

## Chadbourn Lodge No. 607 Hosts District Meeting

Approximately 100 Master Masons of the 13th Masonic District A.F. & A.M. were present at Chadbourn Lodge No. 607 A.F. & A.M. to welcome M. W. William A. Hooks, Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina, Wednesday evening August 27, 1969.

Following a delicious buffet dinner served in the Chadbourn Community Civic Center by the Klondike Chapter No. 190, Order of Eastern Star, the members of Chadbourn Lodge No. 607 A. F. & A. M. assembled in the Lodge Room where they were welcomed by W. Brother G. T. Bullard who opened the Lodge in Due form.

W. Brother John L. Jones, District Deputy Grand Master of the 13th Masonic District was received with private grand honors, and presided over the meeting, receiving the Grand Master with private grand honors.

The Grand Master delivered an inspiring and challenging address to the Master Masons assembled as to their dedication, duties, responsibilities, and obligations as Master Masons. He challenged them to give as liberally as they could in the support of Oxford Orphanage, and Masonic and Eastern Star Home.

He also requested their moral support and time, as advisers for the Order of DeMolay. He said the misconception or misunderstanding of the Masonic Order by Non-Masons as to the tenets of the order should be a continued responsibility of all Master Masons.

Brother A. D. Leon Gray, Supt. of Oxford Orphanage was recognized, and outlined activities and programs of the orphanage.

Brother Troy Robbins, Supt. of The Masonic and Eastern Star Home, Greensboro, N. C. commended the members for their support of the home, and asked for continuing support in order that the elderly guests could be provided with better facilities and care.

W. Brother Pete Dudley, Assistant Grand Secretary made appropriate remarks concerning the Grand Lodge, and the work being done by the Grand Master.

Other dignitaries present were recognized; and The Grand Master closed the Lodge in Ample Form.

### Fall Reunion

Over three hundred members of Salem Lodge No. 289 have received the degrees in Scottish Rite Masonry. Furthermore The Winston-Salem Scottish Rite Bodies are to hold their 1969 Fall Reunion beginning October fourth, and extending through the eighteenth. Its going to be a great reunion—so our agents tell us.



Principals in the September meeting of the 13th Masonic District A. F. & A. M. in Chadbourn are; (L. to R.) W. Brother John L. Jones, of Clarkton, District Deputy Grand Master; M. W. Brother William A. Hooks Grand Master, and W. Brother M. Henderson Rourk, M.D., of Shallotte, District Deputy Grand Lecturer.

## Masonry Shares Honors In Historic Trip To Moon

Masonry shares in the prestige achieved by the American exploit on the surface of the moon.

Lt. Col. Edwin E. Aldrin, Jr., USAF, NASA Astronaut, who planted the Stars and Stripes on the moon, is a Mason, by virtue of membership in Montclair Lodge No. 144, Montclair, N. J. He was raised February 21, 1956. He belongs to both Scottish Rite, 32°, and York Rite bodies and is a noble in Medinah Temple, Chicago.

History may or may not record that one of the first astronauts to set foot on the moon's surface was a Freemason—the fact is significant only to Brother Aldrin and the fraternity, but Brother Aldrin has given us occasion to remember that whenever men have reached out for the next higher rung on the ladder . . . whenever men have taken the next faltering step into the unknown in order to advance our civilization, our brothers have been among the pioneers who have dreamed the impossible dream—and reached the unreachable star.

His father, Edwin E. Aldrin, Sr., is a veteran Mason having received his 50-year veteran honors in May 1969. He is a member of Morning Star Lodge, Worcester, Mass., raised in 1918. He is a life member of Aleppo Temple, Boston Mass. He is a retired officer of the USAF, with the rank of colonel, now residing at Brielle, New Jersey.

Col. Aldrin Jr., was born at Montclair, N. J., January 20, 1930. He graduated from the Montclair High School,

## OUR SACRIFICE

Just as the altar is predominant in most churches, so in the Masonic Lodge it is a most important article of furniture. It is defined as a structure elevated above the ground and set aside for some service or worship, be it sacrifice, oblation, or prayer. Noah, on his emergence from the Ark, "buildded an altar unto the Lord and offered burnt offerings" (Gen. 8:20), Abram "buildded an altar unto the Lord" (Gen. 12:18) (See also Hebrew 10:18). Primitively they were built of turf or stone, loosely laid up; later of solid masonry, to permit the use of fire. There were two types, for the burning of incense and for the purpose of sacrifice. For Masons, their altar is a depository of that Great Light, the Holy Bible, whereon the candidate offers up the thoughts of a pure heart as a fitting incense to the Great Architect of the Universe, and a sacrifice of his passions and vices as an oblation to the Deity.

The Altar had further significance to the ancients, for before the altar most solemn contracts and treaties were made on penalty of the wrath of the gods; therefore an altar obligation was the most solemn obligation that man could make. Today, before the altar and the Word of God, our candidate makes a solemn obligation and promises that prevails throughout his life henceforth.

In all religions of antiquity, it was the custom of the priests and the people to circle the altar while singing hymns of praise, following the path of the sun. Thus was born the route of perambulation and when next the brethren thus circle the altar, let them remember the important religious significance of this act. Thus we see the altar, not as a piece of furniture, but as the central point of the Lodge to which all our thought and attention should be given. Let us, too, lay our sacrifices upon the altar, and renew our pledges each time we attend lodge.

Freemasonry cannot be all things to all men, but it can be a comfort and a support to him who accepts those few basic tenets which all good men are prepared to entertain.

received a Bachelor of Science degree from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N. Y. in 1951 and a Doctor of Science degree in astronautics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1963. He was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Science degree from Gustavus Adolphus College in 1967. He and Mrs. Aldrin have three children. He graduated third in his class of 475 at West Point in 1951 and subsequently received his wings at Bryan, Texas in 1952. He is a Boy Scout counselor, an elder in the Presbyterian church and a 32° Scottish Rite member.