

2008/41.564

THE MASONIC MILLION MEMORIAL FESTIVAL

A meeting of Grand Lodge held at Olympia Kensington, August 8th 1925.

Inset into the front cover of the booklet is a bronze bass relief of the Grand Master H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught.

Special Committee

(Appointed by Grand Lodge).

- M.W. Bro. H.R.H. The Duke of Connaught & Strathearn, K.G., Grand Master (President).
- M.W. Bro. Lord Amphil, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., Pro Grand Master (Vice-President).
- R.W. Bro. The Right Hon. Sir Frederick Halsey, Bart., Deputy Grand Master (Vice-President).
- *R.W. Bro. Sir Alfred Robbins, F.J.I., P.G.W., Pres. Bd. Gen. Purposes (Chairman).
- *W. Bro. Sir Kynaston Studd, O.B.E., P.G.D. (Deputy Chairman).
- R.W. Bro. Rear-Admiral Sir Edward Inglefield, K.B.E., Prov. G.M. Buckinghamshire.
- R.W. Bro. Charles E. Keyser, P.G.W., Prov. G.M. Hertfordshire.
- R.W. Bro. Viscount Leverhulme, P.G.W. (deceased).
- R.W. Bro. Lord Marshall of Chipstead, K.C.V.O., P.G.W.
- *R.W. Bro. James Stephens, P.G.W., Pres. Bd. of Benevolence.
- *V.W. Bro. Stanley Machin, P.G. Treas.
- V.W. Bro. Sir John Ferguson, K.B.E., P.G. Treas.
- V.W. Bro. W. F. Hamilton, K.C., G. Reg. (deceased).
- V.W. Bro. Sir Thomas Willes Chitty, Bart., G. Reg.
- *V.W. Bro. J. S. Granville Grenfell, G.D.C.
- W. Bro. John White, P.G.D. (Kent).
- W. Bro. C. E. Dovey, P.G.D. (S. Wales, E.D.)
- W. Bro. Albert Barrett, P.G.D. (Yorkshire, W.R.)
- W. Bro. Vincent S. Galsworthy, P.G.D.
- W. Bro. Col. Stanley T. Stephenson, P.G.D. (Lancashire, W.R.)
- *W. Bro. A. Burnett Brown, P.G.D., G. Supt. Wks.
- W. Bro. Cecil A. Cochrane, P.G.D. (Northumberland).
- W. Bro. B. Marr Johnson, P.G.D.
- W. Bro. H. Percy Monckton, P.G.D.
- W. Bro. George C. Kent, P.A.G.D.C. (Staffordshire).
- W. Bro. W. A. Sterling, P.A.G.D.C.
- W. Bro. Herbert O. Budd, P.A.G.D.C.
- W. Bro. H. J. Stamp, P.A.G.D.C. (Devonshire).

* Member of Festival Executive Committee.

Freemasons' Hall, London.

Past, Present, and Future.

FREEMASONS' HALL stands on a site which has been closely associated with the Craft from the earlier days of Grand Lodge.

There existed a Freemasons' Coffee Tavern in Wild Court, before Grand Lodge in 1774 acquired property in Great Queen Street on which to erect a Freemasons' Hall, the "two very large dwelling houses and an extensive garden" being secured for £3,150. The 'front house' was let at £90 per annum, being "useless to the Society at present"; the 'back house' furnished "commodious committee rooms, offices, kitchens, etc., without much alteration"; and "the garden was sufficiently large to build a complete hall at the expense of which would not exceed £3,000," an estimate which proved far too low.

A Hall Committee was appointed by Grand Lodge and instructed to "do what might be necessary towards building a hall." The earliest funds were raised by a Tontine, and Lord Petre, as Grand Master, laid the foundation stone on May 1st, 1775, precisely a century and a half before the 75th birthday of our present Grand Master, which by a happy coincidence fell during the 25th year of his Grand Mastership, a point upon which Grand Lodge itself laid special emphasis in its congratulations to him on May 1st, 1925.

In 1777 the building was dedicated with impressive solemnity.

It gives the history of the building of the first Freemasons Hall of 1777 and the second one of 1864

It concludes with the wish of the Grand Master that a new hall (the present one) should be built as a memorial to those brethren who fell during the war and the formation of a committee headed by Sir Edward Lutyens to assess the nearly 100 designs submitted

It also hopes that the building will commence in 1926 as this will witness 25 years as Grand Master of the Duke of Connaught.

THE 'MILLION' REFERS TO THE MILLION POUNDS NEEDED FOR THE BUILDING OF THE TEMPLE, IT WAS ALL SUBSCRIBED WITHIN A FEW MONTHS.