

W. Bro. J. H. Isaacson, and to the Grand Treasurer, M.W. Bro. I. H. Stearns, the Grand Master concluded: "It is with a certain feeling of regret that I return to you the mandate, so doubtfully undertaken last year, and take my accustomed place among the Brethren on the floor of Grand Lodge where I shall earnestly endeavor to render to my successor those fraternal services which previous occupants of this chair have freely accorded to me, and repay, so far as possible, the honor conferred upon me by the Brethren. I earnestly trust that peace and harmony will prevail in our deliberations, and that personal feelings and prejudices will be put aside, so that with the aid of the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, whose blessings we have invoked, our legislation may be beneficial to the Order, and of lasting good to mankind."

M.W. Bro. J. H. Isaacson, Grand Secretary, then presented his report, which showed that there had been 249 initiations in the Province during the past year, the total membership now being 3432.

After the reading of the Grand Treasurer's report which was considered satisfactory, Grand Lodge was called off shortly after one o'clock.

On resuming this afternoon, the District Deputy Grand Masters presented their reports. R.W. Bro. Johnson, D. D.G.M., of Ottawa District, was present as a representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:

Grand Master—Fred. Massey, Montreal.

Deputy Grand Master—H. E. Chanell, Stanstead.

Senior Grand Warden—D. A. Manson, Mansonville.

Junior Grand Warden—James Barrington, Quebec.

Grand Chaplains—Rev. R. Hewton, Lachine, (re-elected), and Rev. E. M. Taylor, Cowansville.

Grand Treasurer—I. H. Stearns, Montreal, (re-elected).

Grand Secretary—J. H. Isaacson Montreal, (re-elected).

Grand Registrar—W. M. Briggs, Montreal.

District Deputy Grand Masters—Henry Walters, Quebec, Quebec and Three Rivers District; John Smillie, Montreal District; J. A. Tait, Sherbrooke, St. Francis District; A. E. Kimball, Knowlton, Shefford and Brome District; Bro. C. R. T. Garioch, Hull, Ottawa District. Bedford District, no election.

The Grand Chaplain, R. W. Bro. the Rev. R. Hewton, of Lachine, in delivering his annual address to the Grand Lodge, took for his subject "Masonry and its relation to the present age." In the course of his address, he said "Masonic equality is an ancient landmark of the Order, but by it we do not mean that species of communism which could destroy rank, equalize property and reduce society to the common level of the savage state. The whole fabric of Masonry depends and rests upon the fundamental universal truth that God is the Father and Creator of us all. When I use the term 'Masonic equality of man,' I do not mean to say that all Masons, much less all men, are equal, either mentally, physically or socially. There is too much evidence to the contrary. But I do most emphatically declare my belief in the presence of this idea to a greater or less degree as an inherent principle. Turn to the volume of the Sacred Law, and we are taught with crushing force that in God is neither rich nor poor, bond nor free, but absolute moral equality, which is the Masonic principle. Solomon, the wise King of Israel, highly honored by the Craft, was the son of a simple shepherd boy, who left the sheepfold to ascend the regal throne. Turn to secular history. Look up and down the long list of English kings, and what kings more noble than they?—and where in all that catalogue is the superior of William Shakespeare? The great inventions and discoveries, the grandest works of art, literature and science