

The American Lodge of Research

(Warranted May 7, 1931)
FREE and ACCEPTED MASONS
NEW YORK

April 2, 1959

Dear Brother:

A Special Communication, the 125th Meeting of the Lodge, will be held in Masonic Temple, 875 East Main Street, Rochester, New York on

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 1959

The Lodge will be opened at eight o'clock and immediately thereafter the papers listed herewith will be presented:

EARLY HISTORY OF MASONRY IN MONROE COUNTY

by HERMAN A. SARACHAN

BLANCHARD POWERS

by O. A. LANG

This meeting is being held through the courtesy and under the auspices of the Masters and Wardens Association of Monroe County. Your presence is requested, accompanied by as many of your Masonic friends as possible. Members of lodges in the two Monroe Districts are especially invited, and also those in Wayne, Ontario-Seneca-Yates, Livingston, Genesee-Wyoming, Erie, and Niagara-Orleans.

The meeting will be preceded by a dinner, also in the Masonic Temple, at a cost of \$1.75. Reservations should be made in advance with

ODELL B. KELLY

Masonic Service Bureau
875 Main Street, East
Rochester 5, New York

Members and visitors coming from a distance may wish to stay over night. Brother Kelly will also help with hotel reservations if requested in advance.

Fraternally,

WARD K. ST. CLAIR, *Master*

TEMPLE R. HOLLCROFT, *Senior Warden*

HENRY EMMERSON, *Junior Warden*

Attest:

HAROLD V. B. VOORHIS, P.M., *Secretary*
100 Remsen Street, Apt. 3-F
Brooklyn 1, New York
Business Phone WO 2-2132

MASTER'S NOTES

MONROE COUNTY

Monroe County, located on both sides of the Genesee River, comprises an area of about 660 square miles of territory along the south shore of Lake Ontario. In 1790 there were probably less than one hundred surveyors and settlers in the area, but with the turn of the century settlers began to arrive in increasing numbers.

In 1810 a petition was drafted by twenty-four Masons to organize a Masonic Lodge at Pittsford, east of the Genesee River, and the following year a petition was presented by twelve Masons to organize a lodge at Riga, west of the river. Within fifteen years ten Masonic lodges were working in as many communities. In addition two Chapters of Royal Arch Masons and one Encampment (Commandery) were at work. It is the aim of the first paper to tell something about these Masonic organizations.

BLANCHARD POWERS

Blanchard Powers was a Mason of Genesee County, west of Monroe. He was active at the time and place of the Morgan incident and was one of very few in western New York who remained openly faithful to the Fraternity during that difficult time. Dr. Lang has assembled the facts and given us an interesting paper on his life.

THE MASTERS AND WARDENS ASSOCIATION, 1959

The Masters and Wardens Association is composed of the Masters, Senior Wardens and Junior Wardens of the thirty-one lodges in Monroe County. The organization holds regular monthly meetings at which matters of common interest are discussed, announcements concerning important events are made, and pertinent problems of mutual interest are thrashed out. In existence for over a quarter of a century, this organization serves to unify the strength of the lodges behind the important Masonic projects in Monroe County, such as the Masonic Service Bureau, Masonic Bureau of Education, the Annual Masonic Communion Breakfast, etc. Its sponsorship locally of the forthcoming meeting of The American Lodge of Research is an example of its activity in the Masonic community.

* * *

Our Lodge has lost three of its Active Members:—

Paul Stein (No. 309) on October 21, 1958.

Henry C. Turner (No. 8) on January 20, 1959. Brother Turner was a Charter Member and Trustee of the Lodge.

Theodorus Stevens (No. 112) on February 9, 1959.

Also, the following Corresponding Members have passed away:—

Stanley E. Williams (No. 609) on October 21, 1958.

Albert J. Rowland (No. 299) on April 21, 1958.

Philip W. Dasch (No. 431) on June 14, 1958.

George H. Hauser (No. 619) on May 26, 1958.

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DUES—When this notice went to press *only* 80 members out of 411 had not paid 1959 dues. Hope you are not one of them.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Victor W. Lyon was elected an Active Member (No. 77) of the Lodge on January 29, 1959. He was appointed a member of the Publications Committee by the Master.

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"There is a seeming tendency among Masons to graft into the Fraternity the 'ballyhoo' of the present commercialized age. Lodges sometimes introduce novel means to create and sustain interest. There is, apparently, a growing desire for display and publicity, a near approach to what might be termed 'advertising'.

"All this perhaps may appeal to those who care for innovations, but it seems far aside from the true and fundamental principles of the Fraternity. The danger is that those great principles, which have enabled Masonry to exist through the ages, may be hidden and forgotten in the many side issues.

"Masonry was not intended to produce thrills, glitter or display. It does not pretend to give the sort of entertainment that is to be found in the theater.

"Masonry would teach its adherents the seriousness of life, would have them learn of those things which are stable and will endure."

* * *

WHERE DO YOU FIT?

Where do you fit in this lodge of ours,
With its hustle and bustle and work;
Are you one of the gang that helps it along,
Or are you with those who shirk?
Are you one of the low average just driftin' along,
Are you listenin' Profit or Loss;
Are you stallin' for time or startin' to climb,
How much are you putting across?
Just pull in the slack and count up your score,
Locate what you're aimin' to hit—
Don't waste ammunition and all your ambition,
But find out just where you fit.

* * *

Historians know that when Rome burned in 64 A.D. Nero (Lucius Domitius, 6th Roman Emperor) did not play a fiddle because it had not yet been invented. The instrument he played was a Tibia Utri Cularis, an early version of the Bagpipe, made of goat skin and animal bones from which the marrow had been removed. Those who did not applaud the Emperor upon his virtuosity on the "instrument" are said to have been "thrown to the Lions"—some of whom preferred it to being driven insane by the weird off-key sounds. The Romans carried their "Bagpipe" to Britain and the Scots and Irish perfected it until they had an ill wind blowing good.

OFFICERS FOR 1959

<i>Master</i>	Ward K. St. Clair (Manhattan)
<i>Senior Warden</i>	Temple R. Hollcroft (Aurora)
<i>Junior Warden</i>	Henry Emmerson (Bronx)
<i>Treasurer</i>	Peter E. Keville (Flushing)
<i>Secretary</i>	Harold V. B. Voorhis (New Jersey)
<i>Secretary Emeritus</i>	Richardson Wright (Manhattan)
<i>Chaplain</i>	Howard P. Nash (Brooklyn)
<i>Trustee—1960</i>	Townsend Scudder (Glen Cove)
<i>Trustee—1961</i>	Henry C. Turner (Brooklyn)
<i>Trustee—1962</i>	Louis Neilson (Manhattan)
<i>Senior Deacon</i>	Charles F. Gosnell (Albany)
<i>Junior Deacon</i>	James R. Case (Connecticut)
<i>Sr. Master of Ceremony</i>	Wilmer E. Bresee (Oneonta)
<i>Jr. Master of Ceremony</i>	Karl F. Hoffmann (Manhattan)
<i>Steward</i>	R. Baker Harris (D. of C.)
<i>Steward</i>	Barnard Eberlin (Manhattan)
<i>Marshal</i>	Grant H. Goodelle (Minoa)
<i>Tiler</i>	John A. Mirt (Illinois)

PAST MASTERS

Rt. W. Howard P. Nash—1947, 1948, 1949, 1950
Rt. W. Wendell K. Walker—1951, 1954, 1955
Rt. W. William L. Cummings—1956
Rt. W. Harold V. B. Voorhis—1957
Rt. W. Ward K. St. Clair—1958

COMMITTEES

MEMBERSHIP

Charles J. Wells, <i>Chairman</i> (Syracuse)	
J. Fairbairn Smith (Michigan)	Wilmer F. Bresee (Oneonta)
Stanley W. Wakefield (Yonkers)	John A. Mirt (Illinois)

PROGRAM

Wendell K. Walker, <i>Chairman</i> (Manhattan)	
William L. Cummings (Syracuse)	Peter E. Keville (Flushing)
Charles F. Gosnell (Albany)	

MUSIC

Clarence Glass, <i>Chairman</i> (Brooklyn)	
Louis Neilson (Manhattan)	Paul Stein (Manhattan)

PUBLICATIONS

Henry Emmerson, <i>Chairman</i> (Bronx)	
James R. Case (Connecticut)	Barnard Eberlin (Manhattan)
Victor W. Lyon (Bronx)	