

PROVINCIAL

WORCESTERSHIRE



GRAND LODGE OF

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

The Right Wor. Bro. GENERAL SIR FRANCIS J. DAVIES, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., R.C.V.O., P.G.D.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

The Wor. Bro. W. T. PAGE, P.G.D.

DEPUTY PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

Westfield, Metchley Lane,
Birmingham.

4th October, 1924.

Dear Sir and Brother,

By Command of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, I hereby give you notice that the next Annual Meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge will be held at the Public Hall, Worcester, under the Banner of "Page" Lodge No. 3378, on Saturday, the 15th day of October next, at 2.45 p.m., and hereby summon you, and such Brethren of your Lodge as are Members of the Provincial Grand Lodge, to be then and there present, that your Lodge may be duly represented.

The attendance of Brethren of this and other Provinces, being Master Masons, is cordially invited. In order to obtain entrance, the Admission Slip must be properly signed.

Yours fraternally,

F. A. Ernest Payne, P.A.S.D.C. Eng.
Provincial Grand Secretary.

BUCKET to be transacted at the Meeting is stated on the Agenda subjoined.
DRESS—Black Morning Coats, Dark Trousers, and White Gloves, or Uniform.

ALLOTTMENT will be carved at the Masonic Hall, St. Nicholas St., Worcester, at 1.15 p.m. at which the Provincial Grand Master will preside.

The Ticket price 20/- each, including Wine, must be applied for on the enclosed form not later than Friday, October 10th. There will be no banquet after the Meeting.

TEA and LUNCH / REFRESHMENTS will be provided after P.G. Lodge Meeting by the Brethren of the "Page" Lodge, No. 3378, at the Masonic Hall.

* Provincial Grand Officers unable to attend are requested to forward their JEWELS, and Provincial Grand Stewards their CLOTHING and JEWELS, to the Provincial Grand Secretary.

A Craft Lodge will be opened in three degrees by the Master and Officers of the
"Page" Lodge, No. 3378, at 2.20 p.m.

The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master and Provincial Grand Officers will enter the Lodge, and having been received with the customary honours, the Provincial Grand Lodge will be opened in due form at 2.45 p.m.

Business :

1. To read the Summons convening Provincial Grand Lodge.
2. To confirm the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting held at Kildermunster on the 20th of October, 1923.
3. To receive apologies for absence.
4. To receive the Provincial Grand Secretary's report on the state of Masonry in the Province.
5. To receive a brief statement from the Master of each Lodge in the Province concerning the work of his Lodge during the past year and any facts of interest relating thereto.
6. To receive the Audited Accounts of the Provincial Grand Treasurer (pro tem.), and if approved to adopt the same.
7. To elect a Provincial Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year.
8. To receive the report of the General Committee upon the War Relief Fund.
9. To receive and, if approved, accept the recommendation of the General Committee that the present Provincial Grand Lodge By-Law No. 11 be deleted and the following new By-Law No. 11 be substituted and entered on the Minutes:

The Charity Organisation of the Province shall be conducted by a Committee consisting of:

(1) The General Committee of the Province;

(2) A Charity Steward and one other Representative from each Lodge, who shall both be elected annually at the regular Meeting for the election of the Master;

(3) The Hon. Secretary of the Organisation, who shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge; and

(4) Any Subscribing Member of a Lodge in the Province who is a Patron, Vice-Patron, or Vice-President of either of the three Masonic Institutions.

The names of the Charity Stewards and elected Representatives must be forwarded to the Hon. Secretary by the Secretary of each Lodge within seven days of the date of election.

This Committee shall be empowered to hold Meetings, frame Rules, grant relief from the Provincial Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund in a sum or sums not exceeding £20 to any necessitous case which may arise, and generally to conduct the Charity business of the Province.

In cases of emergency, immediate relief not exceeding £5 may be given by the Hon. Secretary, subject to the approval of the Provincial Grand Master, or, in his absence, of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master; but any such emergency grants must be reported at the next Meeting of this Charity Committee, specifying the special circumstances and amounts given.

This Committee shall present to Provincial Grand Lodge an Annual Statement of Accounts and Report of its proceedings, setting out the number and names of Candidates elected to the several Masonic Institutions, the number of votes expended on such elections, a statement of Votes lent or borrowed, and particulars of the amounts that have been granted from the Benevolent Fund of the Province.

Such Statement of Accounts and Report, when approved and adopted by Provincial Grand Lodge, shall be entered on the Minutes thereof.

The Charity Steward of each Lodge shall, during the month of October in each year, send to the Hon. Secretary of the Committee a full return of the number of Votes held by his Lodge, together with the names of the holders.

10. To receive and, if approved, adopt the recommendation of the General Committee that One Hundred Guineas be paid to the Masonic Memorial Fund at the Festival in 1925, to be presided over by the M.W. Grand Master; and Two Hundred and Fifty Guineas to be paid at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys in 1925, to be presided over by the Rt. W. Provincial Grand Master, from the Funds of this Provincial Grand Lodge.
11. To receive the Report of the Charity Committee, enclosed herewith.
12. To elect the Hon. Secretary of the Charity Organisation.
13. To receive the Report of the Library and Museum Committee, enclosed herewith.
14. To make a collection for a charitable purpose.
15. To call the muster roll of the Lodges.
16. To nominate a candidate for election to the Board of General Purposes (B.C. 255b).
17. To elect a Representative to the Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.
18. The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master to appoint one Member of the General Committee under By-Law No. 6.
19. To elect two Brethren to serve on General Committee under By-Law No. 6.
20. To receive Fees of Honour from Provincial Grand Officers.
21. The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master to appoint and invest his Officers.
22. The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master to appoint place for holding the next Annual Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge.
23. To transact any other business that may arise for the good of the Order in general or of this Provincial Grand Lodge in particular.
24. To close Provincial Grand Lodge.

It is particularly requested that you fill in the enclosed form and forward it with remittance not later than Friday, October 10th.

Seats will be numbered, and reserved for those only who make this application, as the accommodation is limited.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Worcestershire.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR 1923-4.

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.
Fees of Honour	40	19	0
Dispensations	5	10	0
Calendars	135	14	0
Lodge Dues	188	9	0
Founder's Fees	3	9	0
Sundries	1	9	11
	<u>£375</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>

	£	s.	d.
Calendars (two years)	102	16	1
Tyling Fees	6	5	0
Rent	15	0	0
Collar Jewels	2	13	6
Associated Provinces (Subscription)	1	0	0
Library and Museum Fund	20	0	0
Insurance	2	11	6
Printing and Stationery	2	2	10
Postages and Sundries	18	13	10
Expenses of Charity Organisation ..	21	4	9
Reserve Fund	10	0	0
Benevolent Fund	15	1	7
	<u>£375</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>

BENEVOLENT ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.
Balance from last year	113	11	9
Collection at P.G.L.	26	13	0
Bank Interest	1	16	0
Transferred from Management Account	133	1	7
	<u>£275</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>

	£	s.	d.
Grant—Widow, Lodge	10	10	0
" — Sister, Lodge 564	10	10	0
" — Sister, Lodge 364	10	10	0
" — Sister, Lodge 564	10	10	0
" — Widow, Lodge 560	10	0	0
Stourport Nursing Association	15	15	0
Bewdley Nursing Association	15	15	0
Balance at Bank	191	12	4
	<u>£275</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE RESERVE FUND.

	£	s.	d.
Balance from last year	75	13	5
Transferred from Management Account	10	0	0
Dividend on War Loan	5	0	0
Interest—Bank	1	11	4
	<u>£92</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>

	£	s.	d.
Cash at Bank	92	10	6
	<u>£92</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>

WAR RELIEF FUND ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.
Balance from last year	172	0	1
Interest:			
War Loan 5 per cent.—			
December, 1923	25	0	0
June, 1924	25	0	0
		0	0
War Bonds 4 per cent.—			
October, 1923	0	0	0
April, 1924	6	0	0
		12	0
Bank—			
December, 1923	1	13	7
June, 1924	2	5	11
		3	19
	<u>£238</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>
Bank Credit Balances:			
Benevolent Account	191	12	4
Reserve Account	92	10	6
War Relief Account	213	7	7
	<u>£497</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>5</u>

	£	s.	d.
Grants	25	0	0
	<u>£238</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>
Balance, as per Pass Book	213	7	7
	<u>£238</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>
Investments, at cost:			
Prov. Grand Lodge—			
5 per cent. War Loan	95	0	0
War Relief Fund—			
5 per cent. War Loan	950	0	0
5 per cent. War Bonds	300	0	0
	<u>£1,345</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Audited and found correct and securities inspected.
 THOMAS MASON, P.P.G.W.
 W. J. HILL, P.P.G.W.
 20th September, 1924.

R. A. ERNEST PAYNE,
 Provincial Grand Secretary.
 Provincial Grand Treasurer (pro tem.).

Provincial Grand Lodge of Worcestershire.

Antient Free and Accepted Masons.

ANNUAL MEETING

HOLDEN AT THE TOWN HALL, KIDDERMINSTER, ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20TH, 1923.

Present—

The Right Worshipful Brother General Sir Francis J. Davies, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., F.C.V.O., P.G.I. Eng.
PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER IN THE CHAIR; and
The Worshipful Brother William Thomas Page, P.G.I. Eng.
DEPUTY PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER

supported by Officers of Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodges (Present and Past), Visitors,
and a large number of Brethren.

Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due form.

The Minutes of the last Annual Meeting, held at Evesham on October 21st, 1922, were taken as read, confirmed, and signed.

Apologies were announced from the Provincial Grand Masters of Shropshire and Warwickshire, Deputy Provincial Grand Masters of Herefordshire and Staffordshire, the Assistant Provincial Grand Master of Warwickshire, Provincial Grand Secretaries of Warwickshire, Essex, Staffordshire, and Shropshire; from the Grand Secretary, and a number of other distinguished Brethren.

The Provincial Grand Secretary read his report, as follows:

The returns from the various Lodges, dated December 31st, 1921, shewed the membership to be 1,523. During the year there were 77 deaths and resignations, and 156 new Members, bringing the total to 1,602 at December, 1922. Allowance must be made for a number of Brethren whose names appear as members of more than one Lodge in the Province.

On the 23rd of October, 1922, the Dudley Castle Lodge, No. 4437, was consecrated at the Temple, High Street, Dudley, by the Rt. W. Provincial Grand Master, General SIR FRANCIS J. DAVIES, K.C.B., &c., &c., who appointed the following Brethren as Consecrating Officers to assist him:

V.W. Bro. S. S. SOMERS, Grand Treas. Eng., P.P.G.W.	Senior Warden
W. Bro. W. SOMERS, Prov. J.G.W.	Junior Warden
„ Rev. E. GLYN-EVANS, Prov. G. Chap.	Chaplain
„ „ R. A. ERNEST PAYNE, P.A.G.D.C. Eng., Prov. G. Sec.	Secretary
„ „ S. E. JAMES, Prov. G.D.C.	Director of Ceremonies
„ „ G. C. LING, Prov. A.G.D.C.	Asst. Director of Ceremonies
„ „ A. M. SLATTER, Prov. G. Org.	Organist
„ „ F. DAWES, Prov. G.P.	Inner Guard

At the close of the Ceremony W. Bro. W. T. PAGE (D. Prov. Grand Master) took the Chair and installed W. Bro. C. W. HIGGINS (P.M. 498, P.P.A.G.D.C.) as first Master. The Founders numbered 25. Prior to the Consecration a luncheon took place, presided over by the Rt. W. Provincial Grand Master.

On the 22nd of March, 1923, the Bordesley Lodge, No. 4495, was consecrated at the Church Institute, Redditch, by the W. Bro. WILLIAM THOMAS PAGE, P.G.D., Deputy Provincial Grand Master, who appointed the following Brethren as Consecrating Officers to assist him:

V.W. Bro. S. S. SOMERS, Grand Treas. Eng., P.P.G.W.....	Senior Warden
W. Bro. W. SOMERS, Prov. J.G.W.....	Junior Warden
.. Rev. R. A. NORRIS, P.P.G.Chap.....	Chaplain
.. R. A. ERNEST PAYNE, P.A.G.D.C. Eng., Prov. G. Sec.	Secretary
.. S. E. JAMES, Prov. G.D.C.....	Director of Ceremonies
.. G. C. LING, Prov. A.G.D.C.....	Asst. Director of Ceremonies
.. A. M. SLATTER, Prov. G. Org.....	Organist
.. F. DAWES, Prov. G.P.....	Honor Guard

At the close of the Ceremony W. Bro. W. T. PAGE (D.P.G.M.) installed W. Bro. W. G. THOMAS (P.M. 2804) as first Master. The Founders of the Lodge numbered 12. Prior to the Ceremony a luncheon took place, presided over by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, in the unavoidable absence of the Rt. W. Provincial Grand Master.

It will be within the recollection of the older Members of this Provincial Grand Lodge that a Brother named SIR RICHARD EVE, P.G.Treas. Eng., some years ago left One Thousand Guineas to each of the three Masonic Charities—the R.M.I.B., R.M.I.G., and the R.M.B.I.—for the purpose of purchasing perpetual Presentations for the benefit of the Provinces of "Hampshire and the Isle of Wight," "Warwickshire," and "Worcestershire." The Presentations were to be at the disposal of the three Provinces in rotation, and one Lodge in each Province was to have a certain preference should it present a Candidate. Between the date of the Will and the death of Bro. EVE, the cost of the Presentations was raised to Fifteen Hundred Guineas. It was then mutually arranged that the bequests should be handed over to the three Institutions, and that they should pay £3 per cent. compound interest at half-yearly rests, until the required sums had accumulated; which has now become an accomplished fact.

The rotation between the Provinces entailed considerable difficulty; therefore, when the duly accredited representatives of the Provinces—W. Bro. Commander H. GILES, D.P.G.M., Hants.; W. Bro. F. G. SWINDEN, Prov. G. Sec., Warwickshire; and W. Bro. R. A. ERNEST PAYNE, Prov. G. Sec., Worcestershire—met in London on 25th October, 1922, to carry out the necessary formalities an Agreement was arrived at whereby the Province of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight stands possessed of the perpetual Presentation to the R.M.I.B., Warwickshire to the R.M.I.G. and this Province to the R.M.B.I.; each Province relinquishing any claim to the Presentations accorded to the others.

The W. Masters made brief statements concerning the work of their Lodges.

The audited accounts of the Provincial Grand Treasurer (W. Bro. F. T. GOODMAN) were received and adopted.

On the proposition of the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. GOODMAN for his excellent services to the Province in the capacity of Prov. Grand Treasurer during the last three years.

The Prov. Grand Secretary reported that he had received one nomination only for the office of Prov. Grand Treasurer, viz., W. Bro. T. Ellershaw, Past Master of 2724. The Rt. W. Prov. Grand Master therefore declared Bro. ELLERSHAW duly elected.

The Prov. Grand Secretary presented the audited accounts of the War Relief Fund, which were received and adopted.

The Report of the Charity Committee was received and adopted.

W. Bro. MALLORY, the Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, addressed the Brethren concerning the work of his Institution, and made special reference to the fact that the Rt. W. Prov. Grand Master would be taking the Chair at the Festival in the year 1925. He expressed the hope that the Brethren of Worcestershire would do all in their power to support him.

On the proposition of the D.P.G.M., seconded by W. Bro. J. JONES, W. Bro. C. P. PERRY was re-elected Hon. Secretary of the Charity Organization.

The Report of the Library and Museum Committee was received and adopted.

W. Bro. GOODMAN gave his report concerning the Masonic Million Memoria' Scheme and stated that up to date the sum of £1,979 5s. 3d. had already been sent by the Province; an increase of £496 os. od. since last year. Stability (564) had during the year qualified as a Hall Stone Lodge, thus joining the Pro Patria (4144), which qualified last year; the only other Lodge qualifying being the Lechmere Volunteer (1874). He regretted that there were still a few Lodges in the Province who had not yet expressed their willingness to support the Grand Master's appeal. He hoped that every Lodge and every individual Brother in the Province would in due time see their way to do so. The total promised subscriptions now amounted to over £450,000, of which the Provinces had promised about £120,000. 558 Lodges had qualified or would qualify as Hall Stone Lodges, including 160 Provincial Lodges. Over 9,500 Brethren had received the Commemorative Jewel issued for a minimum subscription of Ten Guineas.

The Rt. W. Provincial Grand Master said that he had the greatest pleasure in asking W. Bro. W. T. PAGE (Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the Province) to accept his Portrait, painted by Mr. Harold Speed, and a cheque for 245 guineas; as well as a gold wrist watch for Mrs. PAGE: the gifts of the Craft Lodges, the Royal Arch Chapters and the Mark Lodges and Brethren of this Province as a mark of their esteem and affection, as well as a token of their high appreciation of the magnificent services that he had given to Masonry and the Province for many, many years.

The Prov. Grand Master referred to the fact that Bro. PAGE was esteemed in the highest degree by everyone with whom he had come in contact, both as a man and a Mason. He gave a brief outline of the Masonic career of Bro. PAGE:

He was Initiated in 529 in 1882; W.M. in 1889 and 1903; W.M. of 3378 in 1909; Prov. A.D.C. in 1890; Prov. Sec. 1896 to 1898; D.P.G.M. 1899; D.P.G.M. in charge 1907-8 and 1918-9; Hon. Sec. Charity Organisation 1895-1903; Grand A.D.C. 1902; Past G.D. 1915.

Exalted in 280 in 1886; Z in 1897 and 1907; Z of 529 in 1894 and 1902; Z of 377 in 1900; Z of 3643 in 1918; Z of 3378 in 1920; Prov. G. 1st Asst. Soj. 1893; J in 1897; Grand Supt. 1919; Grand St.B. in 1902; P.G.Asst. Soj. 1915; Advanced 1890; W.M. 1894; Prov. Gd. Sec. 1897-1902; D.P.G.M. 1911; Prov. G.M. 1919; Grand J.O. 1907.

In conclusion, the Prov. Grand Master expressed the universal hope that Bro. PAGE might be spared to the Province for many years.

W. Bro. PAGE, in accepting the Presentation, expressed his most sincere and heartfelt thanks to all the Brethren, and stated that he did not like the expression " service " to the Province, as it had been to him a labour of love. He stated that he was deeply touched by the presentation to Mrs. PAGE, which would come to her as a great surprise, and he would like to tell them that, indirectly, the Province owed a good deal to Mrs. PAGE, as she had in no single instance dissuaded him from carrying out his Masonic duties, even though he might have been called away from home many times in a single week.

A collection was then made, which amounted to £26 13s. 0d. This was ordered to be made up to Thirty Guineas and divided equally between the Stourport and Wilden Nursing Association and the Bewdley Nursing Association.

The muster Roll of the Lodges was then called and declared as follows :

252	Harmonic	21	3185	Stechford	12
280	Worcester	8	3308	Abbot Lichfield	15
377	Hope and Charity	40	3378	Page	20
498	Royal Standard	16	3569	Avon	20
529	Semper Fidelis	13	3638	Wyche	10
560	Vernon	33	3643	Campden	8
564	Stability	10	3863	King's Heath	9
573	Perseverance	22	3877	Mystic Ques	8
1097	S. Michael	18	4079	S. Mary's	4
1204	Royds	8	4081	King's Norton	7
1874	Lechmere	15	4004	S. Verstan's	3
2034	Masefield	16	4144	Pro Patria	6
2385	Godson	11	4137	Dudley Castle	12
2654	Arter	15	4195	Bordesley	7
2724	S. Laurence	15			

Members of Lodges in the Province ..	402
Visitors	8
	<hr/>
	410

The Prov. G. Secretary announced that, as W. Bro. G. C. KENT would remain our representative at the Board of General Purpose until June, 1926, no nomination was necessary.

W. Bro. ALFRED ALLEN was re-nominated as the representative to the Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

The Rt. W. Prov. Grand Master appointed W. Bro. T. MASON as his representative on the General Committee under By-Law No. 6.

W. Bro. C. D. EATON, P.G.STD.B., and W. Bro. W. J. HILL, P.P.G.W., were elected to serve on the General Committee under By-Law No. 6.

W. Bro. GOODMAN reported that all Fees of Honour had been paid.

The Rt. W. Prov. Grand Master then invested his Officers for the year 1923-4, as follows :

Prov. Gd. Senior Warden	W. Bro. F. T. GOODMAN, P.P.G.Treas.	573
" " Junior Warden	" " H. CHUMBLEY, P.P.G.D. . .	560
" " Chaplain	" " Rev. H. G. CRABTREE	377
" " Treasurer	" " T. ELLERSHAW	2724
" " Registrar	" " J. F. R. MARRIAN 529 & 3879	
" " Secretary	" " R. A. ERNEST PAYNE, P.P.G.W.	3643
" " Director of Ceremonies	" " F. S. RAWSON 1874 & 4174	
" " Senior Deacon	" " J. G. RUSHER	3509
" " Junior Deacon	" " W. G. LEE	3378
" " Superintendent of Works	" " A. V. ROWE	280
" " Assistant Director of Ceremonies . . .	" " E. S. ROBINSON	560
" " Sword Bearer	" " H. C. LEWIS	2034
" " Standard Bearer	" " A. HAMILTON	377
" " Standard Bearer	" " L. BEYRON MORGAN	1204
" " Organist	" " A. M. SLATTER	3308
" " Assistant Secretary	" " F. F. BAKER	4001
" " Pursuivant	" " R. A. COLLEY	3863
" " Assistant Pursuivant	" " W. STACEY	3873
" " Stewards	Bros. G. R. MASON, W. JOHNSTONE, F. S. COBB, A. S. FOSTER, L. J. LLOYD, and A. T. FORTY	all of 560
" " Tyler	Bro. O. SCOTT	564
" " Assistant Tyler	" " J. RADBAND	280

The Rt. W. Prov. Grand Master conferred First Rank as follows :

Past Prov. Senior Grand Warden	W. Bro. W. S. DAVIS, P.P.G.R.	1097
" " Senior Grand Warden	" " F. JUCKES, P.P.G.Asst.P.	2727-4001
" " Senior Grand Deacon	" " F. EDWARDS	1874
" " Sword Bearer	" " J. MITCHELL	3185

Invitations were offered to the Rt. W. Prov. Grand Master to hold his next Provincial Grand Lodge Meeting under the Banners of the Arter and Page Lodges. The Rt. W. Prov. Grand Master accepted the invitation of the Page Lodge ; the date of the Meeting to be hereafter fixed.

The Prov. Grand Secretary announced that he had received an appeal from the Masonic Hospital and Nursing Home. On the proposition of the D.P.G.M., and seconded by W. Bro. C. P. PERRY, the sum of Ten Guineas was voted to it.

The Rt. W. Prov. Grand Master thanked the Brethren of the Vernon Lodge for the excellent arrangements made for this Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge.

Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in due form.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Worcestershire.

REPORT

OF

LIBRARY AND MUSEUM COMMITTEE.

THE COMMITTEE have pleasure in presenting their TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT to Provincial Grand Lodge.

During the past year many objects of interest have been added to the Museum, including 34 books, 17 jewels, and 22 pieces of interesting and valuable glass; the latter item materially strengthening a section in which the Museum was previously somewhat deficient. Amongst these are several old firing glasses, generously presented by several Lodges of the Province. The Committee gratefully acknowledges these particular gifts, and would welcome further additions to make the collection as representative as possible of the Lodges in the Province.

They further gratefully appreciate the kindness of the following Brethren, from whom gifts have been received during the year:

Wor. Bro. W. T. PAGE	Books, Jewels, Towel, &c.
" " C. D. EATON	Book, By-Laws, Jewels, Glass.
" " D. OAKLEY	Books, Badges, Glass, Certificates, Demit.
" " W. ALLEN	Book.
" " F. D. RATCLIFF	Calendars.
" " C. W. HIGGINS	Jewel and Badge.
" " F. T. GODMAN	Founder's Jewel.
" " H. HUGHES	Jewel.
" " H. F. FENTON	Book.
" " J. E. WALL	Firing Glass.
" " E. PACKARD	Book, Pamphlets, &c.
" " F. J. UNDERWOOD	Firing Glass.
District G. Sec. of Nat'l	Books.

Also from the following Lodges:

Hopes and Charity	Glass, Book, &c.
Venon	Glass.
Aster	Glass.
Fort Royal	Book, &c.
Edburgha	Book.

Your Committee again emphasise the importance of depositing in the Library old Minute Books, &c. During the year the Treasurer's Book of Provincial Grand Lodge, dating back to 1874, has been received.

During the year the preparatory work necessary for the issue of the new catalogue is being pressed forward with vigour. A new arrangement of exhibits has been provided for by the alteration of existing cases and the purchase of two new ones; it has also been found necessary to provide a typewriter and desk in view of the considerable amount of clerical labour entailed in the preparation of a card index system.

This provision has added considerably to the expenditure of the year, and your Committee feel that, in order to secure the continuity of the work, they can with confidence appeal to Provincial Grand Lodge for an increase in the grant they so kindly make from £20 to £30.

Your Committee have decided to adopt the use of a bookplate. In order that the same may be of a distinctive Masonic type, they cordially invite Brethren who are interested in such matters to submit designs or suggestions; these should be submitted by December 31st to the Secretary, from whom particulars as to size, &c., may be obtained.

Your Committee gratefully acknowledge the valuable assistance given by the Lodge and Masonic bodies and their representatives in the matter of Subscriptions, and again confidently appeal for an early renewal of the same.

Attached is a Statement of Accounts.

Signed on behalf of the General Committee

W. T. PACE, P.G.D. ENG., D.P.G.M.,
Chairman.

JOHN CAMPBELL, P.P.G.W.,
Hon. Librarian.

FRED UNDERWOOD,
Hon. Secretary.

September, 1924.

LIBRARY & MUSEUM ACCOUNT (1923-1924).

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
		£ s. d.			£ s. d.
3/10/23	Balance at Bank	31 1	Books purchased	2 6 0	
	Subscriptions	50 9 0	Glass and Jewels purchased	12 9 6	
	Interest, &c.	0 14 9	Leicester Lodge of Research	7 6	
	Balance due to Treasurer ..	9 16 5	Printing	3 18 0	
			Postages, &c.	1 6 9½	
			Custodians's Salary	15 0 0	
			To New Catalogue Reserve Fund ..	10 0 0	
			Typewriter	12 12 0	
			Roll Top Desk	10 10 0	
			Repairs, alterations, and additions (in-		
			cluding two new Show Cases) ..	29 11 5½	
		<u>£98 1 3</u>			<u>£98 1 3</u>

NEW CATALOGUE RESERVE FUND.

3/10/23.	Balance	30 0 0	3/10/24.	Balance	40 0 0
20/9/24.	From General Fund	10 0 0			
		<u>£40 0 0</u>			<u>£40 0 0</u>

Audited and found correct.

CUTHBERT H. COOK, P.P.G.W., P.M. 529, 3378, 3638.
JOHN CAMPBELL, P.P.G.W., Hon. Treasurer.

October 3, 1924.

Province of Worcestershire Masonic Charities Organization.

REPORT OF THE CHARITY AND BENEVOLENT COMMITTEE.

To be presented to the Provincial Grand Lodge on October 18th, 1926.

Your Committee herewith present their Forty-fourth Annual Report.

THEY have to announce that the Subscriptions and Donations this year have been £1,560 4s. 0d., as against £1,805 17s. 6d. last year. £250 5s. 6d. has been paid to the three Institutions, and the remainder reserved to redeem the Votes of those Brethren who deferred their claims for the Boys' Festival in June, 1923. There are at the moment 693 Subscribers to the Organisation.

There has been no issue of Votes to either of the Institutions this year. The position to the Western Province Masonic Charity Association remains as before; that is, we are indebted to the Association for 9,552 Votes on the School side, and have to our credit 4,080 Votes for the Benevolent Institution.

The Province has one male Annuitant receiving £52 10s. 0d. per annum from the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. One Annuitant has deceased since the last Report. There are eleven female Annuitants in the Province receiving £56 each per annum from this Institution. One has deceased, and three others have been admitted at the last May election; viz.: one from Semper Fidelis Lodge, one from Royds Lodge, and one from Lydney Lodge. Each of the three Annuitants received one half-year's annuity at their election in May last. The total receipts of these twelve Annuitants for this Province cost the Institution £668 10s. 0d. per annum.

We have three Girls in the Schools at Clapham; a further Girl (F. M. NICHOLS), now receiving out-education, will be admitted to the Schools this September; three other Girls are receiving out-education by nomination under Law 85; two others are receiving out-education prior to admission to the Schools; and a further one Girl will be elected in October; making a total of ten receiving benefits from the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

We have four Boys being educated in the Schools at Bushey—one of these (G. S. N. HUGHES), who is sixteen years of age, is retained and being coached at Bushey for a University Scholarship; a further Boy (J. R. HENDERSON), who was receiving out-education, will be admitted to Bushey Schools this September; three others are receiving out-education; a total of eight receiving the benefits of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

Since the last Report the Province has made relief grants consisting of Ten Guineas each to three sisters of a Brother late of the Stability Lodge; Ten Pounds to the widow of a Brother of Vernon Lodge under Law 4; and Ten Guineas to the widow of a Brother of Semper Fidelis Lodge.

Before the next Report is issued the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, to be held in June next (at which the Rt. Wor. Bro. Gen. SIR FRANCIS J. DAVIES, Prov. Grand Master for this Province, is to preside), will be history. Your Committee are desirous that the occasion shall be made worthy of the Province and of our Provincial Grand Master, and trust that no effort will be spared by the Charity Stewards to induce every Subscribing Member to support the Festival as a Dining Steward; or, if this is not possible, as a Non-Dining Steward; or, at least, by a donation of £2 2s. od. to the list. The qualification of a Steward is a personal donation of £10 10s. od., securing 500 Votes at each contested election; and a fee of £2 2s. od. for Dining or £1 1s. od. for Non-Dining Stewards, for which an additional Vote and the Steward's Jewel of the Festival is given. During the past three years many of the Subscribers to the Provincial Tontine who have been successful in the ballot have reserved their share for this purpose, and the Committee trust that this will enable many Brethren to attend the Festival who otherwise would not do so, and point out that where a Brother has a £5 5s. od. share to his credit in the organisation he will only be required to find a further £5 5s. od. and the Steward's fee. This should be previously brought before the Brethren by either the Wor. Master or the Charity Steward at each meeting during the ensuing session and the interest of all secured for the movement. Only by united effort can we hope to secure the sum aimed at—£75,000—or maintain the prestige of the Province.

At the last meeting of the Charity Organisation, held on January 26th, new By-Laws were adopted and were ordered to be printed. This has been done, and copies have been forwarded to each Charity Steward for distribution. Further copies will be supplied by the Secretary on request.

The Province was represented at the Benevolent Institution in February last by the following Stewards:

Lodge 2674	Bro. RAYMOND ALLEN	Lodge 4001	Bro. ALFRED ALLEN
" 3165	" J. W. BRYAN	" "	" E. C. MORRIS
" "	" W. G. HARPUR	" "	" E. GLOVER
" "	Mrs. G. L. BOURNE	" "	" A. S. ALLEN
" 3569	Bro. A. PETTIFER	" 4144	" S. F. RAWSON
" "	The Avon Lodge		

With a combined total of £124 5s. 6d.

At the Festival of the Girls' Institution held in May last:

Lodge 529	Mrs. J. E. HALL	Lodge 3185	Bro. J. W. BRYAN
" 573	Bro. S. S. SOMERS	" "	" J. E. WINTERBOTTOM
" "	" C. W. WEBSTER	" "	" G. BARTON
" "	" H. MUCKLOW	" "	" W. G. HIGHAM
" 1204	" J. E. WALL	" "	" T. C. PATCHETT

With a combined total of £99 15s. od.

At the Festival of the Boys' Institution held in June last.

Lodge 1204 Bro. J. PRATT

Lodge 3873 Mrs. R. HOGGINS

" 3185 " J. W. BRYAN

With a combined total of £26 5s. od.

It is, of course, realised that the small amounts sent to each of the Institutions this year is the result of the reservation of Votes won by Tontine and the preparation for the Boys' Festival in June next.

On behalf of the Committee.

CHARLES P. PERRY.

Hon. Secretary.

20th September, 1924.

In view of the extra correspondence and work which the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys will entail in 1925, your Committee recommend that the Hon. Secretary be empowered to purchase a typewriter.

At the meeting held at Worcester on the 20th September, 1924, it was resolved that the Committee desire to express and record their deep appreciation of the services rendered by the Hon. Secretary, W. Bro. C. P. PERRY, P.M.G.W., during the past year, and they offer to him their sincere thanks for his conduct of the work of the Association.

W. PAGE,

Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

To THE RT. WORSHIPFUL PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER
and THE BRETHREN OF THE PROVINCE OF WORCESTERSHIRE.

We have audited the Accounts of the Provincial Masonic Charity Organisation for the past year and certify to their correctness. It will be observed that the sum of £1,500 4s. od. has been received from subscriptions, and that the amount now in reserve for the 1925 Boys' Festival is £867 18s. 2d. The cash balance carried forward is £148 14s. 10d.

We wish to take this opportunity of drawing the attention of the Lodge Charity Stewards to certain matters which add considerably to the work of the Provincial Charity Secretary and, incidentally, of the Auditors:

- (1) Certain Charity Stewards do not use the official counterfoil receipt books provided by the province.
- (2) Certain other Charity Stewards use the books but do not return them to the Provincial Charity Secretary.
- (3) Certain other Charity Stewards use the books and return them but do not forward the counterfoils as being of any importance, and either fill them up or do not fill them up, according to the exigencies of the moment.
- (4) Some Stewards return the original lists and some do not.

It would very much facilitate matters if each Charity Steward would make a point of entering up the counterfoils and receipts immediately he gets the book from the Provincial Charity Secretary in the exact order in which the names appear in his list, and it would then be a simple matter to fill in the dates and sign the receipts as the amounts were received.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

W. J. HILL, P.P.S.G.W.

CHAS. F. GETTINGS, P.P.S.G.D.

Auditors.

18th September, 1924.

Province of Worcestershire Masonic Charities Organization.

Statement of Accounts, 1923-24.

Presented by W. Bro. Charles P. Perry.

	RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
1923				
Balance in Bank (No. 1 A/c.)	79	15	124	5
Do. (No. 2 A/c.)	1,000	8	99	15
Bank Interest	63	5	26	5
1923-4				
Lodge 252 Harmonic	24	12	36	15
" 280 Worcester	53	7	148	18
" 377 Hope and Charity	97	0	148	14
" 498 Royal Standard	30	13	0	0
" 520 Semper Fidelis	69	17	0	0
" 560 Vernon	60	18	0	0
" 564 Stability	33	12	0	0
" 573 Perseverance	25	11	0	0
" 1097 St. Michael	39	19	0	0
" 1204 Roysds	3	5	0	0
" 1874 Lechlmere Volunteer	—	—	—	—
" 2034 Masefield	35	14	0	0
" 2385 Godson	42	0	0	0
" 2654 Arter	75	12	0	0
" 2724 St. Laurence	53	11	0	0
" 3185 Stechford	78	15	0	0
" 3308 Abbot Lichfield	32	11	0	0
" 3378 Page	88	4	0	0
" 3560 Avon	42	7	6	0
" 3638 Wyche	33	12	0	0
" 3643 Campbell	78	15	0	0
" R.A. Chap. 3043 Campbell	10	10	0	0
" 3863 Kings Heath	21	0	0	0
" R.A. Chap. 3863 King's Heath	2	2	0	0
" 3873 Mystic Quest	65	2	0	0
" 3879 St. Mary's	21	0	0	0
" 4001 King's Norton	89	5	0	0
" 4004 St. Werstan	12	12	0	0
" 4144 Pro Patria	34	13	0	0
" 4437 Dudley Castle	24	3	0	0
" 4495 Bordesley	38	17	0	0
" 4505 Fort Royal	26	11	0	0
" Provincial Grand Chapter	105	0	0	0
	1,560	4	0	0
			£3,303	14
			0	0

CHARLES P. PERRY, P.P.G.W., P.P.G. Treas.
Hon. Secretary to the Organisation.

Examined and found correct.—11th September, 1924.
W. J. HILL, P.P.S.G.W.
CHAS. F. GETTINGS, P.P.S.G.D.

£3,303 14 0