



Grand York Rite of Idaho Newsletter



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To better serve the Idaho York Rite Bodies, this newsletter will be used for local activities and newsworthy items to share. If you have items to share, please send them to the Grand Recorder, grndyrii@gmail.com.



September Happenings

<u>When</u>	<u>What</u>	<u>Where</u>
7 Sept 2024 9 am	Chapter Degrees	Keystone Chapter #29
23 Sept 2024, 7:30 pm	REGC Official Visit	Twin Falls Commandery #10

LONG RANGE PLANNING

Step 6 – Revise your Plan

After you've created your long-term strategy, you can review and revise it. Try to look for any errors, inconsistencies or anything irrelevant to the strategy. To change it, look at each goal or step and ask yourself if it's necessary and achievable. You could also ask other team members to look at it and offer feedback. Revise your long-term strategy as necessary. Your plan can always change, which means you can update it as each step progresses.

A MOMENT IN THE HISTORY OF IDAHO YORK RITE

The following is an excerpt from the Grand Chapter Proceedings of 1931 held at
Sandpoint, Idaho:

FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE REPORT FOR COLORADO

Fifty-Sixth Annual Convocation, Denver, September 18, 1930. Sidney A. Knill,
Grand High Priest; William W. Cooper, Grand Secretary.

Chapters, 51; members, 7,820; loss, 149

Idaho was represented by Herbert S. Sands.

The Grand High Priest made able report and he said some things, as witness:

“Now, I want to just have a heart-to-heart talk with you Companions assembled here this morning as the representatives of your home Chapters, and I want you to take home with you my thoughts as I express them to you and put them over to your Officers and Companions with the same force and earnestness that I appeal to you this morning.

First, I want you to bear this in mind and say for me at your Annual Convocation that any Companion who may be elected or appointed to any office in your Chapter is under no obligation to accept that office, but assumes the full responsibility of that office and should see that duties attached thereto are discharged to the best of his ability, and by your ability I mean that every officer should be able to recite the duties of his office as well as that office that comes next in rotation.”

He visited 50 out of the 51 Chapters in the Grand Jurisdiction, and missed the one on account of impassable roads – ought to live in Idaho, where we have roads as is roads.

At that, he made 55 official visitations, to 50 Chapters.

He says that Colorado lost 155 last year and has brought the loss down to 149 this year – which is fine.

The Grand Lecturer’s table of proficiency is interesting, in view of the remarks of the Grand High Priest, as quoted above. Out of 51 High Priests in the Grand Jurisdiction only three are able to confer all degrees in full. A couple of Kings and a couple of Scribes can do the same thing. Fourteen High Priests, 17 Kings and six Scribes are able to confer one degree

in full. Eleven High Priests, 21 Kings and 37 Scribes are unable to confer any part of any degree. Three High Priests, 13 Kings and 21 Scribes are unable to open or close Chapter. Twenty-three Principal Sojourners out of 51 were unable to deliver their lectures in full. In seven Chapters no principal officers could confer any part of any degree.

Don't imagine Colorado is much, if any, worse off in these respects than are the majority of the Grand Jurisdictions, but the table bears out the ideas of many of the Grand High Priests in their reports that only by ritualistic proficiency can interest be sustained.

Commenting on the situation, the Grand Lecturer says:

“In investigating the amount of work done by the seven Chapters whose principal officers could do no part of any degree, it is found that five of them have had no work to do during the past year, and two of the five have had no degrees to confer for several years. In the remaining two the officers installed were content to allow past officers to fill their stations when degrees were being conferred. This courtesy extended to past officers, which is so often born of necessity, is one that could be eliminated from the institution without impairing the progress of the craft; in fact, it should have the reverse effect. An installed officer should be able to do the work expected of him if he desires to retain the respect of his Companions in regard to his ability,”

CORRESPONDENCE REPORT

The review is by H.W. Woodward, and it's his seventh. He says:

“No very important happenings have occurred in the Capitular world during the last 12 months.” He's a trifle pessimistic, as witness:

“We have hoped and believed for several years that this loss in membership would stop, and that we would get back to our normal, slow and steady gain, but the reports of this year do not seem to indicate that this has happened yet, or is about to happen very soon. Possibly the fact that this is written from a hospital cot will account for its being somewhat pessimistic, but we are compelled to believe there is something radically wrong in the conducted of some of our Grand Chapters and very many of our constituent Chapters. We are writing this in the hope that someone will prove us altogether in the wrong, but until someone does we fear we shall have to look on the dark side.”

Idaho is well reviewed with a couple of pages. Companion Woodward gets a trifle

balled up between Grand High Priest Homer G. Brown and this correspondent, because he says: “Most Excellent Companion Homer G. Burrough presiding.” However, that’s merely a “lapsus typographia.”

The reviewer says that: “Idaho has established a reputation for short addresses by its Grand High Priest, and this one is no exception.” Wait till he gets a sight of 1930.

He approves the non-Masonic organization stuff as follows:

“The Grand Lecturer seems to set in more or less of an advisory capacity and made several recommendations, among them the following in regard to disbursement of funds which was approved in practically the same language by the Jurisprudence Committee and is now a part of Idaho law:

“Section 3. It is not deemed appropriate for the Grand Chapter to give aid toward the establishment of educational institutions. It approves of education and all proper means designed for its promotion, but the assistance of organizations, charitable, civil or otherwise, not recognized as Masonic, is not encouraged for the reason that their rules and regulations embrace matters outside the purposes and beyond the power of the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Idaho. It has no funds and no means to obtain funds to carry out the purposes of non-Masonic organizations, and the funds of a Chapter are not to be used for such purposes.”

“This amendment is worthy of careful study by all Grand Chapters and we believe that it would be of advantage to many of them if they would adopt it.”

L. D. Crain, Grand High Priest,
William W. Cooper, Grand Secretary, Denver



CHAPTER NEWS

On 28 August, 6 companions were Exalted to a Royal Arch Mason at Lewiston Chapter #4, Moscow, Idaho. They had companions from all over to help confer the degree.