



Foreword

It is with considerable pleasure that I commend Brother Purdy's History of Kano Lodge No. 4975 to your attention, for I am an Initiate of the Lodge.

My heartiest congratulations on attaining your 50th Birthday:

In November 1927, sponsored by St. George's Lodge No. 3065, Kano Lodge No. 4975 was Warranted. The Lodge was consecrated on 12th March 1928.

It is of great credit to the memory of the Founders that in each successive age throughout fifty years administration, Kano Lodge has met and worked harmoniously and regularly to build on the foundations laid in 1927.

As you meet for your 580th Regular Meeting, it is appropriate that you think of your Founders and their successors, but it would be quite wrong of you to devote your thoughts entirely to history and self-congratulation, for as any well-founded Institution may be justly proud of its past, so it is generally true that those which have had the vision to plan for future generations, can be said to be really successful.

Kano Lodge No. 4975 was so obviously well-founded; it has prospered for 50 years and it is now your responsibility to lay the foundations for the next 50 years. This will constitute the most fitting tribute to your Founders, and be one worthy of the present generation.

I would enjoin you to read this work with this thought in mind.

I extend to Brother Purdy and Kano Lodge No. 4975 my sincere and fraternal good wishes in all their undertakings.

St. George's Hall,
Lagos

TREVOR ELMORE
District Grand Master

Preface

Occasions are marked by celebrations, and engraved in History.

History is made by efforts to record events which happened within a certain period of time.

Our occasion is the 50th Anniversary of the consecration of Kano Lodge No. 4975.

I felt that this period of events should be recorded for future reference and I am sure that it will happily revive the memories of our older brothers and be of interest to our newer brothers who will appreciate what has been achieved. This will, I trust, encourage them to keep steadfast in the faith of this noble craft.

I would therefore salute those brethren who made it possible for succeeding generations to partake in this honourable society and I hope that those who come after will continue to build on this solid foundation, aiming for the better.

I also wish to record my appreciation to Wor. Bro. Ronald Purdy for compiling this history at my request and wish to congratulate him on the 30th anniversary of his initiation, which happens to be March, 1978.

MOUSTAFA F. MOUKARIM

Worshipful Master

Acknowledgements

In compiling this brief history of Kano Lodge for the first fifty years of its existence I must express my gratitude to the Worshipful Master, W/Bro. Moustafa Moukarim, for honouring me with the task — a task which I accepted with some trepidation for I am a Scientist rather than an Historian.

Further, I am indebted to 'Anon' who had prepared a short history of the Lodge, copies of which were found lying at the bottom of a drawer.

I am also indebted to all those Past Masters and Secretaries who have left such good and clear records of proceedings and events both in Minutes and Correspondence.

Finally, I trust you will excuse any shortcomings in my effort.

RONALD PURDY, P.D.G. Purs.

The Kano Lodge Story

This ancient walled city of Kano had long been an important post for the caravans which crossed the Sahara. It was not until after the First World War that a more sophisticated trade brought a small community of foreign traders to set up a township outside the City walls.

By 1927 the township had grown and a number of Government officers, Army personnel and Traders who were Masons met together and decided to form a Lodge in Kano. The only Lodges in the north at that time were at Kaduna and Zaria. Visiting those Lodges involved a long and tedious journey over not very good roads, or a hot and dusty journey by train. A Lodge in Kano obviously would have decided advantages. Of this group of Masons, Bro. (later W/Bro.) Fern was, perhaps, the most active and enthusiastic. It was due largely to his efforts that St. George's Lodge, Lagos, of which he was a member, agreed to sponsor the petition.

In November, 1927, the Charter of the Lodge was granted. Plans for the building of the Temple had been prepared by Bro. Fern but a delay in the securing of the Certificate of Occupancy meant that the land was not available until about two weeks before the date fixed for the Consecration meeting. Nothing daunted, again under the supervision of Bro. Fern, by the appointed time a floor had been laid, walls built and roof trusses in position. Tarpaulins were borrowed from the Railway to serve as the roof and lighting was supplied by batteries borrowed from the Boat train which had, that day, arrived in Kano.

The Banquet was held in a firm's trading shed beside a railway siding, a Restaurant car was shunted into the siding and the Banquet served from the restaurant car by Railway catering staff.

Spencer's Masonic Manufactory, Opposite Firemason's Hall,

Kano Lodge No. 4975.

D. Gaskin, Esq.,
Divisional Superintendent.
Nigerian Railway.

19, 20 & 21, Great Queen Street,

London, W.C. 2

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: ABELEN WESTCOTT, LONDON
TELEPHONE NO. 1380 GERRARD
A. B. C. CODE, FIFTH EDITION.

Notes
PARTNERS:
S. E. HUTCHINSON,
H. DAILEY,
W. L. HUTCHINSON,
E. L. HUTCHINSON.

Spencer & Co. (Established before 1800)

Manufacturers of Jewels, Costume & Furniture for all Degrees of

FREEMASONRY

and Publishers to the Grand Lodge of England

HOURS OF BUSINESS
9 TO 5.30 O'CLOCK
SAT. 9 TO 12.30

Copy Invoices.

SHEET. 1.

Current Domestic Values
IN CURRENCY OF
Exporting Country.

Value added in
the purchase in
the country of
origin.

Quantity	Description	Unit Price	Value	Value	Value
142.330.	1. Set 3. Oak Candelsticks 02 2'0"	7/15/-	7 15 0	7 15 0	7 15 0
	1. Pr. Wardens Columns No. R.	2/2/-	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0
	1. Box Working Tools. No. 29.	4/10/-	4 10 0	4 10 0	4 10 0
	1. Set 3. Oak Gavel.	15/-	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0
	1. Oak Ballot Box & Balls. No. 2.	35/-	1 15 0	1 15 0	1 15 0
	1. Pr. Wand Tops Duncan No. warden. pr.	12/6	12 6 0	12 6 0	12 6 0
	1. Set Tracing Boards 18x10 Framed Oak.	5/-	2 15 0	2 15 0	2 15 0
	1. 3 Sheet 2nd Quality	35/-	1 15 0	1 15 0	1 15 0
	1. Bible 3rd. Qual. Name & No. of Lodge	20/-	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0
	1. Cushion Cover Unadorned Velvet Lin.	20/-	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0
31.	1. Square & Comp. used plain plated	10/-	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0
	1. Tylers G. apron.	35/-	1 15 0	1 15 0	1 15 0
	1. L. G. Pelguard.	23/-	1 3 0	1 3 0	1 3 0
	2. E. A. Aprons.	6/-	12 0 0	12 0 0	12 0 0
	2. F. C. Aprons	8/-	16 0 0	16 0 0	16 0 0
	2. Hoodwinks.	3/6	7 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0
			29 8 6	29 8 6	29 8 6
			7 7 1	7 7 1	7 7 1

Lens 25%

- (1) Charge to bill and/or to dock
- (2) To be paid (read or email) and other charges to the dock area including initial
- (3) Labour in packing the goods into outside packages
- (4) Value of outside packages
- (5) If the goods are subject to any charge by way of Royalties state full particulars of Royalties

EXCLUDED
EXCLUDED
EXCLUDED
EXCLUDED
18

Spencer's Masonic Manufactory, Opposite Firemason's Hall.

Kano Lodge No. 1975.

D. Gaskin Esq.,
Divisional Superintendent,
Nigerian Railway,
Nigeria

19, 20 & 21, Great Queen Street

London W.C.2 January 24/1919
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS ASHLAR WESCENT LONDON
TELEPHONE NO. 1580. GERRARD
A B C CODE, FIFTH EDITION

S^{rs}

PARTNERS:
E. HUTCHINSON
H. DAILEY
W. L. HUTCHINSON
W. A. HUTCHINSON

Spencer & Co. (Established before 1800)

Manufacturers of Jewels, Costume & Furniture for all Degrees of

FREEMASONRY

and Retailers to the Grand Lodge of England.

HOURS OF BUSINESS
8 TO 5-30 O'CLOCK
SAT. 9 TO 12-30

SHEET 2.

Current Domestic Values in currency of Exporting Country. Selling price to the purchaser.

		Current Domestic Values in currency of Exporting Country.	Selling price to the purchaser.	
142331.Con.	2. Cable Tows	3/3	6 6	6 6
	15. No.2. Sky Collars L.L.Med.	17/6	13 2	13 2
	1. No.2. P.H. Collar L.L.Med.	20/6	1 0	1 0
	16. Plated Collar Jewels Best	12/-	12 16 0	12 1 0
	W.M., S.&J.W., Sec., Treas., D.C., P.W.			
	2. Degree in Org. Alm. A.D.C., R. St. George			
	L.G., Tyler.			
142332.	1. Set of Lodge Books.			
	Lettered Name & No. of Lodge	7 9/6	6 9 6	6 9 6
	2. Candidates Companion.	pr. 5/-	10 0	10 0
	2. Oak Squares.	4/-	8 0	8 0
	3. Pr. Best Sky Gaudlines L.L.Med.			
	W.M., S.K., J.W.,	pr. 50/-	8 9 6	8 9 6
	1. Brass Letter 3 1/2 x 1 1/2.	37/6	1 17 6	1 17 6
	1. Carpet 36 x 12	10/10/-	10 10 0	10 10 0
	12. W.M. Apron L.L.Med. 55 tone.	25/-	16 0 0	16 0 0
			70 10 0	70 10 0
	Loss 25%		17 12 6	17 12 6
			£ 52 17 6	£ 52 17 6
	(1) Cartage to and from docks			Excluded
	(2) Inland freight (land or canal) and other charges to the dock area including inland cartage			Excluded
	(3) Labour in packing the goods into outside packages			Excluded
	(4) Value of inside packages			Excluded
	(5) If goods are subject to any charge by way of Royalties			None.
	State full particulars of Royalties			

Spencer's Masonic Manufactory, Opposite Freemasons Hall,

Kano Lodge No. 4975.

19, 20 & 21, Great Queen Street,

D. Rankin, Esq.,

London, W.C.2 January, 24th 1919

Divisional Superintendent.

Nigerian Lodge No. 4975.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS 'ASHLAR WESTCENT' LONDON
TELEPHONE NO 1280 BERRARD
A B C CODE, FIFTH EDITION

Spencer & Co. (Established before 1800)

PARTS IN
4 1/2
M. TABLE
2 1/2
M. TABLE
2 1/2

Manufacturers of Jewels, Costume & Furniture for all Degrees of

FREEMASONRY

and Publishers to the Grand Lodge of England.

PRINTED IN BUSINESS
SHEET NO. 131
DATE TO 17 30

SHEET. 3.

Current Domestic Values in currency of exporting Country Selling price to purchaser in "Sterling"

		Current Domestic Values in currency of exporting Country	Selling price to purchaser in "Sterling"
11838.	12. Fullsize Per. Car Craft Ritual.	2/6	
	Less 20%		
		4 10 0	4 10 0
		18 0	18 0
		3 12 0	3 12 0
	12. Craft Constitutions	1/6 nett.	
	1. Large Craft Constitutions	3/6 nett.	
	Lettered Name & No. Lodge	3/- nett.	
	1. Set Craft Plain Candles B. G.		
	Less 20%		
		6 6	6 6
		5 2 11	5 2 11
	Sheet No. 1.	22 1 6	22 1 6
	Sheet No. 2.	52 17 6	52 17 6
		80 1 10	80 1 10
	Packing Gen. 1. 6. 0.		
	Freight. 4. 18. 11.		
	Sent to. The Secretary Insurance 10. 1.		
		6 15 0	6 15 0
	Kano Lodge No. 4975. C. I. F.	£ 86 16 10	£ 86 16 10
	c/ Bank of British West Africa.		
	Kano Nigeria. Per. 3/3 Appex.		
	Sight Draft Against Bill Of Lading.		
	(1) Carriage to rail and/or to docks		
	(2) Insurance (freight (rail or canal) and other charges to the dock area including inland insurance		
	(3) Labour in packing the goods into outside packages		
	(4) Value of outside packages		
	(5) If the goods are subject to any charge by way of Royalties		
	State full particulars of Royalties :-		
		16 18	
			Excluded Excluded Included Excluded None

Spencer's Masonic Manufactory, Opposite Freemason's Hall.

Order by: Home Lodge N4497, 12, 20 & 21, Great Queen Street, London, W.C.2. Dated July 25, 1928.
 D. Gaskin, Secy.
 TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "MASONIC" LONDON
 TELEPHONE: WY 1250 & 2694
 A.C.C. CODE, FIFTH EDITION
 ESTABLISHED BEFORE 1800
 Spencer & Co. (Incorporated in England)
 Manufacturers of Jewels, Costume & Furniture for all Degrees of Freemasonry

HOURS OF BUSINESS
 9 TO 5.30 P.M. DAILY
 SATS 9 TO 12.30

and Publishers to the Grand Lodge of England

Books sent to the Secy of Home Lodge N4497, 12, 20 & 21, Great Queen Street, London, W.C.2. Current Domestic Value in sterling currency. Selling price in Sterling.

Quantity of Order enclosed

1	Set of Lodge Books (Letter)	6	9.6	6	9.6
2	Pr. Gaudichet's Compass	5	10.0	5	10.0
2	Oak Squares	4	8.0	4	8.0
3	Pr. Gaudichet's Stone sq. Jew. 1/6	8	9.6	8	9.6
1	Letter of	1	1.6	1	1.6
1	Carpet	10	10.0	10	10.0
12	Pr. Gaudichet's Apron L.H. 25/7	15	0.0	15	0.0
	25/7	4	4.6	4	4.6
		10	16.2	10	16.2
12	Full size Parka Cap 1/6 + 10/0	32	8.4	32	8.4
	25/7	5	12.0	5	12.0
12	Grave Stone 1/6	18	0.0	18	0.0
	Large Cap Stone	3	6.0	3	6.0
	Letter	2	0.0	2	0.0
1	See Parka Stone 1/6 - 25/7	6	5.0	6	5.0
	new				
	here	37	11.3	37	11.3
	here				

	Amount in currency of Exporting Country.	States included.
(1) Carriage - rail and/or to docks		Excluded
(2) Inland freight (rail or canal) and other charges to the dock area including inland insurance		Included
(3) Labour in packing the goods into outside packages		Included
(4) Value of outside packages		Excluded
(5) If the goods are subject to any charge by way of Royalties State full particulars of Royalties :-		None

Good forward planning ensured that Lodge furniture and regalia were ready for the Consecration Ceremony. The chairs and pedestals of the three Principal Officers were designed and presented by Bro. Fern. Most of the cost of materials and labour for building the Temple were provided by the members themselves — only £250.00 was eventually paid out of Lodge funds.

At the Consecration of the Lodge on Saturday, 12th March 1928 the District Grand Master, the Rt. Wor. Bro. Gray performed the duties of Worshipful Master. He was assisted by:

W/Bro. Smitheson	<i>as Senior Warden</i>
W/Bro. Rae	<i>as Junior Warden</i>
W/Bro. Campbell	<i>as Chaplain</i>
Bro. Betts	<i>as Treasurer</i>
Bro. Element	<i>as Secretary</i>
W/Bro. Reighton D.G.Sec.	<i>as Director of Ceremonies</i>
W/Bro. Robbins	<i>as Senior Deacon</i>
Bro. Fern	<i>as Junior Deacon</i>
Bro. Philpot	<i>as Organist</i>
W/Bro. Randle	<i>as Inner Guard</i>
Bro. Naish	<i>as Steward</i>

There were eight members and twenty visitors.

The District Grand Master installed W.Bro. Gaskin into the Chair of King Solomon, but the Officers of the Lodge were not invested until the second regular meeting. A gavel, made from the timber of Kilwinning Abbey, was presented to the Lodge by Kilwinning Lodge.

During the Lodge's first year of existence it suffered two misfortunes: shortly after the completion of the Temple the area was struck by a severe tornado which removed the roof "in toto" and deposited it some two hundred yards or so away. Later, the Lodge was broken into and all the regalia stolen.

The members were faced with other difficulties in the first two years of its existence. W. Bro. Gaskin, the first Master, was not resident in Kano and was able to attend only two or three meetings. His successor, W. Bro. Gillmor, went on leave after his first meeting and, because of an unexpected transfer, did not return to Kano. However, the monthly meetings continued largely due to the co-operation of W. Bro. Adams of Zaria Lodge, who travelled to Kano as often as he could to conduct the meetings. Whenever he was unable to travel the business of the meeting was conducted from the Senior Warden's chair by Bro. Fern. On such occasions, of course, no ceremonies could be carried out. During those first two years nine candidates were initiated into the mysteries and the privileges of Freemasonry. During the next two years another six candidates including Mr Ralph Edward Wooff were initiated, the last-named on the 14th March, 1931.

At an Emergency Meeting held on the 12th July, 1930, a change in the Bye-Laws was approved resulting in meetings being held every month of the year. At the Regular Meeting held on the 9th August, 1930, a Notice of Motion was given that a Lodge of Instruction be formed under the sponsorship of Kano Lodge. However, no further mention is recorded until the 56th Regular Meeting held on the 12th May, 1934, when the Worshipful Master commented on the poor attendance at the Lodge of Instruction pointing out to the Brethren the advantages of attendance at such Lodges of Instruction. The purchase of the Lodge Seal was also approved at this meeting.

The Temple was eventually supplied with electricity in time for the meeting of the 14th March, 1931, the date on which Mr (Later R. W. Bro.) R. E. Wooff was initiated.

At the 45th Regular Meeting held on the 8th April, 1933, Bro. Turball presented a Banner to the Lodge. The District Grand Chaplain dedicated the Lodge Banner during the same meeting.

The following years were rather lean years, few candidates seeking admission.

In 1933 2 candidates	In 1936 1 candidate
In 1934 4 candidates	In 1937 Nil
In 1935 2 candidates	In 1938 1 candidate

At the Regular meeting held on the 13th August, 1938 only two members of Kano Lodge were present; the remaining offices were all taken by visiting Brethren with W.Bro. Clinton of Northern Nigeria Lodge in the Chair. (W.Bro. Clinton was later elected an Honorary Member of Kano Lodge.)

During the War years, in spite of restrictions, there were usually good attendances at meetings and fifteen candidates were initiated. The Lodge, because of its geographic position, was happy to welcome many visiting Brethren passing through Kano or posted temporarily to Kano; a tradition of hospitality laid down by the Founders and maintained throughout succeeding years. A rather interesting side-line was that, because of import restrictions, members were thrown on their ingenuity to make their aprons etc from local materials.

A Lodge library was inaugurated by the District Grand Master at the Regular Meeting held on the 10th August, 1940 when he presented to the Lodge Waite's "Encyclopaedia of Masonry".

After the Second World War development in Kano accelerated. New industries opened up and an International Airport was constructed. No longer the end of the caravan route, Kano became the main entry and exit point for people travelling between Nigeria and Europe. Conditions, too, were favourable for expansion in the Lodge membership. During these years, W.Bro. Wooff gradually rose through various District Offices until his Installation as District Grand Master in 1954. At the 287th Regular Meeting held on the 8th August, 1953, W.Bro. Vicinanza was initiated; W.Bro. Akle was initiated on 14th July 1956; and W.Bro. Johnson on the 14th September 1957.

In March, 1956, a special Banquet was held to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of R.W.Bro. Wooff — 21 years of Masonry; a most energetic and helpful member of the Lodge; even at the meeting before the Banquet he was checking the Brethren on the correct steps and signs and on the Sign of Reverence! No doubt his efforts and insistence on perfection laid down the foundations of the high standard of the working of the ritual associated with the Lodge. And, perhaps, it is because of this high standard and insistence on correct ceremonial procedure that eventually led to another initiate of the Lodge attaining the Chair of District Grand Master for Nigeria. R.W.Bro. Trevor Elmore was initiated into this Lodge at the 379th Regular Meeting held on 8th April, 1961, although the Minutes of that particular meeting are missing from the Minute Book! He was installed as District Grand Master in December, 1976.

The life of Kano Lodge has been punctuated by visits of a number of Masonic V.I.P.s; Col. Adams representing the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution; the Assistant Grand Master in 1954; and again, in 1963 the Assistant Grand Master visited Kano but was not able to visit the Lodge. He did, however, meet the Brethren at the house of the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Akie. And, of course, we have not been neglected by the succession of District Grand Masters.

Apart from the many visiting Brethren, we have not been without a few unwelcome visitors. The Lodge was broken into in June 1957 and various items, including some of the Working Tools were stolen. Again, we suffered another, but much more serious break-in on the 2nd October, 1966. Concerning this, there is an entry in the Lodge Minutes Book:

"On 2 October, 66 rioters broke into the Lodge and ransacked it, doing serious damage. Owing to this and to the dangerous situation still obtaining on 8 October 1966, the 445th Regular Meeting fixed for that evening was not held"

M. HOLDEN, Secretary

The 445th Regular Meeting was subsequently held on 12th November, furniture and regalia being very kindly loaned by our neighbours, the Aggrey Lodge (S.C.). (A hard chisel left behind by the rioters is a historical possession and has been ornamented with a small brass plaque.) The Lodge, with its usual resilience and capacity for survival, recovered and soon had its furniture and regalia (including that of the Royal Arch Chapter) brought out from the UK.

During 1974/75 the two great pillars were constructed and erected in the East — the cooperative effort of several of the Brethren. A new Banner was designed and presented (in absentia) by W.Bro. André Bassou to replace the Banner originally presented by Bro. Turnbull, and later lost.

Then, in June, 1977, the Lodge had the honour of hosting the Half-Yearly Communication of District Grand Lodge — a splendid and impressive gathering. This was followed by an excellent Banquet at the Dacia Hotel.

The story of Kano Lodge is an excellent example of inter-Lodge co-operation and of the International aspect of Masonry. Brethren from neighbouring Lodges have rallied round in times of adversity to ensure our survival and to them all we owe a great debt of gratitude. It is good to note that, just as Zaria ensured our survival in our early days, Kano Lodge is now repaying its 'debt' in helping to resuscitate Zaria Lodge by sending officers to take acting offices at their Regular Meetings.

As we have seen, Kano Lodge was started as an act of faith, helping to close a gap in the world-wide chain of Masonry. It seemed a larger world in those days, fifty years ago, and the Founder Masons must have benefited greatly from their regular meetings, and the opportunity of working the Craft. Their tenacity and enthusiasm helped them to overcome the many difficulties they encountered thus laying down a worthy tradition. We can but salute them by seeing that the Lodge continues in their footsteps; by maintaining their high standards of working and hospitality; and, above all, living by our true Masonic principles.

Appendix

EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 580th REGULAR MEETING HELD IN KANO ON 11th MARCH, 1978

Present

W. Bro. M. F. Moukarim
W. Bro. D. G. Oakenfold

Bro. G. G. Gazal
Bro. M. Zingas

W. Bro. R. Purdy, P.D.G.Purs.
Bro. J. Lister

W. Bro. J. Dunstan, D.G.J.D.

W. Bro. R. V. Jones, D.G.Swd. 9.

Bro. G. Baertle

Bro. H. Abed

W. Bro. O. R. Francis, D.G. Sup. Wks.

W. Bro. H. J. Johnson, P.D.Swd. B.

W. Bro. F. R. Vicinanza, P.D.J. G. W.

Bro. S. Henrod

Bro. T. A. Smith

Bro. A. Papadopoulos

Bro. C. Akle

Bro. Amotsuka

Worshipful Master

Immediate Past

Master

Senior Warden

Junior Warden

Chaplain

Treasurer

Secretary

Director of Ceremonies

Senior Deacon

Junior Deacon

Charity Steward

Assistant D. of C.

Almoner

Assistant Secretary

Inner Guard

Steward

Steward

Tyler

R. W. Bro. Trevor Elmore, Dist. G.M., on an Official Visit. W. Bro. R. Stapleton and Bros. P. Langfield, J. B. Dunnill, R. A. Gould, and V. Goni.

Apologies

Bro. C. J. Hill (Steward).

Visitors

W.Bros. B. Patterson, Semdi Lodge 3238; J. B. Hayes, Prince of Wales Lodge 959; I. B. Bhar, N. Nigeria Lodge 3325; I. O. Adekunle, Aggrey Lodge 1396 (S.C.); E. L. Thomas, Aggrey Lodge 1396 (S.C.); B. A. J. Anidu, Aggrey Lodge 1396 (S.C.); J. O. Leshodo, Charity Lodge 1343 (S.C.).

Bros. M. Anderson, Avon Lodge 1231; E. F. Moukarim, Aggrey Lodge 1396 (S.C.); J. R. Leask, Morton Lodge 89 (S.C.); J. P. W. Wand, N. Nigeria Lodge 3325; M. S. Smith, N. Unity Lodge 4226; J. E. O. Uenotoma, Aggrey Lodge 1396 (S.C.); J. O. Demirony, Aggrey Lodge 1396 (S.C.); J. D. Lloyd, Alliance Lodge 607.

After opening in the 3^o the R.W.Bro. Trevor Elmore, District Grand Master, accompanied by District Grand Officers was admitted. Salutations were given and received in the usual manner.

W.Bro. Purdy referred to the booklet which had been published to commemorate the 50th Jubilee of the Lodge and followed by narrating various events of interest which had occurred during the 50 years.

W.Bro. read the Minutes of the First Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on 12th March, 1928 — the Consecration of the Lodge. He then proceeded to read out a few random extracts and comments drawn from early Minutes of the Lodge.

Until the Meeting held on 14th December, 1935, the Minutes were all signed by the W.M., and the Senior and Junior Wardens — a practice which has never been revived.

There are quite a number of records of two ceremonies being conducted in one evening, sometimes involving three candidates:

eg, two Passings and one Raising
(or) Initiations and one Raising.

This may have been thought necessary to build up the numbers and possibly to overcome the fact that for part of the year meetings were not held.

On 21st October, 1929, occurred the first Official Visit to the Lodge when the D. Dist. Grand Master was received with due ceremony. After the Meeting's business, he offered certain comments which, however, were not recorded in the Minutes.

Lodge Meetings were often composed more of visitors than Members. On 14th December, 1929, a particular vote could not be taken because there were not sufficient members to form a quorum. This, incidentally, was the first mention of the election of a Lodge representative for the Freemasons' Hospital & Nursing Home (later to be known as the Royal Masonic Hospital). The first recorded donation to the Hospital from Lodge Funds was of 10 guineas on 8th February, 1930.

It seemed to be fairly common practice to continue with Lodge business during the temporary absence of the Candidate. This has now been discontinued.

The "ceremony" of Calling Off and Calling On is first recorded in the Minutes of an Emergency Meeting on 31st March, 1931. (Although the Lodge was Called Off during the Ceremony of the Consecration of the Lodge; Calling On was not recorded.)

Wiring of the Lodge and final connection with the power supply was completed by 14th March, 1932 — providing material light for the Candidate for Initiation (Mr R. E. Wooff).

We have always been proud of the fact that, in spite of their many difficulties, our early predecessors kept the Lodge Meetings going. Unfortunately, the record was spoilt one year when the August and September Meetings were not held in the absence of the Worshipful Master. At the October Meeting, the W.M. pointed out that the business of the Meetings could have been conducted from the West and that the Meetings need not have been cancelled.

At the Banquet following an Installation it was interesting to note that there was a programme of music featuring, among others, Tommy Handley (a well-known English comedian of the 1940s; Layton and Johnstone, piano duettists; and Jack Hylton and his Band!

A final point of interest; in November, 1949 the Kano Royal Arch Chapter, sponsored by the Jos Royal Arch Chapter, was consecrated by the District Grand Superintendent, Ex. Companion G. M. Gray who, as Dist. G.M. had consecrated the Lodge.

And now to Charities, and collections. A sign of the increase in number and affluence of the Lodge has been reflected in the size of the offertories. In the early days collections varied between 18/- and £1 4s 0d. They gradually increased over the years. The Minutes of the 579th Regular Meeting held on the 11th February 1978 record a collection exceeding ₦91.00.

Donations to Charities both by the Lodge (Masters' Charities) and individual members have also reflected the charitable feelings of the members.

On 9th July 1932 a Masonic Charities Association was formed — but there is no further record in the Minutes.

Over the years the Lodge has made donations to:

The Royal National Lifeboat Institute

The War Relief Fund

The Kano Spitfire Fund

Dr Barbardo's Homes

The Samaritan Fund

and all the Masonic Charities

By 11th May, 1968 the Lodge had qualified as

Vice-Patron of the R.M.B.I.

Vice-Patron of the R.M.I.B.

Patron of the R.M.I.G.

Double Patron of the R.A.C.H.

(Now, the Lodge is a Founding Lodge (1956) and Grand Patron of the R.M.H.; Patron Lodge of the R.M.B.I., R.M.I.B., R.M.I.G., and Vice-Patron Lodge of the R.M.H. Redevelopment and Modernising Fund.)

At one time, Certificates as Vice-Patrons etc were presented to qualifying members in Open Lodge but this practice no longer exists.

Finally, as will be seen from this brief history, that, although times change, costs change and people change the Lodge has continued to grow in stature and reputation. It must remain our duty to our predecessors to build on the sure foundations laid by them by insisting on a high standard in our ceremonies and maintain that ever-present spirit of fellowship and service.

The spirit of service has been well exemplified by the great amount of work carried out during the past two or three years to improve conditions in the Temple, Banqueting Room and kitchen — all due to the combined efforts of enthusiastic and dedicated members of the Lodge. To them we offer our sincere thanks and we hope that their efforts will be recorded in posterity.

Greetings and few apt comments from Past District Grand Master, R.W.Bro. R. E. Wooff and congratulations and greetings from Bro. Alf. Hargreaves were read to the members.

At the appropriate part of the proceedings the R.W. Dist. Grand Master greeted the Worshipful Master and Brethren and commented on the History of the Lodge prepared by W.Bro. Purdy. He congratulated the W.M. and Officers on the ceremony, and the Lodge in general on attaining its Golden Jubilee. He stated that both the W.M. and Bro. Stewart were fortunate to be so involved on such a historic occasion.

PAST MASTERS OF THE LODGE

Wor. Bro.	Donald Gaskin, P.D.J.G.D.	1928
” ”	Eric R. W. Gillmor, M.B.E. P.J.G.D., P.P.G.W. (Berks)	1929
” ”	Francis J. Fern, P.D.S.G.W.	1930
” ”	Richard Element, O.B.E., D.C.M.P.D.S.G.W.	1931
” ”	Laurence Wileman, P.D.G.ST.B.	1932
” ”	Norman S. Turnbull, P.D.G.ST.B.	1933
” ”	John D. S. Lockhart P.D.G. S.W.D.B.	1934
” ”	Richard H. Mort, P.D.G.SWD.B.	1935
” ”	Laurence Wileman, P.D.G.ST.B.	1936
” ”	Frederick K. Sheen, P.D.S.G.D.	1937
” ”	Robert H. Armstrong	1938
R. W. Bro.	Ralph E. Wooff, P. Dist G.M.	1939
Wor. Bro.	D'Arcy, F. Price, P.D.G.D.C.	1940
” ”	Joseph Harold, P.D.J.G.W.	1941
” ”	William A. Dow, P.D.S.G.W.	1942
” ”	William A. Dow, P.D.S.G.W.	1943
” ”	Horace W. Park, P.D.G.STWD.	1944
” ”	Edgar Dewhurst, P.D.S.G.L.	1945
” ”	Alfred B. Farlow, P.D.G.STWD.	1946
” ”	Lawrence M. Goodman, P.A.G.D.C., P.D.S.G.W.	1947
” ”	Joseph E. Forster, P.D.J.G.W.	1948
” ”	Peter Connor, P.D.G.STWD.	1949
R. W. Bro.	Ralph E. Wooff, P. Dist. G.M.	1950

Wor. Bro.	Eric L. Bridges, P.D.G.ST.B.	1951
” ”	Albert Dixton, P.D.G.PURS.	1952
” ”	John J. Motion,	1953
” ”	Frank L. Fraser, P.D.G.ST.B.	1954
” ”	Herbert J. Biglestone,	1955
” ”	Wyndham L. Morgan, M.B.E., P.D.J.G.W.	1956
” ”	Deryk H. Cobb.	1957
” ”	George C. Leventis,	1958
” ”	Walter N. Gambrill, P.P.S.G.D. (Devon)	1959
” ”	Thomas W. B. Muxlow, P.D.G. CHAP.	1960
” ”	Fillipo R. Vicinanza, P.D.J.G.W.	1961
” ”	Herbert J. Maltus, P.D.S.G.W.	1962
” ”	Assad J. Akle, P.D.J.G.W.	1963
” ”	William A. Payne, P.D.G.ST.P.	1964
” ”	Stanley E. Moss,	1964
” ”	Frank E. Hughes,	1965
” ”	Hassan Hallowi,	1966
” ”	Victor B. Martins P.D.G.D.C.	1967
” ”	George I. Karaan P.D.G.ST.P.	1968
” ”	Harold J. Johnson P.D.G.S.W.D.B.	1969
” ”	Neal A. Morrison, P.D.G.S.W.D.B.	1970
” ”	Ronald Parry, P.D.G.PURS	1971
” ”	Sagih A. Aboul-Hosn, P.G.D.ST.B.	1972
” ”	Shamsul Huque	1973
” ”	Owen Robert Francis, D.G. Supt., WKS	1974
” ”	Ronald Stapleton	1975
” ”	David G. Oakenfold	1976

INSTALLED MASTERS IN THE LODGE

Wor.Bro. the Hon. Mr. Justice Michael H. F. Holden, Kt. C.B.E., E.D., P.G.ST.B., P.D.J.G.W.	5229,	EC
„ „ Hugh W. Musgrove, P.D.J.G.W.	6909,	EC
„ „ Walter H. Cooke, OBE.	7806,	EC
R.W.Bro. Trevor Elmore, Dist, GM.	3881 & 3065,	EC
Wor.Bro. Roy V. Jones, OBE.DG.SWD.B.	3773,	EC
„ „ David J. Wakefield	7389,	EC
„ „ R. W. Styles	414,	SC
„ „ John A. Dolan	1568,	EC
„ „ James C. Bradley, MBE, P.D.G.ST.B. (Bengal)	1130 & 493,	EC
„ „ Andre A. G. Bassou,	1686,	SC
„ „ John R. Dunstan, P.D.J.G.D.	3325,	EC

HONORARY MEMBERS OF THE LODGE

R.W.Bro. Ralph E. Wooff Dist, G.M.
 W.Bro.Rt. Rev. John E. L. Mort, C.F.E.L.L.D. PPG.CHAP
 (Worcs)
 Bro.Charles W. Copeland

Appendix

EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 580th REGULAR MEETING HELD IN KANO ON 11th MARCH, 1978

Present

W.Bro. M. F. Moukarim
W.Bro. D. G. Oakenfold

Bro. G. G. Gazal
Bro. M. Zingas

W.Bro. R. Purdy, P.D.G.Purs.

Bro. J. Lister

W.Bro. J. Dunstan, D.G.J.D.

W.Bro. R. V. Jones, D.G.Swd. B.

Bro. G. Baertle

Bro. H. Abed

W.Bro. O. R. Francis, D.G.Supt. Wks.

W.Bro. H. J. Johnson, P.D.Swd. E.

W.Bro. F. R. Vicinanza, P.D.J. G.W.

Bro. S. Henard

Bro. T. A. Smith

Bro. A. Papadopoulos

Bro. G. Akle

Bro. Amoteka

Worshipful Master

Immediate Past

Master

Senior Warden

Junior Warden

Chaplain

Treasurer

Secretary

Director of Ceremonies

Senior Deacon

Junior Deacon

Charity Steward

Assistant D. of C.

Almoner

Assistant Secretary

Inner Guard

Steward

Steward

Tyler

R. W. Bro. Trevor Elmore, Dist. G.M., on an Official Visit. W. Bro. R. Stapleton and Bros. P. Langfield, J. B. Dunnill, R. A. Gould, and V. Gori.

Apologies

Bro. C. J. Hill (Steward).

Visitors

W.Bros. B. Patterson, Semdi Lodge 3238; J. B. Hayes, Prince of Wales Lodge 959; I. B. Bhar, N. Nigeria Lodge 3325; I. O. Adekunle, Aggrey Lodge 1396 (S.C.); E. L. Thomas, Aggrey Lodge 1396 (S.C.); B. A. J. Anidu, Aggrey Lodge 1396 (S.C.); J. O. Leshodo, Charity Lodge 1343 (S.C.).

Bros. M. Anderson, Avon Lodge 1231; E. F. Moukarim, Aggrey Lodge 1396 (S.C.); J. R. Leask, Morton Lodge 89 (S.C.); J. P. W. Wand, N. Nigeria Lodge 3325; M. S. Smith, N. Unity Lodge 4226; J. E. O. Uenotoma, Aggrey Lodge 1396 (S.C.); J. O. Demiroju, Aggrey Lodge 1396 (S.C.); J. D. Lloyd, Alliance Lodge 607.

After opening in the 3^o the R.W.Bro. Trevor Elmore, District Grand Master, accompanied by District Grand Officers was admitted. Salutations were given and received in the usual manner.

W.Bro. Purdy referred to the booklet which had been published to commemorate the 50th Jubilee of the Lodge and followed by narrating various events of interest which had occurred during the 50 years.

W.Bro. read the Minutes of the First Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on 12th March, 1928 — the Consecration of the Lodge. He then proceeded to read out a few random extracts and comments drawn from early Minutes of the Lodge.

Until the Meeting held on 14th December, 1935, the Minutes were all signed by the W.M., and the Senior and Junior Wardens — a practice which has never been revived.

There are quite a number of records of two ceremonies being conducted in one evening, sometimes involving three candidates:

eg, two Passings and one Raising

two Initiations and one Raising.

This may have been thought necessary to build up the numbers and possibly to overcome the fact that for part of the year meetings were not held.