

Of The Largest Crowds
Ever In Waynesville
Hears Inspiring An
Speech

Potest's speech was as follows:

Masons in general are slowly awakening to the indisputable activity, of turmoil and strife, of turmoil and strife, of religion and unbelief, of selfishness and the mad scramble for wealth, and produce or quit.

my consideration of right and demands that an organization be as powerful as ours be felt mightily in all good that in short Masonry has a for the world in which we shall attempt in a short time sent to you my conception of that message is.

ary is not a religion, never has and never will be. That Mason sees in the order a substitute church and the living God has utterly to comprehend the time, and spirit of this brotherhood, he never caught even a faint glimpse of the true Masonic light.

der now with me, those great
als which embody Masonry's
e to the modern world; those
les which every genuine Mason
to practice in his own life, and
pagate; those principles for
true Masons are always ready
of their time, energy, means
need be of their life's blood.

of these is charity. That feeling causes men to share with their fortunate brother, not in the act of handing out a dole but as a part of what the Creator has placed in the world for the use of all men. Charity has a further and higher meaning. It means brotherly love and affection. In a day of sharp prac-

...suspensions, of whispered ac-
 Masmyr's voice rings out
 and strong. "One is your father
 ye are brotheren. Vows have
 at Mine altars binding your-
 together in sweet fellowship
 word: a new commandment give
 you that ye love one another."
 ere ever been a time in the
 of the world such

more to be soothed, discord to be
strife to be vanquished, the
breath of slander to be dis-
the sweet affection. Ma-
voice falls upon our jangling
an echo of the angels' song,
on earth good will to men."
ally, and growing out of the
Masonry, brotherhood of

...preaches a broad
...of deep and genui
...in the welfare of all men.
...some who think that Ameri
...today among the company
...a living monument to self
...in her splendid isolation, mock
...trotter states of Europe and
...them settle their own prob
...sponsors no such des

...bids her sons spend eight
of every twenty-four in the
of God and distressed worthy
teaches her votaries that the
most God-like pursuit under
of heaven is that followed
Man of Gallilee, who, "went
doing good." And when the
socialist prophet Oscar

... declares that the majority of
... spoil their lives by an unhealth-
... exaggerated altruism, Masonry
... him for what he is, a vile
... possible liar, and shouts aloud to
... world that altruism is blessed
... was taught and preached by
... and must live and flourish

more and more gloriously or the world
perishes.

Thirdly, what our brother president Roosevelt called the Square Deal, The oldest of all our known symbols is that of the set square. It has been employed in all the ages. As far back as civilized man can be traced it has been used to teach uprightness and what we know as the Golden Rule. Both the Greek and Latin words for square means a rule or guide of life. The square is the foundation of the 47th problem of Euclid who in the sixth century before Christ sought to present a pagan and polytheistic world a comprehensible picture of Deity, and suggests to us in a most striking manner the conception of divine justice tempered with mercy. The Deity setting to his creatures an unbelievable wonderful example of the square

deal and adding them follow it in all their human relations. If our modern world had given heed to this Masonic principle, not one of the problems that face us now would exist. The fact that they do exist is complete proof of the failure of Masons to exert that influence in our social and civic life that they ought to exert and can exert if they will. Suppose men everywhere guided their actions by this principle. The negro problem would be a forgotten nightmare, strikes would no longer paralyze American industry, socialism would never have been born, bolshevism would have remained in the depths of hell its home, nations would not plot to oppress and rob other nations and the World War would not have spread misery and devastation and ruin over the face of the world. Surely we Masons have spent too much time philosophizing and not enough time in applying our beliefs and tenets to the alleviation of the world suffering and the solution of the world's problems. As I have already suggested, unless we speedily and whole heartedly set about this divine task, we shall perish, and before God, we ought to perish.

In the fourth place, respect for law. It has been said more or less correctly, no doubt, that if church members would quit drinking blockade liquor, the blind tigers would soon be compelled to go out of business. I presume the statement would be equally true if the word "Masons" were substituted for "Church Members." And it must be confessed with poignant shame, that in some sections of our state Ma- sons not only drink monkey rum, but manufacture and sell it. That we be- lieve in the toleration of other men's sins, I shall point out presently; but there is nothing anywhere in Ma- sonic law, history or tradition, which induces us to gloss over and excuse violations of plain statutes laid down for the guidance of American citizens. We are told, "In the decision of every appeal against our rules, you are to judge with candor, admonish with friendship and reprehend with justice." This is plain enough to be com- prehensible by even the dullest intel- lect. Masonry has no room, for ex- ample, for the blockader, for he is a deliberate offender against the law of the land. But this is not the end of the matter. Masonry not only teaches her votaries to respect the law of the land. This is not t.s.e. she also demands that you and I constantly do all in our power to develop in and out of the lodge such an alert, sensitive and imperious public opinion as will put the blockader and those who deal with him, as well as all other law breakers, where they belong, among the pariahs and out- casts of society. I have discussed this particular form of contempt for law already as an illustration of the duty and principle of Masons to spread abroad this trumpet call which the order sends from pole to pole, "Liberty founded on Law, or obedience to law, on respect for law; when law is despised, ignored, forgotten, liberty trembles on her lofty throne and anarchy and chaos, deep down in the atomless pit, prepare to issue forth, to tear down and mangle and destroy."

pass to the next phase of Masonry's message, namely, Americanism. We talk at length of our great melting pot, and of the fact that this nation offers a hospitable welcome to men of all races. This is, no doubt, very fine, but no person with an ounce of brains can deny that we have within our borders large elements wearing all the liveries of citizenship, who have no more right to enjoy the blessings and the freedom of this fair land than the devil has to direct the Angel Choir. Our estate is broad but it has no room in it for men and women whose souls are bound hard and fast to some foreign court, and who bring an ineradicable hyphen in their baggage when they land on our shores. Masonry preaches, and all genuine masons practice, Americanism, and so going arouse the ire of certain phenates whose Americanism could never achieve a passing grade in any sort of examination. It is high time that we awake out of sleep and heed Masonry's call to this sublime task of arriving out forever foreign allegiance and disloyalty of whatever kind, and of bringing in the day when every man, woman and child all over this glorious nation can say from his heart "America, first last and always."

In the sixth place Masonry has something to say to the modern world Education. The public schools of the country with all of their imperfections, and they are many, are the nursery of our future, the seed bed of our destiny. One of the truest maxims that greatest of all Masons, Albert Pike, ever said is this, "It is never safe for a nation to repose in the lap of ignorance." Ignorance, my brethren, is the mother of nine-tenths all human wretchedness. Sorrow and death, tears and misery, strife and war, have always been her fruit. Masonry therefore believes in the public schools; all good Masons fight for the public schools support them, every measure designed to

further its influence and increase its efficiency, and oppose in the last ounce of strength its vindictive enemies. Masonry believes in the widest possible extension of educational opportunity, absolutely free from the drugs of predigested opinion and the stifling, stunting intellectual repression of any bigoted and intolerant religious hierarchy be it Catholic or Protestant, and both are to be found. Some one has wisely and truly said that the privilege of freedom carries with it the obligation to learn how to be free. Masonry subscribes to this sentiment without hesitation or reservation, rejoicing in the ever widening spread of education for all men, and if the re-back, the tight wad, the moss back, the bigot are looking for a fight, Masonry says, "here am I put up your fists."

In the next place Masonry stands firmly for freedom of thought and toleration. Masonic light as I understand it, means truth, the knowledge of God, the apprehension and comprehension of his dealings with men and of the laws made by Him which control the universe "with all its mighty and magestic formations." The true

THE New Court

Airplane View of

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Mason, therefore, is never content with the light he has received, but presses for further and yet further light. At a certain point in the degree of Master Mason, the candidate receives a certain word which he is informed is a substitute for the true word. And therein, my bretheren is symbolized this truth I am seeking to impress on you now. The true word that is to say perfect knowledge of the Divine Creator, is inattainable in this finite life and will be communicated to us only when He raises us to that last most sublime degree.

Now because our minds are limited and restrained by mortality, truth does not appear in the same guise to all men. We interpet and explain the facts of life, economic conditions, philosophical pronouncements, religious speculations and revelation differently. Hence arise various schools of thought, various political parties, various demonstrations. Masonry teaches that we are children of a common Father and, therefore, brethren: that every man has a full and complete right to his political, philosophical and religious opinion; that no man who treads this earth has authority to say to another

what he shall believe and what he shall not believe. Today intolerance seems to be steadily growing uglier and stronger. This devilish spirit and all the outrages which grow out of it Masonry sternly rebukes. We believe the words of Paul; "For we shall all stand before the judgement bar of God." And we assert boldly and joyously that intolerance and bigotry are of their father, the devil; that the search for truth is man's sublimest vocation; and that in that search he is and of right ought to be, as free as God's sunlight.

Finally Masonry preaches righteousness. "To be good and true is the finest lesson that we are taught in Masonry." Our order is founded on a firm faith in the existence of one omnipotent God, and on the belief that only through love for Him and unceasing striving to do His will can man ever attain happiness in this life or heaven in the world to come. Masonry, therefore, takes her place proudly beside the home, the school and the church, as one of the means of bringing the kingdom of God to its glorious consummation. She seeks to displace and supersede neither but

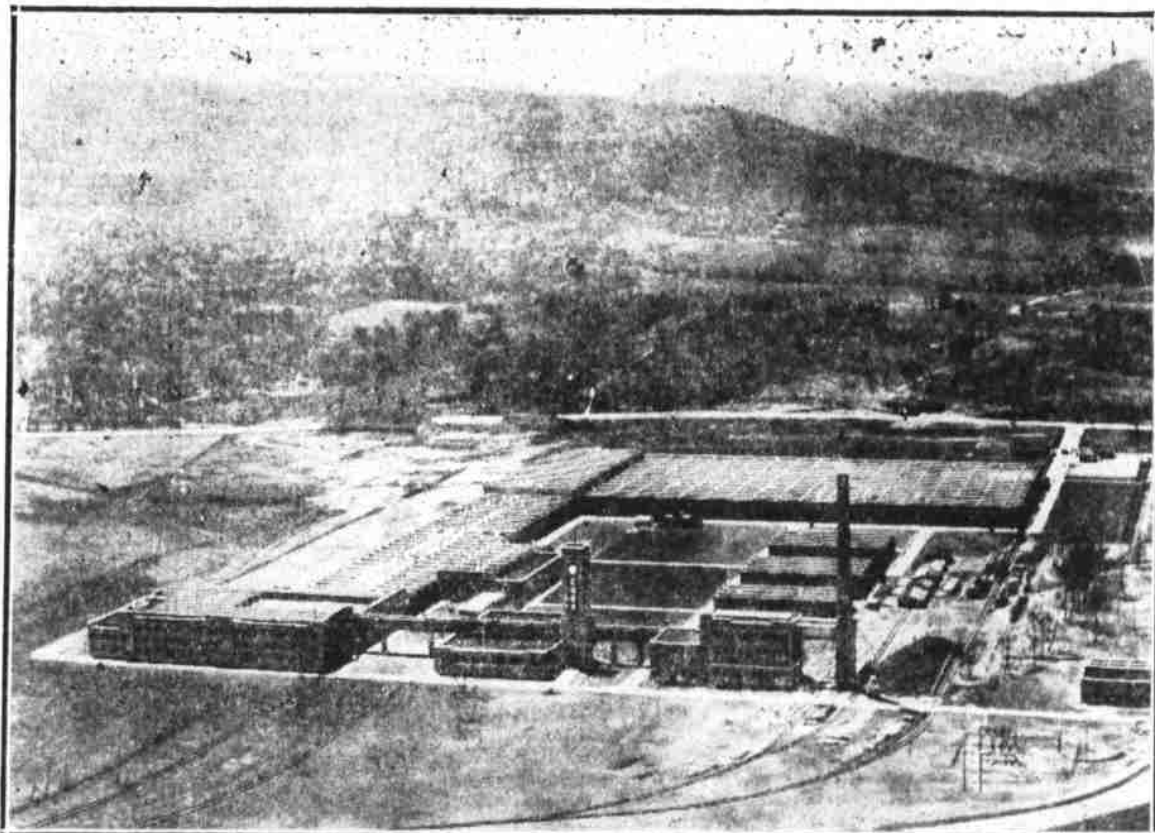
to assist and strengthen the work and influence of all three. Surely there has never been a time since the Morning Stars sang together at Creation's dawn when there was a greater need for righteousness, for faith in God, for devotion to His will, than now.

Far, far back of the beginning of written records of the race there was a man who looked up into the starry Heavens one night and saw the face of God shining with "a light that neither was on land or sea;" who listened to the mighty roar of the ocean and heard the voice of the Creator speaking in solemn, beautiful tones; who beheld in the lightning's flash the all-seeing eye of the infinite and in the summer heard the mutterings of His wrath. I know not who that man was but he was our brother. All along down the ages there have been men who have sought constantly and eagerly after God if happily they might find Him. They were our brothers. Other men have died beneath the tortures of a vindictive and bigoted inquisition rather than deny the faith that hallowed their lives and the truth that made them free.

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