

MINNEAPOLIS SUN ROAD CLOSURE NOTICE

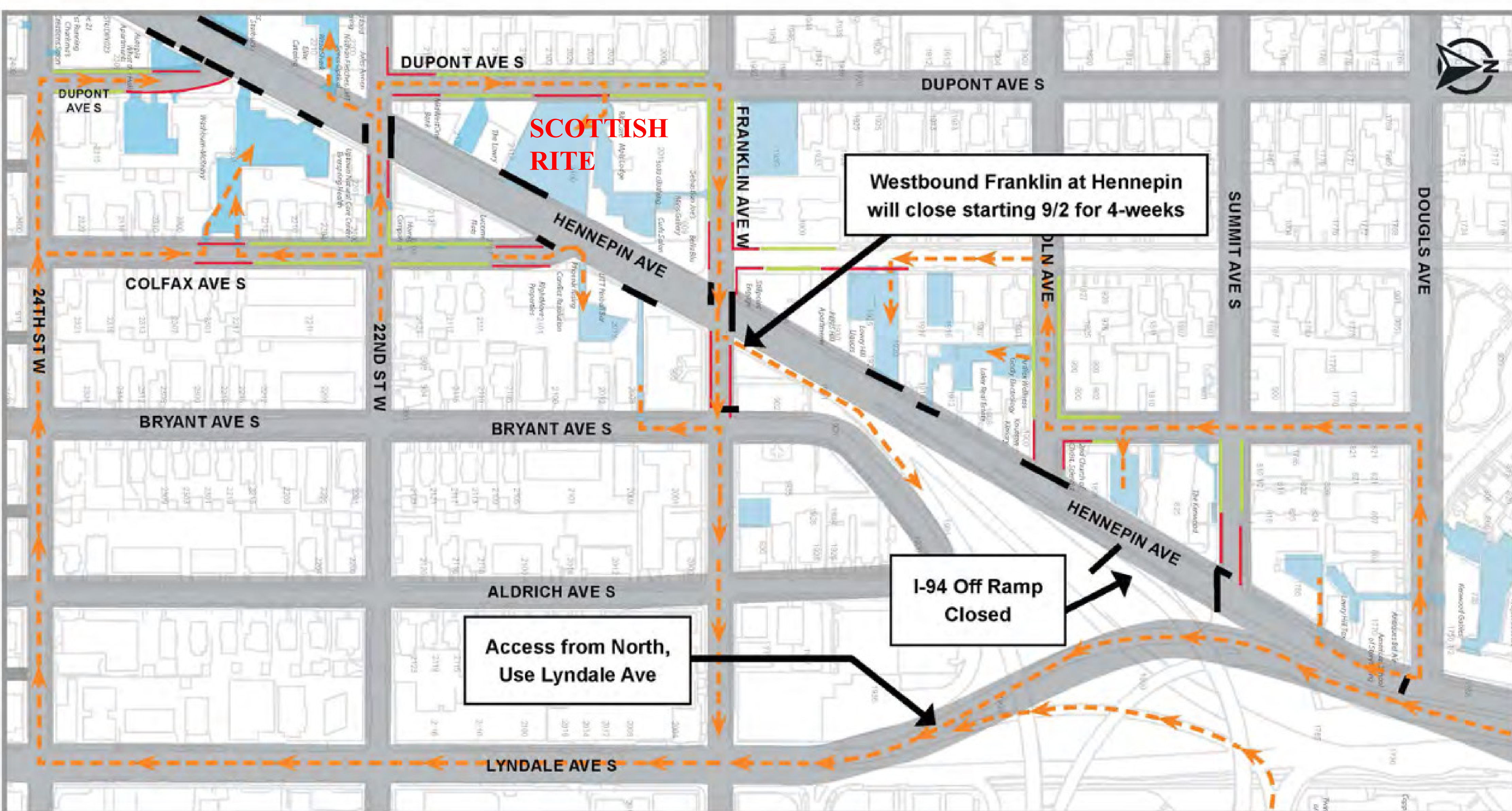
UPDATE SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

Hennepin Avenue will be closed for reconstruction
From I-94, use Lyndale Avenue to Franklin and access the Valley parking lot from Dupont Avenue

NOTE: Franklin Ave W is now a one-way street going Eastbound

Hennepin Ave S Reconstruction Project (W Lake St. to Douglas Ave.)

Business Parking / Access
September 21-27, 2025



Private/Business parking No Parking Onstreet Parking Road or Access Closed Business Access Route

MINNEAPOLIS SUN

DIGITAL EDITION
NOVEMBER 2025



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

OCTOBER HOB	pg. 1
PROPERTIES COMMITTEE	pg. 2
FEAST OF TISHRI & KADOSH	pg. 4
READING, REFLECTION, AND RITUAL	pg. 7
DEMOLAY	pg. 9
20TH DEGREE	pg. 10
GRAND COMMANDER ALLOCUTION	pg. 11



***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

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Minneapolis Scottish Rite Building & Museum Foundation

Guardian of the Temple

A Monthly Giving Society



\$5



\$25



\$50



\$100



\$250

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Goto <https://www.mplssrbm.org/donate.html>

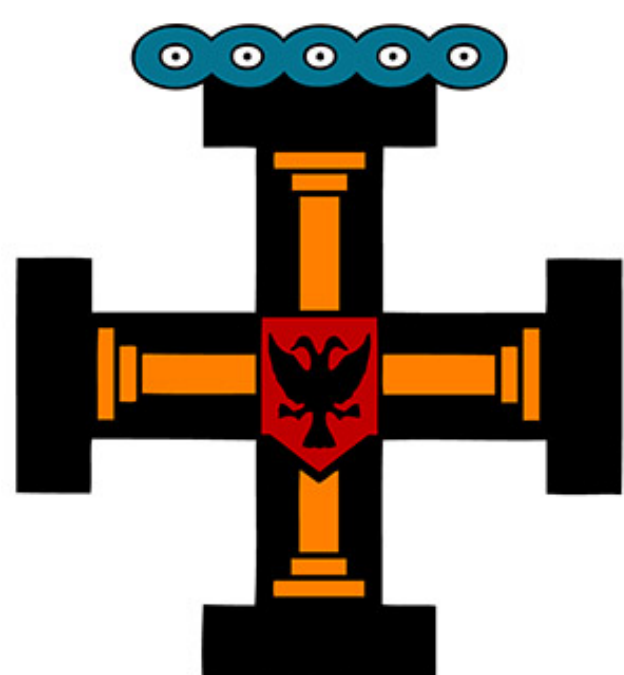
EVENTS THIS MONTH



November 4 - Heads of Bodies & Lodge of Perfection Meetings



November 6 - 25° & 26°



November 13 - 27°



November 20 - 28°, 29°, and 3rd Thursday Social



OCTOBER HOB

The October 7th, 2025 meeting of the Heads of the Bodies for the Orient of Minnesota, Minneapolis Valley of the Scottish Rite convened with key officers in attendance, including Reed Endersbe, David Graham, Tim Bocce, and Shane Wendt. The meeting opened with approval of previous minutes and committee reports. Notable updates included preparations for the upcoming Knighting Ceremony, progress on Rite Care grants, and ongoing efforts to fill membership quotas. The Building Committee had no new updates, while the Building & Museum Foundation reported steady monthly contributions.

Several events and building uses were discussed and approved, such as the Cass Lodge potluck, Sigma Kai setup, and various lodge meetings and installations. The group also reviewed plans for future events, including the Grand Lodge One Day event and York Rite communications. Continued prayers were offered for brothers facing illness, and the PR report highlighted upcoming leadership conferences and efforts to improve communication with Blue Lodges.

The meeting concluded with acknowledgments for successful recent events and a focus on fraternal assistance. No new business was introduced at this time, and the session was closed at 8:15 PM.

This summary was generated with the assistance of artificial intelligence and was reviewed by the editor.



PROPERTIES COMMITTEE

Greetings Brothers,

If you are on Facebook, you may have seen a recent photo taken of the current members of the Minneapolis Scottish Rite Properties Committee (See above! - Editor). As seen in that photo, we currently have 6 members on the Committee (with one having left recently to Winter down South and another member is currently on the Minnesota Grand Lodge line of Officers – who sometimes is not able to be at the Rite on Degree nights due to other Grand Lodge duties). As a result of our declining number of members on the Committee we are in a great need of getting more members to be a part of our Committee so that our history of what needs to be done for Degrees in the future can be passed on to new members on the Committee.

The Properties Committee is responsible for setting up and tearing down all 29 Degrees put on by the Minneapolis Scottish Rite – twice each year.

We generally are able to go down to the Rite on Wednesday mornings to set up the first degree being portrayed on Thursday evening. We usually arrive between 9am and 10am and are done about 11am at the latest – sometimes sooner – and enjoy the opportunity to visit before heading for home.

When we arrive on Thursday afternoon . . . sometimes around 4pm or so . . . we are able to be first in line for the evening meal served at the Rite each Thursday night before the evening's Degrees begin at 6:00pm or 6:30pm depending on the Degree(s) that evening. This also enables us to review what we've set up for the Degree to ensure everything is ready for the actors when they arrive.

We have three rooms where our Properties are stored so it takes a little while to know

which room holds what items needed for a degree. We also have a couple books showing each degree put on for both the floor and the stage that indicates what chairs, pedestals, drops & wings (on the stage) and props are needed for each degree.

So, if you'd like to have behind the scenes view of how the Degrees are staged before the actors hit the floor to start the Degree(s), please check us out. While it would be nice to have members there every week, help would be appreciated any time a new members would have the opportunity to help us. As noted, we really do need to get more members to join the Properties Committee to ensure it will be able to continue the work needed for degree presentations in the future.

Steve Downs, 33° I.:G.:H.:

Chairman, Properties Committee



FEASTS OF TISHRI & KADOSH

The Feast of Tishri, along with the Council of Kadosh Feast, was a very enjoyable event and attended by more than seventy-two Brothers and Ladies. The Feasts were held in the Dan Patch Hall at the Minnesota Masonic Heritage Center. What a beautiful facility to have this august event in! There was a social hour with bar service beforehand as all the guests came into the hall.

Your Master of Ceremonies was Brother Joseph Anderson, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.:Elect, Junior Warden of the Lodge of Perfection. The co-host was Brother Tim Boche, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.:, Commander of the Council of Kadosh.

This night was shared by these two bodies of our Scottish Rite. The traditional toasts were made. Introductions of the officers were made and the past Venerable Masters and Past Commanders were introduced. Several honors and award were presented as well. Fifty-year certificates were handed out to Brothers Bradley Lathrop, 32° M.:R.:S.:, Ron Ward, 32° M.:R.:S.:, and Peter Shue, 32° M.:R.:S.:. A total of fourteen Brothers reached this incredible milestone in 2025!

The classes for 2025 were named in honor of Illustrious Brother Henry Gyllenblad, 33° I.:G.:H.: and Illustrious Brother Raymond Frandsen, 33° I.:G.:H.:. The Frandsen family were present and asked to speak.

The Council of Kadosh presented the youth and legacy awards to Amy Coppersmith for her help with the DeMolay and Aaron Brendel with his help to the Jobs Daughters. Brother Jerry Petterson was presented with the legacy award. All gave joyous talks and were very appreciative of their honors.

An excellent meal of prime rib, walleye, and fettuccini was prepared by Illustrious Brother Jerry Oliver, 33° S.:G.:I.:G.: *Emeritus*, and his Lady Peg. The servers included the Jobs Daughters from Bethel No. 48 and Anoka Chapter DeMolay. The last word was given by our Illustrious Brother Tony Krall, 33° S.:G.:I.:G.:.

Stephen Kesler, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.:
Communications Committee Chair

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.



Minneapolis Scottish Rite Building & Museum Foundation

Online Store Now Open!!

Lodge of Perfection T-Shirts - \$35.00



Valley Polo - \$49.95 - 55.95



Scan the QR Code to purchase and then see the Valley Officer to get your item.

Available sizes are listed in the store.



READING, REFLECTION, AND RITUAL

The Lodge is where we practice Masonry together; but the Library, whether within these walls, within your home, or even in the pages of your own journal, is where we deepen that Light within ourselves.

Albert Pike wrote in Morals and Dogma that “Masonry labors to improve the social order by enlightening men’s minds, warming their hearts with the love of the good, and inspiring them with the great principle of human fraternity.” Each book in our library continues that labor, like a gentle chisel upon the mind, refining thought.

W. L. Wilmshurst reminds us in The Meaning of Masonry that “The Lodge is an emblem of the world; initiation is an emblem of the soul’s passage through the world; and the candidate’s progress is the symbol of man’s journey from darkness to light.” Reading, then, is the continuation of that same journey, a passage guided by the author’s voice across the years.

Joseph Fort Newton wrote in The Builders: “Masonry is Friendship—friendship, first, with the great Companion; then, turning manward, friendship sums it all up.” Books create that same friendship across time. Through them, we find companionship with minds that still speak to us, long after their authors have laid down their working tools. Albert G. Mackey called Freemasonry “a science of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols.” The written word lifts those veils, allowing the Light of understanding to reach the reader directly. It is in reading that symbols become sentences and ideas become living principles.

William Hutchinson observed in The Spirit of Masonry that we, as speculative Masons, “symbolize the labors of our predecessors by engaging in the construction of a spiritual

temple in our hearts.” Every book becomes a working tool. Each idea a stone laid within the unseen temple we are building together.

Wilmshurst deepened this idea in The Masonic Initiation, writing that “The purpose of Masonry is the education of the soul by means of symbols and ritual, until it realizes its divine origin and destiny.” The Lodge provides the experience, but within the Library we find the quiet continuation of that education. In its stillness, we come to understand what the ritual first revealed.

Albert Pike wrote, “To sow good seed, to do good deeds, to contribute to the education of man, is to make the most real offerings upon the altar of Masonry.” Every thoughtful book is such a seed, sown for those willing to cultivate it.

Each time you read, you enter the quarry.
Each time you reflect, you shape the stone.
Each time you share, you raise the structure higher.
And each time you write, you leave a mark to be found again—
by another Brother, or perhaps by the future you.

Our Lodge is where we practice Masonry together. Our Library, here or at home, is where we keep that Light burning.

For within every book, the voice of a Brother still speaks, guiding our steps along the same path he once walked.

These books, and many more, can be found in your Scottish Rite Library.

Brian Dehler, 32° M.:R.:S.:
Library & Museum Committee



DEMOLAY

The Minneapolis Scottish Rite is home to the Gopher Preceptory. September 28 the annual Legion of Honor investiture was conducted with SGIG Emeritus Jerry Oliver presiding as Commander in the East with other members of the Minneapolis Valley participating in the various stations. Recipients for 2025 were Ill Brother Lee Kielblock, WB Todd Mayer, WB Dane Banks, Mom Kandi Banks and Mom Bev Krall, all of whom have served the Order of DeMolay for many years.

The Council of Kadosh annually present awards to the leaders of our youth organizations, on October 4th, Brother Aaron Brendel was presented a plaque for his work with the Job's Daughters, Brother Jerry Petersen was presented with the Legacy Award, for his many years of service to DeMolay, and Amy Coppersmith with the award for service to DeMolay.

Several DeMolay Chapters in Minnesota have been conducting Installations as members assume the position of new leadership, Airsoft was played on a nice warm fall afternoon and MN DeMolay is now preparing for their Grand Masters Class to be conducted December 14.

Mark Hailer, 33° I.:G.:H.:



20th Degree

This is one of my favorite degrees in the Scottish Rite. It is simple, well-executed and to the point, without overly complex symbolism to distract from its important lessons. We see in this degree the candidate representing a Worshipful Master of a blue lodge and this degree, in its original form, could only be given to past masters. But more recently it has been opened up for all Scottish Rite masons to receive, since this degree is about far more than how to run a lodge. The lessons of this degree are several but all center around the idea of becoming a master, in control of yourself and your sphere of influence.

In the degree, the candidate lights the candles of different virtues and carries them out into the world. This is how Albert Pike viewed masonry, as work, as action. He knew that virtues untested are hardly virtues, and the process of living by these virtues in your daily life will almost certainly necessitate testing them. This degree sets up the tone of the Council of Kadosh well. This body is mainly concerned with testing the virtues taught in the Lodge of Perfection by measuring them against the law of love received in the Chapter Rose Croix.

This degree's simplicity comes from its use of basic masonic tools and shapes, as well as its easy to follow form. But my favorite part of this degree is the reminder that masonry is not just a philosophical exercise but a call to action. We can not just sit in a lodge discussing these noble virtues, and call ourselves good men. Freemasonry is a practice. To be masonic, you must be virtuous, both in your public and private life. You will be tested and it will be hard, but to make the world a better place we must labor for good.

M. Justin Thompson, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.:
Education Committee



GRAND COMMANDER'S ALLOCUTION

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Our prolific SGC of 1925 gave a rousing speech during the Supreme Council Session. Unfortunately, the full allocution is not available, so we must suffice with the excerpts provided by our august publication in November 1925.

Two topics broached in this allocution—immigration and a federal Department of Education—are contentious and controversial topics today. It is important to remember that in both cases, the discussions we are having today differ greatly from one hundred years ago. Regarding the [Department of Education, diligent readers will remember](#) that it was a core mission of the Scottish Rite in the 1920s to reduce national illiteracy, and they felt that a federal Department of Education furthered that goal.

Understanding the [Johnson-Reed Act](#) (the immigration law mentioned) requires a great deal of context. I will not be able to do it justice here, but will attempt to provide a summary. If it is possible to boil down this law into three key points it would be: Asian exclusion, southern and eastern European exclusion, and border enforcement.

In 1882, Congress passed the [Chinese Exclusion Act](#), banning Chinese travelers into the United States. This was in response to increasing pressure from labor groups throughout the country, arguing that cheap labor from China was hurting blue collar wages ([The Square and the Tower: Networks and Power, from Freemasons to Facebook](#) by Niall

Ferguson has an interesting discussion on this period of the Gilded Age). Japanese, Korean, and Filipino immigrants were historically excluded from these bans, until similar labor union pressures led to the ban in the 1924 immigration law. In addition to this pressure from labor unions, a contemporary and pervasive scientific theory had particular influence over the making of this law.

While [John B. Watson and baby Albert](#) were promoting the theory of Behaviorism, Sir Francis Galton was making persuasive headway in the counter-theory of [Eugenics](#). Eugenics was very popular among the academic and social elites of the time, gaining influence in universities as well as in policy. In this immigration law, the theory was used to justify not only the exclusion of Asian immigrants, but a strict quota system on southern and eastern Europeans, many of them Jews fleeing the [pogroms](#) of the early 1900s. A quota for immigration to the United States is not unique and exists even today, but in 1924 it was heavily influenced by the Eugenics Committee.

The enduring legacy of this immigration law is the formation of the [U.S. Border Patrol](#). Prior to this law, the borders of the United States were loosely guarded, if guarded at all. The first and second stations were made in Detroit, Michigan, and El Paso, Texas. Since then, as we know, the Border Patrol has only grown in its significance.

It is hard to not look at this immigration law and blanch. SGC Cowles used it as a reminder that civil education and civic engagement are critical. In particular, I cannot help but mull over the words “**the decline or increase of the popular interest in civic affairs is a fairly reliable barometer of the deterioration or enhancement of the nation’s citizenship**” without thinking about our political environment today.

GRAND COMMANDER'S ALLOCUTION
SCOTTISH RITE SUN
NOVEMBER 1925

At the recent Supreme Council session, held in Washington, D. C. Brother John H. Cowles delivered his customary allocution but owing to its length the SUN regrets that it is only able to publish a part of it.

“From a materialistic standpoint the Supreme Council has nothing to complain of. In truth, it has been blessed. Our membership now numbers a little over 248,000 in our Consistories and nearly 290,000 in our Lodges of Perfection, and our financial condition is satisfactory. All over the Jurisdiction our Scottish Rite Bodies increase in number and prosperity; new temples being erected which challenge admiration for beauty and comfort; new bodies are being established; and the popularity of the Rite is admitted. Some of the bodies have gone heavily in debt in constructing their temples, and this may burden them for a long time, but I believe they will all pull through. Such a condition tends to laxity in admissions, and should cause reflection. A great Masonic leader years ago gave expression to the following opinion; ‘What is needed? Not temples, not degree work, but men; real rugged old-fashioned honesty, courage to speak and act! The outlook for a continuation of such a prosperous condition is not dimmed by any discernible obstruction.’

“The absence of any reason for worry because of finances or numbers places us in a position as Scottish Rite Masons to continue to play a needed and effective part in this supremely important work. Nowhere in the world today exists a more lofty ethic, a more fundamental philosophy, a more practical moral doctrine, a higher standard than are found in our degrees. One of the purposes of Masonry very frequently quoted is to make its initiates wiser and better, and through their influence have a wide-reaching and beneficent effect upon mankind. Long years with unabated ardor as Masonry, free and unafraid, been doing this work. Sagasta, Grand Commander of the Supreme Council and Prime Minister of Spain, said, ‘Never at any time has Masonry had Pontifices Maximi, who have yoked it as a slave to the car of dictatorship; necessarily its energy and force are founded on the marvelous combinations of its organisms, in the ordered march of its varied movements, in the independence of its Chambers, for Masonry is not a Church; it is Humanity, which is agitated, which toils, which struggles with evil and with the glooms of ignorance to establish in the world the empire of virtue, the reign of science, enlightenment, culture, progress and solidarity.’ It is no vain boast to say that if the nation would take to heart the beautiful teachings of our Scottish Rite degrees, all our problems,

complicated though they be, would be solved, and that quickly.

OUR COUNTRY

“A good immigration law was passed by the last Congress, and certain elements, subtle and influential, are already proposing to attack the law in the coming Congress for the purpose of making it very much more elastic, while others will endeavor to have greater restrictions added, even to the extent of exclusion, to that law passed by the last Congress. But it is encouraging to report that the Subcommittee on Selective Immigration of the Eugenics Committee of the United States, at a meeting in Chicago on August 15th, 1925, announced not only its strong approval of its rigid enforcement, but that it should be strengthened, and further that aliens should be required to register, and the practice of admitting them on bonds should be discontinued.

No more important or patriotic propaganda can be carried on than a campaign designed to impress upon our citizens their bounden duty to take an interest in civic affairs, to acquaint themselves with the issues at stake in the various elections, to inform themselves of the character and capacity of the candidates to vote conscientiously at every election and in every other way assume and patriotically discharge their duties as citizens.

“These statements and estimates above given are the sincere conclusions of a man who has made a study of conditions, and who is deeply interested in the welfare of our country, and I think they are worthy to be pondered.

“We cannot see far into the future, but we can do our duty in what is immediately before us. All through the Scottish Rite degrees responsibilities and obligations devolving upon us as citizens are emphatically presented, obedience to the laws of the land strictly enjoined. The beloved Lincoln said, ‘Let reverence for the law be breathed by every American mother to the lisping babe that prattles on her lap; let it be taught in the schools, in seminaries, in college; let it be written in primers, spelling books and almanacs; let it be preached from the pulpit, proclaimed in legislative halls, and enforced in courts of justice; and in short let it become the political religion of the Nation.’

“No more important or patriotic propaganda can be carried on than a campaign designed to impress upon our citizens their bounden duty to take an interest in civic affairs, to acquaint themselves with the issues at stake in the various elections, to inform themselves of the character and capacity of the candidates to vote conscientiously at every election and in every other way assume and patriotically discharge their duties as citizens.

“The decline or increase of the popular interest in civic affairs is a fairly reliable barometer of the deterioration or enhancement of the nation’s citizenship.

EDUCATION AND AMERICANIZATION

“I believe that we Scottish Rite Masons of the Southern Jurisdiction have done our duty in advocating and advancing this cause of Education and Americanization, so vital to the future of our Republic. The reports from the State Jurisdiction vary their own story. Personally, I have appeared before the President, Congressional Committees and others in authority; have written letters, prepared a phonograph record, informed our Active Members and Deputies of the progress, situation and conditions affecting our program, and in every way pushed matters to the best of my powers.

“The bill did not pass. Even so, I believe sincerely that the labor and time expended is more than compensated for in the greater interest manifested in these matters by the people generally, which will have better results later on. I believe, am convinced in fact, that our activities reacted very strongly to the benefit of the immigration bill and was a reflexive influence in the passage of that restrictive measure.

“Nevertheless, we are not through. A new Congress convenes in December and a new bill for a Department of Education will be introduced, presumably by Senator Curtis of Kansas and Congressman Reed of New York. This new bill has been carefully prepared after much thought and consideration by leading educators of the country. The first draft of the bill was made at a conference, after full discussion, held at the headquarters of the National Education Association in Washington, D. C. on March 7th, last, This tentative bill was sent to educators and representatives of many lay organizations which have been supporting the movement for a Department of Education, and suggestions and criticisms invited. When received another conference was held on May 25, at which the criticisms were fully entered into and freely discussed, resulting in a second draft of the bill. This second proposal was sent out in like manner as the first and an invitation to meet in conference at Indianapolis June 29, when the National Education Association would have its annual meeting. The result of the conference there was the approval of the proposed bill, copies of which you have received. There is omitted from it some of the

features in the Sterling-Reed bill that were so bitterly fought, but the idea of establishing a Department of Education with a Secretary, member of the President's cabinet, is still maintained as the salient feature.””

OBLIGATORY MEETING OF ROSE CROIX CHAPTERS

“Notwithstanding our Statutes and Regulations, Resolutions and decisions, and articles in the New Age Magazine, there seems to be a wide divergence of opinion as to the proper manner of observing Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday and performing the ceremonies of extinguishing and relighting the Lights, or it may be more correct to say that the manner of complying with the requirement varies to such an extent that they can not all be right. It may be that the confusion has partly arisen because of an Alternate Service prepared some years ago, and which are sold to Scottish Rite Masons. There is no provision for conducting the ceremonies of the Lights by Scottish Rite clubs or by Scottish Rite brethren in towns where there are no Chapters, but it is or has been done, and I have no objection to it; but let authority be regularly granted for that purpose. With the hope of getting the proper procedure at these obligatory meetings definitely settled, I wrote a few months ago to the Committee on Ritual and Ceremonial Forms requesting that the members give some thought to the question, and, if they were agreed, to submit some report or recommendations to the Supreme Council at this session. The significance and importance of these meetings must not be under-valued. They can be made the medium of the utmost benefit in the interest of that one brotherhood which should obsess all of us. Emphasis can be laid on the possibilities in this connection by informing you that our Sister Supreme Council of the Northern Masonic of Jurisdiction has taken cognizance of these obligatory meetings—at least some of the members have—for I received a letter from a member of its Committee on Ritual requesting a copy of our ritual and the laws upon the subject, and asking what parts were secret and what public. He stated further that the Ritual Committee proposed to prepare and submit a ritual for incorporation in its system of Rites and ceremonies. I complied with the request promptly and cheerfully.”