

HENRY A. GRADY IS GRAND-MASTER OF MASONS OF STATE

Officers Elected and Installed at Closing Session of Grand Lodge Last Night

RULES SUSPENDED; VOTE UNANIMOUS

Singing Class of Oxford Orphanage Entertain Masons; Masonic Work Is Exemplified; Deputy Grand Master Reports On Conference of Grand Masters

Hon. Henry A. Grady, of Clinton, was elected Grand Master of the North Carolina Grand Lodge of Mason at the closing session of the 132nd Communication last night, and with the other officers installed. The Grand Lodge finishes its business shortly before midnight and most of the visiting delegates will return to their homes today.

The new Grand Master, who succeeds Past Grand Master George S. Norfleet, is a prominent lawyer in the eastern part of the State and has long been active in Masonic circles, having held every elective office in the Grand Lodge. In accepting the office last night, he expressed his profound appreciation of the honor and assured the members of the fraternity that he would endeavor to the best of his ability to be worthy of it.

New Officers Installed. The officers elected and installed last night to serve for the ensuing year are as follows:

- Grand Master—Henry A. Grady, of Clinton.
Deputy Grand Master—Dr. James C. Braswell, of Whitakers.
Senior Grand Warden—J. Bailey Owen, of Henderson.
Junior Grand Warden—James H. Webb, of Hillsboro.
Grand Treasurer—B. R. Lacy, of Raleigh.
Grand Secretary—Wm. W. Willson, of Raleigh.
Grand Chaplain—Rev. Geo. M. Matthews, of Clinton.
Grand Lecturer—R. F. Edwards, of Crumpler.
Senior Grand Deacon—H. M. Potat, of Wake Forest.
Junior Grand Deacon—J. LeGrand Everett, of Rockingham.
Grand Marshal—Leon Cash, of Winston-Salem.
Grand Sword Bearer—J. E. Cameron, of Kinston.
Grand Pursuivant—W. S. Creighton, of Charlotte.
Grand Stewards—J. J. Phoenix, of Greensboro, and F. W. Kenny, of Blittmore.
Grand Tiler—W. D. Terry, of Raleigh.

Election Was Unanimous.

The election of officers last night was by a unanimous vote, the rules having been suspended. Past Grand Master W. S. Liddell, of Charlotte, affectionately known to North Carolina Masons as "Daddy" Liddell, cast the vote of the lodge for Grand Master Grady.

On motion of Past Grand Master E. S. Royster, the vote of the Grand Lodge was cast for Mr. Jas. H. Webb, of Hillsboro, as Junior Grand Warden, although he was not present to be installed, owing to illness in his family. Deputy Grand Master James C. Braswell was Senior Grand Warden last year and Senior Grand Warden J. Bailey Owen was Junior Grand Warden, while the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer were re-elected, Mr. Webb being the only new member. The other officers installed were appointed by the Grand Master.

Past Grand Master Geo. S. Norfleet, who served last year as Grand Master, was called to his home in Winston-Salem last yesterday on account of the serious illness of his child and by a rising vote the Grand Lodge last night extended to him its sympathy.

Children Gave Concert. Steps were taken last night to provide for increased financial help for the Oxford Orphanage. One of the undertakings shortly to be started will be the building of a new hospital, which is to be named in honor of the late Wm. J. Hicks, for many years the beloved superintendent of that institution.

The lodge by a rising vote extended its appreciation to Past Grand Master B. S. Royster for his service of 25 years in promoting the interests of the orphanage and authorized a committee to present to him some token of regard.

A. B. Andrews, of Raleigh, was re-elected for a term of five years as a member of the board of directors of the Oxford Orphanage. New trustees for the endowment fund of the Eastern Star Home at Greensboro, which is to be named in honor of the late Wm. J. Hicks, for many years the beloved superintendent of that institution.

An impressive feature of the session last night was the presentation of a large American flag, five by eight feet in size, mounted upon a staff, to the Grand Lodge by Past Grand Master Geo. S. Norfleet to be kept in the Grand Lodge room. Owing to his having been called home on account of illness, Past Grand Norfleet could not make the presentation in person.

NEW RANKING OFFICERS OF NORTH CAROLINA MASONS



HENRY A. GRADY, G. M. Who will preside over défilés of North Carolina Masonry during year 1919-20. J. C. BRASWELL, D. G. M. Who, by Masonic precedent, will succeed into chair of Grand Master at next election.

ing the late war. At the close of his address the entire membership of the Grand Lodge rose to its feet and sang "America."

For Masonic Service. The Grand Lodge also voted to become a member of the Masonic Service Association of the United States, an organization effected at a meeting of the Grand Masters at Cedar Rapids, Michigan, in November for the purpose of co-ordinating Masonic activities in times of national calamity. The report of the conference and recommendation favoring membership in the national organization was made yesterday morning by Deputy Grand Master Henry A. Grady, who attended the conference as personal representative of Grand Master George S. Norfleet.

Much Routine Business. A great amount of routine business was transacted by the Grand Lodge at its session Wednesday morning beginning at 10 o'clock, and at 2:30 o'clock the session was turned over to the Grand Custodian and the Grand Lecturer and his deputies for exemplification of Masonic work. A feature yesterday afternoon was the singing of the concert class of the Oxford Orphanage.

This year, the singing class was composed of ten girls and two boys under the direction of Miss Myrtle Branch, who trained them. During the year ending October 31, the class visited 140 different points cutting off the latter part of its scheduled tour because of the influenza epidemic. The total receipts for the year were \$19,042 and after deducting all expenses there was left \$16,229.43 net for the institution.

The Grand Lodge at this session received the report of the board of directors, Superintendent and Treasurer of the Oxford Orphanage.

375 Children Enrolled. There were on the roll of the institution at the beginning of the year 375 children, 174 girls and 201 boys; admitted during the year 20 girls and 29 boys, a grand total of 424; of these 32 were returned to their people, 2 were sent to foster homes, 22 took positions, 8 went off to school, 1 girl and 12 boys ran away, 7 boys were expelled, and 1 girl and 2 boys died, making a total deduction of 87, leaving in the institution, November 1, 1918, a total of 337, 160 girls and 177 boys. The figures given are from November 1, 1917, to November 1, 1918.

Deputy Grand Master Reports. Deputy Grand Master Henry A. Grady, of Clinton yesterday morning reported to the Grand Lodge the results of the Grand Masters' conference held at Cedar Rapids, Ia., November 26, 27, and 28, 1918. The object of the conference was to ascertain the will of the several Grand Jurisdictions in the United States in respect to the formation of a national body through which all Masons could act in times of National calamity. The absence of such body and the fact that Masonry was a disjointed organization was assigned by the United States government as reason for refusal to recognize and co-operate with Masonic activities for war relief work.

Plan of Organization Adopted. At that meeting resolutions were adopted for the organization of the Masonic Service Association of the United States, a voluntary association of Masonic Grand Jurisdictions of the United States of America. All Masonic Jurisdictions under this plan, shall be entitled to membership therein, and on equal footing on expressing their approval of this constitution and acceptance of the responsibility and privileges outlined therein. Any member may be entitled to withdraw at any time on ninety days' notice, provided it shall have complied with all its assumed obligations.

His Recommendations. "It is apparent," said Mr. Grady, in conclusion, "that a constitution or plan of organization formulated in three days' time must have its objectionable features—must, to a certain extent, be crude and lacking in those niceties of detail which should ornament the finished product. This constitution does not purport to be perfect. It is a mere tentative plan, to be amended and enlarged from time to time as the exigencies of the occasion may require. The purpose is good. It is new. There is nothing of the kind in existence and the need of such an organization is apparent to every one who is familiar with modern history—with the history, I might say, that we are now making. Masonry has been denied its most cherished privilege—that of administering to its own members who were in actual want. It could not do so without the consent of the government, and that consent was refused for reasons that we can not gainsay. What is our duty now? Clearly to remove the one obstacle in the way of national or interstate service, and this plan of organization is offered for the purpose of solving that one need.

"Under the constitution each Jurisdiction is at liberty to retire at any time; it goes in upon an equal footing with all of the other jurisdictions, whether they be large or small, and it remains a member only during its own pleasure. If the plan is good each Grand Lodge is at liberty to avail itself of its privileges; if it is bad, it has its option to retire. Nothing can be fairer. If the plan is not just what it should be, it can be amended by the delegates who attend this first triennial conference at Alexandria on November 11th, next year, for that is the place selected for the next meeting.

Urges Adoption. "In conclusion, I commend that the Grand Lodge of North Carolina adopt the constitution, and that it elect each third year a delegate to the association, or provide by resolution that the Grand Master shall be ex officio the standing delegate to the association; and I also recommend that the Grand Master be authorized to appropriate such sum of money as he may deem advisable, not to exceed one thousand dollars per annum, to be used in the prosecution of the work of this association; and in order that the whole matter may receive such attention as it merits, I further suggest that a special hour be set apart for the consideration of this matter by the Grand Lodge."

TRAIL HITTING IN BILLY SUNDAY'S CAMPAIGN BEGINS

Trail About Fifteen Years Old, Lead Fifty-Six, Who Went Forward

INVITATION SEEMED TO COME, ON SPUR MOMENT

Evangelist Shook Hands With Trail Hitters. Greeted Them With Smiles and a Cherry: How Are You? The Hour Is Come, Subject of Sermon

Richmond, Va., Jan. 22.—Trail-hitting a Billy Sunday's campaign began at the city auditorium tonight. The first to hit the trail was a young girl about 15 years old with her hair done in braids down her back. She was followed by an aged woman. Next there were young women wearing or in their early twenties. The first ten were women, the eleventh was a gray-haired man, followed by a young man in khaki, a lieutenant.

When the last invitation had been offered and the last verse of "Just as I Am" had been sung heads were counted and it was found that fifty-six had hit the trail to God and his truth, to borrow one of Sunday's most treasured expressions.

The invitation apparently was decided upon by Sunday upon the spur of the moment. It came as an eleventh hour thought. He had ceded his discourse on "The Hour Is Come," which upon reflection might be taken as significant. He was about to pronounce the benediction when he halted abruptly and asked all who wished him to include them in his prayer raised their hands.

At first only a few went up. "Come on," Sunday implored. "If I asked you to indicate your loyalty to the Stars and Stripes, to your country by raising your hands, I dare say every hand in this building would go up with one accord. Aren't you willing to swear loyalty to Jesus Christ and allegiance to God? I have been here a week and a half and until tonight I haven't asked you to make this public manifestation of your faith and in acceptance of Christ. Tonight I feel impelled to ask as many of you as will to come down and give me your hand and say you want to live for God and for His truth!"

After twenty-two persons, including five men, had walked down the aisle to a position directly in front of the pulpit, Sunday cried, "Come on, old Virginia, you never failed to line up for anything noble and you won't fail in this. For the next five minutes Sunday alternated between dropping into pulp and into pulpit. He shook hands with the trail-hitters and then greeted with smiles and a cherry: "How are you?" In the pulpit proper he continued his exhortations.

The auditorium was again packed and thousands were turned away, despite the rain.

The Hour Has Come.

The following are extracts from Mr. Sunday's sermon:

Seventeenth chapter of John and the first verse. "The hour is come." It is very evident to me that Jesus Christ knew that God, the Father would understand what he meant when he said, "The hour is come."

He did not say, "I have met with some difficulties and discouragements down here in my mediatorial work; something we had not thought about, planned or expected would ever occur."

But he did say, "The hour for which I came into the world, the hour for which I had goodbye to the heavenly hosts, the hour for which I made my way down into this vale of tears, the hour which was to surpass all other hours in importance in the history of the world, the hour which was to mean more to mankind than all the hours combined, the hour when I must go on the cross and bathe the world in blood and tears and open up a new redemption by and through the acceptance of which mankind might escape the eternal damnation which it deserves because Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit and sin and the death penalty passed upon the human race, that hour is come."

Hour of Great Struggle. It was the hour of the great struggle. The powers of darkness had been looking forward for thousands of years, ever since the devil hid himself in a serpent and tempted Adam and Eve to eat the forbidden fruit and God gave the promise, when they sinned, that the seed of the woman should bruise the serpent's head, meaning that Jesus Christ in the fullness of time would be born in fulfillment of that promise and the devil knew that hour would come when Jesus Christ would be born in the manger and when he would suffer.

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26 ENLISTED MEN OF NAVY COMMENDED BY DANIELS

Washington, Jan. 22.—Names of twenty-six enlisted men of the navy who have been commended by Secretary Daniels for courage and efficiency in the performance of duty were made public today at the Navy Department. Twenty-one of the men are of the crew of the Marblehead who rescued a liberty party on a naval motor launch, which was swamped in Key West harbor last September. The others are individual citations.

The Orizaba Arrives.

New York, Jan. 22.—The transport Orizaba, from Brest, with 2,500 troops aboard arrived off quarantine tonight and will dock early tomorrow. Her contingent includes 343 sick and wounded officers and 348 wounded men.

STEPS TAKEN TO FORM PERMANENT MERCHANT MARINE

Ship Officials, Builders and Employes Hold Conference at Washington

WANT GOVERNMENT WAGE CONTROL ABOLISHED

Conference Favors National Policy of Subsidizing Ship Operation, Either By Direct Payment or By Application of Differential Rates; Greater Cost For U. S. Ships

Washington, Jan. 22.—The foundation for a permanent organization having for its purpose the maintenance and expansion of the American merchant marine was laid here today at a conference of ship officials, builders and employes. The meeting was called by Senator Ransdale, of Louisiana, who presented subjects for discussion and who, as temporary chairman named committees on permanent organization and resolutions which are to report at the final sessions tomorrow.

Commissioner Charles Page, of the shipping board said that body would welcome the advice and assistance of the conference and other speakers, including some of the foremost shipbuilders of the country, were unanimous in declaring opposition to government control and operation of ships during peace, and in behalf of a national policy of subsidizing ship operation, either by direct payment of by application of differential rates. They also demanded relinquishment of government wage control in ship yards as a first step toward meeting world and particularly English competition.

J. W. Powell, vice president of the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corporation, Homer L. Ferguson, president of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company, and Holden A. Evans, president of the Baltimore Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company, who spoke for the builders, emphasized the cost of building American ships and an insuperable barrier against any attempt to establish a merchant marine without, as Mr. Ferguson said, the nation "paying for it."

Mr. Powell said that as nearly as can be calculated the difference between the cost of a ship built in Great Britain and that of a vessel built in this country has increased from about \$25 or \$35 a ton before the war to \$100 today.

Cost of Labor Greater. "A great part of that cost," the speaker declared, "is due to the great increase in the cost of labor in this country. Our wages, set for us by the government, have gone up 150 per cent since August 1917. There is no possible way of efficiency of operation by American shipbuilders can bring that cost down."

Mr. Ferguson said his company had "struggled over the prostrate form of the American shipbuilding industry for many years before the war to get contracts."

"There are some practical things this country must do if it intends to get and keep a merchant marine," Mr. Ferguson declared. "You can't talk about Yankee ingenuity and pass good resolutions and do the job. The best shipbuilders in the world are along the Clyde in England, and the best American managers. Engineers, architects and workmen learned the trade there. We had 40,000 shipbuilders before the war, and now we've got 400,000 who call themselves shipbuilders but they can't build ships to compete when the wages have increased from 25 to 45 cents per hour on the Clyde, and to \$1 an hour here."

Mr. Ferguson said he favored a policy of allowing American ships rate differentials in American trade, rather than subsidies, "since in that way you can pay a ship for carrying goods and not for just sailing the flag around." Laws and treaties should be made confining trade between the United States and other countries to ships from either that country or the United States," he said.

Crux of Matter. "This is the crux, as I see it, of a merchant marine," he asserted, "and a proper one that insures each country having a merchant marine commensurate with its commerce. It may be said that it would be a very good thing to react a hundred years to a successful merchant marine."

"It takes it that it is the real sense of the war a merchant marine becomes not only a necessity from a commercial standpoint, but an absolute necessity from a standpoint of maintenance of national integrity and national dignity."

Mr. Evans, indorsing, he said, Mr. Ferguson's presentation declared for the immediate leasing of government owned ships to private operating companies, which should be given options to buy them during a period of five years, and named a basis of \$50 per ton as the value on which the leases should be fixed.

"British subjects are buying British ships today on a basis of from \$65 to \$115 per ton," Mr. Evans said. "At the present scale of wages in the United States it actually costs \$185 per ton to build cargo ships. Now it is proposed to write off \$1,000,000,000 of the cost of government ships, and it will require a great deal more writing off than that if they are to be sold."

Lewis Nixon of New York, declared that unless our ships make money for us they are of no use."

"If the LaFollette women's bill re-

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PRESIDENT RIGHT IN MAKING VISIT SIMONDS ADMITS

Noted Writer and Military Critic Changes Mind After Reaching London

TRIUMPH IS NATIONAL AND NOT PERSONAL

Effect of What Wilson Said and Did Is Encountered Everywhere Among The People; Says League of Nations Minor Matter; American-Anglo Understanding of Greater Importance

By FRANK H. SIMONDS. Special Cable Dispatch from London. (Copyright, 1919, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

London, Jan. 20.—Arriving in London nearly two weeks after the President's visit with every circumstance of that visit unknown, since all reports were lacking to the ocean traveler, one has something of the perspective of the traditional visitor from Mrs. De Witt. The value of this perspective is plain. One does not measure the result in terms of temporary applause and of momentary enthusiasm, which have come and gone. What is left is the solid result and it is a great and unmistakable result.

In a visit measured by relatively few hours, President Wilson achieved two things. He captured the imagination and he strengthened the expectations and the aspirations of millions of people whose thoughts as to the future were necessarily vague and ill defined and he avoided precisely those dangers which loomed large in the minds of the thoughtful and who welcomed him with equal enthusiasm. But were acutely conscious of unmistakable temptations and perils and that, said the President. This thing must be said out of mere justice. Great as was his personal triumph the greatest thing about it was not personal, but national. I have talked with scores of Englishmen and Americans and it is the common testimony of all that President Wilson's visit was permanent contribution to Anglo-American understanding in the present, and friendship in the future.

President's Visit Justified. My American readers will perhaps remember that I was one of those who doubted the wisdom of the President's journey, who saw the dangers and did not perceive compensating benefits; but I do not think that any American could be in London today, a fortnight after the event, and not feel that the English phase alone had justified the experiment, proving the President right and the doubters and critics totally wrong.

What the President did, measured by the result, was this: His visit was an experiment for England, for London. The official world did everything within its large capacity to make the visit a success. All that statesmen, diplomats and civic authorities could do, was done. But when the President came, the mass of the people took the thing out of the official world and made the welcome its own. What was naturally official and formal at the outset became popular and spontaneous after the first moment and to this welcome, the greatest in the history of London, the President made adequate response. The opportunity was tremendous and he unquestionably rose to it.

Effect Found Everywhere. What he said, what he did, I do not know even now, since I was on the ocean at the time; but the effect of what he said and what he did is to be encountered everywhere. Nor is it less clear what he did not do. Many Americans and some Englishmen feared that on the subject of the League of Nations he might speak and act dogmatically; that, instead of prompting understanding, he might excite disagreement by raising an issue. But he did nothing of the sort. On the contrary he left behind him the impression of reasonableness which dispelled longstanding apprehension. He impressed official and imperial Britain not as being domineering but as being open minded, moderate, in search of a basis of agreement; not insistent upon any unalterable formula or immutable doctrine.

Tangible Advance Agent. But even this achievement—and it was no small achievement—was less considerable than the success of the President with the masses of the people. He was a visible and tangible advance agent of a just and peaceful settlement of the greatest of all world tragedies. His words, his views, vague as they were necessarily, became definite and specific in the circumstances. He found the great public expectation on the subject of the League of Nations, as the American public has never been, and before he left the last doubt as to the possibility that the League of Nations would in some form emerge from Versailles was abolished.

In America, when I left me and women were discussing whether or not there would be League of Nations. In London, when I arrived, the discussion was as to the form which the inevitable League would take. The fact that there would be a League was everywhere conceded.

League of Minor Importance. Yet if one were to be wholly exact, even the question of the League of Nations is minor. What the President's visit seems to have accomplished was to give a body form to Anglo-American understanding and friendship, which was always lacking before. How this

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MONEY DUE SPRUNT IS ON TRANSACTION MADE BEFORE WAR

Obligations of German Customers Were Incurred Prior To Outbreak of War

ARTICLE TO CONTRARY PRONOUNCED FALSE

Cargoes of Cotton Sent To Rotterdam in 1914 and 1915 Shipped in American Not British Bottoms; Alexander Sprunt and Son Never Blacklisted

Alexander Sprunt & Son of Wilmington, in a telegram to The News and Observer signed by the members of the firm, Messrs. James Sprunt and W. H. Sprunt, deny the essential portions of the article under a Wilmington date line in Tuesday's paper headed "Sprunt Will Claim Millions on Cotton Sent to Germany." The firm declares the statements challenged by it to be false and defamatory and calls for a retraction and full apology. The News and Observer cheerfully publishes the denial which the Messrs. Sprunt make of the assertions in The News and Observer and retraction of the objectionable statements is hereby made with full apologies.

It is set forth in the article that German interests owe the Messrs. Sprunt for cotton shipped in British bottoms in 1914 and 1915. The telegram from the Messrs. Sprunt asserts that the money due Sprunt & Son from German customers is all for cotton shipped before the war and that the cotton which was shipped to Rotterdam and some of which went to Bremen in 1914 and 1915 was not shipped in British bottoms but in American bottoms. The rumor mentioned in the article to the effect that the British government blacklisted the Wilmington firm and that Sprunt warehouses in Liverpool were demolished are declared to be false.

Statements Pronounced False. The portion of the article declared by the Messrs. Sprunt to contain false and defamatory statements follow and they are printed in order that the denial may be fully understood:

"For cotton that went from the port of Wilmington in 1914 and 1915 to Rotterdam in British bottoms and thence by rail into Germany, Alex. Sprunt & Son, local cotton exporters, will claim from the German government a sum estimated to be between two and three million dollars. James Osborne Carr, whose resignation as district attorney of eastern North Carolina becomes effective on January 31, has been employed to prosecute the claim."

"British officials were cognizant, of course, that the bottoms over which the Union Jack was flying were available to the Wilmington exporter because of Mr. Sprunt's connection with the British government as vice consul at the port of Wilmington.

"Later, though, it is said that England seized the cotton in the Liverpool warehouses of Sprunt, and blacklisted the Wilmington firm. British subjects demolished the Sprunt buildings in Liverpool and the resignation of Mr. James Sprunt followed."

"Cotton Shipped Before the War. The facts are, the Messrs. Sprunt explain in their telegram to The News and Observer, 'that the sum of money due to the firm of Alex. Sprunt and Son from German customers is not due for cotton shipped during the war but for cotton which had been shipped previous to the outbreak of the war between Great Britain and Germany. Again, the two cargoes of cotton shipped by Alex. Sprunt and Son to Rotterdam, some of which went to Bremen in the years 1914 and 1915, were not shipped in British bottoms at all, but in American bottoms and with the knowledge and consent of the British government. Again, England never so-called any cotton the property of Alex. Sprunt and Son in Liverpool warehouses or anywhere else and that firm was never blacklisted by the English government nor did English subjects demolish any property belonging to said firm."

Relations With England Cordial. The imputation in the article that the resignation of Mr. James Sprunt, British Vice Consul, was in some way connected with the above is also untrue.

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KRUPP PLANT WORKING FOR U. S. GOVERNMENT

Making Parts For 72 Incomplete Cannon Rejected By Americans

Coblentz, Jan. 22.—(By the A. P.)—The Krupp plant at Essen began working for the United States government Tuesday. The task undertaken by the Krupp consists of making parts for seventy-two incomplete cannon, rejected by the Americans as part of the war material offered by the Germans under the terms of the armistice.

The German commission which has been in Berlin considering the question of the heavy guns turned down by the American authorities has arrived at Coblentz and reported that eighty cannon have been shipped to the headquarters of the American army of occupation to replace big guns which failed to meet requirements. With the delivery of the parts for the seventy-two cannon and the arrival of the other eighty, the delivery of heavy artillery to the Americans will have been completed. The American allotment calls for one hundred and fifty-two heavy guns.

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