



Distributed by Mt. Hood Lodge #32
Free and Accepted Masons of Washington

“History of Mt. Hood Lodge”
Br. David G. Miller

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

David G. Miller was initiated an Entered Apprentice Mason on October 9, 1925, passed to be the Fellowcraft Degree October 23 and raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, one day after his 23rd birthday, at Whitman Lodge No. 49, Pullman, Washington on November 27, 1925. At that time he was a Junior at the State College of Washington at Pullman, now known as the Washington State University.

In the fall of 1925 a group of 16 Master Masons, all students at the College had banded together and organized a men's social fraternity which they named "Gauge and Gavel" where they could live together and enjoy their Masonic fellowship. Among this group was Raymond M. Miller, brother of David G. Miller. As brother Dave's petition for Masonry had been accepted by Whitman Lodge No. 49 at Pullman, the Brothers of Gauge and Gavel invited him to stay at the fraternity house. The Gauge and Gavel Brothers had formed a Masonic Degree Team and they were asked by Whitman Lodge to confer the Degrees of Masonry upon their fraternity-brother-to-be. Ray Miller had the pleasure of conferring the Third Degree upon his youngest brother, serving as Worshipful Master in the first section, and as King Solomon in the second.

After receiving his Third Degree, Miller joined the Fraternity's Masonic Degree Team and was assigned the Third Degree Lecture. He first gave the lecture at Tyrian Lodge No. 96, at Spokane, WA on a trip which the team made in 1926. The Degree Team made many visitations to the local Lodge and to other Lodges throughout the Palouse and Spokane area. Thus it was that Brother Miller became active in Masonic Work from the very beginning of his Masonic career.

Returning to Spokane following his graduation from the State College in 1927 Bro. Miller demitted to North Hill Lodge No. 210, where his brother Ray held membership. At North Hill Lodge he continued working in the Degrees, and he received two minor officer appointments.

In 1935 Bro. Miller moved to Vancouver, Washington where he was employed by School District No. 37 to teach the Graphic Arts (Printing) in Vancouver High School. He demitted from North Hill Lodge to Mt. Hood Lodge No. 32 in Vancouver in Jan. 1937. At Mt. Hood Lodge he was installed as Junior Steward in December, 1937. Advancing regularly through the Appointive Line, he was elected Junior Warden in 1942, Senior Warden in '43 and served as Worshipful Master for the year 1944. This being in the midst of World War II, it proved to be the busiest year ever experienced by Mt. Hood Lodge as shown in a later chapter captioned "1944—Mt. Hood's Busiest Year."

During 1944 Bro. Miller cast his lot with the York Rite of Freemasonry. He was Exalted to the Sublime Degree of the Royal Arch in Vancouver Chapter No. 9, Royal Arch Masons on March 1, 1944. He received the Order of the Temple in Vancouver Commandery No. 10, Knights Templar, being created a Knight Templar on April 26. He completed his York Rite membership by receiving the Royal and Select Master Degrees in Vancouver Council No. 10, September 9, 1950. (At that time it was not necessary, in Washington, for a candidate to have taken the Council Degrees before he could petition the Commandery, as it is at the present time.)

Miller was honored by being elected the Presiding Officer in each of the York Rite Bodies; W.M of the Blue Lodge in 1944, Vancouver Chapter No. 9 in 1947, Vancouver Commandery No. 10 in '48 and Vancouver Council No. 10 in '53. An interesting sidelight is that after Miller served as Commander of the Commandery in 1948, he was appointed Prelate in '49 and served continuously in that office to the present time (1979), a period of service covering 31 consecutive years.

Worshipful Brother Miller's first appointment to State office in Masonry came in 1945 when Most Worshipful Leslie W. Lee, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Washington appointed him Junior Grand Deacon. Three years later M.W. Delos A. Shiner, Grand Master, appointed him to serve as Deputy of the Grand Master for District No. 19, a position in which he served a three-year term, 1948-51.

During the year 1948 Miller also served the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons as Grand Master of the Third Veil. Later, he served two years, 1956-58 as

Deputy of the Grand High Priest for District No. 1, which is comprised of Cowlitz, Clark and Skamania Counties. In 1953 Miller was elected President of the Columbia Valley Past Masters Assn. An interstate organization composed of the Past Masters from the Portland area in Oregon and Skamania and Clark Counties in Washington.

In the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Washington Miller was appointed Grand Conductor of Council by Grand Master Lawrence A. Cooper, in 1957. He continued advancing in the Grand Council Line until, in 1963, he was elected Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council, Royal and Select Masters of Washington.

In 1953 Miller was appointed Special Deputy of the Grand Commander to Cowlitz Commandery No. 29 at Longview. He was reappointed annually and served with Cowlitz Commandery in that capacity for a period of five years 1953 thru 1957.

A signal honor was paid Bro. Miller in 1954 by being elected to membership in Evergreen State Priory No. 41, Knights of the York Cross of Honor, an honorary body in which membership is secured only by invitation; and only those Masons who have served as the Presiding Officer in all four branches of the York Rite—the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council and Commandery are eligible to receive invitations. In 1963 Miller was elected Prior, the Presiding Officer of this distinguished body of York Rite Masons.

Miller became a Charter Member of Washington York Rite College No. 23 when it was founded in Centralia in 1961. The College was a new invitational body requiring membership in each of the four Bodies of the York Rite, whose purpose was to be of service in developing the York Rite into well-integrated and coordinated action. In 1963 Miller was elected Governor of Washington York Rite College No. 23. In the same year he was appointed by the Governor General of the Sovereign College of North America to be Grand Governor for the State of Washington, with jurisdiction over Oregon and British Columbia Colleges as well. He served as Grand Governor until 1971 during which time he also served as a Regent of the Sovereign College, receiving the Order of the Purple Cross from that Body. Retiring as Grand Governor in 1971 he was designated a Regent Emeritus of the Sovereign College.

When Vancouver Lodge of Perfection, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry was formed in Vancouver in 1973 by a group of local Scottish Rite Masons, Miller became one of its Charter Members. When the Charter was received in 1976

establishing Vancouver Valley in the Orient of Washington, Miller was elected Junior Warden in the new Chapter of Rose Croix and went on to serve as Wise Master of that Body in 1979-80.

During 1982 Miller received one of the highest honors that have come to him in his long and eventful Masonic career. At the Grand Conclave of York Rite Masons held at Bellingham in May, while attending a banquet for the Grand Council and Grand Commandery, he was tapped as the recipient of the Knights Templar Cross of Honor, awarded by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of America. The citation on the plaque presented to him reads: “Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America Certificate of Award. TO all to Whom These Presents May Come—Greetings. This is to certify that DAVID G. MILLER, a member of Vancouver Commandery No. 10, K.T., of the Grand Commandery of Washington has been awarded the Knights Templar Cross of Honor in recognition of his exceptional and meritorious service rendered to the Knights Templar far beyond the service usually expected of an officer or member as follows: He gives freely of his time, talent, effort and ability to Templar advancement. Commended as a consistent, faithful participant who practices and inspires involvement among the members. A Templar who exemplifies the principles of Christian Knighthood. In Witness Whereof, we have subscribed our signatures and caused the seal of the Grand Encampment to be affixed this 26th day of July, A.D. 1982, A.O. 964.” The citation was signed by Kenneth C. Johnson, Grand Master and Paul C. Rodenhauser, Grand Recorder. Note: Only one of these citations is awarded by the Grand Encampment in each State during each year.

In the Order of the Eastern Star, Miller has served as Worthy Patron of Martha Washington Chapter No. 42, in Vancouver during the year 1967.

Over the years Brother Miller has worked extensively with DeMolay Boys. He served on the Advisory Council for Vancouver Chapter, Order of DeMolay from 1937 to 1979, except for the War Years of 1942 to '45 when the Vancouver Chapter went dormant. He was instrumental in getting Vancouver Chapter reactivated in 1946, for

which he was later awarded the Zerubbabel Key by DeMolay International in 1976. That Dad Miller was well-liked by the DeMolays was shown by the boys voting to present him with their “Hats Off” award in 1962, during the term of Dennis Holm, Master Councilor. In 1966 the DeMolay International again presented him with its Honorary Legion of Honor award, the highest honor in their power to bestow upon a non-DeMolay. Again, in 1976, the DeMolay International awarded him the DeMolay Cross of Honor, for outstanding service to the Order of DeMolay.

PREFACE

In June, 1977 Brother Philip R. Engle, then Junior Warden of Mt. Hood Lodge No. 32, being aware that in the normal course of events he would be the Worshipful

Master of the Lodge during the year of its One Hundredth Anniversary in 1979, he broached the subject of a suitable celebration of that important date in the history of the Lodge. He asked the Brethren to be thinking of the sort of celebration that they would like to see held, and he asked for volunteers to work on a committee to make suitable arrangements. A committee consisting of Bros. was formed with W. Bro. John B. Stitt, Past Master, as chairman.

On November 12, 1977 W. Bro. Stitt gave a brief report of the tentative plans and move that \$1000.00 be set aside for use, in holding the proposed Centennial Celebration. The motion carried unanimously at the next stated meeting.

With the approval of the Lodge, the committee ordered a Medallion to be struck off commemorating Mt. Hood's 100th Anniversary. One thousand of these were purchased, which the committee sold for \$1.00 apiece, to provide additional funds for the Centennial Celebration.

Bro. Engle also felt that the Brethren would be interested in the early history of the Lodge, and that the Centennial Celebration would be an appropriate time to give it to them. He accordingly asked V.W. David G. Miller, Past Master, if he would undertake the monumental task of reviewing the minutes of the Lodge since its founding in 1879, and write a history covering its first 100 years, which would become a part of the Centennial Celebration. To this Bro. Miller agreed, and this history is the result of that endeavor.

All the minutes from the formation of the Lodge on May 3, 1879 to the present have been read. Fortunately the minutes have been carefully preserved and are intact, although some of the early handwritten ones were quite faded and were difficult to read. Some were beautiful specimens of Spencerian penmanship, while others required deciphering. It was not until 1928 that the Secretary began using a type writer. Except for a brief period, of nearly one year, in 1907, when Bro. H.C. Teel was Secretary. Thank God for that wonderful invention.

Brother Arnold's Histories of Mt. Hood

Tucked away with the minutes of 1928 was the first history of Mt. Hood Lodge No. 32, written by Bro. Horace W. Arnold, who had served as Secretary of the Lodge

from December, 1897 through 1902. It was a short 3-page history, typewritten and double-spaced, written for use in compiling the historical data of growth of Masonry in Washington in connection with the celebration of the Seventy-fifth Anniversary of Olympia Lodge No. 1, held in Olympia in 1929. This history is filed with the minutes of 1928. Seven years later, in 1935, Bro. Arnold wrote a second and more complete history consisting of ten typewritten pages, which he read to the Brethren of Mt. Hood Lodge at a meeting held on April 11, 1935. This history is filed with the minutes of 1935.

In each of these histories Bro. Arnold makes two statements which further research by this author has prove to be in error, and which have been corrected in this history. The first is his statement that “Prior to 1879 Washington Lodge No. 4 was the only Masonic Lodge in Southwestern Washington,” This is obviously incorrect as Kalama Lodge No. 17 was chartered in 1871, and Chehalis No. 28, in 1878, one year prior to the founding of Mt. Hood Lodge U.D. in Vancouver in 1879.

The second. “In 1879 the members of Washington Lodge who were connected with the United States Army stationed at Vancouver Barracks had increased to a very efficient working majority so that in many respects the conduct of the Lodge partook of a military flavor to such an extent that (a number of the civilian members withdrew) and held a meeting to organize a new Lodge on May 3, 1879.” The portion of this statement which is inaccurate is that part which is shown within the parentheses—(a number of the civilian members withdrew).

Research of the membership of Washington Lodge as shown in the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Washington during the year 1875 through 1879 reveals that only one of the eight brethren who founded Mt. Hood Lodge U.D. in 1879 had ever been a member of Washington Lodge. That Brother, Jacob W. Thompson, had demitted from Washington Lodge to Portland Lodge No. 55 in 1877, two years previous to his demitting from the Portland Lodge in 1879 to enable him to participate in the founding of the new Lodge in Vancouver. This statement indicates that the other seven Founding Brethren were also sojourning Masons in Vancouver. They may have been frequent visitors at Washington Lodge, but definitely had not been members. This then would show that Mt. Hood Lodge was formed by a group of eight Sojourners—one from Portland and seven

from the Vancouver area—not by a group of demitting civilian members of Washington Lodge as the Arnold histories tend to indicate.

In 1969 V.W. John F. Akers, Secretary of Mt. Hood Lodge, wrote a short addendum to the 1935 Arnold history, bringing it up-to-date, for the celebration, marking the completion of the new Masonic Temple at 78th Street and Avenue. Portions of these histories have been included in this work.

In many places excerpts have been taken verbatim from the minutes to capture the feeling and modes of expression of the Brethren of that period. Many interesting facts have been included which were thought to be both interesting and informative.

Instead of following a strictly chronological sequence of events, the plan has been develop various phases of Lodge interest from their beginning on to the present time. It is hoped the Brethren will find this plan both interesting and easy to follow.

Also included is the growth of the Vancouver Masonic Temple, Inc., as over the first forty-five years of its existence Mt. Hood had been the backbone and sinews of this Association.

Some may be appalled at the length of this history, but it must be remembered that a hundred years is a long period of time—longer than the life-span of any one of us, and a lot of activity can be crowded into the lifetime of an organization as well as of individuals.

It is hoped the reader will find this history more than a mere recitation of dates and events, as an attempt was made to emphasize the human interest connected with the various events as they occurred.

Copy of Minutes of PRELIMINARY MEETING

A meeting of Master Masons was held in Vancouver, Washington Territory on the Third day of May, 1879, A. L. 5879. Present were Bros.: Joseph A. Sladen, Robert Pollock, George M. Downey, Harvey H. Gridley, Arthur W. Hidden, Henry C. Morrice, Lynn B. Clough, and Jacob Thompson.

On Motion Bro. Joseph A. Sladen was elected Chairman. On motion Bro. Henry B. Morrice was elected Secretary.

On motion it was then determined to petition the Grand Master of Washington for a Dispensation to open a Lodge of Master Masons.

Several names for it were then suggested. Finally the name "Mount Hood" was unanimously adopted.

The following named Brethren were then severally proposed and accepted as its first officers.

Henry C. Morrice, W. M.

Robert Pollock S. W.

Jacob Thompson J. W.

The Secretary was then directed to insert the names in the Petition for Dispensation and send the same to Washington Lodge No. 4 F.&A.M. requesting their recommendation.

Each Brother then contributed the sum of Six Dollars Twenty-five cents to pay for the Dispensation.

On motion the meeting then adjourned, to meet again on the call of the Secretary.

Joseph A. Sladen

Chairman

H.C. Moorice

Secretary

HISTORY OF MOUNT HOOD LODGE NO, 32

By

David G. Miller, Past Master, 1944

Early History of Masonry in Washington

Masonry in Washington Territory had its beginning when the first Masonic Lodge, north of the Columbia River, was formed in Olympia in 1853 as Olympia Lodge No. 5 A.F.&A.M. of Oregon. The second was Steilacoom No. 8, also formed in 1853.

Grand Mound Lodge No. 21, founded in 1858 was third, closely followed by Washington Lodge No. 22, in Vancouver, on July 18, 1858.

On December 8, 1858 representatives of the four Masonic Lodges located north of the Columbia River met in Olympia and formed the Grand Lodge of Washington. Each Lodge received its new number according to its original charter date. Olympia Lodge became No. 1 in the new Grand Lodge of Washington, Steilacoom Lodge became No. 2, Grand Mound Lodge was designated No. 3, and Washington Lodge, Vancouver, No. 4. Ten years later Grand Mound Lodge voluntarily surrendered its charter, leaving only three of the original founders of the Grand Lodge of Washington still in existence.

From this beginning Masonic Lodges spread rapidly throughout Washington Territory. The next Lodge to be chartered in Southwest Washington was Kalama No. 17, chartered on September 21, 1871, followed by Chehalis No. 28 in 1878 “get date.”

MOUNT HOOD LODGE FOUNDED MAY 3, 1879

The preliminary meeting which resulted in the founding of Mt. Hood Lodge U.D. was held in Vancouver, Washington Territory, on May 3, 1879 by eight Brother Master Masons: Joseph A. Sladen, Robert Pollock, George M. Downey, Harvey H. Gridley, Arthur W. Hidden, Henry C. Morrice, Lynn B. Clough and Jacob Thompson.

In the first “History of Mt. Hood Lodge No. 32,” written by Bro. Horace W. Arnold in 1928, he describes the forming of the new Lodge in Vancouver as follows: “In 1879 Washington Lodge No. 4 was a thriving Lodge (with a membership of 58 Master

Masons).” He noted that “By 1879 the number of members of Washington Lodge who were connected with the United States Army at Vancouver Barracks had increased to a very efficient working majority so that in many respects that conduct of that Lodge partook of a military and steam-roller flavor to such a degree that a number of the civilian members withdrew. This statement would indicate that the founders of Mt. Hood had all been members of Washington Lodge No. 4 who demitted to organize the new Lodge. Previously this statement has been accepted as the true beginning of Mt. Hood Lodge but research of the membership lists of Washington Lodge continued in the Proceedings of The Grand Lodge of Washington for the years 1875-1879 definitely prove this to be incorrect. Research revealed that only one of the founding Brothers of Mt. Hood had previously been a member of Washington Lodge. That Brother was Horace W. Thompson who demitted from Washington Lodge to Portland Lodge No. 55 during 1877. Two years later, in 1879, he demitted from the Portland Lodge to become one of the founders of Mt. Hood Lodge U. D.

Research of the membership rolls of Washington Lodge contained in the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Washington for the years 1875 through 1879 show that only one of the eight Founding Brothers of Mt. Hood previously been a member of Washington Lodge. That Brother was Jacob W. Thompson, who had demitted from Washington Lodge to Portland Lodge No. 55 in 1877, two years previous to the founding of Mt. Hood Lodge in 1879. This being true, then all of the Founding Brothers must have been Sojourning Masons living in the Portland-Vancouver area at that time. Quite likely they had been frequent visitors at Washington Lodge but, possibly not liking the military manner in which that Lodge conducted its meetings, they had never demitted into it but instead, on May 3, 1879 they joined together to organize a new Lodge which they named “Mount Hood.”

Henry C. Morrice Named First Master

The Minutes of the first meeting held on May 3, 1879, reveal that Bro. Henry C. Morrice was elected to serve as Worshipful Master while the fledgling Lodge was under Dispensation. Robert Pollock was elected Senior Warden and Jacob Thompson, Junior Warden. The Brothers then voted to petition the Grand Lodge of Washington to form a new Lodge in Vancouver. Several names were suggested for the Lodge and the name

“Mount Hood” was finally unanimously chosen. Each of the Brothers then contributed \$6.25 toward the \$50.00 Dispensation Fee. The Petition and the Fee were both sent to Washington Lodge with the request that they sponsor the new group, and forward the Petition and Fee to the Grand Lodge, which was done on May 7, 1879.

At first the request for a Dispensation was refused by the Grand Lodge Committee on Charters and Lodge U.D. because the petitioners had not included evidence that they had severally demitted from their various home Lodges. However, the Grand Secretary, M.W. Bro. Thomas Reed, in his report to the Grand Lodge, which met the following June, suggested that a Dispensation be granted providing all the requirements were met. This suggestion prevailed and the Dispensation was granted conditioned upon the receipt of the missing information. The error of omission was soon corrected and the Dispensation granted by the Grand Master on August 2, 1879.

On August 9 the Vancouver Brethren met and adopted By-Laws. Meetings were to be held on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month. The hour of meeting was set at 7:30 p.m. from October First to April First, and at 8:00 p.m. from April First to October First. Dues were set at \$1.50 to be paid quarterly (\$6.00 annually). Fees were set at \$20.00 for each of the three Degrees (\$60.00 for all three.)

Meetings were first held in the hall of Washington Lodge No. 4 at Fifth and Franklin Streets, which was a converted dwelling. Minutes show that rental paid for use of the hall during the early period to October 1st amounted to \$2.00, an average of Fifty Cents per night. This included the use of the hall, lights, jewels, aprons and furniture.

Ebstein and Kress, First Candidates

First Petitions for the Degrees of Masonry were received by the Lodge on September 13, 1879 from Fred H.E. Ebstein and John A. Kress, and also a Petition for Affiliation from James T. Goss. Ebstein was the first candidate to have a Degree conferred upon him in Mount Hood Lodge, being initiated on Entered Apprentice Mason at a special meeting on October 22, 1879. Three days later at the stated communication on October 25 Kress was initiated an Entered Apprentice Mason. Kress then became the first to receive his Fellowcraft Degree on November 22, and on December 23 he was the

first Master Mason to be raised in Mount Hood Lodge. Ebstein was passed to the Fellowcraft Degree on January 10, 1880, and was raised a Master Mason January 24.

Lodge Moves to New Quarters

On September 13, 1879 a committee was appointed to confer with a committee from Washington Lodge “To make such just and reasonable arrangements for the use of their hall on a permanent basis as they may deem fair and proper.” The hall committee reported at the following meeting that the Washington committee thought it best that Washington Lodge should keep an account of the expenses of both Lodges and that each should pay an equal share of the expenses. Believing this to be unfair due to the difference in membership—Washington having 58 members to Mt. Hood’s 11. Another committee was appointed to inquire into the advisability of moving to another hall. On November 23 this committee reported that Vancouver Lodge No. 3, Independent Order of Oddfellows offered the use of their hall at Fourth and Washington, for \$2.00 a night, including lights, fuel and custodial service. This report met with favor and the Lodge immediately began preparations for moving to that hall.

Mount Hood Lodge held its first meeting in the Oddfellows Hall on January 24, 1880. The minutes of that meeting state that in the meantime the hall committee had purchased a set of Jewels and made an Altar, three Candlesticks, two Wardens’ Columns, three dozen Linen Aprons, a Cable tow, Hoodwink and Candidate’s Drawers and Slippers, all for the cost of \$58.30.

The minutes also state: “The following resolution was introduced and on motion adopted, and the Secretary ordered to send an attested copy thereof to Washington Lodge No. 4: ‘Resolved that the cordial thanks of Mount Hood Lodge U.D. are heartily tendered to Washington Lodge No. 4 for their fraternal encouragement and assistance to us by their presence and cooperation as well as to tender to us of the use of their Lodge, Jewels,

and Working Tools since our inauguration'. They also invited W. Bro. S.G. Blake, Master of Washington Lodge, to deliver an address at the next regular communication.

The minutes of the next meeting show the following resolution was received from Washington Lodge: "Resolved that this Lodge accept the thanks of Mount Hood Lodge U.D. and avail itself of this opportunity of assuring Mount Hood Lodge of the fraternal love and best wishes for the welfare and prosperity of our young sister Lodge, and trusts that the fraternal love and harmony which has hitherto existed between the two Lodges may continue, and that both Lodges may find how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

At the following meeting another communication was received from Washington Lodge presenting the Lodge with 50 Ode Cards containing the odes generally sung during the ceremonies of opening and closing Lodge and in raising a candidate.

At a meeting on March 13, 1880 Mt. Hood's Worshipful Master, Henry C. Morrice delivered an interesting lecture on "Masonry in Its Early Days." At the following meeting, on March 24 he explained "The Working of the Different Degrees of Masonry," and on April 10 he addressed the Lodge on "Masonry and Religion."

Grand Lodge Petitioned for a Charter

Mount Hood Lodge U.D. petitioned the Grand Lodge of Washington for a Charter on May 8, 1880, and accompanied the petition with the necessary fee of \$60.00. The minutes of that date contain the following resolution:

"Whereas: Believing it for the best interest of our Order, and that we can do even better in the future than we have in the past, and being in possession of the necessary Jewels , Aprons, Altar, Lights and having rented a suitable hall, and being free from debt and having a sufficient number of member to be self-sustaining, be it.

“RESOLVED, That we do hereby petition the Grand Lodge of Washington to grant us a Charter.”

Constitution of the Lodge

The Charter was granted by the Grand Lodge on June 4, 1880, and was signed by M.W. Louis Sohns, Grand Master, countersigned by M.W. T.M. Reed, Grand Secretary. The Grand Master was a member of Washington Lodge No. 4, and a prominent citizen of Vancouver.

It is interesting to note in the Proceeding of the Grand Lodge of Washington for 1880, that the Committee on Charters and Lodge U.D. not only recommended granting the Charter but also made the following statement: “We would especially commend this Lodge on the appearance of a record which for neatness, regularity and accuracy surpassed anything of the kind that it has been the pleasure of this Committee to examine.”

At a Special Communication of Mount Hood Lodge U.D. held in Vancouver on June 17, 1880 Mount Hood Lodge No. 32 was Constituted by M.W. Louis Sohns, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Washington. The minutes of that meeting state: “The Senior Warden (Bro. Joseph A. Sladen) presented to the Most Worshipful Grand Master a Charter granted by the Grand Lodge of Washington for the organization of a Lodge of Master Masons to be known as Mount Hood Lodge No. 32, F.&A.M. in pursuance of which the Grand Master directed an election to be held for the officers of the said Lodge. The names of the officers were left blank in the Charter to be filled in when the Lodge was constituted. Immediately following the presentation of the charter an election was held at which the following were elected:

Worshipful Master	Joseph A. Sladen
Senior Warden	Jacob Thompson
Junior Warden	John A. Kress

These names were inserted in the charter. Also elected as officers of the newly constituted Lodge were:

Treasurer	J.T. Goss
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Secretary Fred H.E. Ebstein

The Worshipful Master then appointed the following officers: Senior Deacon, George M. Downey; Junior Deacon, Lynn B. Clough; Senior Steward, Henry C. Morrice; Junior Steward, H.H. Gridley and Tyler, A.W. Hidden. All were installed into office.

Although W. Bro Sladen became the first Master of Mount Hood Lodge No. 32 upon its Constitution following receipt of its Charter, W. Bro Henry C. Morrice had served as Worshipful Master while the Lodge was under Dispensation, and was elected its second Master in 1881, re-elected in 1882, 1883 and again in 1890. The Lodge seal was designed by W. Bro. Morrice in 1880.

ST. JOHN'S DAY CELEBRATION

The first meeting following the Constitution of the Lodge was held on St. John's Day, June 24, 1880 to commemorate the anniversary of St. John the Baptist. The officers and brethren of Washington Lodge No. 4 were present to assist in the work. Bro. J.A. Kress suggested that Bro. E.I. Baily, of Portland Lodge No. 55 who being present, be invited to make some remarks upon the occasion of St. John's Day. Whereupon a very eloquent and able address upon the teachings of Masonry, and the duties of Masons was delivered by Bro. Baily. A vote of thanks was tendered Bro. Baily for his interesting discourse. Addresses were also made by W. Bro. J.G. Blake, Bros. H.W. Kress, and J. W. Fletcher, all of Washington Lodge.

Evidently, during Mt. Hood's early days it was the custom of the Lodges in Washington to report to their Sister Lodges throughout the state the names of all candidates whose petitions for the Degrees were rejected, as well as of those Brothers who were suspended for non-payment of dues and Masonic conduct. The early minutes are replete with such entries.

Holy Bible Presented to Mt. Hood Lodge

On January 8, 1881 the Worshipful Master stated that W. Bro. J.A. Sladen had presented the Lodge with a Bible. Whereupon Bro. J.A. Kress moved "That the sincere

thanks of this Lodge be tendered Bro. Sladen for the excellent and appropriate present of a copy of the Holy Bible, and that the Lodge earnestly regrets our separation. (Evidently the Bible was a “going-away present” from Bro. Sladen.)

A surprising entry in the minutes of April 23, 1881 notes that the Worshipful Master illustrated the work of the Scottish Rite Degrees in Mt. Hood Lodge.

On October 8, '81 the By-Laws were amended to read “the regular meeting of this Lodge shall be held on the Second Saturday of each month.” Previously, both the second and fourth Saturdays were regular meetings. This amendment was adopted Nov. 12th. The fourth Saturday was retained as special meeting night.

On November 11, 1882 petitions were received from Robert W. Downing and John Corliss. Both petitions were rejected at the January 9 meeting. On January 13 Grand Lodge was petitioned to grant a dispensation to receive a petition from R.W. Downing, who had been in this jurisdiction for less than a year. The Dispensation was granted and he was initiated an Entered Apprentice on March 10, 1883, passed to the Fellowcraft Degree, May 12, and received his Sublime Degree on May 26.

Mt. Hood Invited to Join Washington in Erection of a New Temple

A communication received on January 12, 1884, from Washington Lodge, requested Mt. Hood Lodge to appoint a committee of three to confer with a like committee from Washington Lodge to plan for the building of a new Masonic Hall in Vancouver. A committee was appointed consisting of G. M. Downey, J.T. Goss and Jacob Thompson. The joint committee met several times but eventually the Mt. Hood members dropped out, ostensibly because Mt. Hood did not have the finances to support its share of the project.

Washington Lodge went ahead with its plan and a two-story Masonic Hall was built on the southwest corner of Eighth and Main Streets, on land that Washington Lodge had previously purchased.

On May 10, 1884 petitions for the Degrees were received from James Murphy and Sol E. Sparrow. (As an interesting situation developed in regard to the Murphy petition I am constrained to report it in some detail.)

James Murphy and Sol Sparrow were members of the 21st Infantry which had received orders to be transferred from the Vancouver Barracks on June 25, 1884. The Grand Master had granted permission to receive, ballot and confer the Degrees of Masonry on these two military men out of the usual time.

Mr. Murphy's petition revealed that he had previously petitioned Washington Lodge No. 4 in 1883 and had been rejected. His petition was laid on the table and Washington Lodge contacted. The Washington Secretary reported that the Lodge knew of no reason why Mt. Hood Lodge should not receive the petition. The ballot was spread on June 14 and the Murphy petition was again rejected.

At a special meeting held on June 17, Bro. Jackson Davis stated that he had, on information given him by Bro. H.W. Kress, of Washington Lodge cast a black ball in the ballot for Mr. Murphy. He had later learned that the prejudicial information given him by Bro. Kress was entirely erroneous and he now wished to change his ballot. All of the members present at the previous ballot, except Bro. Cook, were present at this meeting, and Bro. Cook, being ill was contacted at his home earlier in the afternoon by the Worshipful Master, Senior Warden and Tyler. He said he had cast a favorable ballot. No objection being made by the brethren, the Worshipful Master ordered a re-ballot held, and on the re-ballot Mr. Murphy was elected to receive the Degrees.

The Lodge of Master masons was closed and Labor opened on the Entered Apprentice Degree. Mr. James Murphy being in waiting was initiated an Entered Apprentice Mason, lecture and charge given.

The Lodge of Entered Apprentices was then closed and a Lodge of Fellowcrafts opened. Entered Apprentice Sol E. Sparrow being in waiting, was introduced and Passed to the Fellowcraft Degree, lecture and charge given.

The Lodge of Fellowcrafts was closed and Labor resumed on the Third Degree. Bro. Fellowcraft Sol Sparrow was Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

Thus, on a single night a business meeting was held, followed by the conferral of each of the three Degrees of Masonry—the Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft and Master

Mason Degrees. This was the first time that this was done in Mt. Hood Lodge. The early minutes never stated the time when the Lodge was closed, but it would have been interesting to know when the Brothers closed Lodge that night.

At another special meeting held on June 21 Entered Apprentice J. Murphy being in waiting was Passed to the Fellowcraft Degree, receiving the usual lecture and charges. He was then Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

At this meeting June 21, W. Bro. H.C. Morrice bid God Speed to the several members of Mt. Hood who were scheduled to leave Vancouver with the 21st Infantry on June 25. Bro. Morrice then, on behalf of the resident members of the Lodge presented the Worshipful Master, Fred H.E. Ebstein, who was a member of the 21st Infantry, with a neat watch charm as a going-away souvenir from the members.

An Unfortunate Period In Mt. Hood's History

The election of officers held December 13, 1884 produced some very surprising results. With the Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Fred H.E. Ebstien, having been transferred to another military post in mid-year, Bro. Jacob Thompson, the Senior Warden had been acting as master Pro-Tem for the past six months and was normally in line to be elected the new Master. However, Bro. A.J. Cook was elected to that office instead, and Bro. Thompson re-elected Senior Warden for his sixth consecutive term. Bro. Abram Collings was elected Junior Warden, Bro. J.T. Goss, Treasurer, and Bro. L.G. Desor, Secretary. Installation was set for the next stated meeting.

Odd as it may seem to present day members, Bro. Cook who had been raised a Master Mason in Mt. Hood Lodge less than ten months previously, on February 21, 1884, and his election as Worshipful Master came as a distinct shock to Bro. Thompson, who refused to be again installed as Senior Warden.

A review of Bro. Thompson's record as an officer of Mt. Hood amply reveals the basis for his reaction. He was one of the eight Brothers who founded the Lodge in 1879. He had served as Junior Warden while the Lodge was under dispensation. He had been elected Senior Warden when the Lodge was Constituted in June, 1880 when Bro. J.A. Sladen served as Master. He was accordingly in the line to be elected Master for the year 1881 but Bro. H.C. Morrice, who had been the Master while the Lodge was under dispensation, was elected the second Master following the Constitution of the Lodge, and Bro. Thompson was re-elected Senior Warden.

All the incumbent officers were re-elected for the year 1882. The same was true in 1883 with the single exception that Bro. L.B. Clough was named Junior Warden. The election of the 1884 officers resulted in Bro. Fred. H.E. Ebstein being elected Master, and Bro. Thompson again retained as Senior Warden. Then, in the election for 1885, to be again by-passed in the election for Worshipful Master, this time by a Brother who had been a Master Mason for less than a year was evidently more than Bro. Thompson could take.

At the meeting January 10, 1885 Thompson was not present and the Junior Warden, Bro. A.W. Hidden Pro-temed as Master. The secretary was instructed to communicate with Bro. Thompson, under seal of the Lodge, requesting him to inform the Lodge whether or not it was his intention to present himself for installation. If the answer was "No" the Secretary was to apply for a dispensation to elect another Senior Warden, and to summon all members to present at the next meeting. Also, the Secretary was to include in the request a dispensation to elect a new Secretary, as the Secretary-elected had demitted.

At the following communication, February 14, the application for a demit for Bro. A. Collings, Junior Warden, was granted. Also, the Secretary informed the Lodge that he had written to Bro. Thompson as directed, but receiving no reply, and had called at his home. He reported Thompson had told him that he did not purpose to ever again enter the Lodge and as soon as he could pay his dues, he intended to apply for a demit.

The Secretary was then instructed to apply for a dispensation to elect a Senior Warden, Junior Warden and Secretary; the Senior Warden-elect refusing to be installed,

and both the Junior Warden-elect and the Secretary-elect having been granted demits. The dispensation was received and at a special election held April 25, 1885, the following were elected: Bro. A.W. Hidden, Senior Warden; Bro. R.W. Downing, Junior Warden; and Bro. H.C. Morrice, Secretary. Installation of the officers for 1885 was finally held at a special communication on April 30, 1885. Thus ended an unfortunate episode in the early history of Mt. Hood Lodge.

However, the passage of time must have assuage the deep hurt that Thompson had received in the 1885 election. His resolve to never again set foot in Mt. Hood Lodge must have mellowed, because the minutes of August 8, 1885 list Thompson as serving as Senior Deacon Pro Tem. He served in that office for eight consecutive meetings—through January 9, 1886. Following this, he also served as Senior Warden Pro Tem on March 10, and again pro Temed as Senior Deacon on April 10, 26 and May 11, 1886. From that date, the minutes contain no mention of Bro. Thompson.

Beginning in 1886 Mt. Hood Lodge began curtailing some of its State Meetings. Only five Stated Meetings were held in 1888, in the months of January, February, March, May and December. During the next seven years, 1889 through 1895 only five or six meetings were held each year with the single exception of 1894 when nine were held. The year 1896 marked the resumption of more normal Lodge activities when 23 meetings were held. However, the number skidded again with only 20 being held in '97 and 16 in '98.

Evidently a change had been made in the Masonic Work during the Grand Lodge of 1886 as the minutes of January 8, 1887 state: “Bros. Downing and Clough were appointed a committee to cooperate with a like committee from Washington Lodge to obtain the work from one of the Custodians.”

On the same dates 1887 the meeting night from the second and the fourth Saturdays to the second and fourth Tuesdays.

Annual Remission of Dues 1891-1906

On March 10, 1891 a motion carried that all dues prior to January 1, 1891 be remitted. This motion was the result of the hard times which struck the country beginning in 1883 and again early in the 1890's, this time holding on with various degrees of severity until 1906.

An interesting item outside the ordinary business of the Lodge appeared in the minutes of July 12, 1898 which stated: "Correspondence between the Secretary of this Lodge and E.E. Kelley, Secretary of Woodson Lodge No. 121, Torritos, Kansas, and with Bro. B.F. Gallagher, of Tacoma, Washington, relative to one who had fraudulently obtained assistance from this Lodge under the assumed name of "B.F. Gallagher" was read and ordered filed. The correspondence developed that Bro. Gallagher had lost his Masonic Dues Card, which had evidently been found by someone who use it to obtain money from Mt. Hood Lodge under the guise of Masonic Relief. This incident occurred during the hard times following the Panic of 1893.

HALLS WHERE MT. HOOD HAS MET

During the years Mt. Hood has met in six different halls. First was the hall of Washington Lodge at Fifth and Franklin. In January, 1880 the Lodge moved to the hall of Vancouver Lodge No. 3, Independent Order of Oddfellows at Fourth and Washington, remaining there for 26 years. Because the Oddfellows raised their rent to \$6.00 a month in 1907, in January of that year Mt. Hood moved into the Masonic Temple built by Washington Lodge in 1884, at Eight and Main, where it remained for 57 years except for the year 1925-26 while the Washington Temple was being enlarged and a third floor added. For that temporary period the Lodge moved to St. Helens Hall of St. Lukes Episcopal Church, then at Ninth and C Streets. In 1965 Washington Lodge sold its Temple building at Eighth and Main, and in January, 1966 Mt. Hood Lodge and all of the Concordant Bodies moved to the Minnehaha Grange Hall at 4905 St. Johns Blvd. They remained there for slightly over three years, until the new Masonic Temple being built by the Vancouver Masonic Temple, Inc., was completed in 1969. The final move into the

new Masonic Temple at 2500 N.E. 78th St. in Hazel Dell, was made in February of 1969. Mt. Hood Lodge had the honor of being the first Body to meet in the new Temple.

CHANGES IN MEETING DAYS

Mt. Hood Lodges has not always met on the second and fourth Thursdays as at present. The first By-Laws set the meetings on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month, both being stated meetings. By-Laws were amended November 12, 1881 eliminating the fourth Saturday as a stated meeting, but retaining it for special meetings . On February 10, 1883 a motion was made and carried; “That there will be a meeting on the fourth Saturday of each month at the usual hour for the purpose of rehearsing and instruction.”

On January 8, 1887 the By-Laws were amended setting the stated meeting on the second Tuesday of each month. On November 8, 1898 the By-Laws were again amended changing the meeting nights to the second and fourth Thursday of each month, as at present. This change was made necessary because the Oddfellows Lodge had pre-empted their Tuesday meeting night. Beginning in April, 1904 the Secretary recorded both the second and fourth Thursdays as regular or stated meeting. This practice was followed until November 27, 1941 when the By-Laws were changed to permit the Lodge to go dark during July and August. In 1949 they were amended to designate the second Thursday as the stated night and fourth Thursday as a special meeting for degree work only. This plan has been followed since that time.

FEES FOR THE THREE DEGREES

The original By-Laws set the fees for the degrees of Masonry at \$20.00 for each degree—a total of \$60.00 for all three. As a result of the Recession of 1884 and the hard times following it, fees were reduced to \$40.00 in 1895. In June, 1920 when the petition flow increased considerably due to the servicemen returning from the First World War, the fees were raised to \$50.00. In the later days of the Great Depression of the 1930s a resolution was present to lower the fees to \$30.00. When it came up for discussion and action on April 27, 1939, the resolution was defeated and the fees remained at \$50.00.

During the prosperous years of the Second World War, when the flow of petitions became a tidal wave, the fees were raised to \$75.00 in January, 1944. An attempt was made in 1971 to raise the fee to \$125.00, following the lead of Washington Lodge in this respect, but the resolution was defeated on November 11 and the fees still remain at \$75.00.

MEMERSHIP DUES

The first By-Laws set the dues for membership in Mount Hood Lodge at “\$1.50 per quarter” or \$6.00 annually. Following the Recession of 1884 dues were lowered to \$3.00 in Jan. 1887 then to \$2.00 in 1912. When the United States entered the First World War in 1917 dues were raised to \$4.00 a year. In December, 1926 due to heavy influx in members and the rising prosperity in the nation, Mt. Hood’s dues were raised to \$6.00 per year, where they remained even during the years of the Great Depression, 1929-1941. In 1948 rising costs resulted in dues being raised to \$9.00; in 1962, to \$12.00; 1970 to \$18.00; and 1979 to \$20.00, the present level.

THE ANNUAL REMISSION OF DUES—1891-1906

Mt. Hood’s first historian, Bro. W. H. Arnold wrote that for a period of twenty years the Lodge annually remitted the dues of its members. Having been the Lodge Secretary from 1898-1902, right in the middle of the remission period, he knew the problem from first hand experience. However, he gave no explanation for this unusual action which is intriguing to those interested in Mt. Hood’s history.

The action evidently was the result of the hard times which followed the Recession of 1884. Demits were requested and non-payment of dues became a problem. The following entry in the minutes of May 10, 1884 illustrates this: “The Secretary was directed to notify Bro. Girdley and Bro. Davis to appear at the next regular communication and pay their dues or show cause why they should be excused.” Minutes of June 14 show that Bro. Davis appeared and as a result of his explanation his dues were remitted. Bro. Gridley however, did not appear and the Worshipful Master directed the Junior Warden to prefer charges against him, with the trail to take place on August 8. On

that date Bro. Gridley, not appearing at the trial, was declared suspended for non-payment of dues.”

This incident occurred near the onset of the recession of 1884 and was the forerunner of several demits being granted and many unpaid dues left on the books over the next several years. To help alleviate the situation the following motion was passed on January 13, 1891: “Moved and seconded that the Master and Wardens of Mount Hood Lodge confer with the Master and Wardens of Washington Lodge with regard to organizing a Masonic Relief Committee.” Two months later, on March 10, the following motion was passed: “Moved and seconded that all dues prior to January 1, 1891 be remitted.” This was the first motion to remit dues, and it seems to remit all dues remaining unpaid on the books up to that time. On February 9, 1892 appears the following motion: “That the dues for the past year (1891) be remitted, and that under the seal of this Lodge the Secretary notify the members of this Lodge accordingly.”

For every succeeding year through 1906 the same motion or a variation thereof appears in the minutes. The entry of January 8, 1900 added a new element to the remission, stating: “That the dues for 1899 be remitted and that the dues already paid for 1899 be credited to the account of the respective members for the year 1900. Again on May 9, 1901 the following entry: “Moved and carried that all active members of this Lodge shall be carried on the roll and reported in good standing.”

The annual remission of dues finally came to an end on January 10, 1907 with the passage of the following motion: “The Secretary is instructed to notify all members of this Lodge that dues will not be remitted this year and that dues would be \$3.00 payable in advance.”

One cannot help but wonder how the Lodge existed during these financially lean years, especially the year 1888 through 1894, a period of seven consecutive years when only a total of three petitions were presented.

GRAND LODGE LAW ON NON-PAYMENT OF DUES LIBERALIZED IN 1896

In the midst of the period of the remission of dues the Lodge received a circular from the Grand Secretary that the Grand Lodge of 1896 had changed the penalty here-to-

fore imposed for the non-payment of dues. As the minutes did not indicate the nature of the change in the law, a search of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Washington for 1896 revealed the following information: The non-payment of dues was a state-wide problem which the Grand Lodge had appointed a committee to study. The committee report is printed on page 40-42, Proceedings of 1896. In the committee's opinion suspension of a brother from all the privileges of Masonry, as had occurred in Mt. Hood Lodge in 1884 in the case of Brother Gridley, was too heavy a penalty to pay for the non-payment of dues.

The report states that "Lodge dues are the price paid for the privilege of belonging to a particular Lodge; that when the price is not paid that privilege should cease and loss of membership in the Lodge should be the only result of failure to pay the price of membership." Also, dropping a Brother from the rolls puts him in the category of an unaffiliated Mason which does not affect his standing as a member of the great family of Masons, while suspension results in the loss of his rights and privileges of Masonry and is too harsh a penalty to pay. The committee presented the following resolution to Grand Lodge, which was adopted: "Resolved, that all Masons now under sentence of suspension from the rights and privileges of Masonry incurred in any Lodge in this jurisdiction for the non-payment of dues or assessments only, and not under sentence or charges for any other cause, are hereby restored to the status of unaffiliated Masons."

The change in Grand Lodge law reducing the penalty for non-payment of dues thus became a direct benefit from the Depression of 1883 and the continuing hard times which followed it.

GROWTH OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership is the life blood of all fraternal organizations. Mount Hood U.D. started as a fledgling lodge with a membership of eight. During the first year three new members were raised, bringing the Charter membership to eleven on June 4, 1880. An average of three new members per year were added during the next seven-year period bringing the membership to 32 in spite of the onset of the Depression which struck during 1884. However, the hard times following the depression resulted in petitions drying up completely from 1887 through 1890. Then, only one Master Mason was raised in each of the years 1891 and '92. The depression deepened into the Panic of 1893 and no petitions were received during that year and only one in 1894.

Early in 1895 the By-Laws were amended lowering the fee for the degrees from \$60.00 to \$40.00, and before the end of that year four petitions were received, among them was one from (Abraham Lincoln) Miller who was destined to become one of Mt. Hood's most outstanding early members and was the first member of M.H. to be elected a G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Washington.

The minutes show that by 1904 membership had grown to 60 Master Masons. Averaging six new members per year for the next fourteen years brought the total membership to 144 in 1918. Following the signing of the Armistice on November 11,

1918, ending the First World War, the returning Doughboys flooded the Lodge with petitions and membership skyrocketed abruptly, 66 being received in 1920 alone and membership nearly doubled itself in the next four years, reaching a total of 275 members at the end of 1922. The influx continued, but at a slower pace until a high point of 328 was recorded at the end of 1928.

The Stock Market Crash of 1929, and the resulting Great Depression of the '30s had a horrendous effect upon Mt. Hood's membership. The flow of petitions not only almost dried up, but demits and N.P.D.s increased tremendously resulting in a membership drop to 235 at the end of 1941, a loss of almost a hundred member in a twelve year period.

The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 and the entrance of the United States into World War II marked a dramatic change in the flow of petitions into the Lodge. By the end of 1943 twenty-nine new members had been added to the rolls. During the later part of 43 petitions started coming in faster than the Lodge could keep pace with conferring the degrees. In 1944 the tempo increased tremendously and this proved to be the busiest year ever experience in the history of Mt. Hood in the amount of degree work performed and the increase in membership. During this year alone a total of 244 degrees were conferred resulting in a total of 74 new Master Masons being added to the Lodge roll, and bringing its membership to 332 at the end of the year, more than making up for the loss suffered during the entire 12-years depression period. In the opinion of the writer, who served the Lodge as W.M. during this year, the story of conferring that tremendous amount of degree work within a 12-month period is worthy of a more detailed treatment than would be appropriate at this time, and will be dealt with in a separate chapter later on under the heading, "Mt. Hood's busiest year."

The flow of petitions abated somewhat during the succeeding years and forty-three Master masons were raised in 1945, and forty-eight in 1946. The flow then leveled off to an average increase of nine new members per year over the next ten years, registering a total of 524 Master Masons on the rolls by the end of 1956, the highest membership over recorded for Mt. Hood Lodge.

Beginning in 1957 membership started a gradual drop with demits and N.P.D.s again outnumbering the incoming petitions. Loss in membership continued until 1973

when a low point of 432 members was reached, a drop of nearly one hundred members sustained over a period of sixteen years. Membership again started to spiral upward in 1974 when nine new Master Masons were added to the roll. Since then each succeeding year has shown a substantial gain in membership bringing the Lodge roster back to 469 Master Masons at the end of 1978.

MASONIC RELIEF FOR SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

Relief for the sick and distressed is one of the cardinal tenets of Masonry, and over the years Mt. Hood Lodge has been very diligent in taking care of its sick and distressed brethren and their families.

The first instances on record of such relief being voted by the Lodge appears in the minutes of May 13, 1882, which read: "On motion a warrant was ordered drawn on the Treasurer for five dollars for the relief of Bro. Stanfield, a poor blind musician." And on Feb. 14, 1885 a warrant our \$10.00 was drawn to Bro. G.A Merritt for \$10.00, for charity.

The minutes are replete with other instances where the brethren have sat up with sick brothers in times of crises and have contributed financial support to destitute brothers and to their widows in times of need. The entries recording such assistance are far too numerous to permit a complete listing and only a random sampling will be cited at this time.

In 1891 during the hard times following the Recession of 1884, a motion carried to invite Washington Lodge to join in the formation of a Masonic Relief Committee, which the two Lodges formed.

On May 10, 1900 a check for \$14.00 was authorized to pay for nurses care in attending Bro. Crawford James. On September 13 of the same year a communication was read from Past Grand Master Wm. H. Upton asking for Masonic relief for worthy distressed members of the Craft, and the Lodge voted to contribute five dollars to that

fund. These requests came right in the midst of a sixteen year period when the Lodge annually remitted the dues of its own members.

The Lodge received notice, on February 8, 1907, that one of its founders, Past Master Henry C. Morrice had died destitute in New York City and a check for \$10.00 was sent to reimburse the New York lodge for his burial.

On April 25, 1910 appeared this entry indicative of sympathy for a sick brother and dedication to the Masonic ideal of Brotherly Love: "Bro. Goss, a member of this Lodge, was reported as being very ill and the brethren assisted the family by sitting up with him and in assisting the nurses whenever necessary." Brother Goss passed away four days later and was given a Masonic burial.

March 14, 1912—The committee appointed to act jointly with a committee from Washington Lodge relative to the formation of a Masonic Relief Committee tendered its report and recommended the joint committee be formed, whereupon Mt. Hood Lodge voted \$20.00 as its share of the operating fund. For a considerable period thereafter the Masonic Relief Committee made periodic reports to the two Lodges and addition funds were voted as need.

Dec. 10, 1925 Plot at Park Hill Cemetery

July 14, 1927—The Lodge voted the sum of \$360.50 for the relief of Bro. Frank Suhl, Mrs. Max Ellerich and Mrs. Christ Granite to send Bro. Frank Suhl to the Masonic Home.

On May 22, 1929 W. Bro. Bates was appointed a committee of one to investigate the advisability of Mt. Hood Lodge furnishing a room at the Masonic Home in Zenith. He reported that furnishing a room at the Home was an admirable charity, but he noted that in the past, Mt. Hood has had to pay hospital bills for two brothers, and a large sum for the funeral of a brother (Max Ellerich), in Vallejo, CA, and on numerous occasions has had to extend relief to the families of brothers who are no longer in this state. He stressed that Vancouver is a growing community and the call from sojourners will increase and the contribution to our Board of Relief will have to be increased. Therefore, he recommended that in lieu of furnishing a room at the Masonic Home that the Lodge build up its savings account from which withdrawals can be made from time to time. The report was accepted.

Within six months it was moved and carried to send \$50.00 to Solano Lodge No. 229, Vallejo, CA for the relief of Mrs. Max Ellerich, and the following entry appears in the minutes: “The wisdom of M.W. Bro. Bates recommendation was shown, in that within a year, Mt. Hood Lodge dispensed a total of \$125.00 in Masonic relief on five different occasions.

Following that, on April 9, 1931, Mt. Hood reimbursed Solano Lodge \$27.43 for aid furnished to Mrs. Ellerich, and another \$25.00 on January 14, 1932. On the latter date the Lodge voted for admission of Mrs. Ellerich to the Masonic Home at Zenith.

August 9, 1935—Moved and supported that railroad transportation and reasonable expenses be supplied (Mrs.) Hazel Garrison and her nurse or companion for her trip to Oakland, CA. Motion carried. Mrs. Garrison’s home, worth \$750, was deeded to Mt. Hood, but the Lodge voted to take no jurisdiction over the Garrisons’ diamonds.

On October 14, 1948 a motion was made and supported that Mt. Hood Lodge send \$100.00 to Boise Lodge No. 2 to be used at the discretion of that Lodge for the relief of the family of our late Bro. Garland D. Croghan. Later in the same year, on December 9, a motion carried to spend \$50.00 for the relief of Bro. W.M. Hamblen. Also a motion to send a gift to those members of the Masonic Homes who were recommended by Mt. Hood Lodge. (From the recollections of the writer, it has been the custom of the Lodge for many years to remember its guests at the Masonic Home at Christmas time by sending a gift, or a check to be spent by them as they wish, and this custom is still followed.)

On September 9, 1948 Mrs. Mary Seaburn Perrill, widow of Bro. Hugh Perrill, was recommended for admission to the Masonic Home, and on May 26, 1949 Bro. Wm. Hamblen was also recommended for admission to the Home. On the same date the Lodge voted \$75 to be spent for the relief of Bro. Chas. D. Evans.

On June 9, 1955 the Lodge voted to purchase a wheelchair to be kept at the Temple and loaned for the use of any brother or his family who may have need of one.

By-Laws were amended on June 14, 1956 adding a new section—Section XVI—Vancouver Masonic Board of Relief. “The Worshipful Master and Senior Warden each year shall be the representatives of Mt. Hood Lodge #32 on the Vancouver Board of

Relief. The duties of the Board are to arrange for funerals and relief of sojourning Master Masons.”

During the 1957 session the Grand Lodge amended its code relative to the Masonic Board of Relief. On October 10, 1957 Mt. Hood Lodge voted to continue its Masonic Board of Relief, which it had been operating since 1912; and to request Grand Lodge to recognize it as in compliance with Section 904 as amended in 1957.

A motion was made and carried on May 8, 1958 to pay \$50.00 on a brace for our Bro. John Dickson, who was in a Portland Hospital.

Bro. Alexander Negoescu was recommended for admission to the Masonic Home on January 12, 1961. On October 12, 1967 the application of Bro. Louis Hovey to enter the Masonic Home was approved.

On April 8, 1971 W. Bro. Tony Chmielewski, chairman, sickness and distress committee, made an appeal for blood donors for our Bro. Donald Brons, Senior Deacon, who was to have heart surgery on April 11. The brethren were requested to spread the word for blood donors among the brethren. Later, in a Lodge meeting, Don Brons extended his thanks to the brothers for their generous donation of blood in his behalf.

Throughout our hundred year history the committee on sickness and distress has been one of the most active committees of the Lodges. The minutes of practically every stated meeting records the report of the committee of visitations to brothers either at home or in the hospital.

REQUEST TO CHANGE BALLOT

An interesting situation arose in 1884. A Brother arose in Lodge and requested to change his ballot. He said that the previous meeting, having received information detrimental to the petitioner's character, he had cast a black ballot. He had since investigated and found the charges entirely false. He now wanted to change his ballot. All who had attended the previous meeting were present except one. All other members present that night, on being polled, said they had cast a favorable ballot. Being previously apprised beforehand of the situation, the Master, together with the Secretary and Tyler had, previous to the meeting, called on the absent Brother, who said he had cast a favorable ballot. The Master then ruled that if there were no objections, a second ballot could be held. No objections were offered and on second ballot the candidate was elected, and being in waiting, he received his E.A degree that night.

MT. HOOD'S QUEST FOR A LODGE HOME

The members of Mt. Hood have long looked forward to the time when they could meet in a hall of their own. This desire was first brought into play as early as January 18, 1884 when the Lodge received an invitation from Washington Lodge to appoint a committee to work with a like committee from Washington: "To prepare a plan and make such propositions to the respective Lodges regarding the means for the erection of a suitable Masonic Temple on a lot purchased by Washington Lodge in 1878, at the corner of Eighth and Main Streets." Later minutes show that the committee reported its findings and the report was filed, but unfortunately no record of the report or its findings can be found.

However, the minutes of Washington Lodge show that several meetings were held by the joint committee in which joint participation in the cost and use of the Temple were discussed. Plans were drawn up for a 50 X 80 ft. structure of three floors and basement at an estimated cost of \$12, 084. Although nothing appears in the minutes as to why Mt. Hood dropped out of the venture, it can be safely assumed that, being a new and struggling Lodge, it found itself unable to assume its share of the cost of such a venture.

Incidentally, the minutes of Washington Lodge for February 24, 1884 contains the following entry: "It is inexpedient to erect a three-story building and we recommend a two-story building to cost from \$9000 to \$10,000. On the following April 19, Washington Lodge voted to erect the new building, and the Masonic Temple at Eighth and Main Streets was completed and occupied by Washington Lodge in 1886.

Mt. Hood Purchases Lot for New Temple

The desire to have a Temple of its own was manifested in Mt. Hood Lodge on March 12, 1914 in a motion to appoint a committee of three to look into the matter of purchasing a site for a new Masonic building. The committee reported on June 25 and was authorized to purchase a site costing \$3250, identified as Lots 3 & 4, Cooks Addition. On September 24, 1914 the Worshipful Master and Secretary were authorized to borrow money and sign notes for the purchase price. The lots were bought and thus was culminated the first step in their quest to have a Masonic Temple of their own.

In 1920 it was the general opinion of Vancouver Masons that the Masonic Temple at Eight and Main was becoming too small for the rapidly growing Masonic Organization meeting there. On April 24, 1920, at the invitation of Washington Lodge, a meeting was held attended by representative from Washington and Mt. Hood Lodges, Martha Washington Chapter No. 42, O.E.S., Vancouver Chapter No. 9, R.A.M., Vancouver Council No. 10, R.&S.M. and Vancouver Commandery No. 10, K.T. The purpose of the meeting was to consider the building of a new Masonic Temple on a site at the northwest corner of Ninth and Main, which Washington Lodge had purchased.

The meeting was successful and a building association organized with J. R. Harvey, Washington Lodge, elected permanent chairman and Wm. C. Bates, Mount Hood Lodge, permanent secretary. Committees were appointed to 1; Draw up plans for a new Temple; 2; Provide for methods of financing the venture; and 3; Propose the legal steps necessary to forming a permanent Masonic Building Association.

During the few months, Bethany Shrine U.D. ,White Shrine of Jerusalem was organized and was invited to join the Temple Association, which invitation was readily accepted. Shortly thereafter, a fund drive was held resulting in the pledging of \$3900 toward the building project.

Early in 1921, another site became available consisting of an entire city block bounded by Main and Broadway Streets, between 17th and 18th, identified as Block 81, East Vancouver. This entire block could be purchased for \$9000, not very much more than the much smaller site proposed by Washington Lodge. On September 13, 1921 the Board authorized a statement to be sent to all member groups recommending the purchase of this site. It was purchased in 1923.

Evidently at this time the members of Washington Lodge had second thoughts about the need for a new Temple and withdrew from the Association. They proceeded to remodel the old building at Eight and Main Adding a third floor, containing a much larger and better equipped lodge hall. The second floor was renovated to accommodate the dining facilities, library, cloakroom and office. The new Temple was ready for occupancy in the summer of 1926.

Vancouver Masonic Temple, Inc.

Undaunted by the decision of Washington Lodge to drop out of the project Mt. Hood and all of the other Masonic Bodies persisted in their dream of having a temple of their own. On October 21, 1924 the Vancouver Masonic Temple, Inc. was formally incorporated under the laws of the State of Washington. W.E Carter was elected president, C. H. Powell, secretary and G. M. Davison, treasurer By-laws were adopted. All the new Board of Trustees were members of Mt. Hood Lodge with the single exception of J. R Harvey, who was elected to the Board as a representative from Vancouver Council No. 10, R.&S.M.

When the Temple Association purchased Block 81, East Vancouver for the Temple site Mt. Hood Lodge sold the two lots it had purchased in 1914.

The purchase of Block 81, East Vancouver, for \$9000 began a series of real estate transaction which proved very beneficial to the Temple Association. Block 81 was leased to the Texas Company in 1929, for a period of ten years for \$20,000. It was sold for \$40,000 in 1944.

When it appeared that a Civic Center was to be created in the area east of the Clark County Court House, extending from Franklin to Columbia and 11th to 13th Streets, the Association purchased a site at 13th and Franklin for \$9000. The Civic Center plan was later abandoned and this site was sold for \$12,500.

Erection of the Arnada Post Office Facility

A third Temple site was purchased of a half block in depth on the east side of C Street, from 20th to 22nd Street. Shortly after that the Temple Board learned that the U.S. Postal Service was in need of a new postal facility to be built in Vancouver. They conceived the idea of building a dual purpose building with the postal facility on the ground floor, and the Masonic temple to occupy the second and third floors. They successfully negotiated with the Postal Service for the facility and plans for a three-story building were prepared. However, construction costs proved to be far higher than the Association could finance, with the result that a one-story postal facility was finally built and the project became an investment to be amortized out during a 20-year lease with the Postal Service.

The next site was the southern half-block on the north side of 25th Street from Main to Broadway, purchased for \$42,500. This site was later sold to M. V. Mowan, owner of High School Pharmacy at 26th and Main, for \$60,000--\$40,000 cash and two parcels of land at 28th Street and Main worth \$20,000.

Additional parcels of land were purchased adjoining the former Mowan property giving the Temple Association more than a half-block facing Main Street from 28th to 29th. Plans were drawn up for a dual purpose building housing medical and dental offices on the ground floor, with the Temple facilities on the second and third floors. This site had off-street parking for over a hundred cars.

In the fall of 1964, it was learned that the Seattle First National Bank, first floor tenant at the eight and Main temple, had entered into negotiations with Washington Lodge to buy the building. Washington Lodge was immediately invited to join the Vancouver Masonic Temple, Inc. and assist in building a new Masonic Temple for all Vancouver Masonic Bodies. Sale of the old Temple building was completed by the end of 1965 and it became imperative that a new Temple be built with dispatch.

In the negotiations with Washington Lodge, the Washington members expressed themselves as against a dual-purpose building as planned for the 28th and Main site favoring a single purpose Masonic Temple, and also favored building the Temple farther from the downtown area. Further, they proposed that only the two Blue Lodges join together in building the Temple.

In the interest of fraternal unity among all the Masonic and Concordant Bodies, the following compromise was reached: 1; That the 28th and Main Street property be sold and a new less-expensive site away from the downtown area be purchased, 2; That the Masonic Temple, Inc. be reorganized and its stock be divided into two classes, common and preferred. The common stock only was to have voting privileges in the Temple Association. The two Blue Lodges each were to maintain an equal investment in the Association and to receive common stock only. The Concordant Bodies were each to receive one share of common stock, and the balance of their investment in preferred (non-voting) stock. The purpose of this arrangement was to give the two Blue Lodges effective control of operating the Temple, 3; That the shares in the Corporation be issued in denomination of One Thousand Dollars (\$1000). 4; That Washington Lodge and the Temple Association each were to have their present assets valued by an independent appraiser.

On this basis the Vancouver Masonic Temple, Inc. was reorganized on May 3, 1967, and brought into the fold, not only Washington Lodge No. 4, but also Henry Wentworth Chapter No. 250, O.E.S. , and Vancouver Court No. 43, Order of the Amaranth. Washington Lodge purchased \$92,000 in common stock, equaling Mt. Hood's investment, and the new Concordant Bodies each purchased \$1000 of common stock.

The Board of Trustees was reorganized with fifteen representatives: four from each of the two Blue Lodges, and one each from the seven Concordant Bodies. Clarence W. Olson was elected president of the Board, David G. Miller, vice-president, Fred R. Allen, secretary and Ralph W. Zoller, treasurer.

The 28th and Main property was put up for sale and an immediate search begun for a new site. Many sites were considered, but finally a 16.95-acre tract in Hazel Dell, on northeast 78th Street and 25th Avenue was purchased for \$63,000. It was agreed that at

least 11 acres of the tract should be held as an investment for future sale or development. Two parcels were later sold—a 300-foot strip along the north boundary was sold to the County for \$33,000 for a future highway right-of-way (to be called Padden Freeway); the other consisting of a 200-foot frontage on 78th Street sold to El Paso Gas Co. for \$15,000.

Ground was broken for the construction of the new Temple on August 29, 1968 with Past Grand Masters Wm. C. “Billy” Bates representing Mount Hood and Milton V. Poe, Washington Lodge, wielding the ground-breaking shovel. This ceremony was attended by the full Board of Trustees and many of the Officers from the participating organizations.

A drive to raise additional funds to assist in financing the construction brought in a total of \$78,000 through the sale of non-interest-bearing debentures, donations and memorials. The Women’s Committee, chaired by Mrs. Betty Meuler raised over \$2,000 to equip the kitchen, while other drives were held to purchase the rug for the Large Hall, theater seats and P.A. systems for both halls. The Square and Compasses rug which graced the floor in the old Temple was laid in the Small Hall. As much as possible of the furniture and furnishing from the old Temple were preserved and used in the new halls.

The Temple was built as one-story single-purpose building with a half-basement, at a cost of \$235,000. The facility contains two beautiful lodge halls, the larger one accommodating up to 300 persons, and the smaller, 60 to 100. A single well-equipped kitchen is located between the two dining rooms, the larger of which will seat from 250 to 300 at a single sitting and the smaller about 60.

The gala event of 1969 was the Cornerstone Laying and Dedication of the Temple by the Grand Lodge of Washington on April 12, conducted by M.W. Robert L. Gilmore, Grand Master of Masons in Washington. Assisting the Grand Master on this most auspicious occasion were thirty-eight Grand Lodge Officers of Washington, fifteen from Oregon including M.W. Warren A. McMinimee, Grand Master of Oregon, and three from British Columbia.

Also participating in the Cornerstone Laying were a host of local officials including Al Angelo, Mayor of Vancouver, Bro. Peter MacNab, County Commissioner, Robert C. Bates, Superintendent of Schools, Vancouver, Bro. Roy Sandburg, Superintendent Clark County Schools, Bro. Chas. W. Hammack, General Manager of

Henry M. Mason Co. the building contractor, Frank A. Rommel and John L. Stahl, building architects. W.B. Herbert A. Benedict, Master of Washington Lodge, W.B. Lavern E. Griep, Master of Mount Hood No. 32 and V.W. Bro. John F. Akers, Deputy of the Grand Master for District No. 19.

Mt. Hood Lodge held its first meeting in the new Temple on February 27, 1969 to confer two Master Mason Degrees. Brothers William Ledbetter and Jerry Cooksey had the honor of being the first candidates to be raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason in the new Temple.

The redwood Masonic sign in front of the Temple was donated by Bro. Robert Beck on September 11, 1969.

Joint Installation of Officers—Washington No. 4 and Mt. Hood No. 32

Hall of Washington Lodge No. 4, F.&A.M, Vancouver, Washington, January 7, 1899 A.L. 5899. Be it forever remembered that on this day Washington Lodge No. 4 extended to the members of Mt. Hood Lodge No. 32, an invitation to participate in a Joint Installation of the newly elected officers of said Lodges, and that the following officials of Mount Hood Lodge were duly installed for the ensuing year, to wit: A. B. Eastham, S.W.; E. M. Rands, J.W.; J. J. Beeson, S.D.; David Beckett, J.D.; A. W. Hidden, Treasurer; H. W. Arnold, Secretary; J. T. Goss, S.S.; E. G. Crawford, J.S.; Robert Downing, Marshal, and L. B. Clough, Tyler.

At the conclusion of the installation ceremony after eloquent addresses by Bros. E. M. Rands, A. B. Eastham, David Beckett and others, at the urgent solicitations of the members of Washington Lodge, the newly installed officers, members and visiting Brethren repaired to the Palace restaurant where a choice oyster banquet was served by the member of Washington Lodge.

The above article is a beautiful example of the flamboyant style of writing used by Bro. Horace W. Arnold, when he was secretary during the years 1894-1902.

JOINT INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

The first recorded instance of a joint installation of officers for Washington and Mt. Hood Lodges occurred on St. John's Day, December 27, 1895, in the hall of Washington Lodge. Probably encouraged by the success of the joint installations held in 1895 and '96, the two Blue Lodges invited the two Masonic Concordant Bodies then meeting in Vancouver, to participate in their joint installation service.

Accordingly, the minutes of December 27, 1897 reveal that, "The Lodge was called from Labor to refreshment. During the refreshment a public installation of officers was held at which was installed the officers of Martha Washington Chapter No. 42, Order of the Eastern Star and the officers of Vancouver Chapter No. 9, Royal Arch Masons, after which Past master A. J. Cook installed the officers of Mount Hood Lodge No. 32 and Washington Lodge No. 4.

This surprising entry may be partially explained by the fact that Martha Washington Chapter had just been chartered in 1895, and the Royal Arch Chapter in 1887. Later minutes reveal that the four Bodies again participated in joint installation services in the year 1903, 1904, 1906, 1909, 1910, and 1911.

The joint installation service held on St. John's Day, December 27, 1899 by Washington and Mt. Hood Lodges must have been an outstanding event as the minutes of that date state, "Be it forever remembered that on this day... Washington Lodge and Mount Hood Lodge participated in a Joint Installation of Officers... Also, at the conclusion of the installation ceremony, after eloquent addresses by Bros. E. M. Rands, A. B. Eastham, David Beckett and others, at the urgent solicitations of the members of Washington Lodge, the newly installed officers, members and visiting brethren repaired to the Palace Restaurant where a choice oyster banquet was served by members of Washington Lodge."

For a period of 55 years the two Symbolic Lodges held joint installations, principally at tiled meetings, with very few exceptions. However, during the last few years of that period the sentiment had been growing among Mt. Hood brethren for a public installation service where the wives, families and friends of the brethren could witness this impressive ceremony. The end of the joint installation services came in 1953 when the Mt. Hood brethren voted to hold a public installation but the brethren of

Washington Lodge voted to continue the tiled installations. Since that time the two Lodges have each held their own individual services.

CHAIN LETTERS

The Brethren of today will be surprised to learn that the Grand Lodge of Washington found it necessary to issue a communication to the constituent Lodges banning the use of Chain Letters to finance the activities of the Lodges. This occurred on July 9, 1895. During the Depression of 1893 some of the Lodges were evidently using this method to bolster their flagging finances.

LaCAMAS LODGE NO. 75

During the years 1898 to 1900 several petitions for affiliation with Mt. Hood Lodge were received from former members of LaCamas Lodge No. 75. Being inveigled with the name, never having heard of a lodge being formed in Camas previous to Clarke Lodge No. 203, the writer searched the Proceedings of Grand Lodge for that period and found that LaCamas Lodge No. 75, Camas, WA, had been chartered in 1891. In 1898 the Lodge petitioned the Grand Lodge for dissolution as it was having difficult maintaining itself as a Lodge. The Proceedings of Grand Lodge of 1898 show that the investigating committee concurred in the request and dissolution was approved by the Grand Lodge.

One of the brothers who affiliated with Mt. Hood from LaCamas Lodge was Bro. W. E. Laughlin, who became a very prominent member of this Lodge. He served as Master of Mt. Hood in 1909, was re-elected in 1910 and again in 1912. He later served several years as Secretary of this Lodge.

On Dec. 14, 1897 Mt. Hoods minutes show that LaCamas Lodge No. 75 had been invited to participate in a joint installation of office with Mt. Hood Lodge, Washington Lodge No. 4 with Martha Washington Chapter No. 42. O.E.S., Vancouver Chapter No. 9, R.A.M. However the minutes of the Installation of Officers for that year does not show the participation of LaCamas Lodge.

SECRETARY-ELECT REFUSES INSTALLATION

An item in the minutes of February 11, 1904 caught the eye of the author in an apparent contradiction. It reads: “On account of the failure of the Secretary-elect, E. M. Rands, to present himself for installation, the office was declared vacant, and an election ordered which resulted in the election of Bro. Harry B. Steel as Secretary for the ensuing year.” The minutes for that date were signed by E. M. Rands, Acting Secretary.

Inveigled by this situation the author checked back on the minutes of the election of officers and found that E. M. Rands was retiring Master of 1903, and as such had been present when he was elected Secretary. He had not, at that time, declined the election. He had been out-of-town during the installation of officers, and on returning, steadfastly refused to be installed in the office, but did served as Acting Secretary until someone else was elected and installed into the office.

During the earlier period, particularly around the year 1900-1909, there were several instances when motion for consolidation with Washington Lodge No. 4 were put on the floor of Mount Hood Lodge. A good example is the following entry in the minutes of April 10, 1902: “After an informal discussion of a proposal to consolidate Washington and Mount Hood Lodges, a motion prevailed that at the next regular meeting the consolidation of the two Lodges be brought up for discussion, and the Secretary be instructed to notify all members to the effect in writing, and to have only members permitted in attendance at the discussion.”

The consolidation issue was not mentioned in the minutes of the following meeting and did not appear in the minutes again until September 14, 1905 when it was brought up again by M.W. Bro. A. L. Miller, then Grand Master of Masons Washington. The Secretary was instructed to notify all members that the issue would come up at the next meeting. At the following meeting after remarks by Grand Master Miller, Eastman, Arnold and Heasley, a motion was made and sustained to table the matter.

Another attempt was made on December 24, 1908, and at the following meeting was defeated. At the very next meeting it was again moved and seconded that the two Lodges be consolidated. The minutes of February 11, 1909 contains the following entry: “The Resolution proposed at the last meeting in regard to Consolidation of this Lodge with Washington Lodge No. 4 was then discussed. Upon vote is was carried unanimously.” The consolidation issue was not mentioned in any succeeding minutes.

At the proposed consolidation never took place, we must assume that the Washington Lodge vote on the same issue, if it ever came to that point, must have been negative.

BILL FOR BOX OF CIGARS ALLOWED

Eyebrows of our present day Brethren will surely be raised at an expenditure which was authorized in the meeting of September 23, 1909. The minutes show that the “Bill of W. J. Knapp for a box of cigar (\$3.00) for the evening was read and allowed.”

Note: Like bills were read and allowed on two other occasions.

MT. HOOD SPONSORED NORTH BANK LODGE

Mt. Hood Lodge became the sponsor for North Bank Lodge U.D. when it organized in Washougal in 1909, as shown by the following resolution passed in October 28, 1909: “Resolved that this Lodge recommend this petition of Brothers (15 names listed), praying for a dispensation to establish a new Lodge, and do vouch for said petitioners as being Master Masons in good standing, and being the nearest Lodge thereto do recommend that the prayers of the petitioners be granted.

“Resolved that in the judgment of this Lodge each of the brethren named in said petition as officers of said new Lodge is competent to properly confer the three degrees and impart the lectures thereunto pertaining.”

On July 14, 1910, due to the withdrawal of two names from the list of founders given in the above resolution and the adding of three more names, a new resolution of sponsorship had to be drawn up. Following the 1910 recommendation the Dispensation was granted and the Lodge chartered on June 11, 1911.

Both North Bank and Mt. Hood Lodges have the same meeting night—the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. This makes it practically impossible for the two Lodges to hold inter-lodge visitations as would normally be the case.

The Masonic Home for the State of Washington was created by a resolution passed in the Grand Lodge Session of June, 1901. It was funded by an annual levy of seventy-five cents (75) for each member of the constituent lodges in the Grand Jurisdiction of Washington, and a charge of one dollar (\$1.00) for each degree conferred by the lodges. A site had not been selected at that time.

Later, in 1910, when the Grand Lodge was actively seeking a site for the Home, many local Masons thought Vancouver would be an ideal location. A motion carried in Mount Hood Lodge, on July 14, 1910, to appoint a committee of one for the purpose on conferring with other Masonic Lodges in the Vancouver area relative to getting the Home located here. On November 23 the committee was enlarged to three to secure a site in Clark County, and to raise funds for the purpose.

A Masonic Home Committee of Grand Lodge came to Vancouver in April, 1911 to check out the area as a possible site. Washington and Mt. Hood Lodges split the cost of entertaining the committee. A result of the investigation was the following motion on May 11, 1911: "On motion the Secretary was instructed to draw an order payable to the Masonic Home Committee for a pro-rata share of the sum of \$25.00 to secure an option on a 10-acre tract adjoining the land under option at present, such share being \$8.50."

As the Masonic Home was later built in Zenith, WA, it is evident that the Vancouver bid lost out.

An option was taken on a site, and the Grand Lodge Committee was so impressed that they suggested taking an option on an adjoining property as well, which was done.

But Vancouver eventually lost out as the Home was eventually built at Zenith between Seattle and Tacoma.

LODGES COLLABORATE IN PURCHASE OF "MAGIC LANTERN"

An interesting item appears in the minutes of May 12, 1910 stating that: “Upon motion a committee was appointed to work with Vancouver Chapter No. 9, Royal Arch Masons, for the purpose of purchasing a magic lantern, and the Lodge was in favor of making this purchase.”

Evidently the joint use of the “Magic Lantern” proved quite satisfactory because twenty years later, on November 13, 1930, the minutes contain a similar item: “Moved and supported that Mt. Hood join Washington Lodge and the Royal Arch in the purchase of a new lantern for slides. The purchase price not to exceed \$150.00, Mt. Hood paying one-third. A. W. Baker was appointed as a committee of one to work with the other Lodges.”

REMISSION OF DUES FOR SERVICEMEN

During both World War I and World War II Mt. Hood Lodge has been mindful and appreciative of the patriotic spirit of those members who served in the Armed Forces of their Country by the remission of their dues.

The following excerpt was taken from the minutes of December 13, 1917: A communication from Bro. John A. D. Fraser read requesting remission of dues for the year 1917-18, and on motion all members in the Army are to have their dues remitted for the year 1917 when so requested. Motion carried.”

Similarly, during World War II the following entry appears in the minutes of December 9, 1943: “A discussion was held relative to the due of members in the military service, and a motion made to remit the dues for the duration of the War for those serving outside the continental confines of the States. Seconded and unanimously carried.”

HONOR ROLL FOR MILITARY SERVICE

At the same meeting as the above excerpt (December 9, 1943), a motion was made seconded and carried to purchase a Service Flag and Honor Roll for our members in the military service. Later minutes reveal that the brethren determined that the Service Flag and the Honor Roll both serve the same purpose, and whereas the Service Flag merely has a star for each member in the Service, the Honor Roll lists the names of each Serviceman and was considered a better record for the Lodge. Therefore, it was determined to only compile the Honor Roll.

The Honor Roll is still safely deposited in Mt. Hood’s archives.

MASONIC MEMBERSHIP SPURTS AS DOUGHBOYS RETURN FROM FIRST WORLD WAR

The Advent of the First World War resulted in a great influx of the returning “Doughboys” into Masonry. In Mt. Hood Lodge this surge materialized after signing of the Armistice on November 11, 1918. During all of 1918 only seven petitions had been received, with a total of 22 degrees being conferred.

In 1919, however, the number of petitions presented increased to 20 and the degrees conferred jumped to 65. The following year, 1920, the number of petitions presented increased to 25, and a total of 145 degrees were conferred. Thus, 1920 proved to be Mt. Hood’s busiest year during the First World War era in terms of the number of degrees conferred.

During the year 1921 there were 28 petitions received, but only 118 degrees were conferred. The following year, 1922, petitions received dropped to 21, and the degree conferred, to 69. Normalcy in degree work was reached by the end of 1923 when only six new petitions were received, and during the year the backlog of degree work was cleared up with the conferral of 41 degrees.

THE MASTER’S HAT

During at least two periods of Mt. Hood’s history each Master was presented with his own Top Hat. The first such instance was recorded on January 23, 1920 on a motion

proposed by Bro. W. E. Carter; “That the Secretary purchase a hat for the Worshipful Master, and that one be secured for every succeeding Master.” This practice was followed for a few years and then discontinued, especially during the years of the Great Depression following the stock market crash in 1929.

The same motion was carried again in 1942. When the writer was installed as Master in 1944, he was presented with his own Master’s Tile which he prizes and has worn at numerable Lodge functions including Masonic burial services. Also the hat received Trojan duty during the year he served as Grand Master of the Grand Council, Royal and Select Masters of Washington in 19.

Generally the retiring Master has had little use for a “Silk Top Hat” after his year in the East, and has usually donated he hat to the Lodge. Obviously this practice soon developed an over-supply of Master’s Hats in the locker, and the practice was again discontinued.

PICTURES OF MT. HOOD MASTERS

It was not until October, 1920 that Mt. Hood Lodge authorized the procurement of the pictures of its Past Masters and the framing of the same for display in the Lodge. At that time W. Bro. Bates was appointed a committee of one to gather the photos and

have them framed. Evidently he was unable to secure photos of all of the early Past Masters as eleven of their pictures up to 1920 are missing. Since 1920 only three Past Master's pictures are missing.

It is quite unlikely that any future Past Master's pictures will be missing as it is the present practice to have the Master's picture taken when he is installed, and his picture is mounted above the main entrance to the Lodge room during the year he is serving as Master. When his year has been completed, his picture is then moved to its proper position in the Past Master lineup on the east wall of the large dining room.

The name of the Past Masters whose pictures are missing, and their years of service are:

Henry C. Morrice----1879, 1881, 82, 83, 90

Joseph A. Sladen-----1880, 87, 88

Fred H.E. Ebstein----1884

Alexander J. Cook---1885, 86

Arthur J. Hidden-----1889

James T. Goss-----1893

Edson M. Rowley----1897, 98

E. M. Rands-----1903

James H. Heasley----1907, 08

John A.D. Frasher---1913

Gerry L. Shaw-----1917

Francis E. O'Neal----1925

Alexander E. Sorum-1928

John M. Conrad-----1950 (Honorary)

PROFICIENCY EXAMINATIONS

Our current Brethren will be interested in the following entry of April 30, 1921: "Prior to the opening of Lodge but before all Master Masons, all candidates (5) were examined as to their proficiency on the Fellowcraft degree posting lecture and passed very satisfactory examination." Now, the general practice in Mt. Hood is to have the

posting lecture examination in committee with only an occasional brother being examined in open Lodge.

VANCOUVER DeMOLAY ORGANIZED IN 1922

Mt. Hood Lodge assisted in organizing Vancouver Chapter of DeMolay in the spring of 1922. The minutes of March 23, 1922 show that W. Bro. Jamie A. Cooper and Bro. David Turtledove were appointed a Special Committee to assist in organizing a Chapter of DeMolay for boys in Vancouver. W. Bro. Cooper, was Master of Mt. Hood

Lodge in 1922, and was one of the prime movers in getting the Chapter of DeMolay started here.

His son, Lawrence, was the first candidate signed for the new group. A DeMolay team from Sunnyside Chapter in Portland came over to install the new Chapter, which was chartered on May 11, 1922. W. Bro. Horace Daniels, of Washington Lodge, became the first Dad Advisor, and Lawrence Cooper was elected the first Secretary of the new DeMolay Chapter. Later minutes show that Mt. Hood and Washington Lodges shared the expense of organizing the local Chapter.

Lawrence Cooper later became a member of Mt. Hood Lodge and served as Master in 1946. He also served as Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council, Royal and Select Masters of Washington in 1957-58.

DEGREE TEAM CONTEST

The minutes of April 12, 1923 state: "This was an exceedingly interesting night with a contest between Washington and Mt. Hood degree teams. The three judges decided that the work was conferred in the more creditable manner."

Elsewhere in the minutes it was indicated that two Third Degrees were conferred that evening, a team from each Lodge conferred one of the degrees. The "no decision" result shows that the judges uses good judgment and everybody was happy.

MASONIC MEMBERS OF ORPHEUS CLUB ENTERTAINS MT. HOOD

At the meeting June 1, 1923 the Masonic member of the Orpheus Club entertained with music selections. Thereafter a supper consisting of strawberries, cream and cake was served. This being done, the Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

MASONIC ORCHESTRA ENTERTAINS AT DISTRICT MEETING

A joint meeting of Washington and Mt. Hood Lodges was held on March 22, 1928 to receive Most Worshipful Grand Master Robert A. Wilson. There were 360 Masons in attendance at the this meeting. The minutes state that this reception for the Grand Master was distinguished "By way of a program of several selections being given by the Masonic Orchestra under the direction of our (Mt. Hood) Organist. All were well received."

The Masonic Orchestra was again mentioned in the minutes of May 9, 1929 when they were featured in a program celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Mt. Hood Lodge. The minutes state: "The Masonic Orchestra grasped the spirit of the evening and expressed themselves by snappy and beautiful music."

FLAG CEREMONY

According to the minutes of January 24, 1924 the Flag Ceremony was used in the opening of the Lodge for the first time. It has since been used as a regular part of the opening ceremony.

MASONIC PLOT AT PARK HILL CEMETARY

A motion carried in Mt. Hood Lodge on December 10, 1925 to secure a plot of ground at the Park Hill Cemetery to be set aside as a Masonic Burial Section. The plot was purchased May 13, 1926, designated as Section F. Washington Lodge assisted Mt. Hood in securing the plot.

"VANCOUVER LODGE NO. 32?"

In 1926 a resolution was presented to change the name of Mt. Hood Lodge No. 32 to Vancouver Lodge No. 32 as being more descriptive of the location of the Lodge. The resolution was referred to a committee for investigation. As it was never referred to in future minutes, the resolution must have died in committee.

If this resolution had been successful, Mt. Hood Lodge would have ceased to exist and our Lodge would now be known as Vancouver Lodge No. 32.

MASONIC CLUB

An interesting development occurred in 1926 when a resolution was presented in Mt. Hood Lodge to create a Masonic Social Club, "To promote Masonic education and social intercourse, better acquaintance and good fellowship among (all) Masons in Vancouver." Membership was to include all Washington and Mt. Hood members and any Master Mason who was in good standing of a lodge in any other jurisdiction, who may desire to become a member.

The club had difficulty getting off the ground and did not become operational until late in 1928 when both Washington and Mt. Hood Lodges each voted the sum of \$20 per month to the club to pay for clubrooms in the Masonic Temple and for other expenses.

The minutes indicate that tournaments were held in various sports including, golf, angling, pinochle, etc. An entry in the minutes of 1931 indicate that the chairman of the various activities made reports to the Lodge and that Bro. Ferde Moore urged all of the members to support the activities. Evidently the club did not prosper and eventually died from lack of participation.

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED

On May 9, 1929 Mt. Hood Lodge celebrate its 50th anniversary. The minutes of this auspicious occasion state: "The order of business was cut short in order that the entire evening might be given over to the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the first informal meeting of Mt. Hood, May 7, 1879." (The meeting was actually held on May 3, 1879) May 7 was the date when M. H's app. for mem. was sent in Grand Lodge.

“After the reading of several communication and telegrams from Brethren from all parts of the country, expressing their regrets at not having the opportunity to be present on this noted occasion, the meeting was turned over to the Research Committee who, under the guiding hand of Worshipful Master J. H. Stream as presiding officer, gave the Craft a treat that will long be cherished in the hearts of Masons of Southwest Washington for many years to come.

“The programs as follows:--

“The Masonic orchestra grasped the spirit of the evening and expressed themselves by snappy and beautiful music.

“Bro. Claude Snider, Worshipful Master of Washington Lodge No. 4 was introduced and presented felicitations to members of Mt. Hood.

“Bro. A. E. Sorum, the youngest Past Master of Mt. Hood, was introduced and read the minutes of the first meeting and several that were held later, all of which brought fond memories to the older Brethren.

“Bro. W. W. Sparks, who is the second oldest living Past Master made a wonderful talk on “Reminiscences of the Early Days of Mt. Hood.”

“Bro. H. W. Arnold was introduced and gave a historical sketch of the Lodge from its earliest history to the present date.

“Bro. A. G. Kerns, Past Master, was introduced and gave a Masonic Reading ‘ I sat in Lodge with You’ which was wonderfully delivered.

“Right Worshipful W. C. Bates, Senior Grand Warden of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Washington was introduced and gave a creditable response to Washington Lodge No. 4 for the beautiful floral offering presented to Mt. Hood prior to the Washington Lodge.

“After singing the hymn ‘Laudate Deum’ Lodge was closed in Due Form and the Brethren repaired to the dining room, where a large birthday cake was cut by Bro. Dr. A. B. Eastman, the oldest living Past Master, with appropriate ceremony.

“After hearing a few remarks from several of the Masters and Wardens of this district, the Brethren went their way. Peace and Harmony prevailing.”

“THE TEMPLES OF JERUSALEM”

A lecture “The Temples of Jerusalem” was written by Bro. Horace W. Arnold possibly in 1927 or 28 following a visit to the Holy City. Bro. Arnold was an avid student of Masonic History and had become widely known as an authority in this field.

Slides to illustrate the lecture were purchased by Mt. Hood Lodge, which gave the Lodge control over the presentation of the lecture and the slides. On June 26, 1928, the following resolution was passed in the Lodge, “Resolved that the illustrated lecture “The Temples of Jerusalem” shall not be given nor the slides of the lecture used outside of this Lodge except by special permission of the Lodge.”

The lecture enjoyed considerable popularity in the Lodges of Southwest Washington and throughout the Portland area, and it was necessary, on each occasion, that specific permission be granted by the Lodge. The requests became so frequent that granting them individually became cumbersome for the Lodge. As a result, the minutes of June 4, 1930 contains the following motion: “Moved and supported that Mt. Hood grant the request of Medford Lodge No. 103, of Oregon, to have Bro. Arnold deliver the lecture “Temple of Jerusalem” on the night of June 22, and also the request of any other Lodge for the same purpose. Motion carried.” Bro. Arnold was thus given blanket permission to deliver the lecture, with the slides, whenever and wherever requested. The popularity of the lecture continued for several years.

The last recorded instance of the lecture being given appears in the minutes of May 28, 1936: “Bro. Arnold was escorted to the East and delivered a very fine lecture entitled, ‘The Builders of King Solomon’s Temple’, which was enjoyed very much by the brethren present.” It was on this occasion that the writer, who had just recently moved to Vancouver, had the privilege of hearing the lecture, and became acquainted with Bro. Arnold.

The lecture and slides are still in the archives of Mt. Hood Lodge. Unfortunately the slides are of the old style, large and glass encased, and cannot be used in our present projectors.

It might not be amiss at this time to give something of the Masonic history of Bro. Arnold. He was raised a Master Mason in Mt. Hood Lodge on December 8, 1896, and spent his entire Masonic life a member of this Lodge. A year after his raising he was elected Secretary of the Lodge, and served in that capacity for five consecutive years until December, 1902. He served as Junior Steward in 1905 and as Senior Steward the following year.

After the Vancouver Masonic Temple, Inc. was formed in 1920, he was elected to serve on the Board of Trustees of that organization in 1925, and was immediately elected Secretary of the Board. He served in that capacity until his death in 1941.

He was the first brother to write a history of Mt. Hood Lodge, which he did in 1928. This was a short three-typewritten-page history to be included in a “History of Masonry in the State of Washington” to be placed in the archives of the Grand Lodge of

Washington. He wrote a second history, this time five pages in length, which he read at the 50th anniversary of the founding of Mt. Hood which was held on May 9, 1929. His third and last history, 10 pages in length, was read on April 11, 1935 and is kept with the minutes of that meeting.

In 1938 Bro. Arnold presented his considerable library of books to Mt. Hood Lodge to form a nucleus of a Lodge Library. These books, numbering over 50 are still on the library shelves of our new Temple building.

Brother Horace W. Arnold passed away on August 9, 1941.

W. BRO. WM. C. BATES ELECTED GRAND MASTER

Following his election as Grand Master of Masons in Washington in June, 1930, M.W. Bro. Wm. C. Bates staged a triumphal return to his home Lodge. A special joint meeting was held with Washington Lodge No. 4 on June 28. The minutes of that meeting state: "The meeting was called for the purpose of welcoming and receiving home our M.W. Bro. William C. Bates, G.M. of Masons in Washington.

"The Grand Lodge Officers and a number of Past Grand Masters were received and introduced by the Masters of both Lodges.

"M.W. Bro. Bates received and introduced M.W. Bro. Hagenmyer and his officers from the Grand Lodge of Oregon. Bro. W. H. Bates, father of the Grand Master, was introduced to the brethren.

“There were a number of talks given during the evening by our Distinguished Guests including Orrville Rummins, Grand Orator of Washington who spoke on the early history of the Grand Lodges of Oregon and Washington.

“Bro. W. E. Carter, P.M of Mt. Hood, presented M.W. Bro. Bates with a Past Masters pin from Mrs. A. L. Miller.

“Bro. A. P. Ryan, P.M. of Mt. Hood presented the G.M. with a beautiful wrist watch from Washington and Mt. Hood Lodges, M.W. Bro. Bates responded in his own usual way.

“After a short talks by Grand Lodge Officers of Oregon, Lodge was closed in due form at 11:20 P.M., and the brethren repaired to the dining room where a light lunch was served.”

On March 18, 1931 following Grand Master Bates return from the Grand Masters' Conference in Washington, D.C. a joint meeting of Mt. Hood and Washington Lodges was held at which the two Lodges gave the returning Grand master a royal welcome.

M.W. Bates gave a very interesting and descriptive talk on the Washington Memorial Assn. Monument on the Potomac. He also spoke of several side trips to Masonic Lodges.

Reception G.M. Bates

On June 28, 1931, after retiring as Grand Master of Masons in Washington, Past Grand Master Bates presented to Mt. Hood Lodge a brief case for the Lodge Secretary

and a gavel for the Lodge. The gavel had been given to Bro. Bates by the Grand master by the Lodges of Spokane.

GEORGE WASHINGTON BICENTENNIAL TREE PLANTING.

In the fall of 1930 Mt. Hood accepted a request of the American Tree Association to plant a tree on the Bicentennial Anniversary of George Washington's Birthday, February 22, 1931.

Excerpts from the minutes read: September 25, 1930, "Communication received from the American Tree Association asking the planting of a tree in honor of the Bicentennial of the birth of George Washington. The Worshipful Master appointed Arnold, Stream and Carter a committee to arrange the tree planting ceremony." On December 11, this entry: "The tree planting committee reported that a tree was being sent from Alexandria, Virginia to be planted on Washington's birthday with fitting ceremonies." On January 22, 1931, the following entry: "Moved and supported that the committee report on tree planting be accepted, and the committee to continue with the

arrangement of the program for the planting of the tree on February 22.” And on February 26, the last entry: “The report of the tree planting February 22nd was accepted and filed.”

Not a word in the whole series of entries to indicate what kind of a tree was planted, or where the planting took place! Fortunately the missing information was contained in an entry which appeared six years later, on February 25, 1937, which stated: “Bro. H. W. Arnold made a report of the cost of a fence around the elm tree at the Washington School grounds.”

On the basis of this entry, the writer was fortunate in being able to contact Miss Elsie Johnson, who was principal of the Washington Elementary School at that time. She said she had been informed at that time that the tree was a seedling taken from the Washington Elm under which George Washington took command of all of the Continental Armies at the beginning of the Revolutionary War; and that the children at Washington School were proud that their school had been selected as the site for the planting. The tree still stands strong and healthy on the school grounds at 29th and “S” Streets.

The Lodge minutes also mention two other tree plantings at a later period. On April 28, 1932 Bro. Sorum reported that the last of the Washington Memorial Trees was planted on the Arnada School grounds. Also, that on April 24, 1932, an Oak tree was planted on the grounds of the Shumway Junior High School. Bro. Arnold was also in charge of this planting and of presenting the tree to the Vancouver School Board.

INTER-LODGE VISITATIONS

One of the excellent benefits afforded Masons is the opportunity of visiting other lodges. Organized inter-lodge visitations form a fraternal tie between those lodges and results in furthering Masonic knowledge, in developing good fellowship and creating lasting friendships between the participants.

Mt. Hood's early history is replete with many fraternal visitations with Washington Lodge, and occasionally with Portland Lodges. Organized inter-lodge visitations really blossomed during the years of Great Depression of the 1930s.

Mt. Hood and Washington Lodges of Vancouver and Portland Exchange Visits

In 1931, Mt. Hood No. 32 and Washington Lodge No. 4 initiated a four-lodge visitations series with Mt. Hood No. 157 and Washington No. 46, of Portland. Meeting

alternately in the two cities, the two Mt. Hood Lodges and the two Washington Lodges took turns in hosting the four-lodge visitation. This series continued until 1941, when it was interrupted by World War II. Following the War, Mt. Hood resumed visits with Mt. Hood No. 157 of Portland, but the four-lodge visitations became a casualty of the war.

During the years the brethren of Mt. Hood have held many organized visitations to the other Lodges of District 19.

McKenzie River-Mt. Hood Inter-Lodge Visits

In 1965 McKenzie Lodge No. 165, Eugene, OR initiated an interstate visitations with Mt. Hood Lodge which is now in its third exchange of fraternal visits.

Hollyburn Lodge-Mt. Hood Hold International Exchange

In the Spring of 1979 a delegation from Mt. Hood Lodge, including the Master W. Bro. Philip Engle, visited Hollyburn Lodge No. 135, Vancouver, B.C., Canada to invite the Canadian brethren to be guests of honor at the Centennial Celebration of a fraternal exchange of visits with Mt. Hood Lodge and assured him that a delegation of Hollyburn Brethren would be present.

DINNER MEETINGS BECOME POPULAR AS VISITATIONS

Salmon Bake at Skamania Lodge

In 1933 Mt. Hood Lodge received an invitation from Skamania Lodge No. 207, at Stevenson, to attend their Salmon Bake. Situated on the Columbia River where fresh salmon were generally plentiful in the spring, the brethren of Skamania Lodge thought a salmon bake would attract a lot of visitors to their Lodge. The popularity of the Salmon Bake continued to grow through the years as more and more Masons heard of the event, attracting brethren from Goldendale to Longview, and in Oregon from the Dalles to Portland, including a goodly sprinkling of Grand Lodge Officers from both Washington and Oregon. The end came in the late 1950's when it became difficult to secure enough salmon for the growing numbers and the cost of salmon became prohibitive.

Ridgefield's Strawberry Feed

The second of this popular type of visitations was the Strawberry Feed initiated by Ridgefield Lodge No. 237 about 1950. Being in the midst of a strawberry growing

area, it was logical for Ridgefield Lodge to use this luscious fruit to attract visitors to the Lodge. Attendance at the Strawberry Feed became a “must” for Mt. Hood brethren, for who could resist a scoop of ice cream smothered with mashed strawberries, or a shortcake piled high with the sliced berries? Coming as it does, right after Grand Lodge in June, and before most lodges go dark for the summer, it enables Ridgefield Lodge to close the season in a blaze of glory. The Lodge still continues to hold its Strawberry Feed.

Twins Falls’ Elk Feed

Beginning in 1961 Twin Falls Lodge No. 180, at Yacolt, has held an Elk Feed as an annual visitation attraction, and Mt. Hood seems to have its share of Elk Streak lovers. In 1967 the Lodge also started a Corn-on-the-Cob Feed which has proved very effective as an attendance getter. Not content with these two special attractions, Twin Falls Lodge generally holds a Smelt Feed when the smelt are running.

Silver Star Lodge Has Crab Feed

Not to be outdone by its neighboring Lodges, Silver Star Lodge No. 286, Battle Ground, in 1962 held a Crab Feed which drew a goodly number of Mt. Hood lovers of this shellfish. However, the crab had to be imported from the coast and became so expensive that this annual attraction had to be abandoned in 1973.

OREGON TRAVELING TROWEL PRESENTED TO MT. HOOD AND
WASHINGTON LODGES

The Traveling Trowel of Oregon was presented to Mt. Hood and Washington Lodges of Vancouver by the Officers and Degree Team of Maritime Lodge No. 193, Portland, on April 23, 1931. Some of the uses of the trowel were explained by Bro. George B. Lloyd, of Mt. Hood Lodge.

Guests at this meeting were: M.W. William C. Bates, Grand Master of Masons in Washington; D. Rufus Cheney, Grand Secretary of Oregon; W. Lewis Sellman, Master of Maritime Lodge No. 193, of Portland; several Masters and Past Masters of Portland Lodges; and the Masters, Wardens and Brethren of the Lodges of Clark County and of Stevenson and Carson.

W. Bro. Fred Sinclair, Senior Grand Deacon of Washington gave a splendid address of Welcome which was responded to by W. Bro. Sellman, of Maritime Lodge.

VANCOUVER BARRACKS TEAM CONFERS THIRD DEGREE IN MT. HOOD

According to the minutes of November 22, 1934 the Degree Team from Vancouver Barracks, composed of Masons from Lodges in about ten different States, conferred the Third Degree upon Bro. Alfred Carmack, a fellow soldier. The manner in which the work was conferred would be a credit to any Lodge. Bro. Max Roth, one of our members from the Barracks, introduced the team members.

DISTRICT NO. 19 RECEPTIONS FOR THE GRAND MASTER

Throughout the years the highlight of Masonic activity in Mt. Hood Lodge has been the Annual District Meeting for the Reception of the Grand Master of Masons in Washington to District No. 19, held jointly by Mt. Hood and Washington Lodges. Until quite recently these meeting were always held in Vancouver.

Situated on the north bank of the Columbia River directly across from Portland, Vancouver has traditionally become the common meeting ground where the Grand Master of Washington annually receives the Grand Master of Oregon, and often the Grand Masters of British Columbia and Idaho as well, with all the “pomp and circumstance” attending meeting of this nature.

Although Receptions for the Grand Master had been held prior to 1934, it was in that year when the District Deputy of the Grand Master System was established in the Grand Jurisdiction of Washington, that the Receptions have become the outstanding affairs that they are today. At first these meetings were not limited to the participation and introduction of members of the Symbolic Lodges as at present, but included the Grand Officers of the various Bodies of the Concordant Orders of Masonry as well.

Reception of Grand Master John I. Preissner, May 5, 1934

“This meeting was called for the purpose of receiving our M.W. Grand Master John I. Priessner and his official family and also M.W. Leslie M. Scott and his official family of the Grand Jurisdiction of Oregon.

“The Elective Officers of the Grand Jurisdiction of Washington to be introduced included W. Bro. Duncan McCallum, Grand Bible Bearer, W. Bro. Harry Sidell, Junior Grand Deacon, W. Bro. Paul W. Harvey, Grand Historian, W. Bro. Matthew W. Hill, Grand Orator, R.W. Bro. Ralph E. Tiejé, Junior Grand Warden and R.W. Bro. Walter H. Steffey, Senior Grand Warden.

“The elective and Appointive Officers of the Grand Jurisdiction of Oregon to be introduced included R.W. Bro. Frank MacPherson, District Deputy Grand Master; R.W. Bro. Clifford G. Schneider, D.D.G.M.; R.W. Bro. Leon V. Jenkins, D.D.G.M.; D. Rufus Cheney, Grand Secretary; R.W. Bro. Frank Peters, Junior Grand Warden; R.W. Bro. H. Wayne Stanard, Senior Grand Warden and R.W. Bro. Ezra M. Wilson, Deputy Grand Master.

“The Past Grand Masters to be introduced most Worshipful Brothers WM. C. Bates and George M. Malcolm of Washington and Walter G. Winslow of Oregon.

“Other notables to be introduced included Horace Daniels, Grand Custodian of Washington; R. Edward Pinney, Department Grand Inspector General of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite; Carl W. Evarston, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; Ernest P. Rance, Most Illustrious Grand Master, Grand Council, Royal and Select Masters, all of Oregon. The Oregon Notables were welcomed to this Jurisdiction by R.W. Bro. Ralph E. Tiejé.

“Several of the Grand Officers of Oregon gave a short talk including M.W.G.M. Leslie M. Scott.

“Several of the Grand Officers of Washington including our Most Worshipful Grand Master gave very nice talks on the present condition of Masonry.”

Reception of Grand Master Loomis Baldrey, May 14, 1935

The Reception for the Grand master in 1934 set the precedent of introducing dignitaries from the Concordant Bodies of Masonry and this practice was followed to an even greater extent in 1935.

The minutes for the meeting of May 14, 1935 state: “This meeting was called for the purpose of receiving our M.W. Grand Master Loomis Baldrey and his official family, and also the M.W. Grand Master Ezra M. Wilson and his official family of the Grand Jurisdiction of Oregon.

“M.W. Bro. Loomis Baldrey, Grand Master of Masons of Washington and his official family were introduced by District Deputy Grand Master V.W. Bro. Fred Sinclair and escorted to the East through two parallel lines of Past Masters. M.W. Bro. Baldrey was accorded the Private Grand Honors, and the other Grand Officers were accorded the Public Grand Honors.

“M.W. Bro. Ezra M. Wilson, Grand Master of Oregon, and his official family were received and introduced in the manner above mentioned. These distinguished brethren were accorded the Grand Honors of Masonry.

“The meeting being turned over to W. Bro. Fred Sinclair, District Deputy Grand Master of District 19, he explained to the brethren the early history of Vancouver and Vancouver Barracks. He gave a talk on the early history of Masonry in the territory north of the Columbia River.

“Right Eminent Sir Knight Wm. M. Hodgkin, Grand Commander, Knights Templar of Washington, introduced the members of his official family.

“Most Illustrious Bro. Walter F. Meier, Most Illustrious Grand Master of Royal and Select Masters of Washington introduced the members of his official family.

“Most Excellent Companion Albert P. Ryan, Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Washington introduced the members of his official family.

“The following Grand Officers contributed remarks: Sir Knight Wm. M. Hodgkin, Grand Commander; Most Illustrious Companion Walter F. Meier, Grand Master of the Grand Council; Most Excellent Companion A. P. Ryan, Grand High Priest.

“Bro. Edward Pinney, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Oregon, speaking for Bro. Louis G. Clarke, 33 Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the State of OREGON.

“M.W. Bro. Walter F. Meier, P.G.M. of Washington representing Wm. S. McCrea, 33, Sovereign Grand Inspector General in the State of Washington.

“At that time the officers and many members of Mt. Hood No. 156, Portland, were admitted and introduced to the brethren.

“Bro. R.A. Woods, Most Puissant Grand Master General of the General Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of America was called on and extended remarks, as did also M.W. Bro. Ezra M. Wilson, Grand Master of Oregon, and R.W. Bro. Walter H. Steffey, Deputy Grand Master of Washington.

“M.W. Bro. Loomis Baldrey, Grand Master, delivered the principal address.”

Reception of Grand Master Leslie W. Lee, March 16, 1946

Washington Lodge No. 4 and Mt. Hood Lodge No. 32 met in Joint Communication on March 16, 1946 for the Reception of M.W. Bro. Leslie W. Lee, Grand Master of Masons in Washington.

Introduced from the floor by W. Bro. Perry Hartsock, Washington No. 4 were: W. Bros. McKee, Twins Falls #180; Gabriel, North Bank #182; Hockinson, Carson #187; Lambert, Clarke #203; Mansfield, Skamania #207 and McCune, Ridgefield #237, presiding Masters in District #19.

Also introduced were V.W. Bros. Cecil Cady, Bob Heatherington and Bob Clark, Past Deputies of Grand Master for District #19, who were escorted to the Altar, introduced and given a hearty welcome.

V.W. Bro. Jack Hendricks, Deputy of the Grand master for District #19 was escorted to the East, introduced and accorded the Public Grand Honors. He accepted the gavel and assumed charge of the evening's program.

R.W. Bro. Gus Schultz, Deputy Grand master; M.W. Bro. Wm. C. Bates, past Grand master; M.W. Bro. John Preissner, Grand Secretary; and W. Bros. James MacDonald, Grand Lecturer, David G. Miller, Grand Junior Deacon and John Campbell, Grand Senior Steward; accompanied by the Elective and Appointive Grand Lodge

Visitors from Oregon were escorted to the East, introduced and accorded the P.G. Honors.

M.W. Bro. Leslie W. Lee, Grand Master of Washington entered the Lodge and was introduced at the Altar by V.W. Bro. Clark, was welcomed by W.M. Lawrence Cooper, of Mt. Hood Lodge,, and escorted to the East through parallel lines of Master and past Masters, being introduced to the presiding Masters of District #19 as he passed, and was then introduced from the East and accorded the Private Grand Honors.

M.W. Bro. Fred Hartmen, Grand Master of Masons in Oregon, entered the Lodge escorted by M.W. Bro. Wm. C. "Billy" Bates. He was welcomed at the Altar by Grand Master Lee who escorted him to the East between the lines of Masters and Past Masters, introduced him and accorded him the Private Grand Honors.

W. Bro. Stevens, of the Grand Lodge of Oregon, was called upon for brief remarks, M.W. Bro. Preissner spoke regarding the growth of membership in the Grand Jurisdiction of Washington, membership now being in excess of 50,000 Masons. Deputy Grand Master Gus Schultz was called upon and spoke briefly.

M.W. Bro. Hartman spoke regarding the close Fraternal relationship between these two Grand Jurisdictions, and stressed the need of faith in our brothers, our Country, and in the Supreme Being, during these trying times.

M.W. Bro. Lee expressed his pleasure in being able to present this evening, and then told several amusing incidents in his visits to the various Lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction. The highlights of his talk was the effect of Masonry on the peoples of this world, from its inception to the present time, and the necessity of its continued application for the benefit of future generations.

Bro. McCready, a member of Washington Lodge #4, having attained the high honor of being a Mason for 50 years, was escorted to the East where M.W. Bro. Lee with appropriate remarks, presented him with a 50-year Button. Bro. McCready, in his acceptance speech, gave a brief resume of his Masonic life.

The joint meeting was closed in ample form by M.W. Grand Master Lee, with the assistance of the Masters of District #19, filling the other chairs.

Reception of Grand Master Wayne J. Deming, January 16, 1971

During the year 1971, W. Bro. Anthony Chmielewski, Master of Mt. Hood Lodge had the good fortune to receive two Grand Masters on different occasions.

On January 16 a special meeting was held to receive M.W. Bro. Wayne J. Deming, Grand Master of Masons in Washington, 1970-71. After the Elective and Appointive Grand Lodge Officers were received, M.W. Wayne J. Deming was received at the Altar escorted to the East by W.M. Chmielewski, introduced and accorded the Private Grand Honors. The Grand Master then received in order, M.W. Nicholas Musalem, Grand Master of Masons in British Columbia, and M.W. B. "Dot" Dotson, Grand Master of Masons in Oregon, to whom he accorded the Private Honors.

V.W. Richard A. Flett, Deputy of the Grand Master for District NO. 19, gave his report, following which he introduced the Grand Master to the assembled Masters and Wardens of District No. 19. He then called upon R. W. Milton V. Poe, Deputy Grand master who concluded his remarks by introducing the Grand Master, who delivered the address of the evening.

M.W. Milton V. Poe Schedules Visit in December, 1971

Later in the year, on December 9, 1971 Mt. Hood Lodge was honored by a visit by M.W. Milton V. Poe, Grand Master of Masons in Washington, a member of Washington Lodge No. 4 and an honorary member of Mt. Hood No. 32.

Greeted at the Altar was W. Bro. Robert Zweifel, Worshipful Master of Washington Lodge No. 4. Also greeted were the following Grand Lodge Officers: V.W. Bros. Dale DeTour, Deputy of the Grand Master for District No. 19 and Richard A. Flett, Grand Marshall; and the following Worshipful Sirs: Alden Jones, Grand Lecturer, Forest Cotton, Grand Standard Bearer; Lee Frame, Home Endowment Committee; Herbert A. Benedict, Representative Expenses Committee; and Robert Ludahl, Home Endowment Committee. All of the above Grand Lodge Officers were appointees of M.W. Milton V. Poe.

Reception of Grand Master Milton V. Poe, March 4, 1972

The joint meeting to receive M.W. Milton V. Poe, Grand Master of Masons in Washington, on March 4, 1972, proved to be a gala occasion.

Previous to the evening meeting, a dinner was served in the dining room in the dining room in honor of our own Grand Master, a member of Washington Lodge #4, and honorary member of Mt. Hood Lodge #32.

“Masters of the various Lodges were introduced and accorded the Public Grand Honors of Masonry, after which V.W. Dale DeTour, Deputy of the Grand Master in District No. 19, was received and accorded the P.G.H.

“In like manner the following groups of distinguished brethren were presented, escorted to the East and accorded the P.G.H. of Masonry.

“1) Standing Committeemen, Deputies of the Grand master, Appointive Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters and Elective Grand Lodge Officers of the M.W. Grand Lodge F.& A.M. of Washington.

“2) Committeemen and Elective Grand Lodge Officers of the M.W. Grand Lodge of A.F.&A.M. of British Columbia.

“3) Standing Committeemen, D.D.G.M., Appointive Officers, P.G.M. and Elective Officers of the M.W. Grand Lodge of A.F.&A.M. of Oregon.

“The Grand Master was escorted into the Temple by V.W. James Daniels and presented at the Altar. He was greeted there by V.W. DeTour, escorted to the East and accorded the Private Grand Honors by the brethren.

“M.W. Milton V. Poe had the honor of opening the first meeting in the Vancouver Masonic Temple in February of 1969, when he was Grand Junior Warden.

“The Grand Master in turn received M.W. Harper P. Baikie, Grand Master of British Columbia and M.W. Martin S. Sichel, Grand Master of Oregon. They were each extended the Private Grand Honors of Masonry by the brethren.

“Warm words of welcome were conveyed by W. Bro. Robert Zweifel (Washington #4). Response was given by Clyde B. Mix, Grand Junior Warden.

“Information about the work and activities of District #19 was given by Deputy DeTour in his report, after which R.W. Bill P. Horn, Deputy Grand Master, was called upon, who after timely remarks, introduced the Grand Master, M.W. Milton V. Poe.

“Prior to his address, M.W. Poe called upon numerous members of Grand Lodge and other visiting dignitaries for brief remarks. They responded admirably.

“Within the brief address of the Grand Master, he emphasized community involvement and lodge attendance to reaffirm their belief in the tents of the fraternity.

“The Grand Master closed the 1972 District No. 19 annual meeting in ample form assisted by M.W. Baikie in the West and M.W. Sichel in the South.”

MASONIC EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR 1934-35

Included with the minutes of October 11, 1934 is a brochure from the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Research and Education which detailed a very ambitious and comprehensive program of Masonic Education for the Constituent Lodges to develop during the Grand Lodge Year of 1934-35. Because the brethren of Mt. Hood Lodge proceeded to implement the program, and because of the nature of the program and the thoroughness in which it was presented, the writer is constrained to describe the program quite fully.

The brochure stressed that Albert Pike, one of the greatest students of Masonry as well as one of its leaders, once said: “Imagine not that you will become a Mason by learning what is commonly called ‘the Work,’ or even by becoming familiar with our traditions. Masonry has a history, a literature, a philosophy. Its allegories and traditions will teach you much; but much is to be sought elsewhere.”

It was proposed that the Constituent Lodges adopt the following program as a foundation and guide for their work during the (then) current year. The subject selected to explore was, “The Charges of a Freemason,” which for ready reference may be found in Appendix C of the Washington Masonic Code, 1930. Upon these Charges are founded many of the universal principles that have made for the strength of Masonry.

The suggested program consisted of the following: During the month of December, 1934 the Chaplain of each Lodge, or someone selected by him, is to deliver or read before the Lodge a discourse upon the subject: “The Mason in His Relation to

Religion.” The basis for the development of this subject is to be found in the first of the Charges entitled “I, Concerning God and Religion.”

This is to be followed in January, 1935 by the Worshipful Master, or someone selected by him to deliver or read before the Lodge, a discourse on the subject, “The Mason in his Relation to the State.” The basis is to be found in the second of the Charges. “II. Of the Civil Magistrate, Supreme and Subordinate.”

During the month of February, 1935, the Senior Warden, or someone selected by him, to deliver or read a discourse upon the subject, “The Mason in His Relation to the Craft.” The foundation to be found in those parts of the Charges entitled, “III. Of Lodges. IV. Of Masters, Wardens, Fellows and Apprentices. V. Of the Management of the Craft in Working, and Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, and 6 of IV Of Behavior.”

During the month of March, 1935, the Junior Warden or someone selected by him to deliver or read a discourse upon the subject. “The Mason in His Relation to the Profane.” The basis for this discussion to be found in those parts of the Charges embodied in Paragraphs 4 and 5 Section of VI. Of Behavior.

Each of these subjects should be developed to show not only the attitude of Masonry toward it, but also the reasons therefor.

At the same time the Committee also recommended that each Worshipful Master appoint his best qualified member to write a complete history of his own Lodge, based upon its records, as well as such extraneous sources of information as are available to him. It should not only detail the history of the Lodge itself, but also tell something about its founders, as well as distinguished Masons who have been members of the Lodge.

Realizing the wisdom behind the recommendation of the Committee, and the benefits to be derived by the brethren from such an in-depth study of the several suggested subjects, the officers of Mt. Hood Lodge responded in the following manner: M.W. Wm. C. Bates and Bro. Horace W. Arnold both addressed the brethren on the subject, “The Mason in His Relation to Religion.” at the January 24, 1935 meeting. On February 14 W. Bro. George M. Davison, P.M. delivered a fine lecture on “The Mason in his Relation to the State,” Bro. John B. Karaciewicz, Junior Warden, on March 28, spoke

to the brethren on the subject, “The Mason in His Relation to the Profane.” At the following meeting, April 11, Bro. Cecil A. Tuttle, Senior Warden, gave the brethren a fine lecture entitled, “The Mason in His Relation to the Craft.” At the same meeting Bro. H. W. Arnold read his 10-page “History of Mt. Hood Lodge.”

HUNDRED-YEAR-OLD MASTER’S HAT PRESENTED TO MT. HOOD

The minutes of October 25, 1934 record that an old relic—a Master’s hat,—said to be over one hundred years old, was presented to the Lodge by Bro. Bill Wilson. The presentation was made by Bro. F. W. Paul Schumann, who later served as Master in 1940.

(Note: Unfortunately when the writer searched Mt. Hood’s locker to see the old hat, he could find no trace of it. There were several Master’s hats of many sizes, but none which seemed to be of the vintage claimed for this old relic—which by now would be 150 years old. We can only surmise that at some later date an overly-zealous brother in cleaning out the locker and not realizing the antiquity of the old hat, must have discarded it. This points up the necessity of having a safe depository where items donated to the Lodge, such as this, can be kept. Also, that when such a memento is presented to the Lodge, it should be immediately marked with the donor’s name, together with the pertinent facts of its history, so the future generations may know and appreciate its significance.)

GROTTO TEAM FROM SEATTLE CONFERS THIRD DEGREE IN VANCOUVER

A Special Joint Communication of Washington and Mt. Hood Lodges was held on April 4, 1936, at which the Grotto Team from Seattle was invited to confer the Third Degree upon a Washington candidate. This proved to be quite a drawing card for many Lodges throughout this area. We'll let the minutes tell the story.

“The Lodge was opened for the purpose of holding a Joint Communication with Washington Lodge No. 4, to act as host for the Grotto Team of Seattle, and to witness the conferring of the Third Degree on Brother W. G. Owings of Washington Lodge.

“Brethren were present from the Lodges of Washougal, Camas, Stevenson, Yacolt, Kalama, Ridgefield, Woodland, Seattle, Tacoma, White Salmon, Portland and many other Lodges in various parts of the United States. In all there were about 280 Masons present.

“Brother Peak of the Grotto Team of Seattle was introduced and escorted to the East. The other members of the Degree Team were placed at the Altar and each introduced himself, also naming the Lodge of which he was a member.

“Brother Owings, who having passed a satisfactory examination in the second degree posting lecture, was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, lecture and charge given.

“All three sections of this degree were conferred by the Grotto Team in the finest manner, from the standpoint of costume, dramatization and vocal presentation.”

NATIONAL SOJOURNERS ASSIST IN CONFERRING THIRD DEGREE

A Joint Communication was held on March 24, 1938 for the purpose of honoring all Masonic Brethren stationed at Vancouver Barracks.

The National Sojourners, a military organization of Masonic Brethren, being in waiting, were admitted. The purpose of the organization was fully explained for the benefit of the brethren, after which a Color Guard supporting the United States Flag was admitted. They presented their very excellent Flag Ceremony. President Carl Johnson, of the Sojourners, introduced all members of the organization. He then introduced Bro. Walter O'Day who addressed the brethren on the subject of the "Dangers of Communism."

Bro. Fellowcraft Karl Willers was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. Several brethren of the National Sojourners assisted in conferring the second section of the degree. Our own Bro. Dave Miller delivered the Lecture.

After closing the Lodge at 11:20, the brethren repaired to the dining room to partake of ample refreshments prepared by the committees of both Lodges.

MOUNT HOOD'S VANISHING PILLARS

In 1897 when the Lodge was meeting in the Oddfellow's Hall a new set of Pillars were purchased for \$50.00. Later, when Mount Hood moved into the Washington Temple at Eighth and Main in 1907, the Lodge used the Washington Pillars which were readily available in the Lodge room, and the Mount Hood Pillars were stored in the basement. In 1938 it was discovered that the Pillars were no longer in the basement. An investigation revealed that Washington Lodge, believing the Pillars to be theirs, had some time previously presented them to Castle Rock Lodge No. 62, which was in need of a set of Pillars.

Following this discovery Washington Lodge notified Castle Rock Lodge that the Pillars did not belong to Washington Lodge but to Mount Hood Lodge. Castle Rock Lodge then offered to buy the Pillars from Mount Hood. Instead, Mount Hood offered to loan the Pillars to Castle Rock Lodge until such time as Mount Hood Lodge should need them. The Pillars are probably still in possession of Castle Rock Lodge.

COMMEMORATING 150TH ANNIVERSARY—INAUGURATION OF GEORGE
WASHINGTON

The Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Charles Anderson, on April 27, 1939, read a proclamation issued by the Grand master, setting aside Sunday, April 30 as a day for all masons to attend church in commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of the Inauguration of M.W. Bro. George Washington as President of the United States.

Bro. G. Stanley Mook, rector of the St. Lukes Episcopal Church, invited all the brethren to attend his church in commemoration of this significant event in the history of our Country.

AN AMERICAN'S CREDO

At a meeting September 25, 1941 Brother Conklin spoke briefly on the subject of Patriotism and read "An American's Credo" by Daniel Webster, which is worthy of being quoted again.

"I was born an American; I will live an American; I shall die an American; and I intend to perform the duties incumbent upon me in that character to the end of my career. I mean to do this with absolute disregard of personal consequences. What are personal consequences? What is this individual man with all the good and evil that may betide him, in comparison with the good or evil which may befall a great country in a crisis like this and in the midst of great transactions which concern the country's fate? Let the consequences be what they will. I am careless no man can suffer too much, and no man can fall too soon, if he suffer or falls in defense of the liberties and Constitution of his country."

Daniel Webster—July 17,

1850

LODGE IS FACED WITH PREDICAMENT

On May 22, 1941, after conferring both sections of the Third Degree upon the candidate, the Lodge found itself in a predicament—there was no one present who could deliver the Third Degree Lecture, which is required by Washington Masonic Law. The Lodge had to be called from labor to refreshment while the Master, W. Bro. James C. Cook, went to the Vancouver High School Print shop several blocks away, to persuade Bro. Dave Miller to leave his duties there long enough to deliver the lecture.

Brother Miller was the instructor of Printing at the High School. He and his printing class were working late in order to get the high school year book “The Alki” off the presses and ready for delivery by the end of the school year, less than two weeks away.

Brother Miller delivered the lecture, and this favor was greatly appreciated by the Master, Officers and Brethren of the Lodge.

During the World War II a number of Mt. Hood Members enlisted in the fighting forces of their country. On December 9, 1943 the following entry appears in the minutes of the Lodge: “A motion was regularly presented for consideration, seconded and carried to purchase a service flag and honor roll for our members in the military service.”

Although a “service flag” and “honor roll” were both mentioned in the motion, in carrying out its intent it was determined that there was a duplication in function and that the Honor Roll, which lists the names of the brethren would be a better record than the Service Flag, which merely had a star placed on the flag for each of the brethren in the services. Accordingly, only the Honor Roll was prepared. The implementation of this motion occurred during the year that the writer was Master of the Lodge and he can remember the discussion relative to the merits of the two.

The Honor Roll is still in the archives of the Lodge. Under the title “Honor Roll” is the statement “Those of Our Membership at the Time of World War II Who Valiantly Served Our Country.” It lists the names of 41 Brethren. Two of the names have gold stars pasted before and after the name, indicating that those two brothers made the supreme sacrifice for his Country. The gold-standard names are: Bro. Carl E. Bannon and Bro. Stephen V. Nicolia.

Following are the 41 names listed on the Honor Roll. (The names have been rearranged in alphabetical order for easier reference.)

John Alger	Fred W. Gosnell	*Stephen V. Nicolia *
Richard G. Anderson	William Gubbins	Ralph A. Parsons
Harry W. Atkinson	Bror Uno Hallgren	Frank A. Reed
Joseph R. Augenblick, Jr.	Wilson M. Herndon	Max Roth
Carl E. Bannon	Gilbert C. Herring	Lee A. Shorey
Cecil J. Barnes	Ira E. Horsey	Allan M.
Slack		
Leland E. Blair	Rene J. Jette	Clarence A. Smith
Henry E. Bown	Oran G. Jewett	Daniel H. Snively
Marshall E. Bullock	Joseph A. Knapp	Norman L. Sorter
Van Cunningham	Edward J. Marineau	Benjamin W. Viles

Harold Cusic

Harry Feine

Robert Giammateo

Clary M. McCuen

Everett McKenzie

Monroe E. Miller

Rollie S. Miller

James A. Murphy

Harvey B. West

Karl H. Willers

Fredric W. Wolfer

Checking this list against the 1979 membership roster reveals that five of these Brothers still remain as members of Mt. Hood Lodge. They are: Joseph R. Augenblick, Jr., who now resides in Orlando, FL; Harry Feine, Brooklyn, NY; Fred W. Gosnell and Edward J. Marineau, both of Seattle, WA and Daniel H. Snively, the only one who remains a resident of Vancouver, WA.

MASONIC MEMBERSHIP RECEIVES TERRIFIC IMPETUS
DURING WORLD WAR II

Whereas in World War I the interest in Masonic membership materialized after the signing of the Armistice, in World War II it became manifest almost immediately following the attack on Pearl Harbor by the Japanese, and the Declaration of War by the United States on December 7, 1941.

During 1941 only seven petitions had been received and twenty degrees had been conferred. In 1942 the number of petitions increased to 17, and the degrees conferred to 37. During 1943 a total of 57 petitions were received and 95 degrees conferred. An enormous backlog of 95 degrees was left unconferred—take end of the year.

The peak was reached in 1944 when 84 new petitions were presented and a total of 244 degrees conferred. This tremendous amount of degree work being conferred within the space of a single year forms an interesting period in the life of Mt. Hood Lodge and is dealt with in a separate chapter “1944—Mt. Hood’s Business Year.”

During the following years the number started to dropping. There were 73 petitions received in 1945 and a total of 202 degrees conferred. In 1946 only 34 petitions were received , less than half the number recorded in 1945, while a total of 136 degrees were conferred. The downward trend continued in 1947 with only 22 petitions being received and a total of 80 degrees conferred. The degree work leveled off in 1948 with 25 petitions received and 78 degrees conferred. The following year, 1949, 20 new petitions were received and 62 degrees conferred.

LODGE OPENED, CLOSED IN THE DEGREE BEING CONFERRED FOR FIRST
TIME

From its founding it has always been the policy of Mt. Hood Lodge to open Lodge on the Third Degree. If work was to be done in the lower degrees, it was necessary to suspend labor on the Third Degree and open a Lodge for work in the degree to be conferred. Following conferral of the degree (s), it was then necessary to close Lodge in that degree and resume labor in the Third Degree in order to read the minutes and close the Lodge.

A special meeting was called for January 21, 1944 to confer the Entered Apprentice Degree upon five candidates. The Lodge was opened on the Third Degree as usual, labor suspended on the Third and a Lodge of Entered Apprentices opened for work. After the Degree were conferred, the Lodge of Entered Apprentices was closed and labor resumed on the Third Degree for the reading of minutes and the closing of Lodge.

The conferral of the five E.A. Degrees on January 21 convinced the brethren that in view of the heavy backlog of degree work facing the Lodge, opening on the Third Degree at meetings called for the specific purpose of conferring the lower degrees, consume too much time, and it was determined that, at special meetings, the Lodge should be opened in the degree to be conferred.

Accordingly, when five Fellowcraft Degrees were scheduled for January 27, the Lodge was opened and closed for the first time on the Fellowcraft Degree. Since that time it has always been the policy of Mt. Hood Lodge, at special meetings, to open Lodge in the degree which is to be conferred.

1944—MOUNT HOOD'S BUSIEST YEAR

The year 1944, when W. Bro. David G. Miller was Master, was the busiest in the history of Mt. Hood Lodge in terms of 1) the number of meeting held, 2) the number of degree conferred, and 3) the total increase in Lodge membership. During this year alone

membership jumped by 74 Master Masons. A total of 244 degrees were conferred during the year—95 Entered Apprentice, 71 Fellowcraft and 78 Master Mason degrees. To accomplish this amount of work 72 meetings were required: 19 Stated and 47 Specials for conferring of degrees, averaging six meetings per month. In addition the minutes show that most Stated were opened at 7:00 P.M. and that at least one degree was conferred prior to opening the business meeting at 8:00 P.M. and others prior to closing the Lodge.

Grand Lodge records show that Mt. Hood's increase in membership this year was the second highest in the State, being but slightly less than that of St. John's Lodge No. 9, Seattle, the largest lodge in the Jurisdiction. Another fact worthy of nothing is that during this year Mt. Hood passed its mother lodge, Washington No. 4, in membership and has maintained that position ever since.

The influx of petitions beginning in 1942 was so great that the Lodge could not keep pace with them and a backlog of unconferrred degrees kept piling up. On January 1, 1944 the backlog amounted to 95 unconferrred degrees—18 Entered Apprentice, 34 Fellowcraft and 43 Master Mason degrees. At that time it was the law in the Grand Jurisdiction of Washington that no more than five degrees could be conferred at a meeting. This limitation made it impossible for the Lodge to keep pace with the heavy flow of petitions and the backlog of degree work kept increasing.

Grand Lodge Proceeding for 1944 show that a resolution was presented by W. Bro. David G. Miller, Master of Mount Hood Lodge No. 32, to amend the By-Laws of Grand Lodge to permit ten degrees to be conferred at a meeting. At first this resolution had tough opposition from the "Old Guard" but, as many other lodges were experiencing the same difficulties facing Mount Hood, support was generated and eventually an amendment was moved to increase the maximum of fifteen degrees. The amendment carried and the amended resolution was adopted by a constitutional majority.

It had been the previous practice of Mount Hood Lodge to go dark during the summer months, but the Lodge took advantage of this opportunity to immediately capitalize on the new Grand Lodge Law and held nine meeting during the summer at which 70 degrees were conferred, 50 Entered Apprentice and Fellowcraft degrees in five meetings and 20 Master Mason Degrees in four meetings. During the fall season,

September through December, many Special Meetings were held for degree work, particularly on week-ends. At two of these Specials the maximum of fifteen degrees, Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft, were conferred. The greatest number of Master Mason degree conferred at a single meeting was eight.

A Full Slate of Other Lodge Business Also Accomplished

From the foregoing it might seem that little else but conferring of degrees was accomplished but that was not the case. At that time both regular meetings were Stated, resulting in nineteen State Meetings being held with the usual run of lodge business. Special events were scheduled such as: R.W. Bro. Gustave Schultz, then Junior Grand Warden being invited to hold a School of Instruction on "Masonic Practices and Usages" for the Masonic education of the officers and members. From this evolved the holding of several school of instruction for groups of our new Master Masons as they were raised to the Sublime Degree.

A Past Master's Night was held, when Past Master Francis O'Neal conferred the M.M. Degree upon his son, Harold, with all the chairs occupied by Past Masters.

A Memorial Service was held for Grand Master Don F. Kizer who had passed away during his term of office. Following this service a 50-year membership Certificate was presented to Bro. Charley Wells by Past Grand Master Wm. C. "Billy" Bates, who stated that the signature on the Certificate was the last official act of M.W. Kizer before his death.

A Ladies Night was held on October 26. Dinner was served to 190 Brothers and their wives. Following a short business meeting the balance of the evening was spent in entertainment, dancing, and cards. This was the best attended meeting of the year.

The Annual District Meeting and Reception for the Grand Master was held November 4 in conjunction with Washington Lodge. Grand Master Ford Q. Elvidge was received through the traditional parallel lines of Past Masters. He then received the Grand Master of Oregon, M.W. Harry Proudfoot, who was accompanied by seven of his official family

About mid-year Bro. James D. Miller, Senior Warden, inaugurated a correspondence club to keep in touch with the many Mt. Hood Masons who were serving

in the Armed Forces of their Country. At Christmas time a gift from the Lodge was sent to each of these Brethren.

During the year \$6500 of War Bonds were purchased by the Lodge.

Six Masonic Funeral Services were conducted during the year. In those days the services were quite different than they are now. It was necessary to meet at the Temple prior to the mortuary service, open Lodge on the Third Degree and conduct a short memorial service in the lodge hall. With the Lodge at refreshment, the brethren then repaired to the funeral chapel, or church, for the family service. The car bearing the W.M. led the funeral procession to the cemetery where the W.M. performed the last rites at the graveside. It was then necessary for the Master and his officers to return to the Temple and close Lodge in due form.

MASONIC FUNERAL SERVICE EXEMPLIFIED AS LODGE PROGRAM

As comparatively few of our Masonic Brethren ever attend a Masonic Funeral Services, the W.M. arranged to exemplify on May 25, 1944, as a combined Memorial Day and Masonic Education program, a Full Masonic Funeral Service including the Lodge, Mortuary and Graveside Services. It was in honor of the eight Mt. Hood Brethren who had passed on to the Celestial Lodge Above since the last Memorial Day.

The Master explained the various parts of the Funeral Service—Opening of Lodge on the M.M. degree and the Lodge memorial service previous to going to the

Funeral Chapel, the Chapel service, the Graveside service, and finally returning to the Temple to close Lodge.

The funeral Team headed by the Master marched in, assumed their positions, opened Lodge and read the Memorial Service, then called the Lodge from labor to refreshment and marched out. The Chapel Service was then exemplified, complete with a casket. The Team marched in, took their positions around the casket, and the Master conducted the entire service. (No minister is present at a Full Masonic Service.) The team marched out to signify the end of the Chapel Service and the move to the cemetery. For the Graveside Service, the Team took their proper positions at the casket while the Master, assisted by the Wardens and Chaplain, gave the Graveside Service with the meaning of the Masonic Apron, the Scroll, and the Sprig of Acacia; followed by the Funeral Grand Honors and the sprig of Acacia deposited on the casket.

Following the above exemplification of a regular Funeral Service, a Memorial Service was held. It consisted of snuffing out a candle for each of the eight Brethren who had passed to the Celestial Lodge Above during the year. Finally a ceremony of relighting the candles was held to signify that, although the Brethren had physically passed from among us, their memories still remain in the hearts of their Brothers.

LODGE OF SORROW

Over the years there has been a terrific pressure exerted on Grand Lodge to eliminate the necessity for the Masonic Brethren to go to the Temple, open Lodge and hold a short Masonic Memorial Service prior to going to the Mortuary; and to close Lodge following the Graveside Service, as described in the above article.

Finally, in 1970, Grand Lodge instituted its “Lodge of Sorrow” program which successfully accomplished this purpose. Each Master, after being installed into office, will open a “Lodge of Sorrow” which will remain open during his entire year as Master. At his last meeting, the Lodge of Sorrow for that year will be closed. During the year the

Masonic Brethren now go directly to the mortuary, Church or other place where the funeral may be held. In all other respects the conduct of Masonic Funerals has remained the same: the brethren will attend the Public Memorial Service in a body, dressed as Masons, and they furnish the six Masonic Pallbearers, each with a sprig acacia on his left lapel, which is deposited on the casket at the conclusion of the graveside services.

MT. HOOD MEMBERSHIP NEARLY DOUBLES IN EIGHT YEARS

The degree work in 1945, under W. Bro. J. D. Miller, also continued at a terrific pace, although at a reduced tempo. Starting with a 107-degree backlog from 1944, 51 petitions were received, boosting with possible degree work to 260 conferrals. During the year 202 degrees were conferred, leaving a backlog of 58 degrees at the end of the year. At two meetings during this year the maximum of 15 degrees were conferred.

As only 34 petitions were received during 1946, totaling 102 degrees, by conferring 136 degrees during the year, the Lodge was able to materially reduce the backlog to 24 degrees.

During the next three years the incoming petitions stayed very close to the average of 24 per year, and the conferrals brought the backlog of unconferrred degrees down to only 18 at the end of 1949.

Membership in Mt. Hood Lodge rose from 235 Master Masons in 1941 to 462 on December 31, 1949. In this period of only eight years, during and immediately following the Second World War, Mt. Hood's membership nearly doubled.

THE TRESTLE BOARD

The Trestle Board was the brain-child of W. Bro. James D. Miller who, in 1945 used it as a method of acquainting the brethren with the program of the Lodge and, as an attempt to secure better attendance at the communications of Mt. Hood Lodge. Realizing its value, the succeeding Masters have continued using the media and the average brother now would be lost without his Trestle Board to refer to.

AMPERE CLUB CONFERS THIRD DEGREE AT MT. HOOD

The Ampere Masonic Club of Vancouver, Masonic members of the Bonneville Power Administration, conferred the Third Degree upon two of their members at a Mt.

Hood meeting on March 22, 1946. The work was performed entirely by members of the Club including both sections of the degree together with the lecture and charge. The team was very proficient in the work.

OFFICIAL VISITS ON FIRST MEETING IN NEW YEAR

The custom of Mt. Hood and Washington Lodge exchanging Official Visits on the first meeting night of each Lodge in the New Year was begun in 1950. The custom has been continued each January since then.

OLD OFFICERS APRONS PRESENTED TO TWIN FALLS LODGE

In 1954 Mt. Hood purchased a new set of aprons for its officers as the old aprons were becoming frayed and bedraggled.

The officers of Twin Falls Lodge No. 180, at Yacolt, expressed an interest in the old aprons. On January 27, 1955 a visitation was made to Twin Falls Lodge and the old aprons were presented to them. The Worshipful Master of Twin Falls Lodge expressed the pleasure of the brethren at receiving the aprons.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF MT. HOOD LODGE-1954

The Diamond Anniversary of the founding of Mt. Hood Lodge was celebrated on September 9, 1954, instead of the more appropriate date in May. The reason for the postponement was evidently to enable Most Worshipful Gustav H. Schultz, Past Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Washington, to be the speaker of the evening. Next to our own Most Worshipful William C. Bates, Most Worshipful Bro. Schultz was the best-loved Past Grand Master. In preparation for his visit, M.W. Bro. Schultz was voted an Honorary Life Member of Mt. Hood on June 10.

The minutes of the Anniversary Meeting on September 9 include the following excerpts: "The historical data and history compiled by V.W. David G. Miller and Joel

Rose was read by Bro. Miller and was received with great applause. The W.M. then thanked the committee for their labor and efforts in compiling the history.”

“Most Worshipful Gustav H. Schultz was presented with an Honorary Life Membership in Mt. Hood Lodge. He expressed his thanks and appreciation for this honor. He then gave a very enlightening address on the 75th Anniversary of Mt. Hood Lodge and the Accomplishments of Masonry in the last 75 years.”

Preceding the Lodge Meeting, at 6:30, a dinner was served in the dining room to about 140 members and guests.

THIRD DEGREE CONFERRED UPON FATHER AND SON

February 24, 1955 marks a “first” on the record book of Mt. Hood Lodge. On this date the Third Degree of Masonry was conferred upon both a father and his son, Bros. John F. Akers, Sr. And John F. Akers, Jr.

Bro. John F. Akers, Jr. has since become one of Mt. Hood’s outstanding members. He served as Master of Mt. Hood Lodge in 1966, and as Deputy of the Grand Master for District No. 19 for two years, 1969-71. He was elected Secretary of the Lodge in December 1967 and is now completing his 12th year in this office.

In 1970 V.W. Bro. Akers and his mother, Kathleen, presented a 50-star American Flag to the Lodge in honor of the passing of Bro. John F. Akers, Sr.

In 1969 Bro. Akers prepared a short history of Mt. Hood Lodge for the use of the Grand Lodge of Washington in the dedication ceremony of our new Masonic Temple in Vancouver in April of that year.

MT. HOOD'S HAMMOND ELECTRIC ORGAN

About 1957 Mt. Hood purchased a Hammond Electric Organ. A plaque on the organ is inscribed, "To the Memory of John M. Evans."

Who was John M. Evans? And why was the organ dedicated to his memory? It was easy to assume that he was a member of Mt. Hood Lodge, but a search of our rosters back to 1879 revealed no such name.

Was he a sojourner? If so, why did he leave the money to Mt. Hood to buy the organ? Also, some of the Past Masters of that period expressed the opinion that Evans was not a Master Mason; that he had left the money to the Lodge in gratitude for the friendship and loving care given him by Bro. Rader and his wife Mabel, in his declining years.

These questions interested the writer and he searched for the answers. Finally, in the minutes of October 8, 1955 he spotted the name “Bro. John Evans.” The entry stated: “W. Bro Rader reported on the estate of Bro. John Evans. Bro. Rader had acted as guardian of Brother John and later, the administrator of his estate. Evans had owned a home at 3208 “J” St. which had been sold. The only known relative, living in Indiana, had asked Bro. Rader to divide the estate equally between Mt. Hood Lodge and the East Vancouver Methodist Church. The Mt. Hood share, probably in excess of \$1000.00 was to be used for permanent equipment or property as a memorial to the later Brother. The Worshipful Master named three principal officers as a committee to determine the use of the funds.”

There we have it. Almost the whole story wrapped up in a single entry. A later entry, on November 10, furnished further clarification, stating: “Bro. Zoller reported on the John Evans Memorial. They are seeking means of spending this money (about \$1500.00) wisely. Suggestions of an electric organ and of a record player were made. This would help our degree work.”

Later it was decided to purchase the organ which amounted to about \$1280.00. Enough money remained in the fund that the Lodge decided it would be appropriate to have new podiums made for the three principal officers. These were built by W. Bro. Axel B. Larson, Past Master and a retired carpenter, using a beautifully grained Birch in their construction. At the completion of the project, a brass plate inscribed “To the Memory of John M. Evans” was affixed to the organ and the three podiums which had been purchased with the estate money.

On May 9, 1963 it was moved that a charge be levied for the use of the organ by other Masonic Bodies as a means for its maintenance, and that a letter be sent to the other Masonic Bodies notifying them of the charge.

In 1976, at the suggestion of the new Organist, Olin Harrison, a 15-inch Lesley Speaker was purchased for the organ which has greatly improved its tone quality, giving it a stirring pipe organ effect with increased volume and resonance.

The Hammond organ and the three principal officers’ podiums are still in regular use in the large lodge hall of the new Temple, and remain the property of Mt. Hood Lodge.

Who was Bro. John Evans? In a letter written by the Indian nephew of John Evans to W. Bro. James R. Gregg, Vancouver attorney for the probate of the Evans estate in 1955, the nephew gave some information about his uncle. John Evans was made a Mason in 1907. He was a member of Rosedale Lodge No. 259, Rosedale, IN. He had lived in Vancouver for many years prior to his passing in 1955 at the age of 91. He had been a regular sojourner at Mt. Hood Lodge.

VANCOUVER'S MASONIC SCHOOL AWARDS PROGRAM

The Grand Lodge of Washington, in 1956, passed a resolution creating a Public Schools Program predicate on the principles of the encouragement of man in his struggle for freedom and human dignity; and a deep and abiding interest in public education.

In compliance with this program an education committee was appointed in Mt. Hood Lodge consisting of Bros. Dale DeTour, chairman, Carl Gustafson, John F. Akers, Jr. and David G. Miller. All were school men except for the chairman. For ten years the committee attended School Board meetings, reporting the same at Lodge meeting, and invited Masonic school administrators and personnel to speak at Lodge meetings on school problems.

Then in 1967 the Grand Lodge adopted a Masonic School Awards Program designed to develop cooperation between the local Masonic Lodges and the Public Schools in their area in a more tangible way. Washington and Mt. Hood Lodges formed a

Joint School Awards Committee with Right Worshipful Milton V. Poe, Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Washington as chairman. R.W. Bro. Poe was a Past Master of Washington Lodge. Worshipful Master Warren Bonker, Bros. Richard Bogle and Jerome P. Taylor were Mt. Hood representative on the committee.

Following guidelines prepared by Grand Lodge, the committee designed and put into operation our local Vancouver Masonic Junior Achievement Program. As the four Vancouver High Schools: Columbia River, Fort Vancouver, Hudson's Bay and Evergreen High Schools were involved in the plan, it was necessary to sell both the Vancouver and Evergreen School Districts on the idea. Also, if the program was to succeed, the whole-hearted cooperation of the personnel involved in each of the four participating schools had to be secured.

The plan involved the awarding of a plaque to the Junior boy and girl who had the highest record of citizenship and service to each of the schools. To determine who qualified for the award, an application for the award was prepared for the students to compete. The data contained in the students' answers formed the basis for the selection of the award-winning students.

How the School Awards Plan Worked

The Junior Class Counselor in each of the four participating schools is the principle school officer involved. The counselors distributed an application to interested Junior students to complete. When it was returned, the Counselor inserted an identifying symbol in a box on both the upper and lower portions of the application, and the two portions were separated, the upper to be used for identification purposes later, and the lower to be judged.

The lower portion contained five sections to be completed. They asked for the student's activity record, honors and awards received, approximate grade point average, a brief statement giving the student's views on citizenship and service, and a brief statement concerning his/her achievements and future goals.

All applications were judged by a faculty committee within each school which selected the ten best papers, five boys' and five girls'. The basis for judging was the

character, leadership, participation and service, perseverance , resourcefulness and academic achievement shown by the students' answers.

The ten best papers from each of the four schools were then sent to the Masonic School Award Committee for final judging and selection of the winning boy's and girl's paper from each school.

The highlight of the program was the Awards Night when the forty contestants, their families and friends, and the general public are invited to a Presentation of Awards Program at the Masonic Temple. Opening with the Flag Salute and singing of the National Anthem, a musical organization from one of the high schools entertained with a half hour of vocal music. Then followed the Invocation, each of the forty contestants received a Certificate of Award signifying his/her participation in the program.

At this time the School Awards Chairman announced the identifying symbols on the award-winning papers from each school in turn. When these were announced, the Counselor for each school checked the master list of symbols to identify the students who wrote the winning papers. This provided a moment of suspense for the students and audience, and expansive smiles wreath the faces of the winning students as they step forward to receive the plaque upon which their names were to be engraved. In addition, each school was award a permanent plaque on which was engraved the year and the names of the winning boy and girl from that school. This plaque is kept on display in the school's trophy case between annual programs.

Following awarding of plaques, a Speaker of the Evening, usually a Masonic Dignitary, delivered a message geared to the students and the School Awards Program.

The first Masonic Public Schools Award Program in Vancouver took place during Education Week, the third week in April, 1968. The program was held in the auditorium of Shumway Junior High School. The programs included an Awards Dinner previous to the public evening meeting, at which the forty students, the Principals and Junior Counselors of the four high schools were guests of the honor. In 1969, following completion of the New Masonic Temple at 2500 N.E. 78th St., the Awards Program was transferred to the new Temple.

M.W. Bro. Poe was chairman of the first School Awards Committee and was the principal architect of the local plan. He also chaired the second Award Program in 1969.

V.W. David G. Miller became chairman in 1970 and continued in that role for eight consecutive years. In 1978 V.W. Ivan D. Anton assumed the chairmanship and has served in that capacity during the past two years.

At first the local programs were financed through donation campaigns spearheaded by the Committee Secretary, Jerry Taylor. This method, however, proved unsatisfactory and the two local Lodges later voted to finance the program.

The original dinner for the forty contestants and school officials has been superseded by a reception following the public program, at which the students and their Junior Counselors were the guests of honor. The reception has the advantage of giving the friends and relatives an opportunity to congratulate the contestants, particularly those who received the award-winning plaques.

The Vancouver Masonic Junior Achievement Awards Program has been very successful ever since its inception in 1968. It has continued to receive the enthusiastic endorsement and cooperation of the school administrators and particularly the personnel who have been vitally involved in it.

LEWISVILLE MASONIC PICNIC HELD STARTED IN 1958

In 1958 Mt. Hood Lodge voted to hold a Masonic Picnic at Lewisville Park. Washington Lodge was invited to share in the fun. The picnics were such a success that on September 10, 1959 a motion carried to reserve the Island Section at Lewisville Park on the fourth Sunday on a year-to-year basis.

The Lewisville park picnics have become an annual event ever since, to which the members of Mt. Hood Lodge look forward to with great pleasure.

BATES RECEIVES 50-YEAR PIN

During his term as Master W. Bro. Joel L. Rose had the pleasure of presenting M.W. Bro. William C. "Billy" Bates with his 50-year Pin and Certificate. W. Bro. Albert P. Ryan had the honor of making the presentation to his old friend. W. Bro. Ryan gave a resume of M.W. Bro. Billy's Masonic activities since 1910 when he dimitted to Mt. Hood Lodge from University Lodge No. 141, Seattle.

Brother Billy was Master of Mt. Hood Lodge in 1914, and Grand Master of Masons in Washington, 1930-31. Our Most Worshipful Brother responded in his own inimitable fashion on his Masonic activities and career.

FORMER MISSIONARY DESCRIBES LIFE IN INDIA

Brother George A. Odgers, a member of Mt. Hood Lodge, who had formerly served as a Missionary in India gave very enlightening message about his experiences while serving in that Country, at a Stated meeting held April 12, 1962.

MT. HOOD LODGE MOVES TO MINNEHAHA GRANGE HALL

As Washington Lodge had sold the old Masonic Temple at Eighth and Main St., it was necessary for Mt. Hood Lodge to find new quarters in which to meet.

The minutes of November 11, 1965 state: "A motion was made and carried to secure a place to move to by January 1, 1966, and the Grange Hall at Minnehaha, being available, there are some lengthy discussion on the subject."

The only other mention of the move contained in the minutes was an excerpt dated January 13, 1966 which stated: "V.W. Bro. David G. Miller received a standing ovation for the work he has done in behalf of our moving to the Grange Hall in Minnehaha district, and the building of the lockers for the different Bodies. A motion was made and carried to permit the Lodge to purchase whatever is needed in our moving to operate in the Grange Hall." No mention was made in the minutes as to when the Lodge moved to their new quarters.

However, the Trestle board for January, 1966, issued by Worshipful Master John F. Akers, Jr., supplied the missing information. It states: "The meeting of January 13,

1966 is a most important meeting, it being our last Stated Meeting in our Masonic Temple. There will be many matters of business and details to be considered before our move to Minnehaha Grange for the February meeting.” The last meeting held in the old Temple by Mt. Hood Lodge was the conferral of Fellowcraft Degrees upon five Brother Entered Apprentices on January 27.

The first meeting in the Grange Hall was held on February 10, 1966. R.W. Bro. Bob Gilmore, Junior Grand Warden of Grand Lodge was the featured speaker. V.W. Bro. Milton V. Poe, Deputy of the Grand Master for District No. 19, was also present.

As locker space was not available at the Grange Hall for so many organizations to each have an individual locker, it was necessary that temporary lockers be constructed in the basement of the hall for the eight adult and three youth groups. A crew of several Brothers spent many hours building and wiring the lockers before the Masonic Groups could move in.

Mt. Hood Lodge and the other Concordant Bodies all continued meeting in the Grange Hall for slightly over three years.

The last meeting in its temporary quarters was held by Mt. Hood Lodge on February 13, 1969, when it was announced that the new Masonic Temple, being constructed at 2500 N.E. 78th Street, in Hazel Dell, would be ready for occupancy for the next meeting.

To fulfill the pledge made to the Grange Hall management, after the move to the new Masonic Temple, another work session was held at the Grange Hall to tear down and remove all the temporary lockers that the management did not wish to keep.

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL MILTON V. POE ELECTED HONORARY MEMBER

On February 13, 1969 R.W. Bro. Milton V. Poe, Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Washington, a member of Washington Lodge No. 4, was unanimously elected an honorary member of Mt. Hood Lodge No. 32. On being informed of his

election Bro. Poe expressed his deep gratitude for this expression of brotherly love by the members of Mt. Hood Lodge.

“A ROSE UPON THE ALTAR”

MASONIC PLAY

During the year 1969 the brethren of Mt. Hood Lodge, under the direction of W. Bro. Warren Bonker, Past Master, produced a Masonic play “A Rose Upon the Altar” by Carol H. Claudy. It was first presented before the brethren of Mt. Hood on November 13 and then, by request, at several other lodges in District 19 and across the Columbia in Portland, OR.

Taking part in the production were: W. Bro. Con Wilson, P.M. of Kelso Lodge but later affiliated with Mt. Hood, the star of the play; V.W. Bros. Dale DeTour and David G. Miller; W. Bros. Sherva Arnold, Warren Bonker, James Cook, Frank Dobmeier, Leonard Ehman, Marion Felter and Fred Mason; and Bro. Don Holme. Also, W. Bro. Harold Ball, Washington Lodge No. 4 and W. Bro. Joe Berger, Ridgefield Lodge No. 237.

In the one-hundred-year history of Mt. Hood this seems to be the only venture of the brethren into the thespian arts, other than the conferring of degrees.

“The Ironworker”

Back in the late 1940's Mt. Hood Lodge was fortunate to be a guest of Mt. Hood Lodge No. 157 of Portland, when that Lodge produced one of Carl H. Claudy's Masonic Plays, “The Ironworker” which made a lasting impression on the Vancouver brethren and which stands out in the writer's memory.

“History of St. Anne's Lodge”

Later, Mt. Hood Lodge No. 157, of Portland on March 8, 1951, gave a dramatic presentation of “The History of St. Anne's Lodge”; another Claudy play, the theme of which was an impressive teaching of faith and charity, two excellent tenets of Masonry.

PAST MASTERS' NIGHT

Past Masters' Night has always been one of the special meetings of the year when the brethren turn out to honor their Past Masters. Attendance is much better than average on this evening not only because of the greater attendance of the Past masters, but of the brethren as well. This is one meeting of the year that the Past Masters look forward to attending, well-knowing that a group of the old-timers will be present in addition to many of the Past Masters they haven't seen since the last Past Masters' reception.

1968

Past Master's Nights are interesting because they are usually presented in a variety of forms. Past Master's Night, on May 3, 1968 followed a pattern often used and greatly enjoyed by both the Past Masters and the Brethren—the Second Section of the Third Degree being conferred by the Past Masters.

The evening started at 7:30 with the Brethren being entertained by a ladies quartet, “The Sweet Adeline's.” At 8:00 P.M. the Lodge opened on the Third Degree for the conferral of work. Following the conferral of the First Section, W.M. Warren Bonker recognized the Past Masters. The roll of these Distinguished Sirs was read and they were

seated in a semi-circle west of the Altar and each was personally welcomed by the Worshipful Master.

Short talks symbolic of the three degrees were inspiringly given by Bro. Michael Cutter representing the Entered Apprentice Degree, Bro. Sherva Arnold representing the Fellowcraft Degree and Worshipful Master Bonker representing the Master Mason Degree.

M.W. Bro. Wm. C. Bates, representing all of the Past Masters was escorted to the East and accorded the Public Grand Honors of Masonry, whereupon he presented his Past Masters Apron to Mt. Hood Lodge. Upon his return to the line of Past Masters, M.W. Bro. Bates was accorded the Private Grand Honors of Masonry.

When work on the Master Mason Degree was resumed all of the positions in the Second Section were filled by Past Masters as follows: King Solomon, David G. Miller; King Hiram, Conrad Wilson; Senior Deacon, Frank Dobmeier; First Ruffian, Don Sutter; Second Ruffian, Ralph Zoller; Third Ruffian, Ed. Alben; Seafaring Man, Clarence Lenhardt; First Craftsman, Fred Mason; Second Craftman, Dave Hagerty; Third Craftsman, Charles Anderson; Wayfaring Man, John Akers; Secretary, Clarence Rader; Chaplain, Dale DeTour; Marshal, James Cook. Lecture was given by Leonard Ehman and Charge, Dick Bogle. Instructions given by W.M. Warren Bonker. The candidate was Bro. Thomas McConathy, who later served as Master in 1973.

Past Master's Night-1970

An outstanding example of this special occasion was held October 8, 1970, while Worshipful Bro. Jack Stitt was Master. When the roll of the living Past Masters was called, twenty-three answered their names and assembled west of the Altar. At this time the Worshipful Master delivered the following address: "My Brothers: You see assembled before you west of the Altar a most distinguished group of men and Masons. To the Past Masters of Mt. Hood Lodge goes much credit for the growth and excellent reputation which our Lodge enjoys today. To those of you newly started on your Masonic travels, they should be examples to emulate. For me, they have been an inspiration and constant reminder of what a Master owes his Lodge. It is fitting that we honor them this evening, but in another sense they honor us by their attendance. Their rich store of

experience and knowledge has always been available to every Master whenever called for. Worshipful Sirs, we wish for each of you an evening you will remember and many, many more years of Masonry.”

The Master then approached the Altar and shook the hand of each Past Master individually. He escorted the group to the East where they are presented to the brethren. They were accorded the Public Grand Honors of Masonry. The Master had a portion of the minutes read of each Master’s year in office, followed by a brief remark from the Worshipful Sirs.

The climax of the evening was the reminiscing of Masonry by Most Worshipful William C. Bates. Lodge was closed in Due Form with a Past Master in every station. It is surprising how well some of the old-timers can recall the work without being notified in advance what station he will fill in the closing.

1972

On September 14, 1972 twenty Past masters were presented and, on roll call, formed a semi-circle west of the Altar. They were individually greeted by the Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Sherva Arnold. They were escorted to the East and accorded the Public Grand Honors of Masonry.

Later W. Bro. Ed Alben was presented west of the Altar by V.W. Bro. Dale DeTour where they were met by the Worshipful Master W. Bro. Arnold and Most Worshipful Bro. Milton V. Poe, Grand Master of Masons in Washington. M.W. Bro. Poe presented W. Bro. Alben with his 50-Year Pin and Certificate. Bro. Alben was conducted to the East and again accorded the Public Grand Honors. He responded with appropriate remarks.

During the business session V.W. Bro. DeTour moved the adoption of a resolution to sponsor Brother and Mrs. Edward D. Bufmyer for residence in the Masonic Home at Zenith. Resolution seconded and carried.

