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Questions and Answers

1. I attended Grand Lodge this year and I remain bewildered as to how a "NO" vote can adopt a proposed amendment or a "YES" vote can defeat one. Can you explain this?

Answer: I can explain it, but I cannot promise to ease your bewilderment. When a proposed amendment to THE CODE is presented to the Grand Lodge, it is referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence. There it is considered and debated, and then the committee recommends to the Grand Lodge at the next annual communication that the proposal be approved or rejected (it requires a two-thirds majority of those voting to approve a proposed amendment). So when you vote yes or no, you are in fact voting to approve or disapprove the recommendation of the committee. Therefore, if the committee recommends a proposal be approved and you vote "YES" to that recommendation, you are voting for adoption; if the committee recommends against adoption and you vote "NO" to that recommendation, you are still voting for adoption; if the committee recommends against adoption and you vote "YES" to that recommendation, you are then voting against the amendment. If this is not sufficiently confusing, let me know and I'll try to find someone who can write in double-talk to explain further.

2. Wouldn't it be easier and less confusing to simply make certain that everyone understood the nature of the committee's recommendation and then call for a "YES" or "NO" vote on the proposed amendment itself?

Answer: It would certainly seem so.

3. Can you explain in detail how a lodge can hold a dinner to raise funds for a new building and be in compliance with the newly-adopted regulations governing such?

Answer: No, I cannot. Under the provisions of CHAPTER 36 A (also newly adopted) the newly formed committee is empowered to, among other things, promulgate rules necessary to the proper management of fund raising activities. I would suggest that you not make any commitments for your fund-raiser until the committee has had time to adopt rules and establish guidelines so that you may make the prescribed application to it but you could certainly proceed with general planning which conforms in all particulars to the provisions of the newly-adopted regulation.

4. Why was it specified in these new regulations that a lodge could hold no more than two fund-raisers for charity during a year?

Answer: As I recall the explanation given to this question during the regional meetings held to discuss the proposed changes, a lodge that held fund-raisers on a somewhat frequent basis would afford area merchants legitimate cause to complain to the taxing authorities that the lodge was operating a business and should not enjoy tax advantages that they, the merchants, did not. In other words, violations could cost the lodge its tax exempt status, and the adverse decision could extend to the Grand Lodge and all organizations governed by it. (I give this answer based solely upon my recollections. I may have stated this incorrectly and, if so, I will run a correction next month.)

5. What is meant in REG. 95-48 where it requires a lodge to "protect itself against general and specific liabilities?"

Answer: I cannot speak for the drafters of the regulation, as I do not know what liabilities they had in mind, but a couple of potential liabilities that come readily to mind and which I suspect were among those contemplated are as follows: Purchasers of food products could claim food poisoning; a person falling on the grounds or in the building could claim bodily injury. The most practical method for a lodge to protect itself against these and other liabilities would be, I suppose, to purchase adequate and appropriate liability insurance.

6. When does a change in the law become effective?

Answer: At low twelve, Eastern Standard Time, on July 31st following its adoption, unless otherwise provided by the Grand Lodge at the time of its adoption (as was done in the case of some of the changes adopted this year). SEC. 11-01 (4).

7. Why should we go to all the trouble of considering and voting upon these changes, and then adopt a resolution authorizing a committee to revise THE CODE?

Answer: That is not what we did. What this resolution does is authorize a committee to review THE CODE and then offer proposed amendments, and to revise only the index of THE CODE. There is no way any committee, however constituted, can revise THE CODE. Revision may be accomplished only by a proper vote of the delegates attending Grand Lodge, and then only according to the methods prescribed in CHAPTER 11 of THE CODE.

8. Just what effect does a resolution in Grand Lodge have?

Answer: A resolution, once it is adopted by the Grand Lodge, is effective immediately and remains effective until rescinded or overruled or until a change in the law renders it inoperable. SEC. 7-04. A resolution may not conflict with existing laws. For example: A resolution to make all Past Masters voting members of Grand Lodge could not be considered because it conflicts with CHAPTER 3 of THE CODE, which lists all those who are members of the Grand Lodge and which does not include Past Masters, as such, in that listing.

9. The practice of having a proposed amendment lay over for an entire year before action may be taken on it seems somewhat ponderous. Could not a particularly popular and benign amendment be expedited?

Answer: There is a rarely used and rarely successful procedure for acting upon a proposed amendment at the same annual communication at which it is introduced. The circumstances under which this procedure may be applied are very clearly defined in SEC. 11-01 (2) but are too lengthy to enumerate here. It would need to be a most compelling item to prompt forgoing the obvious need for all Masons in the state to have opportunity to study a proposal before it is acted upon.

Fayetteville — The publication of Phoenix Lodge No. 8, the Phoenix Bulletin, is another good example of the value of pictures. The Bulletin features pictures of its historical old building and of its three principle officers. Ed.

Deaths Reported To The Grand Secretary

- 668—Franklin William Barlowe
668—Robert Preston Caldwell
669—Kenneth Carvin Wilson
672—Charles Raymond Stafford
672—Fred Benjamin Michael
672—Voyne E. Shope
672—Clifton Williams
672—Fred Harley Ball
674—Walter Casper Huber
675—Paul Bailey
676—William Ray Nesbit
676—William Lafayette Nesbit
679—Henry Theodore Schreier
679—Harvey Henry Jacobsen, Jr.
680—Charles Curtis V. Godwin
680—Frederick Franklin Brutsche
685—Clive Peter Deane
687—Edward Thomas Parrish
687—Herbert Eugene Patterson
691—William Ray Tesh
692—Robert James Flinchum
693—Arnold James Shelor
696—Hamilton Courtney, Jr.
698—William Lloyd Scarborough
706—Pender Nolan Smith
709—Thomas Ira Elder
720—Levoid Hampton Hancock
720—Reginald LeGrande Mitchem
721—Wallace Edward Hardwick, Sr.
727—Theodore Roma Coggeshall
727—Lawrence Odell Moore
733—Ernest Thomas Gurganus
737—Edward Cobb
738—Thurman Burnett Register, Sr.
744—Quincy Clarence Rogers
747—Felix Abner Fleig
750—Bobby Jackson Woolard
751—Carl Edward Deal
1—Ferris Lineau Grooms
5—A. J. Cobb
7—Donald Dean Jensen
8—Ernest Albert Townsend
11—Jack Ellis Watson
13—Herbert Stroud
17—William W. Winborne, Jr.
31—Robert Glenn Sweet
32—Ray Brown Johnston
40—Roscoe Conkinn Burnett
53—Wilson Wright Burgess
81—Lewis Theodore Millard
81—Lewis Theodore Millard
85—John Post Nifflinger
85—Francis Nester Edgerton
90—Floyd Leamon Moore
98—Ernest W. Light Baggett
98—Lewis W. Tappan
106—John Milton Winslow
115—Hubert Walter Collins
115—Edward Raymond Belton
129—Thadys Ray Moore
132—William Earl Lassiter
136—Joe William Sherwood, Sr.
137—Robert Jacob Gilbert
138—Harry Whirens Williams
138—Warren Hoyle Young
145—Glenn Edward Reid
146—Homer J. Ferguson, Jr.
147—Joseph Daniel McIntyre, Jr.
147—Charles Howard Adams
150—Charles Levi Weathersbee
162—Marvin Clark Brown
167—Thomas Jefferson Revis, Jr.
167—John Gilbert Leach
170—Dan Thomas Henderson
190—David Leo Nance
205—Henry George Flessa, Sr.
230—Hadley Edward Bryan
237—Charles Lloyd Foster
237—Glenn Roswell Klutz
237—Edgar Wayne Suttles
248—J. L. Bryson, Jr.
259—Kimberly Walter Parham
261—Ralph LaFayette Moose
261—George Fenton Helms, Jr.
261—Henry May Price
262—Roy Eugene Gamble
267—William Ralph Benson
272—Graham Braswell Baker
276—William Horace Horton
279—Calvin Everett Evans
302—Frederick Thomas Sherwood
302—Clifton Roosevelt Ammons
317—Jesse Seldon Brothers
319—Demetrius Patelos
331—Sherrill Gray Campen
339—Herlan Dale Vollbracht
348—Morrison Lee Helms
369—Oscar Edison Barron
401—William Donald Hensley
405—James Armiston Griffin
408—Leonard Hycienth Crumpler
409—Carl King Dowdy
409—John Conway Wilson

(Continued on Page Four)

Unscramble

Rearrange the letters in the following six words to form six new words familiar to Masons. This six-letter final answer means a large growth of trees. It is possible you may arrive at a final answer meaning to nourish, or to bring up, and that would mean that you do have the correct six letters but that you have not arranged them correctly. Answers on Page Four.

10. You refer to the Grand Lodge as doing this and doing that. Just what do you mean and to whom are you referring when you use the term Grand Lodge?

Answer: In the Preamble to its Constitution, on page one of THE CODE, the Grand Lodge defines itself as "an absolute sovereign Masonic body." In SEC. 2-01 it calls itself "the supreme Masonic body and authority in the state of North Carolina." This leaves little doubt as to what the Grand Lodge is. Among other definitions, Webster says a body is "a group of persons or things collectively." In this particular instance, the persons in the group are Masons, and those Masons that are members of the group, or body, are enumerated in CHAPTER 3 of THE CODE. They are: The present and past elective officers of the Grand Lodge; its present appointive officers; the Masters and Wardens of its chartered and constituted subordinate lodges (there are presently a total of 1,182 of these in 394 lodges), or their legally appointed proxies; its mandatory elective and appointed boards, committees, and commissions, for the time being, including members of boards of directors named or elected by it; the D.D.G.M.s of the several Masonic districts (65 at present); and the D.D.G.L.s (also 65). So, a potential of 1,312 voting members come from the quarries of Masonry; they represent well over eighty percent of the total Grand Lodge membership. This is the Grand Lodge that I refer to.

Editorial

Please Let Me Hear From You

Well, Brethren, the old man is back. For a while, at least.

While the search goes on for a capable, permanent editor I will be doing my best to put out a paper that you, the Masons of North Carolina, will enjoy and appreciate. It could be for only a few months, or perhaps longer, but whatever the duration of my second tenure, I promise to be responsive to your wishes and suggestions.

Beginning with this issue, "Questions and Answers" is back. "Unscramble" is also again a regular feature. And I have persuaded Jimrod Q. Waxpillow to once more favor us with his observations. If you do not care for any or all of these, let me know about it and if the objections are considerable the offending feature/s will be yanked.

I plan to run editorials from time to time; there will be historical features, news from the lodges, Grand Lodge news, special features; we will continue the reports from the Home and the Orphanage; we will include such other newsworthy material as may be requested or suggested by you, the owners of this paper.

I plan to attend and report on a few of the district meetings—at separate areas of the state—and to attend and report on such other events as funds and time will permit. However, it would not be practical or economical for an editor of the paper to constantly travel the state in search of Masonic news, nor could he come anywhere near an efficient and representative result, the area is too vast and the lodges are too numerous. So I and editors to follow must always rely upon individual lodges and Masons to let us know what is going on. I solicit copies of your lodge publications, from which items of general interest may be used. I ask Masters of lodges that do not have publications to appoint reporters who will inform me of any items of general interest.

When I refer to items of general interest, I have reference to any event or circumstance that will be of interest to Masons and lodges miles away, as well as to those on the scene. There is not room in the paper to report the routine confer of a degree or the holding of lecture service, for example, as few Masons other than the members of those particular lodges would be interested. But if a lodge, or a Mason, does something or is something that is unique or outstanding, we would like to hear about it.

When there is such an event or circumstance of significance, send me a good black-and-white picture of that Mason, along with the account. Do the same with respect to a group of Masons, or a building, or whatever. The average man had rather see his picture in the paper, or the picture of someone he knows, than just about anything else. Masons are no exception.

My Brothers, we can make a success of this paper only if I work hard at it and if you will keep me posted. And I ask you to remember this: the paper can be a success even if you or I do not particularly care for some of the material in it. We all have differing tastes, thank the Lord, and something that Tom really enjoys may be uninteresting to Dick, while Harry could take it or leave it. The paper must have something in it for just about every Mason, and our best hope is that most of what is in it will always appeal to a sizeable majority of its readers, and I pledge my best efforts to that end.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to each and every one of you that helped me with the paper so much while I was editor during 1971-1982, and I extend my warmest fraternal regards to every lodge and Mason in this great state.

Reynold S. Davenport

ACCORDING TO JIMROD

We present below this month's poetical offering from that distinguished Mason and philosopher, JIMROD Q. WAXPILLOW



This equestrian-type Mason named Zeke Galloped his horse to the top of the peak But there the horse stumbled And he and Zeke tumbled And he went down into the creek

What Masons Were Doing . . .

Twenty-five years ago, in 1938:

Harry Thomas Paterson, a Kentucky native, was elected and installed as Grand Master on April 20.

W. E. Fleishman was serving as Excelsior No. 8, H. C. Hall was at the helm of Mastodon No. 261 and Snow Creek No. 571 was led by T. Ward Guy

On April 20, a charter was granted to Robbinsville No. 672 and on April 29, Spindale No. 672 was installed.

Twenty-five years ago, in 1963:

D.D.G.M. Jesse W. Harris and D.D.G.L. Clifton G. Grant were serving the 20th District, E. Floyd Dunn and Joseph E. Dupree were holding forth in the 26th, while the 56th had Glenn D. Brown and Clarence W. Burrell in those offices. (Some district numbers have since changed.)

Grand Master Charles C. Ricker laid the cornerstone for the building of the New Bern York Rite Bodies on February 8.

Charles C. Baggett, Master, along with Warden proxies James A. West and Nathan W. Humphrey represented St. John's No. 1 (the oldest lodge in North Carolina) at the annual communication of the Grand Lodge; Shallotte No. 727 (our youngest chartered lodge on that date) was represented by James M. Hawes, Master, Daniel C. Russ, Senior Warden, and Clarence M. Russ, Proxy for Junior Warden.

Ten years ago, in 1978:

On April 8, Grand Master J. Earl Watson laid the cornerstone for the new town hall in Apex. Two Past Grand Masters, Grand Treasurer James W. Brewer and Charles A. Harris, Grand Secretary Emeritus, were present, as were three future Grand Masters: Jacob C. Goodman, Jr., A. C. Honeycutt and Eddie P. Stiles.

On April 15, a commemorative plaque was set in place and then dedicated by Grand Master Watson at Memorial Hall, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The Air Force ROTC presented the Colors and bugle calls.

Willton Walker, Jr., who later died while serving as Grand Marshal of the Grand Lodge, was D.D.G.M. in the 1st District and G. Gregory Kight was D.D.G.L. there.

From The Lodges

Charlotte — The Trestle Board of Charles M. Setzer Lodge No. 693 presents a striking and handsome appearance with a beautiful color picture of the lodge building on the cover. The publication also features black and white pictures of the lodge officers. The pictures undoubtedly cause the publication to be more expensive to produce but they also quite definitely enhance its appearance, thus adding something to the prestige of the lodge. (These remarks are not taken from the Setzer Trestle Board, they are my own thoughts. Ed.)

Franklin — Past Master Burt Burtaine raps a golf ball the way he once rapped the gavel — firmly and truly. He recently scored a hole-in-one at Milcreek and what makes this somewhat significant, he is approaching the age of ninety-two. Newsletter of Junaluske Lodge No. 145.

Mebane — Bingham Lodge No. 272 paid special thanks to Conrad Sutton who has been faithfully cleaning the lodge's aprons for many years. (One of those little services that often go unnoticed. Ed.) Bingham's News and Views.

Charlotte — Past Grand Master James G. Johnson was scheduled to address Excelsior Lodge No. 261 on May 30, reviewing highlights of his half-century in Masonry. Excelsior Newsletter.

Kenansville — St. John's Lodge No. 13 has invited its Masonic widows to have supper with the brethren on August 4. St. John's (13) Newsletter.

Goldsboro — Goldsboro Lodge No. 634 held its annual picnic May 21 at the picnic shelter owned by Wayne Lodge No. 112. Goldsboro Newsletter.

Raleigh — Members of Raleigh Lodge No. 500 have decided to begin a photo album containing a pictorial record of various events which they feel will be of interest to members in coming years. It is planned and hoped the album will be added to each year. Raleigh Newsletter.