



Martin O. Weddington Papers.

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Rev Paul Min

Oct 24, 1964

Illustrated by J. W. Patton and members of the Council  
We the Council of Deliberation of the Valley  
of Minnesota find our treasury very small -  
As the law so states our moneys are drawn  
from the treasure of North Star Consistory. 14  
Therefore the Scottish Rite body should  
find plans to increase their treasure. There  
should be some program set up where  
by our treasure can be increased.  
The members may plan through some  
project to increase their treasure

Leonard C. Madden 33°  
J. R. L. Apr 320

# MINNESOTA COUNCIL OF DELIBERATION

VALLEY OF ST. PAUL

ORIENT OF MINNESOTA

November 12, 1966

The Council of Deliberation A.A.S.R. of Freemasonry, Orient of Minnesota, N.J. was opened at high noon in the Valley of St. Paul with S.P. James D. Granville 32' presiding and the officers of North Star Consistory in the stations for the purpose of receiving and welcoming the 1966 Council of Deliberation, A.A.S.R. N.J. (PHA).

Grand Inspector General, John R. Lawrence 33', Overseer of the Work, was escorted to the East by G.I.G. Lapercell Greene 33', and was presented the gavel. He ordered the other Grand Inspectors General to be escorted in by the Ill. Grand Master of Ceremonies, and presented. Those present: G.I.G. Leonard Madden, G.I.G. Chalmer Lawson, and G.I.G. Lapercell Greene. The Grand Inspectors General were escorted to the East and given honors.

The G.I.G. John R. Lawrence 33' ordered the Peers to escort and present our distinguished guest, Deputy at Large, and representative of the Sovereign Grand Commander, Ill. Leland D. French 33', who had sent him to visit this 1966 Council - S.G.I.G. Charles S. Casterman 33' of Cleveland, Ohio. Ill. Casterman was received with the honors befitting his office, as the Sovereign Grand Commander would be received - 11 lights, 11 swords clashing in an arch of steel, and mallets beating.

Ill. Casterman was escorted to the East and introduced by Ill. Lapercell Greene, Ill. Grand Secretary of the Council and Grand Master of Minnesota Jurisdiction. The Welcome Address to Ill. Casterman and the Council of Deliberation was given by Ill. L. Greene.

A brilliant response and remarks were then offered by Ill. Casterman.

The Overseer, Ill. Lawrence asked the Ill. Grand Secretary to call the roll of the Council to ascertain whether a quorum was present.

## ROLL CALL

Members present: Overseer of the Work John R. Lawrence 33'  
G.I.G. Leonard Madden 33'  
G.I.G. Lapercell Greene 33'  
G.I.G. Chalmer Lawson 33'

Sublime Princes: James Granville 32' Ill. C in C.  
James R. Lynn 32' Past "  
Edward L. Boyd 32' " "  
Harvey Hopkins 32' " "  
Samuel D. Mitchell 32' " "  
Merrill Taylor 32' " "  
Willie D. Gray 32' " "

Sublime Princes: North Star Consistory # 14  
Lamar Roberts 32' 1st Lt. Commander  
Frank Connors 32' 2d Lt. Commander

Pillar of Beauty Chap. #14 (Rose Cr.)  
Milton Henry 32' M.W. & P. M.  
Theodore Ruffner 32' P.K.S.W.



Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Free Masonry

Prince Hall Affiliation

**Council of Deliberation**

For

**State of Pennsylvania**

MOST ILL. COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF  
WILLIAM W. GRASTY, 33<sup>rd</sup>  
ILL. DEPUTY FOR PENNA.  
P.O. BOX 2  
CHESTER, PA. 19016

ILL. GRAND SECRETARY  
LEO S. HOLMES, 33<sup>rd</sup>  
P.O. BOX 513  
CHESTER, PA. 19016  
PHONE: (215) 872-3534

PROCLAMATION

Agreeable to the stated requirements of the United Supreme Council of Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, for the Northern Jurisdiction, Prince Hall Affiliation, U. S. A., Inc. and with the sanction and approval of the Sovereign Grand Commander, Ill. LeLand D. French, the Pennsylvania Council of Deliberation will convene in the city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Sunday November 16, 1969 in the Hotel Webster Hall, 4415 Fifth Avenue, promptly at 9:00 A. M.

A workshop will be convened Saturday November 15, 1969 at 2:00 P. M., consisting of Commanders-in-Chief and their Officers, Most Wise and Perfect Masters and their Officers and Thrice Potent Masters and their Officers. All Fraters however, are welcome. The registration Committee will be in attendance.

This year there will be no Formal Breakfast. Lunch will be served at noon.

St. Cyprian Consistory #4 of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania will host a Pre - Convention Awards Banquet at 7:00 P. M., in the Convention Hotel, Saturday evening November 15, 1969. You and your guests are cordially invited.

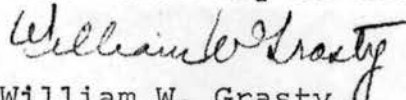
Strict adherence to our customs in dress, promptness and demeanor are expected.



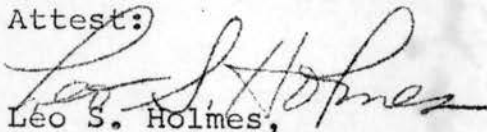
All matters pertinent to the Rite and requiring our attention will be considered at this Annual sitting.

We are anticipating a Fruitful and Rewarding Session and your help and interest will assure this result.

Witness Our Hand and The Seal  
of The Council of Deliberation  
Fro The State of Pennsylvania,  
This First Day of October 1969.

  
William W. Grasty,  
Deputy For The Orient.

Attest:

  
Leo S. Holmes,  
Illustrious Grand Secretary.

It is wise to consider from whence  
our Masonic Rite - the A.G.S.R. of  
Freemasonry (P.H.) for N.Y. & U.S. came.

To be brief in the 1860's King David  
Supreme Council was organized in Wash.  
D.C.; later became U.S. Council, Southern  
and Western Jurisdiction.

In 1870 Star of Bethlehem Supreme Council  
was established in Baltimore under au-  
thority of N.Y. Supreme Council. King  
Frederick Supreme Council was organized  
in Philadelphia under authority of either  
N.Y. or Baltimore Council in 1879.

These Supreme Councils were designated

1. Southern & Western Jur. of United States  
Grand East at Wash. D.C. (P.H. Masons)
2. Southern Jurisdiction; Grand East at Bal-  
timore (Star of Bethlehem)
3. King Frederick; Grand East at Phila.
4. Supreme Coun. of U.S.A.; Grand East at N.Y.

These 3 comprised masons of National  
Compact group.

5. Northern Jur. of U.S.A.; Grand East at Phila.  
Masons of P.H. sodality or States Rights Grand  
Lodges.



*Rocky Says...*

**"GREAT FOR TRAVEL • GREAT FOR FREIGHT"**





Rocky Says...

(2)

"GREAT FOR TRAVEL • GREAT FOR FREIGHT"



The Grand Commanders of each Council admitted that five Councils when the Constitution of 1786 (Frederick II of Prussia) permitted only two.

To correct the Rite, they agreed to "formally and solemnly to renounce, adjudicate, and transfer all dignities, powers and authorities claimed as members of the aforesaid Councils in favor of Two Supreme Councils."

Therefore, 3-4-5 united into one for the Northern Jurisdiction of the U. S. and 1 and 2 Supreme Councils united to form one Supreme Council for the Southern Jurisdiction of the U. S.

The convention which hammered out only two Supreme Councils was held in Cornithen Hall, New York, Jan. 13, 1881.

Wm. E. Davis, the Masonic historian, states, "since the merger of 1881, Scottish Rite masonry in the P. H. sodality has pursued a quiet and even course."





Rocky Says...

3

"GREAT FOR TRAVEL • GREAT FOR FREIGHT"



A very friendly and cordial feeling exists between the two Jurisdictions. Their territorial jurisdictions roughly coincide with that of the two white Supreme Councils. Jurisdiction is respected with no questions of infringement or invasion.

Based upon the Constitution of 1786, the ends of this Society are these: the harmony, the happiness, the progress and the well-being of the human race taken as a whole, and of every individual man in particular. Wherefore it should, with unfailing hope and unremitting labor, be of a constant mind, that it may attain that end, which alone it regards as worthy of itself.

Illustrious Sir and Dear Brother:

North Star Consistory # 14 adopted a "Death Benefit Plan" which was effective May 1, 1948 when Attorney Raymond Cannon 33<sup>rd</sup> was Deputy. It provides that upon death of a member, in good standing, payment from the Death Benefit funds of fifty dollars (\$50.00) to the legal representative or representatives within ten (10) days upon receipt of proof of death.

One dollar from each member's dues each year is paid into this fund, which is earmarked as a separate account and totals one thousand four hundred fifty dollars at present (\$1450.00).

Since adoption the program has operated successfully and smoothly. We did not know that such programs were not favorable to the Supreme Council.

However, Ill. John R. Lawrence, our Overseer of the Work, reported to us your ruling, during the 86th Annual Session of the Supreme Council, re such plans.

Therefore, Illustrious Sir, may we have a statement from your office re disposition of this program?

Thanking you in advance,

Cordially and fraternally,



# Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge

FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS

*State of Minnesota and its Jurisdiction*

**CHALMERS L. LAWSON**

Most Worshipful Grand Master

3832 4th Avenue South

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55409



**JOHN EWING, JR.**

R.W. Grand Secretary

4430 4th Avenue South

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55409

OFFICE OF

**JOHN R. LAWRENCE**

C.C.F.C.

947 Iglehart Ave.

St. Paul, Minnesota 55104

Dear Noble:

You will find listed below, the names of the Nobles who were omitted from the original roster. Please attach this sheet to your list of Captains or insert them in their proper places on the list, for future reference.

Please note that Noble Wallace Partee has been appointed to replace Noble Clarence Smith as Noble Smith is now the Deputy of the Oasis.

Fraternally yours,

Martin O. Weddington  
Temple Director

---

Capt. Marion Brown:		
Noble LaPercell Green	984 Iglehart Avenue	645-1004
Capt. James Adams:		
Noble Fred B. Schby	415 Wheelock Parkway	488-3836
Capt. Rufus Carson:		
Noble Lucas, Alfred L.	839 West Central Ave.,	225-0857
Noble Robert R. Mitchell	833 Fuller Avenue	226-5358
Capt. John McHie, Jr.:		
Noble James W. Slemmons	2015 - 5th Avenue So.,	335-4698
Capt. Ted Martin:		
Noble Thomas J. Johnson	822 Morgan Avenue North	377-2497

January 3, 1969

Ill. Dr. Guy R. Taylor 33'  
Deputy for Ohio  
436 Girard Av.,  
Canton, O.

Illustrious Sir and Dear Brother Taylor:

The beautifully bound, well prepared Proceedings of the Ohio Council of Deliberation for 1968 was received by this office.

Please accept my thanks and commendation for a splendid work. The accomplishments of the Scottish Rite Masons in Ohio have long been worthy, and can serve as a stimulant and a model for the Councils of smaller Orients.

With kindest personal regards,

Cordially and fraternally yours,

John R. Lawrence  
Deputy for Minnesota

P.S. Ill. Taylor, in your travels, do you ever learn of Active member jewels (used) available for sale? Thought maybe old Past Actives or deceased Actives' relatives might have such, and confide in you as the Deputy.



LAW OFFICES

LEVI H. MORRIS

417 EAST 47TH STREET

SUITES 350 - 352

CHICAGO 60653, ILLINOIS

February 17th, 1975

Sir Joseph Cason, Sr.  
Right Eminent Grand Commander  
Prince Hall Grand Commandery  
Knights Templar  
804 East 81st Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60619

Copy to:  
Sir John W. Thompson, Jr.  
Past Right Eminent Grand Commander  
Right Eminent Grand Recorder  
Prince Hall Grand Commandery  
Knights Templar  
8014 S. May Street, Chicago, Ill. 60620

Re: Complaint or Charge against  
Sir W. N. Bess, Past R. E. G. C  
Grand Instructor by Sir R. E. G. Cason

Dear R. E. G. C. Cason:

I am herewith attaching a Motion for dismissal of the Complaint or charge against Sir Bess which you have filed. I am his attorney.

Frankly, I have been surprised by your Charge and your procedure which is unconstitutional and unlawful and which has seriously damaged the good name, fraternal standing, the property and civil rights of Sir Bess.

It appears to me that the Grand Commandery is crumbling. Whenever times get desperate, it appears that it is NOT the times or circumstances which cause decay but the members began to battle each other and thus there is battle from without and from within. We do NOT need this type of leadership nor do we need our membership incited by accusations by you or by Sir Bess. Thus I have filed the Motion.

My suggestion is that you and Sir Bess find some manner in which to resolve your difficulties and disagreements fraternally and amicably and in a spirit of brotherly LOVE. Prince Hall Grand Commandery cannot afford the luxury of charges and recriminations which ought to be settled within the confines of the fraternity in a spirit of true Knighthood. I shall not count it any victory to be compelled to resort to the civil courts where matters can and should be resolved before they grow all out of proportions. As the leader, the blood will fall upon your head IF this is not done immediately.

Yours in Knightly Honor, TRUTH and TOLERATION, I am

LEVI HENRY MORRIS  
Past Right Eminent Grand Commander.

LHM:m

Copies on request



# Prince Hall Grand Commandery Knights Templar



of

ILLINOIS AND JURISDICTION

1974 - 1975

OFFICE OF

RIGHT EMINENT  
GRAND COMMANDER  
R.E. Sir

Josephus Cason  
804 E. 81st St.  
Chicago, Ill. 60619  
994-7931

GRAND RECORDER  
P.R.E. Sir

John W. Thompson, Jr.  
8014 S. May St.  
Chicago, Ill. 60620  
224-1943

GRAND C.C.F.C.  
Alex C. Adams  
8212 S. Drexel Blvd.  
Chicago, Ill. 60619  
VI 6-1501

GRAND DEPUTY

Alto Clark

GRAND GENERALISSIMO

Willie Johnson

GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL

A. A. Arradondo

GRAND PRELATE

Jethro Blue

GRAND TREASURER

James Dentley, Jr.

GRAND INSTRUCTOR

W. N. Bess

GRAND SENIOR WARDEN

Prince A. Hughes, Sr.

GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN

M. O. Weddington

GRAND TRUSTEE

Joe Shoto

GRAND MARSHAL

Clifford Ware

GRAND STANDARD BEARER

J. J. Hadley

GRAND SWORD BEARER

Charles B. Williams

GRAND WARDER

Thomas McGee

GRAND SENTINEL

Lee Mayes

ASS'T GRAND RECORDER

DISTRICT DEPUTIES

1st District, Chicago

Alto Clark

2nd District, Downstate

Thomas McGee

3rd District, Wisconsin

H. K. Moore

4th District, Minnesota

M. O. Weddington

5th District, Africa

Kenyatta Lamumbo

I Sir, Josephus Cason Sr, R, E, G, C, of The State of Illinois and its appendant Juresdiction, by Virtue of the High power and aulherity in me Vested, For the Violation of the Oath and obligation of the member, disobedience of the laws, edicts rules, and regulati ons the moral law of this Grand Commandery, of any criminhl offense or for contumacy to his lawful Authority, for mulescence in office, or for doing anything which will lower the standing of the Order.

Sir. W. N. Bess you or remove from offices,  
tell Trial at your subordinate Commandery,

2/21/75

Article. VIII. Sec. 9 Page. 7

Article. IX. Sec. 3 Page. 8

I / 3I / 75

Sir. Josephus Cason Sr.

Right Eminent Commander.

Sir Josephus Cason Sr.  
R.E.G.C.

Sir. John W. Thompson Jr.  
Grand Recorder.  
P.R.E. Sir.

Attest.

STATE OF ILLINOIS )  
COUNTY OF COOK ) SS

IN THE MATTER OF

COMPLAINT AGAINST R. E. SIR W. N. BESS, GRAND INSTRUCTOR  
PRINCE HALL GRAND COMMANDERY, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

BY R. E. SIR JOSEPH CASON, R. T. G. C.

MOTION TO DISMISS COMPLAINT AND CHARGES

Now comes, R. E. SIR, W. N. BESS, duly elected Grand Instructor, by R. E. SIR, LEVI H. MORRIS, his attorney, respectfully moves that the Charges and Complaint signed by Sir Joseph Cason against him be dismissed or in the alternative that Specifications, detailing the Charges be filed and served in accordance with the Constitution and BY-Laws of Prince Hall Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of the State of Illinois and for grounds for the same says:

1. The Complaint and Charges are void of any SPECIFICATIONS. In support of this Respondent cites Section 1 of Article III of the Chapter III, Page 65 of the Penal Code of Prince Hall Grand Commandery which provides: "All Charges of Offenses shall be made in writing WITH REASONABLE CERTAINTY, the CHARACTER OF THE OFFENSE of the offense alleged to have been committed and the TIME AND PLACE OF THE COMMISSION..... The Charges MUST BE EXPLICIT that the accused shall have a fair understanding of what he shall have to answer. ...." The Section also provides that the Charges where they are too vague for the accused to answer, "he shall REFUSE TO PROCEED TO TRIAL." The Charges merely cite the provisions of Section 9 and 10 on page 7 Art. VIII. The Charges are a STATEMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION stating the wording of Section 9 and 10 and DO NOT IN ANY MANNER, FRAME OR FORM RECITE when, time, date on what occasion and in what manner or HOW the Respondent, W. N. Bess violated his oath and obligation. The Charges recite the wording of the Constitution which gives power to the Grand Commandery to bring such charges. The Charges are therefore VAGUE, UNCERTAIN, UNREASONABLE, NON EXTENT and are NOT properly framed. NO ANSWER CAN BE MADE TO THEM. Anyone and everyone can only agree that the Charges are NO CHARGES at all but a mere statement and recitation of the existing law and do not refer to any SPECIFIC violation by R. E. Sir Bess.

Moreover, Section 9 of Article VII page 7 which the R. E. Grand Commander cites gives the GRAND COMMANDERY power and original jurisdiction and does not give the Grand Commander any right, power or authority to assume this power and authority over or from the Grand Commandery.



2. The Charge recites the remaining part of Section 3 of Article IX on page 8 and the Grand Commander Cason sets this out in hac verba, word for word but the charge says nothing about the Respondent Bess committing any offense. It doesn't give any date, time or any place or any manner or what the Respondent Bess did or said or what criminal or moral offense was committed and when or where. The Charge merely RECITES THE SECTION 3 on Page 8. All Sir Knights know and can read this law but WHAT DID SIR BESS DO? when where and in what manner? The Charge therefore states that Sir Bess is removed from office for violation. WHAT VIOLATION? WHAT WAS DONE, WHEN OR WHERE? Section 3 gives the Grand Commander the power to remove any officer from office for this(WHAT) violation. Thus the Charge is vague and VOID and in fact is no Charge at all but it is only a recital of the Constitution and laws of the Grand Commandery. Moreover, Sir Bess IS NOT NAMED IN ANY CHARGE AT ALL. But in the lower part of the letter to him is typed this:

" Sir. W. Bess you or remove from offices,  
tell Trial at your Subordinate Commandery" 2/21/75"

Thus the "Charge" or Complaint is NO charge against Sir Bess and is ridiculous because no one can PRESUME OR IMAGINE ANY ACT OR DEED COMMITTED BY SIR BESS- NONE BEING SET OUT.

3. Section 2 of Article I, Page 62 of the Penal Code of the Grand Commandery gives the Subordinate Commanderies the right to try its members for an offense BUT it expressly excepts the RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER AND ALL ELECTIVE OFFICERS and it only has this power when the GRAND COMMANDERY DOES NOT ASSUME JURISDICTION. Thus no elective officer of Prince Hall Grand Commandery can be tried by his subordinate Commandery. See Sec. 2 of Article 1, Page 62.

By a STRONGER REASON AND GROUND FOR DISMISSAL, Respondent shows that he has been ordered removed from office until trial by his Subordinate Commandery. This is unlawful for the above reason stated. NO SUBORDINATE COMMANDERY CAN TRY AN ELECTIVE OFFICER OF THE Grand Commandery. Sir Bess has been and is now the ELECTED GRAND INSTRUCTOR and he therefore cannot be tried by the Subordinate Commandery. Respondent is surprised to be compelled to review the law which the Grand Commander should KNOW.

4. For a further ground to dismiss the "Charge" if it can be called a Charge, Respondent cites Section 4 of Article I at Page 63 of the Penal Code of Prince Hall Grand Commandery thusly :

" In ALL CASES, which charges are preferred against any Eminent Commander OR an ELECTIVE OFFICER of this Grand Commandery, except the Right Eminent Grand

Commander, the CHARGES SHALL BE REFERRED TO AND HEARD BY A COMMISSION as provided by Section 33 of this Article. "(Section 3 provides for the composition of such a Commission. )

It therefore seems EVIDENT that NOT ONLY are the "CHARGES" unlawful, void and vague and without any SPECIFICATIONS, but they stand out as an abuse of the power of the Right Eminent Grand Commander who has no power or right to have any trial of any ELECTED OFFICER except by a Commission appointed by him. Such a Commission and its composition is set out plainly in Section 3 on page 62. Moreover Section 2 further recites:

" ..... A Subordinate Commandery has no power or authority to discipline the Right Eminent Grand Commander or Eminent Commanders or ANY ELECTIVE OFFICERS OF THIS GRAND COMMANDERY"

It therefore is crystal clear that this order of the Right Eminent Grand Commander referring this matter to "trial at your Subordinate Commandery on 2/21/75" is VOID ab initio and of no effect and must be held for naught. IF THIS ORDER IS NOT HELD FOR NAUGHT AND A BREACH OF THE CONSTITUTION AND PENAL POWERS on page 62, THEN THE RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER has wilfully committed a violation of the Constitution and Laws and the Respondent cannot believe that he would wilfully disobey the same. Sir Bess being an elective officer of the Grand Commandery cannot stand trial in his Subordinate Commandery nor can the Right Eminent Grand Commander order him so to do.

5. FOR THE REASONS and grounds stated and same being supported by the citations in the Constitutions and the Penal Code of the Grand Commandery the " Charge " if it can be so designated should be immediately withdrawn, stricken and dismissed. Even though the " Charge " is dismissed or withdrawn, the Right Eminent Grand Commander will have to report his actions to the Grand Conclave next. It therefore does not appear WHAT Sir Bess has done BUT IT IS VERY OBVIOUS that the Right Eminent Grand Commander has violated the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Commandery and for this Respondent has not preferred any Charge.

MOREOVER, it becomes increasing more difficult for Respondent to be charged by the Grand Commander and Prosecuted by him also upon an illegal, unconstitutional and unlawful charge and in such unlawful manner which breaches the rights of Respondent. Respondent also has a civil right and a property right and a Fraternal right for his Character NOT to be abused or held to scorn or ridicule falsely and could if he chooses seek proper compensation from the Grand Commandery or from whomsoever is guilty of pressing such unlawful charges.

WHEREFORE, Respondent, W. N. Bess respectfully asks that the "Charge " be dismissed or that in the alternative proper Specifications be made and the Constitution and Penal Code followed precisely to preserve his fraternal, property and civil rights.

February 17, 1975

  
Attorney For R. E. Sir W. N. Bess,



# MINNESOTA COUNCIL OF DELIBERATION, AASR

To: Ill. Deputy, Peers, Officers and Fraters

I submit herewith 1972-72 Treasurer's Report

## CASH AVAILABLE

Balance in bank 11/20/72			\$ 352.63
Receipts: North Star Consistory No. 14 Tax	11/25/72	\$402.50	
"	"		
	10/29/73	463.75	
Total Receipts		\$866.25	866.25
Cash Available			<u>\$1,218.88</u>

## DISBURSEMENTS

Check No. 152	11/25/72	Supreme Council Benev. Fund	\$ 25.00	
" 153	"	L.P. Greene Sec. Donation	60.00	
" 154	"	A.A. Arradondo Treas. "	25.00	
" 155	"	Lux Club Food Expense	97.42	
" 156	"	Mpls. Spokesman Advertising	46.50	
" 157	"	Wayne Glanton Stamps & Print	25.35	
" 158	"	L.P. Greene Office Supplies	35.00	
" 159	"	M.O. Weddington Bal. of Travel	112.82	
" 160	2/13/73	Alexander & Alexander bond	10.00	
" 161	4/19/73	M.O. Weddington Supreme Counc	200.00	
		Bank Charges	1.00	
Total Disbursements			<u>\$538.09</u>	538.09
		Balance on Hand 11/09/73		<u>\$ 680.79</u>

*Aaron A. Arradondo*  
 Aaron A. Arradondo  
 Treasurer



## Western Consistory No. 28

Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry  
Prince Hall Affiliation

ORIENT OF ILLINOIS

VALLEY OF CHICAGO

From The Office of

THRICE POTENT MASTER

St. John's Grand Lodge of Perfection #28

May 16, 1973

Illustrious Sirs & Brothers:

We extend congratulations to our Illustrious Vernon B. Williams, Jr., 33<sup>o</sup>, Deputy of the Orient of Illinois, on receiving the Merit Award given by the United Supreme Council at its 92nd Annual Session.

We further congratulate the Illustrious John H. Johnson, 33<sup>o</sup>, of the Johnson Publications Company, who received the Mason of the Year award given by the United Supreme Council.

To Illustrious Levi H. Morris, 33<sup>o</sup>, we give a rising ovation on being elevated to the rank of an Active Peer, by the United Supreme Council.

Hearty congratulations are extended from this body to:

Wilford Faulkner, Paul H. Fisher, Sr., William H. Jones,  
Milton E. Pitts, and Oscar B. Willis

These Brothers were coronated 33<sup>o</sup> at the 92nd Annual Session of the United Supreme Council on Monday, May 7, 1973, in the City of Brotherly Love - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. We sincerely hope that all of the above mentioned will motivate, instill interest, and take under their proverbial wings those young men who are interested in the furthering of Scottish Rite Masonry into the common goal and good for all people.

We further extend congratulations to the other five men from Illinois who were also coronated 33<sup>o</sup>.

The St. John's Grand Lodge of Perfection #28, will convene at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 23, 1973 at the Temple, 809 East 42nd Place. All Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Masons are expected to be in their places at that time.

Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry has been present in Minnesota, at least, since 1870. James K. Hilyard, Saint Paul, Minnesota, was readmitted into African Grand Council in 1870. The second lodge among Minnesota men of color was organized in Minneapolis, Minnesota September 5th or 7th 1871, known as J. K. Hilyard Lodge U. D.. Its charter was granted Tuesday July 2, 1872.

There were Consistory members in Minnesota from Missouri, Iowa and Illinois long before North Star Consistory was organized. The first records of North Star Consistory show it was first under the Supreme Council Southern and Western, Washington, D. C.. North Star Consistory, as we know it, was organized on April 9, 1893.

1893

Our present charters are dated January 23, 1906. They were signed by J. D. Kelley, S.G.C., William H. Miller, S.G.H.E. and J. F. Richards, M. C.. The Consistory met in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

The charter was surrendered during the late 30's. In 1944 a Brother Joseph Josa Sherwood, living in Saint Paul, Minnesota, who had been a leader in the United Supreme Council, gave instructions on how to go about reorganizing the Consistory. North Star Consistory No. 14 was reorganized on October 28, 1945, in Saint Paul, Minnesota. It now meets in Minneapolis, Minnesota again.

Fraternally submitted,

Prepared by,  
Martin O. Weddington, 33<sup>o</sup>  
Ill. Deputy for Minnesota  
and its Jurisdiction

To the:

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Past Grand Masters, Present and Past Grand Officers, Members of this M. W. Grand Lodge and Brothers.

Greetings:

It is with sincere gratitude and humility that I now stand before you. The fraternal year has passed and is now history. I am thankful for being able to bring this report to this 76th Annual Communication as your Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.

I have sincerely tried to the best of my ability to fulfill every assignment that has been given me. I have sincerely tried to comply with the Grand Masters requests. I have served his office in his absence; in his presence, I have offered to assist him with my counsel and cooperation.

I accompanied the Grand Master on his Official Visits to Districts one and two, to Acacia Lodge # 12, to Pride of Alberta Lodge # 9, and Regent Lodge # 5. I made a visitation to Mosaic Lodge # 11, Alpha Lodge # 10 and Doric Lodge # 3. I arranged for our Spring Conference and served as a coordinator of the work. I attended all public observances and all Cabinet meetings.

I use this word just to make someone think, "Pythagoreans." Where are they? I have found in all our Lodges, there are some who try for perfection in the ritualistic work. Some, who are seeking knowledge, need encouragement and help. Grand Lodge representatives should be seen more than once a year. A Grand Lodge paper or bulletin could fill a need for communication.

Masons, as individuals, should be seen working in our community for better race relations, better schools, better jobs and a better neighborhood. Masons, as individuals, should be seen working against juvenile delinquency, destruction of property and crime in all its forms.

I feel we have troubled times ahead of us. High caliber leadership is hard to find in some of our Lodges. Two years ago I reported to this Grand Lodge that the Prince Hall Masonic Building of St. Paul, MN. was in financial difficulty. The Brothers of District # 1 came to the rescue three times. I stated, there was talk about foreclosure. The Lodges have received the notice of foreclosure sale. What will the community say? An assessment from the beginning may have saved the building. District # 1 may now need an assessment to get another building. We must have a Lodge Hall or Temple in Saint Paul, MN.

It has been rewarding to me, traveling through the Jurisdiction. The Masonic fellowship given by the Brothers shall long be remembered. I wish to express my sincere appreciation to this Grand Body for your confidence. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you very sincerely for the high honor you placed in me by electing me to the position of Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master. I hope and pray that my service this past year has justified your confidence.

Fraternaly Submitted,



Martin O. Weddington





The United Supreme Council  
Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry  
Prince Hall Affiliation  
Northern Jurisdiction, U.S.A. Inc.

Constitutions and General Regulations changes  
Sovereign Grand Commander, Officers and Deputies:

1. Article III, Sec. 3a reads: The Supreme Council shall meet annually on the second Monday in May at such place within the Jurisdiction as it shall determine. etc.

To be amended as follows: [delete the word second, insert the word first.] (effective 1989?)

2. Article IV, Sec. 12 reads: There shall be no more than 60 Active Members of the Supreme Council, including Deputies. As nearly as practicable, there shall be at least one Active Member of the Supreme Council from each State in its Jurisdiction where there are subordinate bodies, etc.

To be amended as follows: [delete the word one, insert the word two.]

3. Article IV, Sec. 13 reads: In the event that an Active Member of the Supreme Council is suspended from his symbolic lodge, and such suspension has continued for six months or more preceding the annual meeting of the Supreme Council, his office as an Active Member shall be automatically deemed to be permanently vacated.

To be amended as follows: [delete the word shall, insert the word can.]

4. Article IV, Sec. 22 reads: Honorary Members shall be entitled to sit in the Supreme Council, excepting during Executive Sessions, and shall have the privilege of joining in debate, but shall have no vote.

To be amended as follows: [delete the words, but shall have no vote, insert the words, One Honorary Member from each Consistory present shall have one vote.]

5. Article XXIX, Sec. 109 reads: Such Councils of Deliberation shall be composed of all Sovereign and Grand Inspectors General of whatever grade resident in the State; duly elected officers of said Councils; all Past Commander-in-Chief of Consistories in the State; the first three officers for the time being of Consistories; the first three officers of Chapters of Rose Croix; and the first four officers of Lodges of Perfection.





The United Supreme Council  
Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry  
Prince Hall Affiliation  
Northern Jurisdiction, U.S.A. Inc.

Constitutions and General Regulations changes:

page 2

Add Sec. 109a [In Jurisdictions or States with only one or two Consistories, Past Most Wise and Perfect Masters and Past Thrice Potent Masters shall be voting members of their Council of Deliberations.]

6. Articles XXX, Sec. 119, Article XXXI, Sec. 127 and Article XXXII, Sec. 133 read basically the same: A dispensation or Charter for a Consistory of Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret may be granted in the manner elsewhere provided in these Constitutions to not less than forty-five Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret in good standing in this Jurisdiction.

Add Sec. 119 a [A dispensation or Charter for a Consistory of Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret may be granted in the Manner elsewhere provided in these Constitutions to less than forty-five new members, by the Sovereign Grand Commander, but not less than thirty-five new members and ten members of other Consistories or Consistory.]

7. Article XXXI, Sec. 130, The last sentence of the paragraph reads: The officers of Chapters of Rose Croix shall be elected at its meeting held on Maundy Thursday, or at a meeting held within forty-one days thereafter, as its regulations may prescribe.

To be amended as follows: [The officers of Chapters of Rose Croix may be elected at its meeting held during the month of March, April or at its Maundy Thursday observance.]

8. Part TWO of our General Regulations, Sec. 27, bottom of page 58 reads: No subordinate body shall appropriate any of its moneys to defray the expenses of any member to the Council of Deliberation of its State except the railroad transportation by the shortest traveled route of the presiding officers of the Consistory, the Chapter of Rose Croix and the Lodge of Perfection, when by the body deemed necessary; nor shall any subordinate body contribute any of its moneys for the expenses of a member of the Supreme Council for attendance upon its sessions except upon the approval first obtained of the Deputy for its State.

To be amended as follows: [ delete the word railroad.]

Fraternally submitted,

*Martin O. Weddington*

Martin O. Weddington, 33°  
Deputy for Minn. and its Jurisdiction

5/13/78

714 W. Central Ave.  
St. Paul, MN 55104  
(612) 222-0295

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

To: The M. W. Grand Master, Past Grand Masters, Grand Lodge Officers,  
Representatives and Members of the M. W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge,  
F. & A.M. State of Minnesota.

#### GREETINGS:

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence, begs leave to submit the following report of activities during the past year.

Apparently the printing of proceedings is restricting the mailing of printed proceedings of Grand Lodges. I have received only four proceedings from Grand Lodges; who were Ohio, Michigan, Massachusetts and Louisiana.

I responded to all the correspondence received by this office. This year I sent original greetings, to four~~ty~~ two Grand Lodges.

Minnesota regretted receiving the notice that the following Brothers had passed, P.G.M. Obed E. Vanderburge, Illinois; P.G.M. James E. Chase, Washington; P.G.M. Clarence V. Coleman, Alaska; Grand Master Jerry Townes, South Carolina; P.G.M. Bossie B. Simmons, Virginia. C.C.F.C. Vanderburg~~h~~ was 99 years old. After 20 years of service Brother Volney B. Phillips of Texas resigned as Secretary.

With your permission, I would like to read the names of Jurisdictions that have sent Greetings to this Grand Session. Alabama, R. D. Nesbitt, Sr.; Alaska, Raymond W. Coleman, Sr.; Arizona, Horace Ames; Arkansas, C. B. Robinson; Ontario, Canada, Karl Mathews; Colorado, Sylvester Smith; Connecticut, Preston L. Pope; Florida, Willie F. Powell; Georgia, Curtis V. Cooper; Illinois, Levi L. Rose; Kansas, T. Roosevelt Butler; Kentucky, Walter T. Bradley, Jr.; Louisiana, Eual Phillips; Massachusettsll, Patrick E. Knight & Andrew J. Spears; Michigan, Clanton N. Dawson; Mississippi, Louis J. Hall; Missouri, John B. Hughes; Nevada, A. L. Gleghorn; New Jersey, Charles W. Cambell; Ohio, William A. McClain; Oklahoma, James Roy Johnson; Oregon, William B. Odom, Jr.; South Carolina, Thomas E. McLester; Tennessee, Charles L. Kinslow; Texas, I. H. Clayborn; Virginia, Thomas E. Minor; Washington, William Gardner; West Virginia, C. Lee Pryor; Wisconsin, Henry H. Moore. I had some letters returned. I will obtain correct names and addresses for current office holders.

■ We can not turn back the hands of the clock to September of last year. We made a hasty decision as far as an assessment was concerned. We did not think out, what all of the ramifications and consequences could be. We assumed that 95% of the membership would pay the assessment. We could not foresee the resistance, the attitude, the negative conversations and statements that were forthcoming.

The C.C.F.C. did not publicize the reaction and resistance to this action. This committee could have requested information, opinions and recommendations from other Jurisdictions who have faced similar situations. Suggestions from others might have helped us resolve our problem. We have too much invested now to let our membership drop.

Poor advise can hurt. Winnipeg should not have put themselves in the predicament they now find themselves in. We all should learn from others mistakes.

Masonry is supposed to be a progressive science. Masonry needs a substitute word for the word assessment. That word would have the same thought as assessment but would allow some exceptions. Government agencies use abbreviations such as; V.A.R. for Volunteered Additional Revenue or A.R.T. for Additional Revenue Tax. V.A.T. etc.

If we who are members of this Grand Lodge can not think of some way to raise money, some future generation will have to. Some organizations make money to support their homes from the public.

Maybe a Black community like St. Paul needs to join together and build a Black American Center. We should look at what other ethnic groups have done. Have you seen the building that the Ukrainans have built on North East Main St. in Minneapolis? Blacks can do the same. I can visualize a building at the other end of the parking lot owned by the St. Paul Gopher Elks Lodge.

We know who the enemy is, and it us. We must learn to love one another. We must learn to help one another. Black Masons should stand out from the mass. We should be like a candle on a candlestick. "let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Mathew 5: 16.

The office of C.C.F.C. stands ready to assist the Grand Master in communicating with other Prince Hall Grand Lodges. We can exchange information and assist his office for the advancement of the Order.

This office received no money. The Grand Lodge depleted its stock of envelopes. I used my own. I am submitting an expense of \$22.00 for stamps. I used more than a roll of stamps.

Fraternally submitted,

Martin O. Weddington, C.C.F.C.



This means, it is possible to elect the officers of the Chapter after the Supreme Council meeting in May. I believe this should be amended to read:

(The officers of Chapters of Rose Croix may be elected at its meeting held during the month of March, or at its Maundy Thursday observance.)  
or April

Article XXXII, Sec. 136 reads: The officers of a Lodge of Perfection shall be elected annually. The election shall take place at a stated meeting to be held in the month of February. Additional meetings shall be called as the Thrice Potent Master shall direct.

It has been stated: "no one should be an officer in two houses." You can't blame a member from accepting the nomination and election to an office in the Consistory even though he might be an elected officer in the Chapter or the Lodge of Perfection. All want to be a permanent member of the Council of Deliberation. Permanent membership status is obtained by being a Sovereign or Grand inspectors General or being a Past Commander-in-Chief. One answer to this problem would be to make Past Most Wise and PerfectMasters and Past Thrice Potent Masters members of the Council of Deliberations. This might be an acceptable idea, if it applied only to Jurisdictions with one or two Consistories.

8. Under Part Two of our General Regulations, Sec. 27, Bottom of page 58 reads: No subordinate body shall appropriate any of its moneys to defray the expenses of any member to the Council of Deliberation of its State except the railroad transportation by the shortest traveled route of the presiding officers of the Consistory, the Chapter of Rose Croix and the Lodge of Perfection, when by the body deemed necessary; etc.

The word "railroad" is near obsolet.

(I suggest we delete the word railroad.)

Fraternally submitted,

Martin O. Weddington, 33°  
Deputy for Minn and  
its Jurisdiction