

MINNEAPOLIS

SUN

DIGITAL EDITION

MARCH 2025



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*Every first Tuesday of the month is the Heads of Bodies and Knights of Saint Andrew meetings

**Dinners are every Thursday before the degrees. You can RSVP and pay for your meal by [clicking here](#)

[CLICK HERE TO SEE THE FULL CALENDAR](#)



Albert Pike

VALLEY OF MINNEAPOLIS
ORIENT OF MINNESOTA

VALUED MEMBER SINCE 1873

2011 Dupont Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55405

MEMBER NO. 00001



2022

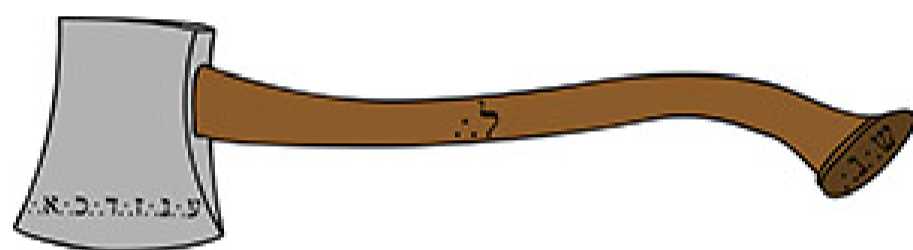
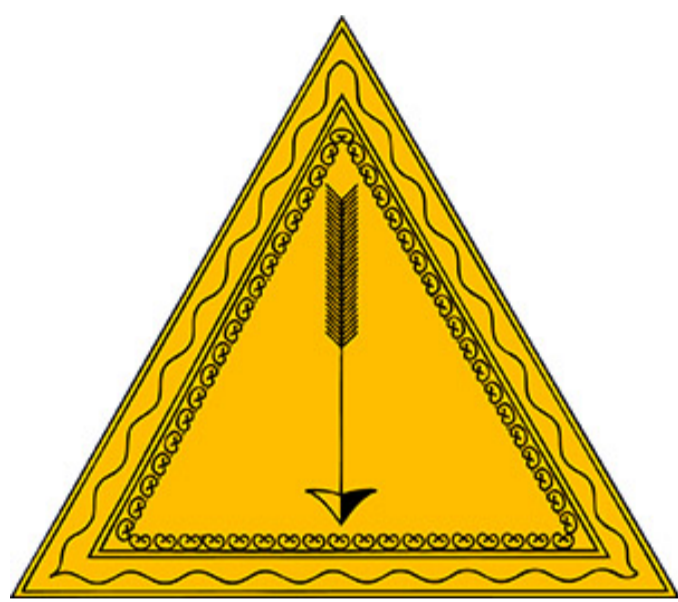
COMING TO VISIT?

DON'T FORGET YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD!

EVENTS THIS MONTH



March 4 - Heads of Bodies & Lodge of Perfection Meeting



March 6 - 21° Prussian Knight & 22° Knight Royal Axe, Prince of Lebanus



March 13 - 23° Chief of the Tabernacle & 24° Knight of the Tabernacle



March 14: Rite Care Gala



March 20 - 25° Knight of the Brazen Serpent, 26° Prince of Mercy, & 3rd Thursday Social Night



March 22 - Remembrance & Renewal Ceremony & Mystic Banquet



March 27 - 27° Knight Commander of the Temple



RITUAL CORNER

Greetings Scottish Rite Brethren.

The new Spring class is well underway with some fantastic degrees being presented to our new Scottish Rite Brothers. As we move into the degrees of the Council of Kadosh, let us look ahead to the 29th Degree, Scottish Knight of Saint Andrew.

The 29th degree teaches us to show reverence and to obey the Deity. To serve the truth, and protect virtue and innocence. It teaches us to defend the people against tyranny. An important symbol of this degree is the St. Andrew's Cross. "The cross is an X-shaped cross that is perfectly symmetrical. It symbolizes the perfect balance between the earthly and spiritual forces in man." (Bridge to Light, pgs. 262-263). Albert Pike states the qualities of a Knight in St. Andrew with this statement. "Humility, Patience, and Self-Denial are the three essential qualities of a Knight of St. Andrew. The Cross...is an unmistakable and eloquent symbol of these three virtues." (Morals and Dogma. Pgs. 801-802).

These teachings and more are part of the degrees that our new candidates will experience during the rest of the Spring class. Part of the experience is for us and our new Scottish Rite Brothers to meet each other and share our experiences of the degrees. Join us for all the degrees as the Spring class journeys toward Masonic Light. See you at the Rite!

Fraternally,

Lee E. Kielblock, 33° I.:G.:H.:
Ritual Director



FEBRUARY HOB MEETING

The Heads of Bodies meeting was held on February 4, 2025. The building committee reported that Tyvek and insulation have been installed on the wall, and stone materials are now available in the upper parking lot. However, some sandstone blocks may need replacement, and bids are being sought for this purpose. Additionally, the committee addressed security concerns by installing new locks after the previous ones were stolen.

In terms of revenue, the use of the building for external events was highlighted as a source of income. The building is scheduled to host the Sigma Kai event on March 1st and 2nd, with an expected attendance of up to 100 people. Traditionally, this event has contributed \$500 to the organization's funds. Furthermore, the Grand Lodge Schools of Instruction have been approved for several dates later in the year, with a rate increase to \$300, which the Grand Lodge is currently considering. These events not only provide financial support but also enhance the visibility and community engagement of the organization.

Eight brothers attended the event in Grand Forks and there is the upcoming Remembrance & Renewal event in March, for which the KSA is ready to assist. Brent Reichow was unable to attend due to illness, so the membership committee was not available for a report.



You are invited to attend the annual
RITECARE OF MINNEAPOLIS - SAINT PAUL

GALA

FRIDAY, MARCH 14TH
SOCIAL HOUR 5:30
DINNER 6:45
LIVE & SILENT AUCTIONS

Lost Spur Golf and Event Center

2750 SIBLEY MEMORIAL HWY
EAGAN, MINNESOTA



BUSINESS FORMAL ATTIRE
\$100 PER INDIVIDUAL
REGISTER VIA THE QR CODE OR
WWW.RITECAREMSP.ORG



WELCOME TO THE LIBRARY

I am writing to introduce myself as the new assistant to Librarian Peter Tomlinson, 32° K.:C.:C.:H:.. I am a Past Master of Minneapolis Lodge No. 19 (2015, 2023) and received the 32° in 2010. My experience in library and archival work includes managing a video inventory of over 10,000 feature films and TV series for a large distributor from 2006 to 2016, as well as operating a small book publishing business under the Master Key Society.

It is an honor to serve the Valley by being onsite on Thursdays during the dinner hour to open the library doors and continue the invaluable work that Peter established so many years ago. As of 2024, the library is officially a reference collection, meaning books may no longer be checked out, but Brothers are welcome to request off-hour access for study and research. Select books may also be scanned for offsite reading upon request. We have also embarked on an exciting new project: digitizing and making searchable all membership cards and petitions from our Valley, dating back to the late 1800s. Over 1,000 cards have already been scanned, with many thousands more to go. This undertaking will provide immense genealogical value and help preserve the rich history of those who have been bestowed as Masters of the Royal Secret within these walls.

I am still new to the library and all that it holds, but as a seeker and student, I look forward to exploring its depths alongside you. Within these walls, wisdom whispers across time. Even unread, these books radiate the light of those who sought truth before us. Step inside and let the silent counsel of the library awaken the seeker within you.

Assistant Librarian

Brian L. Dehler, 32° M.:R.:S.:



DEMOLAY

Much is going on in the world of Minnesota DeMolay, a successful Winterfest was conducted in February and activities are being planned by Chapters to increase membership and Spring activities are being planned by the State Officers, including a day at Valley Fair, Sweetheart Formal dance on a boat out of Stillwater and participating at Grand Lodge and Acacia Cemetery for Memorial Day. March is a significant month in the history of DeMolay as we celebrate the 106th anniversary of the founding of the Order. Frank S. Land was the social services director of the Kansas City Scottish Rite, and gathered a group of young men whose fathers were lost in WWI, who would need guidance and direction as they grew up with out a father figure. The group starting out as a club were told of the story of Jacques DeMolay the last Grand Master of the Knights Templar being burned to death on March 18, 1314, demonstrating his loyalty and fidelity to the Order and his Brothers, the young men were so engaged with the story that they decided to take on the name DeMolay for their organization. Over the past 106 years millions of young men have been initiated into the Order, mentored by Advisors or “Dads” to see that the goals and precepts of the Order; Filial Love, Love for Sacred Things, Courtesy, Comradeship Fidelity, Cleanness and Patriotism are instilled as these young men mature into responsible adults, taking on leadership positions in our society.

Mark Hailer, 33° I.:G.:H.:

*The Minneapolis Chapter
of the Rose Croix Presents:*

The Ceremony of Remembrance & Renewal and the Mystic Banquet



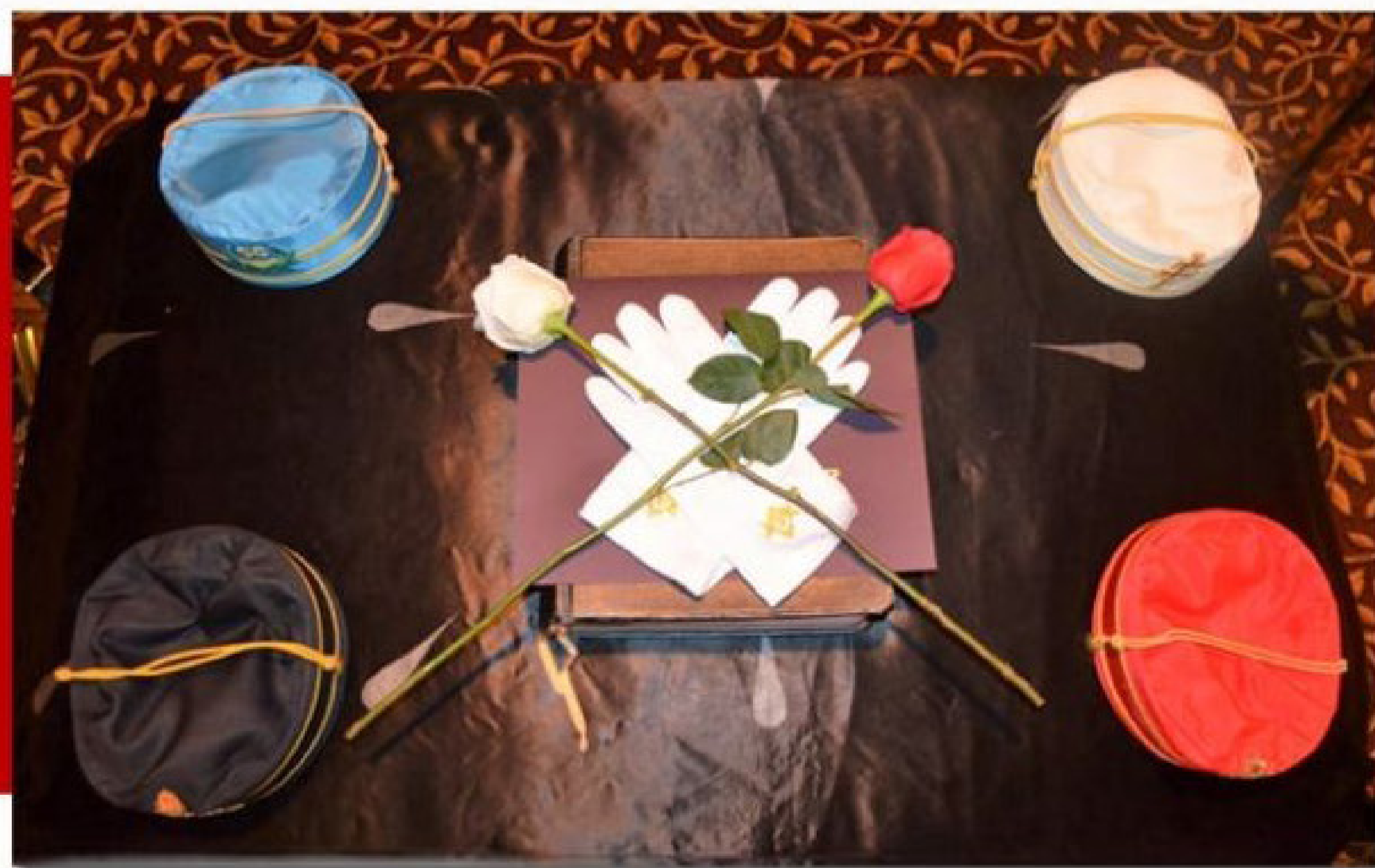
*This is the night we honor those Brothers of the Valley who have passed into
the Celestial Lodge Above and renew our ties as Scottish Rite Masons.
It is an open event and all are welcome!*

Saturday March 22nd

5:30 pm: Fellowship gathering in Downstairs Lounge

6:30 pm: Ceremony in Auditorium

7:00 pm: Mystic Banquet in the Dining Hall



\$50 Per Person
Dinner will be
Sliced Sirloin Tips or
Champagne Chicken
with Sides

Minneapolis Valley
of the Scottish Rite
2011 Dupont Ave. South
Minneapolis, MN, 55405

Please RSVP to:
763-355-4520 or
ksullivan17415@yahoo.com



WHAT ABOUT THE FUTURE

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

In 1925, Minneapolis Valley was dealing with a crisis. Membership to the Valley is skyrocketing, and current systems and facilities struggle to accommodate. A sobering analysis of membership past, present, and future, was required, and many recommendations were brought forth in the hopes of adjusting to a possibility of the membership doubling within the next twenty years (they had no idea that another explosion of membership was about to occur, with total numbers of Masons in the United States hitting its peak in 1957).

It is insightful to see how seriously our leadership a century ago approached this crisis. Today we have different challenges, and it is up to all of us, not just leadership, to take these challenges just as seriously.

Mark Evan Prewett, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.:
Editor for the SUN

The SUN in 1925 did not sign their articles, but it is assumed that it was written by secretary David Waldo Knowlton, 33° I.:G.:H.:.

SCOTTISH RITE SUN
MARCH 1925

Statistics of Past Growth

The membership in the Scottish Rite and the Valley of Minneapolis has, like that in most Masonic bodies, should a remarkable growth in the last ten years and it seemed for a time that lodge room, and quarters of nearly all Masonic bodies in the country would be overwhelmed with a flood of candidates. A careful study was made of the future prospects of this Valley of the Scottish Rite and it is believed that the results may be of interest to the whole membership.

The growth, based on official returns to the Supreme Council, is indicated by these figures.

Membership in Excelsior Lodge of Perfection

Year	Number	Year	Number
1873	37	1908	1060
1883	62	1913	1364
1888	158	1918	2014
1893	280	1923	4721
1898	381	1925	5527
1913	649		

Factors Concerned in Growth

These figures need a general analysis before it is safe to predict the details of future growth. The factors which must be considered are numerous. Our growth has been affected by the general prosperity of the community, by the increase in the population, by the growth of the Blue Lodges, by the quarters which we had to work in, and by many more obscure and psychological factors. Any estimate of the future of our Valley must be based on reasonable assumptions as to these several factors.

1. The general prosperity of the community will undoubtedly be reflected in the number of candidates entering the Rite. During a period when money is hard to get classes may be expected to be 50 per cent below the size expected in case of normal growth. During periods when most men feel prosperous—say in times of a rising market—we may in the course of a year taken to the membership twice as many candidates as would be expected from the normal growth. Nevertheless, such abnormal periods are not usually prolonged; And we may expect any period as long as ten years to show a normal increase.

The particular rate to be considered as normal, therefore, is the main question to be determined.

2. The growth of Blue Lodges seems to be based on much the same factors as our own growth, and for the most part reflects the same influences of the general prosperity. One further relationship between the Blue Lodge and the Scottish Rite, however, remains to be considered. Blue Lodge Masonry has been known, and has been growing since the revival about 1717, whereas the chief growth of the Scottish Rite has occurred since 1865. Similarly it was necessary for Blue Lodge Masonry to be established locally in Minnesota, before the Scottish Rite could flourish. The percentage of Blue Lodge Masons who become members of the Scottish Rite, therefore, was originally very small, and has increased. It may be a question whether it has yet reached a settled level. At present we have in the Valley of Minneapolis about 28 per cent as many members, as the Blue Lodges of Minneapolis. Ten years ago we had about 24 per cent as many. Possibly we may gradually find a still larger proportion attracted by our work, but it is doubtful of the change will be great.

3. It should hardly be necessary to say that if our quarters were wholly inadequate to accommodate the membership, our brethren would hesitate to recommend to their friends that they join in our work. Our growth would be slow. This brings up the matter of our building needs that will be further considered in a later paragraph.

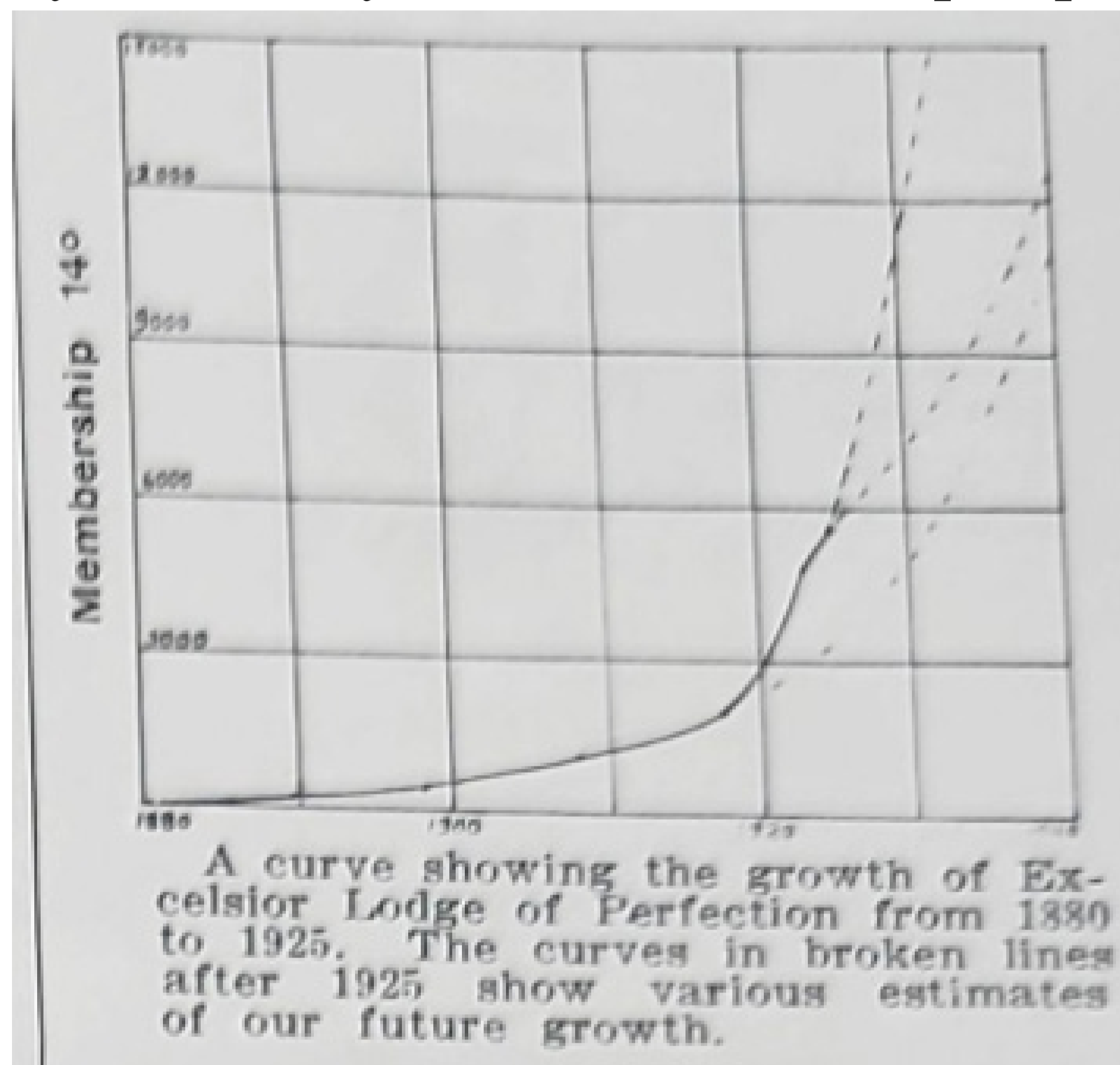
Future Growth of Our Valley

The attempt to project into the future our probable growth can be hardly be based on the average number of initiates over a period of years. The average number has been changing too rapidly. A large body should, for the simple reason that there are many men in it, get more new members than a small one. It has more workers, more good examples, more lines of activity, more diversified interests, and hence attracts more initiates. The more logical method of estimating growth, then, would be based on the percentage of increase at stated intervals; or on the number of years it has taken to increase our membership 100 per cent.

A reference to the table of our growth, given above, will show that in general it has taken a between five and twelve years to double our membership. Different periods vary widely but not progressively. We are not in general likely to double our membership in less than five years; neither are we likely to fall short of growing that much in twelve years. This normal growth is the best basis for estimates of our future growth. Careful study has been made of the influences of many modifying factors and this estimate seems

a safe foundation on which to lay plans for our future activities. Of course, it must be admitted that some reaction against Masonry in general, such as the Morgan excitement of years past, might upset the expectations; But, barring accidents, we would be short sighted indeed, if we did not plan on very definite growth.

The significance of the conclusions just reached should be noted with care. May mean a great deal to us in a consideration of membership, classes of initiates, and attendance at the several functions, conducted by our Valley. Starting with our present membership of about 5500 brethren, we may expect over 10,000 by 1935 and 20,000 by 1945. Such an organization raises serious questions of policy. The figures may be more or less startling, but it is believed that they come very close to the actual prospects.



Our Building Needs

In the work of our Valley the present building has been forced to serve our needs by various make-shifts, some of which are greatly in need of improvement. In a consideration of our needs, greatest emphasis should be given to the needs of the official and recognized work,--initiation and business affairs. Beyond those needs we hope to provide many lines of charitable, fraternal, intellectual, philanthropic, and social activity with reasonable space. The urgent needs may be listed, but it is unlikely that any list will be complete; We not only cannot keep track of all the activities now underway, but no one can predict the lines of work which we may undertake to provide for in the future. Nevertheless the present list is somewhat impressive.

1. The candidates should have a preparation room with accompanying telephone, toilets, fountains, writing tables, and so forth, to accommodate 300 men. Classes of this size have already been handled and, having been found too large for the room provided, have

been moved to the dining room where it is very inconvenient to conduct the ritualistic preparations. It may be claimed that such a room should accommodate more than 300 as our Valley and its classes continue to grow. It is doubtful, however, if any one class need be larger than 300 in the next 20 years. If more than 1200 candidates per year are initiated, it may well be done by increasing the number of classes rather than their size.

2. The choir and other musical organizations need a place for rehearsals. Their contributions not only to the entertainments but to the degree work merit a better place for their practice.

3. Committee rooms are needed. The only room now available is the small club room next to the costumer's room. It has frequently happened that two or three committees, or small groups concerned with the work wanted the use of this room at the same time.

4. Storage room is greatly needed. The property rooms are overflowing; The library has books and other buildings; And practically all the available storage space is filled.

5. Certain annual ceremonies or mandatory. The green room and the temple holds about 1000 men, and the stage is not large enough for the equipment now used on it. It is an absurdity to notify the Brethren to do their duty, if that means trying to get 5000 men into space that will accommodate 1000. The problem will be all the more acute as the membership grows. It may be necessary to use the city auditorium.

6. The Secretary's office may prove to be too small as the membership roll increases.

7. Entertainments, even when restricted to one of the numerous forms of attraction, draw crowds that fill our space to overflowing. We should have room to invite our friends, at times.

8. Banquets have been served to a maximum of about 2000, out of a membership of 5000. Many more would have been present if our accommodations could have given them good service. With a membership of 10,000 we can hardly serve more than at present unless both the dining room and kitchen are enlarged and plans made for connections with some more elaborate source of supply. If banquets are continued we should prepare to serve 4000 to 5000 brethren.

9. The library has grown rapidly and now fills the available space. A normal future growth should be provided for. Plans include a reading room much larger than is now allowed, a study room, a work room, a catalog and storage room.

10. We are sponsors for the Order of De Molay for Boys. The De Molay boys in Minneapolis find their present quarters cramped in some respects. Besides the use of our large rooms for degree work, rehearsals and entertainments, they need for themselves a few rooms of moderate size: committee rooms a drill hall, room for music rehearsals, for ritual rehearsals, and for storage of equipment. In some sort of club room they should have space for trophies and souvenirs.

11. Our own club room is often too crowded and we all know it is poorly ventilated, when used as it is for smoking.

12. The Scottish Rite Women's Club is growing and doing worthy charitable work that deserves not only support but better space as it grows.

It can easily be seen that practically every branch of our activities is even now handicapped by the strict limit of space in the building. Anyone who is familiar with the large number of necessary and worthy meetings held in the temple will agree that we could at once make reasonable use of larger quarters if they were available.

Masonry is useful to all men: to the learned, because it affords them the opportunity of exercising their talents upon the subjects eminently worthy of their attention; to the illiterate, because it offers them important instruction; to the young, because it presents them with salutary precepts and good examples, and accustoms them to reflect on the proper mode of living; to the man of the world, whom it furnishes with noble and useful recreation; to the traveler, whom it enables to find friends and brothers in countries where else he would be isolated and solitary; to the worthy man in misfortune, to whom it gives assistance; to the afflicted, on whom it lavishes consolation; to the charitable man, whom it enables to do more good, by uniting with those who are charitable like himself; and to all who have souls capable of appreciating its importance, and of enjoying the charms of a friendship founded on the same principles of religion, morality, and philanthropy.



O Thou unknown, Almighty Cause
Of all my hope and fear!
In whose dread presence, ere an hour,
Perhaps I must appear!

If I have wander'd in those paths
Of life I ought to shun,
As something, loudly, in my breast,
Remonstrates I have done;

Thou know'st that Thou hast formed me
With passions wild and strong;
And list'ning to their witching voice
Has often led me wrong.

Where human weakness has come short,
Or frailty stept aside,
Do Thou, All-Good -for such Thou art-
In shades of darkness hide.

Where with intention I have err'd,
No other plea I have,
But, Thou art good; and Goodness still
Delighteth to forgive.

Morris C. Brunton - October 19, 2024

Curtis O. Bymark - December 20, 2024

James F. Grant - August 1, 2024

Kimberly J. Keiser - March 21, 2022

William L. McReavy - December 28, 2024

Richard L. Stellmaker - December 20, 2024

