

THE NORTH CAROLINA MASON
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WILL YOU BE READY?

The average North Carolina Senior Warden will be Master of his lodge about two months from now. How well the individual Senior Warden has prepared himself for this advancement will determine to a large degree how well his lodge will fare in 1972, and how well our Senior Wardens collectively have prepared themselves will determine to a large degree how well North Carolina Masonry will fare in 1972.

True, our Grand Lodge has some fine programs, well conceived, well prepared, and well administered; but these programs will succeed only to the extent that they are participated in and promoted by the individual lodges. And the leadership in the individual lodge, provided principally by the Master, will largely determine the extent of the lodge's participation.

The year in the East is not provided merely to equip a Mason with the title of Past Master. In fact, the Senior Warden who sets that goal as his prime ambition will best serve his lodge and Masonry by announcing to his lodge prior to the first stated communication in December that he is not prepared to serve as Master.

A lodge has the right to expect a year of total service from the Mason it elects to its highest office. Now that Mason may have other demands upon his time which he considers to be more deserving of his time than are the demands of his lodge and Masonry, and he has the right to make this determination. But having made this determination he then has the responsibility to decline the office of Master, for he has NO right to assume duties he knows he cannot or will not perform.

If the Senior Warden has satisfied his conscience with respect to the foregoing matters, he now must consider how well he has prepared himself with respect to knowledge of the duties which will soon be his and how well he has prepared himself to perform those duties. The best ritualist will not necessarily make the best Master, but the Master should at least be as good a ritualist as he is capable of being. A Master need not be an attorney or a parliamentarian in order that the lodge may be well

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governed, but he should know as much about THE CODE and the Rules of Order as he is capable of knowing. In all things pertaining to his office he should function to the very best of his ability; his lodge deserves his best.

Most important of all is what is in the Senior Warden's heart. He must truly love Masonry and truly wish to serve Masonry before he can in good conscience accept the high office of Master.

If the Mason about to become Master has put himself to all these tests, and if he has passed them to his own satisfaction, he now faces the first and probably the most important decisions he will ever make as Master: He must select the Masons he will appoint to fill any vacant lodge offices. There are any number of reasons that are used in making appointments; a member may be a close friend, he may be a relative, a business associate, a good ritualist, or just a good fellow. None of these reasons, by themselves, qualify a Mason for appointment to lodge office. It should be kept in mind that the Mason appointed this year will probably become Master in a future year. He should be a Mason, therefore, who can successfully meet the tests that this year's Senior Warden is facing.

December is drawing near. Will you be ready?

HELP

The North Carolina Mason is a publication of the North Carolina Grand Lodge for North Carolina Masons. If it is not what the Masons of North Carolina wish it to be it is failing in its purpose.

We receive written and oral comments, good and bad, concerning the contents of the paper. These comments, though, in the main are concerned with items of local rather than general nature and are too few to draw any real conclusions from.

We ask Masons all over the state to comment on the paper. Let us know what there is in the paper that you would like more of, less of, or none of. Let us know what is not in the paper

Sinclair Tebo Is Honored

BY A. EDWARD FEY, Secretary-685

On Saturday, August 28, the Masonic and related bodies of Winston-Salem really made "Big History." The occasion was the banquet in the ballroom of the Hilton Inn honoring Sojourner Sinclair Tebo as Supreme Watchman of Shepherds of the International Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem.

Camel Shrine No. 5 of Winston-Salem was the host Shrine. About three hundred Masons, Sojourners and friends came from many states, including California, Idaho, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, New York and Florida to pay homage to our honored guest.

Mrs. Dorothy M. Green, Supreme Worthy High Priestess and all her line officers attended and were also honored on that occasion. Mrs. Green is from St. Paul-Minneapolis and will share the East with Reverend Tebo at the International Supreme Session, the "Aurora Borealis" session in Minneapolis in May 1972.

After all distinguished guests were escorted to the bulging platform the Mayor of Winston-Salem, Dr. Franklin R. Shirley, welcomed all to our fair city and presented a gold emblematic key to the city to our Supreme Worthy High Priestess. Sojourner Rolland F. Tepsword of Taylorsville, Illinois then sang the "Lord's Prayer" to open the meeting.

Each Masonic or related body present was recognized—interspersed with two more solos, "It Is No Secret" by Miss Linda Mabe of Madison and "Just A Closer Walk With Thee" by Sojourner Vicki Ward of Camel Shrine No. 5.

The featured speaker of the evening was humorist Dave Morrah who is on the staff of Guilford College, author of several books, and for many years the cartoonist of "Heinrich Snibble," featured in the *Saturday Evening Post*. His hilarious address, "How to be a Failure," was joyously received and will be long remembered by all.

Another solo, "How Great Thou Art," by Rolland Tepsword, followed by the benediction by Sojourner Bernice Geyer, Supreme Worthy Chaplain, closed the meeting.

Breakfast was served on Sunday morning at the Temple, followed by a religious service led by the North Carolina/Virginia State Club, after which all fellowshipped, met the Supreme Officers, and reluctantly left for a safe journey to the several states represented.

The White Shrine of Jerusalem is a benevolent organization requiring Masonic relationship for the ladies' membership. The White Shrine helps physically handicapped people who can be rehabilitated.

East Goes West; New MM

BY W. J. SCOGGINS, JR., Master-530

At an Emergent Communication of Joppa Lodge No. 530, held September 17, we were pleased to have Brother Carol Massey of Semper Fidelis Lodge No. 680 in Jacksonville visit our lodge to raise his brother, Charles R. Massey, to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

that you would like to see in it. Offer any criticisms or suggestions you may have.

We know that we can never publish a paper which will be enjoyed in it entirety by all of its readers, but we can, with your help, see to it that there is at least something for everyone in the paper.

Let us hear from you.