

Annual Convocation, Grand Chapter of Canada
February 23, 1916

Alberta North District No. 17

M. Ex. SIR AND COMPANIONS:—I have the honor to submit herewith my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in Alberta North District No. 17. [To the end of 1915]

ALBERTA CHAPTER, No. 106, CALGARY.—My official visit was paid to this Chapter on December 1st, at a Regular Convocation. There was no degree work, but the chair was very ably filled by R. Ex. Comp. Lindsay during the transaction of business and election of officers, after which the Companions repaired to the banquet room where the balance of the evening was spent in partaking of a delightful luncheon and the delivering of short addresses 'by several of the Companions. I am pleased to state that this Chapter is recovering nicely from the effects of the recent trouble in Capitular Masonry in this Province, and no doubt will make a great step forward during the coming year.

OTUSKWAN CHAPTER, No. 179, CALGARY.—I visited this Chapter on December 2nd. It was also a Regular Convocation. There was no degree work, but the business was transacted in a very efficient manner by Ex. Comp. Milne and his officers.

KEYSTONE CHAPTER, No. 196, RED DEER.—I officially visited and Consecrated this Chapter at the regular Convocation on November 19th. Here I found a very efficient set of officers, and the prospects are favorable for the establishment of one of the best Chapters in Western Canada.

CAPITAL CITY CHAPTER, No. 197, EDMONTON.—On November 26th, through the kindness of Capital City Chapter, I was enabled to hold a Chapter of Instruction, and I paid my official visit on that occasion. This is the Chapter "par excellence" of the District, and the name Capital City Chapter among Royal Arch Masons has become a synonym of real Masonic worth. The high standard of efficiency that has marked the work of this Chapter, since it was formed on the 9th January, 1914, is being maintained in a wonderful degree by Ex. Comp. D. R. Cameron and his officers. I may say that the Companions regret very much the loss of the services of the Scribe E., Comp. J. F. McCallum, who, finding that he could not possibly attend to the duties appertaining to that office and also properly attend to his business, has resigned. The First Principal-elect, Ex. Comp. J. G. Morris, being suddenly stricken with illness during the summer, and having not fully recovered, on the advice of his physician has gone to Scotland, and the Chapter will also lose his services for a time, at least.

VERMILION CHAPTER, No. 198, VERMILION.—I visited this Chapter November 23rd and was accorded a very enthusiastic reception by the officers and Companions present. This Chapter has made excellent progress under the direction of Ex. Comp. A. W. Roseborough and his officers, who exhibited wonderful ability in transacting business and conferring the Mark Master Mason degree.

NORWOOD CHAPTER, U.D., EDMONTON—This Chapter was instituted on May 19th. Being absent from the city, I deputed R. Ex. Comp. A. R. Duncan to take charge of the ceremony; he having very kindly consented to act for me. I paid my official visit on November 29th. None of the three Principals were present, the First Principal having removed to Toronto, and the other two being out of the city. Ex. Comp. Dr. Neff has stepped into the breach caused by the absence of the First Principal and has very effectively carried on the work. The Scribe E., Comp. W. Thompson, has also shown himself a worthy Companion from the manner in which he shoul-

dered responsibilities in carrying on the work, and to his untiring efforts is due, to a great degree, the success of this Chapter.

MOUNT OLIVET CHAPTER, No. 202, KILLAM.—I have been unable as yet to visit this Chapter; having joined the colors and being ordered out to Fort Saskatchewan on recruiting duty, I fear I will not get an opportunity to do so. I have met the First Principal, Ex. Comp. F. E. Nicol, on several occasions in Edmonton and Calgary, and he assured me the work was being carried on in a very satisfactory manner.

CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION.—As hereinbefore stated, I held a Chapter of Instruction on November 26th, commencing at 14 o'clock. There were representatives present from every Chapter in the District. The Mark Master Mason degree was conferred under the direction of Ex. Comp. Doolan of Otuskwan Chapter, No. 179, Calgary; the Most Excellent Master degree under the direction of Ex. Comp. Brimacombe, with a full set of officers from Vermilion Chapter, No. 196. The Royal Arch degree was conferred by the officers of Capital City Chapter, No. 197, under the direction of Ex. Comp. D. R. Cameron. At the close of the Chapter the Companions were the guests of Capital City Chapter at a delightful banquet at the Chateau Macdonald.

Fraternally submitted,

S. F. PATTERSON

Grand Supt. Alberta North District No. 17

Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta

Alberta South District, No. 17A

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MOST EXCELLENT SIR AND COMPANIONS:—I have the honor to submit my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in this District. [To the end of 1915]

During the term of my office and while visiting the Chapters, I thought it best not to in any way refer to the so-called Grand Chapter of Alberta, for I have found that, although the majority of the Companions have remained loyal to the Grand Chapter of Canada, there is almost a general desire that the unhappy conditions now existing may speedily pass away and a Grand Chapter be formed in this Province in such a manner that Companions who are now excluded from our Chapters may again be permitted to enter and work together in peace and harmony as of old, and with that thought in mind I considered it best not to hold a Chapter of Instruction owing to the likelihood of the discussion reaching that point.

TAU CROSS CHAPTER, No. 201, CLAKESHOLM.—On December 14th I paid my official visit to this Chapter, accompanied by R. Ex. Comp. Bedingfield, Ex. Comp. Ballachey, Ex. Comp. Buck and Comp. Thomas, all from my home Chapter, and at the request of the Grand Z, and with the help of Excellent Companions present I Consecrated and Dedicated the Chapter, after which I installed the officers for the ensuing year. This Chapter has been very unfortunate during the past year, their First Principal, Ex. Comp. Henderson, at the beginning of his term having to undergo a very serious operation; in fact for many weeks his life was despaired of, but on the evening of my visit he was very much in evidence, and after a little more rest should be fully recovered. The Chapter is just on an even keel and prospects look brighter for the coming year; the regalia and appointments are excellent, the books well kept, and the officers installed fully competent.

GOLDEN WEST CHAPTER, No. 159, HIGH RIVER.—My official visit to this, my home Chapter, was made on the evening of December the 20th. I was received by my Companions in true orthodox style. I attended all the Convocations called by this Chapter; although we have not

been worked so hard during the year, yet the Chapter is in excellent financial condition and the prospects for the coming year even brighter, as there are several candidates for initiation. Like the other Chapters throughout the District, we can depend on the faithful few, and with the assistance of a faithful Scribe E are enabled to call a Convocation at any time. The books are well kept, the regalia and other property of the Chapter in good condition, and with an excellent selection of officers I look forward for good results during the ensuing year.

BEKAH CHAPTER, No. 176, MACLEOD.—On Monday evening, January the 3rd, I paid my official visit to this Chapter, which was their first meeting for several months, owing to their books and regalia, also charter, being taken by the opposing faction, but I am pleased to report that this property has been restored to them and that an amicable settlement has been effected. With a small attendance of members, they elected officers and I installed them for the ensuing year. The officers elected are energetic, and I look forward for a prosperous year for Bekah Chapter. For the retiring First Principal, Comp. Ferguson, I must congratulate him on the very able manner in which he handled the affairs of the Chapter during his term of office, and also Comp. Sutherland, Scribe E, whose duties during the past year must have been very great and required very careful tact. The seal of the Chapter returned has been tampered with to the extent of altering the number, and the books have the records of the proceedings of the meetings held under the so-called Grand Chapter of Alberta contained in them.

KETHER CHAPTER, No. 177, PINCHER CREKK.—On the evening of January the 4th I paid my official visit to this Chapter, where I was received by the Companions in goodly numbers and in the most friendly and cordial manner. The meeting was called earlier than usual to enable me to leave the same evening. The Companions in this Chapter are scattered throughout the country, while several have enlisted for active service. I was pleased to hear that two of the Companions, although the evening was very cold, had driven, one 15 miles, the other 35 miles to attend. I did not see any work done, but by the manner in which the Chapter was opened and closed by the officers I am sure of their proficiency. During the evening I installed the officers for the ensuing year, and I have no doubt they will give a good account of themselves during their term of office. This Chapter has spacious quarters, and I found everything in excellent condition.

SHEKINAH CHAPTER, No. 158, LETHBRIDGE.—On January the 5th I paid my official visit to this Chapter. The appearance of their Chapter room and the Companions at once bespoke welcome. I was received in the most cordial manner. The Companions suffered during the past year a great loss by the death of their First Principal, Ex. Comp. Jones. This Chapter has apparently been marking time during the past year, but as they have considerable work for the coming year, and the very best of material for officers, I look for greater achievements in the future. I spent a most pleasant evening among the Companions, both in and out of the Chapter, and sincerely hope that my visit may have been of some profit to them. The books are well kept and the regalia and other property in good order.

ASSINIBOIA CHAPTER, No. 126, MEDICINE HAT.—On January the 6th I paid my official visit to this Chapter. I found the Companions and officers very enthusiastic, and will say that this Chapter stands second to none in the Province, and perhaps in the Dominion of Canada. The Mark Master Mason degree was conferred on two candidates in a very able manner. The Chapter room is spacious and the regalia and other appointments good. Their Scribe E I must congratulate for the compact and excellent condition of the books. The financial condition of this Chapter is very bright, and all other conditions brighter. I am very much indebted to R. Ex. Comp. Sanders and also to the First Principal-elect, Ex. Comp. Dewie, for many kindnesses extended to me during my short stay at Medicine Hat.

HILLVUE CHAPTER, U.D., HILLCREST.—I am very sorry to report that, owing to the very unsatisfactory condition of the train service in this territory, I was unable to visit this Chapter, but in conversation with R. Ex. Comp. Sanders I learned the Companions are enthusiastic and the affairs of the Chapter in good order.

Now that my term of office has nearly expired, I recall to memory many courtesies and kindnesses extended to me during my visits to the Chapters in the District, and I hope that I may have earned in some measure the honor of being appointed to the position of your District Superintendent at the last Convocation of Grand Chapter, convened in London, Ontario, where I was exalted to the Supreme degree of Royal Arch Masonry many years ago.

Fraternally submitted,

HENRY H. GOULD

Grand Supt. Alberta South District, No. 17A
High River, Alberta.