

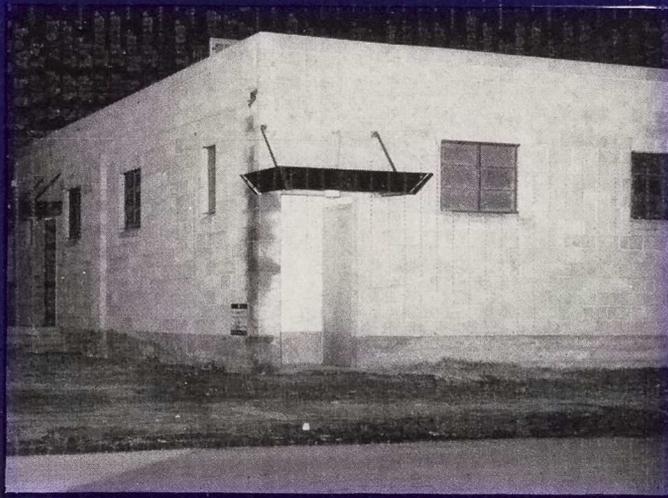
# — PRINCE HALL *Masonic Digest*

*Official Publication of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of California and Its Jurisdiction*

VOLUME 3, No. 2

SECOND QUARTER, 1953-54

*Seasons Greetings*



NEW HOME OF KING SOLOMON LODGE No. 6, F. and A. M.  
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

# Roster of Lodges — Prince Hall Grand Lodge F. & A. M. — California and Its Jurisdiction

No.	LODGE	CITY	MEETING HALL	MEETS	SECRETARY'S NAME	ADDRESS & ZONE	MASTER
1.	Hannibal	San Francisco	2304 Bush St.	1st & 3rd Wed.	J. H. Lumpkins	1844 Lyon Street	Clifford Cannon
2.	Philmathean	Sacramento	I. O. F. Hall, 9th and K Sts.	2nd & 4th Sat.	Ira Smith	2765 - 42nd St.	Wilton Redmond
3.	St. John	San Francisco	2804 Bush St.	1st Tues. & 3rd Wed.	Cecil P. Baugh	840 Baker (15)	M. E. Wilson
4.	St. John	Los Angeles	1050 E. 50th St.	1st & 3rd Tues.	Wm. Tatum	3912 W. 27th St. (18)	John V. Moses
5.	King Solomon	Fresno	2112 Tuolumne St.	2nd & 4th Thurs.	John Thomas	125 El Dorado	Vere McLaughley
6.	Acacia	Oakland	925 30th St.	1st & 3rd Mon.	Wm. L. Hill, Sr.	935 Arlington (8)	John H. Galt
7.	B. F. Tabot	Los Angeles	1050 E. 50th St.	2nd & 4th Tues.	Walter R. Norwood	2153 W. 29th Place (18)	Emmett E. Collins
8.	Fidelity	San Diego	30th & Logan Ave.	1st & 3rd Wed.	Walter McDonald	3060 O. Street	Nathaniel Bate
9.	St. John	Bakersfield	929 California Avenue	2nd & 4th Tues.	Albert H. Drisdon	1103 O. Street	Harold Mallock
10.	Hiram	Pasadena	1475 Lincoln Ave.	2nd & 4th Fri.	Claudius T. Bell, Sr.	1191 Forest (3)	Cress Nutlock
11.	Orange Valley	Riverside	2935 12th Street	1st & 3rd Thurs.	E. D. Streeter	4655 Grove Avenue	Charles J. Manning
12.	Keystone	Stockton	234 E. Fremont St.	3rd Tues.	Robert E. Mitchell	1615 Dreher Ave., Sacramento	Charles J. Manning
13.	R. C. Marshall	San Jose	322 N. Market Street	2nd & 4th Wed.	James P. Calloway	519 N. 14th St.	Wilbert Lawton
14.	Prince Hall	San Bernardino	732 L. Street	2nd & 4th Tues.	J. W. Lee	511 L. Street	Willie Byas
15.	Angel City	Los Angeles	1050 E. 50th St.	1st & 3rd Wed.	W. C. Faulkner	670 E. 49th St. (11)	Yennie Levy
16.	Crescent Bay	Los Angeles	1720 Broadway	1st & 3rd Mon.	Harold J. Mitchell	1913 10th Street	Perry D. Lacey
17.	Holland	Los Angeles	1050 E. 50th St.	1st & 3rd Tues.	L. G. Dandridge	1972 Santa Ana Blvd. (57)	Joseph E. Dow
18.	Della	Los Angeles	1050 E. 50th St.	2nd & 4th Fri.	W. E. Leonard	1776 W. 33rd St. (18)	John H. Thompson
19.	Unity	Los Angeles	502 Olive Street	2nd & 4th Tues.	James C. Lewis	1035 Haley Street	James H. Merritt
20.	Excelsior	Portland, Ore.	116 N.E. Russell St.	1st & 3rd Mon.	Wm. Howard	4224 N.E. 15th Ave. (12)	James H. Merritt
21.	Jewel	Pasadena	1475 Lincoln Ave.	1st & 3rd Fri.	Robert Manorney	400 N. Vernon Ave. (3)	James H. Merritt
22.	Adonis	Oakland	925 30th St.	1st & 3rd Tues.	Samuel Clark	200-C Bach St., Alameda	James H. Merritt
23.	Firma	Long Beach	516 W. Ester	1st & 3rd Fri.	Frank Boone	314 Gulf Ave., Wilmington	James H. Merritt
24.	Eureka	Oakland	1209 Georgia St.	1st & 3rd Tues.	S. H. White	15 Folk St.	James H. Merritt
25.	Good Hope	Oakland	1401 E. 6th Street	1st & 3rd Fri.	Nathan Hardy	132 Orange Ave.	James H. Merritt
26.	Pride of the West	Oakland	925 30th St.	2nd & 4th Thurs.	Elijah Anderson	845 Brockhurst	James H. Merritt
27.	Douglass	Los Angeles	7961 S. Central	1st & 3rd Fri.	Robert Anderson	P.O. Box 869	James H. Merritt
28.	Ashler	Richmond	925 30th St.	2nd & 4th Mon.	L. S. Stanley	302 E. 48th Place (11)	James H. Merritt
29.	West Gate	Oakland	925 30th St.	2nd & 4th Tues.	K. S. Stanley	540 Jefferson, Apt. 1 R	James H. Merritt
30.	Palo Verde	Blythe	245 E. Huntington Dr.	2nd & 4th Tues.	Raymond Crowder	2412 5th St., Berkeley (2)	James H. Merritt
31.	Landmark	Monrovia	1074 D. I. Street	1st & 3rd Mon.	Tommy White	611 Box 181	James H. Merritt
32.	Superior	Bakersfield	Woodman's Hall, Redwood City	1st & 3rd Wed.	Oliver C. Saunders	605 Almond St., Monrovia	James H. Merritt
33.	East Gate	Palo Alto	1050 E. 50th St.	1st & 3rd Mon.	Robert C. Saunders	1923 7th Ave., Oakland, Cal.	James H. Merritt
34.	Garrison	Berkeley	3138 Grove St.	1st & 3rd Tues.	Stanley Biechurn	2813 Sacramento St. (2)	James H. Merritt
35.	Peninsula	Los Angeles	1050 E. 50th St.	1st & 3rd Mon.	Charles G. Hunter	2648 Palm Grove Dr. (18)	James H. Merritt
36.	Amicus	Los Angeles	1050 E. 50th St.	1st & 3rd Tues.	Clarence Lucas	400 Palm Grove	James H. Merritt
37.	Guardian	Honolulu, T.H.	1209 1/2 Main St. (Visalia)	1st & 3rd Fri.	Speedy Figueroa	Rt. 3, Box 302, Tulare	James H. Merritt
38.	Friendship	Los Angeles	1050 E. 50th St.	2nd Wed. Wed. at Noon	Paul J. Howard	995 Cal. St., Delano, Cal.	James H. Merritt
39.	Philadelphia	Los Angeles	1050 E. 50th St.	1st & 3rd Wed.	S. P. Johnson, Jr.	1405 E. 92nd St. (2)	James H. Merritt
40.	Western Knights	Los Angeles	1209 1/2 Main St. (Visalia)	2nd & 4th Tues.	Marion Wildy	2920 12th Ave.	James H. Merritt
41.	Wm. J. Anderson	Los Angeles	1050 E. 50th St.	2nd & 4th Tues.	Lindsay Smith	99 621 Halava Dr., Azusa, T.H.	James H. Merritt
42.	Highland Heights	Los Angeles	1050 E. 50th St.	2nd & 4th Tues.	Sergio Rabanal	1133 "G" Street	James H. Merritt
43.	Fred C. Brooks	Sacramento	1050 E. 50th St.	2nd & 4th Tues.	John L. Thompson	Rt. 2, Box 415-B, Ramapo	James H. Merritt
44.	Harmony	Oakland	1050 E. 50th St.	2nd & 4th Tues.	Philip Vaughner	3629 S. Arlington (18)	James H. Merritt
45.	Philip Buchanan	Oakland	1050 E. 50th St.	2nd & 4th Tues.	Richard L. Johnson	2329 - 11th Ave.	James H. Merritt
46.	Bay View Lebanon	San Francisco	1050 E. 50th St.	2nd & 4th Tues.	Calvin Edwards, Jr.	930 Aprax St., Oakland (8)	James H. Merritt
47.	Silver Square	Los Angeles	1050 E. 50th St.	2nd & 4th Tues.	Henry J. Perry	423 Dodson Street	James H. Merritt
48.	Edwin H. Clarke	Los Angeles	1050 E. 50th St.	2nd & 4th Tues.	John A. Cravanas	245 E. 47th St. (11)	James H. Merritt
49.	Janet H. Wilson	Los Angeles	1050 E. 50th St.	2nd & 4th Tues.	Edward M. Parker, Sr.	1001 - 84th Avenue (21)	James H. Merritt
50.	Paul E. Alexander	Los Angeles	1050 E. 50th St.	2nd & 4th Tues.	Clarence R. Parker	1045 - 91st Avenue (3)	James H. Merritt
51.	John A. Barber	Los Angeles	1050 E. 50th St.	2nd & 4th Tues.	Arthur L. Croaby	915 Willow Street (24)	James H. Merritt
52.	Monarch	San Francisco	1050 E. 50th St.	2nd & 4th Tues.	Rev. J. L. Clark	1753 Browning Blvd.	James H. Merritt
53.	Monument	Oakland	1050 E. 50th St.	2nd & 4th Tues.	Willie L. Johnson	515 - 6th Street	James H. Merritt
54.	Rising Sun	Los Angeles	1050 E. 50th St.	2nd & 4th Tues.	George A. Johnson	Rt. 1, Box 279, Chowchilla	James H. Merritt
55.	L. J. Williams	Pittsburg	1050 E. 50th St.	2nd & 4th Tues.	Freddie D. Jenkins	2826 Palm Grove Ave. (16)	James H. Merritt
56.	Thomas C. Smith	Marysville	1050 E. 50th St.	2nd & 4th Tues.	Keith Boullt	12015 Belhaven (59)	James H. Merritt
57.	Gustavus Thompson	San Diego	1050 E. 50th St.	2nd & 4th Tues.	Shadrach Wesley	1127 E. 48th St. (11)	James H. Merritt
58.					Leon H. Rebolledo	Rte. 3, Box 745	James H. Merritt
59.					Wm. J. Russell	1329 McAllister St. (15)	James H. Merritt
60.					Luis Balderama	2904 Harper St. (3)	James H. Merritt
61.					Charles E. Cooley	405 West Street	James H. Merritt
62.					Chester Wonn	101 Van Buren Pl., L. A. (7)	James H. Merritt
63.					Las. A. Robinson	104 Catskill	James H. Merritt
64.					Moses N. C. Long	129 Columbia Park	James H. Merritt
65.						Apt. D 25 Hub City	James H. Merritt
66.						444 Cuyamaca	James H. Merritt

# Prince Hall Masonic Digest

VOLUME 3

NUMBER 1

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The PRINCE HALL MASONIC DIGEST is published by the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of California and Jurisdiction, 718 - 35th Street, Oakland 9, California. Published at Oakland, California.

Subscription Rates: Masonic Members, \$1.25 per year in advance. Non-members and foreign, \$2.00 a year in advance.  
EDITORIAL OFFICE: 718 - 35th Street, Oakland 9, California  
Change of address: Please notify your postman when you change your address; then notify this office immediately.

Advertising Rates furnished upon written request.



Produced by Public Relations Department

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*May it bring you a happy and prosperous new year. Masonically may it mark an advent upon broader avenues of Brotherly Love, Relief and Charity. May the new Masters instill a deeper Masonic interest in their Lodges and may each one of us receive that Masonic Blessing we all seek.*

*Here in this jurisdiction we have much to be thankful for. We are growing, keeping pace with the population of our great state of California, our Lodges have reached the Seventy mark during the last year, and with fair weather ahead, we can see nothing but progress and more progress.*

*Sincerely hoping your Christmas was a Merry one and that you will be blessed with a continuous year of happiness,*

Masonic greetings from  
The Editor and Staff of the  
Prince Hall Masonic Digest

## PRINCE HALL — A MAN AND A MASON

P.M. W.M. D. EDSON (5)

Master of Ceremonies, Brothers and Sisters of the Craft, Pastor, Members and friends of the Church. This Sunday, set apart by the Grand Master of California, as Prince Hall day is to immortalize and honor the memory of the first M.W.G.M. of Freemasonry among the Negroes of America. It is fitting and proper that this be done, first that we be reminded of his struggles to bring Freemasonry to the Negroes of America, and second that we may use the examples set forth by his life as a Mason to enrich our own and to follow his counsel as to our rights, privileges, and obligations as Masons. We know that every privilege carries an equal responsibility, and Prince Hall recognized this fact. I am going to speak to you this afternoon briefly on the life of Prince Hall as a man and a Mason. To speak of him

as either one without the other is impossible, because he lived Masonry in its highest degree as a man among his fellow men. He spoke out courageously and fearlessly against injustice of all kinds, and offered help and understanding wherever he saw the need. As a man of God, he relied upon the spiritual power with which he was endowed to support all of his efforts. His faith in the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, was proven by the good that resulted from his having lived and exerted his influence upon the people of America. Even today, as Freemasons, we enjoy a certain Social Dignity not bestowed on every man. This, we owe to the efforts set forth by Prince Hall in the beginning as he worked and insisted upon the recognition of Negro men of good character as members of the Masonic body.

(continued on page 4)

## Los Angeles Group Plans For New Masonic Hall

### THE BEGINNING

The idea of the Bond or Note issue was first suggested to the Craft at a meeting in March 1953.

For the past two years the members of the Craft have talked about the need of a new and larger hall that would accommodate all units of the Prince Hall Family in the city. The Craft has called attention to the propriety being purchased by what we call the clandestine Masons.

Our family is growing, new units being established with no provisions made to house them. Our 12th Street and 50th Street Halls are now too small for us. That's the primary reason we have discussed the need of a new and larger Temple. While this talk was going on no attempt or effort was put forth to bring about this new building. No solution to this problem was offered.

Past Master W. C. Faulkner, suggested to the Craft that we could build a half million dollar Temple with just a small amount of effort put forth by each one of us. If we could get each member to INVEST \$100.00 in an Owner Note and each Lodge, Chapter and Court with the assistance of all units of the Prince Hall family to invest \$1,000 or more we could build a Temple that would house the entire family. These Notes will NOT BE A GIFT OR DONATION, but would be an investment that would bring a return in interest and later increase in value as the building brings in revenue from rentals.

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We owe him a sincere debt of gratitude which we can pay only by letting our lives as Masons, set forth the true meaning of Freemasonry that the world may recognize us as "followers of the gleam" that leads on to Truth.

Prince Hall was born September 12, 1748, at Bridgetown, Barbados, British West Indies. His father, Thomas Hall was an Englishman, and his mother a free-woman of French descent. His father was engaged in the leather business and at 12 years of age, Prince was apprenticed to a leather maker to learn the leather trade. He was an apt pupil and his progress was rapid. He became a successful man in business, church and state but the known history of his life is very vague.

We learn that his great desire had been to come to America. Just what it was that inspired this desire is not really known, but when the opportunity came for him to make the journey he at once offered to work his way over on a ship America bound. He arrived at Boston in 1764 a lad of seventeen years. Here in a strange land penniless, friendless and uneducated, he determined to make his way. He worked steadily by day and studied at night.

At the age of 25, he had saved a small sum from his earnings which he invested in real estate. He became a taxpayer and voter. When 27 years of age he had acquired a fair understanding of English, and soon became a Methodist minister and an eloquent preacher. As a preacher he spoke to slaves as well as non-slaves. He denounced the cruelties of slavery in separating families and destroying homes. In this he was very courageous and prepared a petition to the Council and House of Representatives of the State of Massachusetts Bay, setting forth the legitimate right of all men to freedom, and condemning those whose religion was so mild and frail that it had allowed them to place those weaker ones into slavery.

Rev. Prince Hall's church was located in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Here he soon built up a large congregation, and was always engaged in useful work of charitable and benevolent enterprises.

As a man, Prince Hall met and mastered all of the heartaches, disappointments and despairs of other men, through his faith in God and the might of right. He was able to fulfill his destiny and help his fellow man.

Prince Hall, as a child, must have had some understanding of the Ma-

sonic Order either from his father or some acquaintance having been a Mason.

Soon after his arrival in America he sought admission to the Masonic Order, which supposedly knows no race, creed or color. Prayerfully, and with the proper vouchers he presented himself for membership, but because of his Negro ancestry he was denied admission to St. Andrews Lodge in Boston, Massachusetts. The ignorance and bigotry so rampant at that time were responsible for this gross injustice, but what of today? Has man been educated only of the head and not of the heart?

His great desire to share in the social dignity which he knew the Masonic Order conferred upon its members caused him to continue in his endeavor to be received into its membership. He made friends with some of the soldier craftsmen of the British Army stationed at Castle Island in Boston Harbor. In 1775 he and 14 others were initiated into the Mysteries of Freemasonry by the Master of the Irish Provincial Army Lodge. They were set apart as African Lodge No. 1 given permission to hold regular meetings, bury their dead and hold St. John's Day celebrations. They were not, however, allowed to make new members.

It was not long after his initiation into the Masonic Order that Prince Hall and some of his friends went to General Washington seeking enlistment in the Continental Army. General Washington said, "It is a noble sentiment. I am not sure of my prerogatives with respect to it." The General and his aide were against their enlistment until the Masonic emblem was noticed on Prince Hall's lapel. He was immediately questioned as to the authority by which he wore it. After answering all questions, he and his companions were accepted as soldiers of color in the Army. General Washington said, "Masonry is a beautiful system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols. It can no more be the sole possession of one race or group of men, than can be the multiplication table." This, to me, is a true definition of Freemasonry.

He served his country well, and three times his name appeared on the continental muster roll.

When he returned home from the wars, he decided to petition the Grand Lodge of England for a Warrant for his Lodge. This had been denied him by his white brethren in Massachusetts. In 1784 the Grand Lodge of England granted a warrant

of Constitution to African Lodge No. 459 and Prince Hall was its first Grand Master. Due to the crude method of communication it was not until three years later that the warrant was delivered to Prince Hall by Captain James Scott, a sea-fearing man. The African Lodge celebrated the arrival of its warrant in December of 1787 with great pomp and splendor, and it was later proven that this African Lodge of Masons was a regular constituted Lodge having authority to become a Grand Lodge because due to existing conditions there was, at that time, no Grand Lodge "in the state of Massachusetts till the Union in 1792."

Two years later a petition was sent to the house and senate of Massachusetts protesting the kidnapping, by a ruse, of three members of the lodge. These men, free-men of Massachusetts were lured on board the ship under pretense by the Captain that he was in trouble. These men were later sold to slavery. On the strength of this petition, made by Prince Hall, the men were released. A full confirmation of this can be found in the records of Portland Lodge No. 1, F. and A. M. of the state of Maine.

On June 24, 1791, a general assembly of the Craft was held for the purpose of organizing a Grand Lodge of Masons from Massachusetts. African Lodge No. 459 declared itself by the assumption of powers, duties and responsibilities of a Grand Lodge, independent and sovereign, holding absolute and entire jurisdiction throughout the U. S. and a provincial jurisdiction in other states and countries, recognizing at the same time the Mother Grand Lodge of London, England. At this time Prince Hall was elected M. W. G. M. All of the Grand officers were installed in ample form by G. M. Prince Hall assisted by brethren from St. Andrews Lodge (White). Thus the African Grand Lodge of Boston, Massachusetts without interruption exercised all the plenary powers of a Grand Lodge. Prince Hall Grand Lodge has been, and is, in correspondence with other Grand Lodges of the world from its organization to the present time, and has completed 160 years of its history without successful opposition to its claim of sovereignty or seniority, being the first regularly constituted G. L. in America, white or black, which had no rival.

Throughout his wonderful career, Prince Hall, was unique in respect to amiability of character and kindness

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## Report of Committee on Grand Master's Address

Oakland, California  
July 20, 1953

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Starling J. Hopkins, Right Worshipful Grand Officers Present and Past, and Brethren of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of California and Jurisdiction, in this our 97th Annual Communication.

### Greetings:

Herewith, we your Committee on the Grand Master's Address, submit our report as follows:

We note with an increasing admiration of the manifestation of the Christian attitude of our Grand Master, and his sensitiveness to our needs; being always fully conscious of our common interest in the growth and progress of our Jurisdiction. After listening to his Address and reviewing it in detail, we are greatly impressed with the strenuousness of his duties and the amount of time, energy, and effort required in the discharge of the duties that devolve on him. We are grateful to our Heavenly Father for blessing Starling J. Hopkins with a measure of good health, thus enabling him to render the very creditable and highly efficient service that this report reflects.

We heartily approve of his official act of designating Brother Jerome L. Hubert to represent the Grand Lodge at the Public Utility Commissions hearings in the City of Los Angeles on August 19, 1952. Thus clarifying a matter that could have impaired the standing of Prince Hall Masons of this Jurisdiction, and we further appreciate the clarification that the Utility Commission received from Brother Hubert, as to our position in this matter.

We approve the Grand Master's action in ordering the twelve dozen aprons for the use of the Grand Lodge, and refer this portion of the Address to the Finance Committee.

Further, we approve the Grand Master's action in ordering the Chairman of the Motion Picture Committee to Oakland for the purposes as stated in this Address and also refer this portion of the Address to the Finance Committee.

Further, we approve the action of the Grand Master in having Right Worshipful, Senior Grand Warden, H. A. Greenwood, at the organ recital of Mr. Jerry White as sponsored by Paul E. Alexander Lodge in Los Angeles, and we refer this portion of the Grand Master's report to the Finance Committee.

With respect to Brother Napoleon B. French of Community Lodge, this matter was sent to Jurisprudence Committee.

We heartily approve of the Grand Master's employment of his prerogatives, and wish to encourage the future exercising of his prerogatives in the creation of Masonic Clubs and new Lodges, thereby, adding to the growth of our Jurisdiction, as a means of effectively combating clandestine masonry in our midst.

We are in hearty accord with the Grand Master in inviting the Grand Master's conference to convene in Los Angeles in 1954, and recommend in connection with this part of the Grand Master's Address, that a committee be appointed at this session by the Grand Master for the purpose of insuring the success of the 1954 Conference of Grand Masters, and in the appointment of this committee that the Grand Master be authorized, and with the co-operation of the Grand Trustee Board, to employ whatever funds that may be required to this end.

In the matter of the progress of the Credit Unions, we are grateful for the progress the Credit Union movement is making in the Jurisdiction, which was the brain child of our Grand Master. We are conscious of the purpose being served in relieving some of the monetary needs of the members of the Craft.

We were astounded to learn through the Grand Master's Address, with respect to the Director of Public Relations, to the effect that 2,100 copies of the Prince Hall Digest failed to reach the addressees during its two years of publication. We recommend that the Worshipful Masters of all subordinate Lodges be instructed to regularly importune the Brothers of their Lodges to give their Secretaries the correct addresses as regularly as those addresses are changed, and a report of same be sent to Director of Public Relations.

In the matter of the recommendations contained in the Grand Master's Address, we approve recommendations numbered as follows: 1, 2, 3, 4, but we wish to qualify our approval of recommendation No. 4 by suggesting that the work not be done until the book is ready for press, and after having been properly scrutinized for the purpose of discovering any possibilities of necessary deletions or additions.

In reference to the invitation for Peninsula Lodge No. 46 to entertain the Grand Lodge during the convening of the 97th Annual Communication; while they were unable to accept the responsibility at that time due to inadequate community accommodations, the people of the Monterey area have been aroused to the point, wherein facilities are being created that will enable Peninsula Lodge No. 46 to be in position to resubmit their invitation, and with appreciable reasonableness be able to fully assume all the responsibilities inherent in the entertaining an Annual Communication of our Grand Lodge and affiliated bodies.

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## Report of Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence

Oakland, California  
July 21, 1953

Most Worshipful Grand Master,  
Grand Wardens, and Brothers:

"Behold! How pleasant it is and how good it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity"—A passage from the Holy writings, and it beautifully depicts the relationship existing among the Prince Hall Grand Lodges today. We meet as equals. We confer as sovereign bodies or rather as representatives of sovereign bodies and make suggestions as to policies and plans of future actions, each in his own Jurisdiction and in his own way. All strive towards an accepted objective. None has any ties to compel action, yet each works earnestly to accomplish an agreed task—unity. Unity is another word for singleness of purpose, unanimity of ideals, oneness of faith and allegiance.

Such is the relationship of Prince Hall Masons of today, and our California Jurisdiction is in the vanguard of this militant group of regular Masons fighting to keep America safe from any force of reaction having for its chief object the enslavement of Americans. We hold, that, if the policies of Prince Hall Masonry were to fail in America and irresponsible, selfish men, under the guise of Masonry, were to steal or obtain power through our own negligence, America itself would be in grave danger of dissolution.

If ever truth is overcome by falsehood; right overcome by wrong; good overcome by evil and Prince Hall Masonry with all its yearning for Good and man is forced to yield to clandestine contraction, it would mean principles of morality, integrity, loyalty, and obedience to, and belief in, God, had been destroyed. It would mean that the greatest single force other than the Church had been made impotent—for brightest, yet in many instances we feel the corrections might have been made in a better approach. It is not the intent of the Chairman of Committee of Foreign Correspondence, of California to do other than I promised—"To, Whisper, friendly advice into the ear—" and, even while doing that to remember another word, "Caution."

Then, too, the Prince Hall Masons Jurisdictions are more closely affiliated now than at any time in history and there exists stronger ties than we recognized in other years. When our committee reports friendly relationship exists with all our Prince Hall Jurisdictions, and we recall all the letters, telegrams, messages, notices, greetings, received and the Grand Masters' conferences, the phrase becomes a great understatement.

Every Masonic Jurisdiction reviewed showed a healthy growth and each Grand Master stressed the need for carefully selecting, "material for the Temple."

Respectfully submitted,

JEROME L. HUBERT, SR., C.C.F.C.

## Foreign Correspondence

WALTER J. STEWART, C.C.F.C.

The following reviews are by no means the total proceedings received by this office, they are some taken at random and brought to us here to show that Prince Hall Masonry has entered into another place of service.

With pardonable pride we can now say we know the ritual, we understand Jurisprudence, we are familiar with protocol and we contemplate Masonic usage and tradition. With all these very necessary departments borne constantly in mind, Prince Hall Grand Jurisdictions are now engaged in implementing the lessons learned and practicing the principles, "so often recommended."

All progress in every desired way — all are assisting youth, lending aid to fight dreaded diseases, all are buying bonds and fighting not only communism, but clandestinitism as well; all joining our Grand Masters' conference in its Civil Rights endeavors and above all, peace and harmony prevailing.

Greetings were received from Alabama, Arkansas, and Connecticut. It would be more close to accuracy to say all have been most friendly and warm in all relations with California.

California has many friends in the foreign Jurisdictions and the ties of brotherly warmth go with equal strength from California.

We will be convening our Golden Anniversary July 15 to 19. Therefore we of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Washington send greetings and wish you of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of California a most successful and harmonious session.

DR. W. VERNON SCOTT,  
R. W. Deputy Grand  
Master and C.C.F.C.

Prince Hall Jurisdiction of Kansas extends greetings and best wishes for a constructive Grand Communication under the able leadership of Grand Master Hopkins.

P. G. PORTER, *Grand Master*

Greetings from Grand Master Wm. O. Green and the Craft of Michigan to Grand Master Starling J. Hopkins and the Grand Jurisdiction of California on your 97th Annual Communication. May your deliberation be crowned with success.

### VIRGINIA

Grand Master David Muckles address as acting G.M. was tender, scholarly, purely Masonic — shows that he is ready to do battle for the fraternity. He is proving his position by the success of his actions.

The Jurisdiction lost in Gr. Secty. C. V. Wilson a most valuable workman — Gr. Secty., C.C.F.C. and Secty.-Treas. of Conf. of G.M., in addition to his other duties. From information gained about this brother, one can say, "His sun went down at noon-day," so busily engaged was he.

Soundly financial, Roster of lodges shows from No. 1 to No. 314.

Some 300 pages of valuable information on a progressive Jurisdiction.

### GEORGIA

Grand Master John W. Dobbs, as is his custom, reminded his hearers of pertinent facts in Masonic history of Prince Hall Masonry in Georgia. Like all true Georgians, he spoke openly saying he wanted to remind the brethren of their rich heritage; of the regularity of their profession; of the nobleness of their Masonic and racial birth and telling all to lift up their heads.

In typical Dobbs style, he casually remarked having between 15,000 and 20,000 members and the report shows assets of \$301,771.02.

Civil Rights, love of country, education of youth, relief of the distressed both in and out of the Fraternity, were among the brightly stressed objectives.

When a Mason mentions Georgia, Dobbs comes to mind and when one's thought dwells on "Sweet Auburn," the Grand Masters Conference invariably comes to mind. Brother Dobbs is a strong supporter of the Conference.

Georgia is a virile jurisdiction.

### TEXAS

Grand Master L. L. Lockhart in his annual address, gave wholesome advice to the Grand Lodge in Masonic conduct of themselves. His delineation of one's duty as a citizen was both scholarly and Masonic; his reminder of one's duty as Masons, was at once timely and sympathetic, yet devoid of any taint of self-righteousness. He shows himself to be consecrated to the task of service.

The Lone Star has better than 27,000 members. Total cash and assets \$751,615.78. Texas, together with other jurisdictions, has been very closely allied to the fraternity in California.

We especially commend Texas for efforts in education of youth, aid in community welfare and relief to families in distress.

Deep in the heart of Texas is the well of brotherly love, relief and truth.

### MISSOURI

Grand Master Waite H. Madison in his masterly conduct of the matter of gross irregularities and in Masonic conduct, showed himself to be fearless and unapproachable where wrong-doing is concerned. His relentless pursuit of the truth was rewarded by a good recovery of Missouri's finances. Had he been fearful Missouri would have gone backward.

Missouri is well in the vanguard of the times in accepting men of military age (19 years) into the fraternity. A new interpretation of nonage.

Generous contributions to national charities and N. A. A. C. P. funds shows Missouri to be public spirited. Assets above \$354,000. Peace and harmony prevails among the fine corps of officers and the growing membership.

Like the great river of the same name, Missouri flows smoothly but does not attempt to impede her progress.

### OHIO

Grand Master Russel L. Jefferson gave a masterly address to the Grand Lodge in making his report. His address while upon the huge plow of thought was at the same time challenging in its simplicity of language and direct in its pointing the plain duty of Masons to their God, their Country and the Fraternity.

His official acts and visitations showed the vigor of both himself and his staff of officers. All in the great jurisdiction of Ohio are moving to improve themselves in Masonry and simultaneously to render service to their fellow man.

The financial reports, the contacts reported and numerous meetings all tend to show Ohio as being the "Bee Hive" referred to in other places and that's Ohio.

### IOWA

The record as shown by their "proceedings" is a good one having many practices different from those of like character in our jurisdiction. The address of Grand Master White was a beautiful valedictory of a Mason who had striven to build his jurisdiction. He did succeed by the record: Here is a case where there are more Past Masters than lodge representatives and all is peaceful.

Iowa does its charity and still is solvent.

The records are clear and the book of proceedings shows care, efficiency and dispatch.

M. W. Jake L. Nelson, Gr. Master, Gr. Secty. is often advanced to Grand East Dep. G.M., appointed by Gr. Master during his term.

Not a large but a strong and growing jurisdiction.

### MASSACHUSETTS

I wish to greet and felicitate the officers and members of your Grand Lodge and Jurisdiction for and in the name of M. W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Massachusetts, on the occasion of your 97th Annual Communication now sitting in Grand Session at Oakland, California.

Most Worshipful Brother James R. Lesueur, M.D., Grand Master, and the entire Craft of Massachusetts, rejoice with you in the progress which you have made under the leadership of Most Worshipful Brother Starling J. Hopkins and his illustrious predecessors.

May the spirit of our Father who is in Heaven continue to guide you in all your good works, and health and prosperity attend you.

CLEO W. WOOTEN, C.C.F.C.

### CANADA

Our M. W. Grand Master, the Hon. Geo. D. McCurdy and members of the M.W.P.H. Grand Lodge of Ontario, take pleasure in extending fraternal greetings to your Jurisdiction, during your 97th Annual Communication.

I am happy to report, that our Jurisdiction is on friendly Masonic relations with all our Sister Jurisdictions, and we are slowly but surely advancing both numerically and financially.

Some time ago, we had a slight flurry, it seems that some young chap was in the south, and got mixed up with some bogus outfit and came home to see what he could do. Our Grand Master heard about it, and spread the signal for caution, and in addition to that, boys that belonged to our lodge, knowing the chap personally, showed him the error of his ways and the matter never got any headway.

Wishing your Jurisdiction a most happy and prosperous Grand Session.

Sorry that I cannot be with you, but you may be sure that my heart will.

J. HILTON BEATTY, C.C.F.C.  
P.S. I am taking this opportunity to thank you for your 1952 minutes that you sent me last April, also the Masonic Digest you have been sending me. I find both very interesting, and I know that the Digest will be even more so, now that the Grand Masters' Conference will be in your city in 1954. — J.H.B.

#### COLORADO

The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of Colorado extends greetings and best wishes for a successful 97th annual communication. May the blessings of the Almighty God continue to be with you, and may you see His guidance in all your undertakings.

Most Worshipful Grand Master Chas. H. Green sends greetings to Most Worshipful Grand Master Starling J. Hopkins, the officers and members of your Grand Lodge. May peace and harmony prevail throughout the entire session.

Many thanks for the kind letters, the roster of Grand Lodge Officers and the copies of Prince Hall Masonic Digest. It is very much appreciated and very informative. California sets a fine example for all Prince Hall Jurisdictions to follow.

I enjoyed my visit with you and M.W. Grand Master Starling J. Hopkins in Milwaukee, Wis., at the Conference of Grand Masters. I hope to be with you in California next year. Sorry that it is not possible for me to be there for this Annual Communication. Again best wishes for a fine session.

LEDYARD C. JONES, C.C.F.C.

#### CONNECTICUT

"Behold how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. It is like the precious ointment upon the head that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard that went down to the skirts of his garments; as the dew of Hermon; and the dew that descended upon the mountain of Zion. There the Lord commanded the blessing, even life forever more."

We of the Jurisdiction of Connecticut, join in prayer that the Grand Architect of the Universe may bestow His continued blessings upon your 97th Annual Communication and that peace and harmony will continue to prevail.

It was a profound pleasure to meet with and enjoy the fellowship of you and

M.W. Grand Master Starling J. Hopkins, the Grand Warden and the members of the Craft. Sincerest Greetings from our M.W. Grand Master Harvey A. Walker and our Jurisdiction.

FRED N. GROVES, P.G.M., C.C.F.C.

#### SAVANNAH, GA.

I extend fraternal greetings to you, Grand Master Hopkins and the Grand Jurisdiction of California, on behalf of Grand Master Dobbs and the Grand Jurisdiction of Georgia.

I have just finished looking over the Prince Hall Masonic Digest. I have received the magazine through the year. I congratulate you on its appearance and content. I enjoyed reading it, as I have enjoyed reading your proceedings and letters. (This sounds so stereotyped to me.) That is what every C.C.F.C. says somewhere in his letters. I have recommended to the Knights that we ought to take time to write personal letters, because form letters are so impersonal, and to me, miss the point. They do not contain the warmth of brotherhood. One of the first letters I received from you suggested to me the thought of getting away from the form letter.

I wish I could come to the Oakland Communication. I should like to see you in or near your habitat, in the country where there are no big winds when you are not there. I have often thought of our last meeting together at Milwaukee. If everything goes well, I hope to come to Los Angeles to the Grand Masters conference. You know you told me to come.

We had a splendid communication at Atlanta. All reports indicated progress, and peace and harmony prevailed. I hope the same to you.

Give my regards to Grand Master Hopkins and Brother McKinney.

R. W. GADSDEN, C.C.F.C.

#### ILLINOIS

Regret that I cannot avail myself of your invitation to visit California and enjoy the fellowship of the 97th Annual Communication of your Grand Lodge.

It was nice seeing you and Grand Master Hopkins in Milwaukee this past May.

On behalf of Grand Master Carter and the Craft of Illinois may I extend fraternal greetings and best wishes to the M.W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge of California in Annual Session.

We here in Illinois pray that your communication will be all that the noble sons of California plan and anticipate.

Fraternally yours,

J. M. ELLIS

#### INDIANA

On behalf of M.W. Grand Master C. R. Richardson and the members of M.W. P.H. Grand Lodge of Indiana, I extend to M.W. Grand Master Starling J. Hopkins and the members of the M.W.P.H. Grand Lodge of California greetings on your 97th Annual Grand Communication.

Our sincere prayer is that God may smile upon your Jurisdiction, guide and direct you to a most successful and harmonious session.

W. W. WALDON, C.C.F.C.

#### MARYLAND

I wish to acknowledge with thanks and appreciation your 1952 proceedings which have just been received.

I am sure that the information contained herein will be interesting as instructive.

Kindly accept my best wishes and greetings to your Grand Lodge, I am

ALVAN S. STANLEY, Gr. Secty.

#### MISSOURI

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your minutes of the Ninety-sixth Annual Communications.

The contents are very interesting. The California Jurisdiction is doing a great work for Masonry.

Best wishes to you and the members of the California Jurisdiction.

A. S. BARTLETT, Grand Secty.

#### NEBRASKA

This office of Nebraska is very pleased at this time to inform your great state that we will convene in our 35th Annual Communication July 15th and 16, 1953 at Omaha, Nebraska.

We beg the full length of your forgiveness toward us for our neglect in our proceedings and roster to you. Please accept our sincere thanks for all rosters, communications and other items of fraternal benefit to us during the past year. It is always a pleasure to read them before our Grand Body.

We would be happy to have a personal representative from your jurisdiction present (our Masonic Temple is located at 26th and Blonde Street, Omaha). If you are unable to attend we will appreciate fraternal greetings that may be read in our Grand Session.

This past year has been a happy and glorious one for our State led by the sterling leadership of Grand Master Clayton P. Lewis who joins me in sending fraternal greetings. With our very best wishes for your continued success.

C. A. STEWART, C.C.F.C.

#### NEW JERSEY

Felicitations and best wishes to the M.W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge of California and Jurisdiction on the eve of its forthcoming 97th Annual Communication. Grand Master Cooper expresses regrets at being unable to attend your Session and has asked me to convey his personal regards for a completely harmonious Communication and sincerely hopes the influence of Prince Hall Masonry in the State of California will mold its men and women into stalwart citizens and leaders of the community.

ROBERT W. GWALTNEY, C.C.F.C.

(continued on page 17, col. 2)

## NEGRO BOGUS MASONRY

By HARRY A. WILLIAMSON

Through information which has come to me upon occasion, it is very evident that officials of some of the white Grand Lodges have, from time time, discussed the great danger to Freemasonry in this country because of the activities of the bogus elements within both racial groups. As late as the latter part of September, 1951, a very fine gentleman, who speaks Spanish fluently and who is of a dark complexion, told this writer of the existence of lodges in the city of New York which are under the jurisdiction of some Grand Lodge situated in the Republic of Peru, and, that these lodges are *forbidden to initiate* American Negroes; their work must be confined exclusively to Negroes who are of the Spanish-speaking race.

The late Fred W. Hartman, when Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Oregon, delivered an address upon the subject before the Conference of Grand Masters of North America, at its session held at Washington, D.C., in the latter part of February, 1946, under the title of "Clandestine Masonry Today: Is It A Menace, and, If So, What Should Be Done About It?"

During the course of his remarks, the speaker indicated a differentiation between the Prince Hall Order and the bogus bodies operating within our group, and what now follows, have been transcribed from a copy of the proceedings issued for that session and one will note through implication, the Grand Master of Oregon urged his Masonic group to assume an attitude toward our Order that will greatly counteract the activities of the Negro bogus elements.

The Grand Master is quoted:

"It would seem that the growth of Clandestine Masonry was partly due to the prosperity of regular Freemasonry."

"Clandestine groups probably are not a thing of the past. They may spring up at any time, because, as the Fraternity grows in power and influence, there will be those who will seek to exploit the Craft. This is a matter for Grand Masters and Jurisprudence Committees to think about. It would appear that the collecting of information concerning spurious organizations should be their responsibility. They cannot afford to temporize or procrastinate — there is work to be done and this calls for progressive education relative to our own Order," etc.

Referring to the Prince Hall Fraternity, the Grand Master said:

" \* \* \* We know there are true clandestine Negro bodies operating, and if we carry Masonic law to the point of tolerance, *it might be that these clandestine bodies would eventually overwhelm* PRINCE HALL FREEMASONRY—at least the danger will be much greater if we hold strictly to Masonic law." (Capitals and italics mine.)

" \* \* \* We should aid these Prince Hall Freemasons with our counsel and advice only. We could do this without inviting any direct contact through intervisitation; it would not hurt us, and most certainly would do a lot of good in building up their morale."

" \* \* \* His (the Negro's) delayed development can be overcome, and we as Freemasons can help, but the main part of the task rests directly on the Negro. This is where Negro Freemasonry can wield a tremendous influence. The brightest minds of the Negro race are members of the Craft, and are doing their very best to accomplish this purpose. Are we to stand aside without lending a helping hand, or shall we follow our doctrine of the Brotherhood of Man?"

"Except in those states where the laws may provide a probable process for a successful cause of action, I do not feel that recourse to law against the bogus bodies is advisable, for the following reasons: (1) The process would be expensive. (2) Such cases would absorb a great deal of time going through the courts, particularly if appeals are taken by the bogus bodies. (3) Cases may be delayed by being involved with numerous technicalities of facts. (4) *The danger of the introduction of the legal principle of 'laches,' a point which has been the end of many cases in favor of irresponsible organizations on a number of occasions.*"

"I feel the following suggestion will provide a temporary solution to the bogus Masonic situation and mean the gradual beginning of the dissolution of such groups. The plan is, that at least one Caucasian Grand Lodge at its annual session adopt a declaration which shall state it to be the judgment of that particular grand body that only those Grand Lodges which can trace an indisputable and direct descent from African Lodge No. 459, later No. 370, at Boston, Mass., are to be DECLARED THE LEGITIMATE AND REGULAR FREEMASONS OF COLOR WITH-

(continued on page 13, col. 2)

## PICTURES

### SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY ACTIVITIES

(Page 9)

Centerpiece shows the ranch style house on the Homesite at Tulare, California where your Grand Lodge owns a 32-acre homesite.

Top left, center and bottom left and right show the attendance of a very determined Lodge (Silver Square No. 66 F. & A.M.) at Modesto who held an open house for the Grand Officers. Over one hundred guests were on hand to receive the Grand Officers and to celebrate the second Annual Dinner for the fastest growing Lodge in the San Joaquin Valley under the leadership of Master Otho Fields and his very receptive committee.

The top and center show the group attending the Dedicatory Services at Fresno, California where King Solomon Lodge No. 6 F. & A. M., had completed the building of the Temple. The group of officials pictured is that of the Grand Master, Trustee Richard McClanahan, Inspector Garner, Past Grand Lecturer Wm. Bigby, Sr., Worshipful Master McGaughey of the proud Lodge now in possession of a new edifice and P. M. S. C. Sheffield.

Past Master Raymond Hunter, also Past Deputy Grand Master of this jurisdiction being ill was unable to attend the ceremonies. The present Deputy Grand Master, Herbert Greenwood, likewise was confined to a Los Angeles Hospital and could not attend the ceremonies.

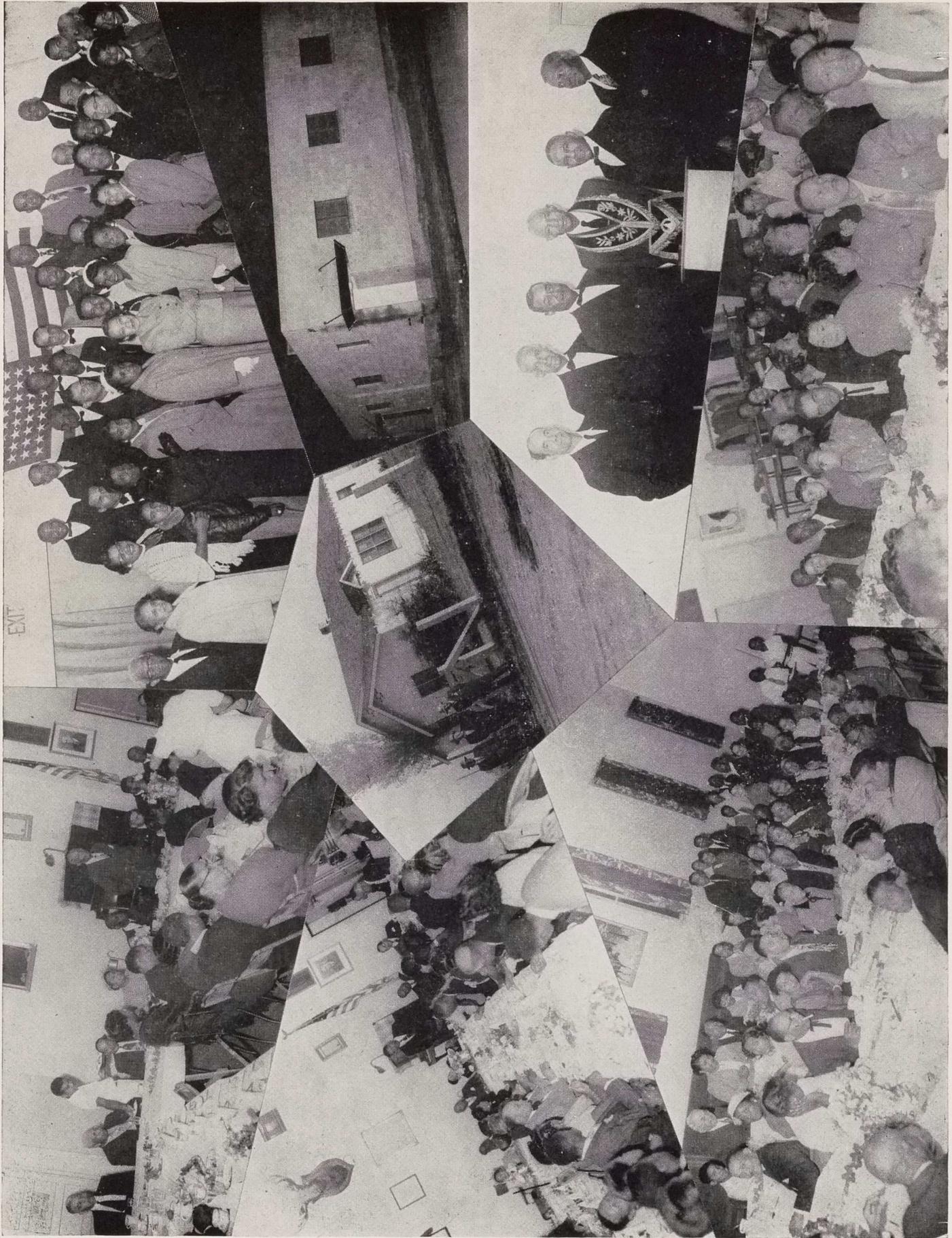
### GRAND LODGE PICTURES

Center Spread shows the official pictures of the Grand Sessions of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, the Prince Hall Grand High Court, Heroines of Jericho and the Prince Hall Golden State Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star taken at Oakland, California during the latter part of July.

### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ACTIVE MASONICALLY

Page 14, the picture of Northern California Activities at Marysville, California. The center shows Grand Master Starling J. Hopkins with the masters of the new Lodges constituted and dedicated, include De Witt Freeman, George W. Posey Lodge No. 76, Vallejo; C. D. Cannon, L. J. Williams Lodge No. 77, Pittsburg, and Robert Brown, Master of Thomas T. Smith Lodge No. 78 of Marysville, California.

Top center shows the oldest Grand Master living, George W. Wilson and the youngest Grand Master discussing the history of our Grand Lodge. Top right, George Posey Lodge, Center left, P. G. Master Wilson addressing public assemblage during constitutional ceremonial; bottom left shows Grand Lodge officers participating in this event, while the bottom center and bottom right the Thomas T. Smith Lodge; top left L. J. Williams Lodge.



SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY ACTIVITIES



 **GOLDEN STATE GRAND CHAPTER O. E. S.**  
Prince Hall Affiliation

**OFFICIAL  
PICTURES  
GRAND  
SESSIONS**



 **PRINCE HALL GRAND HIGH COURT**  
Heroines of Jeicho



 **MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL  
GRAND LODGE F. & A. M.**  
California and Jurisdiction and Affiliated Bodies



OAKLAND  
CALIFORNIA  
JULY 19-22  
1953

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## Freemasonry's Obligation To Maintain True Americanism

M.W.G.M. ASHBY B. CARTER  
Illinois

One of the first of the great lessons taught its votaries by Freemasonry stresses good citizenship, fidelity to our native land, submission to legal authority — all positive admonitions — and this one phrased in the negative, NOT to countenance disloyalty! I think it highly significant that this one is given extra added stress in this emphatic manner. For the purpose of this brief presentation, I shall not attempt to assay its historical significance beyond pre-Revolutionary days. It was then that its meaning was of the greatest importance as the new nation was being formed out of the crucible of men's souls, hearts, blood and brawn. The task of shaping this new concept of government was largely in the hands of Freemasons who had been taught to countenance no disloyalty to the Cause of Freedom, Liberty, Brotherhood and the Ideals from which were wrought the Revolution, the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights and the American Republic. It was here that true Americanism had its beginning and it was here that America's first great Mason, George Washington, was put to the gruelling test and met it.

Significant to Negro Masons as well as honest students of American history was the part played in the great drama by America's first Negro Freemason, the immortal Prince Hall, a contemporary of George Washington, whose active life as an artisan, business man, preacher, soldier, citizen and champion of human rights based on Brotherhood is the golden heritage that has come down to us, his spiritual and legal heirs. Therefore, the obligation of Prince Hall Masons NOT to countenance disloyalty is bedded not only in the unchanging ritualism of the fraternity but also in the very rock upon which our great Nation is builded. That is why we of the Grand Masters Conference of Prince Hall Masons could say with conviction in January 1950: "As an institution, Prince Hall Masonry now represented in 37 states and the District of Columbia, by 38 Prince Hall Grand Lodges has consistently stood for the best things in

American Society. It has been and is staunchly opposed to any and every attempt of foreign or alien ideologies to invade our way of thinking, acting or living. Especially is it and its votaries categorically opposed to totalitarianism, communism, fascism or any like ism having for its purpose a change in the true American concept of government." Continuing, the statement read: "Although we recognize the fact that American democracy has not as yet attained the high ideals of our founding fathers — that imperfections still exist, Prince Hall Masonry is happy to reaffirm its traditional position and to continue to labor assiduously for the attainment of those high ideals and for the elimination of imperfections, such labor as will be done within the framework of our present Government."

Our obligation to maintain true Americanism was again stressed on August 17, 1950 in "A Reaffirmation of Loyalty to Our Nation." I quote the following excerpts: "The Conference of Grand Masters of Prince Hall Masons of America, assembled in historic Boston to commemorate the one hundred and seventy-fifth anniversary of the birth of Prince Hall Masonry and to receive renewed inspiration through a visit to Prince Hall's grave, located in Copp's Hill Burying Ground, and to strengthen anew our love for liberty and freedom by viewing the original charter issued by the Mother Grand Lodge of England to Prince Hall and 13 other Negroes of Boston in pre-Revolutionary days, hereby reaffirms its loyalty and devotion to all of those principles that were exemplified by America's first Negro Mason, a pioneer patriot, leader and soldier, and that were embodied in the lives, words and deeds of our founding fathers." Then, following reference to the Korean conflict, the statement read: "It is clear to all thinking people that the issue is distinctly drawn and resolves itself to just this: Shall the world be dominated by communism or shall the peoples of the world be free to select the form of government they themselves like best, free from all fear of aggression, a police state and ultimate slavery?"

You will note the consistency that marks these statements and how they hark back to the true concept of Americanism as was envisioned by those whose lofty thinking fashioned our nation. There is an underlying admotion that America is to adhere to her original, basic teachings. To

this, I add the unqualified assertion, that is our greatest and surest weapon against communism both within and without the nation.

All of you will recall the challenging statement made several years ago by Dr. McIllyar H. Lichliter, Grand Prior of the Supreme Council (Northern Jurisdiction), as he addressed a large group of Scottish Rite Masons at a banquet in Columbus, Ohio, that "Prince Hall Masonry is a bulwark against communism," and he urged his hearers to not only recognize this fact, but to also use every opportunity to assist Prince Hall Masonry further in its program of true Americanism. Certainly, this is common ground for Free Masons of the two unfortunately separated American Masonic bodies.

Another thought, due to the fact that Masonry is a way of life based on constant search for the Truth, it is important that we, in our determination to effectuate our obligation to maintain true Americanism, use every care to avoid pitfalls and snares placed in our paths by scheming politicians and professional Fourth of July patriots. Today there seems to be a tendency on the part of some of our most vocal figures in public life to label everything Red or Communistic that does not conform exactly to their schemes. For example, I know of a federal employee whose loyalty to the government was questioned because he once wrote an article for a Negro newspaper comparing and contrasting then Secretary of State Byrnes and Russia's Molotov when the latter, at a meeting in Paris, ridiculed Byrnes for insisting upon free elections in the Balkans when thousands of his fellow citizens in South Carolina were denied voting rights and other privileges that would have been in harmony with the concept of true Americanism that was held by our Founding Fathers. This federal employee was fired on the basis of this article despite the fact that all Negroes are interested in seeing true Americanism come to all of our States. This sort of situation gives to Prince Hall Masonry an added burden in its obligation to not countenance disloyalty and to maintain true Americanism in the light of the original and pure concept.

The phrase that "we are living in a changing world" may be considered trite, but it so laden with truth that it has become our duty to increase our alertness, to bolster our courage,

*(continued on page 13, col. 3)*

## Freemasonry: Its Truth

WALTER C. TAYLOR,  
R.W. Grand Lecturer

We realize that in the mysteries that have become associated with Masonry, there are exemplified in the teachings some truths and many myths, which within themselves are half truths; and having as their object the teachings of principles closely allied with which all Masonry stands for, and have become so associated with the craft as to be many times considered as actualities.

As you first enter the Lodge room and are initiated into the mysteries of the Freemasonry, you are introduced to a myth, or legend, and as you pass along to the succeeding degrees you learn more and more of mythical teachings having Masonic lesson, that of the immortality of an object, or purpose the impressive the human soul. This is vividly expressed in the tradition upon which the Third Degree of Masonry is formed.

We cannot but believe the lesson sought to be there, and taught, is that man setting forth upon the voyage of life, with complete equipment of faculties and powers to enable him to perform all the duties to which he might be called, hold within his grasp and attainment the knowledge of all Divine Truths imparted to him as the heirloom of his race, and thus fortified by this intellect and information, travels onward in the faithful discharge of his duties, laying down upon the trestle board upon which he draws his designs, those pictures and sketches that enable him to be to his brethren, a guide and inspiration made possible only by his invoking the assistance and direction of the Grand Architect of the Universe.

When you made application and were accepted into the fraternity of Freemasonry, you must have had some ideals to actuate you in making this move, and when you received the degrees which entitled you to class yourself as a Master Mason, you received only what the graduate from a university receives at the end of his period of study, a diploma. If, when he received this sheepskin with a lot of written and printed words thereon, he did not make any use of the weapons placed in his hands by the teachers who had trained him to this point, the most elaborate scroll presented to him upon his graduation is worthless; so with Masonic education. If we are satisfied with what has been presented to us, evidence of becoming a Master Mason, and place in our treasure chest the emblematical apron and forget all about it until the time arrives when it is about to be placed upon our casket, it will always be a square bit of lambskin of intrinsic valuation of a few cents.

When we have the ambition to petition and be admitted into the honorable order of Freemasonry, place upon the lapels of our outer apparel an insignia advertising to the world that we have been so accepted and are satisfied with that alone,

then we are cheating ourselves and are not beneficial to the craft of which we are a member.

We as Freemasons, are in the enviable position of being an important element in the affairs of the community in which we live, we come to the Lodge and reunions for one purpose, in which there are collected numerous others, but, that one purpose is the continued search after light and light is knowledge attained by degrees.

Veiled within the myths of our lessons are those truly divine principles of truth, charity and loving-kindness, which we so frequently inculcate and so forcibly, recommend to others, yet, are they instruments of better living that we as individual workmen use to their true worth? What is the true worth of this instrument that we call Freemasonry; is it reflected in our daily intercourse, one to another, brother to brother; is it apparent in our individual lodges; in our Grand Lodge and its program; by what yard stick can we evaluate its true worth? Can it be measured by how well we serve in our individual capacities; how proficient we are in our work; how progressive and ambitious we are? No, my brethren, we cannot measure the true worth of Masonry by such faculty implementations, it must be measured within the sanctum sanctorium of our faithful breasts, SO MAY IT BE.

The lessons that we teach and preach are directed to the inner arm, his God given soul, and from this rough ashler the true worth of Masonry must take seed; for its lessons and our principles are reflected from within; and may it be the will of our Heavenly Father, that when we shall have been called from our labors here on earth, to everlasting happiness in the world to come; that the sublime principles of Freemasonry shall have so prepared us, that the rough ashler, then, shall be perfect and take its place as a living stone in that spiritual temple, that temple not made with hands eternal in the heavens.

Let us re-dedicate and re-evaluate the true worth of these principles veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols, that the lessons so exemplified shall progress us onward and upward toward nobler deeds and greater achievements.

Again I say, "I am grateful to this Grand Lodge and especially to Grand Lodge Officers and Brothers who have supported me in all duties ordered performed by our Grand Master. But above all let us thank God for His blessing in all of our undertakings."

### BOGUS MASONRY (from page 8)

IN THE UNITED STATES AND  
THE DOMINION OF CANADA;  
THAT ALL OTHER ORGANIZATIONS  
COMPOSED OF COLORED  
MEN ARE BOGUS."

"It is my firm belief the psychological effect of such a declaration, which shall be concurred in by others

in proper succession along with wide publicity, will have a tremendous effect upon the membership of all bogus organizations."

In commenting upon the above quotations in a contribution in The Oregon Mason in its January, 1947, number, I wrote as follows:

"As one Prince Hall Freemason that is all I ask at this time."

The next to the last quotation was just what the white Grand Lodge of Massachusetts attempted in its declaration of March 12, 1947, but, unfortunately, it did not meet with the approval of the Grand Lodges in the southern states, also, one in the far west, due to the total lack of understanding of the precepts of the Institution on the part of the leaders thereof; *this is because racial prejudice is deeper in their minds than are the teachings of Freemasonry.*

Nothing beats a trial but a failure. Brethren, why not take the chance?

(continued from page 12)

to speak out against injustices and to defend unhesitatingly our struggle to see true Americanism maintained at all costs.

One of the easiest things in the world is to go along with the crowd. Free Masons being men who have set themselves apart as individuals with the determination to adhere to certain virtues cannot at any time permit themselves to be stampeded into going along with the crowd. Their thinking, their actions, their words and their deeds must at all times be weighed on the scales of Justice and treated by the implements of Truth — the objective at all times, human understanding based on Brothhood and the love of God. Therefore, Freemasonry's Obligation to Maintain True Americanism is one that dare not be taken lightly, but is an obligation that is as dear to us today as it was to George Washington and to Prince Hall.

### ASHBY CARTER

Grand Master Starling J. Hopkins and the Jurisdiction of California join the Jurisdiction of Illinois, and the Nation in mourning the passing of such a loyal uncompromising Mason and Citizen as was Grand Master Ashby Carter.

He has a place in American life which will not be easily filled.

But faith is the substance.

(signed) JEROME L. HUBERT, SR.  
C.C.F.C.



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ACTIVE MASONICALLY

## GRAND MASTER'S OFFICIAL VISITS

1953

Dec. 18—Keystone Lodge No. 14; Philadelphia Lodge No. 54; and Silver Square Lodge No. 66, Modesto, Calif. Silver Square Lodge, host.

1954

Jan. 8—Crescent Bay Lodge No. 19, and Rising Sun Lodge No. 75, Santa Monica, Calif. Crescent Bay Lodge, host.

Jan. 8—Hiram Lodge No. 12 and Jewel Lodge No. 24, Pasadena, Calif. Hiram Lodge, host.

Jan. 13—R. C. Marshall Lodge No. 15; Community Lodge No. 43; and Peninsula Lodge No. 46, San Jose, Calif. R. C. Marshall Lodge, host.

Jan. 14—Acacia Lodge No. 7; Adonis Lodge No. 25; Good Hope Lodge No. 29; and West Gate Lodge No. 36, Oakland, Calif. Good Hope Lodge, host.

Jan. 15—Firma Lodge No. 27; L. J. Williams Lodge No. 76; and George W. Posey Lodge No. 77, Vallejo, Calif. Firma Lodge, host.

Jan. 21—Orange Valley Lodge No. 13; Prince Hall Lodge No. 17; and John A. Barber Lodge No. 71, Riverside, Calif. Orange Valley Lodge, host.

Jan. 25—St. John Lodge No. 5; B. F. Talbot Lodge No. 8; Angel City Lodge No. 18; Holland Lodge No. 20; Delta Lodge No. 21; Garrison Lodge No. 45; and Guardian Lodge No. 50, Los Angeles, Calif. Garrison Lodge, host.

Feb. 1—Wm. J. Nickerson, Jr. Lodge No. 55, and Western Knights Lodge No. 56, Los Angeles, Calif. Western Knights Lodge, host.

Feb. 2—Sunset Lodge No. 26, Long Beach, Calif.

Feb. 5—Civic Center Lodge No. 52; Highland Heights Lodge No. 59; Cedars of Lebanon Lodge No. 65; James H. Wilson Lodge No. 68, and Paul E. Alexander Lodge No. 70, Los Angeles, California. Civic Center Lodge, host.

Feb. 10—Amicus Lodge No. 48, Vallejo, Calif.

Feb. 11—Ashler Lodge No. 35; East Gate Lodge No. 44; and Wm. J. Anderson Lodge No. 57, Berkeley, Calif. Wm. J. Anderson Lodge, host.

Feb. 12—Fred C. Brooks Lodge No. 60; Eli Baker Lodge No. 62; Philip A. Buchanan Lodge No. 63; and Monarch Lodge No. 75, Oakland, Calif. Eli Baker Lodge, host.

Feb. 13—Hannibal Lodge No. 1; Victoria Lodge No. 3; Bay View Lodge No. 64; and Jerusalem Lodge No. 72, San Francisco, Calif. Bay View Lodge, host.

Feb. 15—Douglas Lodge No. 33, and T. A. Harris Lodge, No. 69, Los Angeles, Calif. T. A. Harris Lodge, host.

Feb. 19—Fidelity Lodge No. 10; Gibraltar Lodge No. 58; and Gustavus A. Thompson Lodge U. D. San Diego, Calif., Fidelity Lodge, host.

March 1—Landmark Lodge No. 40, Monrovia, Calif.

March 6—Palo Verde Lodge No. 37, Blythe, Calif. Special Meeting.

March 12—King Solomon Lodge No. 6; San Joaquin Lodge No. 11; Superior Lodge No. 41; A. E. Wright Lodge No. 47; and Edwin A. Clarke Lodge, No. 67, Tulare, California. A. E. Wright Lodge, host.

March 13—Philomathean Lodge No. 2; Harmony Lodge No. 61; Monument Lodge No. 74; and Thomas T. Smith Lodge No. 76, Sacramento. Philomathean Lodge, host.

March 16—Eureka Lodge No. 28; and Friendship Lodge No. 53, El Centro, Calif. Eureka Lodge, host.

March 23—Unity Lodge No. 22, Santa Barbara, Calif.

April 2—Pride of the West Lodge No. 30, McCloud, Calif.

April 5—Excelsior Lodge No. 23, Portland, Oregon. Special Meeting.

April 21—Thomas Waller Lodge No. 49, Los Angeles, Calif.

### PRINCE HALL (from page 4)

of manners. His marvelous personal charm endeared all his associates to him. He possessed the highest tact in dealing with men and was always considerate of others' feelings. He fervently believed in an Almighty Being who rules the universe and presides in the councils of men and nations and whose providential aid can supply every human defect. Good men die and their names live on bronze and stone. But great men like Prince Hall live in the memory of the people forever.

On the morning of December 7, 1807, after an illness of 4 weeks, Prince Hall died.

*"His sufferings ended with the day,  
Yet lived he at its close,  
And breathed the long, long night  
away,*

*In statue-like repose.  
But when the sun in all its state,  
Illuminated the eastern skies,  
He passed through glory's morning  
gate,*

*And walked in paradise."*

## Hospitality Report

We the Hospitality Committee submit the following report:

The march of events immediately preceding the fulfillment of historic assignments in the lives of men are instinctively sensed and received by man with a feeling of rejoicing, of pride of accomplishment, and of reverence to God for his divine inspiration and guidance accorded his humble servants in their march toward the desired goal, which for our Masonic Family is the universal acceptance of the fatherhood of God, and the brotherhood of man. Destiny, and circumstance have precipitated just such a moment upon the delegations of the 97th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of California and its Jurisdiction, meeting in Grand Sessions with its Adoptive Rites, the Golden State Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, Prince Hall Affiliation, and the Prince Hall Grand High Court of the Heroines of Jericho.

We wish to share our happiness of the moment with those who have so graciously extended to us the warm and cordial welcome to the city of Oakland, and county of Alameda. We wish, further, to extend our special expression of appreciation to Honorable Clifford E. Rischell, mayor of the city of Oakland, for his warm welcoming address, and his personal demonstration that his life is nobly dedicated to the cultural progress of man, without the inhibitions imposed by racial and class differences; to the councilmen of the city of Oakland; to the office of the City Manager, Mr. J. F. Hassler; to the Chamber of Commerce; to the Convention Tourist Bureau; to the Hotel and Club Association, Mr. Boyd Lawrence, president; to Mr. Kent Pursell of Berkeley, California, supervisor of the County of Alameda, for his warm and personal welcome; to the Board of Supervisors of Alameda County, Mr. John Kingston, County Clerk; to the local newspapers, especially the Tribune, for the graphic pre- and current coverage of our convention's activities; to the business establishments of the area; and to the hospitable residents of the city and county, for the many kindnesses shown.

A special compliment is given, to our Grand Lecturer Brother Walter C. Taylor, 1953 Grand Sessions General Chairman and his fine staff of officers for the smoothness of operation and harmony of purpose in planning and preparing for our Grand Sessions. An additional commendation is to be given to those who were very liberal in providing transportation for our delegates.

We trust that you will, one and all, accept our expression of deep appreciation and gratitude for the kindnesses shown, accord evinced, and the courtesies accorded our delegates during these Grand Sessions.

(continued on page 17, col. 3)

THE PLAN

Each member of the Prince Hall family will be asked to buy one or more of these \$100.00 Notes.

Each Lodge, Chapter, Court, Guild, Royal Arch, Shrine, Consistory, and every unit of the Prince Hall family will be asked to buy TEN or more of these Notes.

These Notes will bear an interest rate current to the amount being paid by Banks, Savings & Loan Associations and Government Bonds.

This interest rate will begin after the first Three Years of operation.

This method of paying interest was decided after discussing this plan with successful bankers, business men and managers of financial institutions of the city.

These Notes will be negotiable, and can be sold by the owners to any members of the Prince Hall family. They can be submitted for resale to the Board of Directors after the building is built and in operation for one year.

BONDS FOR OFFICERS

The Secretary and Treasurer will be bonded. This bond will be paid for by the Association. All money received must be deposited within 24 hours in an insured financial institution. The treasurer must deposit all money received within 24 hours except money received on Friday, Saturday or holidays. Money received on the above mentioned days must be deposited the next business day.

METHOD OF OPERATION

Each owner of a Note will be a member and part owner of the building.

Each owner of a Note or Notes will have ONE VOTE in the election of officers and directors, who will operate the building.

Subject to the approval of the owners NINE members will be elected to form the official Board of Directors. This board will be elected 90 days before the building will be ready to occupy. Each twelve (12) months thereafter will be election night to elect directors.

Nominations will be open from the floor. The three (3) members receiving the highest number of votes will be elected to serve for three (3) years. The next three (3) members receiving the next highest number of votes will serve for two (2) years. The next three (3) members receiving the next highest number of votes will serve for one (1) year. Each year thereafter three (3) members will be elected to serve for three (3) years.

No compensation will be paid to any member of the committees.

These notes will be redeemable in twelve (12) years. This will be optional to owners.

No part of the \$100.00 invested will be used for any purpose but to buy or build a Temple.

Funds to carry on the program will be raised from other sources.

Prior to the election of officers and the forming of a permanent organization, each Lodge, Court, and Chapter were notified by first class mail on three different occasions to be present and participate in the selection of officers.

Several of the units failed to appear after receiving the THIRD notice for the final date of electing officers and entering into a permanent organization. Those units and individuals present elected from the floor the following members of the Prince Hall Family of Masons:

Rev. Geraldine O'Connor, general chairman; Frank G. White, co-chairman, Masons; John L. Thompson, co-chairman, Chapters; William Chesley Jr., co-chairman, Heroines of Jericho; Mary I. Firms, secretary; Eualia Henderson, assistant secretary; W. C. Faulkner, treasurer; Jewell Moore, director; Lugulia Shaw, director.

Thirty-five field chairmen appointed.

Further information will be given by any of the above named officers, if necessary.

In the event an owner of a note dies, the note will go to his or her estate. If the family is a member of the Prince Hall Family he or she will have the same privileges as the original owner. If the members of the family are non Masons, they may be represented by proxy given to the Secretary of the Board of Directors.

There will be halls to accommodate THREE UNITS meeting on the same night. All Lodges, Chapters and Courts can meet TWO nights a month and have 16 nights vacant for other units.

REPORT (cont. from page 5)

Fraternally submitted,

Wm. Jackson (1), Wm. L. Ratliff (46), Kenneth L. Levi (18), T. W. Swinney (36), M. Robinson Baker (73), Frank White, Chairman (21)

M. Robinson Baker, secretary of the committee read this report. On motion of Bros. Richard McClanahan and Moses Wilson it was accepted and the recommendations acted on individually.

Christmas Spirit Demonstrated

The Civic Center Club is playing an interesting role in community life around the Los Angeles area. The club made up of some of the members of the Civic Center Lodge No. 52, F. & A. M. gave their Second Annual Christmas Party at the Alpha Bowling and Social Club on Friday evening December 18. It was well attended and they had as their guests the members of Civic Center Lodge and their adopted Chapter, "The Rose of Sharon, Chapter No. 46 O. E. S.

Admittance was by invitation, accompanied by a donation of canned goods that the guests desired to deposit into the Christmas Basket Fund. Some fifteen or twenty baskets were made up from staple goods received and turkeys were distributed in each basket for some of the known needy families in the community that did not receive aid from any other charitable organization.

The club members are as follows: J. H. Roberson, *Chairman*; Ned Gohagan, *Asst. Chairman*; L. C. Smith, *Secretary*; Philip Starks, *Assist. Secretary*; H. McMahan, *Cor. Secty.*; George B. Charles, *Treas.*; J. Beane, *Bus. Mgr.*; M. Horne, *Sgt.-at-Arms*; S. Derricks, S. Metoyer, W. Sinclair, E. Coupee, W. Ruffen, F. Watkins, J. Washington, W. Pierce, R. Smith, B. Gland, E. Alleyne, P. Montgomery, T. Miller, A. Browne, B. Dawson, C. E. Leonard, M. Walters, M. Andrews, A. Record.

No. 1. Relative to warrants for L. J. Williams Lodge U.D., George W. Posey Lodge U.D., Thomas T. Smith Lodge U.D. This matter was sent to the committee on Charters and Warrants.

No. 2. Committee approved of the recommendations to purchase new regalia and other equipment needed by the Grand Lodge. The Grand Body was in accord with this.

No. 3. Committee approved of the recommendation, re: the 1955 Centennial. The Grand Body was also in accord with this matter.

No. 4. Relative to the printing of the Constitution and Code and the Book of Instructions. That the book be properly edited before being printed.

The Grand Master assured the committee that this would be done.

On motion of Bros. E. Williams and George W. Wilson the committee report as a whole was accepted and passed to record.

## Report on Trip to Grand Masters' Conference

JEROME L. HUBERT, SR., C.C.F.C.

At the outset permit me to most heartily thank you for the vote of approval given Grand Master Hopkins to his proposal to include the C.C.F.C. in his trip to the Grand Masters Conference this May past in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. My deepest appreciation, Grand Master, for being included in your thinking about the meeting.

While it is, of course true, the trip was filled with many new and pleasing experiences, it is above all a most delicate and highly diplomatic meeting. One meets and exchanges experiences for the benefit of Prince Hall Masonry. The knowledge gained, the plans discussed and laid and contributions made reflect directly upon one's home Jurisdiction.

Keep in mind that each Grand Master and his staff represent sovereign authority; that there never be a binding vote taken; that there can be no discipline administered; that there can only be freedom in its purest sense and yet see all those Grand Masters eagerly lending assistance to the great objective, the furtherance of Prince Hall in America and you will see an example of Brotherhood seldom equaled, never excelled.

One must be impressed with the caliber of Masons in our lodges when one sees the Grand Masters in conference, one is filled with admiration of the dignity exemplified in discussions and pleased with the depth of thought in the addresses delivered.

The President of the conference, Grand Master Amos T. Hall, is a stalwart in his legal profession and a scholar in Masonry, — his preparation for the conference is meticulous.

Grand Master Hickman and his committee arranged a delightful and instructive program for the delegates. The accommodations in Milwaukee were entirely satisfactory. All were pleased with our presence.

The several "papers" on assigned subjects were each carefully prepared and attentively received by all present. All were good. "Landmarks of Masonry," by Grand Master Cooper of Delaware; "Freemasonry and the Youth," by Past Grand Master Bowser of J.J.; "Prerogative of a Grand Master," by Grand Master Porter of Kansas; "Freemasonry's obligation to maintain Free Americanism," by Grand Master Carter of Illinois; "A lasting tribute," by Grand Master Muckle of Virginia; "A new approach of the Annual Report of the C.C.F.C. to his Grand Lodge," by T. Roosevelt Butler, C.C.F.C. of Kansas; "Essentials of Relationship Between Subordinate and Grand Lodge Secretaries," by J. Harold White, Grand Secretary of Illinois and others show the scope of subjects discussed. The President's address by President Amos T. Hall shows the objectives of the conference. Together a program

progressive and purely Masonic is presented to all.

The policy of the conference do not tend, in any way to unite the Masonic Jurisdictions, but rather to synchronize the aims of the several Grand Sovereign bodies.

Data is being assembled by the several Jurisdictions to create an Information Bureau. Pictures of Masonic Temples owned by the crafts are desired; amount given to March of Dimes; amount of Savings Bonds names, members and location of lodges together with the names and addresses of each Secretary and W.M. are requested.

If a man has not regard for an oath, respect for that authority which he himself helped create or maintain of his own free will, or would deny the responsibility to maintain integrity or would prostitute principle for thirty pieces of silver, then, that same man would betray America for a promise—sell his Freedom for a quislingship or exchange his pay check for a dole.

From Massachusetts to California comes the glorious reassuring news that Prince Hall Masons are in perfect step with other regular Masons in being on the lookout for enemies of our country and idolators to our God.

We, Prince Hall Masons of California are in perfect relationship with all Prince Hall Masons of the world. We cherish a growing appreciation by the other Masons owing their origin to the Grand Lodge of England because of our respect of self and our firm grasp of the principles of the order.

There is no place in Masonry for selfishness, and, he who only thinks of himself will find an obstacle to every gate of the Temple. Our relationship with other Masonic bodies will grow only in proportion as we free ourselves of the evil that caused three other young men to commit an unpardonable crime in other days — and ours will be the same fate regardless of whether we are individuals or groups.

By appreciated appointment of Most Worshipful Grand Master Starling J. Hopkins, I report to you my official acts as chairman of foreign correspondence.

The conference unanimously accepted the invitation of California through G.M. Hopkins to meet in California next May.

Again thanking the Grand Lodge of California for the permission and the Grand Master for the invitation to attend the Grand Masters Conference.

(continued from page 7)

### RHODE ISLAND

The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F. & A. M. of the State of Rhode Island, happily extends its very sincere and warm fraternal greetings to your Grand Jurisdiction and Grand Lodge, Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Officers and Brethren.

It is the sincere hope and expectation of this Grand Lodge that your Annual Communication to be held on July 21st next will be the most successful, peaceful

(continued from page 15)

Be it, therefore, resolved that this report be deposited, as a memento, in the Archives of this Grand Lodge for the kindnesses, and hospitalities extended these Grand Sessions, and that a copy be sent to all parties mentioned herein, or otherwise concerned, as our last official act of this 97th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of California and its Jurisdiction.

Fraternally submitted, the Hospitality Committee

ARCHIE W. HERBERT (50); ROBERT J. MITCHELL (26); F. S. STANLEY (33)

and harmonious ever held, resulting in ever growing achievement and advancement.

JOSEPH G. LECOUNT,  
P.G.M., C.C.F.C.

### WISCONSIN

Most Worshipful Carson Gulley, who was elected to the office of Grand Master at our 28th Grand Annual Session, and the Prince Hall Masons of Wisconsin, join me in extending greetings to the Most Worshipful Starling J. Hopkins and members of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of California, for a prosperous and harmonious Grand Session.

We trust that peace serene, may characterize all your deliberations, may brotherly love prevail and may the Grand Master of the universe crown your labors with success. Until we see you next May, I am,

G. L. GLOVER, P.G.M., C.C.F.C.

### WASHINGTON, D.C.

As time marches on, I avail myself of this opportunity to present you and your Most Worshipful Grand Lodge the expressions of my best consideration on the occasion of the convening of your 97th Annual Communication in the City of Oakland, California on July 19-22, 1953. Very happy are we to share in your felicitations and reports of progress under the dynamic leadership of Grand Master Starling J. Hopkins.

Here in the District of Columbia, Grand Master Harry Hampton wishes me to convey to you his most sincere felicitations and best wishes for a very harmonious session filled with the spirit of true fraternalism. May you always maintain the fine standards of fraternal leadership that have marked your years of continued service, and attention to local and national interest of the Prince Hall family.

Please accept our heartiest congratulations and may you ever continue as a force in the Masonic world for the betterment of human life everywhere.

With highest fraternal regards, I am,

CLIFTON O. LYLES, C.C.F.C.

(turn to next page)

# Season's Greetings

*"As the Yule season approaches, with the anniversary of Him, who taught the ancient world the lesson of good will, we experience our greatest pleasure in making others happy.*

*Today, as in ancient times, Christmas Day is the most important anniversary of the year.*

*As we observe this anniversary, let us be more tolerant of the views or even conflicting beliefs of others with whom we come in contact.*

*Let us with our gifts, and expressions of good wishes, endeavor to bring our own lives in accord with the Christmas spirit.*

*Let us endeavor to bring hope to those who are almost despairing of hope.*

*In doing these things we achieve happiness for ourselves — in fulfillment of the way of life He taught men to live twenty centuries ago.*

*All too seldom we take time out to count our blessings; to express our gratitude for the good things of life; for friends; for pleasant associations.*

*And so at this Yuletide season I pause to say: May you and all those dear to you enjoy the gift of health, happiness and prosperity."*

STARLING J. HOPKINS

Grand Master

## NEW MEXICO

This comes to inform you that the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F. & A. M. Inc. of New Mexico made some changes in our Grand Officers, in our Annual Sessions that closed on the 17th day of June 1953.

M. W. Elijah Johnson, Grand Master, replaced T. R. Davis who had served us for five years.

Grand Master Elijah Johnson, joins me in extending to Grand Master Hopkins and the Masonic Craft of the Prince Hall Family Jurisdiction of California greetings, and that your Ninety-Seventh Annual Convention will be blessed by the Great Architect of the Universe, whom I believe is real, and will be with you in your sessions.

MARION COLAS RHOTEN,  
P.G.M., C.C.F.C.

## NEW YORK

On the occasion of your Annual Grand Lodge Session, the Most Worshipful Grand Master, the officers and members

of the M.W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F. & A. M. of the State of New York, extends to your M.W. Grand Master, officers and members congratulations and best wishes for continued success.

May brotherly love bind us closer together, and may the tenets of our Ancient and Honorable Fraternity inspire nobler deeds, higher thoughts and greater achievements throughout the realm of Freemasonry.

Please accept my sincere thanks for all communications, Grand Lodge Roster and other Masonic papers sent to this office during the Masonic year.

JESSE E. WRIGHT, C.C.F.C.

## NEW YORK

This is to extend Fraternal Greetings from the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the State of New York on the occasion of your Annual Communication.

Best wishes for a successful and harmonious session.

ARTHUR T. GIDDINGS, SR.,  
Grand Master

## OKLAHOMA

The Conference of Grand Masters of Prince Hall Masons is grateful for the very fine support you have given its program and for the leadership you have furnished.

It wishes for you a pleasant, harmonious and successful session.

AMOS T. HALL, *President*

## NORTH CAROLINA

I am in receipt of yours informing me of the time and place of your Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the State of California and Jurisdiction.

Greetings to you and the entire brotherhood. I am sure that your Lodge with the class of men attached thereto, will continue to climb upward and the men of California will know that Prince Hall Masons are leaders who have made for California a name and an organization that is known in every State in America.

Have been for some time in poor health. I am now glad to state that I am much better and able to get about again.

Best wishes and success for you and the entire brotherhood.

Z. ALEXANDER, C.C.F.C.

## ROSTER OF MASONIC GRAND LODGES (Recognized by the Prince Hall Family)

State	Name of Grand Lodge	Grand Master	Grand Secretary	Address	City
Alabama	A. F. & A. M. (P.H.A.)	Chas. V. Hendley	W. M. Martin	Box 1704	Montgomery
Arkansas	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	M. W. Williams	Solomon Richardson	Box 232	Arkansas City
Arizona	Sovereign F. & A. M., Inc.	Lloyd D. Dickey	W. B. Scott	1222 E. Monroe	Phoenix
California	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	Starling J. Hopkins	L. G. Dandridge	1972 Santa Ana Blvd.	Los Angeles
Colorado	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	Charles Green	Randall A. Baker	1221 Euclid St.	Pueblo
Connecticut	M. W. Grand Lodge F. & A. M.	Harvey A. Walker	W. S. Taylor	155 Scranton St.	New Haven
Delaware	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	P. Wm. Turner	John T. Edwards	218 Franklin	Milford
Dist. of Columbia	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	Marry Hampton	A. W. Chapman	225 Rhode Island	Washington
Florida	Union, F. & A. M., Inc.	C. H. Henry	P. A. Mitchell	Box 311	Jacksonville
Georgia	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	J. Wesley Dobbs	Sol C. Johnson	Tribune Bldg.	Savannah
Illinois	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	C. R. Richardson	J. H. White	6437 Ingleside Ave.	Chicago
Indiana	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	C. R. Richardson	H. S. Haste	418 Lincoln Ave.	Evansville
Iowa	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	Jake L. Nelson	W. V. Windsor	2315½ Lincoln Ave.	Des Moines
Kansas	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	P. G. Porter	Chester Gaskin	Box 331	Kansas City
Kentucky	F. & A. M., Inc.	Charles H. Howe	W. A. Perry, Jr.	2230 W. Chestnut St.	Louisville
Liberia	Liberia A. F. & A. M.	C. I. Simpson	J. A. A. Pierre	P. O. Box 727	Monrovia
Louisiana	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	John G. Lewis	R. U. Clark	2525 McCulloh St.	Baton Rouge
Maryland	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	Willard W. Allen	Alvan Stanley	43 Humboldt St.	Baltimore
Massachusetts	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	Jas. R. Lester	Vidal A. Mackinnon	639 Wilkins St.	Roxbury
Michigan	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	Wm. O. Greene	John T. Webb, Jr.	962 Fuller Ave.	Detroit
Minnesota	F. & A. M.	Chas. T. Doty	Clarence H. Roper		St. Paul
Mississippi	Stringer, F. & A. M.	James G. Gilliam	J. B. Greene	1036 West End Pl	Gulport
Missouri	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	Dr. Waite H. Madison	Amos S. Bartlett	1837 No. 24th St.	Moberly
Nebraska	A. F. & A. M.	Clayton P. Lewis	J. H. Andrews	346 So. Broad	Omaha
New Jersey	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	Aldrage B. Cooper	Chas. W. Harris		Woodbury
New Mexico	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	Arthur T. Giddings	V. E. Grant	P. O. Box 166	Carlsbad
New York	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	Rev. G. D. Carnes	Alton L. Haywood	454 W. 155th St.	New York City
North Carolina	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	Russell L. Jefferson	Rev. C. W. Lawrence	(310 Percy) (Box 2789)	Greensboro
Ohio	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	Amos T. Hall	Chas. F. Casterman	9613 Thorne Ave.	Cleveland
Oklahoma	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	George D. McCurdy	E. T. Busby	1328 Goyeau St.	Chandler
Ontario	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	Henry D. Horner	Wm. W. Overton	3808 N. 17th St.	Windsor
Pennsylvania	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	Albert Ford	Harry A. Smith	27 Howell St.	Philadelphia
Rhode Island	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	Prince Riley	J. E. Dickson	P. O. Box 992	Providence
South Carolina	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	Chas. F. Williams	Leon Maddox	198 S. 4th St.	Columbia
Tennessee	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	L. I. Lookhart	C. W. Wilson	401½ E. 9th St.	Memphis
Texas	A. F. & A. M.	David Muckle	Sandy Moss	810 Fifth St.	Fort Worth
Virginia	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	F. U. Harris	E. E. Bartlett	811 - 24th St.	Lynchburg
Washington	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	Hyden Smith	Ernest M. Bland	Box 201	Seattle
West Virginia	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.	Carson Gulley		2040 N. Hubbard	Philippi
Wisconsin	Prince Hall, F. & A. M.				Milwaukee

*Attention — Please check with editor if your jurisdictional officers are incorrect. — Editor's note.*

## PRINCE HALL MASONIC DIGEST

718 - 35th Street  
Oakland 9, California

Sec. 34.65(e), P.L.&R.

U. S. POSTAGE

**PAID**

Oakland, Calif.

Permit No. 1480

Form 3547 Requested.

San Diego,  
California,  
Grand Lodge  
Convention City  
July 18-21,  
1954.



One of Pacific  
Coast beauty  
spots the Grand  
Masters should  
see.

## GRAND MASTERS' CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

The committee of the Grand Masters' Conference which has been set for May 16-20, 1954, met at the Home of Inspector Louis Jones in Los Angeles, California.

Sparked by Vice Chairman Jerome Hubert, (erstwhile C. C. F. C.) the chairmen of the several subordinate committees made their reports on the progress on the entertainment program to date.

Brother Rufus Marshall reported measures being considered by the Foods and Banquet Committee; Paul J. Howard on the Entertainment and Program. He and his assistant Brother Arthur Evans brought out the possibilities of a very well arranged tentative program for the visiting dignitaries and luminaries of the Prince Hall Masonic family during their sojourn in the Angel city. Louis Jones,

Chairman of the Housing Committee presented his plans and his readiness to go into action immediately to make provisions for the visiting brethren coming from all parts of our country to see and hear these Masonic leaders of their own jurisdictions, scattered throughout these United States and Canada. The outline was commendable.

Herbert Jenkins reported his plans for making recordings of the prominent speakers and the taking of motion pictures of the outstanding scenes. Public Relations Director, Royal E. Towns, explained the activities of publicizing this event up to date and told of the advertising possibilities and a thorough coverage by newspapers during the sessions. He complimented the committee as a whole on the presentations of the excellent outline of events to date.

Grand Treasurer Roy E. Treece and Grand Secretary Lillard G. Dandridge were on hand to give color and advice to the various phases of the work presented.

Grand Master Starling J. Hopkins was unable to be present due to previous commitments that caused him to be in session in San Francisco that evening. Brother Hubert as Vice Chairman did an excellent piece of work in handling the long and interesting meeting, which terminated with a serving of Mrs. Jones' very fine delicacies. True hospitality of the Joneses made them excellent host and hostess for the evening. The next meeting will be held in January, when a more detailed report of the activities will be approaching the final stages for the entertainment of the Prince Hall Grand Masters of America.