

**Annual Convocation, Grand Chapter of Canada
February 25, 1914**

Alberta North District No. 17

M. E. SIR AND COMPANIONS.—I beg to submit herewith my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Alberta N. District, No. 17, for the year 1913. In submitting the annual report as acting Grand Superintendent for this district, I feel it incumbent on me to express my regret and that of all the Chapters in the province upon the exaltation to the Grand Chapter above of our much lamented and beloved R. E. Comp. James J. Dunlop, the installed Grand Superintendent of this district for the year 1913, who, by his untiring zeal and faithfulness, had endeared himself to every Companion who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. He was always an inspiration to the Companions, and we shall ever revere his memory, which shall be an incentive to all Companions for many years -to come.

In submitting this the annual report for the year 1913, I feel that I must congratulate the officers and members of the Alberta N. District, No. 17, for the efficient staffs of officers of the several Chapters, and also for the fraternal manner in which they greeted me on the occasions of my official visits.

CHAPTER of INSTRUCTION.—My request to Calgary Chapter, No. 106 [*sic*], for the privilege of holding a Chapter of Instruction met with a ready response, and I wish here to thank most heartily the officers and Companions of that Chapter for their kindness and courtesy on this occasion. On the evening of the 9th of December, in the presence of at least 150 Excellent Companions and Companions, was held one of the most enthusiastic and profitable Chapters of Instruction ever held in the jurisdiction. Otuskwan Chapter, No. 179, exemplified the Mark Master degree in an excellent manner. Calgary Chapter, U.D., exemplified the Most Excellent degree in a perfect manner, and Alberta Chapter, No. 106, the oldest Chapter in the district, conferred the Holy Royal Arch in a manner that brought forth words of praise from all present. I might just say that Bow Valley Chapter, U.D., was to have conferred one of the degrees, but was unable to assemble their officers for that occasion. I wish to point out to the M. E. the Grand Z. and officers of Grand Chapter the value to Capitular Masonry of "Chapters of Instruction" was fully realized, as it not only gets the Companions together in a social way, but the discussion as a result is very instructive to the district at large.

I append the report of my official visits to the respective Chapters of the district, all of which greeted me in a most fraternal spirit.

ALBERTA CHAPTER, No. 106, CALGARY.—On November 5th I visited officially Alberta, when the officers exemplified the Mark Master degree on four candidates in an excellent mannner. This Chapter is doing good work, as they have had sixty-three candidates during the past year, and are in a flourishing condition financially and otherwise. The books are all written up to date, and all accounts and so forth are as laid down in the Constitution. The E. Z. deserves great credit for the manner in which he has conducted his duties for the past year.

NORTH STAR CHAPTER, No. 118, EDMONTON.—I visited at nearly all of their regular meetings during the year, as this is my home Chapter, of which I am a life member. They have had a prosperous year, having exalted forty candidates to the knowledge of the Holy Royal Arch. I am sorry to say that the collection of back dues has been rather neglected owing to the fact of the old Scribe E., R. E. Comp. Dunlop, being called to the Great Beyond, and it being found difficult for some time to fill his place, but I think now in the present Scribe E. we have one who

will look carefully after his duties, and trust in next report that the outstanding dues will be materially diminished.

MOUNT HOREB CHAPTER, No. 172, WETASKTWIN.— I visited on October 3rd, and was accompanied by thirty-seven Companions of North Star Chapter, and witnessed the conferring of the three degrees in a very creditable manner. The E. Z. deserves great credit for the masterly style in which he performs his duties.

OTUSKWAN CHAPTER, No. 179, CALGARY.—I visited on November 6th. Owing to the absence of the First Principal Z., who was in the hospital at the time, the chair was occupied by R. E. Companion George Hill, who conferred the M. E. M. degree on several brethren in a very creditable manner. I found the books and finances in good shape, as per my report, and consider this Chapter has a bright future.

I was unable to make arrangements to visit Bow Valley Chapter, No. 188, at Gleichen, as they were unable to have a meeting on the only dates on which I could visit them, but have R. E. Comp. Hill's assurance that everything is being conducted in proper form.

On January 9th, 1914, I had the pleasure of instituting Capital City Chapter, U.D., of Edmonton, and installed the officers in their respective positions. They are starting with forty-four members, and have an enthusiastic set of officers, whom I feel confident will uphold the traditions of Capitular Masonry and conduct their Chapter in a model manner. I was assisted on this occasion by R. E. Comp. A. R. Duncan, Past Grand Superintendent, whom I wish to thank for his invaluable assistance.

I have received the dispensation papers for a Chapter at Red Deer, and also at Vermilion, but as the Companions were not prepared with the paraphernalia necessary for instituting purposes, I have postponed the same until after the meeting of Grand Chapter.

I might add that it has been a pleasure to me to see the interest taken in Capitular Masonry in Alberta N. District, No. 17, and have no hesitation in saying that in the near future I believe we will have one of the best districts under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter.

Respectfully submitted,

DUNCAN C. ROBERTSON-,

Acting Grand Supt. Alberta N. District, No. 17

Edmonton, Alberta, January 2nd, 1914

Alberta South District No. 17A

I have the honor to herewith present my report on Alberta S. District, No. 17A for the year 1913.

The state of Capitular Masonry in this district is on the whole encouraging. In the four Chapters from which I have received returns the increase has been ten, the total number being 236, as against 226. Thirty-three petitions have been accepted in the past year, less withdrawals, suspensions and deaths.

GOLDEN WEST CHAPTER, No 159, HIGH RIVER.—I visited High River during the summer months, and found this well-established Chapter in good order. It has increased its membership from 78 to 87, and although the average attendance is only 12.25 for members, still in this Chapter, as in so many in the western towns, the greater proportion of the members live out in the country many miles from the Chapter home. Everything was in excellent shape, and in the hands of the officers for 1914, success is assured, if they follow on the good work of their predecessors for 1913.

SHEKINAH CHAPTER, No. 159, LETHBRIDGE.—I was enabled to visit Shekinah twice and there found a most enthusiastic body of Masons, with the work put on in excellent style and snap. The attendance here averaged 15.93, which is encouraging, although the fact that of the 91 members a large proportion reside in the city of Lethbridge should make for a much greater average attendance. This Chapter is perhaps the best body of working Chapter Masons in the district, and with Past District Superintendent Macleod at hand to aid and assist, it must do well.

BEKAH CHAPTER, No. 176, MACLEOD, has had an unfortunate year, but I have pleasure in saying it is now firmly on its feet and has received a good start, with new officers installed and practically all new men, full of enthusiasm. I hope to see that this year everything will go well with this Chapter.

KETHER CHAPTER, No. 177, PINCHER CREEK, is doing well. This Chapter is not actively canvassing for members, hence the decrease in its membership. However, it believes in growing slowly and surely, and making sure, also, that none but worthy Masons are exalted. It does not believe in being treated as a stepping-stone to higher (?) things.

ASSINIBOIA CHAPTER, No. 126, MEDICINE HAT.—I regret that the returns from Assiniboia Chapter are unavailable, but I had the pleasure of visiting it on December 10th and found the largest and most enthusiastic body of Chapter Masons that it has been my privilege to meet. The Royal Arch degree was excellently put on, and if no returns did come in I can heartily certify to the excellent standing of Assiniboia Chapter, due largely to the work of ExComp W. V. Sanders.

In every Chapter I found officers capable of working the degrees, books well kept, and all rules and regulations properly observed. Insurance is carried by every Chapter with the exception of Kether, which has by now placed the same.

I would suggest that if a word of advice might be given the Chapters, it would be not to allow Masons, however worthy, to join unless they are prepared to become active Chapter members. This idea of a Mason taking the Capitular degrees simply for the purpose of passing up, and never thereafter returning to his Chapter may increase the Chapter funds, but does not increase the strength of Capitular Masonry. The small attendance at the meetings of the larger Chapters bears this out.

CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION.—I held a Chapter of Instruction for District No. 17A, Alberta, at Macleod on Friday, the 6th inst. The Chapter was well attended, representatives being present from Golden West, Assini-boia, Shekinah, Bekah and Kether Chapters. In fact, in every case, with the exception oi Golden West, the First Principal of each Chapter was present, and we had the Scribe E. of Golden West Chapter. The Chapter was a great success, although, owing to the short time at our disposal, owing to the Companions from the Medicine Hat and Lethbridge Chapters having to leave at 10.20 p.m., only the R. A. degree was exemplified. This was put on by Shekinah Chapter in a very excellent manner, and great credit is due to the officers of that Chapter for their enterprise in taking a team to Macleod. Great credit is also due to V. E. Comp. Lockwood for his training of the team.

I am, M. E. Sir, yours fraternally,
ARTHUR C. KEMMIS
Grand Supt. Alberta S. District, No. 17A.