Companions met at the Masonic Hall, in Knoxville, Knox Co. Ill., at 7 o'clock on the ~~twelfth~~ ^{fourth} day of April A.D. 1852. A.D. 1852. Y.D. 2352.
 Comps. Wm. A. Seaton; Comp. George L. Lanphere

Iowa - Colorado - Scotland

THOSE EARLY RUGGED DAYS

Many years ago, ninety-three, Theodore Sutton Parvin, then Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Iowa, traveled from Muscatine to Alton, Illinois, over 100 miles, to obtain a dispensation to form a Council in Iowa. It was mid-winter and he journeyed in an open wagon.

Companion Sutton was healed and received the dispensation from Companion James H. Hubbard, first Grand Master of the Grand Council of Illinois. The date was February 29, 1855. No doubt healing was necessary because Companion Sutton had received the Cryptic degrees in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. A charter was issued and dated September 26, 1855.

Masonry owes much to Theodore Sutton Parvin. He served as Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Iowa. Upon a number of occasions he requested funds to start a Grand Lodge Library and was finally rewarded with a donation of five dollars. From this small beginning grew the Grand Lodge Library and Museum now located at Cedar Rapids. It is probably the largest and best equipped institution of its kind in the world.

H. L. Haywood, in the Iowa Grand Lodge Bulletin, credits the work of Theodore Sutton Parvin, in establishing this great library, with being a decided influence on Masonic literature. Albert G. Mackey, Josiah H. Drummond and Albert Pike used this great source of information. Joseph Fort Newton knew it well. William J. Hughan, G. W. Speth and other historians of English Masonry frequently corresponded with Brother Parvin. The institution thus established a number of years ago continues in importance and usefulness.

AN ILLINOIS COUNCIL IN THE ROCKIES

In the early days of Cryptic Masonry quite a few states did not have Grand Councils. Cryptic Masons wishing to form a council in a state or territory not having a Grand Council would petition any Grand Council.

Nearly 80 years ago Illinois Grand Council chartered a Council in Central City, Colorado. The proceedings of 1872 has the following memorandum on dispensations:

On the 9th day of November, A.D. 1871, to Ill. Comp. James M. Fowler as T.I.G.M., Archibald J. Vanderien as D.G.M., James V. Dexter as P.C. of the Work, and the requisite number of Companions residing at or near Central City, in the Territory of Colorado, under the name of Central City Council, their petition was duly recommended by Springfield Council No. 2, in the State of Illinois.

William A. Levanway,
Grand Puissant

The proceedings of 1873 has the following memorandum on proxies:

To Ill. Comp. Jas. Stevens, of Council No. 2 of Penn., to constitute and install officers of Central City Council, No. 54, Colorado.

George E. Lounsbury, G.P.

The memorandum continues with a list of the officers. Membership was reported as 30. It is to be noted that at this early date the title of the Grand Master was Grand Puissant, and the title of the Thrice Illustrious Master of a council was Thrice Illustrious Grand Master.

Central City Council worked but a couple of years, then ceased filing returns. Our Grand Recorder, Companion Charle W. Keys, in company with Companions George B. Clark and William Fullerton of Colorado, once visited Central City; but all efforts to contact the members, and to locate the charter and other property were fruitless.

Central City is a small town located 40 miles west of Denver in a very mountainous section of the state. At present the nearest council is Tyrian Council No. 11, Idaho Springs, Colorado. Idaho Springs is seven miles over a mountain top from Central City. Tunnels recently constructed makes Tyrian Council easily accessible.

OUR SCOTTISH DESCENDANT

The following is taken from the Correspondence Report of our 1919 proceedings:

Edinburgh Cryptic Council No. 1

Excerpt from Minutes of Convocation held 31st October, 1918.

The T.I.M. mentioned that he had received an advance copy of the Report on Correspondence issued by the Grand Chapter of Illinois this year. It contains the following excerpt from the Grand Master's Report in the Proceedings of that Council for 1878:—

"On the 24th of October, 1877, I appointed Right Illustrious Companion Robert Smith Brown, of Edinburgh, a Deputy Grand Master of Scotland, endowing him with ample powers, as my Proxy, to introduce the Council Degrees in Scotland, there being no Councils in that Country."

The Report on Correspondence further stated that:—

"The Companions of Edinburgh Cryptic Council are entirely justified in claiming descent from Illinois.

"The T.I.M. said this was satisfactory evidence that our traditions were true, and while we whole heartedly supported and obeyed the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland as the Grand Council of the Cryptic Rite in Scotland, we always had a warm affection for the Grand Council of Illinois.

"He moved that message of Fraternal Greetings, Good Wishes and Congratulations be sent from this Convocation to that Grand Council, and that this Council's thanks be accorded to Right Illustrious Companion George W. Warvelle, Grand Recorder of Illinois, to whose kindness we are indebted for the above information; also that Companion Warvelle be offered Honorary Membership of this Council as a mark of appreciation and as one of the most outstanding Brethren of the Masonic Fraternity in the United States. This was carried by acclamation."

Certified by,

R. Carmichael, *Master*

Edinburgh Council was the first council formed in Scotland. At present there is no Grand Council. The Cryptic degrees are under the jurisdiction and protection of the Grand Chapter of Scotland. Edinburgh Council is attached to Edinburgh Royal Arch Chapter No. 1.

It is to be noted that the above quotation of the Grand Master's Report was taken from Grand Chapter proceedings. This was the period in Illinois when the Cryptic degrees were conferred in Chapters.

Super Excellent—A Brief History

Fifty years ago Companion George W. Warvelle wrote the following:

"The degree of Super-Excellent Master has been conferred in this jurisdiction, 'off and on,' for many years. For a brief period it formed a part of the regular scale, but with no definite ideas either as to its fitness or the position it should occupy. It seems to have been imported from Connecticut, or, at all events, was not a part of the ritualistic teachings we received from Kentucky when Grand Council was organized.

"Of the origin of this degree nothing is positively known. That there was a degree of this name conferred in this country as early as the last half of the eighteenth century is shown by the records of St. Andrew's Chapter, of Boston, but by the year 1800 it seems to have been lost, nothing remained but the name. It is presumed, however, to have been the old English degree employed in connection with the Royal Arch, and not the one in present use. The earliest mention of the Super-Excellent degree, in connection with Cryptic Masonry, is December 22, 1817, when a 'Lodge' of Super-Excellent Masters was organized within Columbian Council of Royal Masters at New York. There is much reason for surmising that the degree originated at that time and in that body. Prior thereto several now unknown side degrees seem to have been conferred in this Council, all of which were discontinued after the new degree appeared. The incidents, teachings, and ritualistic expression of the American degree bear no resemblance whatever to the English degree of that name, and would seem to have been suggested by the legend of Webb's Royal Arch."

A search of Illinois Grand Council proceedings disclosed the following information:

Proceedings of 1869, Grand Master John M. Pearson: "During the past few years, as most of you know, increased attention has been called to the degree of Super-Excellent Master. Nearly one-half of our sister Grand Councils have adopted this degree as one of the regular rite, and others confer it as an honorary degree. Nothing is officially known of it in this jurisdiction, but I recommend that steps be taken to obtain such information as will enable this Grand Council to act understandingly at its next convocation." A committee was appointed to investigate the Super-Excellent Master degree.

Proceedings of 1870, Grand Master William M. Avise: "Soon after the close of our last Grand Annual Convocation I visited Knoxville, and while there found that Ill. Comp. Stevens, Past Grand Puissant, was in possession of a dispensation from the Grand Puissant of Connecticut, authorizing him 'to confer the degree of Super-Excellent Master upon all worthy Royal and Select Masters in good standing within the State of Illinois, and not elsewhere, until the Grand Council of said State of Illinois shall adopt said degree of Super-Excellent Master and make the same one of the constitutional degrees of said jurisdiction.' . . .

"Illustrious Companion George E. Lounsbury also received a dispensation from the Grand Puissant of Connecticut to confer this degree upon the members of this Council, which, if you desire, will be done before the close of this Grand Convocation." The Super-Excellent Master degree was adopted and Companions Sylvester Stevens and George E. Lounsbury conferred it on members present.

The Super-Excellent Master degree is encouraged but not required in Illinois. We do not have an official ritual for our laws relating to Constituent Councils state that it "shall be according to the ritual of the General Grand Council, or one approved by this Grand Council."

Chicago Council No. 4 once copyrighted their ritual. It has been reported that Imperial Council No. 85 and Woodlawn Council No. 92 once used a ritual which was a literal translation of an original cuneiform text. Councils in Illinois have frequently written their own rituals, in fact more often than not, and the result has been uniformly good. A large cast of characters is usually employed and the resultant dramatic portrayal of Biblical history creates great interest and draws a large attendance.

While large casts are usually used, the Super-Excellent Master degree can be conferred with few. Clinton Council No. 74 successfully uses a cast of seven speaking parts. Considerable ingenuity is employed in the use of the Scripture, taken from 2 Chronicles and Ezra, to take the place of prologues.

Super Excellents

A BIT OF LITTLE-KNOWN HISTORY

George W. Warvelle in our 1916 proceedings wrote the following sketch about the Independent Grand Council of Super Excellent and Excellent Masters of Illinois:

I presume but very few of the present generation are aware of the fact that there was once an "Independent Grand Council of Super Excellent and Excellent Masters of Illinois," and that this fact may not pass into oblivion I am going to give you a few recitals from a sheaf of old papers in my possession.

The Supernumerary degree has been cultivated in this jurisdiction for many years, but always as an exotic. At the annual assembly of 1869 the Grand Puissant, for that is what they called the Grand Master in those days, recommended the appointment of a committee to obtain from the Grand Council of Connecticut "a dispensation authorizing and empowering the said committee" to confer the S.E.M. "upon the members of this Grand Council, at its next annual assembly." All of which was done. At the assembly of 1870 the degree was formally adopted and the Councils were authorized to confer it "as the third degree in the Council work." This remained its status until 1876, when the Grand Master recommended that it be "stricken from the regular scale and made an honorarium." While the degree seems to have been declining in favor it yet had some friends in Grand Council, and through their efforts, the recommendation was rejected. But the following year, 1877, the attack was renewed and as a result the degree was formally "stricken out."

At this time there resided in Chicago a young physician named Jonathan J. French. He was zealous and enthusiastic and a strong advocate of the Super Ex. He was elected Grand Master in 1877, but as that was the year of the merger, his duties were nominal only. And so, he devoted his energies to saving the Super. His theory was, that inasmuch as Grand Council had formally rejected the S.E.M. as a part of the Cryptic system it was open for appropriation by the first taker, but only under competent authority. This authority he obtained from the Grand Council of Canada. As the document conferring same is of historic interest I herewith reproduce it in full:

From the East of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Ontario, Dominion of Canada.

To all whom it may concern. Greetings:

Whereas it has been represented to me that the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Illinois did, at their last annual assembly, abolish the degree of Super Excellent Master and the said degree is not and cannot now be legally conferred in Illinois in Councils of R. and S.M.

Now therefore, be it known that I, David McLellan, Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Ontario, in which jurisdiction we fully recognize the degree of Super Excellent Mas-

ter as a regular degree, do hereby issue this my dispensation authorizing and empowering Most Illustrious Companion Jonathan J. French, to organize an independent Grand Council of Super Excellent Masters in Illinois, holding concurrent jurisdiction with the Grand Councils of other States in places where the degree is not recognized; hereby fully ratifying whatever acts he may do in said premises the same as if done by myself were I present.

Seal of
Grand Council

Given under my hand
and seal of the Grand

Council at the City of Toronto, this tenth day of April, A.Dep. A.D. 1878.

DAVID McLELLAN,
M.I. Grand Master.

Attest:

JAMES B. NIXON,
Grand Recorder.

Under this authority Comp. French did organize an "Independent Grand Council of Super Excellent Masters of Illinois," as appears by a memorandum now in my possession, with Jonathan J. French as "Grand Master and King", John Sheville as "Excellent Gedaliah," and Gil. W. Barnard as "Grand Recorder."

It would seem, however, that the new Grand Council did little or nothing. Its animating spirit was Comp. French, who shortly after the organization removed to Kansas City, Mo., where he died in the fall of 1878. But for his untimely death it is quite within the possibilities that we might, at this time, have another Grand Body in Illinois.

Notes: Companion Warvelle often used the term "Supernumerary," meaning superfluous, to identify the Super Excellent Master degree. Companion French was a member of Siloam Council No. 53. From the above account it appears that Companion French enlarged considerably on the name of his favorite degree.



JOHN M. HALVERSEN
as
JEREMIAH
Prophet of the
Decline and Fall of Jerusalem
(Photo by Kirk Taylor)

Biographical Briefs

ELY S. PARKER Indian Mason

In an article "American Indian Freemasonry," printed in *The Philalethes*, Arthur C. Parker said:

"As soon as lodges were formed, regularized Indians were raised. In New York several great leaders of the Iroquois became prominent, among them Dr. Peter Wilson (Waawanaouk), Grand Chief of the Cayugas, and Ely S. Parker (Donehogawa), the Grand Sachem of all the Six Iroquois nations. General Ely S. Parker was a civil engineer and became General Grant's military secretary. He founded Miners Lodge No. 273, A.F. & A.M., at Galena, Illinois, and Akron Lodge No. 527, F. & A.M., at Akron, New York. Brother Ely Parker was raised in Batavia Lodge No. 88, F. & A.M., New York, then affiliated with Valley Lodge No. 109, of Rochester (N. Y.) in 1850. He demitted from the latter after founding Miners Lodge and became its first Wor. Master. Brother Parker was a Royal Arch Mason and an active Knight Templar. In Illinois a Council of R. & S.M. is named for him and, in Buffalo, New York, Ely Parker Lodge No. 1002 bears his name. He was M.E. High Priest of Jo Daviess Chapter, R.A.M., from 1859 to 1861, and the Grand Representative of the Gr. Lodge of Iowa near the Gr. Lodge of Illinois, also the Grand Orator of the Gr. Lodge of Illinois, in 1860. General J. C. Smith, who was one of Parker's engineers, later wrote when he was Venerable Chief of the Masonic Veterans Association . . . 'Brother Ely S. Parker was my father in Freemasonry'."

Ely S. Parker was one of the most noted Masons in Illinois and was famed for his ability as an orator. Ely S. Parker Council No. 60 was chartered in 1873 but has been extinct for many years.

General John Corson Smith was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois in 1887 and 1888, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Council of Illinois from 1889 to 1910 inclusive, and author of "History of Freemasonry in Illinois, 1804-1829."

In 1865 H. P. H. Bromwell, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, issued the following proclamation: "I hereby convoke a general meeting of the Craft in Grand Lodge, at Masonic Hall in Springfield on Thursday, May 4, 5865 (1865), to attend the funeral of the late President at which time and place all Masons of every degree, are invited to be present."

This was the funeral of President Lincoln. H. P. H. Bromwell was a prominent member of Mattoon Council No. 10. An 1865 issue of *The Masonic Trowel*, edited by Harman G. Reynolds, Grand Recorder of the Grand Council, stated "The three Springfield Lodges, the Chapter, and the Council, each appropriated \$100 (total \$500) for food and shelter for Masons attending the funeral of Abraham Lincoln."

George M. Moulton, Grand Master of the Grand Council in 1889, was the first president of The Illinois Masonic Orphans' Home, organized in 1885. George W. Warvelle, Grand Master of the Grand Council in 1891 and Recorder for many years, was first legal counsel.

The Second Fifty Years

The second fifty years of Cryptic Masonry in Illinois has been generally free from the controversies of the preceding era. The question of recognition by Chivalric Masonry and the Super Excellent Master degree ceased to disturb the Craft.

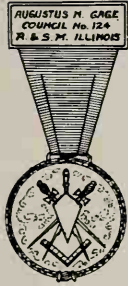
The Grand Council of Illinois remained independent of the General Grand Council. Affiliation was discussed occasionally but with none of the former vigor. No thought has been given to mergers.

The last half century has, however, not been free from distressing problems. From 1903 to 1927 there was a phenomenal growth in membership, from 3,514 to 25,849. Then, due to economic conditions, a steady decline was experienced. The low point was reached in 1943 with a membership of 7,193. Since this time there has been a yearly improvement and the membership at the time of the Centennial reached 9,913.

The number of Councils grew from 52 in 1903 to 88 in 1928, then declined to 58 in 1953. The financial resources of Grand Council followed the changes in membership.

Other items of historical or informative nature, relating to the second fifty years of Cryptic Masonry in Illinois, will follow in topical form.

Thrice Illustrious Past Master's Jewel



Although Thrice Illustrious Past Master's jewels, like the jewels of some other past officers, frequently reflect the preferences of individuals, we do have a detailed description of the jewel recommended by the Grand Council in 1915. The recommendation is in no sense mandatory, but the design is so logical that the description is worth repeating:

"A Wreath of Laurel Leaves in gold, bearing the emblems of the Square and Compasses, Crossed Swords and Trowel, the two latter uppermost and more prominent, depending by a purple ribbon from a bar pin of gold, bearing the name and number of the Council. On the back of the jewel may be engraved a presentation inscription, including the owner's name."

Eighteen years ago a sketch, following the above description, was made. A reproduction to half size is here shown. A jewel was made from the sketch. This is a beautiful piece of work and the Craftsmen who originated the design are worthy of the commendation of the Craft. The recommendation was adopted when Companions Fred W. Kregel was Grand Master. The Committee consisted of Companions Rawson Bennett, Benjamin J. Metzger and J. A. Kenney.

The Crossed Swords and the Trowel are the emblems of a Select Master. As the Swords were necessary for the defense of our ancient Brethren while engaged in their labors, they are now to remind to guard and protect the mysteries of our institution. The Trowel teaches us to cultivate those social virtues which cement us into one sacred society of Companions and Brothers.

The Square and Compasses we share in common with all Masons. They teach us to practice the precepts of the moral law and to see that all our acts are subject to the will of the Supreme Grand Master.

The Laurel Wreath is the traditional emblem of victory and meritorious service.

Taken as a whole the Thrice Illustrious Past Master's jewel signifies that the wearer has fulfilled the important obligations resting upon him with honor to himself and credit to the Craft.

The Ritual

The ritual of the Cryptic degrees is a literary masterpiece and when effectively given makes a lasting impression on all who witness it.

Within recent years the Ritualistic Committee and the District Inspectors have spent considerable time and effort in teaching and explaining the ritual. Changes have also been introduced to clarify the Work. This is particularly true of the Select Master degree which now omits nothing needed for a clear understanding of the legend portrayed.

During World War II the propriety of using the flag in our ritual was questioned. Recourse to proper authorities disclosed no prohibiting restrictions and the flag was retained. This incident is mentioned because the Grand Council of Illinois was the first Grand Council to use the flag in the ritual.

Among those who have served on the Ritualistic Committee, Companion William W. Lewis deserves special mention for long service and effective work. Companions Howard E. Wrench and G. Carl Benedict also deserve special mention. Other Companions who have served are:

Carl E. Anderson	William G. Mateer	Ralph E. Skinner
Ernest M. Campbell	Ben C. Nead	Walter W. Taylor
Frank R. Grote	Charles H. Peck	Herbert A. Thomas
David W. Isenhour	George W. Proffit	C. Gilbert Toler
	Louis H. Schneider	

Our District Inspectors deserve a great amount of credit for their long hours of service, not alone in teaching the ritual but for their help to Councils in many ways. Some District Inspectors have served for a number of years. Those serving five or more years during the last decade are:

George Carlson	9 years	Clair G. Alexander	8 years
John H. Lidaker, Jr.	9 years	William B. Hollmeyer	8 years
	Charles H. Toothe		5 years

Companion Carlson is the only one to start the tenth year of service.

The Degree of Thrice Illustrious Master

There are in Ancient Craft Masonry several ceremonies for those who have been elected to preside in the East, or for those who have passed the chair.

The usual installation ceremonies for Masters, High Priests, Thrice Illustrious Masters and Commanders are well known. These ceremonies may be public or private. In some jurisdictions Masters of Lodges are installed in secret ceremony with attendance limited to Masters and Past Masters.

Formerly only Masters and Past Masters were eligible to receive the Royal Arch degree. This so limited the number of Royal Arch Masons that it was found necessary to introduce the degree of Past Master in Capitular Masonry. The Past Master degree in the Chapter therefore owes its origin to the secret ceremonies used to install Masters.

The Order of High Priesthood is conferred under the supervision of Grand Chapters. It is conferred on High Priests and Past High Priests and is a fitting honor for those who have attained these ranks.

Within recent years another degree, similar in character to the Order of High Priesthood, has been introduced in Cryptic Masonry. This is the degree of Thrice Illustrious Master.

The germ of this degree was obtained from Scotland by Companions J. Ray Schute, M.I.G.M., 1934, and J. Edward Allen, M.I.G.M., 1945, both of North Carolina. The North Carolina ritual was written in 1931 and the first Council of Thrice Illustrious Masters formed in 1932. Companion William Ritchie Smith, M.I.G.M., 1925, North Carolina, took the leading role in conferring this degree and deserves much of the credit for its growth and popularity. Companions of North Carolina have visited many jurisdictions, conferred the degree and assisted in organizing Councils of Thrice Illustrious Masters.

The Grand Council of North Carolina claims proprietary rights in the degree of Thrice Illustrious Master and issues charters to Councils organized in other jurisdictions. About 25 jurisdictions have now obtained charters. Some jurisdictions confer the degree as a part of the Grand Council; others, as in Illinois, have independent organizations. The Illinois Council of Thrice Illustrious Masters has conferred the degree on many Illustrious Companions of other states, and thus encouraged the forming of other Councils.

In Illinois our late Companion Harry L. Kelly received the ritual for the degree of Thrice Illustrious Master in 1936. No action was taken towards forming a Council until 1940. Companion Kelly then communicated the degree to a few Past Masters of Peoria Council No. 11, assigned ritual parts to them, and later in the year the degree was conferred on some 40 candidates

and the Illinois Council of Thrice Illustrious Masters was then organized. Our charter, issued by the Council in North Carolina, is dated September 19, 1940. The degree has since been conferred on the evening preceding the Annual Assembly of the Grand Council.

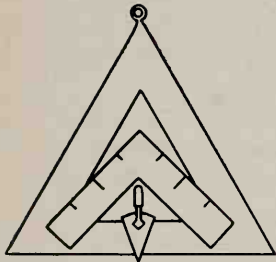
The degree of Thrice Illustrious Master is sometimes called the Order of the Silver Trowel. The organization controlling the degree is generally termed a Council of Thrice Illustrious Masters. In at least one jurisdiction it is called a Council of Anointed Kings.

All present Thrice Illustrious Masters and Past Thrice Illustrious Masters are eligible to receive this degree. In one jurisdiction Thrice Illustrious Masters must have the degree conferred on them before they can preside over their Council.

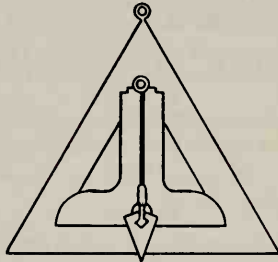
Probably no degree in Masonry excells the degree of Thrice Illustrious Master in the solemnity of drama. Based on Biblical history during the last days of the reign of King David, it is an appropriate ceremony for all who occupy or have occupied the oriental chair.

Note: This article is taken largely from notes made by the late Companion Harry L. Kelly.

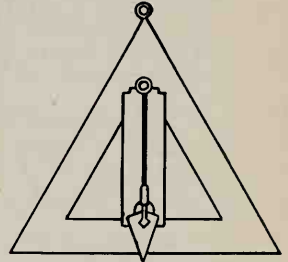
JEWELS FOR COUNCIL OFFICERS



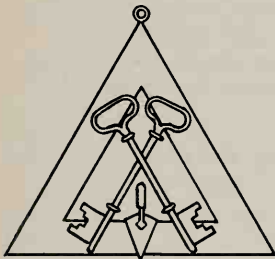
THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTER



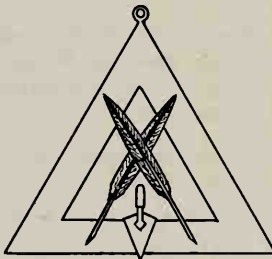
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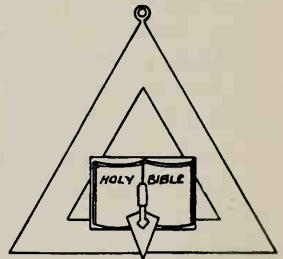
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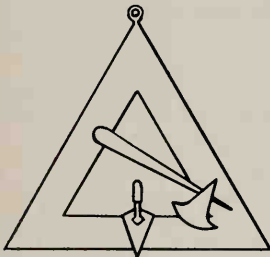
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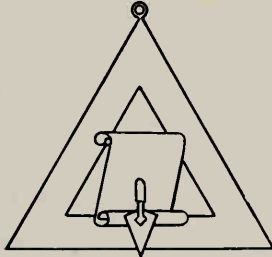
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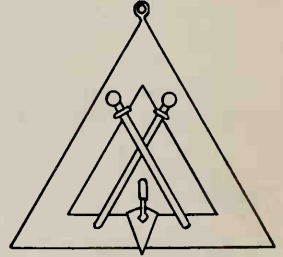
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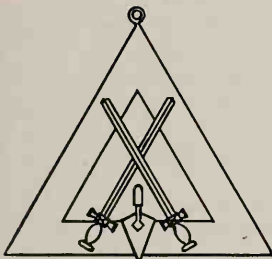
CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD



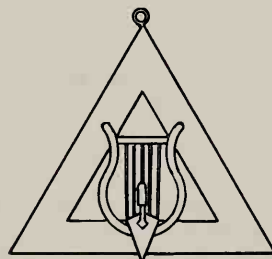
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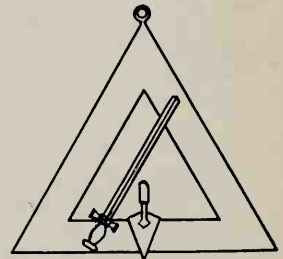
MARSHAL



STEWARD



ORGANIST



SENTINEL

Council Jewels

By Clyde B. Harding, T.I.P.M.

Chicago Council No. 4, R. & S.M.

Following is a description of the generally accepted jewels which are illustrated here:

T.I.M.	Square and Compasses
I.D.M.	Level
P.C.W.	Plumb
Treasurer	Crossed Keys
Recorder	Crossed Pens
Chaplain	Open Book
C. of G.	Battle Ax
C. of C.	Scroll and Baton
Marshal	Crossed Batons
Steward	Crossed Swords
Organist	Lyre
Sentinel	One Sword

The Triangle is the base of all designs. The jewel distinctive of the office is mounted on the Triangle and the Trowel is then superimposed on the distinctive jewel unless such jewel rests outside of the Trowel position.

The jewel associated with a particular office is quite well understood in most cases. The ones shown for the first six offices are similar to corresponding offices in a Masonic Lodge. The battle ax is accepted for the Captain of the Guard, though it is not entirely appropriate. The jewel of the Conductor of the Council is a scroll and a baton because he instructs and conducts. Crossed batons are quite proper for the Marshal. The Steward and Sentinel emblems are generally accepted as shown. The Organist is, we believe, new in Council circles.

It is not intended that the jewels shown become standard. Minor variations in position and design detail are quite appropriate.

The Masonic Calendar

By Alphonse Cerza

Masonic bodies date their minutes and proceedings from some event which has a significant relationship in the ritual. These various dates are known as the Masonic Calendar. The Calendar, with rules for calculating dates, is given here.

ANCIENT CRAFT MASONS commence their era with the creation of the world. This is calculated as 4000 years before the birth of Christ. The date of creation is called Anno Lucis or "In the Year of Light;" and is abbreviated A.L. Accordingly, 4000 years are added to our present calendar and 1953 becomes A.L. 5953.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS start their calendar with 530 B.C., the year Zerubbabel started to build the second Temple. It is called Anno Inventionis or "In the Year of the Discovery;" and is abbreviated A. I. or A. Inv. Accordingly, 530 years are added to our present calendar and 1953 becomes A.I. 2483.

ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS begin their calendar with 1000 years before Christ. This is the date of the completion of King Solomon's Temple. It is called Anno Depositionis or "In the Year of the Deposit;" and is abbreviated A. Dep. Accordingly, 1000 years are added to the present era and 1953 becomes A.Dep. 2953. Sometimes it is written Y.D. 2953.

There is another degree in Masonry that deserves a place in this calendar. It is the Degree of Thrice Illustrious Master, sometimes called the Order of the Silver Trowel, or a Council of Anointed Kings. It is based on the last days of the reign of King David and the anointing of King Solomon. Thrice Illustrious Masters and Thrice Illustrious Past Masters are eligible to receive this degree.

This degree could be dated from the anointing of King Solomon, 971 B.C.

Awards For Distinguished Service

At the Annual Assembly of 1944 the Grand Council adopted a form of certificate and an emblem to serve as a reward for outstanding service in the interests of Cryptic Masonry in Illinois. These awards are given on the basis of candidates greeted, per cent gain in membership, and for unusual achievement. Awards have since been presented annually to Councils and to Select Masters. In addition to Past Grand Masters individual recognitions have been made as follows:

Clair G. Alexander	(30)	Ray D. Kell	(110)
Clarence W. Alm	(8)	Harry L. Kelly	(11)
James R. Armstrong	(16)	Robert S. Keltner	(70)
Andrew E. Barton	(127)	Clark H. Keyes	(95)
G. Carl Benedict	(116)	Albert J. Kilgus	(75)
Wilbur Bowman	(16)	Donald P. Lapp	(124)
Orman R. Burhans	(124)	William R. Lashbrook	(55)
George E. Burrow	(37)	William W. Lewis	(92)
Alexander F. Campbell	(16)	John H. Lidaker, Jr.	(10)
George Carlson	(110)	Myron K. Lingle	(2)
Orlie E. Carter	(23)	J. H. Long	(20)
Lorne W. Christian	(13)	Ralph E. Luidner	(70)
Ralph W. Clemons	(74)	Charles E. Maas	(11)
Glen E. Cole	(97)	John E. McAfee	(30)
George K. Crichton	(116)	Fred C. McCalley	(1)
Otto Cummings	(16)	Eugene Moran	(8)
Clifford H. Deal	(39)	Arnim G. Olson	(124)
Emil A. Dorby	(16)	L. J. Ottomeyer	(92)
G. G. Edwards	(88)	Hobart M. Peters	(12)
Edgar B. Elder	(92)	Emery C. Peterson	(23)
H. Roy Ellison	(16)	H. Frederick Peterson	(1)
John L. Feger	(11)	George W. Proffit	(124)
Charles N. Fishel	(126)	Scott M. Redmon	(16)
Thomas D. Frazee	(37)	Linden K. Reese	(97)
Paul W. Gibson	(55)	Robert A. Reynolds	(95)
William H. Green	(73)	Floyd T. Russell	(1)
L. H. Harper	(1)	Cecil T. Ryner	(46)
Russell Harrington	(108)	Bernard Schenck	(1)
Gerald H. Harris	(45)	Joseph R. Schulz	(4)
Berlie Hart	(16)	Merle W. Sherman	(108)
Arthur W. Haselkamp	(1)	H. A. Shuler	(55)
Thomas M. Hill	(15)	Ralph E. Skinner	(11)
Deacon F. Heitt	(11)	Shubert F. Somer	(97)
William B. Hollmeyer	(95)	Lloyd E. Stickel	(16)
Roy L. Hughes	(12)	John Tingle	(112)
Ray E. Johnson	(23)	Charles H. Toothe	(1)
I. F. Keen	(55)	George Tyrrell	(108)

Oliver I. Underwood	(20)	John P. Wolcott	(70)
Charles F. Vaughn	(126)	Howard E. Wrench	(16)
James A. Wagoner	(13)	Charles C. Yong	(3)
Donald C. Wilson	(124)	George D. Zettler	(127)
Stanley N. Wilson	(48)		

Numbers in parenthesis indicate Council membership. Past Grand Masters above included received awards before becoming Grand Masters. Decatur Council No. 16 has received far the greater number of awards.



This is the Distinguished Service Emblem, enlarged eight times, awarded to Companions in Illinois for outstanding Achievement.

The Place of the Cryptic Degrees in Ancient York-Masonry

By Myron K. Lingle

"I fear the Master's Word is forever lost." This mournful cry highlights an allegory which depicts the greatest loss that could have befallen the Craft—the loss of the true name of God. The ceremony concludes with an attempt to repair the loss by the adoption of a word for the government of the Craft until future generations should, by some means, recover the true Word.

A Master Mason, if he is little impressed with the import of the tragedy in which he has taken an important part, is content with this adopted word. But a Mason who thinks on these things experiences a feeling of doubt and disappointment. As a student of Masonry he finds the Master's Degree to be a story half told. The Word is the central theme around which the allegory moves, since its possession is the apex of Masonic knowledge, its loss is so tragic that its recovery is the object of all Masonic endeavor.

As a Mason advances in the Capitular and Cryptic degrees, he finds that the progression of ceremonies does not conform with chronologic sequence. He reaches the end before he observes the events that lead to those which followed. Consider his appraisal of history-making events taking place in his world of today, assuming that he could look into the future and know the final outcome. He has this advantage in his Masonic progression. He is aware of the outcome when he participates in the ritual which portrays events precedent; while at the same time, the concluding degrees illustrate for him the purport of the preceding climax, which was the recovery of the Word.

The degrees of Ancient York-Masonry in typical Grand Jurisdictions progress in this order:

- Symbolic Degrees—Lodge
 - Entered Apprentice
 - Fellowcraft
 - Master Mason
- Capitular Degrees—Chapter
 - Mark Master
 - Past Master
 - Most Excellent Master
 - Royal Arch
- Cryptic Degrees—Council
 - Royal Master
 - Select Master
 - Super Excellent Master

The central theme can well be traced in chronologic order, merely

allocating the episodes to the degrees in which they take place. This is the story of the Master's Word, the Grand Omnific Word, the Great and Sacred Name of Deity, the symbol of knowledge, understanding, and useful application: of the source, the precautions against loss, apparent loss, adoption of a substitute, search, and ultimate recovery.

The Select Master was informed that the Word was revealed by God to Enoch, 3000 years before the building of Solomon's Temple, and by him engraven on a plate of gold and deposited in the depths of the earth. Solomon eventually came into possession of the Word. It was agreed between our three ancient Grand Masters that the Word should be communicated to worthy Craftsmen, but that this should not be done until the Temple was completed and then only when all three were present, perceiving the possibility that one of them might be removed by death before the Temple was completed, they arranged for the construction of a suitable key to the Word. This key the Grand Architect wore upon his breast under his garments.

The Royal Master has conversed with the Grand Architect who has assured him that arrangements had been made by which the Word could not be lost. This conversation affords a Mason the only opportunity to meet the Grand Architect face to face.

The Select Master observed the Grand Architect place the key among the sacred treasures in the Secret Vault under the Temple. The Select Master was the sole witness of this important event.

The Master Mason, after the death of the Grand Architect, perceived the failure of searching parties, sent by Solomon, to find the key. Solomon, then fearing that the Word was forever lost, proposed that a substitute word be adopted for the government of the Craft until the loss should be repaired.

The Royal Master informed Solomon of his conversation with the Grand Architect before his death and recalled the assurance that the Word would be preserved.

The Select Master watched Solomon search for the key and find it in the Secret Vault. Solomon left the key where the Grand Architect had deposited it, so that the Word might be preserved for future generations. The deposit was made during the last year of construction of the Temple.

The Most Excellent Master was present at the dedication of the Temple. This was the last event, in the order of time of occurrence, during which our ancient Grand Masters appeared.

More than 400 years after the dedication of the Temple, the Super Excellent Master saw the siege of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar, the final destruction of the Temple, and the carrying away of the captive Jews to Babylon. The Jews remained in captivity until the reign of Cyrus, King of Persia, who in the meantime had conquered Babylon.

The Royal Arch Mason, after 52 years of captivity, was permitted by Cyrus to return to Jerusalem to assist in the work of rebuilding the Temple. He was assigned the task of removing the rubbish among the ruins of the old Temple. It was his privilege to discover the Secret Vault where, after several attempts, he discovered the key to the Word. He was rewarded for his labors by an interpretation of the key, and was then invested with the long-lost, ancient Master's Word. Thus was the Word restored to the Craft, in whose possession we trust it may forever remain.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God.—John.

I am the Lord; and I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty; but by my name Jehovah was I not known to them.—Exodus.

All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made. In Him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.—John.

The Capitular and Cryptic degrees are not side degrees or unnecessary, but a continuation of complete ancient York-Masonry. The Lodge, Chapter, and Council are but one Masonry. The Lodge tells of the loss, the Chapter of the recovery, and the Council of the preservation. Each body is a part of the whole; they are all necessary to each other.

The Masons of the first Grand Lodges in our original United States called themselves "ancient York-Masons," and we of today's Lodges properly call ourselves "ancient York-Masons."

Our earliest known manuscript, written about Masonry and for Masons, dated about 1390 A.D., tells of an assembly of Masons held at York, England, in 926 A.D. York was not the place where Masonry originated, but a place through which our present day Masonry has come to us. At ancient York were "worked" the essentials of Masonry now found in our Lodges, Chapters, and Councils.

As further documentary evidence of the unity of the ancient degrees, which we know as ancient York-Masonry, we find the following in the 1813 A.D. Articles of Union between the two Grand Lodges of England:

"It is declared and pronounced that pure Ancient Masonry consists of three degrees and no more: viz: those of Entered Apprentice, the Fellow Craft, and the Master Mason, including the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch. But this article is not intended to prevent any Lodge or Chapter from holding a meeting in any of the degrees of the Orders of Chivalry, according to the Constitutions of said Orders."

Asahel W. Gage has said: "Old Masonic documents and records tell us that 'ancient Masonry' practiced and taught: Honest work, Just wages,

good fellowship, mutual aid, precautions against loss, apparent loss, search, recovery, and periods of refreshment; all in full conformity with the laws of, and deep reverence for, the Supreme Architect of the Universe."

Masonry in America followed the pattern of ancient York-Masonry. The Lodge at Fredericksburg, Virginia, in 1753, the year that it raised George Washington, conferred the Royal Arch degree. The first Lodge in the upper Mississippi Valley, organized in 1805 in the Indiana Territory at Kaskaskia, which is now that part of Illinois lying west of the Mississippi River, derived its authority from the Pennsylvania Book of Constitutions of 1783. In this 170 year old book we read "all warranted Lodges, so far as they have abilities or numbers, have an undoubted right to exercise all degrees of the ancient Craft, and consequently the Royal Arch." These early American Masonic Constitutions also tell us of "the external qualities and steps to be pursued in order to obtain initiation and admission in a duly warranted Lodge of ancient York-Masons." The warrant refers to the officers as ancient York-Masons.

The Royal Arch Mason has reached the summit of ancient York-Masonry. Yet beyond this, the Select Master has "passed the Circle of Perfection," having completed all the symbolic instruction of York-Masonry. The Master Mason, without the Royal Arch, is familiar with a story half told. Moreover, the Royal Arch Mason, who has omitted the Cryptic degrees from his Masonic experience, is in the situation akin to that of having read a book with the fore and middle pages missing.

Grand Council Finances

By Allen H. Miller

It is with considerable satisfaction and pride that we review the finances of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of Illinois over a period of one hundred years. It has been said: "Nothing that has been written in the past departs; no truth or goodness realized by man does or can die; but all is still here, and, recognized or not, lives and works through endless changes."

There is an abundance of evidence to show that our Masonic forefathers laid a lasting foundation and pattern for the Cryptic Masons in Illinois. During the course of this centurial we have fallen victim of many economic changes; yet, it is gratifying to observe that during these changes the high standards and principles of the Craft have always been upheld.

As the pages of history are unfolded it behooves us to prize the privileges and the inheritance we are allowed to enjoy as the descendants of great leaders of the past:—Men of character and achievement, who have contributed constructively that we, today, might glory in their inspiration, guidance, and wisdom. Would that we could mention all the names of the companions who have contributed and by their many sacrifices shown a love and zeal for the Craft. Their names will ever live in the memory of a great many companions and in our history. A healthy financial condition of any organization reflects the integrity and honest business ability of those entrusted to that responsibility. The Cryptic Masons of Illinois have enjoyed such leadership.

It would be cumbersome and confusing to review statistics, figures, and other financial data covering a century of activity. In following the pattern of the last twenty-five years, which characterizes quite clearly the normal fluctuations of our national economic conditions, to which we have involuntarily become a part, we believe that such a pattern will sufficiently demonstrate the financial picture of our existence.

Since its organization, one hundred years ago, our Grand Council has survived many national catastrophes. All of which, in their due proportion, had their effect on the financial status of our organization. Let us mention a few. During the Civil War years the Grand Council languished and reached its lowest ebb in our jurisdiction. The silver panic of 1893, the business depression of 1894, the Hay Market Riot in Chicago, the Pullman strike, the Spanish American War had their effects upon, not only membership, but our financial picture as well. World War I, the business depression of 1921-22, the banking holiday of 1933, stock market crashes, relief programs, Pearl Harbor in 1941, "D" Day in Europe, the conferences of Yalta and Potsdam, the innumerable strikes of national scope, the Atomic Age, the Marshall Plan of 1947: All in their particular fields reflected proportionally upon our way of life and in turn upon our organization. But, always our leaders kept abreast

to the situations and maintained a strong financial position in our Grand Council.

We are not qualified to eulogize the names of companions who have made contributions to our financial stability. They are many and worthy. We are humble in their record and grateful for their services. The foresight and wisdom of our guiding fathers in formulating our financial system was clearly demonstrated during the history-making depression of the 1930s, when it was necessary for the Grand Council to refund from 25 to 50 per cent of all the per capita tax to insure the continued existence of constituent councils. This in round figures amounted to approximately \$20,000.

We feel obligated at this point to call attention to the Grand Council proceedings of September 26, 1947 when the per capita tax was increased from 50 cents to 75 cents per member to insure against a similar emergency in the future. Further, attention is called to the Illinois Grand Council proceedings of October 20, 1951, page 61, Article 11, in which a sound financial program was approved and adopted by our Grand Council. The wisdom and understanding of our leaders is manifest by this revision. All companions of this jurisdiction should be grateful. The soundness of our financial position through the years is clearly expressed in the finance reports of the Finance Committee in Grand Council proceedings of September 28, 1927; September 24, 1930; and October 25, 1952. These reports show conditions before, during, and after the depression period. The figures record a splendid gain and a strong financial position. Conservative and sound business management is well-shown in the background.

It would be a neglect of duty to fail to call to the attention of every officer of constituent councils the splendid financial position of their Grand Council, that they, too, may emulate the example set by Grand Council, of which they are a constituent part.

To the writers of this review it has been a privilege and delight to be of service. It leaves in our hearts a burning challenge to live and contribute to Cryptic Masonry in Illinois a service equal in zeal and purpose. So, as another hundred years comes to an end, our labors and record will be looked upon with the same appreciation and gratitude by those who review our records, as we have reviewed and studied the records of our predecessors. We are humble in the record of great men of the past. We glory in the present of the great men of today, who give a very real and sincere hope for the future.

The Illinois Cryptic Mason

By Ralph S. Davis

In December, 1944, Volume I, No. 1, of THE ILLINOIS CRYPTIC MASON made its initial bow to the Cryptic Masons of Illinois. It introduced itself as follows: "This modest publication is initiated with the hope that it can be made to serve the interest of the Cryptic Rite in Illinois. Space will be devoted to history, symbolism, news, and current thought pertaining to the Cryptic Rite. . ."

Up to and including Volume III, No. 2, the format of the first page (or cover) depicted the Nine Arches. Since then, the frontispiece has illustrated one of the subjects mentioned in the current issue.

"This modest publication," four pages, just fraught with interesting items and articles pertaining to Cryptic Masonry, was started by Companion William H. Knutz when he was Grand Master. He has continued it without help, except for some contributions from a few of the companions. His wife, Mrs. Bonnie Bee Knutz, has handled all mailing and otherwise been of material help to Companion Knutz in his service to the Craft.

THE ILLINOIS CRYPTIC MASON, now in its ninth year, is issued quarterly. Several copies of each issue are sent to the Recorders of every Illinois council to be given to the companions. Also, copies are sent to all Grand Council members and Representatives. Copies are also sent to Grand Recorders of other jurisdictions.

Every companion should obtain a copy of this publication as it contains many items of interest to Cryptic Masons and to the Craft at large. In retrospect we find concise and most interesting articles on such subjects as: Masonry and the Cryptic Rite, The Super Excellent Master Degree, The Beauties of Freemasonry, Symbolism, The Altar of Gold, The Circle of Perfection, Ancient Jerusalem, The Select Master Degree, King Solomon's Temple, Rite of the Secret Vault, and many other relevant and germane commentaries.

"Reading maketh a full man."

BIOGRAPHIES— PAST GRAND MASTERS 1903 to 1952, Inclusive

ABEL MILTON HALLOWELL

Most Illustrious Grand Master 1903



Companion Hallowell, forty-fourth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Norristown, Pennsylvania on May 3, 1858. Although his parents were Quakers he became a Presbyterian. He was married twice. His first wife died in 1881, leaving one son. His second wife was Miss Florence M. Burkert. A son, Ira L., was born of this union. Companion Hallowell resided at Jacksonville, Illinois for many years and engaged in the jewelry and engraving business.

Companion Hallowell was initiated in Jacksonville Lodge No. 570 on March 10, 1892. He served his lodge as Worshipful Master. He was exalted in Jacksonville Chapter No. 3 on April 24, 1893. He served his chapter as High Priest. He was greeted in Jacksonville Council No. 5 and later served as Thrice Illustrious Master for several years. He was knighted in Hospitaler Commandery No. 31 and served as Commander.

Companion Hallowell entered the Grand Council line in 1899, was regularly advanced and elected Most Illustrious Grand Master on October 28, 1903. He was Grand Lecturer at the time of his death. At this time he was also Deputy Grand High Priest, and had he lived another week would have been Grand High Priest.

Companion Hallowell died on October 24, 1913 in his home at Chicago where he had moved a short time before. He was buried in Rose Hill Cemetery.

CHARLES WESLEY HOLLANDSWORTH

Most Illustrious Grand Master 1904



Companion Hollandsworth, forty-fifth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born in Peoria County, Illinois, on January 8, 1858. His early ancestors were Quakers, but the family later became Methodists. He was educated in the public schools of Canton and there made his home, entering the United States Postal Service. He married Miss Mattie L. Chitty of Galesburg on August 13, 1890, and to this union two daughters were born, Blanch L. and Helen M.

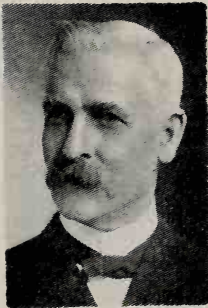
Companion Hollandsworth was initiated in Morning Star Lodge No. 734 in November, 1892, and within a month was passed and raised. He served as Worshipful Master for two years. He was exalted in Canton Chapter No. 68 in January 1895, and served several years as High Priest. He was greeted in Canton Council No. 23 in January 1895 and was Thrice Illustrious Master for several years. He was knighted in Damascus Commandery No. 42, Havana.

Companion Hollandsworth was elected Grand Conductor of the Grand Council at the Annual Assembly in 1900 and became Most Illustrious Grand Master on October 26, 1904.

Companion Hollandsworth died on December 20, 1922.

RAYMOND LOCKWOOD LEONARD

Most Illustrious Grand Master 1905



Companion Leonard, forty-sixth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Toronto, Canada, on August 15, 1850. At the age of two his parents moved to Cleveland, Ohio, and in 1854 to Chicago. He received the degree of M. D. from Rush Medical College on February 3, 1869 and successfully practiced medicine for many years. He was also a talented musician. He was a member of the Methodist Church.

Companion Leonard was made a Mason in Covenant Lodge No. 526 on June 30, 1876 and served as Worshipful Master in 1884. He was exalted in Corinthian Chapter No. 69 on August 4, 1879 and later served as High Priest. He was greeted in Corinthian Chapter on August 11, 1879, during the "merger" period. On February 9, 1884 he was elected to membership in Chicago Council No. 4 and became Thrice Illustrious Master in 1898. He was a member of St. Bernard Commandery No. 35, and of Oriental Consistory.

Companion Leonard entered the Grand Council line in 1900 and was elected Most Illustrious Grand Master on October 25, 1905.

Companion Leonard died at Chicago on October 19, 1918.

ALBERT THOMAS HEY**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1906**

Companion Hey, forty-seventh Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Huddersfield, Yorkshire, England on December 20, 1861. He received his education in public schools, Technical College, and Phonetic Institute of Bath. After leaving school he worked in his father's nurseries and became a professional florist. At the age of 21 he journeyed to Canada, then to Springfield, Illinois, where he continued his profession as florist. He married Miss Mary A. Davies in May, 1886. Four children were born; William A. J., Louis E., Albert D., and Gwenelean L. The family faith was Episcopalian.

Companion Hey was raised in Springfield Lodge No. 4 in 1890 and served two years as Worshipful Master. He was exalted in Springfield Chapter No. 1 in 1891 and served as High Priest. He was greeted in Springfield Council No. 2 and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1899, 1900, and 1901. He was knighted in Elwood Commandery No. 6 in 1892 and served as Senior Warden. He was also a member of Mohammed Temple, Mystic Shrine, and a Past Patron of Lalla Rookh Chapter No. 218, O.E.S.

Companion Hey was appointed Grand Marshal in 1901 and became Most Illustrious Grand Master in 1906.

Companion Hey died on November 16, 1925.

WILL CAREY ROOD**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1907**

Companion Rood, forty-eighth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born in Quincy, Illinois, on February 1, 1853 and received his education in the Quincy public schools and in Quincy M. E. College. He married Mrs. Josie A. Plowman on February 25, 1880.

Companion Rood was made a Master Mason in Bodley Lodge No. 1 on September 1, 1890. He was exalted in Quincy Chapter No. 5 on December 30, 1890, greeted in Quincy Council No. 15 in January, 1891, and knighted in Beauseant Commandery No. 11 on March 27, 1891.

In April 1891 Companion Rood moved to Chicago where he engaged in the mercantile business. He became a member of Garden City Lodge No. 141, York Chapter No. 148, Tyrian Council No. 78 (charter member), and St. Bernard Commandery No. 35. He served as Worshipful Master, High Priest, and Thrice Illustrious Master.

Companion Rood was appointed Grand Marshal in 1902, was regularly advanced and became Most Illustrious Grand Master on September 11, 1907.

He was the first President of the Illinois Fraternal Union of Past High Priests.

Companion Rood died in his home at Chicago on December 28, 1917.

CHESTER DeWITT CLARKSON Most Illustrious Grand Master 1908



Companion Clarkson, forty-ninth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Troy, New York, on December 4, 1871, and moved to Peoria, Illinois in 1881. He was educated in the public schools and graduated from Peoria High School in 1890. He married Miss Alice M. Heidrich on May 3, 1893.

Companion Clarkson was made a Master Mason in Temple Lodge No. 46 on August 23, 1899. He was exalted in Peoria Chapter No. 7 on October 19, 1899, greeted in Peoria Council No. 11 on June 6, 1901, and knighted in Peoria Commandery No. 3 on November 17, 1899. He was a member of Peoria Consistory and of Mohammed Temple, Mystic Shrine.

He became Worshipful Master of his lodge in 1903, High Priest of his Chapter on December 3, 1903, Thrice Illustrious Master of his Council in November 1904, and Commander of his Commandery in June 1908. He also served as an officer in the several bodies of the Scottish Rite and was Potentate of Mohammed Temple. He was an honorary member of Woodlawn Council No. 92.

Companion Clarkson was appointed Grand Marshal in 1904 and elected Most Illustrious Grand Master on September 9, 1908.

Companion Clarkson died on June 24, 1930.

HARRY THOMAS HUBBARD Most Illustrious Grand Master 1909



Companion Hubbard, fiftieth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Urbana, Illinois, on January 4, 1866. He was educated in the public schools of Urbana and graduated from the University of Illinois with the degree of B.L. in 1886. He married Miss Margaret H. Riley on May 12, 1887. He was engaged in the hardware and plumbing business.

Companion Hubbard was made a Master Mason in Urbana Lodge No. 157 on March 24, 1896. He was exalted in Urbana Chapter No. 80 on June 30, 1896, greeted in Urbana Council No. 19 on October 22, 1896, and knighted in Urbana Commandery on September 15, 1898. He was a member of Oriental

Consistory, Mohammed Temple, and Hope Chapter No. 104, O.E.S.

He was High Priest of Urbana Chapter in 1900 and 1901, Thrice Illustrious Master of Urbana Council in 1903, and Commander of Urbana Commandery in 1904.

Companion Hubbard was appointed Grand Marshal in 1905 and elected Most Illustrious Grand Master on September 8, 1909.

Several years after serving his term as Grand Master, Companion Hubbard moved to Medford, Oregon, where he became a fruit grower and merchant. At Medford he became a member of Medford Lodge No. 103, Crater Lake Chapter No. 32, Table Rock Council No. 15, Malta Commandery No. 4, Medford Scottish Rite bodies, and Hillah Shrine. He helped organize Table Rock Council and became its first Thrice Illustrious Master.

Companion Hubbard died in a hospital in San Francisco, California, on December 7, 1936.

EDWIN A. VAUGHAN

Most Illustrious Grand Master 1910



Companion Vaughan, fifty-first Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Woodstock, Vermont, on December 14, 1852. He moved to Princeton, Illinois in 1884 and became manager of a book and wall paper store, and remained in Princeton until 1901, then moved to Syracuse, New York, but returned in less than a year and took up his former business, adding musical goods and undertaking.

Companion Vaughan was made a Master Mason in Princeton Lodge No. 587 on November 12, 1890. He was exalted in Princeton Chapter No. 28 on February 24, 1893, greeted in Orion Council No. 8 on March 5, 1894, and knighted in Temple Commandery No. 20 on February 28, 1895. He was a member of Mohammed Temple, Mystic Shrine.

He served as Worshipful Master of Princeton Lodge from 1894 to 1897; High Priest of Princeton Chapter from 1900 to 1901; Thrice Illustrious Master of Orion Council from 1898 to 1901; and Commander of Temple Commandery from 1895 to 1898.

Companion Vaughan was elected Grand Captain of the Guard in 1907, and was elected Most Illustrious Grand Master on September 14, 1910.

Companion Vaughan died at his home in Princeton on October 8, 1928.

EDWARD REYNOLDS ROE**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1911**

Companion Roe, fifty-second Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Cairo, Illinois, on November 25, 1874. He was educated in the public and high schools of Decatur, Illinois, and moved to Chicago in 1891 where he engaged in the railroad business until 1898. He then became Traffic Manager of the American Malting Company, and later entered the insurance and investment business. He moved to California in 1918.

Companion Roe was made a Master Mason in Dearborn Lodge No. 310 on April 25, 1901. He was exalted in Lafayette Chapter No. 2 on June 3, 1901, greeted in Palestine Council No. 66 on January 19, 1903, and knighted in Apollo Commandery No. 1 on October 1, 1901. He was a member of Oriental Consistory, Medinah Temple, Ayran Grotto, St. John's Conclave Knights of Constantine, and Andrew Wilson Chapter No. 319, O.E.S.

He served as Worshipful Master in 1908, High Priest in 1907, Thrice Illustrious Master in 1907, and Commander in 1909-1910. He also served as President of Illinois Fraternal Union of Past High Priests, Masonic Employment Bureau, and Past Commanders' Association of Cook County.

Companion Roe was elected Most Illustrious Master on September 13, 1911.

Companion Roe died in his home at Los Angeles, California, on November 24, 1936. He was buried with Temple Honors by Hollywood Commandery No. 56 in Inglewood Cemetery, Inglewood, California.

FREDERICK J. SCHROTER**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1912**

Companion Schroter, fifty-third Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at St. Louis, Missouri, on August 18, 1851. His father died when Companion Schroter was six years old and his mother married again and the family moved to New Orleans, Louisiana, where he attended school. His mother died and the children of the family were adopted by other families. Companion Schroter was legally adopted by H. H. Schroter, whose name he took. He moved with his foster parents to Watertown, Wisconsin, in 1864.

Companion Schroter's foster parents planned his entry into the ministry and he was sent to a Lutheran school until he was fifteen. He then went to Concordia College at Fort Wayne, Indiana. He soon changed to the study of

chemistry and pharmacy and practiced this profession for about thirty years. Later he became associated with the Sefton Manufacturing Company. He was a member of the Reformed Episcopal Church and served as Treasurer of the Synod of Chicago.

Companion Schroter was made a Master Mason in Dearborn Lodge No. 310 on July 8, 1886. He was exalted in Lafayette Chapter No. 2 on September 6, 1886, greeted in Palestine Council No. 66 on September 20, 1886, and knighted in Chevalier Bayard Commandery No. 52 on May 21, 1889.

He served with distinction as Worshipful Master, High Priest, Thrice Illustrious Master, and Commander.

Companion Schroter was elected Most Illustrious Grand Master on September 25, 1912.

Companion Schroter died on September 27, 1915.

JOSEPH SCHOTT

Most Illustrious Grand Master 1913



Companion Schott, fifty-fourth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Hecklingen, Baden, Germany, on October 4, 1860. He came to the United States and to Lincoln, Illinois, at an early age, and resided in Lincoln all his life thereafter. He received his education in Germany and in the schools of Lincoln, then engaged in the tobacco business. He was married to Miss Belle Traner on September 21, 1893.

Companion Schott was raised in Lincoln Lodge No. 210 on January 23, 1882 and served as Senior Deacon and as Senior Warden. He was exalted in Lincoln Chapter No. 147 and served four years as High Priest. He was greeted in Lincoln Council No. 83 and served as Thrice Illustrious Master for four years and as Recorder for 30 years. He was knighted in Constantine Commandery No. 51 and served as Commander in 1888. He was a member of Lincoln Chapter No. 351, O.E.S.

Companion Schott was appointed Grand Marshal in 1908 and was elected Most Illustrious Grand Master on September 10, 1913.

Companion Schott died in his home at Lincoln on August 14, 1949. Services were held in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church with Lincoln Lodge No. 210 in charge. Constantine Commandery No. 51 acted as escort at the grave in Union Cemetery.

HARRY LAFAYETTE SMITH**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1914**

Companion Smith, fifty-fifth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Springfield, Illinois on March 26, 1870. He attended public schools in Springfield, and graduated from Shurtleff College at Alton. He established himself in business as a wholesale grocer.

Companion Smith was made a Mason in St. Paul Lodge No. 500 on December 26, 1901. He was exalted in Springfield Chapter No. 1 and greeted in Springfield Council No. 2 the year following. He was a member of the Commandery and of the Scottish Rite and attained high office in these bodies. He belonged to Ansar Temple and was a Past Patron of Flower City Chapter O.E.S.

Companion Smith entered the official line of the Grand Council in 1909, was regularly advanced and elected Most Illustrious Grand Master on September 9, 1914.

Companion Smith died on May 27, 1924.

FREDERICK WILLIAM KRENGEL**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1915**

Companion Krengel, fifty-sixth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Bridgeport, Connecticut, on September 12, 1866. At the age of six he moved with his parents to New Haven, Connecticut, where he received his education in the public schools and in Yale Business College. He came to Chicago in 1885 and after engaging in various businesses became president of the Champion Oil Company. Later he engaged in the printing business and for many years printed our annual proceedings. On June 6, 1895 he married Helen Mar Bond of Libertyville, Illinois. Two children, Frederick W. Jr. and Adele (Mrs. Adele Mellon) were born to this union.

Companion Krengel was made a Mason in Woodlawn Lodge No. 841 on April 29, 1907 and served as Master in 1913. He was exalted in Jackson Park Chapter No. 222 on June 1, 1907 and served as High Priest in 1919. He became a member of Imperial Council No. 85 in 1907, and a charter member and first Thrice Illustrious Master of Woodlawn Council No. 92 in 1908. He was knighted in Chicago Commandery No. 19 on August 26, 1907, affiliated with Apollo Commandery No. 1 on July 20, 1908, and served as

Commander in 1915, and as Prelate for many years. He became a member of Medinah Temple in 1907, and of Oriental Consistory in 1908. He was Sovereign Prince of the Chicago Council Princes of Jerusalem in 1917-1918, and was crowned Sovereign Grand Inspector General 33°, Honorary, at Philadelphia on September 16, 1919. He became a member of the Red Cross of Constantine, St. John's Conclave in 1928. He was also a member of Woodlawn Chapter No. 355 O.E.S., Masonic Veterans Association, and Aryan Grotto No. 18.

Companion Kregel entered the official line of the Grand Council in 1910 and was elected Most Illustrious Grand Master on September 15, 1915.

Companion Kregel died in Chicago on June 16, 1952. Funeral services were conducted by Apollo Commandery No. 1. Burial was in Lakeside Cemetery, Libertyville, Illinois.

JULIUS LOUIS KLEMME

Most Illustrious Grand Master 1916



Companion Klemme, fifty-seventh Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Quincy, Illinois, on July 6, 1867. He engaged in the hardware business and resided at Quincy all his life.

Companion Klemme was raised in Bodley Lodge No. 1 on February 9, 1891. He affiliated with Lambert Lodge No. 659 during the same year and served as Master in 1905 and in 1911. He was District Deputy Grand Master in 1914, 1915, and 1916. He was exalted in Quincy Chapter No. 5 on May 29, 1895. He was greeted in Quincy Council No. 15 on October 16, 1906 and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1911, 1912, 1913, and 1914. He was knighted in Elakia Commandery No. 55 on May 13, 1897. He was a member of the Scottish Rite bodies of Quincy and served in several offices, receiving the 33rd degree in 1914. He was also a member of Ainad Temple.

Companion Klemme was appointed Grand Marshal in 1911 and elected Most Illustrious Grand Master on September 13, 1916.

Companion Klemme died at his home in Quincy on May 7, 1925.

RAWSON BENNETT**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1917**

Companion Bennett, fifty-eighth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Franklin, Indiana, on December 5, 1863. The family moved to Kansas in 1871. The subject of this sketch received his education in the public schools of Kansas and in the State University of Kansas. In 1886 he moved to Chicago and engaged in newspaper work. During the years 1888 to 1895 he transferred his work to papers in Milwaukee and Michigan, then returning to Chicago he continued his newspaper work. He married Cora Anita Jones of Riverside, California, in 1903 and two sons were born of this union.

Companion Bennett was raised in Lawrence Lodge No. 6, Lawrence, Kansas, in 1885. He was exalted in Irving Park Chapter No. 195, Chicago, in 1900, and served as High Priest in 1905. From his father Companion Bennett inherited an interest in Cryptic Masonry. His father helped organize new Councils in Franklin, Indiana, and in Emporia, Kansas. He became a member of Siloam Council No. 53 and did much to strengthen this Council. He was a member of Oriental Consistory.

Companion Bennett was appointed Grand Marshal in 1912 and was regularly advanced and elected Most Illustrious Grand Master on September 12, 1917. He became well known for his dramatization of the ritual of the Super Excellent Master degree and for his revision of the ritual of the Order of High Priesthood.

Companion Bennett died on November 11, 1922.

E. W. EGGMANN**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1918**

Companion E. W. Eggmann, fifty-ninth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at St. Louis, Missouri, on March 17, 1869 and came to Illinois with his parents when but a few months old, locating at East St. Louis, Illinois. Companion Eggmann studied law at Washington University, St. Louis, graduated in 1893, and was admitted to the bar in both Illinois and Missouri. He has diligently practiced his profession with marked success for more than fifty years. He is married and a son and two daughters were born of this union.

Companion Eggmann was made a Master Mason in East St. Louis Lodge No. 504, and served as Worshipful Master in 1902. He passed the Examination and was appointed Grand

Lecturer in 1903. He renewed his commission each year, serving in all seven years. He also served on the Committee on Obituaries for a number of years.

He was exalted in East St. Louis Chapter No. 156, and served as High Priest in 1907, later serving two additional terms. He was the first candidate greeted in St. Clair Council No. 61, when this Council was under dispensation. He was elected and installed Thrice Illustrious Master in 1911 and served two terms. He is a member of East St. Louis Commandery No. 81, and of Mississippi Valley Consistory of the Scottish Rite.

Companion Eggman was appointed Grand Marshal of the Grand Council in 1913 and was regularly advanced, and elected and installed Most Illustrious Grand Master on September 25, 1918. He has served on many of the Grand Council Committees.

CHARLES F. GEISE

Most Illustrious Grand Master 1919



Companion Charles F. Geise, sixtieth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born in Stevenson County, Illinois, on March 28, 1864. His early life was spent on the family farm and at the age of 18 he became a school teacher. This vocation he followed for six years, then he entered the insurance field and continued this work until 1891. In 1891 he moved to Chicago and took a responsible position with the Continental Insurance Company.

Companion Geise was made a Master Mason in Plum River Lodge No. 554 in 1885. He was one of the organizers of Fair Oaks Lodge No. 1006 and became its first Master. He was exalted in Cicero Chapter No. 180 in 1906, and served as High Priest in 1911. He was greeted in Oak Park Council No. 93 in 1911, and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1913. He was a member of Siloam Commandery and served as Commander in 1919. He was also a member of Oriental Consistory.

Companion Geise entered the official line of the Grand Council in 1914 and was elected Most Illustrious Grand Master on September 24, 1919.

Companion Geise died on October 25, 1922.

JOHN H. DUNLAP**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1920**

Companion John H. Dunlap, sixty-first Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Chenoa, Illinois, on February 17, 1869. His early life was spent on a farm in Iroquois County. In 1890 he removed to Chicago and four years later took up residence at Peoria, Illinois, where he resided until his death. For many years he was engaged as a building contractor.

Companion Dunlap was made a Master Mason in Peoria Lodge No. 15 on March 16, 1896, and served as Master from 1901 to 1903. He was exalted in Peoria Chapter No. 7 on February 27, 1902, and served as High Priest in 1908. He was greeted in Peoria Council No. 11 on September 30, 1902, and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1906-1907, and again in 1912-1913.

Companion Dunlap was appointed Grand Steward in 1914 and was elected Most Illustrious Grand Master on September 22, 1920.

Companion Dunlap died on January 27, 1946. Funeral services were conducted by Peoria Lodge No. 15 on January 30, 1946.

OTHO L. CALDWELL**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1921**

Companion Otho L. Caldwell, sixty-second Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born on a farm near Williamsville, Sangamon County, Illinois, on January 14, 1867. He attended rural school and at the age of eighteen began teaching. He later attended college and then moved to Springfield, Illinois, took up the study of law, and was admitted to the bar in 1897. He served as Assistant County superintendent of Schools in Sangamon County for eight years and then resumed the practice of law. He was also engaged in the fire insurance business.

Companion Caldwell was made a Master Mason in Lavelly Lodge No. 203, Williamsville, Illinois, on April 23, 1892, and served as Master in 1897. He affiliated with Tyrian Lodge No. 333, Springfield, in 1899. He was exalted in Springfield Chapter No. 1 on March 12, 1904, and served as High Priest in 1922. He was greeted in Springfield Council No. 2 on June 14, 1905 and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1914. He served as Commander-in-Chief of Springfield Consistory from 1931 to 1934 and received the 33rd degree in 1934. He served as Potentate of Ansar Temple in 1933. He served as Commander of Elwood Commandery No. 6 in 1914.

Companion Caldwell was appointed Grand Steward of the Grand Council in 1915 and was elected Most Illustrious Grand Master on September 26, 1921.

Companion Caldwell died at Springfield on March 12, 1943. Masonic services were conducted by Tyrian Lodge No. 333. Burial was in Roselawn Memorial Cemetery.

LLEWELLYN LaMARTINE ABBOTT Most Illustrious Grand Master 1922



Companion Llewellyn LaMartine Abbott, sixty-third Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Wolcott, New York, on February 18, 1865. He early moved to Kansas and attended the public schools at Wichita and Baker University at Baldwin City. He was employed in the lumber business in Wichita until 1891 when he moved to Chicago where he later became Secretary of a large sash and door company.

Companion Abbott was made a Master Mason in Wichita Lodge No. 99, Wichita, Kansas, on March 24, 1890. He was exalted in Normal Park Chapter No. 210, Chicago, on March 23, 1901. He was greeted in Imperial Council No. 85 on March 28, 1902. He was a member of Englewood Commandery No. 59, Oriental Consistory, Medinah Temple, and St. John's Conclave of the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine. He passed the chairs in Lodge, Chapter, and Council.

Companion Abbott entered the official Grand Council line in 1917 as Grand Marshal and was regularly advanced, and elected and installed Most Illustrious Grand Master on September 27, 1922.

Companion Abbott was editor of Temple Topics, Chicago, for many years, and was a member of the Board of Trustees of Englewood Masonic Temple, and also served as Treasurer of this Corporation.

Companion Abbott died on December 18, 1949. Services were conducted by Englewood Commandery No. 59 on December 21, 1949.

MELVILLE H. LEIGHTON Most Illustrious Grand Master 1923



Companion Leighton, sixty-fourth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Brooklyn, New York, on October 10, 1865, the son of Dr. N. W. Leighton, a practicing physician of that city.

Companion "Mel," as he was better known, was active in Council affairs for a number of years until forced by sickness to retire to his home and the companionship of his devoted wife and partner in life for forty-eight years.

Companion Leighton was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in Ravenswood Lodge No. 777 on August 3, 1907 and later affiliated with Maplewood Lodge No. 964, which he served as Worshipful Master in 1915. He was exalted in Columbia Chapter No. 202 on March

3, 1909, and served as High Priest in 1919. He was greeted as a select Master in Siloam Council No. 53, and became a charter member of Adroniram Council No. 95, serving as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1915. He was a member of Illinois Commandery No. 72 Knights Templar, and served as Eminent Commander in 1917 and 1918. He was appointed Illustrious Grand Steward September 12, 1917, and was elected and installed as Most Illustrious Grand Master September 26, 1923.

Companion Leighton departed this life February 8, 1946. The Funeral service was conducted by Maplewood Lodge No. 964 with Illinois Commandery No. 72 as escort.

WILLIAM A. HOOVER

Most Illustrious Grand Master 1924



Companion Hoover, sixty-fifth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born in Darke County, Ohio, January 7, 1861. He was educated in the public schools and, after graduation from Greenville High School, he taught country school for a time. Later he took up the study of dentistry. After graduation in 1886, he entered upon and continued the practice of his profession at Gibson City until 1936. In June of that year he attended the fiftieth re-union of his class at Ann Arbor.

Doctor Hoover was married to Miss Laura Howver, August 29, 1888. She passed away, March 26, 1928. He married Miss Mae Hancock, May 2, 1929.

Doctor Hoover was made a Master Mason in Gibson Lodge No. 733, November 16, 1887; a Royal Arch Mason in Gibson Chapter No. 183, April 11, 1894; and a member of Gibson Council No. 72, April 30, 1894. In 1932 after his Chapter and Council had surrendered their Charters, he affiliated with Ford Chapter No. 113 at Paxton, and Urbana Council No. 19 at Urbana. He was a member of Mt. Olive Commandery No. 38 at Paxton, and of Bloomington Consistory. He was a District Deputy Grand Master for the Grand Lodge for a number of Years.

Companion Hoover entered the Grand Line of the Grand Council in 1918 and was elected Most Illustrious Grand Master, September 24, 1924.

Companion Hoover suffered a stroke at his home on the morning of April 2, 1937 from which he did not rally, Funeral services were conducted in his Church by the Reverend A. G. Adams followed by Masonic services under the auspices of his Lodge, the Stations being filled by Officers of the Grand Lodge and the Grand Council with an escort from his Commandery.

Surviving were his widow, a daughter, an adopted daughter, and one brother, Charles G.

GEORGE PHILLIP VAN CLEVE

Most Illustrious Grand Master 1925



Companion Van Cleve, sixty-sixth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Niantic, Illinois, June 10, 1876. He was educated in the public schools and Brown's Business College at Decatur. In 1909 he moved to Decatur and became associated with W. C. Starr in the automobile business. Later, receiving an appointment in the State Department of Public Health, he moved to Springfield, where he resided until his last illness when he returned to Decatur.

Companion Van Cleve was made a Master Mason in Blue Mound Lodge No. 682. He became a charter member of Stephen Decatur Lodge No. 979 and later affiliated with Central Lodge No. 71 at Springfield. He was exalted in Macon Chapter No. 21 and served as High Priest in 1915. He was greeted in Decatur Council No. 16, February 10, 1911 and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1913. He was a member of Beaumanoir Commandery No. 9 and served as Eminent Commander in 1916. He was active in the Scottish Rite, becoming a Charter Member of Springfield Consistory in 1912. On September 16, 1919 he was crowned a Sovereign Grand Inspector General 33° at Philadelphia. He was a Past Potentate of Ansar Temple.

Companion Van Cleve served on various committees in the Grand Council and was appointed Illustrious Grand Steward in 1921, and elected Most Illustrious Grand Master at the Annual Assembly at Mt. Vernon September 23, 1925.

Companion Van Cleve entered his Eternal rest from his home at Decatur, December 17, 1942. Funeral services were held at Decatur with interment in Fairlawn Cemetery. His widow and one son, John A., survive him.

GEORGE ELDORADO WILKINSON

Most Illustrious Grand Master 1926



Companion Wilkinson, sixty-seventh Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born October 18, 1868, the ninth of twelve children of Jackson and Mary Morrison Wilkinson. He was married to Miss Anna Joseph of Wichita, Kansas on September 9, 1909.

He was educated in the public schools, University of Illinois, Kansas State Teachers' College, and Cornell University, from which he received the M. S. degree in 1892. He also spent one year at the University of Leipsig, Germany.

Companion Wilkinson taught in the public schools of Macon County and became Principal of Emporia, Kansas, High School. Later he taught biology at Blackburn College, Carlinville, Illinois; he was Principal of Alton High

School; and an Instructor in the Medical Department of Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri.

He was a Lieutenant in the Illinois Naval Reserves and was the organizer and first Commander of the Alton Division, later becoming Chief Surgeon of the Illinois Naval Reserves.

In 1898 he began the practice of medicine at Alton. He served for more than ten years on the Board of Education. He has served on the De Molay Advisory Council and as Principal Officer of all the York Rite bodies in his City.

He holds membership in Piasa Lodge No. 27, Franklin Chapter No. 8, Alton Council No. 3, Belvidere Commandery No. 2, and Beder Grotto, all of Alton; and Mississippi Valley Consistory and Ainad Temple at East St. Louis.

Companion Wilkinson entered the Grand line as Illustrious Grand Steward in 1921 and was elected Most Illustrious Grand Master in 1926. He has resided in Alton for many years.

JAMES KNOX LAMBERT

Most Illustrious Grand Master 1927



Companion Lambert, sixty-eighth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Franklin, Kentucky, March 5, 1867. His education was acquired in the Public School, Ewing College, Washington University, and the St. Louis Law School. He was married to Miss Cora Van Velsor at Minneapolis, Minnesota, July 21, 1897. Soon thereafter, he located and engaged in the practice of law in Chicago. In 1929, he removed to Long Beach, California, where he continued his profession and still resides.

He is a member of Woodlawn Park Lodge No. 841, Jackson Park Chapter No. 222, and Woodlawn Council No. 92, serving each of these bodies as its presiding officer. He was knighted in Woodlawn Commandery No. 76, later demitting and affiliating with Long Beach Commandery No. 40. He is a member of the Scottish Rite Bodies, Valley of Chicago; and Order of High Priesthood in Illinois. He became a member of Medinah Temple, later demitting.

Companion Lambert entered the Grand Council Line as Illustrious Grand Steward in 1922 and became Most Illustrious Grand Master in 1927.

BENJAMIN JULIAN METZGER**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1928**

Companion Metzger, sixty-ninth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Galena, Illinois, June 1, 1876. He was the son of Louis J. and Louise Metzger. His education was acquired in the public schools and English and Manuel High School of Chicago. He afterwards engaged in business in Joliet and Chicago. He was married to Miss Effie M. Cadwallader.

Companion Metzger holds membership in Mt. Joliet Lodge No. 42, Joliet Chapter No. 27, Joliet Council No. 82, and Joliet Commandery No. 4. He served as presiding officer in his Lodge, Chapter, and Council. He is a member of Oriental Consistory, Medinah Temple, and the Order of Jesters of Chicago. He is a

Past Patron of Marguerite Chapter, O.E.S.

Companion Metzger entered the Grand Council line as Illustrious Grand Marshal in 1923, and was elected Most Illustrious Grand Master in 1928.

Companion and Mrs. Metzger now reside in the City of Chicago.

HARRY GRESANG WILSON**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1929**

Companion Wilson, seventieth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Schuylkill, Pennsylvania, June 22, 1871; moving with his parents the following year to Chicago where he resided until his retirement.

He was educated in the public schools of Chicago, graduating from the West Division High School. He secured employment with the Chicago Public Library, ultimately becoming secretary of the Board of Directors and Financial Manager. He served the Library more than fifty years.

Companion Wilson was raised in Garden City Lodge No. 141, April 16, 1907. He became Worshipful Master in 1917. He was exalted in York Chapter No. 148 and served as High Priest in 1919. He was greeted in Tyrian Council No. 78, becoming Thrice Illustrious Master in 1923. He was a member of Columbia Commandery No. 63, Oriental Consistory, and Medinah Temple, all of Chicago.

Companion Wilson entered the Grand Council line in 1923, and through successive advancement was elected Most Illustrious Grand Master in 1929.

Companion Wilson entered his eternal rest May 18, 1949, in his home at San Antonio, Texas where he had lived since his retirement.

FREDERICK C. HARBOUR**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1930**

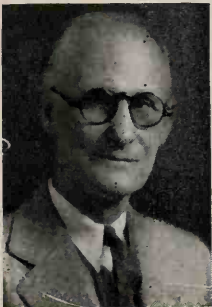
Companion Harbour, seventy-first Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at New York City July 3, 1869. Soon thereafter, he moved with his parents to Chicago where he resided for many years. He later moved to Elmhurst where he resided until his decease.

After graduating from Kent College of Law he practiced his profession for more than fifty years. He held many offices of trust and commanded the respect of all because of his helpful nature.

Companion Harbour was made a Mason in Maywood Lodge No. 869. He became a charter member of Elmhurst Lodge No. 951, later transferring his membership to Kenwood Lodge No. 800. He was exalted in Maywood Chapter No. 234; greeted in Oak Park Council No. 93 on May 4, 1912; and knighted in Siloam Commandery No. 54, serving as Eminent Commander in 1924-25. He was also a member of Medinah Temple.

Companion Harbour entered the Grand Council line as Illustrious Grand Steward, advancing regularly, and was elected Most Illustrious Grand Master September 24, 1930. After his term expired he served on the Jurisprudence Committee until the time of his death, November 7, 1943.

The funeral service was conducted by Reverend Harrison of the First Congregational Church and the commitment ceremony by the officers of Siloam Commandery.

CHARLES W. KEYS**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1931**

Companion Keys, seventy-second Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Champaign, Illinois, November 8, 1874. He moved, with his parents, to Peoria in 1882 where he has since resided. He attended the schools of that City, and was elected a member of the Board of Education, serving for eight years.

He was married to Miss Gertrude A. Campbell, October 9, 1895. Two children were born to this union, Charles C. and Ruth Jane.

Companion Keys entered business as a painting contractor. He is Past President of the Illinois State Council of Painting and Decorating Contractors, served as Secretary for nine years, and was elected a life member in 1945.

Companion Keys was raised in Temple Lodge No. 46 in 1903, exalted

in Peoria Chapter No. 7 and served as Excellent High Priest in 1924. He received the Order of High Priesthood in 1925. He was greeted in Peoria Council No. 11, February 26, 1913; served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1919; and was elected Recorder in 1921, which office he holds at the present time.

Companion Keys entered the Grand Council line as Illustrious Grand Steward in 1925 and was elected Most Illustrious Grand Master September 26, 1931, and in 1933 he was elected Illustrious Grand Recorder, which office he now occupies. He holds Honorary membership in Illinois Council No. 1, Rock Island Council No. 20, and Oriental Council No. 13.

In 1946, in co-operation with Companions Harry G. Bartruff and Walter Lintott, Most Illustrious Past Grand Masters, he organized Illinois Council of Thrice Illustrious Masters and was elected Recorder-Treasurer. He was Knighted in Peoria Commandery No. 3 October 20, 1921 and has served as Armorer since 1922. He is a member of Peoria Consistory and served as Sovereign Prince in 1926 and for thirty-one years as Stage Director. He was crowned a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, Honorary member of the Supreme Council at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, September 25, 1946. He is a member of Mohammed Temple and is Secretary of the Peoria Masonic Temple Association.

FRED H. KRUGER

Most Illustrious Grand Master 1932



Companion Fred H. Kruger, seventy-third Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born in the City of Chicago on September 28, 1876. In his early boyhood his parents moved to southern Illinois, where he received his education in the public schools and in Hayward College at Fairfield, Illinois.

After pursuing his legal studies he was admitted to the Illinois bar in 1898. He then located at Belleville, Illinois, and began the practice of law, which he continued until his retirement in 1927. Companion Kruger is married and has one daughter who is active in auxiliary Masonic bodies.

Companion Kruger was made a Master Mason in 1906, and within a few years was exalted in Belleville Chapter No. 106, greeted in Belleville Council No. 67, and knighted in Tancred Commandery No. 50, all located in Belleville. He has the distinction of being a past presiding officer of all York Masonic bodies. He is a member of the Scottish Rite bodies and of the Mystic Shrine, both of East St. Louis, Illinois.

Companion Kruger is the author of a Material Objective plan for the Supreme Shrine of the Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem. This plan was unanimously adopted and has been a success from its inception. Thousands

of these worthy and in need have received aid in the United States and Canada. Companion Kruger says "Every individual should have an objective in life. Every major fraternal organization should have an established material objective to justify its existence."

Companion Kruger entered the Grand Council line as Illustrious Grand Steward in 1926, and on September 28, 1932, the fifty-sixth anniversary of his birth, he was elected and installed Most Illustrious Grand Master.

HARRY GOODWIN BARTRUFF

Most Illustrious Grand Master 1933



Companion Bartruff, seventy-fourth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, September 12, 1865. He attended the public schools of that City, but at the age of thirteen a nervous breakdown forced him to give up school for the rugged life of the farm. In 1883 he moved with his parents to Lincoln, Nebraska, and for the next several years he rode the range across the then fenceless prairies of Nebraska, Colorado, and Wyoming. In 1890, having regained his health, he moved to Chicago.

He entered the employ of Nelson, Morris, and Company in 1893, and in 1918 he became associated with Roberts and Oake, Packers.

He was united in marriage to Miss Louise Greenman of Chicago December 25, 1893. Two sons were born to this union.

Companion Bartruff was made a Mason in Normal Park Lodge No. 797 in 1906; exalted in Normal Park Chapter No. 210 in 1908; greeted in Imperial Council No. 85 in 1908; and Knighted in Englewood Commandery No. 59 in 1909, and served as Recorder for many years. He was also a Past Venerable Chief of the Masonic Veterans Association of Illinois.

In 1912 a change in vocation to that of Traveling Auditor precluded the possibility of giving his Masonic offices proper attention. On the eve of his election to Senior Warden of his lodge, he reluctantly declined further promotion in all the Masonic Bodies except the Council, which he served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1915.

Companion Bartruff entered the Grand Council line in 1927 and was elected Most Illustrious Grand Master September 27, 1933. On the death of Companion Caldwell he was appointed Grand Treasurer and was duly elected as such at the Annual Assembly in 1943, which station he held at the time of his death.

Companion Bartruff entered into eternal rest in his home at Chicago on June 19, 1948.

RICHARD J. HOWELLS**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1934**

Companion Howells, seventy-fifth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Aberdare, South Wales, March 8, 1869. At the age of eight his family came to the United States and located in Kingston, Pennsylvania. Two years later Companion Howells moved to Streator, Illinois, where, with the exception of seven years spent in Texas, Oregon, and Alaska, he resided until his death.

In 1892 Companion Howells was united in marriage to Miss Mary M. Jenkins of Streator, and to this union one son and two daughters were born. Mrs. Howells passed away in 1939, and on October 9, 1945, he married Mrs. Lulu McKee.

Companion Howells was a member of Christ Episcopal Church, Past Councilor and charter member of the United Commercial Travelers, a member of the Streator Library Board, and President of the Peoples Building and Loan Association. He learned the Printing Trade, but shortly thereafter he became a Commercial Traveler, representing one Chicago firm for more than twenty-five years. On leaving this firm he, with the late Walter Hampton, established the wholesale jobbing firm of Howells and Hampton which has continued to operate under this name.

Companion Howells was made a Mason in Temple Lodge No. 7 at Astoria, Oregon, in 1907, affiliating with Streator Lodge No. 607 in 1923. He was exalted in Streator Chapter No. 168 in 1904, and served as Excellent High Priest. He was a member of the Order of High Priesthood. He was gree ed in Streator Council No. 73 in 1915, serving several terms as Thrice Illustrious Master. He was knighted in Ottawa Commandery No. 10 in March 1905, becoming a charter member of Streator Commandery No. 70 in October of the same year, serving as Eminent Commander in 1916. He was a member of Bloomington Consistory, a 33° Mason, a member of St. Helena Chapter Red Cross of Constantine, a member of the Royal Order of Scotland, a Past Potentate of Mohammed Temple, a member of the Peoria Court No. 40 Order of Jesters, and Chairman of Streator Chapter Order of De Molay.

Companion Howells entered into his eternal rest in his home April 30, 1952. Interment was in Riverview Cemetery, with the Reverend D. A. Filkins officiating.

BURTON F. SECORD**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1935**

Companion Secord, seventy-sixth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Mt. Vernon, Ohio, on September 4, 1875. He received his education in the public schools and at Kenyon Military Academy at Gambier, Ohio.

In 1894 he moved to Chicago and entered the employ of the Bowman Dairy Company, with which Company he is still associated. He was united in marriage to Miss Ruth Wahl in 1924.

Companion Secord was made a Master Mason in Landmark Lodge No. 422 in 1911. He was exalted in Columbia Chapter No. 64, and served as Excellent High Priest in 1918. He was greeted in Adoniram Council No. 95, and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1921. He was knighted in Illinois Commandery No. 72, and served as Eminent Commander in 1928. He is a member of Medinah Temple and of Oriental Consistory. He has served as Sovereign of St. John's Conclave of the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine.

For a number of years Companion Secord has served as Chairman of the Grand Council Finance Committee, and under his able direction our finances are again on sound footing.

Companion Secord entered the Grand Council line in 1929 and was regularly advanced and elected and installed Most Illustrious Grand Master on September 25, 1935.

DAVID W. ISENHOUR**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1936**

Companion Isenhour, seventy-seventh Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Hallville, Illinois, November 26, 1889. His early boyhood was spent in Rochester, New York. He was educated in the public schools of Weldon, Illinois. He served as Clerk and Tax Collector for Nixon township. After service in the army, he was appointed Deputy, and later elected Treasurer of De Witt County. Since 1927 he has been in the insurance business at Clinton. He united with the Methodist Church of Clinton on the fiftieth anniversary of his birth. He holds membership in Crang-Bennett Post No. 103 American Legion.

Companion Isenhour was made a Master Mason in Weldon Lodge No. 746 on July 4, 1912, and served as Worshipful Master. He affiliated with De Witt Lodge No. 84 at Clinton in 1923, was commissioned a Grand Lecturer in 1921, and appointed on the Board of Grand Examiners in

1931. He became a member of the York Masonic bodies at Clinton in 1919, and served as presiding officer of each. He became a member of the Order of High Priesthood. He was commissioned a Grand Lecturer by the Grand Chapter and appointed to the Board of Grand Examiners in 1945. He was elected Right Eminent Grand Commander of Knights Templar in 1929, and has the distinction of having visited each of the eighty-four Commanderies in the state during his term of office. In the Grand Council he was Chairman of the Committee rewriting the Cryptic Code in 1945. He was commissioned a Grand Lecturer by the Grand Council and served on the Committee on Ritualistic Instruction whose duties included the revision of the present Ritual in 1948. He is a Past Master of Illinois Council of Thrice Illustrious Masters.

Companion Isenhour received the orders of the Scottish Rite at Bloomington and became a member of Ansar Shrine at Springfield in 1917. He became a member of Court No. 20 Order of Jesters. He was crowned Sovereign Grand Inspector General 33° at Detroit in 1931. He is a member of Illinois Veterans Association, a Past Patron of Myrtle Chapter No. 131, O.E.S., a Past Watchman of Shepherds of Magdala Shrine No. 18. He was elected a member of Saxa Rubra Conclave No. 2, Red Cross of Constantine in 1925, serving as Sovereign in 1935. He is a Charter Member of Illinois Priory No. 11, Knights of the York Cross of Honour, serving as Eminent Prior in 1943.

Companion Isenhour entered the Grand Council line as Illustrious Grand Steward in 1930 and was elected and installed Most Illustrious Grand Master in 1936.

HENRY GERHARDT HORSTMAN

Most Illustrious Grand Master 1937



of Murphysboro.

Companion Horstman, seventy-eighth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born in Jackson County, Illinois, December 11, 1868. He received his early education in a local school near his home, attended Southern Illinois Normal University, and graduated from Missouri Medical College in 1895. Upon graduation he entered upon the practice of medicine in Jackson County where he continued his practice for more than forty-five years.

Companion Horstman was united in marriage to Miss Luvinna Crawshaw August 4, 1899. To this union five children were born. He was an active member of the First Methodist Episcopal Church

Companion Horstman was made a Master Mason in DeSoto Lodge No. 87 at DeSoto, Illinois, in 1904, later transferring his membership to Murphysboro Lodge No. 498, of which he became Worshipful Master. He served

as Excellent High Priest of Murphysboro Chapter No. 164, Thrice Illustrious Master of Murphysboro Council No. 49, Worthy Patron of Electa and Ruth Chapter No. 379 O.E.S., Watchman of Shepherds of Sheba Shrine No. 63 of Carbondale, and was a member of Beauseant Commandery No. 86.

Companion Horstman entered the Grand Council line as Illustrious Grand Steward in 1932 and was elected Most Illustrious Grand Master on October 27, 1937.

Companion Horstman laid aside the working tools of his profession and set sail o'er that uncharted sea to the land where our Fathers have gone on August 10, 1940.

WALTER LINTOTT

Most Illustrious Grand Master 1938



Companion Walter Lintott, seventy-ninth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at King's Cross, London, England, on February 10, 1871 and came to the United States with his parents in 1873. The family resided in Oxford, New Jersey, until 1877, when they moved to Aurora, Illinois, where he attended public schools.

In 1893 he entered the Postal Service as a letter carrier, was promoted to Stamp Clerk Foreman and later in charge of Money Order, Register, and Postal Savings Division until his retirement in 1934, with over 41 years of service.

Companion Lintott was married on November 6, 1895 to Violet Freeman. He was a member of the Wesley Methodist Church in Aurora and deeply interested in the religious and civic welfare of the city.

Companion Lintott was raised in Aurora Lodge No. 254 on November 8, 1905, and served as Worshipful Master in 1909 and 1910. He was exalted in Aurora Chapter No. 22 on June 6, 1910, and served as High Priest in 1914. He was greeted in Aurora Council No. 45 on September 11, 1911, and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1918, and for 32 years was Recorder of the Council. He was a member of Aurora Commandery No. 22 K.T. and a Past Patron of Rising Sun Chapter No. 51, O.E.S.

Companion Lintott was elected Illustrious Grand Conductor of the Grand Council in 1934 and was elected Most Illustrious Grand Master on September 21, 1938.

Companion Lintott died on April 5, 1945 at Aurora, Illinois.

BEN C. NEAD**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1939**

Companion Ben C. Nead, eightieth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Galesburg, Illinois, on January 6, 1880, and with the exception of four years residence in California and six years in Massachusetts, has resided there ever since. He was married to Miss Goldia Atherton at Decatur, Illinois, on July 9, 1938. He was engaged in the investment business.

Companion Nead was raised in Alpha Lodge No. 155 on April 5, 1911, and was elected Worshipful Master in 1914. He was commissioned Grand Lecturer in 1915 and still holds his commission. He was exalted in Galesburg Chapter No. 46 in 1919 and served as Excellent High Priest in 1930. He was elected Grand Master of the First Veil in the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois in 1949 and is now Excellent Grand Captain of the Host. He was greeted in Illinois Council No. 1 at Knoxville, Illinois, on February 4, 1921, and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1933.

Companion Nead is a Thrice Illustrious Past Master of Illinois Council of Thrice Illustrious Masters. He is a member of Galesburg Commandery No. 8, K.T., Moline Consistory A.A.S.R., Mohammed Shrine, A.A.O.N.M.S., Peoria, and Saxa Rubra Conclave No. 2, Red Cross of Constantine, of which he was Senior General in 1953.

Companion Nead was appointed Illustrious Grand Steward of the Grand Council in 1934 and was regularly advanced, and elected and installed Most Illustrious Grand Master on September 20, 1939.

WILLIAM CHARLES RAPP**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1940**

Companion William Charles Rapp, eighty-first Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Council Bluffs, Iowa, on September 20, 1871 and received his education in the public schools and business college of that city. He came to Chicago in 1892 and was employed on a Chicago daily newspaper for a number of years. He later became publisher of the Masonic Chronicle of Chicago which he published for some twenty years and upon retirement moved to California.

Companion Rapp was made a Master Mason in Wrights Grove Lodge No. 779 on August 31, 1905, became a Charter member of Perseverance Lodge No. 973, and served as Master in 1917. In the Grand Lodge he served as District Deputy Grand Master for five years and as Grand Standard Bearer for three years.

He was exalted in Lincoln Park Chapter No. 177 in 1913, and served as High Priest in 1922. In the Grand Chapter he served as District Inspector and was elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest in 1934.

He was a member of Illinois Commandery No. 72, K.T., and served as Eminent Commander; he also was a member of Oriental Consistory, Me-dinah Shrine and Masonic Veterans Association of Chicago.

Companion Rapp received the Cryptic degrees in Chicago Council No. 4 on April 28, 1919, and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1928. He served for many years on various committees in the Grand Council and in 1936 was elected Illustrious Grand Steward, was advanced each year until the Annual Assembly of September 19, 1940 when he was elected and installed as Most Illustrious Grand Master.

Companion Rapp died May 9, 1949 in California at the age of 77 years.

ERNEST MELANCTHON CAMPBELL

Most Illustrious Grand Master 1941



Companion Ernest Melancthon Campbell, eighty-second Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Oakland, Illinois, on October 5, 1892. In 1900 his parents moved to St. Louis, Missouri, where he completed his education.

Companion Campbell entered the employ of the Vandalia Railroad Company as a locomotive fireman in 1909 and later transferred to Terre Haute, Indiana. He then moved to Olney, Illinois, and engaged in the Automotive Accessory business and then became distributor of Bowes Seal Fast Products in the Southern Illinois territory.

Companion Campbell was made a Master Mason in Euclid Lodge No. 573, Terre Haute, Indiana, on October 27, 1914, and affiliated with Olney Lodge No. 140 on January 17, 1918. He served as Worshipful Master in 1922 and 1926. He was exalted in Richland Chapter No. 38 (now Henry Godeke Chapter No. 38) on December 28, 1917, and served as High Priest in 1921. In the Grand Chapter he served as District Inspector from 1923 to 1933, the Board of Grand Examiners from 1933 to 1938, and in October 1938 was elected into the Grand Chapter line. He was elected and installed Most Excellent Grand High Priest in 1947.

He is also a member and Past Commander of Gorin Commandery No. 14 K. T., and entered the line of the Grand Commandery and advanced to the station of Eminent Grand Generalissimo. He is a member and Past Prior of Illinois Priory No. 11, Knights of the York Cross of Honour.

Companion Campbell was greeted in Olney Council No. 55 on January 8, 1918, and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1932. He served on various Grand Council committees and as Grand Lecturer and member of the Board of Grand Examiners. He was appointed Illustrious Grand Steward in the Grand Council on October 27, 1937 and regularly advanced each year

and on September 19, 1941 was elected and installed as Most Illustrious Grand Master.

FRANK RICHARD GROTE

Most Illustrious Grand Master 1942



Companion Frank Richard Grote, eighty-third Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at South Chicago, Illinois, on December 15, 1891. He received his education in the local public schools and in the Bryant and Stratton Business College of Chicago.

In May 1908, he was employed by the tea and coffee importing-wholesaling concern of Sherman Bros. and Company and was Secretary of this company from 1924 to 1928. This company merged with the McKenney Importing Corporation in 1925 and Companion Grote then also acted as Auditor. In 1938 he was elected Director and Vice President of both the Sherman and McKenney Corporations, continuing as such until their sale in 1946. He also served as Auditor for the Commercial Furniture Company from 1928 through 1940. In May, 1944 Companion Grote was elected Treasurer of the Chicago Musical College and since 1950 he has been connected with the North American Accident Insurance Company of Chicago.

Companion Grote was married to Miss Ella Mae Kocher on April 27, 1916 and they have two sons, Frank R. Jr., and Edwin L. He is a member of the Second Baptist Church of Chicago, serving since 1948 as the Acting Chairman and Chairman of the Board of Trustees. On January 21, 1953 he was elected Treasurer.

Companion Grote was raised in Pleiades Lodge No. 478 on March 10, 1921. He was exalted in Wiley M. Egan Chapter No. 126 on September 30, 1921 and in 1923 became a charter member of Garfield Park Chapter No. 271, serving as High Priest in 1930, and since 1934 as Treasurer. He became a member of Humboldt Park Commandery No. 79, K.T. in 1923, the Order of High Priesthood in 1930, the Masonic Veterans' Association in 1943, and the Scottish Rite bodies in the Valley of Chicago in 1946.

Companion Grote was greeted in Tyrian Council No. 78 on October 8, 1921, and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1927, and as Recorder since 1937. On January 26, 1939 he received the degree of Thrice Illustrious Master from the Thrice Illustrious Masters' Council of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of North Carolina in Indianapolis, at the constitution of Indiana Council, from which he received an honorary membership. In September, 1941 he was elected a life member in Illinois Council of Thrice Illustrious Masters. After serving three years as District Inspector he was appointed Illustrious Grand Steward of the Grand Council in 1938, and was elected and installed Most Illustrious Grand Master on September 18, 1942. He has served as Illustrious Grand Treasurer since October, 1948.

E. RAYMOND KELLEY**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1943**

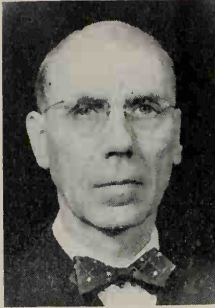
Companion E. Raymond Kelley, eighty-fourth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Manson, Iowa, on July 4, 1893 and in 1905 moved with his parents to Dodgeville, Wisconsin, where he completed his education. In 1917 he enlisted in Battery E 331, Field Artillery and served six months with the A.E.F. in France. Companion Kelley spent several years as a salesman, twelve years in public health work, and since then has been in the United States Post Office Service at Rockford, Illinois. He was married on March 1, 1918 and has two sons, William M. and James C., and one daughter, Lois Jean.

Companion Kelley was raised in Dodgeville Lodge No. 119, at Dodgeville, Wisconsin, on January 30, 1920, and affiliated with Star-In-The-East Lodge No. 166 at Rockford, Illinois, on March 19, 1920. He was exalted in Winnebago Chapter No. 24 on March 29, 1921, and served as High Priest in 1928. He is a member of Crusader Commandery No. 17.

Companion Kelley was greeted in Rockford Council No. 30 on December 22, 1922, and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1926 and 1927, since which time he has served as Treasurer.

Companion Kelley is prelate of Holy Trinity Conclave No. 80, Red Cross of Constantine, a member of the Order of High Priesthood of Illinois, honorary member of the Order of High Priesthood of Iowa, member of Illinois Council of Thrice Illustrious Masters, and honorary member of the Thrice Illustrious Masters of Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. He is also an honorary member of the Order of Ish-Sodi of Wisconsin and of the Grand Council of Wisconsin. He is a member of Local No. 79, National Federation of Post Office Clerks and of Craft No. 54 of National Federated Craft.

Companion Kelley, after serving on Grand Council committees and five years as District Inspector, was appointed Illustrious Grand Steward in 1938. He was regularly advanced and elected and installed Most Illustrious Grand Master on September 17, 1943. He is now Chairman of the Jurisprudence Committee.

WILLIAM HENRY KNUTZ**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1944**

Companion William Henry Knutz, eighty-fifth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Holstein, Iowa, on March 31, 1889 and attended public schools at Cedar Rapids and at Merville, Iowa. He received the degree of Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering at Iowa State College in 1912, and the degree of Electrical Engineer at the same university in 1917.

His professional life has been devoted to the design and operation of electrical transmission and distribution systems. He had charge of the construction of the first 132,000 volt steel tower line in the Chicago area, and is author of a number of articles on lightning protection of transmission systems and other technical papers. He is a Fellow of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

Companion Knutz was married to Miss Bonnie Bee Bartholomew on December 31, 1912 and they have two daughters, Alice and Esther. He is a member of the Covenant Methodist Church.

Companion Knutz was raised in Evans Lodge No. 524 on March 16, 1920. He was exalted in Evanston Chapter No. 144, served as High Priest in 1926, and has received the Order of High Priesthood in Illinois. He was knighted in Evanston Commandery No. 58 on August 27, 1923 and served as Secretary of the Finance Board for several years. He is a member of Pentalpha Chapter No. 534, O.E.S. and of Bethsaida Shrine No. 43, W.S.J. He served as first Master of Craft Fellows, a Masonic study group, in 1953, and is a Fellow of The Philalethes, an international society of Masonic authors and editors.

Companion Knutz was greeted in Adoniram Council No. 95 on October 16, 1926. On January 15, 1927 he was chosen to preside over Augustus N. Gage Council U.D. and became the first Thrice Illustrious Master of Augustus N. Gage Council No. 124, Evanston, on November 5, 1927. After serving on several committees he was appointed Illustrious Grand Marshal of the Grand Council in 1939, and elected and installed Most Illustrious Grand Master at Chicago on September 15, 1944. He presided as Master of Illinois Council of Thrice Illustrious Masters in 1952.

Companion Knutz, after completing his term as Grand Master, has served on several Grand Council committees, and is now Chairman of the Committee on Cryptic Review and Information. He is the first and present editor of The Illinois Cryptic Mason, founded in 1944; the first and present editor of Evanston Temple Topics, founded in 1932; the first and present editor of the Illinois Enlightener, official publication of the Grand Lodge

of Illinois. He is a member of the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Information and one of the representatives from Illinois on the Midwest Conference on Masonic Education, composed of delegates from eleven midwest jurisdictions. He has been Treasurer of Augustus N. Gage Council No. 124 since 1928.

Companion and Mrs. Knutz reside at Evanston, Illinois.

RAYMOND W. HOOPER

Most Illustrious Grand Master 1945



Companion Raymond W. Hooper, eighty-sixth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Franklin, Maine, the seventh child of Amaziah Curtis and Annie Phillips Hooper. He is a descendant of Revolutionary stock. A great grandfather served on General George Washington's staff and another ancestor, William Hooper, was a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Companion Hooper was educated in the public schools of Franklin, Maine, Grays Business College of Portland, Maine, Bliss Electrical College of Washington, D. C., and Armour Institute of Chicago, Illinois.

He was employed by the Commonwealth Edison Company of Chicago for many years until his retirement in 1949. He married Miss Flora A. Martin of Chicago on August 16, 1919.

Companion Hooper was raised in Siloam Lodge No. 92 of Fairfield, Maine, in September, 1906, exalted in Greenleaf Chapter No. 13 of Portland, Maine, in June, 1908, and greeted a Select Master in Portland Council No. 4 in June 1908.

After coming to Chicago, Illinois, he affiliated with Parian Lodge No. 977, Fairview Chapter No. 161, and served as High Priest in 1925-26. He affiliated with Woodlawn Council No. 92 and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1932. He was knighted in Montjoie Commandery No. 53 in July, 1922. He later affiliated with Apollo Commandery No. 1 and served as Eminent Commander in 1946 and is now the Prelate. He is a member of Medinah Shrine.

Companion Hooper was appointed Illustrious Grand Steward of the Grand Council in September 1940 and on September 21, 1945 was elected and installed Most Illustrious Grand Master.

HENRY ROY ELLISON**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1946**

Companion H. Roy Ellison, eighty-seventh Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born in Green County, Illinois on November 17, 1896. Soon after his birth his parents moved to the State of Virginia, returning to Girard, Illinois in 1909. He was educated in the schools at Girard and Business College at Decatur, Illinois.

He was first employed by the Illinois Central Railroad, then by a Coal Mining Company, and for many years was associated with a wholesale hardware business. He was married to Nell Bridwell on October 24, 1920.

Companion Ellison was raised in Girard Lodge No. 171 on February 11, 1918. He affiliated with Ionic Lodge No. 312, Decatur, Illinois, in 1926 and was elected Worshipful Master in 1928. He received a Grand Lecturer's Commission in 1929 and served as District Deputy Grand Master for several years. He was Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge at the time of his death.

Companion Ellison was exalted in Girard Chapter No. 132 on May 30, 1918 and served as High Priest in 1920. He affiliated with Macon Chapter No. 32 at Decatur, Illinois in 1928. He was Grand Chaplain of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Illinois in 1940.

He was knighted in Beaumonoir Commandery No. 9, K.T. on April 25, 1940 and served as Prelate for two years. He was a Past Patron of Owen Scott Chapter, O.E.S.

Companion Ellison was greeted as a Select Master in Auburn Council No. 90 on March 14, 1919, affiliated with Decatur Council No. 16 on August 8, 1930 and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1934. He was appointed Illustrious Grand Marshal in 1941 and on October 5, 1946 was elected and installed as Most Illustrious Grand Master.

Companion Ellison died on January 1, 1950.

EWALD H. WOLATZ**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1947**

Companion Ewald H. Wolatz, eighty-eighth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Berlin, Germany, on August 7, 1896. He came to the United States and the City of Chicago with his parents at the age of ten months. He was educated in the grade and high schools in Chicago.

He entered the government service at Oak Park, Illinois in 1916 and was transferred to Chicago in 1926. He was married to Catherine Lhota in March 1917 and seven children were born to this union.

Companion Wolatz was raised in Old Glory Lodge No. 975 in November 1917 and in 1919 he affiliated with and became a charter member of Edward Cook Lodge No. 1023 and served as Worshipful Master in 1927. He was exalted in Oak Park Chapter No. 244 in 1920. He was knighted in Siloam Commandery No. 54 K.T. in 1942 and served as Eminent Commander in 1947. He was a member of Medinah Shrine.

Companion Wolatz was greeted in Oak Park Council No. 93 on October 2, 1920, and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1932. He was appointed Illustrious Grand Steward of the Grand Council on September 18, 1942 and elected and installed Most Illustrious Grand Master on September 26, 1947.

He died at Elmhurst, Illinois on August 11, 1952.

CHARLES HARRISON PECK**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1948**

Companion Charles Harrison Peck, eighty-ninth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Aurora, Illinois, on July 21, 1889, the son of William Allen and Josephine Peck, and was educated in the grade and high schools of that city.

He entered the service of the C. B. & Q. Railroad Company in 1906 and was subsequently employed by the Independent Pneumatic Tool Company until he entered the service of his country in World War I as a member of the 131st U. S. Infantry Supply Company, 33 Division. He was honorably discharged in June, 1919 with the rank of Regimental Supply Sergeant. He was then employed for one and a half years by the Barber-Green Company. He then became associated with the Western Wheeled Scraper Company, builders of road machinery and dump cars, and remained with this company for the next eighteen years. In 1943

he became associated with the Aurora Welding Service, Inc., of which he is Secretary.

Companion Peck was raised to the Sublime degree of Master Mason in Aurora Lodge No. 254 on April 2, 1921. He was exalted in Aurora Chapter No. 22 on March 31, 1924, and served as Excellent High Priest in 1930-1931. He was commissioned as a Grand Lecturer in 1932 and served as District Inspector of the Eighth District in 1938 and 1939. He was greeted in Aurora Council No. 45 on July 2, 1925, and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1930. From 1937 to 1941 he served as Inspector of the First District. He was knighted in Aurora Commandery No. 22, and served as Eminent Commander in 1939-1940. He is a member of Medinah Shrine in Chicago, and of Roosevelt-Aurora Post No. 84, American Legion.

Companion Peck was appointed Illustrious Grand Steward of the Grand Council in 1943 and was advanced each year and on the 96th Annual Assembly on October 8, 1948 when he was elected and installed Most Illustrious Grand Master.

HERBERT ARTHUR THOMAS

Most Illustrious Grand Master 1949



Companion Herbert Arthur Thomas, ninetieth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Terre Haute, Indiana, on May 6, 1900, the son of Charles and Sarah Ellen Thomas. He graduated from Technical High School in 1918.

He entered the service of the Pennsylvania Railroad in the Electrical Department, and after nine years joined the Nickel Plate Railroad at Frankfort, Indiana. He later transferred to Charleston, Illinois. In 1928 he started service with the New York Central System at Anderson, Indiana, and in 1929 was transferred to Kankakee, Illinois.

He was married to Matilda Bernice Holmes on May 27, 1935 and to this union one son, Wayne Eugene, was born.

Companion Thomas was raised in Terre Haute Lodge No. 19 on September 15, 1921, exalted in Terre Haute Chapter No. 11 on June 2, 1922, and greeted a Select Master in Terre Haute Council No. 8 on September 20, 1922. He affiliated with Kankakee Lodge No. 389 in 1933. He affiliated with Kankakee Chapter No. 78, and served as High Priest in 1941. He affiliated with Owisco Council No. 108 on November 10, 1933, and served as Thrice Illustrious Master for two years, 1939 and 1940, and has since served as Recorder. He was knighted in Ivanhoe Commandery No. 33 K.T. on February 13, 1934. He is a member of Medinah Shrine.

Companion Thomas is an Honorary Member of the Grand Council of

Indiana, the Grand Chapter of Indiana, The Order of the Silver Trowel of Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, and Wisconsin. He belongs to Orion Shrine No. 44, W.S.J., and the Masonic Veterans Association of Chicago.

Companion Thomas served as Inspector of the First District for two years and in 1944 was appointed Illustrious Grand Steward of the Grand Council. On October 7, 1949, at Aurora, he was elected and installed as Most Illustrious Grand Master.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY SWANSON

Most Illustrious Grand Master 1950



Companion William McKinley Swanson, ninety-first Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Minneapolis, Minnesota, on November 5, 1896. He served Overseas in World War I with the 110th Field Artillery, 29th Division. He moved to Chicago, Illinois in 1920. On October 21, 1920 he married Louise Anderson of Chicago. There are two children, Glen Burton and Beverly Jayne.

He was a building salesman for over twenty years, the last ten years as Sales Engineer with the Overhead Door Corporation. He also took an active interest in civic affairs in his community and ward.

Companion Swanson was raised in Ashlar Lodge No. 308, Chicago on November 15, 1921. He became a charter member of West Irving Lodge No. 1154 in 1926. He was exalted in Irving Park Chapter No. 195 on November 29, 1922, and served as High Priest in 1938. He was Knighted in St. Elmo Commandery No. 65 on April 16, 1938, and served as Eminent Commander in 1942. He was a member of Medinah Shrine and a Past Commander of Post No. 143, Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Companion Swanson was greeted in Siloam Council No. 53 on February 4, 1939, and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1941. He was appointed Illustrious Grand Steward of the Grand Council in 1944 and was elected and installed Most Illustrious Grand Master on September 30, 1950.

He died in Chicago, Illinois on January 31, 1951.

WILLIAM RAY LASHBROOK**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1951**

Companion William Ray Lashbrook, ninety-second Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at French Lick, Indiana, on June 17, 1905. With his parents he moved to Olney, Illinois, where he has since resided. After completing his education he became associated with the International Shoe Company and has been in their employ since that time. On January 20, 1924 he was united in marriage with Miss Ethel Hudson.

Companion Lashbrook was raised in Olney Lodge No. 140 on May 14, 1938, and served as Worshipful Master in 1943. He was exalted in Henry Godeke Chapter No. 38 on October 1, 1938, and served as High Priest in 1941. He was greeted in Olney Council No. 55 on February 20, 1939, and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1943. He was knighted in Gorin Commandery No. 14, K.T., and served as Eminent Commander in 1942.

Companion Lashbrook received the Scottish Rite degrees in Springfield Consistory S.P.R.S. and Co-Ordinated bodies A.A.S.R., Valley of Springfield on November 27, 1944, at Springfield, Illinois. He became a member of Ainad Temple A.A.O.N.M.S. at East St. Louis, Illinois, on August 10, 1944. He is a member of Illinois Priory No. 11, Knights of the York Cross of Honour, Olney Chapter No. 100, O.E.S. and Olney Shrine No. 87, W.S.J.

In the Grand Council he served as District Inspector in 1943 and on September 21, 1945 was appointed Illustrious Grand Steward. He was regularly advanced and on September 30, 1950 was elected and installed Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master. On the death of Most Illustrious Grand Master William McKinley Swanson, on January 31, 1951, he served as Acting Most Illustrious Grand Master until the annual Assembly of Grand Council, October 20, 1951, when he was elected and installed Most Illustrious Grand Master.

CHARLES A. RAU

Most Illustrious Grand Master 1951



Companion Charles A. Rau, ninety-third Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Racine, Wisconsin, on September 14, 1891. He attended public Schools in Chicago Heights, Illinois, and Sterling, Illinois. He attended the University of Wisconsin and graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering.

After graduation he entered the employ of the Corn Products Refining Company at Pekin, Illinois, and after five years he became associated with the Jansen and Schaefer Construction Company of Pekin where he has since been employed as Superintendent.

Companion Rau was married to Miss Anna Johannes on March 29, 1923 and to this union was born three children, Irma Jane, Carl Richard, who died in infancy, and Charlotte Anna. He is a member of the St. Paul Evangelical and Reformed Church at Pekin, Illinois.

Companion Rau was raised in Rock River Lodge No. 612 at Sterling, Illinois, on April 25, 1913 and affiliated with Pekin Lodge No. 29 in 1930. He was exalted in Sterling Chapter No. 57 on April 27, 1918 and affiliated with Pekin Chapter No. 25 in 1932, and served as High Priest in 1948. He was greeted in Peoria Council No. 11 on January 21, 1929, and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1943. He also served a year as District Inspector. He was knighted in Sterling Commandery No. 57 on October 15, 1918, and affiliated with Peoria Commandery No. 3 in 1921, serving as Eminent Commander in 1945 and 1946.

Companion Rau was installed a Knight Companion, Red Cross of Constantine in St. Helena Conclave No. 3 at Peoria in 1946. He is a member of Peoria Consistory Mohammed Shrine, Celestial City Chapter No. 333, O.E.S., and Irin Grotto. He was consecrated a Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priest in Simon Peter Tabernacle No. 22 in 1952.

Companion Rau was elected Illustrious Grand Steward in 1946, and was regularly advanced and elected and installed Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council at Danville on October 20, 1951.

HOWARD deFORD TRAINOR**Most Illustrious Grand Master 1952**

Companion Howard deFord Trainor, ninety-fourth Most Illustrious Grand Master, was born at Boone, Iowa, on February 22, 1896, and at an early age moved with his parents to Chicago. He attended the Chicago public schools, Marinette, Wisconsin, High School, and the College of Engineering, University of Michigan.

He served in World War I as 2nd Lieutenant, F. A., attached to the First Army in France.

After graduation he engaged in research and development and became associated with the Sorter Graf Company, an international firm of management counselors specializing in office routines. He has served as Chicago representative since 1937.

Companion Trainor was made a Master Mason in Damascus Lodge No. 643 on September 17, 1919. He was exalted in Fort Meigs Chapter No. 29 on April 26, 1921. He was greeted in Toledo Council No. 33 on May 12, 1921. All these bodies are in Toledo, Ohio.

Companion Trainor affiliated with King Oscar Lodge No. 855 on December 16, 1941, and served as Worshipful Master in 1950. He affiliated with Lincoln Park Chapter No. 177 on April 13, 1942, and served as High Priest in 1946. He affiliated with Chicago Council No. 4 on January 27, 1942, and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1945-46. He was knighted in Apollo Commandery No. 1 on September 16, 1941, and served as Commander in 1947-48.

He is a member of Illinois Priory No. 11, Knights of the York Cross of Honour, Masonic Veterans' Association of Illinois, Medinah Temple, and Theodore Roosevelt Post No. 627 of the American Legion.

He became a Grand Lecturer of the Grand Chapter in 1947, served as District Inspector and member of the Board of Grand Examiners. He is a Past President of the Royal Arch Grand Lecturers Association of Illinois and the Royal Arch Standard Club of Chicago of which he is instructor.

He received the Scottish Rite degrees in the Valley of Chicago in 1940, and has served as an officer in the Lodge of Perfection, Chapter of Rose Croix, and is now Orator of Oriental Consistory.

Companion Trainor was elected Grand Steward of the Grand Council in 1947, and was regularly advanced becoming Most Illustrious Grand Master on October 25, 1952.

Centennial Observance

One hundred years of Cryptic Masonry in Illinois was observed at the Scottish Rite Cathedral in Chicago on September 24 and 25, 1935.

Ritualistic Instruction under the direction of Companion William W. Lewis and the conferring of the degree of Thrice Illustrious Master by companions from Peoria occupied the morning and afternoon of the first day, followed by the Grand Master's dinner in the evening.

One hundred and sixty-five Masons and their ladies enjoyed this wonderful dinner which was remarkable in three respects: The number of distinguished guests present, particularly Knights of the York Cross of Honour; Grand Master Trainor's introduction of scores of guests without aids or hesitation; and there were no orations, not even a short speech, a feature enjoyed by all.

Following the dinner the guests were entertained by the Chicago Scottish Rite Cathedral Chorus, directed by George D. Rees 33°.

The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of Illinois assembled at 9:30 A.M., Friday, September 25, 1935, with Companion Howard deFord Trainor, Most Illustrious Grand Master, presiding. Distinguished guests, Past Grand Masters, Representatives, and District Inspectors were introduced. The remainder of the day was devoted to the transaction of business.

The Grand Master presented three of his own gavels to Grand Council. One, received as Worshipful Master of King Oscar Lodge No. 855, to be used by future Grand Masters; one, received as Thrice Illustrious Master of Chicago Council No. 4, to be used by future Deputy Grand Masters; and one, received as Excellent High Priest of Lincoln Park Chapter No. 177, Royal Arch Masons, to be used by future Grand Principal Conductors of the Work.

Companion G. Carl Benedict, Thrice Past Master of Herrin Council No. 116, was elected and installed Most Illustrious Grand Master. Companion Trainor was presented with the jewel and the apron of a Past Grand Master and welcomed into the ranks of Past Grand Masters.

Grand Council Official Family

1952-1953

GRAND OFFICERS

Howard deFord Trainor (4).....	Most Illustrious Grand Master
G. Carl Benedict (11)	Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master
Oliver I. Underwood (20).....	Illustrious Grand Princopal Conductor of the Work
Frank R. Grote, P.G.M. (78).....	Illustrious Grand Treasurer
Charles W. Keys, P.G.M. (11).....	Illustrious Grand Recorder
Rev. Paul W. Mallory (4).....	Illustrious Grand Chaplain
Clark H. Keyes (95).....	Illustrious Grand Captain of the Guard
Fred O. Ellis (3).....	Illustrious Grand Conductor of the Council
Shubert F. Somer (97).....	Illustrious Grand Marshal
Donald P. Lapp (124).....	Illustrious Grand Steward
Reginald A. Andrews (115).....	Illustrious Grand Sentinel
Roy L. Hughes (12)	Illustrious Grand Sentinel Emeritus

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Howard deFord Trainor (4).....	Most Illustrious Grand Master
Frank R. Grote, P.G.M. (78).....	Illustrious Grand Treasurer
Burton F. Secord, P.G.M. (95).....	Chairman Finance Committee
Fred H. Kruger, P.G.M. (67)	Advisor

STANDING COMMITTEES

Jurisprudence

E. Raymond Kelley, P.G.M. (30)	Chairman
E. W. Eggmann, P.G.M. (61)	Ben C. Nead, P.G.M. (1)
George E. Wilkinson, P.G.M. (3)	Herbert A. Thomas, P.G.M. (108)
James K. Lambert, P.G.M. (92)	William R. Lashbrook, P.G.M. (55)
Ernest M. Campbell, P.G.M. (55)	Charles A. Rau, P.G.M. (11)

Condition of the Rite

Edward A. Glad (113).....	Chairman
Lorne W. Christian (13)	Merl C. Gillis (19)
Robert A. Reynolds (95)	George K. Crichton (116)

Finance

Burton F. Secord, P.G.M. (95).....	Chairman
Raymond W. Hooper, P.G.M. (92)	Fred H. Kruger, P.G.M. (67)

Credentials

Richard W. Farrall (95).....Chairman
 Volney E. Storey (7) Robert S. Keltner (70)

Grand Master's Address

Charles H. Peck, P.G.M. (45).....Chairman
 C. Russell Brokaw (8) George D. Zettler (127)

Mileage and Per Diem

David W. Isenhour, P.G.M. (74).....Chairman
 Robert N. Whitley (20) William Meade (37)

Obituaries

Rev. Paul W. Mallory (4)

Charters and Dispensations

Ernest H. Dammann (53).....Chairman
 James A. Johnson (16) Cecil T. Ryner (46)

Fraternal Relations

Harry Hall (65), Chairman

William W. Lewis (92).....Chairman
 Ralph E. Skinner, Sr. (11) C. Gilbert Toler (49)

Cryptic Review and Information

William H. Knutz, P.G.M. (124).....Chairman
 Myron K. Lingle (2) Arnim G. Olson (124)
 Ralph S. Davis (93) Allen H. Miller (30)

The Illinois Cryptic Mason

William H. Knutz, P.G.M. (124), Editor

100th Anniversary Committee

Oliver I. Underwood (20).....Chairman
 Ernest H. Dammann (53) Lorne W. Christian (13)
 George K. Crichton (116) Charles C. Wodetzki (83)

DISTRICT INSPECTORS

David W. Hillstrom (4).....First District
 William Ray Fancher (78).....Second District

Thomas French (108).....	Third District
George Carlson (110).....	Fourth District
Clair G. Alexander (30).....	Fifth District
William S. Lewis (1).....	Sixth District
George F. Moulton (13).....	Seventh District
John H. Lidaker, Jr. (10).....	Eighth District
Robert J. McClure (2).....	Ninth District
William J. Egan (61).....	Tenth District
Martin I. Nicholas (55).....	Eleventh District
Jesse A. Chastain (70).....	Twelve District

Numbers in parenthesis indicate Council membership.

MOST ILLUSTRIOUS PAST GRAND MASTERS

Present:

E. W. Eggmann (61).....	1918-1919
Charles W. Keys (11).....	1931-1932
Fred H. Kruger (67).....	1932-1933
Burton F. Secord (95).....	1935-1936
David W. Isenhour (74).....	1936-1937
Ben C. Nead (1).....	1939-1940
Ernest M. Campbell (55).....	1941-1942
Frank R. Grote (78).....	1942-1943
E. Raymond Kelley (30).....	1943-1944
William H. Knutz (124).....	1944-1945
Raymond W. Hooper (92).....	1945-1946
Charles H. Peck (45).....	1948-1949
Herbert A. Thomas (108).....	1949-1950
William R. Lashbrook (55).....	1951

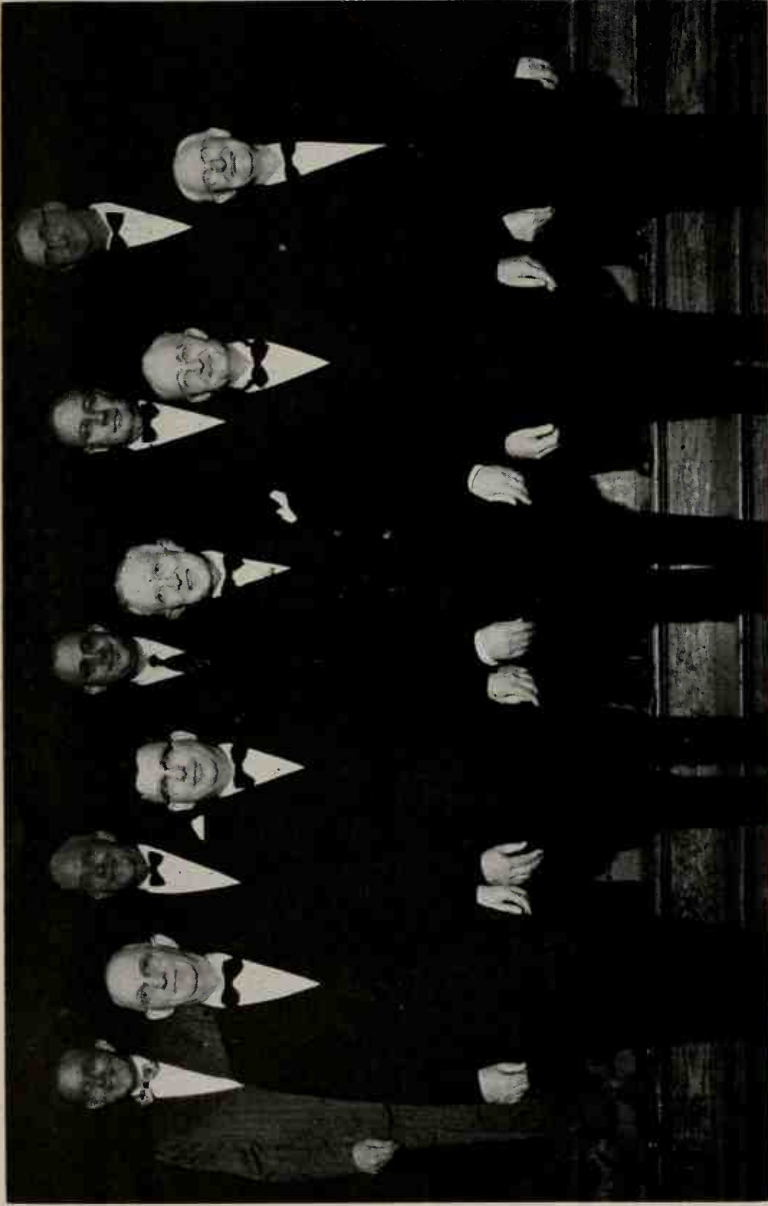
Unable to Attend:

George E. Wilkinson (3).....	1926-1927
James K. Lambert (92).....	1927-1928
Charles A. Rau (11).....	1951-1952

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

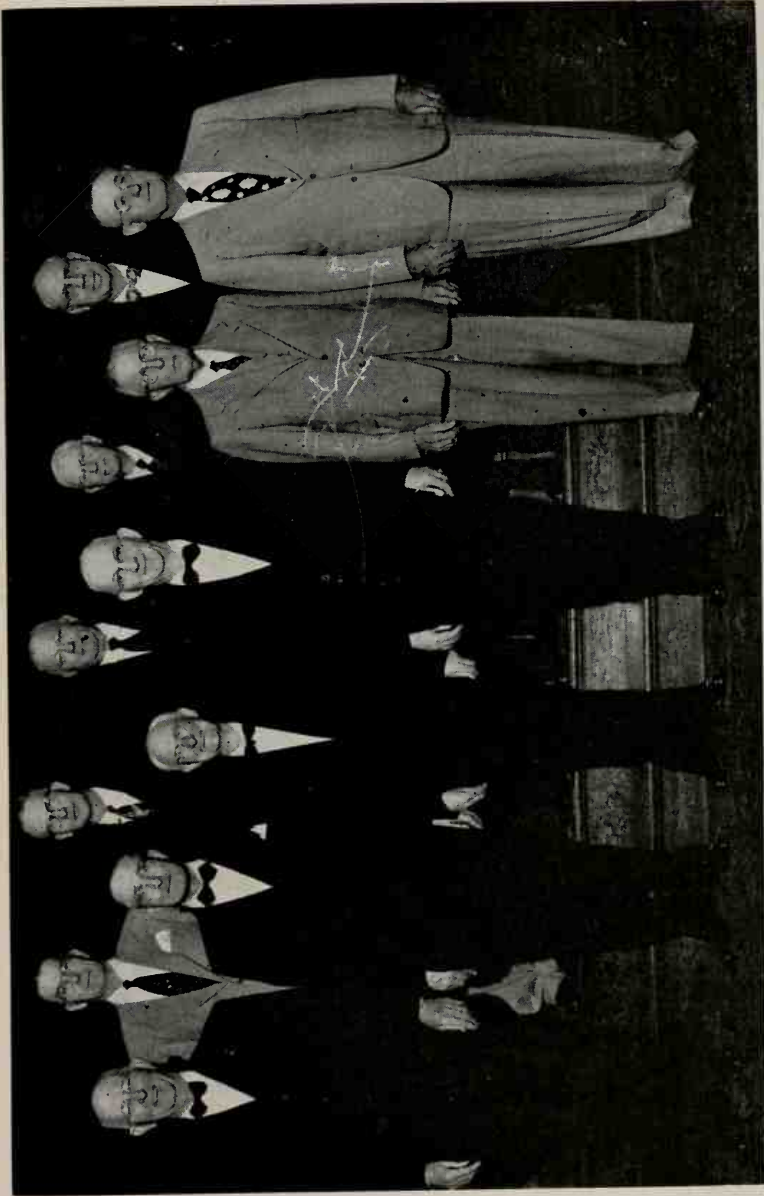
- Albin C. Anderson, Fraternal Correspondent, Grand Council, New York.
 Carl Eli Anderson, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Commandery, Illinois
 George H. Anderson, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Council, Iowa.
 Donald D. Boudeman, Grand Master, Grand Council, Michigan.
 Ernest M. Campbell, Past Grand High Priest, Grand Royal Arch Chapter,
 Illinois.
 Lorne W. Christian, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand Royal Arch Chapter,
 Illinois.
 Edward E. Core, Grand Secretary and Past Grand High Priest, Grand Royal
 Arch Chapter, Illinois.

- George K. Crichton, Grand King, Grand Royal Arch Chapter, Illinois.
- Richard C. Davenport, Grand Secretary and Past Grand Master, Grand Lodge, Illinois, Past Grand High Priest, Grand Royal Arch Chapter, Illinois.
- Rufus S. Druley, Grand Commander, Grand Commandery, Illinois.
- Seth W. Flanders, Grand Color Bearer, Grand Commandery, Illinois.
- J. Merritt Freeman, Grand Master, Grand Council, Minnesota.
- Edward A. Glad, Past Grand Commander, Grand Commandery, Illinois, Grand Recorder, Imperial Council Red Cross of Constantine, Knight Commander, Simon Peter Tabernacle, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests.
- Harold Duncan Hayes, Past Grand Commander, Grand Commandery, Illinois.
- David W. Isenhour, Past Grand Commander, Grand Commandery, Illinois.
- Clark H. Keyes, Deputy Prior, Illinois Priory No. 11, Knights of the York Cross of Honour.
- John H. Lidaker, Jr., Grand Master of the Third Veil, Grand Royal Arch Chapter, Illinois.
- Peter A. McCracken, Grand Master, Grand Council, Iowa.
- Carl A. Miller, Deputy for Illinois and Grand Marshal General of the Supreme Council, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.
- Ben C. Nead, Grand Captain of the Host, Grand Royal Arch Chapter, Illinois.
- John Y. Olson, Past Grand High Priest, Grand Royal Arch Chapter, Illinois.
- Stuart A. Paul, Grand Master, Grand Council, Wisconsin.
- Stanley A. Raymer, Grand Master, Grand Council, Indiana.
- Ward A. Rowbottom, Grand Recorder and Past Grand Master, Grand Council, Wisconsin, Grand Secretary and Past Grand High Priest, Grand Royal Arch Chapter, Wisconsin, Past Prior, Wisconsin Priory No. 16, Knight of the York Cross of Honour, Past Preceptor, Simon of Cyrene Tabernacle, Wisconsin.
- William H. Stevens, Grand High Priest, Grand Royal Arch Chapter, Illinois.
- Walter W. Taylor, Past Grand High Priest, Grand Royal Arch Chapter, Illinois.
- Charles C. Wodetzki, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Commandery, Illinois.
- Russell V. Wright, Past Grand Commander, Grand Commandery, Illinois.



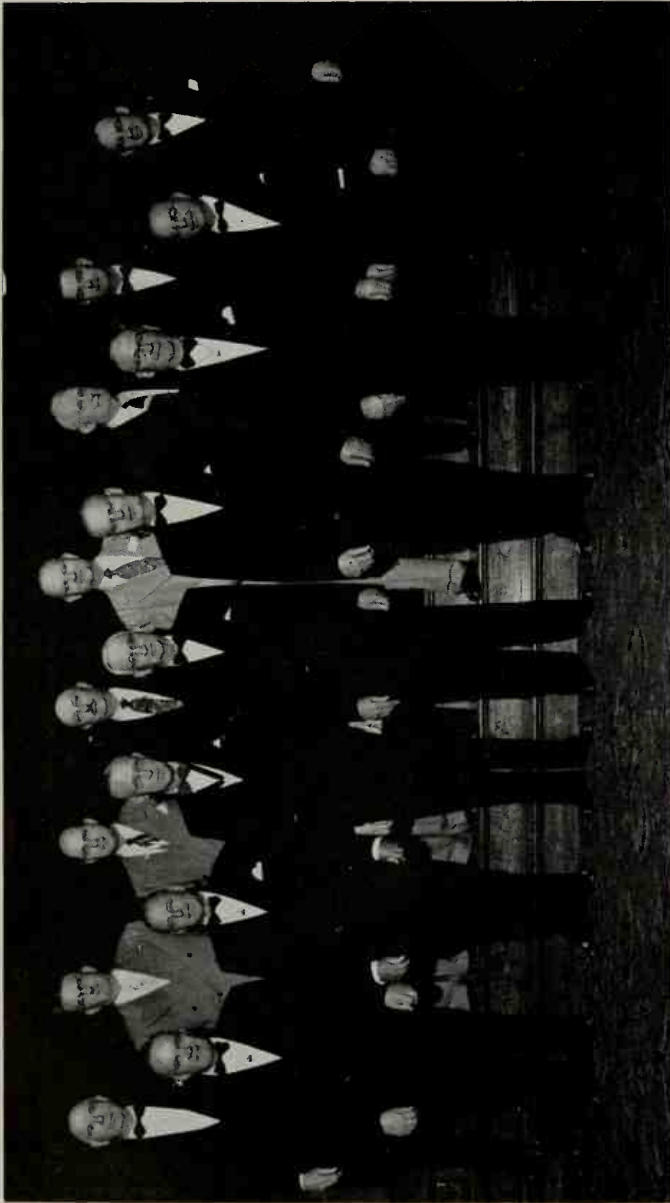
Grand Council Officers 1952-1953

Left to right, front row: FRANK R. GROTE, Grand Treasurer; G. CARL BENEDICT, Deputy Grand Master; HOWARD D. TRAINOR, Grand Master; OLIVER I. UNDERWOOD, Grand Principal Conductor of the Work; CHARLES W. KEYS, Grand Recorder. *Back row:* FRED O. ELLIS, Grand Conductor of the Council; DONALD P. LAPP, Grand Steward; REV. PAUL W. MALLORY, Grand Chaplain; CLARK H. KEYES, Grand Captain of the Guard; SHUBERT F. SOMER, Grand Marshal.



Past Grand Masters

Left to right, front row: BURTON F. SECORD, E. RAYMOND KELLEY, CHARLES W. KEYS, FRANK R. GROTE, EMILE W. EGGMANN, RAYMOND W. HOOPER. *Back row:* ERNEST M. CAMPBELL, WILLIAM R. LASHBROOK, CHARLES H. PECK, BEN C. NEAD, WILLIAM H. KNUITZ.



Distinguished Guests

Left to right, front row: STUART H. PAUL, M.I.G.M. Wisconsin; J. MERRITT FREEMAN, M.I.G.M. Minnesota; PETER C. MCCrackEN, M.I.G.M. Iowa; RICHARD C. DAVENPORT, M.W.P.G.M., Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge of Illinois; WILLIAM H. STEVENS, M.E.G.H.P., Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois; WARD A. ROWBOTTOM, M.I.P.G.M., Grand Recorder, Wisconsin; RUFUS S. DRULEY, R.E.G.C., Knights Templar of Illinois. *Back row:* CARL A. MILLER 33° Deputy for Illinois, A.A.S.R.N.M.I.; GEORGE H. ANDERSON, R.I.D.G.M. Iowa; STANLEY A. RAYMER, M.I.G.M. Indiana; LORNE W. CHRISTIAN, R.E.D.G.H.P. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois; CARL E. ANDERSON, E.G.G., Knights Templar of Illinois; EDWARD A. GLAD, Grand Recorder Imperial Order Red Cross of Constantine; RUSSEL V. WRIGHT, R.E.P.G.C. Knights Templar of Illinois; DONALD C. BODEMAN, M.I.G.M. Michigan.

Record of Constituent Councils

NOTES

The complete story of charters arrested and restored, occasionally several times in the same council, will probably never be told. Early records often lack the needed information. In 1871 Grand Council records were destroyed by fire. The merger of council degrees into chapters during 1878-1882, with resulting lack of records, adds to the confusion. The work of reorganizing councils started in 1883. This probably had no effect on charters unless previously surrendered.

Present councils having charters restored with latest dates of authorization are:

Dixon No. 7	9-12-1917		
Mattoon No. 10	10-26-1892	Cryptic No. 46	9-13-1911
Peru No. 12	10-26-1892	Carrollton No. 48	10-24-1894
Rock Island No. 20	10-29-1902	Beardstown No. 88	10- 8-1948
Canton No. 23	9-26-1947	Herrin No. 116	10-15-1944

RECORD OF CONSTITUENT COUNCILS

Name	No.	Location	Chartered*	Notes
Illinois	1	Knoxville	3-10-1854	1
Springfield	2	Springfield	3-10-1854	1
Alton	3	Alton	3-10-1854	1
Chicago	4	Chicago	9-26-1855	
Jacksonville	5	Jacksonville	9-26-1855	
Rushville	6	Rushville	9-26-1855	extinct
Webb	7	Muscatine, Iowa	9-26-1855	2
St. Louis	7	St. Louis, Missouri	10- 1-1857	3
Dixon	7	Dixon	10- 7-1864	
Excelsior	8	Iowa City, Iowa	10- 1-1856	2
Orion	8	Princeton	9-31-1858	
Dubuque	9	Dubuque, Iowa	10- 1-1856	3
Young	9	Paris	9-31-1858	extinct
Mattoon	10	Mattoon	9-27-1860	
Peoria	11	Peoria	10-10-1862	
Peru	12	Peru	10-10-1862	
Ottawa	13	Ottawa	10-10-1862	extinct
Oriental	13	Ottawa	9-21-1945	
Marion	14	Hannibal, Missouri	10- 6-1863	3
Monmouth	14	Monmouth	10- 7-1864	extinct
Galesburg	14	Galesburg	10-26-1892	extinct
Weston	15	Weston, Missouri	10- 6-1863	3
Quincy	15	Quincy	10- 7-1864	
Decatur	16	Decatur	10- 7-1864	
Avisé	17	Augusta	10- 5-1865	extinct
Gorin	18	Shelbyville	10- 5-1865	extinct
Urbana	19	Urbana	10- 5-1865	
Rock Island	20	Rock Island	10- 4-1866	
Tuscola	21	Tuscola	10- 4-1866	extinct
Barry	22	Barry	10- 4-1866	extinct
Canton	23	Canton	10- 4-1866	
Cairo	24	Cairo	10- 4-1866	extinct

Name	No.	Location	Chartered*	Notes
Mason	25	Mason	10- 4-1866	extinct
Effingham	26	Effingham	10- 4-1866	extinct
Monticello	27	Monticello	10- 4-1866	extinct
Centralia	28	Centralia	10- 4-1866	
Cora	29	Vienna	10- 4-1866	extinct
Sinnissippi	30	Rockford	10- 4-1866	extinct
Rockford	30	Rockford	10-27-1897	
Hillsboro	31	Hillsboro	10- 4-1866	extinct
Mendota	32	Mendota	10- 3-1867	extinct
Rock River	33	Sterling	10- 3-1867	extinct
Fairbury	34	Fairbury	10- 3-1867	extinct
Mound	35	Mound City	10- 3-1867	extinct
Sycamore	36	Sycamore	10- 8-1868	extinct
Danville	37	Danville	10- 8-1868	
Metamora	38	Metamora	10- 8-1868	extinct
Freeport	39	Freeport	10- 8-1868	
Havana	40	Havana	10- 8-1868	extinct
Ford	41	Paxton	10- 7-1869	extinct
O. H. Miner	42	Dawson	10- 7-1869	extinct
Bloomington	43	Bloomington	10- 7-1869	extinct
Randolph	44	Chester	10- 7-1869	extinct
Aurora	45	Aurora	10- 6-1870	
Cryptic	46	Elgin	10- 6-1870	
Adoniram	47	Carthage	10- 6-1870	extinct
Carollton	48	Carrollton	10- 6-1870	
Adoniram	49	Carbondale	10- 6-1870	extinct
Murphysboro	49	Murphysboro	10-27-1886	
Clayton	50	Clayton	10- 6-1870	extinct
Mt. Sterling	51	Mt. Sterling	10- 6-1870	extinct
New Rutland	52	New Rutland	10- 5-1871	extinct
Rutland	52	New Rutland	10-25-1882	extinct
Siloam	53	Chicago (West)	10- 5-1871	
Central City	54	Central City, Colorado	10-23-1872	extinct
Olney	55	Olney	10-23-1872	
Sumner	56	Sumner	10-23-1872	extinct
Dallas	57	Dallas City	10-23-1872	extinct
Marion	58	Marion	10-23-1872	extinct
M. J. Noyes	59	Pittsfield	10-29-1873	extinct
Ely S. Parker	60	Galena	10-29-1873	extinct
East St. Louis	61	East St. Louis	10-27-1875	extinct
St. Clair	61	East St. Louis	10-29-1902	
El Paso	62	Elpaso	10-25-1876	extinct
Oriental	63	Ottawa	10-24-1883	extinct
Fairfield	64	Fairfield	10-24-1883	extinct
Temple	65	Chicago	10-24-1883	
Palestine	66	Chicago	10-24-1883	
Belleville	67	Belleville	10-29-1884	
Meredosia	68	Meredosia	10-28-1885	extinct
Carlinville	69	Carlinville	10-28-1885	extinct
Saline	70	Harrisburg	10-26-1887	extinct
Egyptian	70	Harrisburg	9-28-1932	
Macomb	71	Macomb	10-26-1887	extinct
Gibson	72	Gibson City	10-24-1888	extinct
Streator	73	Streator	10-24-1888	
Clinton	74	Clinton	10-24-1888	
Chenoa	75	Chenoa	10-23-1889	extinct
Fairbury	75	Fairbury	10- 8-1948	

Name	No.	Location	Chartered*	Notes
Calumet	76	Chicago	10-29-1890	extinct
Washington	77	Washington	10-28-1891	extinct
Tyrian	78	Chicago	10-25-1893	
Watseka	79	Watseka	10-25-1893	extinct
Dekalb	80	Dekalb	10-24-1894	extinct
Gebal	81	Turner	10-24-1894	extinct
Joliet	82	Juliet	10-24-1894	
Lincoln	83	Lincoln	10-23-1895	
Mt. Pulaski	84	Mt. Pulaski	10-23-1895	extinct
Imperial	85	Chicago	10-23-1895	
Yates City	86	Yates City	10-23-1895	extinct
Kewanee	87	Kewanee	10-26-1898	extinct
Beardstown	88	Beardstown	10-26-1898	
Grant	89	Hoopeston	10-29-1902	extinct
Auburn	90	Auburn	10-29-1902	extinct
Sullivan	91	Sullivan	10-24-1906	
Woodlawn	92	Chicago	9- 9-1908	
Oak Park	93	Oak Park	9-14-1910	
Aledo	94	Aledo	9-14-1910	extinct
Adoniram	95	Chicago	9-25-1912	
Mt. Vernon	96	Mt. Vernon	9-25-1912	extinct
Salem	97	Salem	9-25-1912	
Elmwood	98	Elmwood	9- 9-1914	extinct
Staunton	99	Staunton	9-15-1915	extinct
Taylorville	100	Taylorville	9-15-1915	extinct
Collinsville	101	Collinsville	9-13-1916	
Lakeview	102	Chicago	9-24-1919	extinct
Lawndale	103	Chicago	9-24-1919	
St. Cecilia	104	Chicago	9-24-1919	
Mt. Carmel	105	Mt. Carmel	9-24-1919	
Harvey	106	Harvey	9-22-1920	
Chicago Heights	107	Chicago Heights	9-22-1920	extinct
Owisco	108	Kankakee	9-22-1920	
Joseph E. Dyas	109	Paris	9-28-1921	extinct
Maywood	110	Maywood	9-28-1921	
Concordia	111	Chicago	9-28-1921	extinct
Stockton	112	Stockton	9-28-1921	
Humboldt Park	113	Chicago	9-28-1921	
Auburn Park	114	Chicago	9-28-1921	extinct
Austin	115	Chicago	9-27-1922	
Herrin	116	Herrin	9-27-1922	
Dallas City	117	Dallas City	9-27-1922	extinct
Rock River	118	Sterling	9-24-1924	extinct
Oregon	119	Oregon	9-24-1924	extinct
Des Plaines	120	Des Plaines	9-24-1924	extinct
Waukegan	121	Waukegan	9-24-1924	extinct
Marion	122	Marion	9-24-1924	extinct
United	123	Chicago	9-22-1926	extinct
Augustus N. Gage	124	Evanston	9-28-1927	
Triad	125	Chicago	9-28-1927	extinct
Fairfield	126	Fairfield	9-26-1947	
Fort Massac	127	Metropolis	10- 7-1949	

* Date chartered is the date of annual assembly at which charter was initially authorized. Charters were sometimes surrendered and restored several times at later dates. The date of authorization is here used because it is recorded in proceedings more often than other dates.

1. Illinois, Springfield, and Alton Councils were chartered by the Grand Council of

Kentucky, Illinois as No. 15 in 1852, Springfield in 1854, and Alton in 1853. On March 10, 1854 a seal, and notice of organization of the Grand Council of Illinois to Grand Council of Kentucky, was authorized.

2. Grand Council of Iowa organized on January 1, 1857.
3. Grand Council of Missouri organized on May 21, 1864.

Membership Record

NOTES

In the early years of Cryptic Masonry in Illinois some Councils failed to make annual returns and no great effort seems to have been made to secure them. There is little doubt that the number of Royal and Select Masters in good standing was appreciably greater than the figures reported in annual proceedings.

During the years 1878 to 1882 inclusive, all Cryptic degrees conferred in Illinois were conferred in Chapters. L. R. Jerome, in the 1886 proceedings, stated that about 6,000 candidates were greeted as Select Masters in Chapters during this period. When Grand Council resumed control of the Cryptic degrees late in 1882 only 865 Cryptic Masons were reported, and it took ten years to pass the 2000 membership mark. Grand Master Nathaniel Bowditch, in 1888, stated that not less than 4000 candidates received their degrees in Chapters.

The unwise action of Grand Council in requiring healing of candidates greeted in Chapters cost many members. This action, influenced by General Grand Council with Illinois not a member, was not in accord with the intent and spirit of the merger.

Year	Number of Councils	Greeted	Net Gain	Members	Per Cent Gain
1854	3	—	—	—	—
1855	3	9	—	74	—
1856	6	—	—	—	—
1857	6	19	—	157	—
1858	8	54	55	212	35.0
1859	9	11	-75	137	-35.4
1860	10	47	37	174	27.0
1861	10	17	13	187	7.5
1862	9	58	63	250	33.7
1863	8	20	-28	222	-11.2
1864	8	44	27	249	12.2
1865	13	132	277	526	111.2
1866	28	310	362	888	68.9
1867	31	134	156	1,044	17.6
1868	34	281	200	1,244	19.2
1869	37	233	163	1,407	13.1
1870	50	318	432	1,839	30.7
1871	52	164	150	1,989	8.2
1872	52	200	-25	1,964	-1.3
1873	51	113	17	1,981	0.9
1874	51	150	57	2,038	2.9
1875	51	152	134	2,172	6.6

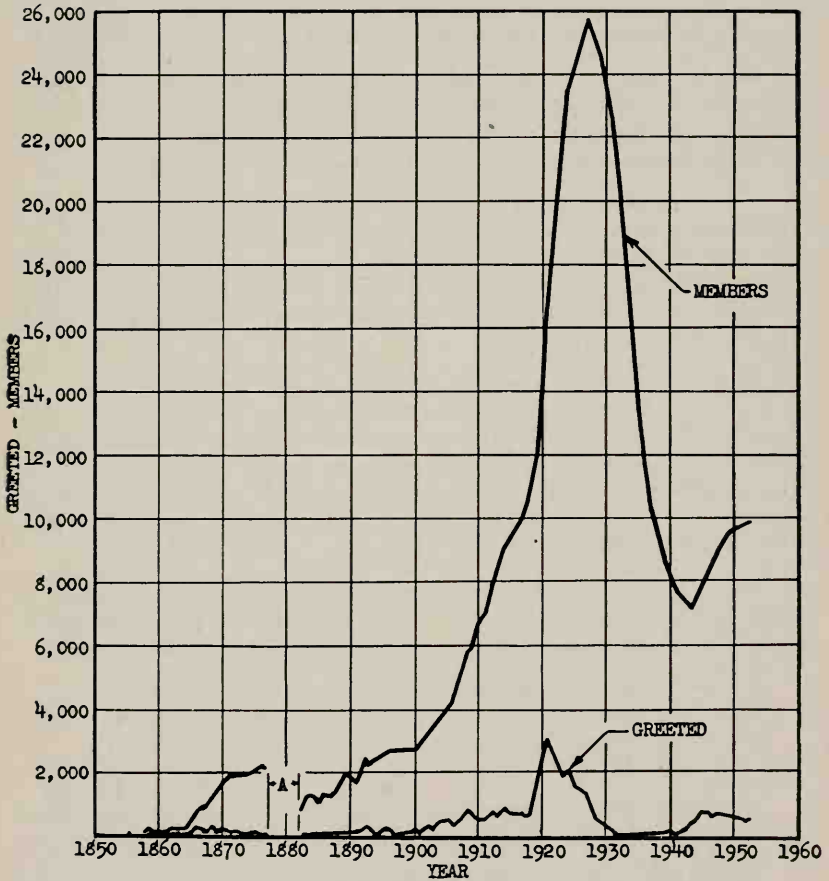
MEMBERSHIP RECORD

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Year	Number of Councils	Greeted	Net Gain	Members	Per Cent Gain
1876	54	105	29	2,201	1.3
1877	54	51	-589	1,612	-26.8
1878			merger period		
1879			merger period		
1880			merger period		
1881			no assembly		
1882	—	—	—	865	—
1883	26	70	430	1,295	49.8
1884	26	95	19	1,314	1.5
1885	29	69	-242	1,072	-18.4
1886	35	77	325	1,397	30.3
1887	37	94	-93	1,304	-6.7
1888	44	160	264	1,568	20.2
1889	40	186	441	1,909	28.1
1890	42	131	-48	1,861	-2.5
1891	43	187	-170	1,691	-9.1
1892	47	230	788	2,479	46.6
1893	49	204	-250	2,229	-10.1
1894	54	185	269	2,498	12.1
1895	57	237	125	2,623	5.0
1896	57	312	142	2,765	5.4
1897	58	146	1	2,766	—
1898	60	159	10	2,776	—
1899	44	184	-21	2,755	0.8
1900	51	209	-8	2,747	—
1901	57	176	226	2,973	8.2
1902	58	381	376	3,349	12.6
1903	52	357	168	3,517	5.0
1904	52	431	454	3,971	12.9
1905	53	502	85	4,056	2.1
1906	51	442	367	4,423	9.0
1907	58	525	620	5,043	14.0
1908	55	868	795	5,838	15.8
1909	50	615	142	5,980	2.4
1910	58	530	694	6,674	11.6
1911	58	495	318	6,992	4.8
1912	60	868	985	7,977	14.1
1913	61	619	467	8,444	5.9
1914	60	912	594	9,038	7.0
1915	61	721	402	9,440	4.5
1916	63	769	302	9,742	3.2
1917	60	837	526	10,268	5.4
1918	60	707	346	10,614	3.4
1919	64	1,321	1,277	11,891	12.0
1920	62	2,432	2,305	14,196	19.4
1921	72	3,092	3,284	17,480	23.1
1922	75	2,396	2,364	19,844	13.5
1923	72	2,072	1,547	21,391	7.8
1924	78	2,211	2,014	23,405	9.4
1925	77	1,640	897	24,302	3.8
1926	77	1,576	546	24,848	2.2
1927	82	1,352	1,001	25,849	4.0
1928	88	789	-533	25,316	-2.1
1929	78	542	-574	24,742	-2.3
1930	78	403	-1,183	23,559	-4.8
1931	79	254	-1,065	22,494	-4.5

Year	Number of Councils	Greeted	Net Gain	Members	Per Cent Gain
1932	80	97	-1,966	20,528	-8.7
1933	78	37	-2,480	18,048	-12.3
1934	70	32	-2,381	15,667	-13.2
1935	69	60	-2,511	13,156	-16.0
1936	67	70	-1,513	11,643	-11.5
1937	65	101	-1,379	10,264	-11.8
1938	64	88	-884	9,380	-8.6
1939	63	161	-698	8,682	-7.4
1940	62	159	-478	8,204	-5.5
1941	61	124	-545	7,659	-6.6
1942	59	200	-247	7,412	-3.2
1943	59	215	-219	7,193	-3.0
1944	58	540	202	7,395	2.8
1945	59	813	596	7,991	8.1
1946	58	637	351	8,342	4.4
1947	58	734	484	8,826	5.8
1948	59	663	339	9,167	3.8
1949	60	668	369	9,536	4.0
1950	60	598	119	9,655	1.2
1951	59	512	136	9,791	1.4
1952	59	499	53	9,867	0.6
1953	58	555	69	9,913	0.7

CRYPTIC MEMBERSHIP - ILLINOIS



A - COUNCIL DEGREES CONFERRED IN CHAPTERS, 1878 - 1882

Record of Annual Assemblies

NOTES

The assemblies of 1853 and 1854 were termed conventions. The eleven assemblies from 1855 to 1865, inclusive, were convocations. Starting with 1866 the term assembly has been used. Old manuscripts relating the legend of Prince Edwin and King Athelstan used the word assembly in telling of the gathering of Masons at York, England, in 926 A.D.

The convention of 1853, first meeting in Jacksonville then moving to Springfield, was not legal because but two councils, Illinois and Alton, held warrants. Springfield was erroneously thought to have a warrant. Royal and Select Master degrees were conferred at the 1853 convention.

The first assignment of a number to an annual assembly occurred in 1860 when number 7 appears in the proceedings. In 1870 the number 18 was used and from this date on the numbers are consecutive; the number 7 first used evidently being considered an error. No assembly was held in 1881. However, the numbers have been extended consecutively as if an assembly had been held.

Annual assembly numbers were questioned just before the fiftieth anniversary, and again recently. In the first case it was agreed that the assignments were correct. At the 1950 annual assembly, by vote of Grand Council, it was agreed that the next annual assembly be termed "Annual Assembly of 1951," omitting the number. However, continuing the numbers as established over the years makes 1953 the 101st Annual Assembly and accounts for 100 years of elapsed time.

In this record the officer presiding at opening and business session of Grand Council is shown in the table. In several cases this officer was presiding in place of the Grand Master. Presiding for the Grand Master were:

- (A) Sylvester Stevens for James V. Z. Blaney in 1858
- (B) Charles W. Matheny for Sylvester Stevens in 1859
- (C) Edward Blackshaw for Wilbur F. Bloomfield in 1875
- (D) John M. Pearson for John O'Neil in 1880

Our proceedings show the Grand Master for the year he was elected and installed, though the principal presiding duties came in the following year.

The Cryptic degrees in Illinois were relinquished to the chapters during the years 1878 to 1882, inclusive. Proceedings for these years were printed in Grand Chapter proceedings. During these years, except 1881, Grand Council continued to assemble.

RECORD OF ANNUAL ASSEMBLIES

Ann'l Yr.	Month	Day	Held At	Presiding
	1853	September 29, 30	Jacksonville	Nelson D. Morse
	1853	October 1	Springfield	James H. Hibbard
1	1854	March 10	Springfield	William A. Dickey
2	1854	September 27	Jacksonville	James H. Hibbard
3	1855	September 26	Jacksonville	James H. Hibbard
4	1856	October 1	Jacksonville	Levi Lusk
5	1857	October 1	Springfield	Edward M. M. Clark
6	1858	September 30	Springfield	Sylvester Stevens (A)
7	1859	September 29	Springfield	Charles W. Matheny (B)
8	1860	September 27	Springfield	Charles W. Matheny
9	1861	September 27	Springfield	George W. Deering
10	1862	October 10	Springfield	Charles Fisher
11	1863	October 6	Springfield	Charles Fisher
12	1864	October 7	Springfield	Orlin H. Miner
13	1865	October 5	Springfield	J. L. Ramsey
14	1866	October 4	Chicago	James H. Mills
15	1867	October 3	Springfield	James A. Hawley
16	1868	October 8	Springfield	Daniel G. Burr
17	1869	October 7	Springfield	John M. Pearson
18	1870	October 6	Chicago	William M. Avise
19	1871	October 5	Chicago	Hiram W. Hubbard
20	1872	October 23	Chicago	William A. Levanway
21	1873	October 29	Chicago	George E. Lounsbury
22	1874	October 28	Chicago	John F. Burril
23	1875	October 27	Chicago	Edward Blackshaw (C)
24	1876	October 25	Chicago	Edward Blackshaw
25	1877	October 26	Chicago	L. R. Jerome
26	1878	October 23	Chicago	Jonathan J. French
27	1879	October 29	Chicago	Philander W. Barkley
28	1880	October 27	Chicago	John M. Pearson (D)
(29)	1881	no assembly held		
30	1882	October 25, 27	Chicago	John O'Neill
31	1883	October 24	Chicago	John O'Neill
32	1884	October 29	Chicago	George W. Curtiss
33	1885	October 28	Chicago	Harvey E. Huston
34	1886	October 27	Chicago	Nathaniel Bowditch
35	1887	October 26	Chicago	Nathaniel Bowditch
36	1888	October 24	Chicago	Nathaniel Bowditch
37	1889	October 23	Chicago	George M. Moulton
38	1890	October 29	Chicago	William K. Forsyth
39	1891	October 28	Chicago	George W. Warvelle
40	1892	October 26	Chicago	Samuel J. LeFevre
41	1893	October 25	Chicago	Marshall U. Trimble
42	1894	October 24	Chicago	Frederick C. Winslow
43	1895	October 23	Chicago	Alfred M. Werner
44	1896	October 28	Chicago	Marcus M. Lord
45	1897	October 27	Chicago	George M. Gross
46	1898	October 26	Chicago	Sylvester O. Spring
47	1899	October 25	Chicago	William L. Milligan
48	1900	October 24	Chicago	Frederick E. Hoberg
49	1901	October 23	Chicago	John B. Fithian
50	1902	October 29	Chicago	William B. Carlock
51	1903	October 28	Chicago	John C. Hallenbeck
52	1904	October 26	Chicago	Abel M. Hallowell

RECORD OF ANNUAL ASSEMBLIES—Continued

Ann'l Yr.	Month	Day	Held At	Presiding
53	1905	October 25	Chicago	Charles W. Hollandsworth
54	1906	October 24	Chicago	Raymond L. Leonard
55	1907	September 11	Alton	Albert T. Hey
56	1908	September 9	Canton	Will C. Rood
57	1909	September 8	Springfield	Chester D. Clarkson
58	1910	September 14	Peoria	Harry T. Hubbard
59	1911	September 13	Peru	Edwin A. Vaughan
60	1912	September 25	Murphysboro	Edward A. Roe
61	1913	September 10	Decatur	Frederick J. Schroter
62	1914	September 9	Aurora	Joseph Schott
63	1915	September 15	Freeport	Harry L. Smith
64	1916	September 13	East St. Louis	Frederick W. Kregel
65	1917	September 12	Peoria	Julius L. Klemme
66	1918	September 25	Quincy	Rawson Bennett
67	1919	September 24	Urbana	E. W. Eggmann
68	1920	September 22	Rock Island	Charles F. Geise
69	1921	September 28	Springfield	John H. Dunlap
70	1922	September 27	Joliet	Otho L. Caldwell
71	1923	September 26	Alton	Llewellyn L. Abbott
72	1924	September 24	Murphysboro	Melville H. Leighton
73	1925	September 23	Mt. Vernon	William A. Hoover
74	1926	September 22	Decatur	George P. Van Cleave
75	1927	September 28	Rockford	George E. Wilkinson
76	1928	September 26	Centralia	James K. Lambert
77	1929	September 25	Joliet	Benjamin J. Metzger
78	1930	September 24	Danville	Harry G. Wilson
79	1931	September 23	Mattoon	Frederick C. Harbour
80	1932	September 28	Peoria	Charles W. Keys
81	1933	September 27	Chicago	Fred H. Kruger
82	1934	September 26	Kankakee	Harry G. Bartruff
83	1935	September 25	Elgin	Richard J. Howells
84	1936	September 16	Chicago	Burton F. Secord
85	1937	October 27	Chicago	David W. Isenhour
86	1938	September 21	Peoria	Henry G. Horstman
87	1939	September 20	Aurora	Walter Lintott
88	1940	September 19	Galesburg	Ben C. Nead
89	1941	September 19	Chicago	William C. Rapp
90	1942	September 18	Chicago	Ernest M. Campbell
91	1943	September 17	Chicago	Frank R. Grote
92	1944	September 17	Chicago	E. Raymond Kelley
93	1945	September 21	Chicago	William H. Knutz
94	1946	October 5	Peoria	Raymond W. Hooper
95	1947	September 26	Decatur	H. Roy Ellison
96	1948	October 8	Ottawa	Ewald H. Wolatz
97	1949	October 7	Aurora	Charles H. Peck
98	1950	September 30	Kankakee	Herbert A. Thomas
99	1951	October 20	Danville	William R. Lashbrook
100	1952	October 25	Peoria	Charles A. Rau
101	1953	September 25	Chicago	Howard D. Trainor

MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTERS

NAME	YEAR	COUNCIL	No.	VOCATION	BORN	DIED
James H. Hibbard	1853-54	Alton	3	merchant	1827	5-14-1866
Levi Lusk	1855	Rushville (A)	6	farmer	5-10-1795	7-25-1877
Edward M. Clark	1856	Rushville	6		4-13-1804	1885
James V. Z. Blaney	1857	Chicago	4	doctor	5-11-1820	12-11-1874
Sylvester Stevens	1858	Illinois	1		1804	6-15-1878
Charles W. Matheny	1859	Springfield	2	merchant	1820	4- -1879
George W. Deering	1860	Chicago	4		8- 2-1829	5- 4-1891
Charles Fisher	1861-62	Springfield	2	contractor	12-24-1822	7- 1-1911
Orlin H. Miner	1863	Springfield	2	civil service	5-24-1825	5-27-1880
John L. Ramsey	1864	Peru (B)	12	transportation	9-17-1830	
James H. Mills	1865	Chicago	4	businessman	3-15-1826	2-17-1893
James A. Hawley	1866	Dixon	7	educator	8-20-1830	12-30-1898
Daniel G. Burr	1867	Young	9	civil service	4-21-1821	
John M. Pearson	1868	Alton	3	engineer	10- 7-1882	6- 4-1910
William M. Avise	1869	Quincy	15		2-19-1827	12- 9-1888
Hiram W. Hubbard	1870	Centralia	28		10- 4-1819	1-20-1885
William A. Levanway	1871	Dixon	7	doctor		1882
George E. Lounsbury	1872	Cairo (C)	24		1837	8- 4-1878
John F. Burrill	1873	Springfield	2			
Wilbur F. Bromfield	1874	Mendota (D)	32	educator	2- 1-1840	10-23-1903
Edward Blackshaw	1875	Urbana	19	dentist	9- 1-1831	3-21-1911
Levi Randal Jerome	1876	Orion	8	doctor	6-26-1823	2- 1-1892
Jonathon J. French	1877	Siloam	53	doctor	1-31-1845	8-24-1878
Philander W. Barclay	1878	Cairo	24	merchant	12-30-1832	7- 6-1907
John O'Neill	1879 to 82	Siloam	53	merchant	1883	9-25-1909
George W. Curtis	1883	Urbana	19	banker	1-27-1849	2- 5-1926
Harvey E. Huston	1884-85	Monticello	27	lawyer, judge	1- 5-1844	5- 4-1895
Nathaniel Bowditch	1886-87	Aurora	45	mechanic	10- 6-1845	4- 6-1927
George M. Moulton	1888	Siloam	53	contractor	3-15-1851	7-24-1927
William K. Forsyth	1889	Palestine	66	druggist	12-11-1848	1- 1-1923
George W. Warvelle	1890	Chicago	4	lawyer	5- 3-1852	11-12-1940
Samuel J. LeFevre	1891	Gibson	72	merchant	4-16-1841	9-27-1917
Marshall U. Trimble	1892	Orion	8	lawyer	9-25-1847	2-15-1912
Frederick C. Winslow	1893	Jacksonville	5	doctor	10- 6-1850	10-10-1901
Alfred M. Werner	1894	Decatur	16	agent	11- 6-1836	6-10-1900
Marcus M. Lord	1895	Chenoa	75	public service	4-17-1843	3- 5-1918
George M. Gross	1896	Palestine	66		8- 6-1846	5- 1-1920
Sylvester O. Spring	1897	Peoria	11	businessman	1-30-1850	1-27-1940
William L. Milligan	1898	Oriental	63	manufacturing	9-16-1849	3-14-1919
Frederick E. Hoberg	1899	Peru	12	lawyer	12-29-1862	3-28-1923
John B. Fithian	1900	Joliet	82	lawyer	10-26-1849	3- 8-1917
William B. Carlock	1901	Bloomington	43	lawyer	3-15-1842	3- 6-1928
John C. Hallenbeck	1902	Imperial	85	agent	10-17-1849	2-28-1924
Abel M. Hollowell	1903	Jacksonville	5	jeweler	5- 3-1858	10-24-1913
Charles W. Hollandsworth	1904	Canton	23	postal service	1- 8-1858	12-20-1922
Raymond L. Leonard	1905	Chicago	4	doctor	8-15-1850	10-19-1918
Albert T. Hey	1906	Springfield	2	florist	12-20-1861	11-16-1925
William C. Rood	1907	Tyrian	78		2- 1-1853	12-28-1917
Chester D. Clarkson	1908	Peoria	11	laundry	12- 4-1871	6-24-1930
Harry T. Hubbard	1909	Urbana	19	merchant	1- 4-1866	12- 7-1936
Edwin A. Vaughan	1910	Orion	8	merchant	12-14-1852	10- 8-1928
Edward R. Roe	1911	Palestine	66	traffic mgr.	11-24-1874	11-24-1936
Frederick J. Schroter	1912	Palestine	66	pharmacist	8-18-1851	9-27-1915
Joseph Schott	1913	Lincoln	83	merchant	10- 4-1860	8-14-1949
Harry L. Smith	1914	Springfield	2	merchant	3-26-1870	5-27-1924
Frederick W. Krengel	1915	Woodlawn	92	printer	9-12-1866	6-16-1952
Julius L. Klemme	1916	Quincy	15	merchant	7- 6-1867	5- 7-1925
Rawson Bennett	1917	Siloam	53	newspaper	12- 5-1863	11-11-1922
E. W. Eggmann	1918	St. Clair	61	lawyer	3-17-1869	
Charles F. Geise	1919	Oak Park	93	insurance	3-28-1864	10-25-1922
John H. Dunlap	1920	Peoria	11	contractor	2-17-1869	1-27-1946
Otho L. Caldwell	1921	Springfield	2	lawyer	1-14-1867	3-12-1943
Llewellyn L. Abbott	1922	Imperial	85	lumber	2-18-1865	12- 8-1949
Melville H. Leighton	1923	Adoniram	95	insurance	10-10-1865	2- 8-1946
William A. Hoover	1924	Gibson	72	dentist	1- 7-1861	4- 2-1937
George P. Van Cleve	1925	Decatur	16	businessman	6-10-1876	12-17-1942
George E. Wilkinson	1926	Alton	3	educator, dr.	10-18-1868	
James K. Lambert	1927	Woodlawn	92	lawyer	3- 5- 1876	
Benjamin J. Metzger	1928	Joliet	82	manufacturer	6- 1-1876	
Harry G. Wilson	1929	Tyrian	78	library mgr.	6-22-1871	5-18-1949
Frederick C. Harbour	1930	Oak Park	93	lawyer	7- 3-1869	11- 7-1943
Charles W. Keys	1931	Peoria	11	decorator	11- 8-1874	
Fred H. Kruger	1932	Belleville	67	lawyer	9-28-1876	
Harry G. Bartruff	1933	Imperial	85	accountant	9-12-1865	6-19-1948

MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTERS—Continued

NAME	YEAR	COUNCIL	No.	VOCATION	BORN	DIED
Richard C. Howells	-----	1934 Streator	73	manufacturer	3- 8-1869	4- 30-1952
Burton F. Secord	-----	1935 Adoniram	95	executive	9- 4-1875	
David W. Isenhour	-----	1936 Clinton	74	insurance	11-26-1889	
Henry G. Horstman	-----	1937 Murphysboro	49	doctor	12-11-1868	8-10-1940
Walter Lintott	-----	1938 Aurora	45	civil service	2-10-1871	4- 5-1945
Ben C. Nead	-----	1939 Illinois	1	investments	1- 6-1880	
William C. Rapp	-----	1940 Chicago	4	publisher	9-20-1871	5- 9-1949
Ernest M. Campbell	-----	1941 Olney	55	businessman	10- 5-1892	
Frank R. Grote	-----	1942 Tyrian	78	accountant	12-15-1891	
E. Raymond Kelley	-----	1943 Rockford	30	civil service	7- 4-1893	
William H. Knutz	1944	Augustus N. Gage	124	engineer	3-31-1889	
Raymond W. Hooper	----	1945 Woodlawn	92	engineer	1884	
H. Roy Ellison	-----	1946 Decatur	16	accountant	11-17-1896	1- 1-1950
Ewald H. Wolatz	-----	1947 Oak Park	93	civil service	8- 7-1896	8-11-1952
Charles H. Peck	-----	1948 Aurora	45	manufacturer	7-21-1889	
Herbert A. Thomas	-----	1949 Owisco	108	railroad	5- 6-1900	
William M. Swanson	-----	1950 Siloam	53	salesman	11- 5-1896	1-31-1951
William R. Lashbrook	-----	1951 Olney	55	manufacturing	6-17-1905	
Charles A. Rau	-----	1951 Peoria	11	engineer	9-14-1891	
Howard D. Trainor	-----	1952 Chicago	4	engineer	2-22-1896	

(A) Also Mount Sterling No. 51.

(B) Also Rock Island No. 20.

(C) Also Mound No. 35 and Dixon No. 7.

(D) Also Tuscola No. 21.

The year shown is the year elected. This conforms to record in proceedings.

Hiram W. Hibbard was Master of three different lodges, High Priest of four different chapters, Thrice Illustrious Master of two different councils, and Commander of three different commanderies.

