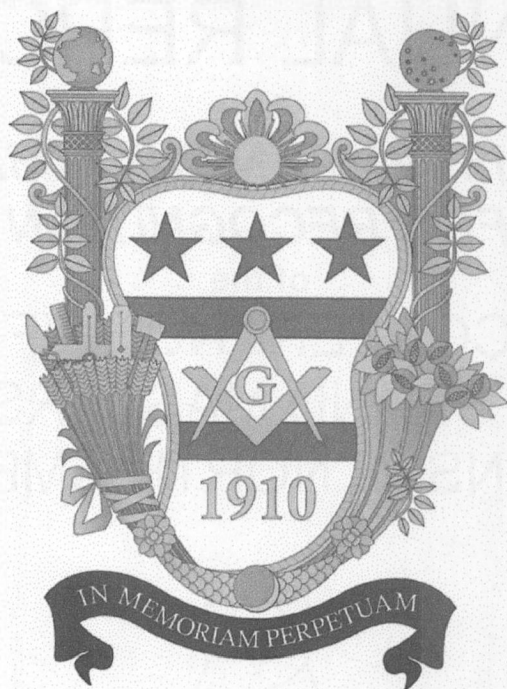


1990
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
***COMMISSION ON INFORMATION
FOR RECOGNITION***
of the
**CONFERENCE OF
THE GRAND MASTERS OF
MASONS IN NORTH AMERICA**



A.D. 1990 / A.L. 5990

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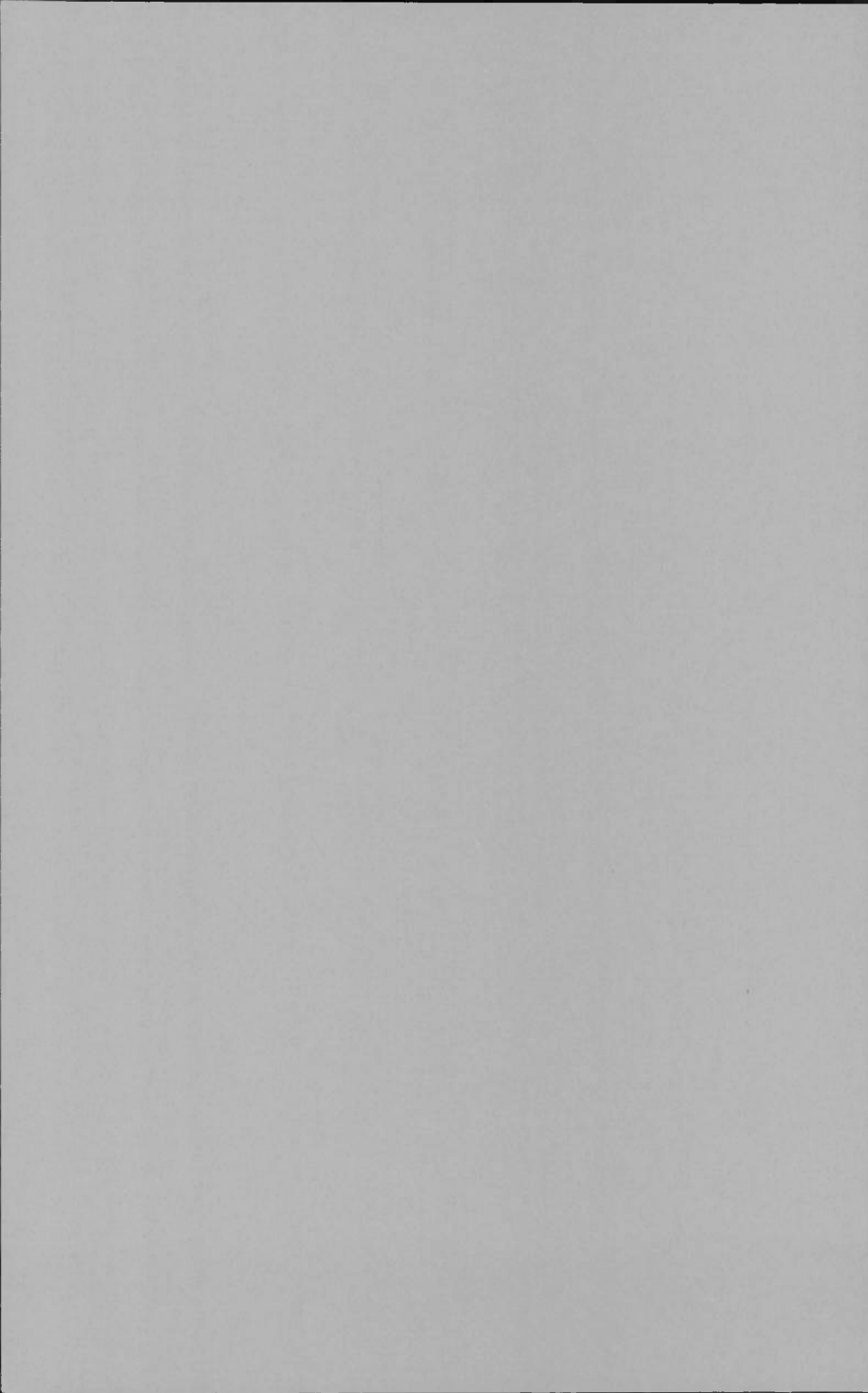


A.D. 2022 / A.L. 6022

COMMISSION ON INFORMATION
FOR RECOGNITION
of the
CONFERENCE OF
THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MASONS IN NORTH AMERICA

ANNUAL REPORT

given at
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
February 20, 1990



PREFACE

The Commission on Information for Recognition was organized in 1952 as a facility to gather, collate, and from time to time revise information on Grand Lodges in other lands, as a service to the Grand Lodges of this Conference.

The Commission neither advises nor recommends that recognition be given to any Grand Lodges, but merely indicates whether or not it considers that a Grand Lodge in question satisfies the conditions of regularity.

The Commission consists of six members of wide geographical distribution. One new member, usually a Deputy Grand Master, is elected each year, and serves for six years.

After each Annual Meeting of the Conference of Grand Masters, the report, given to and adopted by the Conference, is printed and copies mailed to the Grand Secretaries and to the Chairmen of the Committees on Fraternal Relations of the Grand Lodges of the Conference. Copies are mailed to many interested brethren who are not members of the Conference.

This report is based upon the most recent information available, and in some cases after a conference with members of some of the Grand Lodges mentioned in the report.

All comments on this report and all inquiries on other matters of information on Grand Lodges throughout the world may be addressed to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Commission, R:W: Robert L. Dillard, Jr., P.O. Box 1850, Dallas, Texas 75221.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON INFORMATION FOR RECOGNITION

To the Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America:
Most Worshipful Brother Chairman, and Most Worshipful Sirs, Right Worshipful
Sirs, My Brothers All:

Your Commission has had the honor of serving you again during this past year and we thank you for the privilege of submitting this thirty-eighth annual report. As I conclude my six year term by serving as Chairman this year, I want to express my thanks to all the Grand Masters and Deputies that I have had the pleasure of working with. My special appreciation to the members of the Commission and especially to R:W: Bob Dillard, Past Grand Master of Masons in Texas, who continues to serve as Secretary/Treasurer and coordinate all our efforts.

Please permit me to introduce the other members of the Commission in order of service.

M:W: L. Robert Baker, P.G.M., District of Columbia

M:W: William R. Pellow, P.G.M., Ontario

M:W: Earl L. Wunder, P.G.M., Arizona

M:W: L. Ray Chamberlin, G.M., Iowa

R:W: William A. Gallmeister, D.G.M., Indiana

Approximately one-half of your Delegates are here for the first time this year. Since Delegates come and go with the term of their office, we feel that we should use this opportunity to acquaint, or re-acquaint, you with the purpose of this Commission and the standards for recognition that were established at its origin in 1952. We serve only in an advisory capacity to this Conference. Our function is to investigate and report on all matters pertaining to a Jurisdiction's qualifications for recognition by members of the Conference. We make our report and you as delegates use it as you deem proper, collectively or individually.

The established standards for recognition that must be met to receive a favorable report by this Commission are:

1. Legitimacy of origin
2. Exclusive territorial jurisdiction (subject to exceptions)
3. Adherence to the ancient landmarks; specifically an unalterable and continuing belief in God, the Volume of the Sacred Law as an indispensable part of the furniture of the lodge, and the prohibition of the discussion of religion and politics.

Adherence to the ancient landmarks sometimes causes us some concern with foreign countries but never in North America. The same cannot be said for legitimacy of origin and exclusive territorial jurisdiction. Many of you Grand Masters will be faced with decisions regarding this matter before you leave office. If not you, then your successor. In some cases, important decisions have already been made by your predecessors.

What will influence your decision--the standards of this Commission; the standards of your Grand Lodge; your personal feelings regarding the matter; or that which is for the good of Masonry in general and your Grand Jurisdiction in particular? The Commission joins you in prayer that what is done will be for the best interest of Freemasonry in North America.

The deliberation of this Commission during the past year are summarized as follows:

HAWAII

On May 20, 1989 the majority of the 12 constituent Lodges of the Grand Lodge of California in Hawaii (with approval and support of the Grand Lodge of California) voted to form their own Grand Lodge. The officers elected on May 20 were installed by the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of California, M:W: Brother Stanley L. Channon on July 1, 1989. The new Grand Master of Hawaii is M:W: Brother William K. McKee of Waikiki Lodge No. 774.

The new Grand Lodge adheres to all the Standards of this Commission and in the opinion of the Commission is entitled to recognition as a regular Grand Lodge.

Several Grand Lodges have already granted recognition to the Grand Lodge of Hawaii. It is assumed by the Commission that the new Grand Lodge has requested or will be requesting recognition from all Grand Lodges represented in the Conference and other regular Grand Lodges.

HUNGARY

Freemasonry in Hungary was banned in 1950 but with the dramatic political changes in Eastern Europe it appears that it may be permitted to meet again without governmental interference or persecution. The government of Hungary authorized the establishment of Freemasonry in that Country last year and the "Symbolic Grand Lodge of Hungary" was registered with the Budapest Court of Justice. Fifty of the surviving known members of the old Grand Lodge in anticipation of this approval met and elected Dr. Istvan Galambos, a retired lawyer, Grand Master.

On December 27, 1989 in Budapest the Grand Lodge of Austria joined with the Hungarian brethren in consecrating the Symbolic Grand Lodge of Hungary and installing its officers.

The Grand Lodge of Austria is a regular Grand Lodge recognized by all of the Grand Lodges in the United States and all but two of the Grand Lodges in Canada. It is also recognized by the Grand Lodge of England, Scotland, Ireland, and most of the regular Grand Lodges elsewhere in the world.

The Commission is advised that this ceremony was attended by representatives of regular Grand Lodges from France, Italy, Argentina, Switzerland, Germany, Luxemburg, and Belgium. It is understood that the new Grand Lodge has 600 members in four Lodges, although it has been estimated that only about one half of this membership is Hungarian.

Hopefully this is the beginning of the rebuilding of Freemasonry in eastern Europe. Other countries will follow. When freedom is to be destroyed, Freemasonry must be the first to go. When freedom is possible, Freemasonry is the first to return. Many of our brethren will be called upon to help. While many of us are geographically removed, we must stand ever ready and willing to support them in any way possible, particularly with our prayers.

ITALY

The Secretary of the Commission, Brother Dillard, visited Italy in September last year at the invitation of the Officers of the Grand Orient and attended Masonic meetings in Rome and Cosenza. He also met local leaders of Constituent Lodges of the Grand Orient in Naples and Reggio Calabria. The Reverend Neville Barker Cryer, Past Master and Secretary of Quatuor Coronati Lodge No. 2076, the Premier Research Lodge of the United Grand Lodge of England joined Brother Dillard in the visits to Rome, Cosenza, and Naples. Brother Dillard reports large attendance of Masons and their wives on each occasion. The Officers and members of the Grand Orient were most hospitable and extended Brothers Dillard and Cryer and their wives every Masonic courtesy.

IVORY COAST

Last year the Commission reported that the Grande Loge Nationale Francaise (GLNF) had constituted the Grande Loge DeCote D'Ivoire (the Grand Lodge of the Ivory Coast) on February 19, 1989. This new Grand Lodge has requested recognition from many of the Grand Lodges represented in this Conference. This Grand Lodge will hold its annual communication on April 14, 1990 at which time it expects to dedicate a new Grand Lodge building in Abidjan, the capital of the Ivory Coast.

The Commission is of the opinion the Grand Lodge of the Ivory Coast meets all the standards of the Commission and is entitled to recognition as a regular Grand Lodge.

PORTUGAL

Last year the Commission reported that the Grande Loge Nationale Francaise (GLNF) had chartered two lodges in Portugal. We are now advised by the GLNF that it has chartered another lodge in Lisbon. The three Lodges are Fernando Pesson No. 523 and Europa No. 595 in Lisbon and O Porto Do Graal No. 566 in Porto. The GLNF reports that almost all of the members of these Lodges are Portuguese although the Lodges are supervised by an officer of the GLNF.

The GLNF has announced that it will consecrate a District Grand Lodge of Portugal on June 29 and 30, 1990.

The Commission has also been advised that the United Grand Lodge of England will consecrate a Lodge in South Portugal under its District Grand Lodge in Gibraltar on March 17, 1990.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dallas, Texas

February 20, 1990

TO THE CONFERENCE OF GRAND MASTERS OF MASONS OF NORTH AMERICA

This report is an accounting of the funds of the Commission on Information for the year just past, ending at December 31, 1989. Since January 1, 1989, 54 Grand Lodges have contributed \$3,007.20.

Balance from Report dated February 21, 1989

\$10,931.85

Receipts from Grand Lodges between January 1, 1989 and December 31, 1989:

Alabama	\$100.00
Alaska	15.00
Alberta	15.00
American-Canadian Grand Lodge	15.00
Arizona	15.00
British Columbia	50.00
California	\$100.00
Colorado	50.00
Delaware	15.00
District of Columbia	15.00
Florida	100.00

Georgia	100.00
Idaho	15.00
Illinois	100.00
Indiana	100.00
Iowa	50.00
Japan	25.00
Kansas	100.00
Kentucky	100.00
Louisiana	50.00
Maine	50.00
Manitoba	15.00
Maryland	50.00
Massachusetts	100.00
Michigan	100.00
Minnesota	50.00
Mississippi	50.00
Missouri	100.00
Montana	15.00
Nevada	25.00
New Brunswick	15.00
New Hampshire	15.00
New Jersey	100.00
New Mexico	15.00
New York	100.00
North Carolina	100.00
North Dakota	15.00
Nova Scotia	12.20
Ohio	100.00
Oklahoma	100.00
Pennsylvania	100.00
Prince Edward Island	15.00
Rhode Island	15.00
Saskatchewan	15.00
South Carolina	100.00
South Dakota	25.00
Tennessee	100.00
Texas	100.00
Utah	15.00
Vermont	15.00
Virginia	\$100.00
Washington	50.00
West Virginia	50.00
Wisconsin	50.00
Total Contributions	\$3,007.20

Expenses between 1-1-89 and 12-31-89:

Dallas Scottish Rite Bodies - (supplies, copying, printing, & mailing of Reports)	\$ 178.93	
Postage	59.00	
Dudley Press (typesetting 1989 Report)	545.00	
Secretarial	1,000.00	
Travel & Hotel for Secretary-Treasurer	<u>1,149.70</u>	
Total Expenses	\$2,932.63	
Balance as of December 31, 1989		\$11,006.42

Respectfully submitted,

Robert L. Dillard, Jr.
Secretary-Treasurer

This concludes the 38th Annual Report of the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

John B. Obenchain, P.G.M., Chairman
L. Robert Baker, P.G.M., Vice Chairman
W. R. Pellow, P.G.M.
Earl L. Wunder, P.G.M.
L. Ray Chamberlin, G.M.
William A. Gallmeister, D.G.M.
Robert L. Dillard, Jr., P.G.M.
Secretary-Treasurer

ORGANIZATION OF COMMISSION FOR 1990

At a meeting of the Commission on February 20, 1990, the following organization was voted for the ensuing year:

Chairman

M:W: L. Robert Baker
Past Grand Master of District
of Columbia

Vice Chairman

M:W: William R. Pellow
Past Grand Master of Ontario

Secretary-Treasurer

R:W: Robert L. Dillard, Jr.
Past Grand Master of Texas

**NAMES, ADDRESSES AND YEAR OF RETIREMENT
OF COMMISSION BOARD MEMBERS**

- 1991 - M:W: L. Robert Baker, Past Grand Master of District of Columbia
1417 Mayflower Drive
McLean, Virginia 22101
- 1992 - M:W: William R. Pellow, Past Grand Master of Ontario,
240 Wharnccliffe Road N., Suite 300
London, Ontario N6H 4P2 Canada
- 1993 - M:W: Earl L. Wunder, Past Grand Master of Arizona
506 N. Verde Heights Drive
Cottonwood, Arizona 86326
- 1994 - M:W: L. Ray Chamberlin, Grand Master of Iowa
1540 68th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50311
- 1995 - R:W: William A. Gallmeister, Deputy Grand Master of Indiana
8301 Larch Lane
Evansville, Indiana 47710
- 1996 - M:W: G. Ray Marsh, Grand Master of South Carolina
P.O. Box 566
Anderson, South Carolina 29622
- R:W: Robert L. Dillard, Jr., Past Grand Master of Texas
P.O. Box 1850
Dallas, Texas 75221
Secretary-Treasurer

