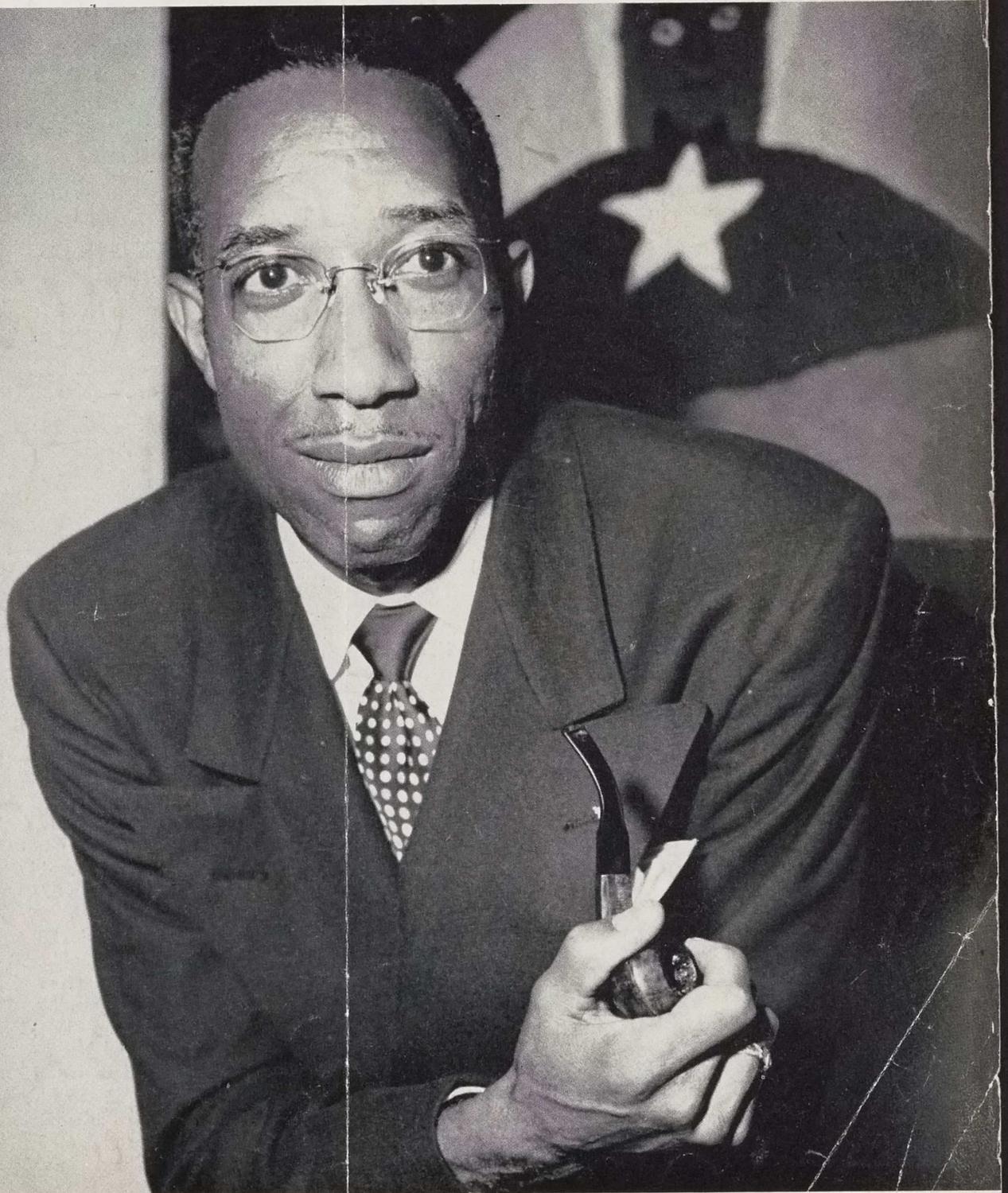


ABNET

VOL. 1, NO. 7

A PRINCE HALL MASONIC PUBLICATION

DECEMBER, 1949



WILLIAM HILL, JR.: THE RITUAL MAKER

—Photo by Bankston

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 California & Jurisdiction 1949-50

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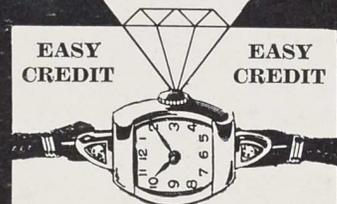
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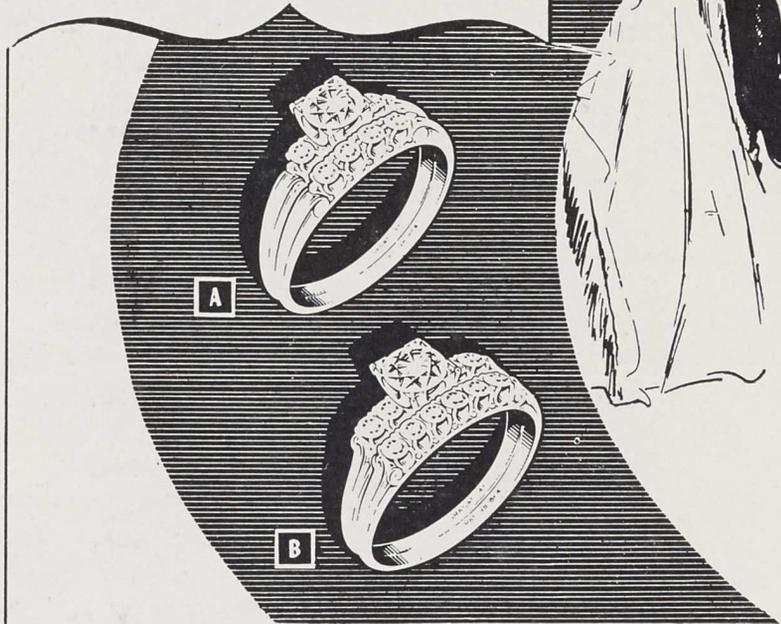
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MASONIC NEWS

THE JURISDICTION

Perspective

Nostalgia became the order of the day as the Christmas season and a brand new year, heralded by frosty mornings and chilled nights, hove into view. Most of the brethren could look back with equable satisfaction on an exceedingly busy and colorful period of activity.

Though the high-point of the past calendar year was the mid-summer session of the Grand Lodge, no one could proclaim with accuracy that the remainder of the year was dull and anticlimatic. One event after another kept hobbing up to lend spice and life to Jurisdictional activity. San Diego smiled as a lodge added its name to California's Masonic domain. Santa Monica cheered as a Prince Hall Masonic float was awarded first prize in its gala Pioneer Day parade (See ABNET, Nov., 1949). Oakland applauded as William Hill, Jr. and his ritual committee put the finishing touches on a brand new Ritual (See "PEOPLE"). California's capitol city, Sacramento, not to be outdone, furnished the hospitality for the largest and most impressive institutional ceremonies ever held in the Jurisdiction. And Acacia Lodge No. 7, in celebration of a half-century of continuous activity, threw a plush formal at one of Northern California's most exclusive hotels.

No one during the past weeks, however, approached the backbreaking schedule that head man, Starling Hopkins, had subjected himself to. Within a matter of days the Grand Master was seen in San Diego conducting Grand Lodge ceremonies; then on several occasions in the city of Los Angeles sitting in on important business meetings; thereafter in the Northern part of the state for an all night session with a few of the younger Masters; the next day on a motor trip to Legal Counselor George Vaughns' retreat in the Santa Cruz mountains for a Trustee meeting; and then back to Oakland for an Inspectors meeting.

The Grind. Starling Hopkins, just as Vaughns had before him, was discovering that the Jurisdiction's top job was tremendous in size—virtually a man killer. A quick look at his schedule showed no promise of a slow down in the weeks to come. The responsibilities of this office

have gradually increased in the last several years, keeping pace with the physical and monetary growth of the Body. Its innumerable duties were bound to take a lot from any conscientious man. Many times during the course of a normal year the obligations of Grand Mastership take on all the maddening aspects of drudgery. Each day has its decisions and each week its bustling activity.

To arbitrate the ceaseless disputes which inevitably arise, the Grand Master must be both diplomat and teacher. As



Vaughns & Hopkins
Days of decision.

the head of the Jurisdiction, he is at all times its servant. Complex and complicated, his job calls for the deep insight of a philosopher, and the progressive vision of a dreamer. It is a lonely position in some ways, for with the mantle of office eventually comes the sharp painful realization that one person's thinking must never block or slow down decisive and constructive action benefitting the entire organization. The Jurisdictional head must be a thinker to evaluate the trends of the times, so that he may better lead the Craft through its dangers. And yet he must have a dash of the visionary to better understand that precedent should never be confining.

The Problem. Before the war the Masonic Order was dormant. Except for occasional flurries of excitement, it could in no way be compared to the vast, driving force it has become today. The increase in size and activity has been directly reflected on the Grand Master's itinerary. The problem of cramming all

his obligations into his necessarily limited time is becoming more evident. If not in the immediate future, holding the number one office of the Jurisdiction must—barring a serious decline—become a full time job if the order is to realize the full potential of its top officer.

Even not it could be argued that from all practical standpoints it would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, for a man holding a conventional 8-hour-a-day-job to preside at the head of this organization, regardless of his qualifications. Nor, on the other hand, would it be feasible for such a man to give up a steady income for twelve months—even should the office pay a full salary; for most jobs are unwilling to release an employee for so long.

Obviously, the solution to the problem rests on some middle-ground. In the face of present growth, greater responsibility, and the mile-a-minute pace now thrust upon the "Grand," perhaps its discovery must come before many realize.

EVENTS

The Big Affair

The committee had spent weeks of feverish preparation getting ready for the ceremonies which were to add 5 new lodges to the Jurisdiction. Its head, Joseph Brooks, had tiredly admitted on more than one occasion that the preparation seemed endless. But on a sunny Saturday late in October the work paid off.

At the afternoon luncheon which preceded the ceremonies, every major Grand Lodge officer was on hand (the one major exception: Deputy Grand Master F. D. Haynes who had to prepare his Sunday sermon). At the fully laden table sat the guest of honor, Mrs. Fred C. Brooks, who later proudly watched as one of the new lodges commemorated the memory of her husband by adopting his name. The ceremonies, held with approximately 500 people in attendance, were extremely impressive. "The gavel used," noted the Souvenir Program, "was hewn from part of a bench from the ninety-year-old Shiloh Baptist church of Sacramento. The fact that makes this gavel significant the

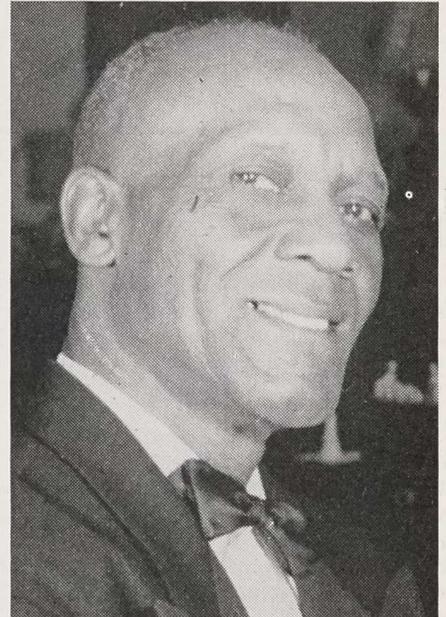
MASONIC NEWS



Joseph Brooks
Endless preparation.



W. M. Carrol
Fred C. Brooks Lodge U. D.



W. M. Pursley
Eli Baker Lodge U. D.

Program explained, "is that the first fraternal organization to hold services in the new church, when it was completed was Philomathean Lodge No. 2 of Sacramento. On this occasion the Rev. Earl D. Simms presented Past Master Fred C. Brooks with this unique gift."

Dedications. In taking the name of Fred C. Brooks, the new lodge's Worshipful Master, Montrose Carroll, explained the choice for his Brothers: "We, the members of Fred C. Brooks Lodge U.D., take pride in naming our Lodge after a man whose lifes' accomplishments were dedicated to civic and fraternal welfare." The new Masons could hardly have chosen a better a man to honor. Fred C. Brooks was born May 1st, 1878 in Sandwich, Ontario, Dominion of Canada. Matriculating to California in 1898, he enlisted in the army in San Francisco. Five years later, after service in Cuba, he established residence in Stockton. Mr. Brooks became a Master Mason in Keystone Lodge No. 14 in 1912. After seven years he moved his family northward to Sacramento and there demitted to Philomathean Lodge No. 2. Eventually he served there five years as Worshipful Master. The climax of his Masonic career came with his election to the post of Grand Senior Warden of the Jurisdiction.

Another of the really important and historic personages so honored was Philip Buchanan, an early organizer of Prince Hall Masonry in the state of California, and its first official Grand Master. Eli Baker, one of the really old Californians from Visalia, who died in April of last year, also had his name similarly per-

petuated. Two of the new bodies abstained from such dedications to choose other type names. "Harmony" was chosen by one because of its exemplification of the "Masonic principle." Members of Bayview, the name given the other new lodge, explained that their choice represented a haven for idealistic thought and spiritual uplift. "God, in His omnipotence," said they, "created the vast oceans. He knew that the angry winds would arise, causing the oceans to become turbulent, tearing and renting the staunchest ships. When these unsafe times arise, ships and men must have somewhere to sail for safety and replenishment of supplies, so He added the bays."

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

The Appeal

John Hoskins was a sensitive man who had found the heating facilities at Oakland's Fanny Wall Home deplorable. The Acacia Lodge member (Lodge No. 7) had been advised of the childrens' intense suffering last winter, and was determined to prevent it the coming one.

Taking matters into his own hands, the Oakland real estate broker decided on a subscription drive for a new furnace. Donating \$25.00 himself plus his services, Hoskins started his campaign. With \$500 in the kitty so far, it began to look as if the youngsters at the orphanage would at least enjoy a warm Christmas this year.

PEOPLE

The Ritual Marker

The thundering roar of the big press blotted out all possible conversation. The two men—one a big, tall blonde, the other a slender, medium-tall Negro—stood avidly watching the machinery grind out its page a second. The pages pouring into the receiving chute attached to the huge cylinder press were possibly the most important the Prince Hall Masons in the West, and perhaps within the country, had thus far seen.

After ten minutes had elapsed, the big blonde fellow, a printer named Anderson, moved forward and threw a switch. Instantly the huge press started losing its rhythmic beat, and soon stood in silent reprieve. Scooping up the still-wet pages of copy, the printer quickly stacked them on a side-board where numerous other sheets lay. Working swiftly and in silence, he selected a page from each stack, and then placed the whole bunch in a large, electric trimmer, then under a giant stapler. Turning, he made his way through the maze of machinery back to his companion. "Well, Mr. Hill," he grinned, 'here's the first of the batch. The first Ritual. And I guess you certainly earned it after sweating this job out the way you have."

The Big Job. William Hill, Jr. had indeed sweated this job out. It had been the biggest and toughest Masonic task he had ever before undertaken. Consuming over 9 months of intermittent work, approximately 420 hours of toil, and another 80 hours of thought, the new Jurisdictional Ritual, in its com-

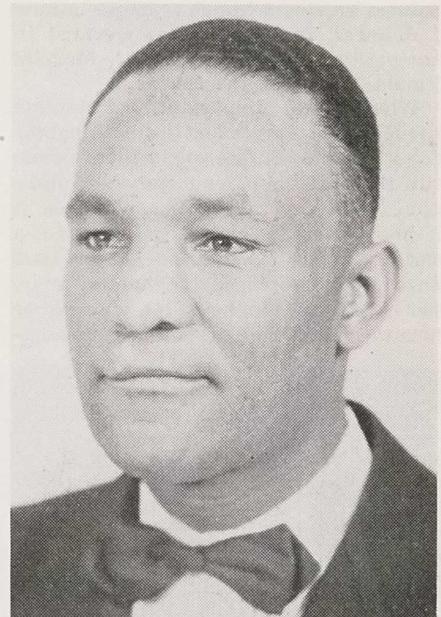
MASONIC NEWS



W. M. Vaughn
Bayview Lodge U. D.



W. M. Mattox
Harmony Lodge U. D.



W. M. Buchanan
Philip Buchanan Lodge U. D.

pleted form, stood as a challenge answered and a need fulfilled.

It would be difficult to accurately measure anytime soon its influence on the thinking of the other Prince Hall Masonic bodies stretched across the nation. But it could be said with a reasonable amount of accuracy that the new Ritual, produced for and by the California Jurisdiction, would undoubtedly be regarded as a tremendous accomplishment, and an important piece of work. Some would support it further, possibly, by adopting it. "We (the Ritual Committee) thought all along that the project was important," said the hard working Hill, "and the more we progressed the greater was its sense of importance. It was a big job, a really tough job, and naturally the feeling of satisfaction is great. Speaking for myself, I wouldn't have traded my part in it for anything."

Destiny's Tot. It was no accident that caused Bill Hill to be given what was admittedly one of the most difficult assignments the Craft could pass out. It really was as if fate had somehow taken a hand in guiding the thoughtful, pipe-smoking Oaklander to this high and climatic point in his career.

Bill, who is the oldest of three brothers, had been brought up and cut his eye-teeth on Masonic lore. He recalled that the atmosphere in his home had always been permeated and dominated by religion and Masonry. Before he was twelve, his curiosity had been thoroughly whetted. "Often I heard my mother and father talking about brother-so-and-so, Worshipful Master Jones, or some other luminary with an imagination-catching title or office," mused Bill. But the thing

which impressed him most was the obvious respect his parents treated all discussions of the Order. Growing up in that type of environment it was natural to think that some day all three youngsters would become candidates for membership. Said Bill by way of explanation: "I guess I decided to become a Mason as soon as I was old enough to make up my mind about such things."

Much like their oldest son was destined to be, Mr. and Mrs. Hill were both extremely active in the Order. William Hill, Sr. was, curiously enough, made the same year Bill was born. In 1909 he entered Victoria Lodge No. 3 in San Francisco. When West Gate Lodge was chartered he demitted to it. Later he settled permanently in Acacia No. 7. Now its Secretary, he was elected Master there in 1939 and 1940. His wife, Ida, was the first Matron of South Gate Chapter No. 27. And for three consecutive years, 1938, '39 and '40, she was elected Grand Most Ancient Matron of the Order of Heriones of Jericho.

The Lampson Case. Aside from the direct atmosphere which so influenced him, Bill Hill recalled another incident which made an indelible impact on his impressionistic young mind. Some years ago the newspapers were carrying lurid stories about George Lampson, a middle-aged white man who occupied a high and important position in Masonry. The state had accused him of murdering his wife, who had been found dead in the bath tub. To bolster its accusations, law enforcement officers had built a heavy, air-tight case from circumstantial evidence. Eventually the jury voted for acquittal, and Lampson was freed. The youthful Bill

felt that the bonds of Masonry had allowed the defendant a fair and impartial hearing, thus enabling him to beat the case.

When Bill decided to present himself for membership, he was still a few months shy of being 21-years-old, the age set as the legal minimum for members by the Masonic Body. It finally took a special dispensation from Grand Master Theodore Moss to have him admitted. On October 25th, 1930, Bill Hill became a Mason, officially entering Good Hope Lodge No. 29. "It was a day of mixed feelings," recalled Bill, "I was a little frightened that something—just anything—would come up to postpone my entrance. When my initiation was over, I remember thinking I could at last talk to my father as a fellow Lodge Brother."

Bill didn't really become active until some years had elapsed. After graduating from high school (University High in Oakland), he went off to college at the University of Washington for three years. Following school he tried to get "squared away" at a steady job that had some "future and security." In 1938 his interest became more pronounced. He bought as many manuals and historic works as he could afford and spent every minute of his spare time cramming. His interest and enthusiasm soon pushed him forward as a leader of the more youthful element of Good Hope. He became Master in 1945, and served through a part of '46.

As Worshipful Master of Good Hope, Bill Hill really came into his own. Streamlining his meetings by introducing a careful, concise presiding form, he succeeded in giving the members a crisp

MASONIC NEWS

business session without a single minute of dullness. In 1948 he was elevated to the position of Potentate of Menelik Temple No. 36 of the Shrine.

"Wives Are Important." Potentate Bill Hill set a precedent by inviting the wives of the Shrine candidates along with those of the older members to initiation. "The average man's wife has it in her power to make her husband a success in business, on his job, or as a Mason," philosophized the happily married Hill. Then too, he felt, a wife rather likes to know who her spouse is associat-

ied about by two enthusiastic young men that the big idea took root. Before long the "New Ritual" began accuptying a greater portion of conversation and thought. Eventually in each one's mind, it began to take size and shape. After a few weeks, the two visionaries began laying their plans (It must be dutifully reported that their plans included the thousands of dollars each expected to make on sales of their copyrighted works). Reference works of all types and descriptions were ferreted out and purchased. Other books were ordered.

conforming interpretations of the ritual, I recommend a committee of four consisting of the Right Worshipful Grand Lecturer and Brother Joseph Brooks, Richard Ellis, Senior Grand Inspector, and William Hill, Jr., Grand Inspector, be appointed, that each study the Ritual and Burial service for a period of 3 months; at the end of which time meet jointly as often as is necessary to put their findings to a final draft. The completed work to be sent to the subordinate lodges for study at least 3 months before the meeting of our next Grand Lodge. The original draft to be submitted by the committee to our next meeting for final action. If said work is adopted by the Grand Lodge, it is to be printed and bound in one volume and handled exclusively by the Jurisdiction."

The recommendation cost Bill and Dick their dream fortune, but in spite of its loss they both pitched into the committee work, making available data which had taken them months to gather.

Justification. Will Johnson, Grand Lecturer and head of the committee, made several trips to Oakland, Ellis drove to Bill's home each night from Vallejo. Slowly, after much laborious research work, countless controversies, and endless editing, the new Ritual began taking shape. After Wil Johnson's first illness, a good deal of his Masonic work was curtailed by doctor's orders. Gradually the load and responsibility of the Ritual began falling on Bill. After the first draft was readied, the big job was selecting a printer to reproduce it. This posed a number of problems, chief of which concerned secrecy. Because of its highly confidential contents, the Ritual was finally given to the Anderson Printing Firm in Oakland.

Reason: Only Masons were employed there. The specimen copies were then run off and put in the Grand Master's hand. All work and progress temporarily came to a standstill, however, with the death of committee chairman, Will Johnson. It wasn't until the 92nd Session in 1948 that the green light was given to resume work. Three proofings, and almost \$1,000 later, the ritual was in its last proof form, with only the final okay by the Grand Lodge still needed for the final press run.

At the last Session (the 93rd) Bill Hill was subjected to forty-five grueling minutes of question and cross-examination by the delegates. "That to me," said Bill later, "was the ultimate test. Every man there realized the importance of accuracy, and they intended to be completely satisfied that there was nothing wrong with our work. Actually, what I had to do was justify every deviation, every change." It was a monument to his thoroughness, knowledge, and ability — to say nothing of his courage — that



Hill & Family
"Wives are important."

ing with. After she satisfies herself on that score, Bill believes, she'll be an asset to his work, rather than a liability. "Wives," he has said, "are important as the very dickens because in most cases they are the driving force behind their men, and as such are the invisible backbone of the Lodge."

It was during the war years that the idea of a new Jurisdictional Ritual kept cropping up in Bill's mind. Like thousands of others, Bill turned to the shipyards during the war to build a nest-egg. Each day he and his long time friend, Richard Ellis had long animated discussions on, as Bill later described, "just about every phase of Masonry we could think of." One noon hour at the shank end of a particularly involved dissertation on the intricacies of the ritual, the half-reclining Bill casually remarked that it would probably be a good idea if he and Dick prepared a special Ritual for the Jurisdiction, and earn a mint of money doing it.

The Big Idea. It was from such casual conversations negligently band-

Soon the library stood complete, and the actual work began.

For three straight months Bill Hill and Dick Ellis put in 10 hours a day at the Mare Island Shipyards and then about 4 hours a night working on the preliminary phases of the Ritual. "We knew that it was a job the Grand Lodge had intended to do," said Dick Ellis, "because Bill had gone through the old proceedings. And as far back as 1922 the Grand Master had been appointing men to Ritual Committees with the idea of rewriting and revising the one in use."

End Of A Dream. It wasn't long before the then Grand Master, George Vaughns, was appraised of their project. To him the need for a new Ritual was obvious, so at the Grand Lodge Session of 1947, Vaughns activated another Ritual Committee: "Many complaints have been received by my office concerning the many alleged changes in our ritualistic work without Grand Lodge authorization, Vaughns told the delegates to the 91st Session. "To the end that there will be no future changes, innovations and non-

MASONIC NEWS

the Ritual to which he had given much time and effort was adopted with but a few minor changes requested.

Job Completed. With the outstanding ritualist, Starling Hopkins, heading the Jurisdiction after the 93rd Session (See ABNET, Nov., 1949) Bill once more reviewed the work that had been done on the Ritual. The new Grand Master was thoroughly impressed by both Bill and the project. A short time later he officially made the Oaklander head of the committee on the Ritual.

The beautifully bound volume soon to be distributed throughout the Jurisdiction is in many ways symbolic of the hard-working, intelligent men who form the progressive nucleus of the Order. With these men setting the pace, the California Prince Hall Masonic body has risen to a respected place of prominence in every major city. Never before in their history could West Coast Masons look to the future with so much hope. This has, in the final analysis, been made possible by the combined achievements of the Jurisdiction's Bill Hills.

THE PRESS

The Big Story

It was a big spread by any standard — pleasing, informative, and entertaining to even the most critical Mason. *TIME*, the nation's number one slick newsmagazine, had long enjoyed the reputation of being a journalistic giant capable of producing the finest work in the writing profession when it chose not to "point" its stories. In its big three-page story,



Potentate Hill ('48)
Pace-setter

"The World of Hiram Abif" (appearing in the July 25th issue), its writers turned out a carefully phrased, comprehensive report on Masonry that was bound to warm the hearts of most of its 3-million members.

In spite of the fact that the basic ingredients for the story were gleaned, for the most part, from the white lodges and temples all over the North American continent, its importance to the fraternity — white or black — could in no way be minimized. The story, while making no special effort to do so, transcended the thought of race while documenting and analyzing the growth of the Masonic Order.

The Legend. Masonry today, the story declared, occupies the leisure time of almost a quarter of the country's adult population. "Week after week, in thousands of halls, in darkened rooms over Main street drug stores, men meet, exchange mystic signs and complicated handgrips. New members are sent upon symbolic journeys through wildernesses of saw horses and overturned chairs. Old members toll bells and simulate the groans of lost souls, solemnly chant and portentously listen as the initiate promises to keep the secrets of the order or have his throat cut and his tongue pulled out by the roots."

The largest, oldest, and most important order, *TIME* pointed out, is Freemasonry. "Actually, although Masonry's ritual is private, it contains no dreadful secrets. Its symbolism is commonplace. Its ceremonies are based on biblical stories. The legend of the slaying of Hiram Abif, one of the builders of Solomon's Temple, is the background of much of the ritual. The world of Hiram Abif . . . is a world of pious vows and moral refreshment."

Man, Masonry, And God. Why do men join? *TIME* answered that some joined because of their father's membership. Others to get ahead in business, or politics. Many because of social equality with the towns best citizens. And a few out of a desire to find out what it was all about. What is the average Mason like? *TIME* thoughtfully defined the average lodge member as "close to being the average U. S. male — a hearty fellow with an inner loneliness . . ."

In an effort to explain and clarify the purpose of Masonry, the Senior Editor who handled the story used the words of a famous Eastern educator: (Its purpose) "is to preserve, to develop and transmit to posterity the civilization we have inherited . . . Wherever in the world there is a lodge of Masons, there should be a focus of civilization, a center of the idea of universality, radiating reason . . ."

Documenting the history of Freemasonry, the story went clear back to its official beginning, 230 years ago, cover-

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MASONIC NEWS

ing the development of the guild masons who built England's cathedrals, and who, in 1717, got together in a London tavern to give birth to the "modern Masonic fraternity." Utilizing its great research forces, TIME plumbed the reasons for its early success. "England was in spiritual chaos after its revolt from the Church of Rome. And men were attracted to a moral code which was based on such undeviating symbols as the level, the compass and the plumb. The Masons conceived of God as "The Great Architect of the Universe." It was the Age of Reason, and Masonry's doctrine of fraternity, equality and enlightenment had a wide appeal. Frederick the Great became a member, Russian aristocrats took it up. English traders distributed charters for new lodges overseas. George Washington and Paul Rivere were ardent brethren. So was Benjamin Franklin, diest and moralizer, who helped initiate Voltaire (the great French philosopher) into the rites. Because its members were dynamic, practical men and forces in the community, Masonry became a quiet but dynamic force in history. It carried 18th Century Protestant civilization into the frontiers of North America. It helped sow the seeds of the French Revolution — and thereby contributed to the destruction of the enlightened French noblemen who had taken it up."

Opposition. Any great movement appealing to the cross-section of the populace is bound to eventually meet opposition and as Masonry grew, TIME pointed out, "it encountered opposition."

"Plump Marie Theresa of Austria," grinned TIME ironically, "had her husband's Masonic lodge raided because she was sure that her philandering Francis was up to no good." But, intoned the story seriously, "more effective opposition came from the Catholic Church. Pope Clement XII, in 1738, issued a papal edict denouncing Masonry as a trespass on the Church's spiritual and moral domain. Rome's opposition to Masonry has been unceasing. The Church, which excommunicated all Communists last week (July, 1949), has been excommunicating Masons for 200 years.

"The order's air of secrecy aroused violent political hostility in the U. S. When a ne'er-do-well ex-Mason named William Morgan wrote an "exposure" of its secrets, then disappeared, Masonry found itself fighting for its life. It was charged that Morgan, who had indeed been kidnapped in 1826, had also been slain. His body never turned up. By 1832, an anti-Masonic national political party was strong enough to put up William Wirt as a presidential candidate against Mason Andrew Jackson and captured Vermont's electoral votes. A century later, Franklin Roosevelt, a 32nd degree Mason, won the electoral votes of every state in the Union except Vermont

and Maine.

"Today," said TIME, "there are some 3,500,000 Masons in the U. S., some 1,500,000 in the rest of the world. Hitler tried to stamp it out. Franco has suppressed it. The Soviet Union, seeing it as a creed of the bourgeoisie (which in fact it is), has done its best to destroy every vestige of it. To authoritarianism, Masonry has always been an implicit threat."

The Inaccurate Theory. Much has been written of Masonry's equalizing affect on the men who belong, believe, practice its ritual, and eloquently mouth its principles. But like the theory of democracy, which, when put to the test of operation, fails to live up fully to its billing, Freemasonry fails to emancipate the Negro and bring about equal integration of the races. This has been true



G. M. W. Crawford
Challenge

in spite of the fact, that "Masonry," as TIME stated, "is a theoretical world brotherhood open to any 'good' man, Protestant, Jew, Catholic, Mohamedan, Taoist, Buddhist."

"With very rare exceptions," said the TIME story, "Negroes are kept out. There are, however, some 800,000 Negroes practicing the rites, the vast majority of them in what are known as Prince Hall Grand Lodges. At least two Negro lodges, one in New Jersey, and one in Massachusetts, can lay claim to the legitimacy of their charters; the others, white Masons insist, are "clandestine" lodges, neither bona fide nor legitimate."

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AUXILIARIES

Justification

Florence Crawford, Attorney General Frank Howser's chief legal secretary, had long been thought of as a practical, charming woman who hated sham. Though intelligent, she had never appeared to be anything other than a casual crusader with a few bright ideas of reform tucked away behind a pleasant personality.

But last week the Eastern Star's number one feminine office holder served notice that there was a good deal more to her than a pretty smile. Sitting down to ruminate with two long time friends, she carefully and deftly put her finger on the pulse of the Order, and like a good doctor, diagnosed the patients' malady.

"Our group," she told them, "has great potential. But like most organizations of any size or consequence, the O.E.S. fails by a considerable margin to live up to it. We have within our body women of great talent and ability, and yet, generally speaking, we are dormant." Why was this? Explained Grand Worthy Matron Crawford, "Mostly we have been content to accomplish too little. In the beginning, when the Eastern Star was formed, its principles were enough to bring it into being; but this organization — any organization — can only justify its existence through the continual enactment of a well thought out program which has as its end purpose some desired goal.

"While it is to be basically understood," Mrs. Crawford continued, "that the full attainment of the principles which guide us and serve as our working foundation may conceivably be that goal, it must be realized that only through activity have those principles a chance to be applied." More specifically she told her assembled guests that the "activating force should come from two palces: the officers of the Chapters, and the administration." Then softly and thoughtfully, as if her past six-months as Grand Matron had taught it to her, she added that "this was, and is, the greatest possible challenge facing those few people given the elective power to act for the majority."

ABNET
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A VERY
MERRY
CHRISTMAS

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(As of July, 1949)**

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Rotherford N. Sanford, Secretary
4008 - 36th St., Sacramento.

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Cecil P. Baugh, Secretary
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Walter C. Taylor, Secretary—2935
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Frank Adams, Secretary—P. O.
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(Rev.) John A. Davis, Secretary
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Ludy Douglas, Secretary
601 E. 10th St., Bakersfield.

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2651 Union St., San Francisco.

Sidney Station, Secretary
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T. R. Watts, Secretary.
1340 E. 92nd St., Los Angeles 2.

PAULO A NO. 51.

....., Master
....., Secretary
Pauloa Lodge is in Honolulu)
c/o Grand Secretary until further
notice).

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Nathaniel Nealey, Secretary
1133 G St., Brawley.

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Eddie Rabaca, Secretary
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Jno. L. Thompson, Secretary
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Incorporated 1923

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CONDITION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1948

First Mortgage Loans	\$1,413,181.10
U. S. Bonds and Stock in the Federal Home Loan Bank	54,000.00
Cash on Hand and in Banks	125,831.53
Advances for Taxes and Accrued Interest	5,513.30
Properties Sold on Contract	1,200.24
Loans Secured by Shares	10,866.78
Office Building Less Depreciation	14,162.86
Furniture and Fixtures Less Depreciation	2,208.62
	\$1,626,964.53
LIABILITIES	
Members Share and Certificate Accouts	\$1,240,223.19
Advances from Federal Home Loan Bank	130,000.00
Loans in Process	26,906.36
Other Liabilities	613.41
Reservers and Undivided Profits	201,721.57
Guarantee Capital Stock	27,500.00
	\$1,626,964.53

DIRECTORS

Louis M. Blodgett
 Jackson L. Taylor
 Bertrand B. Bratton
 Charles S. Blodgett, Jr.
 Charles H. Matthews

LIBERTY SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATION

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