

1991
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
***COMMISSION ON INFORMATION
FOR RECOGNITION***
of the
**CONFERENCE OF
THE GRAND MASTERS OF
MASONS IN NORTH AMERICA**



A.D. 1991 / A.L. 5991

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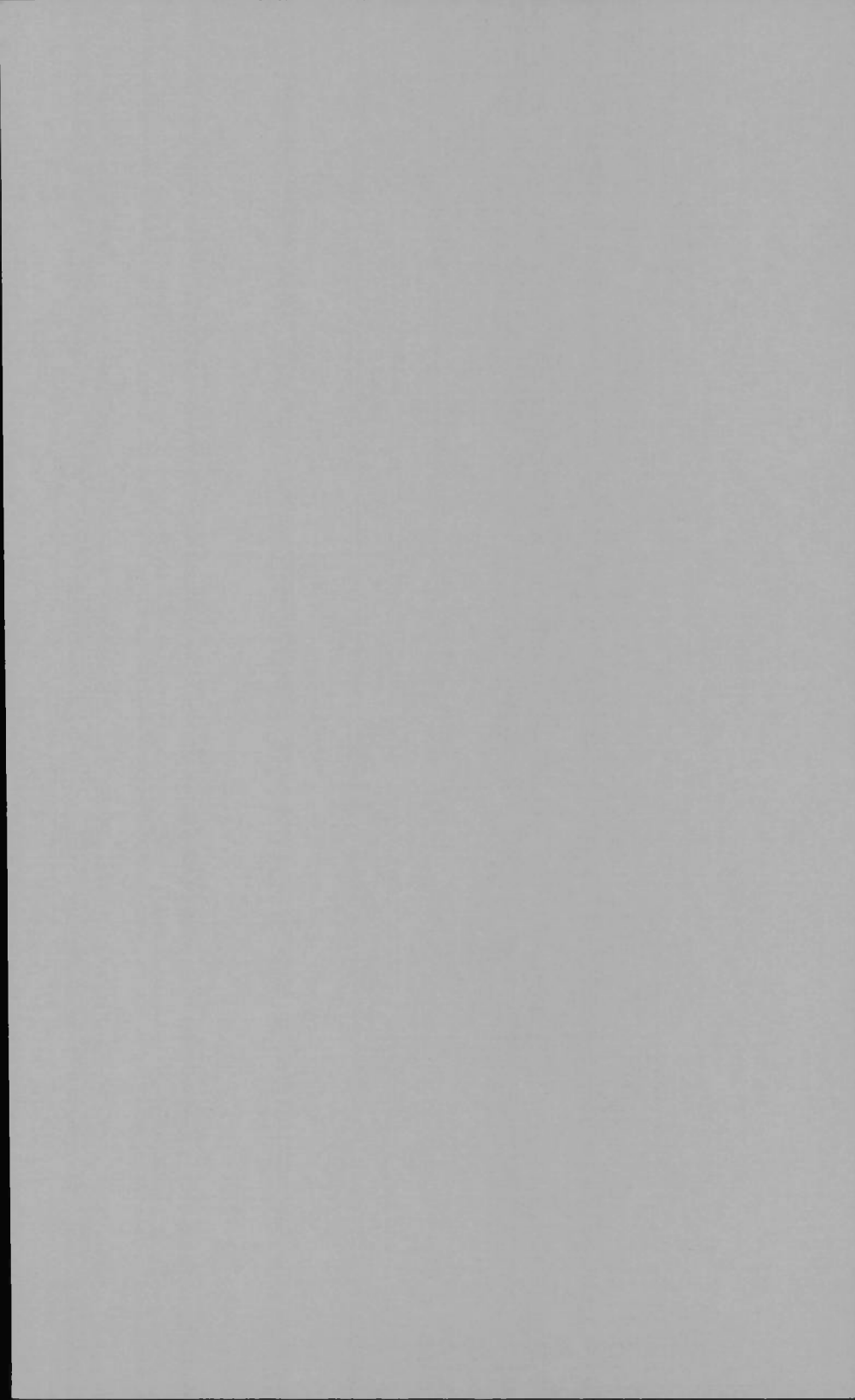
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A.D. 2022 / A.L. 6022

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

ANNUAL REPORT

given at
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
February 19, 1991



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

February 19, 1991

To the Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America:

Most Worshipful Brother Chairman:

Most Worshipful and Right Worshipful Brethren:

The Commission on Information for Recognition now has the honor and privilege of tendering this 39th Annual Report to this Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America.

We are a committee of resource Masons. We receive correspondence, assemble information and at this conference, we disseminate this information to you for your respective Grand Lodges.

We serve as pseudo consultants and serve **only** in an advisory capacity to this conference.

We acknowledge at this time our perennial Secretary-Treasurer, R:W: Brother Robert Dillard, Past Grand Master of Masons in Texas. His energy, devotion, loyalty, and vast accumulation of knowledge concerning Grand Lodges is indeed commendable. He has served this Commission admirably for the past 24 years.

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

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

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

M:W: Bro. William A. Gallmeister, G.M., Indiana

M:W: Bro. G. Ray Marsh, G.M. of South Carolina

R:W: Bro. Robert L. Dillard, Jr., P.G.M. of Texas and Secretary-Treasurer of the Commission

I am William R. Pellow, P.G.M., Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario, Acting Chairman.

M:W: Bro. Robert Baker, P.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of District of Columbia, 1991 Chairman of this Commission, is unable to be present today and he tenders his sincere regrets. He has forwarded a preface to our report and I now read his letter to you.

Most Worshipful Brother Chairman:

Most Worshipful and Right Worshipful Brethren:

It is with much regret that I cannot be in attendance at the Conference of Grand Masters this year to bring you this report personally. However, MWB Bill Pellow will read this report to you and introduce the members of the Commission.

Each year the Commission is asked the same question. That question deals with the subject of exclusive territorial jurisdiction. Each year our answer has been the same; and I repeat it here again. One of the standards used by the Commission to grant recognition is that of "Exclusive jurisdiction over their territory." We recognize that several of our jurisdictions have made arrangements, treaties, and agreements to share their territory with another Grand Lodge. This is the case of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts which has given permission for the Grand Lodge of Iran (in exile) to hold its Grand Communications and enter, pass, and raise Master Masons within its jurisdiction. Several other jurisdictions have also made agreements to recognize the Prince Hall Grand Lodge within their territory. We also understand that several other Grand Lodges are reviewing their status with regard to the Prince Hall Grand Lodge within their borders.

The winds of change are still blowing throughout central Europe. The light of Freemasonry is being rekindled as the dictatorships wither and die. As of this date the Grand Lodges of Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Yugoslavia have been rekindled. Although we understand that some work is being done in Poland and Roumania no official recognition has been established. We wish to go on record of appreciation to the Grand Lodges of France (National), Great Britain and the United Grand Lodges of Germany for the work they have done in assisting those Grand Lodges which were rekindled.

M:W: L. ROBERT BAKER, P.G.M.
Chairman

Brethren, I shall now paraphrase the correspondence of the past year and summarize.

BRAZIL

The Commission was saddened to learn of the death in 1990 of M:W: Brother Erwin Seignemartin, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Sao Paulo in Brazil. Brother Seignemartin for over 25 years has been the principal correspondent and source of information about Freemasonry in South America in general and Brazil in particular. His always helpful information about Freemasonry was greatly appreciated by the Commission.

We extend our sympathy to his family and his Grand Lodge.

The Commission is advised that a new Grand Lodge was organized in Brazil. The government of Brazil divided the State of Goias and created a new State of Tocantins. As a result a new Grand Lodge was constituted on November 5, 1989 by the Grand Lodge of Goias. This new Grand Lodge is Grand Loja Maconica do Estado de Tocantins. It is a member of the Confederation of Symbolic Masonry of Brazil.

The Grand Master is M:W: Joao Batista de Castro Neto and the Grand Secretary is R:W: Luiz Carlos de Oliveira. The address of the new Grand Lodge is P. O. Box 36, 77800 - Araguaina - TO - Brazil.

CUBA

The Grand Secretary, R:W: Raciél Martinez Andreu, advises the Commission that Grand Master Orestes Manuel Bernal Carbonell of Cuba died in November, 1989.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The National Grand Lodge of Czechoslovakia was organized in February, 1923. This Grand Lodge was recognized in June, 1930 "by the United Grand Lodge of England, and also by the Grand Lodge of New York and a number of other Grand Lodges in the United States." 77 A.Q.C. (1964) p. 70. The Grand Lodge was suppressed by the Hitler regime in 1939. It was revived in 1947 but the government again closed it in 1951.

This Grand Lodge (Velika Loze Ceskoslovenska) was reestablished in a ceremony in Prague on November 17, 1990 under the auspices of the Grand Lodge of Austria, which is recognized by nearly all of the regular Grand Lodges in the World. England granted recognition to the Grand Lodge of Czechoslovakia at its December 12, 1990 meeting.

We understand that the Grand Master is Professor Jiri Syllaba and the Grand Secretary is Christian Weger.

The Commission is of the opinion the re-established Grand Lodge of Czechoslovakia (Velika Loze Ceskoslovenska) is regular and entitled to recognition.

HUNGARY

The Commission last year made a complete report of the reconstitution of the Grand Lodge of Hungary. In the meantime, this Grand Lodge has been recognized by most of the Grand Lodges of Europe including the United Grand Lodge of England and the Grand Lodge (National) of France.

The Grand Master is M:W: Istvan Galambos, LLD. His address is Budafokiut 55, H-1111 Budapest, Hungary. The Grand Secretary is R:W: Laszlo Felcsutic.

The Commission is of the opinion that the "Symbolic Grand Lodge of Hungary" is regular and entitled to recognition.

PORTUGAL

The Grande Loge Nationale Francaise (G.L.N.F.) constituted its District Grand Lodge of Portugal on June 30, 1990. The District has six constituent Lodges with a membership entirely of Portugese Nationals. England has warranted lodges in Portugal also.

The G.L.N.F. anticipates that a Grand Lodge of Portugal will be constituted on June 30, 1991.

ROUMANIA

Seven lodges under the Grand Lodge of New York organized a Grand Lodge in Roumania in March, 1926. It was dormant during World War II but reactivated in December, 1944. It was closed by the Communist regime in June, 1948. Draffen, "Register of Grand Lodges Active and Extinct," Rev. Ed. 1980, Masonic Service Association.

There has been a revival of interest in Masonry in Roumania but at this time no action to revive the Grand Lodge has been reported to the Commission.

YUGOSLAVIA

The Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia was originally known as The Grand Lodge of Serbs, Croats & Slovenes. It was organized in Belgrade in 1919. It was dissolved on August 5, 1940. There seems to have been some form of Freemasonry in Yugoslavia since 1763. The original Grand Lodge was organized by the Grand Lodges of Hungary, Hamburg and the Grand Orient of Italy.

The invitation by the Founding Committee of the Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia dated May 4, 1990 recites that the regulations of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Germany have been adopted and that the new Grand Lodge would be composed of three Lodges which are named. The statement is made that the new Grand Lodge has been registered with the Government Bureau responsible for overseeing registration of Fraternal Organizations.

At the time of the dissolution of the old Grand Lodge in 1940 and actually for many years after that, the old Grand Lodge was recognized by a number of Grand Lodges in the United States according to the publications of the Commission. In 1965 the Commission reported that five Grand Lodges still were recorded as recognizing the old Grand Lodge although it was not in existence.

The reconstitution of the Grand Lodge was done by the United Grand Lodges of Germany which is a regular and recognized Grand Lodge. The American-Canadian Grand Lodge which is a part of the United Grand Lodges of Germany (its Grand Master is a member of this Conference), reports that despite some last minute problems, the new Grand Lodge was reinstituted "on June 26 in Belgrade, by the Grand Master of the United Grand Lodges of Germany." There were representatives at the ceremonies from the American-Canadian Grand Lodge, the Grand Lodge, A.F. and A.M. and the Grand Lodge of British Freemasons, all from the United Grand Lodges of Germany as well as representatives from the Grand Lodges of Austria, Italy, Switzerland and Hungary. There were also individual Masons from Luxemburg, Holland, Greece, Australia, Canada, Germany, Italy, and Austria.

The Grand Master is M:W: Zoran D. Nenezic, 1100 Belgrad, Yugoslavia.

Based on the foregoing and other information, the Commission is of the opinion that the Grand Lodge of Yugoslavia is regular and entitled to recognition.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

As the Commission has reminded the Conference in three earlier reports, it is customary for the younger Grand Lodge to seek recognition from the older Grand Lodge; however, the Commission is of the opinion that newly reconstituted Grand Lodges, regardless of the date they were originally constituted, should now seek recognition from the presently established regular Grand Lodges.

The Commission expresses appreciation to M:W: Don Robey, Past Grand Master of Virginia, and the Masonic Service Association for a new Recognition Chart which can be obtained for a small charge from the Masonic Service Association. It covers recognitions of United States Grand Lodges but we expect that a similar Chart will be prepared in the near future for Canadian and other Grand Lodges represented in the Conference.

ASSISTANCE TO: CZECHOSLOVAKIA, HUNGARY, ROUMANIA AND YUGOSLAVIA

Some Masons have asked if they, their lodges, or Grand Lodge could help the Masons in these countries as they struggle to reestablish Freemasonry there. It is recommended that any help be channelled through the Supreme Council of The Scottish Rite For The Southern Jurisdiction in Washington, D.C. This help might take the form of Masonic Regalia, Paraphernalia, etc., necessary office equipment or money. If you are interested and need further information, you may contact the Supreme Council or M:W: Doug Lemons, Past Grand Master of California.

Brethren, at this Conference today, two Grand Lodges in attendance have made a request to be placed on the agenda for recognition in 1992. We have recommended that formal documentation be delivered to our Secretary-Treasurer, Bro. Dillard. Each has been assured our consideration.

This Commission acknowledges the several delegations from Grand Lodges who attended our meeting this year. We welcome visitors to our meetings at these communications. We do request all documentation be delivered to our Secretary well in advance of our next annual meeting to permit the Secretary time to duplicate the correspondence and distribute this information to the members of this Commission for cogitation and assessment. Interested parties are invited to attend our meetings and to make related statements and partake in the discussions.

Our next meeting will be held during the Grand Masters Conference in Arlington, Virginia, Sunday, February 15, 1992 at 10:00 A.M. Details of exact location will be published by the Conference Secretary.

We now present the Financial Report by the Secretary-Treasurer.

TREASURER'S REPORT

**Dallas, Texas
February 19, 1991**

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, 1990. Since January 1, 1990, 58 Grand Lodges have contributed \$3,080.00.

Balance from Report dated February 20, 1990

\$11,006.42

Receipts from Grand Lodges between
January 1, 1990 and December 31, 1990:

Alabama	\$100.00
Alberta, Canada	15.00
Alaska	15.00
American-Canadian Grand Lodge	15.00
Arizona	15.00
Australia	50.00
British Columbia, Canada	50.00
California	\$100.00
China	30.00
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, Canada	15.00
Maryland	50.00
Massachusetts	100.00
Mexico	15.00
Michigan	100.00
Mississippi	50.00
Missouri	100.00
Montana	15.00
Nebraska	50.00
Nevada	25.00
New Brunswick, Canada	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, Canada	15.00
Ohio	100.00
Oklahoma	50.00
Pennsylvania	100.00
Puerto Rico	25.00
Rhode Island	15.00
Saskatchewan, Canada	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 (State of)	50.00
West Virginia	50.00
Wisconsin	50.00
Wyoming	15.00
Total Contributions	<u>\$3,080.00</u>

Expenses between January 1, 1990 and December 31, 1990:

Dallas Scottish Rite Bodies - (File Space, supplies, printing, mailing of reports, and miscellaneous postage)	\$865.55	
Other Postage (Post Office)	33.00	
Miscellaneous Bank Charge for returned Check item	2.00	
SS Printing Company (Order for envelopes & printing)	55.50	
SS Printing Company (Printing of two Grand Lodge Recognition Books)	850.00	
Dudley Press (Typesetting of 1990 Commission Report)	420.00	
Secretarial expense	1,500.00	
Travel, Hotel and Miscellaneous Expense Secretary-Treasurer for Conference 2/16 thru 2/21, 1990	1,048.51	
12/17/90 -- Wilson Travel International Inc. Air Travel Expense for R. L. Dillard, Jr. to the Grand Masters Conference, San Diego, CA for the February 15-20, 1991 session	476.00	
Total Expenses	\$5,250.56	
Balance as of December 31, 1990		\$ 8,835.86

Respectfully submitted,

Robert L. Dillard, Jr.
Secretary-Treasurer

This concludes the 39th Annual Report of the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

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

ORGANIZATION OF COMMISSION FOR 1991

At a meeting of the Commission on February 19, 1991, the following organization was voted for the ensuing year:

Chairman

M:W: William R. Pellow

Past Grand Master of Ontario

Vice Chairman

M:W: Earl L. Wunder

Past Grand Master of Arizona

Secretary-Treasurer

R:W: Robert L. Dillard, Jr.

Past Grand Master of Texas

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

- 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, Past Grand Master of Iowa
1540 68th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50311
- 1995 - M:W: William A. Gallmeister, 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
- 1997 - R:W: Leopold L. Otway, Deputy Grand Master of New Jersey
RD #4
Princeton, New Jersey 08540
- R:W: Robert L. Dillard, Jr., Past Grand Master of Texas
P.O. Box 1850
Dallas, Texas 75221
Secretary-Treasurer

