



Martin O. Weddington Papers.

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ANNUAL ADDRESS

of The

Most Worshipful Grand Master

at The

105th ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

of The

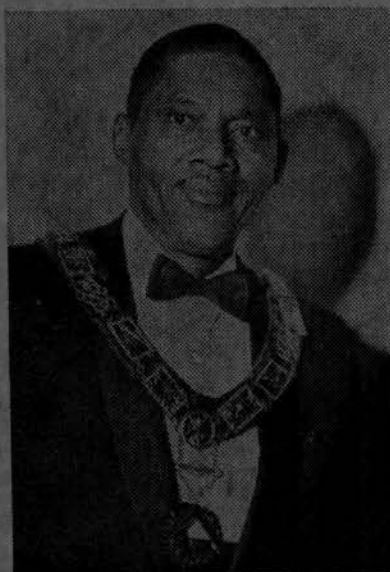
MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE

Free and Accepted Masons of Illinois

Held in

SHERATON MOTOR INN — GALESBURG, ILLINOIS

OCTOBER 12-14, 1971



JOHN H. PERKINS, 33°

Most Worshipful Grand Master

Chicago, Illinois

October 1971

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL DEPUTY GRAND MASTER, GRAND WARDENS, PAST GRAND MASTERS,
WORSHIPFUL MASTERS, WARDENS, AND BRETHERN ASSEMBLED HERE IN OUR 105th
ANNUAL COMMUNICATION OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE,
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS, STATE OF ILLINOIS

G R E E T I N G S

God, out of His infinite mercy, has permitted us to assemble here today in our 105th Annual Communication. It is with Humility in our hearts that we are grateful for the honor of serving this Grand Lodge for the past year.

Upon assuming the duties of Grand Master, we were ever mindful and deeply conscious of the huge responsibilities that are attendant upon that office. I accepted them with Prayer, Faith and Hope, that He who controls the destinies of all created beings, would guide us in the pathway of Truth, Wisdom and Justice.

"O, Lord, how excellent is Thy name in all the earth, who hast set Thy Glory above the Heavens. When I consider Thy heavens, the work of Thy fingers, the moon and the stars which Thou has ordained, what is man, that Thou are mindful of him? And the son of man, that Thou visited him? For Thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour, Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of Thy hands, Thou hast put all things under his feet, O, Lord, how excellent is Thy name in all the earth".

Chaplain + song, Do not pass me by.



MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE

FREE and ACCEPTED MASONS OF ILLINOIS

105th ANNUAL COMMUNICATION
REGISTRATION SHEET FOR VISITORS ONLY

Please complete (print) the following data for proper identification

NAME: _____ OFFICIAL TITLE _____

NAME OF JURISDICTION: _____

NECROLOGY

The Accustomed census of our Illustrious dead has been completed and an appropriate inscription has been placed beside each name in the archives of this Grand Lodge. We stand with bowed heads to mourn the passing of staunch friends and stalwart men, instinct fills our hearts with sorrow and we celebrate these rites in the spirit of the mourner, and yet ours is not a melancholy task, we are merely taking a census of those whose loss we mourn. We are making an inventory of the deathless estate they have left behind them and appraising the heritage they have fashioned for us. When death takes a friend and brother there is but anguish in the hearts of those of us who knew and loved him. But the scroll before us is the record of a full year. Months have passed since we stood on the brink of the abyss, bitter anguish has turned to mellow reminiscence. Each of us knew more than one of those whose names we inscribe today on our scroll of honored dead, names of those who sat in the oriental chair and contributed in the proportion of their powers to the honor of Masonry and to the welfare of the Craft. We remember them and honor them for the work of their hands and the qualities of their minds which live beyond them.

We desire to call attention to the great loss the Craft has sustained in the passing of R. W. Bro George Taylor, Past Grand Auditor. Brother Taylor served this Grand Lodge faithfully and sincerely for many years. Still another great loss was sustained in the passing of W. Brother Elton P. Kodo a member of the Jurisprudence committee and Past Worthy Grand Patron of Eureka Grand Chapter. He will be missed by the Fraternity.

Let us remember that it is the dead that govern, the living only obey, and if the soul sees, after death, what passed on this earth and watches over the welfare of those it loves, then must its greatest happiness consist in seeing the current of its beneficent influences widening out from age to age, as rivulets widen into rivers and aiding, shaping the destinies of individuals, families, states and the world and its bitterest punishment is seeing its evil influences causing mischief and misery, and cursing and afflicting men long after the frame it dwelt in has become dust, and when both name and memory are forgotten, we know not who among the dead control our destinies. The universal human race is linked and bound together by those influences and sympathies which in the truest sense do make the fate of men. Humanity is the unit of which man is but a fraction. What other men in the past have done, said, thought, makes the great iron network of circumstance that environs and controls us all.

The Masonic institution suffers its greatest loss through the death of its Past Masters, they are the men who have given the order its leadership, perpetuated its ideals, protected its landmarks, initiated its apprentices, and guided its master workmen. It is their work which largely constitutes our heritage. From those we pause to honor this hour. Each of us in our turn will join their ranks and be recorded on the scroll before us. It is at such a time as this that we may fittingly re-dedicate ourselves to the task of carrying forward the work of the Fraternity with equal zeal and fidelity and so let us return to our Lodges in the spirit of re-dedication, let us emulate the good work of those who have relinquished to us the responsibility of leadership, let us recall the spirit of them to sit with us, council, and by their wise judgements and proper precepts, to help us preserve the ideals of the Fraternity.

No attempt has been made to record here the virtues or the work of individuals among our distinguished dead, each has had his fitting masonic tribute with a record that is eternal in our archives and with a recollection in the hearts of brothers and friends that will live so long as we who knew them shall survive. We stand uncovered at the universal shrine of Masonry grateful that our own lives have been enriched by our fraternal relations with those who have departed and confident that each of them have won a cherished place in eternity. It is impossible for us to even attempt to indulge into the just praise they so well deserve, but to those brethren who have departed from our midst the past year we may pause to say this:

THEY ARE GONE, BUT IN MEMORY LIVETH
THEY HAVE PASSED, BUT THEIR EXAMPLES ARE HERE
AND THE SWEETNESS AND FRAGRANCE IT GIVETH
WILL LINGER FOR MANY A YEAR

STATE OF THE ORDER

The overall picture of the Craft is generally good. During the year we have visited many Lodges over the State, but only a few Officially. We enjoyed these meetings, the Masonic spirit seemed to be high, our Grand Lodge program was better explained and understood. But there are some things that are very disturbing to us about our Order and we shall discuss with you briefly for your serious consideration. We shall not attempt to make comparison of Past Administrations, for their programs were carried out successfully. We have met periodically with your Grand Lodge Officers and we have reviewed the history of this Grand Lodge and Fraternity with careful scrutiny and it shows that the demands are much different today than in yesteryear. All of your Grand Lodge Officers have acquainted themselves with the program for the year and they are due your Thanks for their industry and devotion to the performance of their duty. The reports of our District Deputy Grand Masters shows that practically all of our Lodges experienced a good year. We ask you to give your attention to Financial Reports and our Membership Report, they tell the story of the structure of our Grand Lodge.

FRATERNAL VISITS ACTS & RECEPTIONS

OCT 17, 1970	Met with the officers of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge and Order of the Eastern Star at Rock Island, Illinois and organized the Home Board and Trustees.
OCT 17, 1970	Attended Rebecca D. Poone Banquet at the Lake Tower Motel Inn.
OCT 20, 1970	Attended Jachin #133 Past Masters Night.
OCT 24, 1970	Attended Garden City #50 affair at the Essex Ballroom
OCT 24, 1970	Attended Celestial #80 affair at the Concept Ballroom.
OCT 25, 1970	Attended reception for Sen Fred Smith at the Colonial Fouse.
OCT 25, 1970	Attended Pride of Harmony #144 Banquet at Washington Park Field House.
OCT 25, 1970	Attended Monarch #99 affair at the Club Allegro.
OCT 26, 1970	Met with P. G. Master Barker at the temple.
OCT 27, 1970	Met with Executive Committee of Prince Hall and O.E.S. Riverview Apartments.
OCT 29, 1970	Attended Masonic Education Dinner Club.
OCT 30, 1970	Attended Elevation of Western Consistory
OCT 31, 1970	Attended Mt. Hebron #29 Widows Night at the Colonial House.
OCT 31, 1970	Attended Past Masters Council at the Temple.
NOV 1, 1970	Attended Western Consistory Elevation and Ill Peers Meeting.

NOV 1, 1970	Attended Banquet of Corner Stone Lodge #91
NOV 3, 1970	Attended Wayfarer #128 Service Club
NOV 5, 1970	Attended Truth Chapter #125 O.E. S. Regular meeting
NOV 6, 1970	Met with the grand officers and the Grand Trustees.
NOV 6, 1970	Visited North Star #1 regular meeting
NOV 6, 1970	Luncheon with Ill Peers at Y.M.C.A.
NOV 7, 1970	Attended Council of Deliberation in Carbondale, Ill
Nov 8, 1970	Attended Council of Deliberation in Carbondale, Ill
NOV 11, 1970	Attended Annual International Travel Agency Luncheon at Blackstone Fotel.
NOV 14, 1970	Visited R. E. Moore Lodge #109 regular meeting
NOV 15, 1970	Attended Daughters of Isis Oriental Tea
NOV 17, 1970	Met with the Grand Trustees
NOV 20, 1970	Attended Citizen of the Year Award at Danville, Ill, sponsored by Corinthian Lodge #31.
NOV 21, 1970	Attended R. E. Moore #109 Widows Banquet.
NOV 28, 1970	Attended Annual Benefit Affair of Lone Star Lodge #18 at Champaign, Ill.
NOV 29, 1970	Attended a Luncheon and party given by Truth Chapter #125 in our Honor.
DEC 2, 1970	Received call and had coffee with Bro Bruce Hudson of the White Grand Lodge.
DEC 5, 1970	Visited Bethany Lodge #141 Regular meeting in Hopkin, Park, Ill
DEC 6, 1970	Met with the Prince Hall Masonic and O.E.S. Village Inc., at the Masonic Temple. Annual reports were made and officers elected.
DEC 8, 1970	Visited Harmony Lodge #88 in their regular meeting.
DEC 10, 1970	Attended the funeral services for Worshipful Bro George Taylor, Past Grand Auditor in Springfield, Ill
DEC 11, 1970	Attended the funeral services of Bro James Dentley.
DEC 12, 1970	Went to Rock Island, Ill for Corporation meeting.

DEC 12, 1970	Attended Grand Officers Party, O.E.S. at Colonial House.
DEC 19, 1970	Went to Rock Island for childrens Christmas Party of the Riverview Apts given by P.W.G. Matron Sister Burtella McDougal.
DEC 20, 1970	Attended Widows Banquet of Wayfarers Lodge #128.
DEC 30, 1970	Visited Western Star Lodge #87 at their regular meeting.
JAN 1, 1971	Visited North Star Lodge #1 in their regular meeting.
JAN 2, 1971	Visited Plumblin Lodge #116 in their regular meeting.
JAN 4, 1971	Attended funeral services for Bro Sebron T. Ellis.
JAN 5, 1971	Attended service club of Wayfarer #128.
JAN 6, 1971	Met with District Deputy Grand Masters.
JAN 7, 1971	Attended funeral service for Ill Tower Banks.
JAN 7, 1971	Attended Truth Chapter #125 in regular meeting
JAN 13 1971	Attended opening of Rosie E. Moore Chapter #78
JAN 15, 1971	Attended opening of Plumblin Chapter #109
JAN 15 1971	Visited Wayfarer Lodge #128 in their regular meeting.
JAN 16, 1971	Attended Emblem Chapter #140 opening Waukegan Ill
JAN 17, 1971	Held Area Meeting at the Masonic Temple.
JAN 18, 1971	Attended opening of Queen Vashti Chapter #121
JAN 21, 1971	Attended Grand Lodge School of Instruction
JAN 23, 1971	Went to Rock Island, Ill
JAN 23, 1971	Attended Education Committee Dinner Club
JAN 29, 1971	Attended Grand Lodge Law School
JAN 30, 1971	Held Home Commission meeting and election of officers.
JAN 30, 1971	Attended Past Masters Council meeting.
FEB 3, 1971	Met with District Deputy Grand Masters.
FEB 4, 1971	Met with Masonic & O.E.S. Corporation of Riverview Apts.
FEB 8, 1971	Met with Grand Lodge Officers and Past Grand Masters.
FEB 11, 1971	Met with Masonic & O.E.S. Corporation of Riverview Apts in Call Meeting.

FEB 12, 1971	Met with Mr Mitchell Nelson of Independence Bank to negotiate loan.
FEB 14, 1971	Attended Past Masters meeting of Wayfarers Lodge #128
FEB 15, 1971	Met with the Worshipful Masters and Secretaries and organized the 1971 Worshipful Masters Club.
FEB 18, 1971	Attended Grand Lodge School of Instruction.
FEB 20, 1971	Visited Pythagoras Lodge #134 in their regular meeting.
FEB 25, 1971	Attended Masonic Education Dinner Club.
FEB 26, 1971	Attended Masonic Law School.
FEB 28, 1971	Attended funeral services for the wife of Bro Aaron Cunningham of Waukegan, Ill
MAR 3, 1971	Met with District Deputy Grand Masters
MAR 4, 1971	Met with Masonic and O.E.S. Corporation of Riverview Apts.
MAR 5, 1971	Met with Mr. Mitchell Nelson to sign loan note.
MAR 6, 1971	Called and made trip to Rock Island, Ill
MAR 7, 1971	Attended dinner for Veterans at Great Lakes given by Shawall Temple at Waukegan, Ill
MAR 13, 1971	Attended dinner dance of North Star Lodge #1 at Club Allegro.
MAR 13, 1971	Attended annual affair of Wayfarer Lodge #128
MAR 20, 1971	Attended Ill Potentate Ball of Arabic Temple #44 at Sherman House.
MAR 21, 1971	Attended the Grand Tea of the Order of Eastern Star.
MAR 23, 1971	Attended affair of Truth Chapter #215
MAR 28, 1971	Attended Banquet honoring our Worthy Grand Matron Sister Hazel B. Walker.
Mar 29, 1971	Attended the meeting with white Mason Bruce Hudson and our Committee.
MAR 31, 1971	Called meeting of District Deputy Grand Masters.
APR 1, 1971	Met with Executive Board of the Masonic and O.E.S. Riverview Apartments.
APRIL 3, 1971	Met with Home Commission at Masonic Temple.

APRIL 3, 1971	Visited Silver Square Lodge #62
APRIL 8, 1971	Made Mr. A. J. Deloney III a Master Mason on Sight
APRIL 10, 1971	Attended the O.E.S. Grand Ball
APRIL 11, 1971	Attended Sunrise Service of Western Consistory A.A.S.R.
APRIL 11, 1971	Attended Grand Commandry Divine Day Services
APRIL 15, 1971	Attended Old Timers Banquet with Bro Al Morehead
APRIL 20, 1971	Met and welcomed the Imperial Commandress at Airport
APRIL 23, 1971	Attended Las Vegas Night at Hales Franciscan High School
APRIL 24, 1971	Made trip to Rock Island, Ill
APRIL 25, 1971	Met with St Johns Divine Day Committee
APRIL 28, 1971	Represented Prince Hall Masons of Ill in Springfield, Ill in support of F. E. P. C. Bill introduced by Rep Corneal A. Davis.
MAY 2,3,4, 1971	Attended Supreme Council of A.A.S.R. in Philadelphia, PA
MAY 5, 1971	Met with District Deputy Grand Masters
MAY 6, 1971	Met with Executive Board of Masonic and O.E.S. Riverview Apartments.
MAY 8, 1971	Made trip to Rock Island, Ill
MAY 8, 1971	Attended affair of Grand Arts & Crafts O.E.S. at Masonic Temple
MAY 9, 1971	Attended breakfast given by Mt Moriah Lodge #28 Evanston, Ill
MAY 9, 1971	Attended Agnes Court Banquet at Masonic Temple
MAY 16, 1971	Attended Divine Services of Arabic Court #21, Dtrs of Isis at Allen Temple.
MAY 16, 1971	Attended Smorgasborg given by the District Deputy Grand Masters.
MAY 20, 1971	
21	
22, 1971	Attended Grand Masters Conference in Jackson, Miss
MAY 26, 1971	Attended Musical Given by Arkansas College Alumni
MAY 28, 1971	Attended Masonic Building League Banquet
MAY 29, 1971	Attended Masonic and O.E.S. Home Commission

MAY 29, 1971	Attended Banquet of Talma Guild
MAY 30, 1971	Held Area Meeting in Carbondale, Ill
JUN 1, 1971	Attended Golden Circle Assembly services
JUN 2, 1971	Met with District Deputy Grand Masters.
JUN 2, 1971	Attended the Election of Officers Arabic Temple #44
JUN 3, 1971	Met with Executive Committee of Masonic and O.E.S. Riverview apartments.
JUN 5, 1971	Made trip to Rock Island, Ill
JUN 5, 1971	Was speaker for H. Of J. Banquet at the Colonial House
JUN 6, 1971	Attended Esther Day Divine Services of The O.E.S.
JUN 9, 1971	Attended Lions Banquet honoring Bro Vernon E. Williams Jr
JUN 12, 1971	Met with Mayor of Rock Island, Ill
JUN 13, 1971	Attended Homecoming at Rock Island, Ill
JUN 16, 1971	Attended Past Potentate Meeting of Arabic Temple #44
JUN 18, 1971	Attended Wayfarers Lodge #128 Regular meeting
JUN 19, 1971	Attended Banquet of Keystone #15, Aurora, Ill
JUN 23, 1971	Attended meeting of Western Consistory
JUN 24, 1971	Attended funeral services of Bro Roland Toney of Rufus Mitchell #107, Waukegan, Ill
JUN 25, 1971	Visited Hiram Lodge #14 in their degree work.
JUN 26, 1971	Visited Eureka #64 in regular meeting
JUN 27, 1971	Attended St John Day Divine Services at Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church
JUL 1, 1971	Met with Executive Board of the Masonic and O.E.S. Riverview Apartments.
JUL 3, 1971	Attended Banquet of East Gate Chapter, O.E.S.
JUL 6, 1971	Met with Past Masters of Wayfarers Lodge #128
JUL 7, 1971	Met with District Deputy Grand Masters and Special Efforts Committee.
JUL 8, 1971	Met with Executive Board of Masonic and O.E.S. Riverview Apt in Special Meeting.
JUL 11, 1971	Attended Arabic Temple #44 Annual Picnic

JUL 14, 1971	Met with Special Efforts Committee
JUL 15, 1971	Performed Masonic services ceremony for Bro Elton P. Hodo, P.M. of R. E. Moore Lodge 109 and member of the Jurisprudence Committee, M.W.P.H.G.L.
JUL 17, 1971	Met with the officers of the Washington Park Y.M.C.A.
JUL 18, 1971	(My Birthday)
JUL 18, 1971	Was guest speaker at Pilgrim Baptist Church
JUL 18, 1971	Attended Ashler Lodge #139 Banquet honoring their Past Masters.
JUL 21, 1971	Met with Special Efforts Committee
JUL 22, 1971	Was Initiated into the Heriones of Jericho
JUL 26, 1971	Attended meeting of the Chicago Urban League.
AUG 4, 1971	Visited Grand Session of Holy Royal Masons
AUG 5, 1971	Met with Executive Board of Masonic & O.E.S. Riverview Apt
AUG 6, 1971	Visited Grand Session of Knight Templar Commandry
AUG 9, 1971	Attended Banquet of Eureka Grand Chapter, O.E.S.
AUG 10, 1971	Met with Special Committee of Eureka Grand Chapter, O.E.S.
AUG 11, 1971	Visited Eureka Grand Chapter O.E.S. at the Hyatt House with Grand Officers, Past Grand Masters and Bro, total 85.
AUG 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 1971	Attended Prince Hall Shrine Convention in Houston, Texas
AUG 26, 1971	Met with Mr Mitchell Nelson of Independence Bank.
AUG 30, 1971	Met with Mr Nelson of Independence Bank and sign loan note
SEP 1, 1971	Met with District Deputy Grand Masters
SEP 2, 1971	Met with Executive Board of Masonic and O.E.S. Riverview Apartments
SEP 4, 1971	Visited Monarch #99 Regular meeting
SEP 4, 1971	Attended Past Grand Joshua Club affair
SEP 5, 1971	Attended musical program presented by the Grand Lodge School of Instruction, R. W. Bro Alto Clark, Grand Lecturer
SEP 10, 1971	Met with the Grand Officers of the M.W.P.H. Grand Lodge.

CONFERENCE OF PRINCE HALL GRAND MASTERS

We were privileged to attend the Grand Masters Conference held in Jackson, Miss, May 20, 21 and 22 as guest of the Most Worshipful Stringer Grand Lodge, F.& A.M., P.H.A. The conference was presided over by M. W. Grand Master, Homer Davis of West Virginia. We are reporting to you that the entire structure of the conference was changed in Boston, Mass. Instead of the Conference Committee, we now have a President, M. W. Bro Homer Davis of West Virginia, M.W. Bro Thomas Waldon Grand Master of Indiana, Secretary and all other officers are Regional Directors. As usual, one of the highlights of the Conference was the challenging address of Bro John Davis of Masonic Legal Defense Fund. Our retiring president, M. W. Bro Frank Russell, Grand Master of Washington and that dynamic M. W. Bro Samuel Daniel of Maryland, gave inspiring and challenging addresses to the conference about the recognition of Prince Hall Masonry. Many distinguished visitors were present and introduced to the session. Those attending the Conference for Illinois were R. W. Bro James H. Black, Senior Grand Warden, M. W. Bro Vernon L. Barker, Past Grand Master, Bro Charles Taylor, Grand Master of Ceremony, W. Bro Walter Keys, Asst Grand Chaplain and Bro Peter Powell, Past Master of North Star Lodge #1. Due to his involvement as Superintendent of schools in East St Louis, Ill., R. W. Bro Rufus Starks, Deputy Grand Master, sent his regrets he was unable to attend as planned. There were 31 Grand Masters, 11 Deputy Grand Masters, 14 Past Grand Masters, 8 Grand Secretaries present for the Conference. Your humble servant was elected Regional Director of the Midwest Region.

SPECIAL EFFORTS COMMITTEE

To raise funds to assist in paying off some of the indebtedness of the Masonic Temple and Education Committee. The Special Efforts Committee, appointed under the very capable leadership of R. W. Bro Rufus Starks, Deputy Grand Master, Chairman, R. W. James Black, W. Bro James Miles, W. Bro Eugene Jordon, R. W. Bro Edger Falconer, W. Bro A. J. Deloney Jr., Co-Chairman. We congratulate this committee with our sincere thanks for the effort put forth to make this affair a success, and our thanks to all of you, the Lodges and Chapters that made their contribution to this affair.

JUNIOR CRAFTMAN

It was to our disappointment that we were unable to form more council and send some boys to camp. Bro William Green, P.M. Fidelity #103 was Director. Bro Green made concerted efforts to reorganize the Grand Council and reinstate the councils; he will give you his report.

MASONIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE

This Committee, with W. Bro Benjamin A. Gore, Director, did a wonderful job despite the poor attendance at their monthly dinner club meeting. These were valuable and informative discussions enjoyed by all. This Committee honored their commitment to Miss Tidal Marie Richardson on her scholarship. They presented her a check for \$500.00., at the Special Efforts Banquet. Prince Hall and Americanism day was observed Sunday, Sept 26, 1971 at the Masonic Temple. Our thanks, Bro Gore, for a job well done. This committee will give a complete report.

PUBLIC INSTALLATION

To increase the image of Prince Hall Masonry in the eyes of the Public, the Public Installation was held at the Robert Taylor auditorium, December 27, 1970. Our records show 31 Lodges participated in the ceremony. As usual, M. W. Bro Obed E. Vanderberg, Past Grand Master, with the assistance of the District Deputy Grand Masters and Deputy Grand Lecturers conducted a very impressive ceremony. The Masonic Chorus and Knight Templar Band furnished the music. The center was over crowded and the public was really impressed.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS

The District Deputy Grand Masters under the capable leadership of Deputy James W. Miles in Charge, have met monthly and supported, promoted and implemented the Grand Lodge program. They not only visited their assigned lodges on Official Visits, but availed themselves to their Lodges for assistance and made frequent visits to their meetings. Yes, we had problems, but we know that it was your devotion and interest in the Grand Lodge Program that this office performed no Official Acts. Let me again say Thanks for the \$400.00 for the purpose of liquidating our Temple Fuel (coal) bill. This money was the proceeds from the dinners sold by the District Deputy Grand Masters. I am deeply grateful to all of the District Deputy Grand Masters for their services and cooperation given to this administration and Grand Lodge, however, we know just who did their job and who did not.

JURISPRUDENCE COMMITTEE

This committee, under the capable leadership of Bro August A. Abadie, Chairman, and Bro Joseph J. Blount, Co-Chairman, has exemplified unusual understanding in the constitution and By laws. If there is something you do not know, or wanted to know, this committee has been available. The other members have worked untiringly with the committee. Since our last Grand Session, it was our misfortune that Bro Elton P. Hodo, a member of this committee, answered the call of the Grand Architect of the universe, Many thanks to this committee for the way they conducted these classes.

OFFICIAL VISIT AND OFFICIAL ACTS

It is my pleasure to report to you that for a few instances, there was no cause necessitating disciplinary action. This demonstrates that our District Deputy Grand Masters have continued their helpful supervision and that most of the Masters are cognizant of their duties.

On April 8, 1971, we assembled the Past Masters and Officers of R. E. Moore Lodge #109 and Grand Lodge Officers. We assembled a Lodge and conferred the Degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason upon Albert J. Deloney, III. This young man being desirous of following in his father's footsteps as a Mason, is serving his country well, was wounded in Vietnam, was being shipped out again and was assigned to R. E. Moore Lodge #109.

DISPENSATIONS

Dispensations issued during the year	152
Degree Work	71
Covering Joining Fee	42
Election and Installation out of town	14
Procession	3
Cornerstone Layings	4
Change Meeting	12
Vacation	5
Masonic Service	5
Visit to Adoptive Chapter	4

NEW MASONIC TEMPLE

My Brothers, we inherited a Resolution passed and approved by this Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge in its 103rd Annual Session to assess each member \$100.00 for a New Masonic Temple Building Fund. In our 104th Annual Session, we extended this resolution for one (1) year, until August 31, 1971. These are facts, now let us examine the record. At the close of our 104th Annual Session, we had collected and had on hand Seventy One Thousand (\$71,000.00) Dollars. As of August 31, 1971 we have on hand Eighty Six Thousand, Five Hundred Sixty Eight (\$86,568.00) Dollars deposited as follows. Service Federal Savings & Loan Association, Twenty Three Thousand, Two Hundred Sixty Nine Dollars and Sixty Four (\$23,269.64) Cents; Independence Bank of Chicago, Twenty Three Thousand, One Hundred Six Dollars and Seventy One (\$23,106.71) Cents; Drexel National Bank, Twenty One Thousand, One Hundred Twenty Eight Dollars and Seventy Three (\$21,128.73) Cents; Highland Community Bank, Nineteen Thousand, Sixty Three Dollars and One (\$19,063.01) Cents. These figures indicate that in the year just closed we collected Fifteen Thousand, Five Hundred Sixty Eight (\$15,568.00) Dollars or an increase of Twenty Two (22) per cent. This figure also indicates that less than Fifteen percent of our Membership has paid the One Hundred Dollar Assessment. Further, it indicates that we are just Thirteen Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Two (\$13,432.00) Dollars shy of the One Hundred Thousand Dollars we set as our Goal.

With this Goal clearly in sight we are going to launch our attack NOW. We appointed the Honorable Corneal A. Davis, our own Worshipful Grand Chaplain & State Representative; Right Worshipful Brother O. G. Gist, Grand Trustee; Emeritus Brother James B. Lockhart, Attorney; Past Grand Master Henry G. Fort; Past Grand Master O. E. Vanderburg; Worshipful Brother Levi H. Morris, Grand Attorney; Worshipful Brother Thomas C. Taylor; Brother Charles Clark, Superintendent of Robert Taylor Homes, C.H.A.; Brother Oswald Champagne, Jr., Urban Renewal; Brother Prince E. Marshall, Secretary; Right Worshipful Brother James H. Black, Grand Senior Warden as Members of the New Masonic Temple Building Commission. This Commission will begin work immediately in this area. All projects that they propose will become an operation. For instance, a Drive will be launched to raise funds for Operation Architect. We will have a report from this Commission during this 105th Annual Session.

MASONIC & O.E.S. RIVERVIEW APARTMENTS

Words are inadequate to compliment our Past Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Hazel B. Walker, for her superb manner in handling the affairs of Eureka Grand Chapter O.E.S., as Vice President of the Prince Hall Masonic & O.E.S. Village. She has given us all the cooperation and support desired. Our meetings have been most harmonious and productive as one could expect, her ability, courage and judgement was rewarding and a spirit of inspiration to this office. We are happy to report that we have a wonderful spirit of cooperation and understanding with our Sisterhood. On Sunday, December 6, 1970, pursuant to the Articles of the Corporation, the annual meeting of Riverview Apartments was held at the Masonic Temple, 809 E. 42nd Pl. There were 27 members present, the summary reports of our Attorney and detailed report of the Secretary was received and approved. The following officers and directors were elected for a term of one (1) year to comprise the Executive Committee John A. Perkins, President Hazel B. Walker, Vice President, Bessie Howard, Treasurer, George W. Harris, Secretary, and directors: Daisy Slaughter, Rufus Starks Hazel Stillwell, O. B. Vanderburg and Henry G. Fort. Because of his extreme interest, devotion and untiring work with the Masonic and O.E.S. Riverview Apartment, we were prompted to appoint Most Worshipful Bro Vernon L. Parker as Executive Secretary for the Riverview apartments. Bro Barker has done a tremendous job. As you know, we began the year without a rental agent, we cannot pay him for the interest he has shown. He deserves your thanks and another who deserves our warmest praise is Sis Ethel Schurlock, Associate Grand Matron. Without a rental agent the corporation agreed unanimously to give to Sis Schurlock the power to rent the Riverview Apartments and she did. At the beginning of 1971, all not completely rented of the 152 units, 130 rented and 22 vacancies. We are happy to report to you as of August 31, 1971, we have 150 rented and 2 vacancies. Thanks to Sis Schurlock and her staff and the sincere efforts of M. W. Bro Vernon L. Parker. Yes, we have problems, many of them the important one is money. At the final closing with F. H. A. of the Riverview Apt, we found out we needed \$30,000 before closing. The Corporation started negotiations with Independence Bank of Chicago, the loan was secured. On February 12, 1971, we met with Mr Nelson and made final arrangements for the payments of loan. This Corporation has met monthly to review the financial transactions of the Riverview Apts. We have received monthly financial statements from Rock Island of all monies collected and disbursed we have managed to pay our note monthly and necessary bills. In March we were notified of a suit filed against us by the Per-Mar Guard Service for services at the development of which our Grand Attorney, Levi H. Morris, made appearances in our behalf and the situation was resolved. We have many problems, but you are not to get alarmed over them because we are taking them day by day and attempting to solve them with the help and advice of our attorneys James Robinson of Urban East and Ralph D. Beal of Rock Island and our own Grand Attorney, Levi H. Morris. Let us say here that God has been good to us, he has guided us in all our transactions. As long as we keep Faith in Him, WE SHALL OVERCOME.

On July 10, 1971, we received a letter from the Federal National Mortgage Association, that we were in default. The reason for the default was due to the imposition of Real Estate Tax of \$46,632.94 on the development by Rock Island County Assessors office wherein the loan was processed as tax exempt.

The income and analysis of this development did not provide for this imposition of tax. F.N.M.A. advanced the tax payment due of \$47,099.27 that included a penalty of \$466.33. On the first installment, F.N.M.A. billed us for the tax payment made, and increased the monthly installment payment on the mortgage from \$7,415.22 to \$11,776.22 effective August 1, 1971. The regular installment of \$7,415.22 was paid for August 1971. When the balance for the increase and taxes was not paid the default notice was initiated, these are the reasons for the default notice. We immediately sent all documents to Attorney James Robinson. We also met with the Honorable James Haymaker relative to our tax problem. He could not take any direct action, but advised us and referred us to the assessor and Board of Reviews Office. We were able to secure the procedures for payment under protest. On legal advice from our attorneys, we have withheld payment until they have coordinated what ever action is necessary with F.N.A. county assessor, and F.N.M.A. Initially we felt that this project had the good blessing of the Rock Island structure, but it is not that way; everything indicates that they are prejudice, non cooperative and wants us to remain in default. But we are fortunate to have the best legal attorneys in James Robinson, Ralph D. Beal and Levi H. Morris, who can advise us in the proper way and fight the circumstances engulfing us now, this is where we are at the present time.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Donate \$100.00 to Masonic Chorus
2. Donate \$100.00 to the legal defense fund N.A.A.C.P. Conference of Grand Masters.
3. Donate \$100.00 to Washington Park, Y.M.C.A.
4. The Committee on reinstatements of members and non-Prince Hall Masons be re-appointed.
5. That the New Masonic Temple Commission be continued.
6. The resolution on the New Masonic Temple be extended for one (1) year, ending August 31, 1972.
7. That the Ritual Committee be continued.

CONCLUSION

And now in Conclusion, we would be remiss in our duty if we did not say a few words of praise for those who have served with us. Gratitude is a memory ob by gone blessing and past courtesies, the mind can hold no greater treasures of kindness and expressions of affection and confidence. How easy it is to recall the names of Myriad Brethren who merit our grateful appreciation! How difficult to transcribe the overwhelming emotions to writing in language that can adequately express in words the proper thanks! How voluminous the roll on which so many names should be recorded! The record, however, should reveal my acknowledgement of the unselfish devotion and untiring efforts of those with whom we have worked so closely and constantly. We have worked together harmoniously as a unit with but one purpose in mind, the good of Masonry in Illinois. We have enjoyed the cooperation and support of all Grand Lodge Officers, Committee Chairmen and Committee members. Especially noteworthy is the theme we established at the beginning of the year "Unity". The great central truth of Masonry is that God lives, that all

mankind are His children and as such, are members of the same family. Brothers, everything in Masonry revolves around the existence of God and mans dependence on him. It is not secret words or signs or ritualistic ceremony that makes a Mason, but it is the living and eternal truth, applied in a mans own life and among his fellowmen that makes him a Mason. True Masonry has two main goals, the development of Character and the realization of brotherhood, for it is in this spirit that we trust and Pray for a harmonious session, remembering that those who work best are those who can agree.

My Brethren, this year is completed and the record made and we are returning to you the emblem of authority entrusted to our keeping for the past year without a blemish, nothing to mar the good name of the Craft of Illinois. The business of this Grand Lodge is yours.

As we enter into our deliberations let us remember these thoughts on the Lord's Prayer:

You cannot Pray the Lords Prayer and even once say "I"
You cannot Pray the Lords Prayer and even once say "My"
You cannot Pray the Lords Prayer and not include another
And you cannot ask for daily bread and not include your brother
For others are included in each and every plea
And from the start to the finish it never once say "Me"

Finally my Brethren, Be Ye All of One Mind, live in Peace and may the God of Love and Peace delight to dwell with and Bless you.

Respectfully submitted,


JOHN H. PERKINS
Grand Master