

Sept. 1983

The Architect

Published by The Association of Canadian Councils, A.M.D.

Edited by: G.T. Jones, PSM, Vice-Chairman
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Greetings Brethren:

As the vacation months come to a close, I am looking forward to visiting various A.M.D. Councils.

At our last meeting we asked the Councils to forward to us correspondence that could be a help to other Councils. Well, no news must be good news. Give our Association a chance. We need input. What can we do to help? We need some correspondence to pass on communications.

I trust all Councils are having successful meetings. If we can help, Please call us.

Fraternally,

Jim Shaw, PSM, Chairman

Intent of the Newsletter

It is the intention of the Association to publish this newsletter on a quarterly basis and to send one or two copies without charge to each Council. Requests for direct mailing to individual brethren will only be considered if accompanied by a cheque to cover the costs involved (\$5 per year, the first year will run to the end of 1984).

The purpose of the newsletter will be several-fold:

- to keep our brethren informed of the AMD events occurring within Canada
- to promote activities of Grand Council
- to promote interaction and exchange of visits among our Councils
- to encourage the holding of field days at which several councils could emulate our degrees
- to provide a forum for each of you to exchange information on subjects of AMD interest
- to publish extracts of papers prepared by our brethren which may be of interest to other of our brethren
- to publish such other information as may be of interest to our brethren

To accomplish this task, the Editor would strongly recommend that all councils send a copy of their summons and of any published paper directly to him. All authors and Councils will, of course, be quoted.

Notice that this is not in lieu of sending papers to the Grand Council Publications Chairman. All Councils should continue to send their better papers to William G. Peacher, PSM, 6152 Hawarden Dr., Riverside, CA 92506 for consideration of inclusion in Miscellanea. In this regard, congratulations are offered to Maarten van Wamelen of York Council #133 for producing a paper entitled "In Defence of Science" which was included in the 1981 issue and to Russell Falshaw of Richmond Hill Council #168 (the Secretary-Treasurer of our Association) for his paper entitled "Thomas Dunkerley" which was included in the 1982 issue. This is excellent work, such work as we have orders to receive.

The State of AMD Masonry in Canada

At the beginning of this year there were 18 constituted AMD Councils in Canada plus one under dispensation, according to the latest information from Grand Council. Of these, 14 are in Ontario, 1 in Manitoba, 2 in Saskatchewan and 1 in British Columbia. In 1979, there were only 9 Councils, and all were in Ontario. We have come a long way in those 4 years and this is due, in no small measure, to the energies of a number of dedicated Masons. We owe them all a debt of gratitude and, even though the road may not always have been smooth, our lives have been enriched by their foresight and efforts. Without pioneers, there would be no progress and we would be the poorer.

At our last Association meeting, in June 1983, 10 Councils were represented: 9 from Ontario and one from Manitoba. That is 56%. That isn't bad considering the distance some of the Councils would have had to come. But still.... One wonders why it was not 66% or even 86%.

You may recall that our Association was formally started in July of last year, after a couple of ineffective attempts in the previous two years. This formation meeting, July 28, 1982, was held with the approval of Grand Council because they and we felt that it would be of benefit to AMD Masonry in Canada. The Sovereign Grand Master, M.V. Bro. W. Smith attended that meeting along with the Grand Secretary, Grand Senior Deacon and the Grand Tyler.

With 14 of 18 councils formally represented, a ballot was taken which approved the formation of this Association. Over 86% of the Delegates voted in favour of the Association. One has to suppose that these brethren saw merit in the proposed body. It is up to us now, to take advantage of this structure and to reap the benefits thereof. To quote our Grand Master, in his open letter to all Canadian Councils, "Through the Association, you have the opportunity of strengthening the influence of our Masonic Organization and to seek unity of purpose within."

"I hope that all of the Councils in Canada will take advantage of the opportunity of participating in the deliberations of this Association and of reaping the harvest of the shared views of its members."

Subjects for AMD Papers

Brethren have asked what subjects are most appropriate for presentation to the AMD. An answer to this is contained in the charge to the candidate; "The real object is to stimulate interest in Masonry in general and bring together in small groups those who are interested in the study of Masonic subjects. Thus they are better enabled to serve the Craft."

Thus the scope of our studies can be very wide, and will vary from Council to Council as do the interests of the individual members. We have the freedom to discuss many subjects, even those which would be out of place in Craft Lodges. Be guided by the interests of your members. Some ideas include; symbolism, possible interpretation of symbols, history of old degrees and comparison of degrees (careful not to transgress the oaths of members or of other Grand bodies). Have a look at the past issues of Miscellanea.

Subjects having Canadian content are especially encouraged, and there is a lot of scope here. A paper published in 1960 by the now defunct Canadian Masonic Research Association ("George Canning Longley and his 300 degrees" by M.W. Bro. R.V. Harris) gives a lot of interesting leads. Around 1875 in Maitland, Ontario, Longley and others were running a number of Masonic bodies, some of which are under the umbrella of the AMD today. Specifically mentioned were the Order of the Secret Monitor, the Knight of Constantinople, Royal Ark Mariner, the Masonic Order of St. Lawrence (St. Lawrence the Martyr ??) and the Royal Order of Erie (?). The Grand Council of Allied Degrees 12^o (?) and the Order of Knight Templar Priests are also mentioned. Exploration into any of these, or many other, subjects would be very interesting and useful.

As an interesting sideline, a Masonic memorial was raised to U.W. Bro. George Canning

Longley in 1961 by the brethren of St. James Lodge #74. He was the first W. Master of that Lodge in 1857-62 and 1871-73. The committee which arranged for the erection was chaired by Bro. Howard W. Warner of Grand Master's A Council who is a frequent visitor to Capital City Council #154.

Annual Masonic Retreat - Feb. 17-19, 1984

It is not too early to begin planning to attend our annual Masonic retreat in Washington, D.C. I believe that it will be on the weekend of Feb. 17-19 this coming year. The event is always held in the Hotel Washington and is always very well attended. The Canadian contingent is frequently over 40 members and in 1982, 15 of our 18 Councils were represented.

This is the occasion of the annual meeting of our Grand Councils and it is also the occasion for the annual meetings of about 14 other Masonic bodies, all in the same hotel and coordinated by the same hardworking registration committee.

The main bodies which meet on that weekend are:

- The Grand Council, AMD
- Grand Master's Council A, AMD
- Installed Sovereign Masters' Council, AMD
- Council of the Nine Muses #13, AMD
- * The Philaethes Society
- * Grand College of Rites of the U.S.A.
- Grand Council, Knight Masons of the USA
- * Great Chief's Council, #0, Knight Masons of the USA
- Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis
- Society of Blue Friars
- Convent General, Knights of the York Cross of Honor
- Grand College of America, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests
- The Grand Preceptor's Tabernacle, HRAKTP
- * Masonic Order of the Bath of the USA
- * Ye Ancient Order of Corks

Many of these bodies (marked with a * above) can be joined by applying on that weekend. The weekend is always very busy with more things to do than there is time. A tremendous event!

In the past, the arrangements for the Canadian contingent have been very ably arranged by Ven. Robbie Robertson of Ontario Shores Council #151. I haven't confirmed that he will do this for us again but I hope his arm can be twisted. The next newsletter will contain all the details. Plan to join us.

My Wish by Charles Fotheringham (who brought AMD Masonry to Canada)

My wish, that we may often meet	
We'll work together in love and peace,	Upon the level, and there
	And part upon the square.
That we may strengthen the bonds of truth,	
Join in the grand design of peace,	Relief and brotherly love;
	The design of God above.
Work with a will together with God,	
Prefecting our work for the Building above,	With the tool He has given;
Then, when in due time we leave this lodge,	Completing where others have striven.
We'll meet again in the Grand Lodge above,	And journey on to another;
	With the grip and the word of a brother.

The Degrees of the AMD

In the U.S.A. the degrees held by the A.M.D. are:

- Royal Ark Mariner
- Knights of Constantinople
- Architect
- Superintendent
- Master of Tyre
- Installed Sovereign Master
- Red Branch of Erie
- Secret Monitor
- Saint Lawrence the Martyr
- Grand Architect
- Grand Tyler of Solomon
- Excellent Master
- Installed Commander Noah
- Ye Ancient Order of Corks

None of these degrees are worked by any other body in the U.S.A. but the situation is slightly different in Canada. In this country, the Royal Ark Mariner and Installed Commander Noah have been controlled by the Royal & Select Masters or Cryptic Rite since before our Grand Council existed. We should therefore NEVER emulate these degrees in Canada. We should also avoid studying the degrees within a tyled AMD Council unless we have sure knowledge that all present are members of a Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners.

A question has also arisen about the Excellent Master degree since, in Canada, this forms the Veils Ceremony in the Royal Arch degree. We are on safer ground here because all of our members are Royal Arch Masons. It might be prudent, however, not to emulate it in Canada to avoid seeming to violate our oath to the Grand Chapter of which we are a member.

Excluding the above, the brethren of Canadian Councils are encouraged to emulate and study any of the degrees whose ritual is included in the book of rituals published by the authority of our Grand Council.

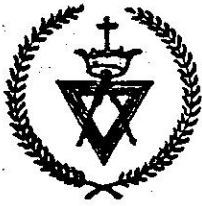
A number of Councils have been very active in this respect. It has come to our attention that the following Councils have emulated or studied some of our degrees.

- Medwayosh Council #62
- York Council #133
- Kawartha Council #143
- Land O'Lakes Council #150
- Capital City Council #154
- Richmond Hill Council #168
- Secret Monitor
- Saint Lawrence the Martyr
- Secret Monitor
- Knight of Constantinople
- Superintendent
- Knight of Constantinople
- Grand Tyler of Solomon

If others have also been emulating the degrees, we apologize for not mentioning their names. It was more through ignorance than evil intent on our part that we stand before you thus charged.(!) Through the medium of the Association and the newsletter, we hope to draw our community together so that we may share our Allied experience. We encourage any Council who wishes to emulate a degree to contact others who have already done so for whatever guidance and information they can offer. The Editor will attempt to find answers for any questions you have. Please allow as much lead time as possible as some questions may require written communication with Grand Council to resolve.

The Truth

A Master of a lodge in a final address to a candidate warned his hearer, "Never give nothing away," was himself beautifully held when, arriving home after a long, pleasant meeting, was asked by his wife, "What time is it, John?" "Past twelve, my dear," and then the hall clock struck three.



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Note To All Secretaries

To assist the Association to keep abreast of the ever changing Council officers and of the activities of the Councils, please include the Association officers on the distribution list for your summons.

In addition, the editor of this newsletter would like to receive a copy of the papers presented at each council in order to start a library to preserve the work of our brethren. Extracts from these papers would be included in future newsletters to stimulate the researches of our brethren.

Greetings Brethren:

Ideas and suggestions? We always enjoy hearing from you, so if you have any ideas or suggestions, on any aspect of our Craft which might better our Association of Canadian Councils, A.M.D., please drop us a line. We are endeavoring to improve our Association. Why not get together with a brother and visit another Council? You would be surprised at the good feeling it gives to the Council and to yourself. A big thank you goes out to all of you who have supported us in the last year. We appreciate this and look forward to seeing you soon.

We would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Fraternally,

Jim Shaw, P.S.M., President.

Next meeting - 14 Jan., 1984

The next meeting of the Association of Canadian Councils, A.M.D. will be held on 14 Jan., 1984 at the Bramalea City Center in Bramalea, Ontario. The meeting will start at 9:30 am and will be hosted by Peel Council # 183.

The brethren who are able to arrive early are invited to gather for breakfast at the Holiday Inn at 8:00 am, prior to the meeting.

In accordance with a motion approved at our June, 1983 meeting, the first meeting of each year will be the Annual Convocation of the Association and will include the election of officers.

On this, our first Annual Convocation, one of the Degrees under the control of our Order will be emulated. I believe that this will be "The Grand Tyler of Solomon" emulated by Richmond Hill Council #168. We hope to make this a regular feature of Association meetings. All Councils wishing to volunteer to bring a degree team to one of our subsequent meetings should contact the Association President, preferably in person at one of our meetings.

Chinese Freemasonry

by Jack Meek, Grand Historian, Grand
Chapter of RAM of B.C.
Dogwood Council #171

There are, or were, many buildings in the Chinese section of at least a dozen towns in British Columbia where the square and compasses are publicly displayed. Chinese Freemason's lodges have never been recognized by the Grand Lodge of B.C., nor by any other Grand Lodge. We are aware of Chinese Freemason's lodges in many parts of Canada and the U.S.A. There are, of course, a considerable number of highly respected Chinese brethren in regular Grand Jurisdictions throughout the world. There is a properly constituted Grand Lodge of China based in Taiwan, which was formed in 1949. This is recognized by the Grand Lodge of B.C. and Grand Representatives are appointed. The ritual is rendered in both English and Chinese.

The first Chinese came to B.C. in June 1858, sailing up from San Francisco. Most of them worked at menial tasks and many joined the gold seekers to the Carabou. It was at Barkerville where the first Chinese Masonic Hall was built in 1860, and is preserved in an excellent charcoal sketch; clearly shown are Chinese pictographs on three large wooden boards at the front of the building. The lodge was authorized or warranted by Chinese Freemasons of San Francisco. Another Chinese lodge located at Lillooet claimed to have had 500 members in 1890. Unfortunately, it burned down about 25 years ago.

The subject of Chinese Freemasonry is most elusive, with noted authorities, both Chinese and Occidental, making positive but opposing statements. The Triad Society sometimes operates under the guise of Masonry, whereas it is an organization with political overtones, often of an unsavoury nature.

The well-known points of similarity between Freemasonry and traditional Chinese writings are most interesting, but the consensus of European writers and Chinese brethren of recognized lodges in that there is no direct relationship. Professor H.A. Giles observes, however.... "If by Freemasonry we mean that higher scheme of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols drawn from Operative Craft, then the Chinese have gone a long way in that direction." Our own Dr. So Won Leung writes: "To me there is something mystical in the striking

similarity between the rites and ceremonies of these old Chinese Secret Societies and Freemasonry as we know it. This is more remarkable when one recalls the antiquity of both and the lack of opportunity for either to have been patterned after the other."

This vast subject (the bibliography of Chinese Secret Societies is enormous) must be set aside, as there is naught that pertains to Royal Arch Masonry except the most tenuous of incidental coincidence.

Canadian Papers in Miscellania

In our last issue of "The Architect" we offered congratulations to several Canadian brethren whose papers had been selected for inclusion in the Grand Council official publication, "Miscellania". We again have that privilege, as 2 of the 18 papers in the latest issue are from Canadian Councils.

The 1983 issue of "Miscellania" contains a paper produced by J. Garth Haggart entitled "Rudyard Kipling: Poet and Mason" and one by Glenson Jones entitled "The Superintendent Degree". Both of these brethren are members of Capital City Council #154.

Again, all Councils are strongly encouraged to send copies of their papers to the Editor of "The Architect" and also to William G. Peacher, PSGM, 6152 Hawarden Dr., Riverside, CA 92506. Dr. Peacher is the chairman of the Publications committee for "Miscellania".

Hatch, Match and Despatch Announcement

April 13th at Matilda, U.C., Bro. Israel Satan, cabinet-maker, to Miss Grace Parlor, of the above place.

Mankind, rejoice! peace shall abound,
Since Grace by Satan has been found;
And in full proof that peace is meant,
Israel by Grace has pitched his tent;
No more in deserts wild he'll roam,
He's got a Parlor for his home.

Appreciation

In rendering the Charity Charge, an Officer was heard to say - "And like the Sisters of Mercy, is twice blessed."

From The Other Side

A Master, in impressing a Candidate with the caution necessary to preserve what has been taught him now or in the immediate future, said - "All that will be communicated to you in the hereafter."

Gleanings From The Councils

by J. Ray Shute II, from Vol.1-part 1 (1933)

There still seems to be some confusion among the brethren respecting the purpose of having an Association of Canadian Councils.

It is easy to see how this originally arose. There was an early proposal to form a Grand Council of A.M.D. for Canada. This was presented to a meeting of delegates from Canadian Councils and was defeated.

The Association is not a sneaky attempt to ignore the wishes of the delegates but, indeed, arose from a motion from those same delegates, to meet a perceived need.

The purpose of the Association is several-fold:

- to keep our brethren informed of the AMD events, especially those within Canada.
- to promote Grand Council activities
- to assist Grand Council to administer the Canadian Councils by:
 - providing a forum in which issues of particular interest to Canadian Councils can be discussed prior to being presented to Grand Council.
 - providing a visible AMD presence in Canada which can stimulate interest in AMD Masonry.
- to stimulate Canadian interest in AMD Masonry by:
 - providing a forum for the exchange of information on AMD subjects
 - publishing information and material obtained from Canadian Councils
 - organizing occasions on which our degrees can be emulated
 - encouraging interaction among our Councils
 - promoting our annual pilgrimage to AMD Mecca (Washington, D.C., Feb. 10-12 in 1984)

To quote, in part, the Report of the Board of General Purposes to Grand Council in 1983:

"We heartily approve the establishment of a Canadian Association of the Allied Masonic Degrees, and sincerely hope it will be successful as similar Associations have been in the United States."

This interesting Grade was formerly known under the title of: "Masons Elect of the Twenty-Seven", or "Select Masons of the 27", and is found in many different countries, although records are by no means abundant. There can be little doubt that this Grade and the Grade of "Select Master" owe their origin to a common source. In his "Masonic Orations", published in 1803, Frederick Dalcho mentions (appendix) that in addition to the regular degrees of the Scottish Rite, they possessed many detached degrees and among those mentioned is "Select Masters of the 27". Elsewhere there is mention of "Select Masons of the 27", etc., indicating that the Grade which we now work as "Grand Tilers of Solomon" is of very close resemblance to the Present-day "Select Master".

Early evidence of the Grade is contained at page 1305 "History of the Cryptic Rite", where is reproduced a diploma issued by Moses Cohn to Abraham Jacobs, dated 9th November, 1790, which mentions the "Select Mason of Twenty-Seven". There are also other references to such a Grade at an early date.

The Jamaica Ritual, purporting to have been used by Morin in the West Indies in the eighteenth century, is yet available for study and indicates a close adherence to the present working of the Allied Grade, while at the same time it indicates a direct line to the Select Master. However, following the trend of thought here introduced, the origin of the one Grade would be the birth of the other and the two Grades, while somewhat different today, indicate formerly one Grade. The Allied Grade merely holds to older working and has not been amplified and changed by too many hands. It appears to be old work.

It appears that the entrance of this Grade into the Allied System of England came in 1892, during which year Brother C.F. Matier (who was at that time P.D.G.M. and Grand Secretary of the Grand Council of England and Wales) received the Grade from America. He also received authority to confer the Grade. The records of this are contained in the archives of the Grand Council here.

Thus, it is evident that the Grade is an American product and our records here are earlier than have yet been found elsewhere. The Ritual now used by the Grand Council is the same as that used by England and is a product of late nineteenth century American

ritualists. The Ritual is of deep interest to those who really understand early Ritual and the environs in which it was created. Many lessons may be found in simple and easily explained ceremonies of last century.

The Jewel of Grand Tilers of Solomon is a black delta, edged with gold, containing in the centre "27" in Hebrew characters. On the reverse appears the Tetragrammaton in the Kabalistic Order. The Jewel is suspended from a scarlet ribbon, edged with pale grey, on which is a hand grasping a sword and surmounted by three crowns.

The Sash is approximately four inches in width; scarlet in the centre, with pale grey on either side thereof.

The Apron of the Grade is of black, with gold border. In the centre is a gold crown, while on the flap in gold, a hand grasping a sword.

More on The Grand Tilers of Solomon or Masons Elect of Twenty-Seven

extracted from "A Century of the Allied Masonic Degrees" published by The Grand Council of the A.M.D. of England and Wales and Territories Overseas.

The origin of this degree has yet to be established. There was an "Order of English Masters" at Swalwell in 1746. A grade of "English Master" is recorded by Waite as found in a French Ritual of c.1780-1800. Carlile (1825) has an almost identical degree under the title "Intimate Secretary or English Master's Degree". The present degree has much in common with the degree of "Intimate Secretary" in the A.A.S.R., brought from America in 1845, and its legend is similar to that of the "Select Master" in the Cryptic Rite. The degree of "Select Master of Twenty-seven" was worked in Scotland in 1803. In the United States "Select Masons of Twenty-seven" was worked in 1761 and more recently "Select Masters of Twenty-seven or Grand Tilers of King Solomon" was extensively worked in Virginia from a skeleton form of "Select Master" worked in Royal Arch Chapters in that state.

Some of these degrees have interesting variations, in particular with respect to the period of occurrences; in those in which Hiram Abif is dead, it is Hiram of Tyre who demands the execution of the intruder and Solomon who argues against that course.

The most probable inference is that the degree originated in France and was taken to

the United States by military Lodges. The working of the Swalwell degree has not been identified and, while it may possibly have been introduced by foreign workmen, there is at present no certainty that the "Grand Tilers" had been worked in England before Matier obtained it from the United States in 1893.

The Cork Degree

from "Fun Among The Masons" by G.M. Martin

You may climb the Mason's ladder till you reach the highest point,
But I venture to inform you-if you've reached to Thirty-three-
That the best of all the bunch is what is called the Cork Degree.

You ask me what it means! Well, sirs, it means just what it says;
You can booze yourself to blazes through a hundred happy days,
You may stop your dinner and your tea, and sell your knife and fork,
But you mustn't venture out of doors without the Mason's Cork.

'Tis a circle and the centre that it holds is fellowship,
There are many signs and tokens which you well may give the slip,
So long as you do not forget that the Cork, to have its due,
Must have safely in its centre what it seldom lacks-a screw!

For that means the bottle's open, and that drinks are going round,
And that Corkites are delighted with the whisky's gurgling sound,
As it cluck, cluck, clucks in friendship's name and flows right merrily,
And thus maintains the glories of the almighty Cork Degree.

Then when heads are getting muzzy, and when eyes are getting faint,
And you're free to fight your damndest with a devil or a saint,
If some kindly Christian soul enquires how many moons you see?

You may bet your empty tumbler that he's got the Cork Degree.