

The Discoverer

The Monthly Newsletter of The Lodge of Discovery

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Greetings Brethren,

Another good selection of articles for your entertainment and education.

The editor would be happy to accept any articles for future publication.

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FEBRUARY ANSWERS



This quiz can be used for EAs, FCs, MMs and PMs – if they don't know a phrase it doesn't matter - they will one day and this might whet their appetite.

1. The G or T of an E A F - The Grip or Token of an Entered Apprentice Freemason
2. The P P of my E - The Perfect Points of my Entry
3. The F R step in FM - The First Regular step in FreeMasonry
4. The P or E M and S V - The P or E M and S V
5. This P was P at your N L B - This Poignard was Presented at your Naked Left Breast
6. The T G though E L in Freemasonry—The Three Great though Emblematical Lights in Freemasonry
7. It is M A than the G F or R E - It is More Ancient than the Golden Fleece or Roman Eagle
8. The F of these is S, F and O. - The Foremost of these is Secrecy, Fidelity and Obedience.
9. A C P P to be M a M - A Candidate Properly Prepared to be Made a Mason
10. At my I I I was T T be C - At my Initiation I was Taught To be Cautious
11. The G G of D, a P and R in I—The Great Grandfather of David, a Prince and Ruler in Israel
12. They are the S, P and Cs. - They are the Skirret, Pencil and Compasses.
13. A P within a C from which a M M cannot E—A Point within a Circle from which a Master Mason cannot Err
14. By meek and candid B this evening Y H E two G D - By Your meek and candid Behaviour this evening You Have Escaped two Great Dangers
15. The T G P of B L, R and T - The Three Grand Principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth
16. From the P which S at the L of the P or E of K S T - From the Pillar which Stood at the Left of the Porchway or Entrance of King Solomon's Temple
17. You are now E to D the T L L which are S in the W, S and E - . You are now Entitled to Demand the Three Lesser Lights which are Situated in the West, South and East
18. Let me A T T R of the S W - Let me Add To The Remarks of the Senior Warden
19. I T P O T G A O T U A O T W, W, A W L O A, F, A A F - In The Presence Of The Great Architect Of The Universe And Of This Worthy, Worshipful, And Warranted Lodge Of Ancient, Free, And Accepted Freemasons
20. A A P O Y F A T R T O B U Y S L A Y S L—As A Pledge Of Your Fidelity And To Render This Obligation Binding On You So Long As You Shall Live.

With acknowledgement to the Craft Masonry Education Website New Zealand

BROTHERLY LOVE

By constant repetition we have become so familiar with many phrases and sentences that we fail to recognize their true significance. "Brotherly love" is one of these. How often have we repeated those two words since we lisped them at our Masonic birth?

We were told that, by the exercise of brotherly love, we are taught to regard the whole human species as one family—the high and low the rich and poor—created by one Almighty Being and sent into the world for the aid, support, and protection of each other.

Have we lived up to all that is included in this teaching? Love is the life of a true home, and is not love equally the light and love of a Lodge? Should not the Lodge be a haven of rest, and where a brother for a time should find shelter from the storms which he encounters on life's way, where for a time he will forget the world's buffetings? Few wish to make others unhappy, but we must go further.

We must give a hearty welcome, and smile our pleasure at the meeting. It is very true that many of us may not possess that charm of manner which puts a brother at his ease and makes him feel that here is one within whose breast beats a sympathetic heart, and here is one to whom he can unburden depressing thoughts. But do we make the best of our opportunities? Do we not think that a nod and a common-place remark is enough?

How many of us make a point of getting into touch with as many brethren as possible on Lodge night? Is it not a fact that, though many of our minds may be moving on parallel lines, they never meet? Sometimes it seems to me that a ten minutes' interval during business, when brethren could move about the Lodge and exchange a few words of greeting, would be an innovation on right lines. Of course, I am told that the Fourth Degree provides opportunity, but with the hurry-scurry of supper, toasts, fires, music etc., little can be done.

The truest test of brotherly love is sympathy. Merely good intentions are not sufficient. We must show something more practical. We must enter somewhat into our brother's life, and this can only be done by gaining his confidence. The brother whose sympathies are deep will the most easily accomplish this. But even those of us whose exteriors are somewhat cold may go far if we only care to make the effort. True, the effort may be difficult, but the cultivation of a sympathetic manner will do wonders. Sometimes it may be our duty to find fault, but let it be done with love. We sometimes pride ourselves on being candid, and this is right; but in striving after candour it is not necessary to wound the feelings of a brother. Let our words be like rays of sunshine, and not like barbed arrows or the bite of a serpent.

But brotherly love must not be put on and off with our Masonic clothing. Within the portals of the Lodge the atmosphere is permeated with fine feelings. But these should be characteristic of our everyday life. Our social and business life should bear testimony to the teachings of the system to which we belong. The impulse towards action, help, and beneficence, the desire for stopping human error, clearing human confusion, and diminishing the sum of human misery, the noble aspirations to leave the world happier and better than we found it, should furnish us with opportunities for showing that our admiration for the various virtues is deep-rooted, has become part of our being, and is no mere repetition of fine-sounding phrases. Above all, let us be aware of selfishness. Self-love closes up the channels of our finest nature and deprives of a real source of happiness—the sharing of the grief and joys of our fellow-beings.

Too often we pride ourselves as being not as others are, and yet allow the uninitiated to outdo us in the performance of acts which should appeal to the heart of every Mason. With our acquaintance with all the teachings of Masonry, our path ought to be easy and straight.

A strong essential to brotherly love is humility. Some of us have risen to positions of authority in the Craft, and it would be well sometimes if we were to question ourselves as to the motives which caused us to seek advancement. Was it for the sake of self-aggrandizement? Was it for the love of fine clothing? Was it the desire of power? Or was it to make ourselves more generally useful to our brethren? The greatest honour a man can have is to serve his fellows, but let it be because of his love for service and not for position or other reward. Have we always extended the helping hand to the newly-initiated, or have we left him to his own devices? Have we shown sufficient interest in his welfare to help him in understanding the signification of the various ceremonies that have left him somewhat bewildered?

Some of us carry out well our part of showing brotherly love by Lodge visiting, but what is our position with respect to private visiting? When our brethren are ill, how many of us make a cheering call or drop a kindly note of sympathy? How many of us ever think of visiting the hospital to find if some poor lone brother is there languishing in pain? "The poor feel for the poor" has become a well-known saying; and should it not be said with greater fitness that Masons feel for Masons! We plead many excuses for our shortcomings, but will the Great Architect accept these?

Perhaps some of you may say that these disjointed ideas are well known to you. I grant this, and claim no originality for anything I have said, but I do think that we cannot lay too much stress on the possibilities of brotherly love. Brotherly love is a cure for the majority of the ills to which flesh is heir. Brotherly love is the solution of many of the problems of the day.

Take the labour question and the conservative resistance it provokes. So far as this conflict is unhealthy and regrettable, the unhealthiness consists solely in the fact that one half of our people are blind to the internal significance of the lives of the other half. They miss the joys and sorrows, they fail to feel the moral virtue, and they do not guess the presence of the intellectual ideals. They are at cross purposes all along the line. Often all that the poor can think of in the rich man is a cowardly greediness for safety, luxury, and effeminacy, and a boundless affectation.

What he is is not a human being, but a pocket-book, a bank account; and a similar greediness turned by disappointment into envy is all that the rich man can see in the state of mind of the dissatisfied poor. Each, in fact ignores the fact that happiness, and unhappiness, and significance are a vital mystery; each pins them absolutely on some ridiculous feature of the external situation, and everybody remains outside of everybody else's sight. Society has got to pass toward some newer and better equilibrium, and will not Masonry play a prominent part in the solution?

The spread of its tenets, the imbibing of its principles, must encourage man to sympathise with his brother man; and with the song of love in human hearts, how our convulsive inconsistencies, how our sympathies and dreads of each other would soften down! If the poor and rich would look at each other in this way how gentle would grow their disputes; what tolerance and good humour, what willingness to live and let live, would come into our world!

We as Masons have been specially privileged, and should at all times recognize how great upon that account are our responsibilities. Accordingly our whole life should be an embodiment of square conduct, level steps, and upright intentions, not only towards our Masonic brethren, but towards all mankind. Then we can look forward with confidence to the review of the Great Architect and feel assured of our reward in the Grand Lodge above.

*NZ Craftsman—June 1912
Paper read by W. Bro. Brock, M.A., before Civic Lodge, No. 157, Christchurch*

When the Logging is over

When the logging is over, with no trees to mill
When the birds disappear from the sky,
When the last fish is caught, when the river lies still
When the suns a dull glow from on high.

When the fields turns to sand, and the corn cannot grow
When the goodness has gone from the soil,
When the open cast mining has cut its last row
When the oil rig has pumped its last oil.

When the gold has run out, and the diamonds have gone
When the summer and winter are one,
When the cricket has sung its last chirping song
When the hunter has fired his last gun.

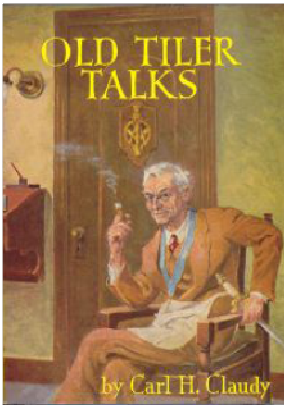
When the planners of new towns have laid flat the last hill,
When the miller has told his last tale,
When the early dawn chorus is silent and still
When the harpoon has struck the last whale.

When the blue sky above is a memory lost
And the smoke from the factory stilled
When the Captains of Industry start counting the cost
Of the Forests and Planet they've killed

When the snow caps have gone from the mountains high
When the eagle gives up his domain
When a mother looks on with a tear in her eye
For she hasn't the words to explain

That it isn't her fault that the sun doesn't shine
That there is no more flour to make bread,
That there are no more grapes, with which to make wine,
So for lunch we'll eat money instead.

W. Bro. Joe L. Bau © 1999



Old Tiler Talks— TO WAIT HOW LONG?

"Old Tiler," began the New Brother, "do you think I ought to be a Chapter Mason and a Commandery Mason and a Scottish Rite Mason right away?"

"That's a rather large question," objected the Old Tiler. "Why do you ask?"

"I am constantly asked to join these bodies," answered the New Brother. "It seems to me I ought to wait until I know more about Masonry before I go farther."

"I agree with you," answered the Old Tiler, heartily.

"You just said it was too large a question to answer right off," cried the New Brother.

"That was before you told me how you felt," countered the Old Tiler. "No man should go farther in Masonry as long as he feels he should wait. But if you had said that your interest was flagging, and that you wanted to go ahead and explore, to refind the thrill of the third degree, I would probably have told you I agreed with you heartily."

"Seems to me," answered the New Brother, "that the Grand Lodge might profitably make a rule that no Master Mason could apply for the degrees in any other Masonic body until they have been Master Masons for six months or a year.

"You are not the only, or the first Mason, to think that," answered the Old Tiler. "But that is a very large question indeed, and much can be said on both sides."

"Won't you tell me both sides?" asked the New Brother.

"I'll try," answered the Old Tiler. "The Grand Lodge side of it is simple enough; it is obvious that if there were only the three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry a man could not divide his attention, his money, and his time with them and any other Masonic bodies. But we have Capitular degrees and Commandery degrees and Cryptic degrees; and Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite degrees, and the Shrine; while the Shrine is not a Masonic body, yet it is a goal for many Masons, so it enters into the problem. Those who propose that Grand Lodge forbid newly made Master Masons applying for the degrees in Chapter or Rite until after a lapse of a year, have in mind that if a man has only his lodge to go to, he will learn some Masonry, get the habit, and so, when he does take the other degrees, he will not forget his Alma Mater.

"Those who think the Grand Lodge should not make such a regulation, often believe that it should be made by the other bodies. Such Masons think that Capitular Masonry and Scottish Rite Masonry would be stronger and better if they refused any candidates who had not at least a year's experience in the Symbolic lodge. A college demands certain scholastic standards of its freshmen. Many demand a high school diploma, or its equivalent.

A college has a right to say on what terms it will accept students. But the high school never says 'you mustn't apply to the college without a high school diploma.' The high school doesn't attempt to tell the college what it must or must not do, or who it can and cannot have as freshmen. It but prepares those willing to study to enter to the college. It is the college which won't take the unprepared.

"Many Masons will feel that the so-called 'higher' degrees are a sort of college course to Masonry, and that the bodies which confer those degrees should demand at least a year's experience in Blue Lodge Masonry, but can see no reason why the Grand Lodge should keep their doors for them.

"No well-informed Mason sees the lodge as a primary school and the other Rites as colleges. No well-informed Mason but regards Ancient Craft Masonry as the source of all Masonry, to be honored above all others. A real comparison perhaps could be made with a country and citizenship. Citizenship in this nation is a very high estate. Yet some citizens know more statecraft than others and become leaders in the legislature, the cabinet, the law, the diplomatic service. They could do none of these things without being citizens. The United States demands a certain period- I think it is five years- which a 'candidate' for citizenship must wait, before he receives his 'third degree,' his final papers. Until he gets them, he cannot be a citizen or enjoy the rights of citizenship, or go higher in the State, or be an officer. That is like the lodge demand of a month between degrees, and a proficiency in the work before the next degree is conferred.

"The United States doesn't say to a newly-made citizen 'now that you are a citizen, you must wait a year or two before you exercise your citizenship.' Our Grand Lodge does not say to a Blue Lodge Mason 'you must wait a year before you try to be an officer or before you apply for any other degrees.' Yet there are those who would have Grand Lodge do just that.

"There are two sides, my brother. Personally, I would think that a period of waiting would be an excellent thing. I would like to see the Grand Chapters and the Supreme Council decide that a Master Mason must be such for six months or a year before he could apply, just as they now demand six months' or a years' residence in a place before they will admit jurisdiction. But I think a Grand Lodge is less than wise if it attempts to regulate the so-called 'high bodies' in their standards."

"I thought Grand Lodge could do anything," put in the New Brother.

"So it can, very nearly," smiled the Old Tiler. "I did not say I thought a Grand Lodge would be going beyond its rights in making such a regulation. I said I thought it would be unwise. The Grand Lodge has complete control of a man's Masonry and his Masonic conduct. Its right to regulate is undoubted; its wisdom in doing so may be open to discussion."

"Well, I'm going to wait a while; but not a year," responded the New Brother.

"Which will be just right, for you," smiled the Old Tiler.





MARCH QUIZ



- Q 1. What are the working tools in the 1st degree?
- Q 2. Where would you find the phrase "the all seeing eye observes us" ?
- Q 3. On many Lodge tracing boards the middle chamber is shown as being inside King Solomon's temple. Why is this incorrect?
- Q 4. Where in our ritual could you show this error?
- Q 5. The art of Geometry is regarded as important in freemasonry - why?
- Q 6. A man presenting himself for initiation into Freemasonry is received on t.. p.... of a s.... i..... Give two reasons for this unusual event.
- Q 7. In life we use the term "being given the third degree" to indicate what sort of happening?
- Q 8. Somewhere in almost every Lodge room in New Zealand there is a point within a circle with two straight and parallel lines touching that circle. What do these two lines represent?
- Q 9. What does that point represent?
- Q 10. What does that circle represent?

With acknowledgement to the Craft Masonry Education Website New Zealand

Lodge Birthdays

Charles Kleiman 24 (J)

News from the South

The incoming officers are busily learning their lines and perambulations for the installation and ensuing year.



Author Unknown

A successful business man was growing old and knew it was time to choose a successor to take over the business.

Instead of choosing one of his Directors, or his children, he decided to do something different. He called all the young executives in his company together.

He said - *"It is time for me to step down and choose the next CEO and I have decided to choose one of you."* The young executives were shocked, but the boss continued. *"I am going to give each one of you a SEED today – one very special SEED. I want you to plant the seed, water it, and come back here one year from today with what you have grown from the seed I have given you. I will then judge the plants that you bring, and the one I choose will be the next CEO."*

One man, named Jim, was there that day and he, like the others, received a seed. He went home and excitedly told his wife the story. She helped him get a pot, soil and compost and he planted the seed. Every day, he would water it and watch to see if it had grown. After about three weeks, some of the other executives began to talk about their seeds and the plants that were beginning to grow.

Jim kept checking his seed, but nothing ever grew. Three weeks, four weeks, five weeks went by, still nothing. By now, others were talking about their plants, but Jim didn't have a plant and he felt like a failure.

Six months went by — still nothing in Jim's pot. He just knew he had killed his seed. Everyone else had trees and tall plants, but he had nothing. Jim didn't say anything to his colleagues, however, he just kept watering and fertilizing the soil – He so wanted the seed to grow.

A year finally went by and all the young executives of the company brought their plants to the CEO for inspection.

Jim told his wife that he wasn't going to take an empty pot. But she asked him to be honest about what happened. Jim felt sick to his stomach, it was going to be the most embarrassing moment of his life, but he knew his wife was right. He took his empty pot to the board room. When Jim arrived, he was amazed at the variety of plants grown by the other executives. They were beautiful — in all shapes and sizes. Jim put his empty pot on the floor and many of his colleagues laughed, a few felt sorry for him!

When the CEO arrived, he surveyed the room and greeted his young executives. Jim just tried to hide in the back. "My, what great plants, trees and flowers you have grown," said the CEO. "Today one of you will be appointed the next CEO!"

All of a sudden, the CEO spotted Jim at the back of the room with his empty pot. He ordered the Financial Director to bring him to the front. Jim was terrified. He thought, "The CEO knows I'm a failure! Maybe he will have me fired!"

When Jim got to the front, the CEO asked him what had happened to his seed – Jim told him the story.

The CEO asked everyone to sit down except Jim. He looked at Jim, and then announced to the young executives, "Behold your next Chief Executive Officer! His name is Jim!" Jim couldn't believe it. Jim couldn't even grow his seed. "How could he be the new CEO?" the others said.

Then the CEO said, "One year ago today, I gave everyone in this room a seed. I told you to take the seed, plant it, water it, and bring it back to me today. But I gave you all boiled seeds; they were dead – it was not possible for them to grow"

All of you, except Jim, have brought me trees and plants and flowers. When you found that the seed would not grow, you substituted another seed for the one I gave you. Jim was the only one with the courage and honesty to bring me a pot with my seed in it. Therefore, he is the one who will be the new Chief Executive Officer!"

The Moral of the Story (The Tools)

- * If you plant honesty, you will reap trust
- * If you plant goodness, you will reap friends
- * If you plant humility, you will reap greatness
- * If you plant perseverance, you will reap contentment
- * If you plant consideration, you will reap perspective
- * If you plant hard work, you will reap success
- * If you plant forgiveness, you will reap reconciliation

So, be careful what you plant now; it will determine what you will reap later.

With acknowledgement to The Educator



THE GRAND INSPECTORS

This photograph was taken at the Royal Albert Hall, London on 28 October 2017 at the Tercentenary Celebration meeting of Grand Lodge.

This was the first time ever that the four Grand Inspectors have been present together at a meeting of Grand Lodge, so the photo has some historical importance.



Dr. Lawrence Porter
Malta

Peter G. Vatcher
Montreal & Halifax
Canada

Robert S. Levitt
Portugal

Ross G. McDonald
S.W. Pacific

Humour

Only in Britain -Complaints to Councils

[Extracts from letters written by council tenants:](#)

1. It's the dogs mess that I find hard to swallow.
2. I want some repairs done to my cooker as it has backfired and burnt my knob off.
3. I wish to complain that my father twisted his ankle very badly when he put his foot in the hole in his back passage.
4. Their 18 year old son is continually banging his balls against my fence.
5. I wish to report that tiles are missing from the outside toilet roof. I think it was bad wind the other day that blew them off.
6. My lavatory seat is cracked, where do I stand?
7. I am writing on behalf of my sink, which is coming away from the wall.
8. Will you please send someone to mend the garden path. My wife tripped and fell on it yesterday and now she is pregnant.
9. I request permission to remove my drawers in the kitchen.
10. 50% of the walls are damp, 50% have crumbling plaster, and 50% are just plain filthy.
11. The next door neighbour has got this huge tool that vibrates the whole house and I just can't take it anymore.
12. The toilet is blocked and we cannot bath the children until it is cleared.
13. Will you please send a man to look at my water, it is a funny colour and not fit to drink.
14. Our lavatory seat is broken in half and now is in three pieces.
15. I want to complain about the farmer across the road. Every morning at 6am his cock wakes me up and it's now getting too much for me.
16. The man next door has a large erection in the back garden, which is unsightly and dangerous.
17. Our kitchen floor is damp. We have two children and would like a third, so please send someone round to do something about it.

18. I am a single woman living in a downstairs flat and would you please do something about the noise made by the man on top of me every night.
 19. Please send a man with the right tool to finish the job and satisfy my wife..
 20. I have had the clerk of works down on the floor six times but I still have no satisfaction.
 21. This is to let you know that our lavatory seat is broke and we can't get BBC2.
 22. My bush is really overgrown round the front and my back passage has fungus growing in it.
-

Real Dr. Confessions... EMBARRASSING MEDICAL EXAMS

1. A man comes into the ER and yells. 'My wife's going to have her baby in the cab.' I grabbed my stuff, rushed out to the cab, lifted the lady's dress and began to take off her underwear. Suddenly I noticed that there were several cabs and I was in the wrong one. Submitted by Dr. Mark MacDonald, San Francisco
2. At the beginning of my shift I placed a stethoscope on an elderly and slightly deaf female patient's anterior chest wall. 'Big breaths, 'I instructed. 'Yes, they used to be,' . . . Replied the patient. Submitted by Dr. Richard Byrnes, Seattle, WA
3. One day I had to be the bearer of bad news when I told a wife that her husband had died of a massive myocardial infarct. Not more than five minutes later, I heard her Reporting to the rest of the family that he had Died of a 'massive internal fart.' Submitted by Dr. Susan Steinberg
4. During a patient's two week follow-up appointment with his cardiologist, he informed me, his doctor, that he was having trouble with one of his medications. 'Which one?' I asked. 'The patch.' 'The Nurse told me to put on a new one every six hours and now I'm running out of places to put it!' I had him quickly undress and discovered what I hoped I wouldn't see. Yes, the man had over fifty patches on his body! Now, the instructions include removal of the old patch before applying a new one. Submitted by Dr. Rebecca St. Clair, Norfolk, VA
5. While acquainting myself with a new elderly patient, I asked, 'How long have you been bedridden?' After a look of complete confusion she answered, ' Why, not for about twenty years - when my husband was alive.' Submitted by Dr. Steven Swanson, Corvallis, OR
6. I was performing rounds at the hospital one morning and while checking up on a man I asked 'So how's your breakfast this morning?' It's very good except for the Kentucky Jelly. I can't seem to get used to the taste,' Bob replied. I then asked to see the jelly and Bob produced a foil packet labeled 'KY Jelly.' Submitted by Dr. Leonard Kransdorf, Detroit
7. A nurse was on duty in the Emergency Room when a young woman with purple hair styled into a punk rocker Mohawk, sporting a variety of tattoos, and wearing strange clothing, entered. It was quickly determined that the patient had acute appendicitis, so she was scheduled for immediate surgery. When she was completely disrobed on the operating table, the staff noticed that her pubic hair had been dyed green and above it there was a Tattoo that read . . . ' Keep off the grass.' Once the surgery was completed, the surgeon wrote a short note on the patient's dressing, Which said, 'Sorry . . . Had to mow the lawn.' Submitted by RN