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**Elks**  
MAGAZINE

AUGUST 1945







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**THE  
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MAGAZINE**

**NATIONAL PUBLICATION OF THE BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. PUBLISHED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE GRAND LODGE BY THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL AND PUBLICATION COMMISSION**

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**AUGUST 1945**

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**IN THIS ISSUE  
WE PRESENT—**

"G.I. Nails in Your Shoes", by Stanley Frank, is a continuation of the discussion started in the March issue in an article by FBI Director J. Ed-



gar Hoover regarding the possibilities of a postwar crime wave involving GI Joe. Mr. Frank, a war correspondent, has devoted much of his time since his return to the study of veterans' problems.

There is a full page of pictures of the presentation of the "Elks Report to the Nation" in this issue and you will also find an Elks in the War page and one devoted to our State Associations.

This is the issue of the Magazine which carries the report of the Emergency Session of the Grand Lodge held in New York City on July 16th. Grand Exalted Ruler Wade H. Kepner's fine Speech of Acceptance appears on page 12. Excerpts from the reports of the various Committees and Commissions to the Grand Lodge appear on page 33.

The Convention issue is always an important one, but this year, with the enforced absence of all but 50 out-of-town Grand Lodge members because of travel restrictions, the story of the meeting is one that should be of greater interest than ever to the subordinate lodge members.

We would like to draw particular attention to the reports of the Grand Exalted Ruler, the Grand Secretary, the Board of Grand Trustees and the National Memorial and Publication Commission which are not included within the story of the Grand Lodge Session.

To you, the insigne above may be instantly recognizable as the Honorable Service Emblem awarded to veterans of the present war. But to millions of Americans it means nothing.

A man may have sacrificed an arm or a leg for the privilege of wearing the Emblem . . . yet many civilians will not even notice it in his lapel. Or they may mistake it for the badge of a social organization or a sports club.

If these veterans are to have the respect and the consideration they richly deserve, that Emblem should be as readily recognizable as the uniform they once wore.

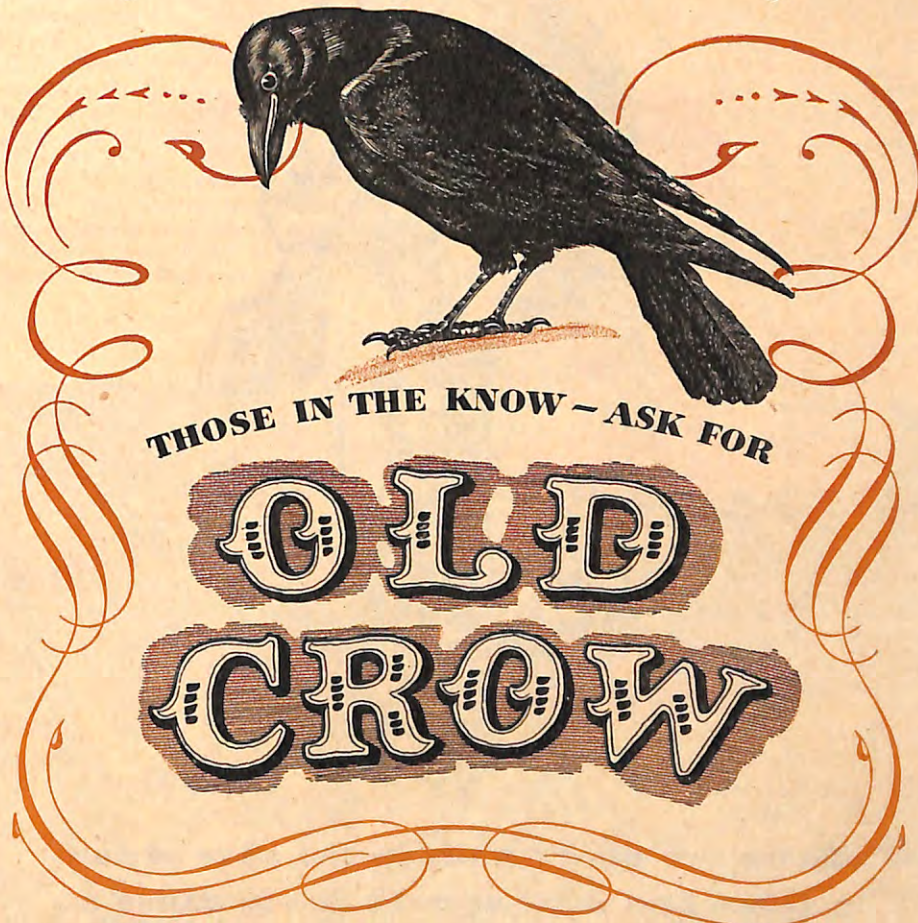
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# G. I. NAILS IN YOUR SHOES



**There are many nails in the shoe of conscience and it takes only one to cause an infection that can put us prostrate.**

**By Stanley Frank**

A NOTABLE experiment in human affairs is about to be introduced in Chicago. Judge Charles S. Dougherty, of the Municipal Court, proposes to set up a special tribunal to handle all criminal offenses, except murder, involving World War II veterans. Apart from the interesting psychological possibilities, Judge Dougherty's suggestion is significant on two counts: (1) It

focuses attention on a trend that appears during and after all wars; (2) It emphasizes the imperative need for giving the confused, embittered, mentally ill soldier greater understanding than he ever has received from society.

Now it is not our intention to alarm the citizens and warn them to keep their valuables and unmarried daughters under double locks. It is true his-

torically that the incidence of crime among men returning from war always is higher than it would have been had these men not been exposed to the shock of combat or the regimentation of military life. But the rise is not nearly as precipitous as it appears to be; preoccupied as we are with the problem, we tend to look for the realization of our fears. A misdemeanor or petty crime that ordinarily never would see the light of day in the newspapers usually comes up under the headline: "Ex-GI Held in Court . . ."

No one really wants to put a recently discharged veteran behind bars. Statistics are lacking, but there is little doubt that the majority of plaintiffs at home refuse to press charges against ex-servicemen. Every one who does land in jail is a nail in the pinching shoe of our conscience. Yet law and order must be maintained and in the absence of a better solution, there is no recourse other than sending an offender away to prison.

Judge Dougherty, who fought overseas in the last war, has been roused to advocate a separate court for G.I.'s by the rising flow of traffic through his felony court. In one three-month term, 125 such cases passed before him.

"We might adopt the system in vogue in the boys' court," Dougherty says. "There the social service department investigates each youngster. If his record is favorable, his case is continued for six months or a year, and he is placed under supervision. If he doesn't err again, he is discharged. No finding of guilt is entered. He doesn't have the handicap of a record.

"I saw the 'bad actors' in the wake of the last war. If many of them had had proper care, they wouldn't have landed in prison."

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, in the March issue of *The Elks Magazine*, blasted the "loose and ill-considered talk" that intimates "many returning veterans will become criminals because of the low value attached to human lives on the battle fronts." I fully agree with him when he says many veterans "will have a new and greater concept of citizenship." The soldier sees so much destruction of life and property that it sickens him and leaves him, after the nausea has passed, with a greater respect for the foundations of modern society.

Proportionately, only a negligible percentage of veterans with unrevealed criminal tendencies go off the beam after they have been mustered out of service. In the aggregate, though, the number appears to be shockingly large—and it is, of course. After each of America's three major wars preceding this one there was an era of disorder and crime. Now we have begun again to see and feel the inevitable by-products of the dirty, demoralizing, depressing business known as war and to deny its imminence is as criminal as going out and sticking up the first freeholder with a gun.

Ominous danger signals of the phenomenon were observed long before the



War of the Revolution ended. Washington's troops received news of the peace sullenly and Washington even considered suppressing it for a time. The ragged Continentals had not been paid for months and they knew they never would get their money once they were demobilized. Only officers were included in pension plans and the Continental Congress actually passed such a law. There was scattered looting by discharged soldiers as they went home, and a band of young fellows who had been in the Army only a few months went through the motions of making a physical attack upon the Federal legislature in Philadelphia, although nothing came of it.

Resentment simmered, then erupted in Shays' Rebellion, which lasted from August, 1786, to February, 1787. It was, the Dictionary of American History says, "the outstanding manifestation of discontent widespread throughout New England during the economic depression following the Revolution". The leader of the insurrection was Daniel Shays, a war veteran and local officeholder of Pelham, Mass., and he was joined by several thousand small property holders who were losing their possessions through seizures for overdue

debts and delinquent taxes.

Shays sought suspension, abolition or reform of decisions handed down by local courts and when no satisfaction was given his followers, they attacked the Federal arsenal at Springfield to seize weapons and ammunition for a full-scale revolt. The sortie was broken and Shays was captured and condemned to death. Later he was pardoned. The incident aroused so much attention throughout the Colonies that Bowdoin, governor of Massachusetts, was defeated for re-election the following year and most of the reforms were granted. For a time, Shays' Rebellion threatened to split the new Republic, but it is conceded now that it strengthened the movement to adopt a Federal Constitution and give the citizens a measure of protection against unscrupulous local powers.

The James boys, Jesse and Frank, who terrorized the Middle West after the Civil War, and the equally notorious James Younger and Cole, were disgruntled Confederate soldiers who refused to turn in their arms after Lee's surrender. They were the most colorful desperadoes of that rowdy era, but they were by no means the only offenders—nor were supporters of the Lost Cause

the only outlaws. Edith Abbot, writing in the Journal of the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology in May, 1918, reported a tremendous influx of soldiers at the Eastern Penitentiary in Pennsylvania during the last three months of 1865 and an unprecedented flood in 1866.

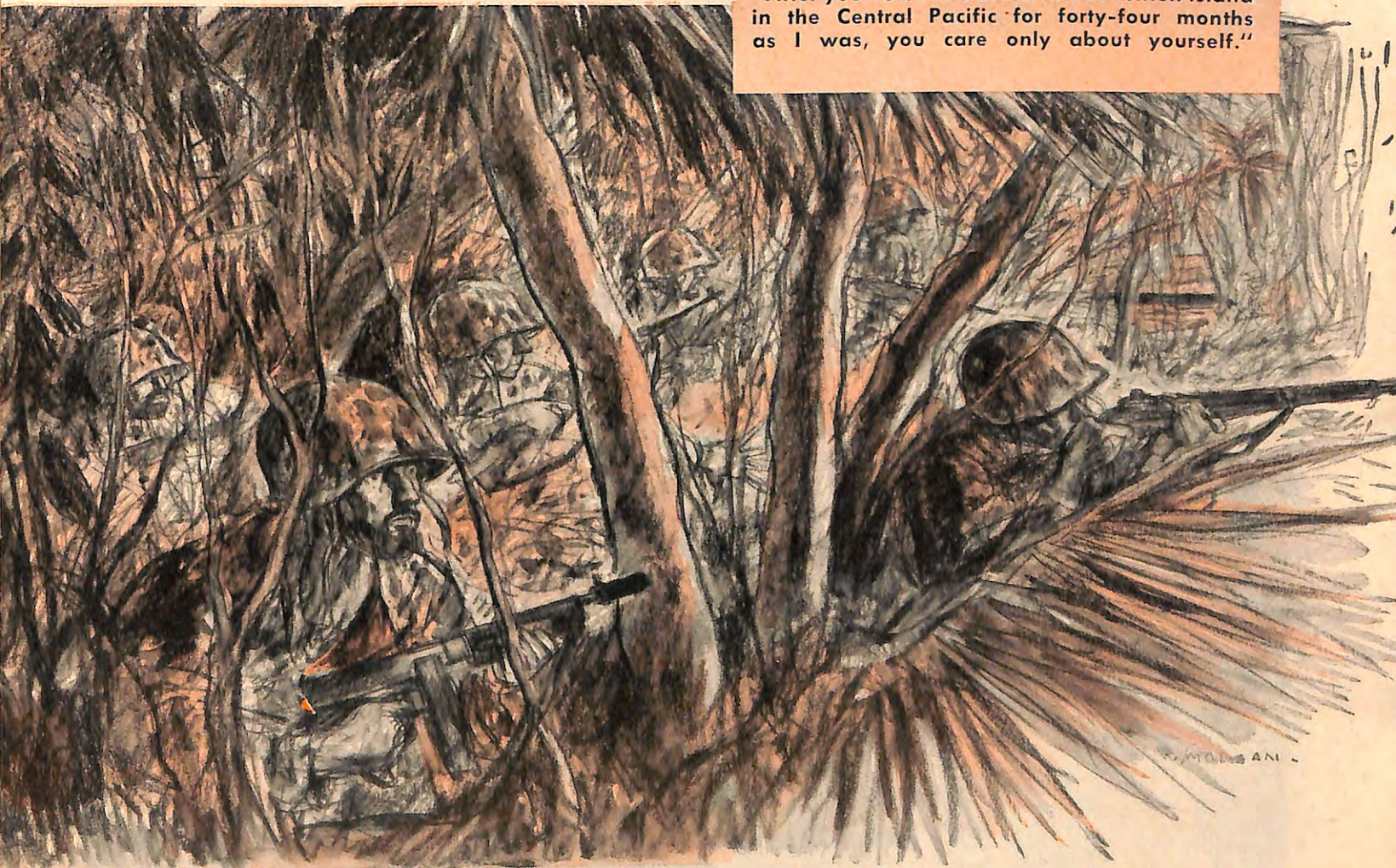
A year after the Civil War ended, former soldiers comprised two-thirds of the prison population in the United States and in 1867 the proportion still was one-half. As always, the majority of the men were more fit for hospitals than for prisons, but they had committed crimes and they had been found guilty. Of the 126 convicts in the Kansas State Penitentiary, 98 were former Union soldiers and six had served in the Confederate Army. At Charlestown, Mass., 215 veterans were among the 327 convicts on October 1, 1866; at Jackson, Mich., two-thirds of the inmates came from the Army; at Columbus, Ohio, veterans made up 75 percent of the prison population. Sympathy for the large numbers of ex-soldiers led, in fact, to agitation for prison reform.

Betty B. Rosenbaum, writing in the same publication in January, 1940, estimated that one-half of one percent of

*(Continued on page 40)*

Illustrated by WALLACE MORGAN

**"After you've been stuck on a flea-bitten island in the Central Pacific for forty-four months as I was, you care only about yourself."**





# The Presentation of the "ELKS REPORT TO THE NATION"



Above: President Harry S. Truman accepts the "Elks Report to the Nation" in the presence of, left to right, Past Grand Exalted Rulers Raymond Benjamin and James R. Nicholson, Grand Exalted Ruler Robert S. Barrett, Past Grand Exalted Ruler David Sholtz, Grand Esquire Joseph B. Kyle, Special Deputy William Frasor, M. R. Greenland, Secretary to Dr. Barrett, and Emilio Desvernine.



Above: Dr. Barrett hands Secretary of War Henry F. Stimson a copy of the Report and, left, Senator Harry F. Byrd of Virginia introduces the Grand Exalted Ruler to Members of Congress who are Elks. Below, with Grand Lodge Officers, Assistant Secretary of the Navy Ralph Bard, fifth from left, waits his turn to receive the historic volume.





# ELKS MEDAL OF VALOR



Above: Judge James T. Hallinan, Vice-Chairman and Treasurer of the Elks War Commission, presents the Elks Medal of Valor to Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt as a posthumous decoration of our late President who was a member of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Lodge. Among the notables present were Rear Admiral H. F. Leary, far left, and Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., to the right of Mrs. Roosevelt.

## THE Elks IN THE WAR

### MANILA INTERNEES WELCOMED AT LOS ANGELES LODGE



Above: Los Angeles, Calif., Lodge's home was selected as the reception center for more than 3,400 United Nations internees liberated at Manila. Here, Past Grand Exalted Ruler Michael F. Shannon and E.R. Joseph Lynch, third and fourth from left respectively, welcome a group of Elks who were prisoners of the Japs. At right is a poignant reunion of one of the families.







Above is the District Ritualistic Championship Team, of New Philadelphia, Ohio, Lodge.

## MASSACHUSETTS

At the 35th annual meeting of the Mass. State Elks Assn. at Gloucester on June 24, the following officers were installed by Past Grand Exalted Ruler John F. Malley: Pres., Mason S. McEwan, Brookline; 1st Vice-Pres., Edward A. Spry, Boston; 2nd Vice-Pres., Irving R. Shaw, Springfield; 3rd Vice-Pres., Warren M. Cox, Woburn; 4th Vice-Pres., John A. O'Brien, Cambridge; Secy.-Treas., Thomas F. Coppinger, Newton; Trustees: James T. Phelan, Watertown, Andrew A. Biggio, Winthrop, Arthur J. Shaw, Taunton, George F. Murray, Holyoke, and Peter G. Leger, Milford. Past Grand Exalted Ruler Raymond Benjamin, the principal speaker, and E. Mark Sullivan who delivered the address at the annual Memorial Services, were guests.

In the morning, President George Steele, P.E.R. of Gloucester Lodge, accompanied by E.R. Eugene Alves and his officers and visiting Elks including Mr. Malley, Mr. Sullivan and Past Pres. Daniel J. Honan of Winthrop Lodge, New England representative of the Elks War Commission, placed wreaths at the base of the monument on the esplanade in tribute to Gloucester fishermen lost at sea, and the memorial statue on the Elks' lot in Beechbrook Cemetery, West Gloucester. The business session was called to order by Pres. Steele at 11 a. m. Mayor Weston U. Friend welcomed the delegates on behalf of the citizens and the municipal council. Fifty-one of Massachusetts' 60 lodges were represented in the attendance of 363 members. Eight Past Presidents, including Grand Treasurer John F. Burke of Boston, were present as were the four District Deputies of the State and the Presidents of the Maine and S. C. State Associations. State committee chairmen reported that the total membership of Massachusetts lodges for the lodge year ending May 31, was 23,272; splendid results were reported in rehabilitation and hospital work; more than 71,150 patients were entertained at 17 veterans hospitals, and 13,200 pairs of slippers were sent to hospitals not only in Massachusetts but elsewhere.

After the meeting a dinner was given for Elks and their ladies.



# News of The state associations



Left: Photographed at Rapid City are the new officers of the South Dakota State Elks Assn.



# Emergency Session OF THE Grand Lodge

New York, New York, July, 1945



IN ACCORDANCE with the Executive Order and Proclamation of Grand Exalted Ruler Dr. Robert South Barrett of Alexandria, Va., Lodge, No. 758, an Emergency Session of the Grand Lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks was held on Monday, July 16th, at 10 A. M. in the Hotel Commodore in New York City for the election of officers and the transaction of such business as was required.

The attendance at this fourth war-time meeting was limited to officers of the Grand Lodge, Past Grand Exalted Rulers, members of the Grand Lodge Commissions and Chairmen of the Grand Lodge Committees, and members of the Grand Lodge living in suburban areas of New York City.

No new legislation or changes in existing laws were considered.

Grand Esquire Joseph B. Kyle, of Gary, Ind., Lodge, No. 1152, formally opened this gathering; Grand Exalted Ruler Barrett declared the 81st meeting of the Grand Lodge to be in session, and proceeded with the opening exercises. Grand Chaplain Rev. George L. Nuckolls, of Gunnison, Colo., Lodge, No. 1623, led the Grand Lodge in prayer. After making several appointments to expedite the business of the Convention, the Grand Exalted Ruler moved that the reports of the Auditing Committee, the Board of Grand Trustees, the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, printed copies of which had been supplied the delegates, be received, approved and filed as printed, which action was unanimously taken.

In calling attention to his own report to the Grand Lodge, the full text of which appears on page 22 of this issue, Dr. Barrett gave the following address:

"It is with great pride that I present the report of our Order's activities during the past year, not because I claim any special credit for its accomplishments but because I have been Grand

Exalted Ruler during a year of great achievements. The credit is really due to the subordinate lodges who have so generously opened their doors to men in the service, provided comforts and entertainment for our wounded veterans, given unstintingly to the funds for our national war work, and poured out their dollars in an unceasing stream for their patriotic and charitable endeavors; to the District Deputies who have so faithfully and intelligently performed their duties; to the Grand Lodge Committees and Commissions who have planned and put into effect the programs, productive of such remarkable results. In the name of the Grand Lodge, as well as my own, I acknowledge a deep debt of gratitude to them.

"Naturally, the outstanding feature of the year was our war work so ably directed by the Elks War Commission under the chairmanship of Past Grand Exalted Ruler James R. Nicholson. The report of the Commission will be presented to you later and I know you will be thrilled as you listen to the story of the many fields of service in which it has been engaged. Your thrill will not be any greater than mine has been as I have seen its plans unfold; as lodge after lodge, a thousand or more, have advised me of their rehabilitation plans for our Brothers in the service when they return home; as I heard the voice of Chairman Nicholson over the phone on that glorious day in February when Manila was freed from its Japanese invaders, telling me that the Commission had appropriated one hundred thousand dollars for the relief of our Philippine Brothers; as I stood before a gathering of nearly 200 members of Congress, all Elks, in the Senate of the United States and told them of what our war efforts had accomplished; as I presented to a hero's Mother our Medal of Valor.

"Almost equal in importance has been the work of The Elks National Foundation which has experienced the greatest

year in its history. We rejoice at the continued success of *The Elks Magazine*. Through its columns I have been able to speak to 700,000 members of the Order and their families each month, and to carry to them the inspiring story of our activities. Few men have had the opportunity to speak to such a tremendous audience. What a responsibility rests upon the Grand Exalted Ruler.

"The report will give many details of our success in the fields of membership and finance. I sincerely trust that the success of my administration will not be judged by the number of members initiated. From the commencement of my term I insisted that quality and not quantity of new members was desired and I discouraged all indiscriminate membership drives.

"From a financial standpoint our record was the best in the history of the Order. Our receipts exceeded our expenditures by \$125,000; the value of our War Bonds and cash on hand amount to nearly \$700,000. The subordinate lodges have assets of \$122,000,000.

"Far beyond the value of what we have been able to accumulate for ourselves is that which we have been able to give away. During the year just passed our subordinate lodges contributed \$3,753,800.86 to charitable and patriotic endeavor, an amount in excess of \$800,000 over the previous year and the greatest amount in the history of the Grand Lodge.

"The report covers these facts and many more but no report can adequately tell of the soul of Elkdom which has been disclosed to me during the past year. In my journeys of some 75,000 miles, from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the Gulf of Mexico to the Canadian Border, I have seen our Order at work. I have seen lonesome soldier boys by the hundreds of thousands made happy in our club rooms. I have seen the doors of opportunity opened to boys and girls who sought an education. I



# Emergency Session OF THE Grand Lodge

have walked through the wards of our crippled children hospitals and seen tiny tots take their first steps that led to ultimate recovery. I have seen the care and sympathy extended to the aged, the hungry fed, the sick comforted, the blind made to see, the handicapped given new hope. I have seen Boy Scouts furnish the leadership they required and our own Antlers inspired on their way to young manhood; I have visited dozens of clubs, supported by our lodges, where the youth of their communities found a place for social enjoyment; I have seen books by the hundreds of thousands sent to our Merchant Marine; I have visited scores of army and navy hospitals and seen with my own eyes how tenderly we are providing for the comfort and entertainment of our wounded heroes and trying to make them understand that (somebody cares) —somebody in this instance being the great heart of Elkdom which has always beat in love and sympathy with the unfortunate and unhappy wherever found.

"I have seen our Order honored in high places. I have sat by the side of Governors and heard them report of what we have accomplished in their States. I have received more than a thousand letters from Mayors telling what our lodges have done in their communities. I have presided at a meeting in the Senate when nearly 200 Congressmen and Senators, all members of our Order were present. I stood in the White House in Washington and heard from the lips of the President of the United States, our own Brother Harry Truman, a member of Kansas City, Mo., Lodge No. 26, acknowledge the "Elks Report to the Nation".

"Not all of my experiences have been as happy as these. Deep has been my grief, but great my pride, as I have mourned the death of the fourteen hundred brother Elks who have died in the service of our country. Tears came to my eyes as I laid in the worn hands of an aged mother our Medal of Valor for her only son. Pride and sorrow were interwoven as I presented a similar medal to one whose husband had been a Major General of the Marines and one dear to me by ties of blood. (Truly death makes no distinction between the high and the lowly.) Great was my loss as I stood beside a coffin in a flower bedecked room and looked down upon the noble face of a Past Grand Exalted Ruler, my friend, Joseph G. Buch, and thought of his life in the service of humanity, especially of the little children he had saved from remaining hopeless cripples. As I caught a glimpse of the crucifix between his folded hands I could almost hear the voice of the Master whispering to him, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto Me."

"During my travels over the country, lying awake in strange hotels and stuffy Pullmans, I have pondered deeply over our Order and wondered what

it was that has made it the great organization that it is, and I have come to the conclusion that two reasons are responsible. First, it is the outstanding patriotic organization in the United States and has drawn to our ranks those who, unable to wear the uniform of their country, find in our organization practical opportunities to be of service to our Nation in its hours of trial. Secondly, a deep and profound truth, not even understood or realized by many of our members—*Elks want to do good*. This noble precept began with our Past Grand Exalted Rulers who not only want to do good themselves but plan for the good that can be accomplished by our lodges; it is passed on by our District Deputies who are constantly urging programs of service and helpfulness; it is developed by the officers of our subordinate lodges who are ever thinking of what they can do to make their communities better places in which to live; finally, it reaches our individual members who find in doing good the surest road to happiness and a worthwhile life. There is not one of you, my brothers, who has not seen scores of cases in your experience where men have been drawn to the doors of Elkdom simply by a desire for the pleasures of our club-rooms but have found their real place in our organization by their unselfish service on our Committees in the work we are doing for humanity.

"Because we want to do good we extend the hand of brotherhood to all mankind, sympathizing with their sorrows and partaking of their joys; because we want to do good we hush the voice of scandal and innuendo and write the faults of others on the sands; because we want to do good we detest discrimination, prejudice and intolerance; because we want to do good we give liberally to the sick, the needy and the underprivileged; because we want to do good we throw open the doors of opportunity to youth; because we want to do good we defend men against injustice and oppression; because we want to do good we help to make our nation great and just; because we want to do good we try to be worthy children of our Father in Heaven.

"My brother Elks, I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the opportunity you have given me during the past year to serve our Order, our Country, and Our God."

Following this fine speech, the Grand Exalted Ruler called for the adoption of his report which was accepted with enthusiastic applause.

Preliminary reports were submitted by George I. Hall, of Lynbrook, N. Y., Lodge, No. 1515, Secretary of the Board of Grand Trustees, and Credentials Committee Chairman Lee A. Donaldson, of Etna, Pa., Lodge, No. 932.

The next order of business was a resolution offered by Past Grand Exalted Ruler Raymond Benjamin, of Napa, Calif., Lodge, No. 832, Vice-Chairman of

the Elks National Foundation Trustees. The resolution follows:

**RESOLVED:**

That all Exalted Rulers now serving as such in the Lodges of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks shall be deemed to have attended and been present at this Session of the Grand Lodge, and the Grand Secretary shall so record them in the records of this Session.

**FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That we recommend that the subordinate Lodges pay the expenses of said Exalted Rulers to personally attend such full Session of the Grand Lodge where it is held.

Mr. Benjamin offered an additional resolution as follows:

**RESOLVED:**

That all members of Grand Lodge Committees and all District Deputies who have served as such for the year 1944-45 shall be and are hereby authorized to attend the first full Session of the Grand Lodge after the termination of the war, and the expense of such attendance shall be paid by the Grand Lodge as provided by statute.

Both resolutions were unanimously approved. Secretary Hall then offered a resolution which expressed the Board of Grand Trustees' appreciation of the retiring Chairman, Wade H. Kepner, of Wheeling, W. Va., Lodge, No. 28, and requested that a suitable testimonial be given to Mr. Kepner. This resolution was warmly received and unanimously adopted.

Dr. Barrett then announced that he had reappointed Past Grand Exalted Ruler Bruce A. Campbell, of East St. Louis, Ill., Lodge, No. 664, to succeed himself as a member of the Elks National Memorial and Publication Commission, and Past Grand Exalted Ruler Edward Rightor, of New Orleans, La., Lodge, No. 30, to succeed himself as a Trustee of the Elks National Foundation. The Grand Lodge delegates, by unanimous vote, confirmed these appointments.

Dr. Barrett also stated that he had appointed as a member of the Grand Forum for a term of five years Alto Adams of Fort Pierce, Fla., Lodge, No. 1520, a former member of the Grand Lodge Committee on Judiciary. Mr. Adams' appointment was also unanimously approved.

The next order of business was the election of officers for the ensuing year. Exalted Ruler William H. Swain, of New York Lodge No. 1, moved that nominating and seconding speeches for the office of Grand Exalted Ruler be unlimited, and that nominating speeches for other offices be limited to three minutes and that there be no seconding speeches. This motion was accepted without a dissenting vote.

John E. Drummey, of Seattle, Wash., Lodge, No. 92, Approving Member of the Board of Grand Trustees, then reported to the Meeting on the applications for charters for new lodges.

It was then eleven o'clock and the Grand Lodge paused in its deliberations



to pay tribute to those Brothers who have died in the Armed Services, and to those on the home front who have passed on since its last meeting.

Dr. Barrett paid brief, but eloquent tribute to the late Past Grand Exalted Ruler Joseph G. Buch, of Trenton, N. J., Lodge, No. 105, and said that because of the nature of this wartime meeting, the Memorial Service would be deferred to a future Grand Lodge Session. The Grand Chaplain then offered a prayer in memory of the departed Elks. George L. Hirtzel, of Elizabeth, N. J., Lodge, No. 289, a former Chairman of the Grand Lodge Auditing Committee, presented a resolution expressing the deep regret of the Grand Lodge on the recent death of Mr. Buch, and requested the appointment of a special committee to consider and supply a suitable memorial and the appropriation of a preliminary sum of \$1,500 to be used by the committee for this purpose. This resolution was adopted and the Grand Exalted Ruler appointed as members of the committee Past Grand Exalted Ruler James T. Hallinan, of Queens Borough, N. Y., Lodge, No. 878, Albert E. Dearden of Trenton Lodge, a former member of the Grand Lodge Committee on Credentials, and Mr. Hirtzel.

In calling for nominations for the office of Grand Exalted Ruler, Dr. Barrett recognized U. S. Senator Chapman Revercomb, a member of Charleston, W. Va., Lodge, No. 202. In his opening remarks, Senator Revercomb paid tribute to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks as one of the strongest organizations of citizens in the United States. He said that Americans seek a lasting peace; The Senator pointed out that we have seen treaties that can be too quickly and too easily broken and that although we shall enter the postwar world with a sense of benevolence toward mankind, it will also be our duty to see that America remains strong. He told the meeting that the period of reconstruction is already at hand, and he emphasized that the immediate national problem is one directed toward aiding the fighting man and returning veterans. He said that there is no worthier cause, but that it is an immense undertaking—a gigantic one. "Whatever the Government does to recompense these veterans," Senator Revercomb said, "the Government's efforts will not gain the desired end unless the people of this country set out to aid these returned warriors to seek their places of usefulness in the future of our country." He pointed out that the strength of the Elks is attributable to the high capacity of its leaders and added that the Grand Lodge should select as its leader for the ensuing year one who can measure up to the responsibilities which lie ahead. The Senator then declared that it gave him a genuine sense of pride to nominate his worthy friend Wade H. Kepner for the office of Grand Exalted Ruler, and he brought to the attention

of the delegates Mr. Kepner's many fine achievements.

Past Grand Exalted Ruler Dr. Edward J. McCormick, of Toledo, Ohio, Lodge, No. 53, was then recognized by the Chair and he endorsed the nomination of Mr. Kepner in words that evinced his admiration and friendship for the retiring Chairman of the Board of Grand Trustees. "Never in the history of the Order," Dr. McCormick said, referring to the smallness of the Conference, "have so few been charged with such great responsibility. It is paramount that we choose with care and discretion. It behooves us to place the mantle of leadership on shoulders that are broad and firm and worthy."

On the crest of a wave of applause that indicated the enthusiastic approval of the delegates, Past Grand Exalted Ruler E. Mark Sullivan, of Boston, Mass., Lodge, No. 10, moved that the nominations for this high office be closed and that the Grand Secretary, J. Edgar Masters, of Charleroi, Pa., Lodge, No. 494, cast a unanimous vote for Mr. Kepner. With that action taken, Dr. Barrett requested Dr. McCormick, Past State President Adam Martin of Wheeling Lodge and Vice-Chairman Charles E. Broughton of the Board of Grand Trustees, a member of Sheboygan, Wis., Lodge, No. 299, to act as an escort to accompany the Grand Exalted Ruler-elect to the rostrum. The entire assemblage rose applauding as Mr. Kepner ascended the platform.

Mr. Kepner spoke with deep feeling in accepting this honor, and assured the Grand Lodge that he would do everything within his power to carry on the great work, the ideals and the principles of the Order. The full text of Mr. Kepner's speech of acceptance appears on page 12 of this issue. During the sustained applause that followed, Dr. Barrett had to sound his gavel for order a number of times so that the business of the Conference could proceed.

Dr. Barrett announced as the next order of business the election of other officers of the Grand Lodge. Past Grand Exalted Ruler Raymond Benjamin nominated for reelection as Grand Esteemed Leading Knight, F. Eugene Dayton, of Salinas, Calif., Lodge, No. 614; for Grand Esteemed Loyal Knight J. Ford Zietlow of Aberdeen, S. D., Lodge, No. 1046, former Chairman of the Board of Grand Trustees, offered the name of Past State President Arthur J. Baker, of Lewiston, Mont., Lodge, No. 456. Special Deputy William M. Frasor, of Blue Island, Ill., Lodge, No. 1331, named Past State President Oliver F. Ash, Jr., of St. Louis, Mo., Lodge, No. 9, for the office of Grand Esteemed Lecturing Knight.

Past Grand Exalted Ruler Charles H. Grakelow, of Philadelphia, Pa., Lodge, No. 2, then arose and said that in the absence of Past Grand Exalted Ruler John K. Tener, of Charleroi, Pa., Lodge, he would like to place in nomination for reelection as Grand Secretary, in order that we may continue to

enjoy his high degree of efficiency in that important office, Past Grand Exalted Ruler J. Edgar Masters.

Past Grand Exalted Ruler E. Mark Sullivan called for the reelection of Grand Treasurer John F. Burke, of Boston, Mass., Lodge. For the office of Grand Tiler, Past Grand Tiler Charles M. Barrett, of Albuquerque, N. M., Lodge, No. 461, nominated District Deputy Morey L. Goodman, of Santa Fe, N. M., Lodge, No. 460.

Past State President George Steele, of Gloucester, Mass., Lodge, No. 892, then nominated Past Exalted Ruler Charles T. Durell, of Portsmouth, N. H., Lodge, No. 97, for the office of Grand Inner Guard, and Past Grand Exalted Ruler John S. McClelland, of Atlanta, Ga., Lodge, No. 78, nominated Past Grand Inner Guard Hugh W. Hicks, of Jackson, Tenn., Lodge, No. 192, as a member of the Board of Grand Trustees for a term of five years. Each nomination was unanimously carried.

Before announcing the luncheon recess, Dr. Barrett brought to the attention of the assembled Grand Lodge members the fact that a resolution passed at an earlier Session of the Grand Lodge made it unnecessary at this time for the Grand Exalted Ruler and the Board of Grand Trustees to designate the time and place of the next Grand Lodge meeting.

THE business of the afternoon session opened with a resolution by Past Exalted Ruler Peter Stephen Beck, of Freeport, N. Y., Lodge, No. 1253, calling for the transfer of \$10,000 from the Grand Lodge General Fund to the Emergency Charity Fund; adopted unanimously.

Past Exalted Ruler Richard Leo Fallon, of New Rochelle, N. Y., Lodge No. 756, next offered a resolution that when the Grand Lodge concludes its present session it shall adjourn to meet at a place to be fixed by the Grand Exalted Ruler and the Board of Grand Trustees; also adopted unanimously.

Charles G. Hawthorne, of Baltimore, Md., Lodge, No. 7, was called upon for the report of the Antlers Council. Mr. Hawthorne presented a report to be included in the proceedings and selected for special comment several highlights pertaining to the activities of the Council in sending out questionnaires relative to postwar promotion of the Antlers. The report was accepted and made part of the minutes of the Meeting.

Grand Trustee George I. Hall submitted several resolutions relative to Grand Lodge finances and redistricting, which were adopted. The assemblage then heard the report of the Grand Lodge State Associations Committee, given by Chairman J. C. Travis, of Omaha, Neb., Lodge, No. 39.

#### Report of State Associations Committee

"The State Associations Committee extends its heartfelt thanks to the vari-

(Continued on page 15)



# Speech of Acceptance

by Wade H. Kepner

before the Grand Lodge at New York,  
N. Y., July 16, 1945

GRAND EXALTED RULER, Past Grand Exalted Rulers of our Order, and my Brothers of this Executive Session of the Grand Lodge: It is only those of you who have yourselves been placed in the position that I now occupy who know just how I feel at this moment. Mere words from the lips of any man, be he the greatest poet or the most eloquent of silver-tongued orators, could not possibly transmit from my heart to yours the deep emotion that is vibrating and revibrating through the very framework that houses Wade Kepner. Humbly do I say to three quarters of a million members of the world's greatest fraternity, "I accept the responsibility that you have entrusted to my care. I cannot, I must not, I *shall not* fail."

As I look around this room today perhaps I can be forgiven for thinking back to the only type of Grand Lodge Session that I have ever known; for visualizing the faces of thousands of those who have joined us for work and for play, some of whom can come no more; for reliving the days when brass bands could play in the streets and in the hotel lobbies; when beautiful floats bedecked with glorified American girls could pass in parade; when nightly fraternizing from room to room and from headquarters to headquarters sent back to their homes tired bodies but rejuvenated souls. May I likewise be forgiven for pledging myself here and now to lead this great Order in such a way that the day may be hastened when those who by their dastardly crimes have become the enemies of all that is good and all that is right, will be completely punished for their infidelity and driven from the midst of God-fearing nations. Then and only then can we meet together again in the way that is our custom. In the meantime may we say to those men who all over this world are thinking of us here today, "We miss you; we are doing everything in our power to speed the day of your return."

The Order of Elks is in excellent condition as the helm which guides its destiny is handed over to a new captain. Dr. Barrett has gained the respect of all in his travels from coast to coast portraying quiet mannerism and personal dignity. One man in writing to me after Dr. Barrett visited his lodge, expressed the feelings of thousands when he spoke of him as "An American Christian gentleman". His program of rehabilitation is outstanding. I shall further it to the best of my ability. Those men who have served you as leaders in past years have continued to serve our Order, and are zealously guarding its destinies. No other organization can boast of such a heritage of leadership and guidance. I pay tribute to each and every one of these fine gentlemen and ask for their continued help throughout this administration. I am sure that you will understand when I especially thank the man who guided my early faltering footsteps during my cradle days in Elkdom; that man who has scolded me for my imperfections; that man who has remembered to praise when praise was due; that man who stands ready to help me to do the utmost in my present stewardship; the dean of all Past Grand Exalted Rulers, the Honorable John K. Tener.

It would be vain for me to attempt to outline an exact program for a year in which more change can be expected than any year in the history of our Order. It appears to me, however, that if we strive to emulate the principles for which our founders banded themselves together over seventy-seven years ago, namely: to practice the four cardinal virtues of Charity,

Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity—to promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of our members, to quicken the spirit of American patriotism, to cultivate good fellowship, and to believe in the existence of a Supreme Being—we just can't go very far wrong. These have been proven sound. These have inspired men to make the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks the greatest fraternal Order that has ever been known. Mobile tuberculosis units would not be rolling over the highways of Kentucky today, iron lungs would not be in many hospitals, crippled children would not have become strong men and women, had we not had charity in our hearts and in our minds. Thousands of our members have returned from this and other wars and thousands will yet return with praise on their lips for an Order which has really demonstrated that it can truly practice brotherly love. Need I even mention the thousands of men who have spent their declining years at their home together in Bedford, Virginia, an Elks National Home made possible by the spirit of genuine brotherly love? What a contrast are its individual bedrooms, its own hospital staffed by nurses and doctor, its private golf course, its spacious dining halls supplied largely from its own farm, with a so-called home that I personally visited near Warsaw, Poland, over twenty years ago. There, five thousand men, women and children were herded together in one huge warehouse room where around the wall and through the center were built coops from floor to ceiling, each family having its own coop just as do the poultry at one of our State Fair exhibitions. Their food consisted of thick soup and soggy bread served three times daily. Toilet facilities consisted of an open space in the yard where men and women were divided by a board fence.

I stand squarely for the established institutions of our Order. I believe in the principles of the National Foundation and the War Commission. These together with the Memorial

and Publication Commission have been guided by men of sound judgment, by men who are capable and willing to devote valuable time. My heart has been thrilled from year to year as I have seen promising young people testify at Grand Lodge Session that their educational dreams could not have been realized without our aid. Tears have come to my eyes in the quiet of my own office when reading of the aid given to the wife of a Brother who had died while interned in Santo Tomas. She, her fifteen-year-old daughter and a sixteen-year-old son had been liberated by the United States Army, only to have her daughter killed by Japanese bombs four days later. What a thrill it was that she could be sent to a good hospital for much needed care, and her son enabled to finish his education. My heart beats just a little faster when I read from a letter from the widow of another Manila Brother when she said, "I never knew what the Order of Elks could mean to me." My fists clenched when I read the story of the widow of a former District Deputy (who had died while imprisoned in Japan) when she had merely dropped to her knees (Continued on page 39)

Prints of the Grand Exalted Ruler's photo, suitable for framing, will be supplied on request. Please enclose 10c in stamps to cover mailing costs. Address: The Reader's Service Department, The Elks Magazine.





Foster Studio, Richmond, Va.

**WADE H. KEPNER**

**of Wheeling, West Virginia, Lodge No. 28, elected Grand Exalted  
Ruler at the Grand Lodge Meeting in New York City, July 16, 1945**





**JOSEPH G. BUCH**  
Past Grand Exalted Ruler

PAST Grand Exalted Ruler Joseph G. Buch of Trenton, N. J., Lodge, No. 105, a member of the Elks War Commission, died at his home in Trenton on June 21, 1945. Mr. Buch was sixty-three years of age. He had been ill for some time.

Mr. Buch was born in Trenton August 7, 1881, the son of the late Adam and Katherine Prieth Buch. He was educated in the city's parochial and public schools and was a graduate of Stewart College.

Long recognized for his activities in civic and welfare work, Mr. Buch was appointed a member of the State's Rehabilitation Commission in 1928 by Governor A. Harry Moore and reappointed in 1931 by Governor Morgan F. Larson, who also appointed him to the Crippled Children's Commission of which he immediately became Chairman and Director. Since 1937 he had served as Chairman of the Unemployment Compensation Commission of New Jersey. Commissioner Buch had been a member of the N. J. Council and Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration for the past seven years. In 1944 Gov. Walter E. Edge appointed him Chairman of the N. J. State Rehabilitation Commission, one of the most important appointments in the State, in which capacity he was serving when he died.

Mr. Buch received the 1928 *Trenton Times* Civic Cup as outstanding citizen for his city that year. In 1940 the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters was conferred upon him by Rider College, and in 1941 he received from John Marshall College the degree of LL.D. He was a Colonel on the staff of the Governor of Kentucky.

A noted hotel man, he was elected President of the N. J. State Hotel Association in 1925 and 1926 and was Chairman of its Legislative Committee at the time of his death. He owned the Hotel Windsor and Hotel Penn, and sold both these enterprises in 1935. He be-

came Vice-President of the Trenton Hotel Company, operators of the Hotel Stacy-Trent, in 1940.

Initiated into Trenton Lodge on April 19, 1906, Mr. Buch served in all the Chairs, becoming Exalted Ruler in 1909. In 1916 he was elected Treasurer of No. 105 and held this office when he died. In 1918 he was appointed District Deputy, and became a member of the Grand Lodge Committee on Credentials in 1919. He had been Trustee of his State Elks Association since 1921 until this year, with the exception of 1922, when he was President of that group. In 1924 he was appointed a member of the Grand Lodge State Associations Committee; in 1937, a member of the Grand Lodge Activities Committee, and in 1939 he was appointed a member of the Board of Grand Trustees, later becoming Vice-Chairman and then Chairman.

At the Grand Lodge Convention in Houston, Texas, in July, 1940, he was elected Grand Exalted Ruler of the Order, becoming a member of the Elks War Commission in 1942.

Throughout Mr. Buch's entire life he took a deep and active interest in the aid and rehabilitation of crippled children; his efforts did much to alleviate their suffering. Acting Governor Frank S. Farley of New Jersey said at the time of Mr. Buch's death, "He was truly the father of the crippled children . . . Few men have contributed more to the welfare and happiness of New Jersey's unfortunates."

Since 1923 Mr. Buch had been Chairman of the Elks Crippled Children's Committee of his lodge and General Chairman of the State Elks Crippled Children's Committee. In July, 1929, he was appointed by Grand Exalted Ruler Walter P. Andrews as Special Deputy to visit many Western and Midwestern States to explain the N. J. plan for the aid of crippled children. Through these visits, many States adopted the plan

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# Emergency Session OF THE Grand Lodge

(Continued from page 11)

ous State Associations for their magnificent functioning in these days of our Nation at war. They have uniformly and efficiently led the lodges in their respective States in every activity sponsored by the Grand Lodge, being particularly effective in the programs of the Elks War Commission, so ably headed by Past Grand Exalted Ruler James R. Nicholson. They have been very much in evidence in all War Bond Drives, under which the lodges have purchased and sold millions upon millions of dollars of War Bonds; collected hundreds of thousands of books for our Merchant Marine; successfully organized entertainment and furnished many, many comforts for our wounded heroes in Veterans Hospitals and elsewhere. They drove hard in the recruiting program for Nurses for Veterans Hospitals. As true 'Soldiers on the Home Front' the State Associations 'went to war', there to remain until Old Glory flies over Tokyo! More—the State Associations are set to continue in the Peace that is to come all such programs to aid the veterans, particularly the injured veterans, as their welfare and happiness may require—with special emphasis upon Elk veterans.

Generally, as regards war-connected programs the prevailing spirit throughout all State Associations has been: 'The answer is "Yes. What is it you want!"'

"It would seem that State Associations could well rest their oars and forever bask in the sunlight of the glory of their war-connected efforts. But they have not chosen so to do. At no time, in no State have their programs of service to their communities and their States been neglected. In memory of the late Past Grand Exalted Ruler Joseph G. Buch, State Associations may well emulate the example of the Nebraska Elks Association in re-naming the Elk-established facilities at the Nebraska State Hospital in Omaha the 'Joseph G. Buch Memorial Crippled Children Facilities'.

"Reports from the various State Associations demonstrate an ever-increasing appreciation of the value of the Elks National Foundation and the scholarship awards and other activities sponsored by it. State Associations have materially advanced this program by State-wide sponsorship of "Most Valuable Student Awards" in which contests the winners are given scholarships by the Association and in addition, the winning entries are submitted in the National Contest. The reports show many additional lodges subscribing for Certificates, plus the firm resolution of the State Associations to aid in bringing all lodges into membership and active participation in the Foundation and its most excellent program.

"Many additional State Associations have instituted monthly publications aimed at keeping all lodges informed of the activities of all other lodges within their States and of the State Association. Some State Associations

have been particularly active in the institution of new lodges.

"During the year, this Committee issued a booklet entitled 'A Discussion of State Associations', the general objective of which was to outline the structures, programs and activities of the respective State Associations, their dues and other revenues and use to which put, policies relative to payment of expenses of officers and committeemen, etc. It is hoped the booklet has been helpful. However, because of this constant progress the review in the 'Discussion of State Associations' is already somewhat out-moded by the new ideas, new programs and new activities which are constantly developing. Therefore, the best single recommendation this Committee can make to State Associations is: Mail copies of all your printed, mimeographed and multi-graphed matter promptly to the Presidents, Vice-Presidents and Secretaries of all other State Associations. By so doing you will receive all such matter issued by all other Associations and will find a rich reward in the many splendid ideas gleaned from such literature.

"Bowing to the inevitable decision that the National Ritualistic Contest must be dispensed with for the duration, many State Associations have encouraged District and, in some instances, State Contests where the same could be conducted within both the letter and spirit of ODT regulations. The reports concerning such activities are most encouraging and all exhibit a fine appreciation by lodge officers of the vital necessity that the Rituals of our Order be delivered in such fashion as to impress upon all that the four Cardinal Principles of our Order are the foundation upon which the Allies hope to rebuild a world free of war."

Chairman Bruce A. Campbell of the National Memorial and Publication Commission was then recognized by Dr. Barrett in order that he might present a brief summary of his Commission's activities. His report is printed on page 34 of this issue. Mr. Campbell drew attention to the fine condition of the Memorial Building, and to the success with which *The Elks Magazine* has operated during the year. In behalf of his Commission, Mr. Campbell turned over to the Grand Lodge the sum of \$350,000, with the Commission's recommendations as to its distribution. His report and recommendations were approved and unanimously carried.

Past Grand Exalted Ruler John F. Malley, of Springfield, Mass., Lodge, No. 61, Chairman of the Elks National Foundation Trustees, then delivered his annual report to the delegates. Mr. Malley summarized the work of the Trustees during the past year, and reported the best receipts and the most successful year that the Foundation had yet enjoyed. He said that the National Foundation was not only a national foundation, but was a million-dollar one, and asked for the abiding sup-

port of and additional contributions by lodges and individuals to make possible the continuance of the Foundation's fine record. Excerpts from Mr. Malley's report are included here:

## CURRENT YEAR

The record of the year 1944-45 compares favorably with any preceding year in progress and accomplishments. We can speak of our Million Dollar Foundation because the end of our fiscal year, May 31, 1945, showed our principal fund as \$1,012,389.92. The addition of \$176,349.49 to the total donations of a year ago came from sources as follows:

<i>Honorary Founders' Certificates</i>	
New subscriptions from 183 lodges	\$56,296.99
New subscriptions from 1 State Association	100.00
New subscriptions from 2 District Associations	250.00
New subscriptions from 5 individuals	3,500.00
<i>Permanent Benefactors</i>	
New subscriptions from 14 lodges	8,450.00
<i>Grand Lodge Donation</i>	25,000.00
Payments on account of existing subscriptions	75,530.00
Miscellaneous contributions	7,222.50
	<hr/>
	\$176,349.49

The total amount of all contributions received during the year exceeded by \$11,807.50 the total contributions of the best previous year.

Vermont was commended last year as the first State to record its State Association and all lodges as paid-up subscribers for Honorary Founders' Certificates. A new lodge was instituted in Vermont during the year. The other lodges of the State, under the leadership of Past Grand Esteemed Loyal Knight Riley C. Bowers, raised the sum of \$1,000 so that the new lodge might become a paid-up Honorary Founder and Vermont might continue in its championship roll.

In New England, every lodge of every State is a subscriber for an Honorary Founders' Certificate.

Fifteen of the 48 States show every lodge recorded as a subscriber for an Honorary Founders' Certificate.

Pennsylvania led the States with 29 new lodge subscriptions.

Ohio is in second place with 18 new subscriptions.

Michigan is in third place with 17 new subscriptions.

Colorado came in fourth with 13 new subscriptions.

Of the States with fewer lodges, the greatest progress was made in New Mexico where the North District added 5 new subscriber lodges making 100%.

The other States which are entitled to Honorable Mention for progress made in new subscriptions are as follows: Florida, Maryland, Minnesota, Montana, North Carolina, Oklahoma and West Virginia.



# Emergency Session OF THE Grand Lodge

There are 573 lodges which are paid-up owners of Honorary Founders' Certificates, 34 State Associations, and 38 individuals.

### A Million Dollar Fund—Let's Double It!

In the April, 1945, issue of *The Elks Magazine*, we published an appeal for additional funds under the slogan, "A Million Dollar Fund—Let's Double It", emphasizing that our principal method of fund-raising had been through subscriptions for Honorary Founders' Certificates of \$1,000 each; that at the present time over 1100 lodges, State Associations and individual members had subscribed; that the majority of these had paid in full or were well on the way to completion of subscription payments; that it should be apparent to all that the potential receipts from Honorary Founders' Certificates are diminishing, while, on the other hand, the demands upon the distributable income of the Foundation are increasing. The Fund Must Grow!

We are confident that it is the desire of our membership to have the Elks National Foundation become the great philanthropic fund of our Order. Therefore, we have organized a new group of subscribers named "Permanent Benefactors". This group will include only holders of Honorary Founders' Certificates donating additional amounts of \$1,000 or more to the Foundation. Already many lodges, which years ago made the Foundation possible by their subscriptions for Honorary Founders' Certificates, have responded with generous additional donations and joined the ranks of Permanent Benefactors.

We repeat our suggestion to buy War Bonds in the name of the Elks National Foundation and thus serve the double purpose of assisting in the war effort and contributing to the philanthropic fund of our Order. Buy War Bonds for your country and the Foundation. Buy the Series "G" bond which is income-producing. Your Foundation must have an annual income if it is to function properly. We cannot be active in good works if we hold only the deferred payment type of bond on which the interest is not collectible until maturity some twelve years later. Therefore, we recommend the purchase of United States Savings Bonds, Series "G", registered as follows:

"Elks National Foundation Trustees of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America, a corporation"

Address: Merchants National Bank Trust Department A 201 Box 2197, Boston, Mass.

We appeal for funds not only from subordinate lodges but from members of the Order and their friends, and suggest that if lifetime gifts cannot be made, a bequest should be inserted in the will of anyone who is disposed to assist in perpetuating the good works of the Foundation.

The total income for the year was

\$27,640.07 as compared with \$22,932.86 for the previous year.

The expenses of administration for the last fiscal period, paid out of Grand Lodge appropriation, amounted to \$6,673.52, the items of which were as follows:

Fiscal Agency Fees	\$1,215.89
Travel	585.77
Office	4,871.86
	\$6,673.52

The balance sheet as of May 31, 1945 shows the details of our financial set-up.

In addition to our principal fund of \$1,012,389.92, we have a Security Depreciation Offset Fund amounting to \$45,416.40.

### Distributions

We have made distributions from the available income during the past year to assist the activities of the State Associations as follows:

#### *Tubercular Hospitalization*

Arizona Elks Association, for tubercular hospital at Tucson \$2,100.00

#### *Crippled Children Rehabilitation*

Florida State Elks Association, for use of Harry-Anna Home for Crippled Children \$500.00

Georgia State Elks Association, for use of "Aidmore" in Atlanta 500.00

New Jersey State Elks Association, for use of Betty Bacharach Home for Afflicted Children 800.00

Vermont State Elks Association, for use of Goshen Fresh-Air Camp for Crippled Children 250.00

\$2,050.00

#### *Educational Funds*

Connecticut Elks Association 200.00

Iowa Elks Association 250.00

Massachusetts Elks Association 800.00

New York State Elks Association 1,000.00

Pennsylvania State Elks Association 1,000.00

\$3,250.00

#### *Children's Home*

North Carolina State Elks Association, for use of Children's Home at Hendersonville 250.00

#### *Welfare Work*

Minnesota State Elks Association, for welfare work at Mayo Clinic in Rochester 200.00

\$7,850.00

(Appropriated but not paid until after May 31, 1945)

Michigan Elks Association	\$300.00
Wisconsin Elks Association	\$300.00

Other eligible States have made requests for their 1944-45 allotments. However, since payment thereof had not been made at the time our books were closed on May 31, 1945, they do not appear as expenditures of this report.

Brought forward \$3,750.00

Scholarships for 1943-44 paid after the close of the fiscal year ending May 31, 1944, in accordance with requests made prior thereto, are shown as expenditures in the current year.

### Scholarships

Our Board offered for the year 1944-1945 an Elks National Foundation Scholarship of \$250, or its equivalent in money for use in a philanthropy selected by the State Association of such State, to each State in which the lodges were enrolled and paid up to date as subscribers for Honorary Founders' Certificates, according to promulgated eligibility rules. The State Associations of 15 respective States took advantage of this offer.

#### *Summary of Distributions 1944-45*

To State Associations	\$ 7,850.00
For scholarships allocated to States or equivalent for special use	6,750.00
Most Valuable Student Contest Prizes for 1944	5,200.00
	\$19,800.00

#### Most Valuable Student Contest Prizes (1945)

In the November issue of *The Elks Magazine*, the Elks National Foundation Trustees announced an offer of \$5,000 in cash prizes to be awarded to the "Most Valuable Students" of the school year 1944-45 as follows:

	Boys	Girls
First Prize	\$600	\$600
Second Prize	500	500
Third Prize	400	400
Fourth Prize	300	300
Fifth Prize	200	200
Five \$100 awards	500	500

The decision of our Board with respect to this contest will be announced in a supplemental report to this Grand Lodge Session by a member of our Board.

#### Emergency Educational Fund

The fund to assist children of Elks killed or incapacitated in World War II was established by resolution adopted at the Grand Lodge Session in Chicago in August, 1944, on recommendation of Grand Exalted Ruler Robert S. Barrett.

The rules and regulations for the ad-



ministration of the fund were prepared by our Board and published in the January issue of *The Elks Magazine*.

We have to report that we have received no applications for assistance from this fund up to the present.

Mr. Malley then announced the winners of the Elks National Foundation Scholarship Contest. The names of these recipients and their histories will appear in the September issue of *The Elks Magazine*. Mr. Malley's report was accepted with enthusiasm, after which Dr. Barrett took a moment to voice his sincere thanks to Past Grand Exalted Ruler Hallinan and Grand Trustee Hall for the work they had done in completing arrangements for this Emergency Session.

Past Grand Exalted Ruler James R. Nicholson, of Springfield, Mass., Lodge, Chairman of the Elks War Commission, next delivered excerpts from his splendid report. He thanked the Order for making it possible to do so much for so many, and said that an amount approaching \$1,000,000 had been spent on the War Commission's work. Mr. Nicholson pointed out that no report, verbal or written, could give a complete picture of what has been accomplished, and that it is too bad that all of those who have contributed so much cannot see the full results. He said that the War Commission could do nothing without contributions from and active cooperation of the entire membership and asked the lodges to contribute an additional \$1.00 per capita so that the Order's war activities might be continued. Mr. Nicholson's report and recommendation were adopted unanimously, with great enthusiasm. A condensation of his Commission's printed report follows:

#### Elks Fraternal Centers

Our Elks Fraternal Centers continue to offer recreation and entertainment to hundreds of thousands of servicemen and women who are stationed in their localities, and to bring great credit to our subordinate lodges and our Order.

In 1942 we reported 16 Centers operating. In 1943 this number had risen to 79 and in 1944 we reported 119. During the past year this number has been reduced to 94, due to the closing of camps and bases and the transfer of troops.

Wherever the need exists our Centers continue to bring comfort and good fellowship to all servicemen who visit them. Millions of boys now in the service have enjoyed the privileges and hospitality of our Elks lodge homes and clubs and we hope to continue this service until final victory has been achieved.

#### Overseas Fraternal Centers

Servicemen who are members of our Order and serving in the Pacific area have formed social centers for Elks in Guadalcanal, Alaska and New Hebrides. These Centers are made up of members

of our Order from almost every State in the United States.

The Center at Guadalcanal has more than 200 members. They have constructed a building and furnished it with cast-off materials gathered on the Island.

From the reports received at the headquarters of the Elks War Commission, the social sessions sponsored by these groups are providing real recreation, entertainment and good fellowship such as only a group of Elks can provide. The friendships made through the association of their brother Elks in these far-flung places will linger long in the hearts of the Brothers serving so far from home.

#### Overseas Representatives

Overseas Representatives have been established as follows:

J. J. Briening  
General Superintendent  
E. I. R. Works  
District Singhbhum, Bengal, Nagpur Railroad

Chas. G. Thielicke  
Lake View & Star Mine  
Finiston  
Western Australia

Edward F. Peil  
S. E. Johnson & Son  
Queen Street  
Rosebery,  
N.S.W., Australia

T. Glen Price  
c/o Tin Plate Co. of India  
District of Singhbhum  
India

E. Y. Soule  
c/o M. W. Kellogg Co.  
Abadan, Iran

Serving as volunteer representatives in far-flung corners of the earth, these Brothers have rendered service wherever possible to American servicemen, from assisting them with the problems arising out of strange surroundings and language to extending cheery greetings and good wishes from the folks at home.

All members of the Elks War Commission acknowledge with grateful appreciation their thanks to these Brothers for their unselfish services.

The first Brother to serve as Overseas Representative for the Elks War Commission was Arthur B. Carey of Middlesex, England, a member of Racine, Wisconsin, Lodge. Brother Carey accepted this assignment last July and served faithfully and well until his death in October. The members of the Elks War Commission extend their deepest sympathies to the family of Brother Carey.

#### New York Elks Fraternal Center

Although only a year and a half has gone by since the New York Elks Fraternal Center first opened its doors, it has been an overnight home to more than 52,000 servicemen. Over three-

quarters of a million have found in this delightful old home a place to stop, to read, eat, relax with buddies or stop in for a shower and a change of uniform while passing through the "Big City".

Now that the troop deployment from the Atlantic to the Pacific is under way many additional thousands of servicemen are arriving in New York daily and the need for this Center is greater now than ever.

#### "Write 'Em A Letter"

Early in the war, the Elks War Commission, realizing the importance of letters from home as a preserver of morale, sponsored a "Write 'Em A Letter" campaign designed to increase correspondence between men and women in the service and their families and friends at home.

It is the hope of the Elks War Commission that our lodges will continue this campaign until the final victory.

#### Disabled Servicemen Slipper Program

Nearly 150,000 pairs of slippers have been furnished through the Elks of Columbus, Ohio, Lodge, the State Associations of Massachusetts, New York and Maine, yet today we are 30,000 pairs short of filling the requests we have received.

Production in the States of Washington and Oregon is now under way and will aid materially in filling the requirements of the hospitals located on the Pacific Coast. As the intensity of the war in the Pacific increases and the number of our boys now being returned from the European battlefronts arrive at our hospitals, the demands for these slippers will become still greater and it is to be hoped that other State Associations will find it possible to join with those who are now manufacturing these slippers in order that we may keep up with the demand.

#### "G" Boxes

"Elks 'G' Boxes"—an expression that has been spread around the world by this happy reminder that the Brothers at home are thinking of their Brothers on the far-flung battlefronts and camps. Many thousands more have been sent this year. So until the boys have won the final victory and returned home, "Keep the 'G' Boxes rolling." They can be secured free of charge by writing Grand Secretary, J. Edgar Masters, 2750 Lake View Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

#### Courtesy Cards

The popularity of the Courtesy Cards continues as noted by the many requests received by the Elks War Commission for additional cards.

We have had a splendid opportunity to see at first hand how appreciative holders of these cards are when they present them on visiting our New York Fraternal Center. We have hundreds



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of boys visit this Center who all praise the Elks for furnishing them with this card, which opens the doors of more than ninety-five per cent of our Elks lodge homes to them, where they may enjoy the same comfort and hospitality furnished to our own members.

These cards are still available free of charge through the Elks War Commission to all subordinate lodges and may be secured on request.

## Duration Stickers

The Duration Sticker designed by the Elks War Commission and approved by the Grand Exalted Ruler is still in general use by the subordinate lodges which provide their members in the Armed Forces with paid up cards for the duration.

Until final victory is achieved, many more of our members will enter the Armed Forces of our country, therefore the Elks War Commission will continue to furnish these stickers free of charge to all subordinate lodges upon request.

## Veterans Hospital Service

Since our last report, thousands of soldiers, sailors and Marines have been returned home to be cared for in Government hospitals. With this large increase of sick and wounded who so sorely need recreation and entertainment, as well as medical care, our Hospital Program has been expanded to meet the demands. Thirty-two of our State Associations are now engaged in this activity and are doing all in their power to make life a little more pleasant for those boys who have sacrificed so much for us.

In the days after World War I more than 25 years ago, one of the State Associations initiated hospital programs for World War veterans confined in Government facilities in its State, and has sponsored this activity continuously ever since. Under its auspices the tempo of this humanitarian service has been increased as growing numbers of wounded and disabled veterans have been sent back to Government hospitals for rehabilitation. In addition to its entertainments, which are furnished in the fifteen hospitals of the State, this group has given generously of cigarettes, magazines, flowers, etc., to bedridden and convalescent patients of these institutions.

Dedicated to the mission of making life as pleasant as possible for the young men who are confined to Government hospitals, the Elks have seen to it that bedridden patients are supplied with radios, phonographs, books, magazines, cards, games, musical instruments and material with which to use their idle hands in creating and producing a variety of items. Requests for anything the men want are relayed through the head nurse of each ward to the Red Cross supervisor and then passed on to the Elks.

## Cigarettes to the A. E. F.

Cigarettes and pipe tobacco, from back home, mean a lot to the soldier, sailor or Marine who is thousands of miles away from home. They mean much in pleasure and in maintaining morale.

Realizing this, the Elks War Commission in May, 1943, began the purchase and shipment of cigarettes to men on the far-flung battlefronts. Later, in response to requests from pipe smokers and "roll your own" smokers, popular brands of cigarettes were supplemented by tobacco and cigarette papers.

Many subordinate lodges have also sent supplies overseas in addition to the shipment made each month by the Elks War Commission.

## Award of Merit

With the realization that Elks lodges, their members and the citizens of their respective communities are giving so willingly and generously of their time and money in contributing to the welfare and security of the nation at war, the Elks War Commission, to express in a tangible way its sincere gratitude, issues Award of Merit Certificates.

Over 9,000 Certificates were awarded for participation in the various Army and Navy Recruiting Programs and over 4,000 Award of Merit Certificates have been issued in connection with locally sponsored patriotic programs and cooperation in programs of the Commission.

Nominees for the Award of Merit are designated by the subordinate lodges. Non-members cooperating with the local lodges in the programs of the Elks War Commission, as well as members are eligible for this award.

## Rehabilitation

The Elks War Commission recognizes the fact that whatever part the Order of Elks can play in assisting its members who have served in the Armed Forces to get back to normal life and happiness is as much a part of the war effort as any activity in which the Order is engaged.

Every lodge has been requested to appoint a Rehabilitation Committee and up to the present time more than 800 such committees have been organized. The Elks War Commission has assumed the responsibility of furnishing the Chairman and members of such Rehabilitation Committees, upon their appointment, with information and suggestions for procedure designed to be of assistance in meeting the responsibilities entrusted to them.

State Associations have been requested to appoint State Rehabilitation Committees for the purpose of making a study of State legislation affecting the rights and privileges of veterans and supplying this information to the Rehabilitation Committees of subordinate lodges.

Some of our lodges have been slow in answering the call of Rehabilitation, but the end of the war in Germany and the increasing number of veterans coming home have awakened them to the realization that there may soon be work for them to do, and reports of the appointment of Rehabilitation Committees are being received by the Elks War Commission to an extent indicating that the goal of one hundred per cent of organization for veterans rehabilitation will soon be attained.

## Manila Lodge

As soon as word was flashed to this country of the fall of Manila and its subsequent occupation by the Japanese, the Elks War Commission, prompted by concern for the Brothers there, made immediate inquiries by letter and cable and exerted every effort to send them food and supplies.

The Elks War Commission, doing everything in its power to bring aid and comfort to the internees, actually succeeded—it found out recently—in reaching some of those held in the Jap camps with messages from America. Much that the Order would have accomplished in the form of more substantial assistance was denied by the Japanese, despite every attempt the Elks War Commission, together with the Red Cross, made to reach those in custody.

The first real opportunity to render aid to those who were held in Jap internment camps came when the victorious forces of General Douglas MacArthur returned to the Philippines and freed the capital early in 1945.

Without delay, for time was valuable and speed important, the Elks War Commission in early February appropriated \$100,000 from its War Fund scarcely before the last Jap had been driven out or killed by the advancing Americans.

Contact was immediately established with the Elk internees and they were given the assurance that food, clothing, medicine and financial assistance was being made available as speedily as it was humanly possible to do so.

Thomas J. Wolff, a Past Exalted Ruler of Manila Lodge and Past District Deputy, who had been interned along with other members, was appointed by the Elks War Commission to head a relief committee in Manila and funds were placed at his disposal. Brother Wolff was well equipped by experience and knowledge of the needs of the other internees to handle the work.

His job was a hard one and he himself had suffered much at the hands of the Japs during his internment, but he unhesitatingly accepted the task and has performed valiant work under difficult conditions.

## Pacific Coast Committees

Because some of the former internees were able to leave the Philippines to return to America before aid from the Elks War Commission could reach them,



committees were set up in San Francisco and Los Angeles and equipped with necessary funds to meet and assist the arrivals when they landed in this country.

The San Francisco committee was set up by Emmett T. Anderson, a member of the Elks War Commission, and those serving on the committee included members of Manila Lodge who had escaped to the United States before the fall of the Philippines, members of San Francisco and Salinas, California, Lodges; and a representative of the Elks War Commission.

The Los Angeles committee was under the direction of Past Grand Exalted Ruler Michael F. Shannon, and Brothers from Los Angeles and adjacent lodges assisted on this committee in cooperation with a representative of the Elks War Commission. It was fortunate that George J. McCarthy, a Past Exalted Ruler of Tacoma, Washington, Lodge who had resided in Manila for a number of years and who had been interned in the Philippines and repatriated in 1943, was able to serve on these committees.

Every incoming ship has been met by the committees, and the needs of the members and their families, as well as of the widows and children of members, have been attended to. Provision is being made for the education of children whose fathers have died or been killed while interned by the Japanese.

#### Representative to Pacific Area

Upon the liberation of Guam and the Philippines, the Elks War Commission endeavored to send a representative of the Commission to these Islands to get a first-hand report of conditions and recommend how we could best assist these lodges and our Brothers.

When it was found that permission could not be obtained immediately to send a representative, it was gratifying to the members of the Commission that it was possible for arrangements to be made for Mr. Coles Phillips, Editor of *The Elks Magazine*, to go as war correspondent for the Magazine and also to represent the Commission.

As this report goes to press, Mr. Phillips is in the Pacific Area and upon his return will give the Commission a complete report with his recommendations, and also a report of his efforts to assist in establishing Elks Fraternal Centers in Guam and Manila.

#### Agana Lodge

Agana, Guam, Lodge was taken by the Japs on December 10, 1941; the first lodge of the Order to suffer such a fate.

Members of Agana Lodge, composed mainly of Navy, Marine and Government personnel, were transferred to prisoner of war and internment camps in Japan.

Cables and letters have been sent to them by the Elks War Commission at regular intervals, and peculiarly enough

more replies were received from members in Japan than from internees or prisoners of war in the Philippines. The Elks War Commission also attempted to send relief supplies to the members interned in Japan but this was not successful due to the perfidy of the Japanese authorities.

Soon after the island was liberated, one of Agana Lodge's members, Warrant Officer Chesley H. Richards, who returned with the Americans, found the building in ruins. The lodge official seal had somehow survived, for Richards found it intact on a bench in the laboratory of the hospital in Agana.

Captain Wellborn R. Ellis, U.S.M.C., a Past Exalted Ruler of Atlanta, Georgia, Lodge, No. 78, also landed with the Marines and, at the request of James R. Nicholson, Chairman of the Elks War Commission, made a report of his findings.

Plans for the reconstruction of the destroyed city of Agana include serious consideration of rebuilding on an entirely new site.

When the Elks War Commission was informed of the contemplated removal of the city, Lt. Commander Avery W. Thompson, U.S.N.R., a member of Salem, Oregon, Lodge, No. 336, who is the legal officer for the civil affairs for the island command, requested some Elk present on the island be given the power of attorney whereby, if the Planning Commission has to relocate the Elks lot, someone could help select a good location and execute the required papers.

As no resident member of Agana Lodge was present on the island, it was deemed advisable to appoint someone to represent the interests of the absent members. Lt. Commander Ernest Couloheras (C.E.C.) U.S.N.R., a member of New Orleans, Louisiana, Lodge, No. 30 and a member of the Planning Commission and Civil Affairs on Guam, agreed to act in this capacity for the Elks, and the Elks War Commission thereupon requested the Grand Exalted Ruler to send a letter to all members of Agana Lodge known to live in the United States, asking their consent for Commander Couloheras to represent the lodge. As all replies to the Grand Exalted Ruler's letter endorsed the idea, Commander Couloheras was asked to undertake the assignment.

Our latest information is that relatives of members left on Guam are in as comfortable circumstances as possible. Any assistance that can be provided by the Elks War Commission will be given. When the day of liberation comes for members interned in Japan every effort will be made for the restoration of Agana, Guam, Lodge and its membership.

#### Medal of Valor

In grateful and heartfelt recognition of the heroism of those making the supreme sacrifice in World War II, the Elks War Commission has had a special

Medal of Valor designed for presentation to the next of kin.

Medals of Valor are presented at public ceremonies on Flag Day and Elks Memorial Day. To date it has been recorded that 1213 of our Brothers made the supreme sacrifice while in the service of our country.

#### Medal of Valor Certificate

Presented with the Medal of Valor is an engraved Certificate signed by the Grand Exalted Ruler and the Grand Secretary.

On Flag Day, June 14, 1945, at impressive ceremonies held by Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Lodge, No. 275, the Elks "Medal of Valor" was presented by Past Grand Exalted Ruler James T. Hallinan to Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt, widow of our late President and Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, who was a member of Poughkeepsie Lodge for many years.

#### "Elks Report to the Nation"

In compliance with the desire of Grand Exalted Ruler Robert South Barrett to file with our Government a permanent report of such activities, the Elks War Commission compiled and published a review of the wartime activities of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. The volume is entitled the "Elks Report to the Nation". It is profusely illustrated, carries a brief summary of the work of the Order in World War I and a complete record to date of the activities of the Order beginning with the appointment of the Elks National Defense and Public Relations Commission in 1940—which was renamed the Elks War Commission the day after bombs fell on Pearl Harbor—down to the present time.

On June 8, Grand Exalted Ruler Barrett and a delegation were received at the White House by President Harry S. Truman, a member for many years of Kansas City, Mo., Lodge, who graciously accepted the "Elks Report to the Nation", and in doing so expressed his esteem for the Order and his appreciation of its patriotic endeavors.

On Flag Day, June 14, 1945, 183 members of the Congress, who are also members of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, met in the Caucus Room of the Capitol in Washington. The meeting was arranged by Grand Exalted Ruler Barrett for the purpose of presenting to these distinguished brothers the "Elks Report to the Nation."

#### Nurses for the Veterans Administration

At the War Conference of the Grand Lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks held in Chicago, July, 1944, Colonel George Ijams, Assistant Administrator of Veterans Affairs, representing the Administrator, Brigadier General Frank T. Hines, requested the assistance of the Elks in securing



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nurses for the Veterans Administration Hospitals.

After hearing the stirring appeal of Colonel Ijams, the delegates to the War Conference of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks signified their eagerness to be of service in this humanitarian cause and voted unanimously to grant this request.

Necessarily, the recruiting efforts of the Elks had to be directed to those who could not serve with the Armed Forces. This field naturally was limited but, through the efforts of our members, we have succeeded in securing 1433 nurses for the Veterans Administration Facilities. Since last August 620 of these nurses have resigned, which leaves a vacancy of 187 nurses; we hope to secure these additional nurses in the next 30 days.

## Books for the Merchant Marine

At times like these the need for amusement and recreation—some means to make time pass more quickly and more pleasantly—becomes acute. Men's minds need something to occupy them. And foremost among those things that men in the Merchant Marine like to do is read. Books take on a new meaning, a new interest, and a new value.

Mrs. Henry Howard, president of the American Merchant Marine Library Association, in a letter to James R. Nicholson, Elks War Commission Chairman, stated that the organization needed 600,000 books to provide sufficient reading material for the seaman of the American Merchant Marine service, greatly expanded because of the war. She asked that the Elks help the library attain its goal.

In an immediate response to this request, the Elks War Commission in January, 1945, undertook a campaign to collect one million books for the Merchant Marine.

The appeal met with an instantaneous response among the subordinate lodges which set up special committees for the successful collection program in their respective communities.

## Publicity

Ever since its inception the Elks War Commission has maintained a steady and consistent publicity policy designed to give prominence to the activities of the Order, and to improve public relations.

In the course of the year thousands of news releases were prepared and sent to Exalted Rulers of subordinate lodges who have been most cooperative in securing their publication in local newspapers.

This method of enlisting the services of subordinate lodges in clearing publicity proved most successful, and resulted in the publication of thousands of stories pertaining to the work of the Order of Elks in newspapers throughout the nation.

Our newspaper publicity has done

much to further the patriotic efforts of the Order.

P.E.R. J. W. Fitzgerald, of Canton, Ohio, Lodge, No. 68, then presented to the Elks War Commission on behalf of his lodge a check for \$1,000.

Past Grand Exalted Ruler Frank J. Lonergan, of Portland, Ore., Lodge, No. 142, then came forward with the following resolution:

Whereas, the Elks home and temple of Agana, Guam, Lodge, No. 1281 and Manila, P. I., Lodge, No. 761 were utterly and completely sacked and destroyed by the ruthless, treacherous and barbaric Japs, and whereas, the members of Agana Lodge and Manila Lodge have been loyal and devoted Americans and true and faithful members of our Order, and whereas, our Brothers of Agana Lodge and Manila Lodge have long suffered unspeakable hardships and sustained great and severe losses, all of which they have borne with unparalleled courage and heroism; now, therefore, be it RESOLVED: That the Elks War Commission be and it is herein and hereby authorized and empowered to render full aid and assistance, financial and otherwise, as in the judgment of said Commission may be deemed necessary or advisable, to Agana Lodge and Manila Lodge to the end that their Elks temples may be rebuilt and restored for the uses and purposes of Elksdom.

Mr. Lonergan's resolution was unanimously adopted.

Chairman James L. McGovern of the Grand Lodge Activities Committee, a member of Bridgeport, Conn., Lodge, No. 36, then presented his report to the delegates and it was received with approval. Below appear excerpts.

## GRAND LODGE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

The members of the Grand Lodge Activities Committee 1944-45 appointed by our Grand Exalted Ruler Robert South Barrett, are grateful for having been privileged to serve our Order under such gallant and distinguished leadership.

We realize that circumstances beyond control of our Grand Exalted Ruler and his distinguished predecessors whose advice and counsel are his to command and who are ever alert for the continuing welfare of our Order, necessitated the substitution of an "Emergency Session" of the Grand Lodge for the regular annual Grand Lodge Session.

Our report, in view of the extraordinary situation which we face due to war restrictions, of necessity will be confined to a brief review of the modest part your Committee has had in bringing into our fraternal companionship approximately 80,000 upstanding Americans, new Elk blood, enriching the veins of the foremost fraternity in American life dedicated to the service of God, of Country and of humanity.

We will not burden you with figures. Our capable Grand Secretary J. Edgar Masters and his efficient staff will sup-

ply these. The story of the amazing growth and development during the lodge year terminating March 31st will be found in his statistical summary.

The upsurge in membership which after years of depression began with the administration of Past Grand Exalted Ruler Henry C. Warner continued under the late Past Grand Exalted Ruler Joseph G. Buch and with increasing momentum under Past Grand Exalted Rulers John S. McClelland, E. Mark Sullivan and Frank J. Lonergan has been splendidly maintained under our present Grand Exalted Ruler.

## Fighting Elks Class

Immediately after its organization by the Grand Exalted Ruler in mid-September last your Committee issued its first "Selective Membership" appeal, termed the "Fighting Elks Class", for the November round-up. An artistic poster printed in colors emblematic of a battle scene accompanied the Committee's circular letter to all lodges and officials of the Order.

If figures could speak, they would with pardonable pride recount the many thousands enrolled as members of the Fighting Elks Class. Coincidentally we addressed each Associate member of the Grand Lodge Activities Committee designated by the Grand Exalted Ruler, outlining their duties in detail.

## Memorial Day

In our Memorial Day circular reproducing the photo-engraving of the beautiful and impressive service arranged by Past Grand Exalted Ruler Raymond Benjamin for our War Conference last year, we were aided by suggestions of our Grand Exalted Ruler as to the form and typography of the circular.

## Exalted Ruler's Handbook

Your Committee prepared and arranged for the distribution of the "Exalted Ruler's Handbook of Instructions" with fillers encased in a handsome leather folder, one of which was presented to each incoming Exalted Ruler.

## Letters to Secretaries

Our next activity comprised a special letter addressed to the Secretaries of the subordinate lodges stressing the necessity of unrelenting vigilance in maintaining a close personal contact with the members, thereby facilitating the task of dues-collecting at the annual and semi-annual periods. This idea originated with the Grand Exalted Ruler and judging by the letters received from Secretaries throughout the country, his suggestions were much appreciated.

## Grand Exalted Ruler's Birthday Class

It was indeed a happy augury which prompted your Committee to dedicate our Spring class in memory of our



Grand Exalted Ruler's Birthday, March 30. Designated as the Grand Exalted Ruler's Birthday and Reinstatement Class, needless to say, it proved the highlight of the year in respect to our membership gains. The birthday class recorded upwards of 16,000 reinstatements. In connection with our circular emphasizing the selective feature of our appeal, we dispatched to each lodge and to all officials of the Order, an exquisite portrait of our distinguished leader reproduced on vellum paper, from an original by Duane Haley, a noted artist of New England. So many requests came for additional copies that a second printing was necessitated. In addition to those initiated in the Grand Exalted Ruler's Birthday Class, many additional thousands were initiated subsequently. This group will be included in the numbers added to the rolls during the new lodge year.

#### Flag Day

Your Committee's final appeal to our membership was in our "Flag Day" circular. It's four pages in red, white and blue carried the famous poem "Wave Gallant Flag" first recited at an Elks gathering in Omaha by Past Grand Exalted Ruler John McClelland, who presided at the Convention held in that city. It appeared on page one beneath the folds of "Old Glory". On the final page under the caption "Last Message From An Absent Brother", appeared a quotation from a message sent to our Convention at Chicago by the late President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, a member of Poughkeepsie Lodge.

Accompanying the Flag Day circular, beautifully produced in techno-color with the Elks Flag Day imprint, was a reproduction of the world famous photo showing the raising of "Old Glory" by our Marines on Mt. Surabachi at Iwo Jima. One of the three surviving Marines of the group shown in the photo is Ph.M 2/c John H. Bradley, a member of Appleton, Wis., Lodge. This photograph was taken by Joe Rosenthal, Associated Press staff photographer, and has been awarded the Pulitzer Prize as the greatest of all war pictures. We were literally swamped with requests for additional copies of this poster.

We have been most happy to serve our Order. We realize that the constructive suggestions and active cooperation of our Grand Exalted Ruler has been a tower of strength to us. To our associate members who so lovably served the cause, we extend assurances of our gratitude. We shall not soon forget the many courtesies extended by our Past Grand Exalted Rulers by the innumerable Exalted Rulers, Secretaries, State and local lodge officers and other officials, all combining to produce most effective teamwork.

As Chairman of the committee I desire to express my personal sense of appreciation to the Elks War Commission whose distinguished chairman, Past Grand Exalted Ruler James R. Nichol-

son by placing at our disposal the facilities of the Commission's experienced office staff contributed in no small measure to whatever success we, as your representatives on the Activities Committee, may have attained.

Past Grand Exalted Ruler Benjamin of the Ritualistic Committee then announced that two new Rituals had been prepared, one being a Ritual for the installation of subordinate lodge officers and the other a Ritual for the initiation of new members. Mr. Benjamin said that it was the plan of the Committee to present the new Ritual for the initiation of candidates at the first full Session of the Grand Lodge; it was decided that deliberation on the new Ritual for the installation of officers would also be postponed until that Session. Mr. Benjamin then offered a resolution expressing the congratulations of the Grand Lodge to the Elks of California on their splendid record in the sale of War Bonds. This resolution was adopted with applause.

Chairman Robert S. Farrell, Jr., of the Committee on Distributions, a member of Portland, Ore., Lodge, delivered his report which was received with approval by the delegates.

In the absence of Chairman Clayton F. Van Pelt, of Fond du Lac, Wis., Lodge, No. 57, his report of the Committee on Judiciary, excerpts from which appear below, was presented by another Committee member, Benjamin F. Watson, of Lansing, Mich., Lodge, No. 196.

#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

During the current year the Chairman of the Committee has considered approximately 700 separate and distinct cases or matters submitted to him as herein detailed:

To this date, 310 Opinions have been written interpreting the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Lodge and By-Laws of the Subordinate Lodges; three hundred twenty (320) amendments and revised by-laws have been submitted, to which consideration has been given, opinions written as to the legality thereof, and finally approved in most instances. Applications for building permits submitted by 25 lodges were examined and returned to the Board of Trustees with comment and recommendation. House Rules of 3 lodges and Articles of Incorporation of 3 lodges were approved. Publication of lodge bulletins by 13 lodges were likewise approved. Tax problems have been submitted by 24 lodges and advice and counsel with reference thereto.

These classified activities represent the principal part of the work of the Committee on Judiciary during the current Grand Lodge year, and required approximately 2,000 pieces of mail.

The lodge year about to be closed was a very busy one for your Committee on Judiciary. I would be remiss in my duties as Chairman if I did not pay

my respects at this time for the great help that my associate members gave me. Only their cooperation made it possible to report now that the work of this important Committee is up to date in every respect.

With the main part of the agenda of the Meeting covered, Dr. Barrett surrendered the gavel, emblem of the high office of Grand Exalted Ruler, to Past Grand Exalted Ruler Lonergan. Mr. Lonergan recognized Grand Trustee Charles E. Broughton who offered a resolution that an expression of appreciation of the magnitude of Dr. Barrett's devotion to the Order and his many contributions to its progress during his year in office be given. Mr. Broughton requested that a suitable testimonial be presented to Dr. Barrett. The delegates adopted the resolution and gave Dr. Barrett a standing ovation.

Grand Trustee George I. Hall then submitted his final budget, which was adopted.

The final report of Mr. Donaldson of the Grand Lodge Committee on Credentials showed the total attendance at this Emergency Session to be 340, including 18 Past Grand Exalted Rulers.

At this point, Mr. Lonergan turned over the gavel to Dr. McCormick to assume the temporary office of Grand Exalted Ruler to install the newly-elected officers, and with Past Grand Exalted Ruler Sullivan acting as Grand Secretary, the officers-elect were conducted to the rostrum where Dr. McCormick administered the oath of office. Four new officers who were absent were represented by proxies. At the conclusion of this impressive ceremony, the new Grand Lodge Officers were led to their respective stations by the Grand Esquire.

Vice-Chairman and Treasurer Hallinan of the Elks War Commission rose and asked that the first act of Grand Exalted Ruler Kepner be the appointment of Dr. Barrett to the War Commission to fill the place left by the late Past Grand Exalted Ruler Buch. Mr. Kepner complied with Judge Hallinan's request and as his second official act, appointed the members of the Grand Lodge Activities Committee, who are: Chairman, J. W. Fitzgerald, of Canton, Ohio, Lodge; Dr. H. J. Raley, of Harrisburg, Ill., Lodge, No. 1058; Louis R. Dowd, of Cortland, N. Y., Lodge, No. 748; George W. Hickey, of Willimantic, Conn., Lodge, No. 1311, and L. Grant Kellogg, of Santa Rosa, Calif., Lodge, No. 646. Mr. Kepner then introduced his Secretary for the ensuing year, who will assist him in the work of the Order. He is Past State Pres. Roy C. Heinlein, of Sistersville, W. Va., Lodge, No. 333.

Mr. Kepner then expressed the hope that the attending delegates would return home better and more useful Elks for having been present at this Meeting.

After the closing benediction by Grand Chaplain Nuckolls, Grand Exalted Ruler Kepner then adjourned this Emergency Session of the Grand Lodge.



# Excerpts from Annual Report to the Grand Lodge of Grand Exalted Ruler Robert South Barrett

## MY BROTHERS:

The past year has been a great year in Elkdom. It will go down in history as one that reached the high-water-mark of achievements. I have been fortunate in serving as Grand Exalted Ruler at a time when this was possible, when our lodges were keenly aware of their patriotic and social responsibilities, and when the country was so prosperous that men had available funds with which to join fraternal organizations.

The story of the year's achievements is told in the reports of the Grand Secretary, the Grand Treasurer, the Board of Grand Trustees, the Elks War Commission, the Elks National Foundation, and the Elks National Memorial and Publication Commission. These reports speak for themselves, and I will comment only on such features as I think deserve special mention.

Before doing so, however, I wish to pay tribute to those who have rendered such magnificent services to the Order during the past year. It is because of their cooperation that such splendid results have been obtained. First, my gratitude goes to the Exalted Rulers of our 1410 subordinate lodges and their members. They have complied with every request made upon them. They have been active in supporting my programs. They have been generous in their contributions to the Elks War Commission and the Elks National Foundation. They have never failed me. Not an unpleasant letter has passed over my desk. The few suggestions I have been compelled to make regarding conditions that needed remedying have been courteously received, and prompt action has been taken.

Much of this cooperation on the part of the Exalted Rulers has been due to my District Deputies. No Grand Exalted Ruler has ever had such a corps of efficient aides. Not one has failed to make his visits on time or to send me comprehensive reports of these visits. Many have made second or third visits at their own expense. The large number of new lodges is a testimonial to their activity.

From the Past Grand Exalted Rulers I have had perfect cooperation. Every request I have made of them has been promptly granted. On four of them I have leaned heavily. I could not have carried on without the cooperation of James R. Nicholson, Chairman of the Elks War Commission. On him has fallen the great work of carrying out the magnificent program of our war activities. He has been most generous in attributing to me some suggestions that have proved of value, but it was his efforts and those of the effective organization he heads that put them into effect. John F. Malley, Chairman of the Elks National Foundation Trustees, has been of great assistance. Nothing has pleased me more than the way in which the lodges have subscribed to the great Foundation which he so successfully administers. My deep appreciation goes to Past Grand Exalted Ruler Raymond Benjamin and his committee for the splendid new ritual which they have

prepared. From Past Grand Exalted Ruler Bruce A. Campbell and the Elks Memorial and Publication Commission I have received valuable assistance.

My close association with our Grand Secretary, Past Grand Exalted Ruler J. Edgar Masters, which has extended over a number of years, was naturally strengthened this year. To him I am indebted for such assistance that, lacking it, the success of my administration would have been impossible. His wide knowledge of our Order and devotion to it, and his unflinching courtesy and patience were sources upon which I drew heavily. The effective manner in which Grand Treasurer John F. Burke conducted his office aided me greatly in the discharge of my official duties.

The Board of Grand Trustees has carefully administered the affairs of the Grand Lodge that have come under its jurisdiction. While they have been firm in their determination strictly to uphold the laws of our Order, they have complied promptly with every request I have made upon them. It is a splendid thing to have a Board made up of such men as Wade H. Kepner, Charles E. Broughton, John E. Drummey, George I. Hall and Sam Stern in charge of our affairs.

We have also been fortunate in having fine men on our committees. I have depended largely upon the Lodge Activities Committee and especially upon its Chairman, James L. McGovern. His long experience as a newspaperman and his familiarity with the affairs of Elkdom made him particularly fitted to head this important committee. The Committee on Judiciary, under the brilliant leadership of one of Wisconsin's great legal lights, Clayton F. Van Pelt, has rendered its decisions promptly and wisely. The State Associations Committee, through its Chairman, J. C. Travis, has aided the State Associations in their work and made suggestions for improvement in that work. The Credentials Committee, the Auditing Committee, and the Antlers Council have all performed their duties well. The Grand Forum has carried out every requirement of our laws. My deep gratitude goes to my Secretary, Milton R. Greenland, whose untiring efforts in handling our heavy correspondence have given me more time for visitations.

I had little opportunity to call upon our Grand Lodge Officers. It seems to me that we miss much by not giving more duties to and placing more responsibilities upon the splendid body of men who form our official family. I wish to extend my grateful thanks to one of them, Grand Esquire Joseph B. Kyle, for his valuable contribution to the year's work. He spent several months on difficult assignments, which produced excellent results.

## Membership

The increase in membership for the year was 78,057, the second highest increase since 1921.

I sincerely trust that the success of this administration will not be judged by the *number* of members initiated.

It would have been an easy matter to have doubled that number if we had been looking for quantity only. From the very beginning of my term, I urged the subordinate lodges not to conduct indiscriminate membership drives, but, on the contrary, to see that only men of high character were admitted to our lodges. In some cases I urged that the membership lists be closed; in others I suggested that the initiation fee be increased.

Far greater than my desire to secure new members was my desire to bring back by reinstatement old members who had dropped out for one reason or another. I am glad to report that there were 16,837 such reinstatements.

## Finances

The report of the Grand Treasurer shows that the finances of the Grand Lodge are in excellent condition. The cash balance of the General Fund, as of May 31, 1945, was \$359,555.41, an increase of \$42,572.50 over a corresponding balance of \$316,982.91 at the same time in 1944. Contingent Funds, Emergency Charity Fund, and Home Fund brought the total up to \$427,240.89. War Savings Bonds to the extent of \$200,000.00 were bought during the year, which, added to the \$50,000 already held, make the total amount of War Bonds held by the Grand Lodge \$250,000.00.

The income of the Grand Lodge for the year ended May 31, 1945, was \$461,025.63, and expenses were \$337,802.25.

The financial statements of the subordinate lodges were likewise excellent. The cash on hand on March 31, 1945, was \$10,925,956.56; the total assets were \$122,797,732.43, of which \$35,000,000.00 was invested in War Bonds.

## Expenditures for Charitable and Patriotic Endeavors

The detailed report, as compiled by the Grand Secretary, shows that \$3,753,800.86 was spent by the subordinate lodges for charitable and patriotic activities. This is an increase of \$749,825.97 over the previous year, and the largest amount in the history of our Order. While it is true that the lodges have more money than ever before, it speaks well for their members that they are willing to share their prosperity with the poor and in giving vent to their patriotic sentiments.

## Elks War Effort

The whole program during the past three years has been built around our war efforts; and in the past year, as the war in Europe reached its climax and that in the Pacific grew in intensity, our efforts have correspondingly increased. No fraternal or patriotic Order has ever approached the magnitude of our efforts in behalf of its country at war. The story of these efforts, graphically told in the "Elks Report to the Nation" made to the President and Members of the Congress in June, is one of which we should be tremendously proud.





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Naturally, our efforts this year, so far as the Grand Lodge is concerned, centered around the activities of the Elks War Commission. There was never a more competent or devoted body of men charged with such heavy responsibilities. None ever had a more competent or devoted leader than the Chairman, James R. Nicholson.

The story of their success is told in their annual report, and I will content myself with commenting briefly on some of its outstanding features.

**Fraternal Centers**—At the peak, there were 127 Fraternal Centers, supported wholly or in part by the Commission. The number is gradually being reduced as the need lessens. More than 2,000,000 men were given happy hours in these Centers. Perhaps the most outstanding was that in New York City. This particular one was the pride of Past Grand Exalted Ruler James T. Hallinan, Vice-Chairman of the Commission, and he devoted much time to its operation.

**"Write 'Em a Letter" Campaign**—Thousands of our members in the Service were made happy each week by the receipt of letters from their Brothers and friends, who were stimulated by suggestions from the War Commission. I was glad to aid in the success of the campaign by sending 75,000 letters to the men in the Armed Services.

**Recruiting of Nurses**—Following the success of our previous campaigns for recruiting Aviation Cadets and Seabees, the Commission undertook the recruiting of nurses for the Veterans' Bureau. It was a most difficult task, but one that brought satisfactory results.

**Books for Merchant Marine Libraries** I was particularly interested in this project, as I know from long experience the need of reading matter by sailors when off duty. I was glad that the campaign was a success and that hundreds of thousands of books were contributed.

**Medals of Valor**—The awarding of 1213 Medals of Valor on Memorial Sunday and on Flag Day to the families of Elks killed in the war expresses only in a slight degree the pride we have in their devoted services and the sympathy we hold for their loved ones.

**Hospitalization Program**—The larger part of the efforts of the War Commission for the past six months has been devoted to plans for giving comforts and happiness to the wounded veterans in the hundred or more Army and Navy hospitals scattered throughout the country. It is a work of great magnitude and must continue for years.

**Relief for Our Far-Eastern Brothers** I was never so proud of our Order as I was on February 6th, when I received word from Brother Nicholson that the War Commission had adopted my suggestion to appropriate \$100,000 of its funds for the relief of our Brothers in Manila and Guam, and for the rebuilding of the Elks lodge homes in these places. Since then, the task of carrying on this work of mercy has been under full steam. Every ship arriving in a western port with members from these lodges has been met by representatives of the Commission, ready to assist these Brothers in getting back to homes and friends in this country, furnishing funds for their immediate needs, and preparing for their future. Thousands of dollars have already been expended, and more money is ready as the needs expand. Plans are being made for the re-

building of the Elks lodge homes in these countries when conditions permit.

**Rehabilitation Program**—I have left to the last my comment on this part of the War Commission's work, although it is the part in which I have the greatest interest. It was in my home lodge—Alexandria, Virginia—that the initial steps were taken to put into effect the vast plan of assisting our Brothers on their return from this war; and the Alexandria Plan has been adopted by more than a thousand lodges.

**Death of President Roosevelt**

Great sorrow came to our Order on April 12, 1945, when our most distinguished Brother, the President of the United States, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, met his untimely death. It was a glorious end to a magnificent life, for he was struck down just as he had completed his most pronounced success—the conquest of the greatest enemy humanity has ever known. President Roosevelt was a member of Poughkeepsie, New York, Lodge, No. 275, within whose jurisdiction lies his home at Hyde Park, where he now sleeps in a quiet garden. While his public life did not permit him to take an active part in the work of his lodge, he had pride in his membership; and during the periods when he was Governor of New York and President of the United States, he was glad to meet his Elk Brothers and to answer any call our Fraternity made upon him. His life as a public servant, a lover of humanity, and a friend of the poor and needy, proved that he had learned well the lessons that our Order teaches. The Stars and Stripes floated at half-staff over every Elks home, and services in his memory were held in every Elks lodge.

While we mourn the passing of our great leader, we are happy to know that another distinguished Elk has succeeded him as President of the United States, and we look forward to the success of Brother Harry S. Truman of Kansas City, Missouri, Lodge, No. 26.

**End of the War in Europe**

The termination of the war in Europe and the complete defeat of Germany, an end for which we have long hoped and worked and prayed, brought happiness and joy to our hearts—but not an end to our war efforts. We still have Japan to defeat; we have the comfort and happiness of our wounded veterans to consider; we have just commenced the great work of assisting in the rehabilitation of our 80,000 Brothers who have served their country so well. Millions of dollars must be contributed to carry out our own objectives. Billions of dollars in War Bonds must yet be sold. The USO and the Red Cross must be given unstinted support.

**"Elks Report to the Nation"**

Flag Day, June 14, 1945, will long remain as one of the outstanding dates in the history of Elkdom, because of the magnificent program carried out in Washington in connection with the presentation of the "Elks Report to the Nation." No fraternal organization ever carried out such an ambitious and far-reaching program.

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ate, where at 11:30 o'clock there gathered some 200 Senators and Members of the House of Representatives, all Elks, to receive the report of our war activities. With them were many Grand Lodge Officers, a majority of the Past Grand Exalted Rulers, and many members of the Elks War Commission. I was a very proud individual as I spoke to this great group of our Nation's legislators and introduced to them Past Grand Exalted Ruler James R. Nicholson and his fellow members of the War Commission, who were responsible for leading our efforts in the magnificent results that have been accomplished.

Later on in the day, the report was delivered to the Secretaries of War and the Navy.

In the evening, the visitors were entertained at a dinner by Washington, D. C., Lodge, No. 15, and attended the Flag Day exercises of that body. Past Grand Exalted Ruler Benjamin made an eloquent address.

The "Elks Report to the Nation," which is contained in a handsomely printed book of some 88 pages, profusely illustrated, will be presented to every Public Library in the United States, and a copy will be sent to each subordinate lodge.

**Message of President Truman**

Prior to the delivery of the "Elks Report to the Nation" to the Members of the Congress and to the Secretaries of War and the Navy, a copy was delivered to President Truman at the White House.

In delivering the report, I said: "Mr. President:

"Because of the significance of the American Flag to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, it is especially fitting that Flag Day has been chosen as the occasion on which I am privileged to present to you, our Commander-in-chief, a report on our Order's war activities.

"This year the Flag has for us a particularly tender significance. Out of the 80,000 of our members who have been serving the Nation on land, and sea, and in the air, more than a thousand have made the supreme sacrifice.

"In the report which we present to you is the story of the efforts of 700,000 members of our Order to aid our country at war. It tells how we began our efforts three years ago in rousing the Nation to the dangers that confronted us. It tells how we opened the doors of our 1,410 homes to men in the service and established 127 Fraternal Centers where more than two million men, on their way to the front, were given happy hours. It tells of our cooperation with the Army and Navy in four recruiting campaigns, and how we secured nurses for the veterans' hospitals. It tells of the millions of dollars of War Bonds we have sold. It tells of the efforts to give entertainment and conveniences to our wounded veterans.

"This story is not complete. It will not be finished until every armed enemy of the United States has been vanquished, until the foot of every dictator is removed from the land over which he has trod, until a just peace is assured for all men, everywhere. It will not be finished until the scars of war are erased from our own land, until every soldier, sailor and aviator is given an opportunity to recuperate from the sacrifices which he has made, until every wounded veteran is shown by our

services and attentions the love and gratitude we hold for him. To that end we pledge our sacred honor."

**President Truman's Reply**

The President replied as follows:

"It is appropriate that a great National organization like the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks should deliver a report of its war activities on Flag Day.

"What you have done needs no praise from me. The report speaks for itself. It is the inspiring story of the efforts of seven hundred thousand American citizens in the war, of the eighty thousand of them who have actively served our Nation on land and sea and in the air, of the thousand and more who have made the supreme sacrifice. That is a shining record—a record of which the Order of Elks and the whole Nation can be proud.

"The story, of course, will not be complete until the remaining evil forces of aggression are destroyed. The report breathes your determination to see this fight to the finish. Carry on!"

**1945 Session of the Grand Lodge**

Practically all arrangements for the 1945 Session of the Grand Lodge, to be held in the Hotel Commodore, New York City, in July, had been completed when advices were received from the Office of Defense Transportation of the United States Government, forbidding the holding of conventions which would be attended by more than fifty persons requiring railway transportation or hotel accommodations. With the consent of the Board of Grand Trustees, I immediately issued a proclamation cancelling the 1945 Session of the Grand Lodge.

Further action was delayed, in the hope that early victory in Europe might permit a relaxation of the Government's orders and allow us to hold a regular session of the Grand Lodge. But, as weeks went by and the demand for transportation for our Armed Forces from the European to the Pacific Front grew greater, it was evident that our hopes were in vain. Consequently, on May 21, in accordance with the authority granted by Resolution of the 1942 Omaha Session, giving the Grand Exalted Ruler—with the approval of the Board of Grand Trustees—authority to call an emergency session of the Grand Lodge, provided that 100 members were present, I issued the necessary Executive Order and Proclamation:

**Executive Order and Proclamation**

TO ALL SUBORDINATE LODGES AND MEMBERS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF THE BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

GREETINGS:

With the consent of the Board of Grand Trustees, I hereby call an Emergency Session of the Grand Lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks to be held on Monday, July 16th, at 10:00 a.m. in the Hotel Commodore, New York City, for the election of officers and the transaction of such business as may be required.

Attendance at such meeting will be limited to:

Officers of the Grand Lodge  
Past Grand Exalted Rulers



Members of Grand Lodge Commissions

Chairmen of Grand Lodge Committees  
Members of the Grand Lodge living in the suburban area of New York City, who can satisfy the Credential Committee that they have not required hotel or railway transportation contrary to the Government's orders.

No changes in existing laws or new legislation will be considered, with the exception of a Resolution declaring all Representatives of subordinate lodges elected in 1945 as eligible to appointment as District Deputies or on Committees of the Grand Lodge.

This Executive Order and Proclamation shall be read by the Secretary of each subordinate lodge to all present at the next meeting following its receipt, and posted upon the bulletin board. All members shall take notice of the same and be governed accordingly.

Given under my hand and seal  
this 21st day of May, 1945.

Sincerely and fraternally,  
(Signed) ROBERT S. BARRETT  
Grand Exalted Ruler

Attest: A true copy,  
(signed) J. E. Masters, Grand Secretary

It is a matter of regret that I cannot preside over a regular Session of the Grand Lodge, to greet personally the many thousands of Elks who have shown me such consideration during my visits over the country. I hope the latter will be a pleasure I will enjoy at some future Session of the Grand Lodge. I am happy that the Board of Grand Trustees has approved my recommendation that the expenses of District Deputies and members of Grand Lodge Committees who are unable to attend this year's Emergency Session will be paid to the first regular Session thereafter.

#### Flag Day Services

The celebration of Flag Day on June 14 took on added significance because of the part the Grand Lodge Officers were playing in presenting the report of war activities to the Members of the Congress who are Elks and to the Secretaries of War and the Navy. The awarding of Medals of Valor to the families of our Brothers who were killed in action and whose deaths have been reported since Memorial Day was inspiring and touching.

An important part of each celebration was the reading of the messages from the Grand Exalted Ruler, the President of the United States, the Governor of each State, and the Mayor of each city where an Elks lodge is located.

In Poughkeepsie, New York, the meeting was of especial importance. In the Elks lodge of which he was a loyal member, our late Brother, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, received the last honor our Order could confer upon him. At the Flag Day Services of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Lodge No. 275, Past Grand Exalted Ruler James T. Hallinan presented to Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt our Medal of Valor, testifying our love and pride for the great American who, by devotion to his duties, gave his life for his country.

#### Memorial Day Services

Unusual efforts were put forth to

have the 1944 Memorial Services, held on the first Sunday in December, assume greater importance than ever before. The fact that many had suffered the loss of loved ones in the Service of their country added impetus to the efforts. A handsome and comprehensive circular issued by the Lodge Activities Committee gave much information regarding the arrangements for these Memorial Services. Eight hundred and eighty-four Medals of Valor were awarded to the families of Elks killed in the war.

#### Elks National Foundation

This great Foundation, devoted to charitable and educational objectives, had one of the greatest years in its history. Under the able direction of Chairman John F. Malley and his associates, its activities extended into every field of our Order. Its capital funds crossed the million dollar mark. The number of new subscriptions by subordinate lodges was 175, and the amount \$55,110.99, which is the largest increase ever recorded.

#### Elks National Memorial and Publication Commission

The *Elks Magazine*, published under the direction of this Commission, continued to render splendid services to the Order. The wisdom of establishing this national journal was never more apparent than today. The Magazine has had a successful year. Despite many mechanical difficulties, and the lack of paper—which has curtailed the number of its pages—it has been able to present a sparkling appearance every month, brim-full of articles of interest to our members and their families. Through its columns, I have been able to send a message each month to 700,000 readers.

Plans are being formulated to make the magnificent Elks Memorial Building on the shores of Lake Michigan in Chicago—also under the direction of this Commission—even more attractive to visitors. A committee has been appointed to establish a library and service department, where every form of information regarding the Order, its history, organization, and achievements, will be available to subordinate lodges and their members.

#### Elks National Home

For several years, I have been greatly concerned by the falling off in the number of guests at the Elks National Home. From a peak of 395 in 1933, it has dropped to 232 at the end of this year. There are three principal reasons for this decline: First, the drop in membership from 840,000 in 1924 to 600,000 in 1944 made a smaller body to draw from; second, the establishment of the Social Security and Old Age Pensions by the United States Government and pension plans by large corporations made it unnecessary for many old men to seek refuge in charitable institutions; third, because of demands for manpower in recent years, many older men have been able to obtain employment. But, even in normal times, I do not believe the Home will ever be filled to capacity under present conditions. I am convinced that the day for institutions such as we have at Bedford is over, and that its population will grow less year by year. There are, of course,  
(Continued on page 30)



*The Grand Old Drink  
of the South*

*There's Only One*  
**SOUTHERN  
COMFORT**  
*America's Most  
Versatile Drink*



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The Fly Rod Tackle We  
Plan To Make *First!*



There will again be South Bend tackle for *all* types of fishing, but here's the tackle to make the fly rod angler cheer! Mind you, we're not *yet* in production and can't quote prices, but we *can* tell you about our plans!



**EXCEL-ORENO  
Superb Silk Line**

The fact that many, many Excel-Oreno lines are in use today, after years of service, is proof enough that quality is *always* worth a little extra.



**OREN-O-MATIC  
"The Balanced Reel"**

The most popular automatic ever made — the war years saw it become a prized "collector's item." No. 1130 and No. 1140, in beautiful anodized aluminum, will be available first.

**South Bend Split Bamboo  
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In your *new* South Bend rod you'll get the precision craftsmanship of a *custom rod at production prices* — a rod of genuine Tonkin cane with *four extra years* of seasoning in our vaults.



**TRIX-ORENO Fly Rod Models**

These two popular fly rod sizes, No. 593 and No. 594, in favorite patterns, will be made **FIRST!** Tell your dealer how *many* you want.

**Get This Book FREE!**

This beautifully printed 48-page book shows all 36 prize winners in our 1944 Fishing Photo Contest and full-color pages of your favorite "Quality Tackle." Send for it, enjoy the fine photography and start your peacetime planning. It's Free!



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*Buy and Keep More War Bonds*

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# Rod AND Gun



**Notes on your favorite  
pastime  
By Ray Trullinger**

**T**HINGS are beginning to look up on the rod and gun front, mates. At this writing wartime fishing restrictions have been lifted along the Atlantic Coast and sport fishing boats are again questing for tuna, bonitos, bluefish and other oceanic battlers. Gas allowances aren't exactly generous, but at least boats are getting out on the briny and that's something.

Night-fishing surfers, previously stymied by Coast Guard regulations which denied them the beaches after sunset, are again scuffling with mosquitos and striped bass. Yep, it looks as though we're rounding the turn and heading into the stretch.

The fishing tackle situation and sporting firearms shortage appear to be improving, too. It's no longer a novelty to see fly reels in eastern tackle stores and recently we've even tabbed a few rods, right out in plain view. Previously, such items were carefully kept out of sight, like an elbow-crooking relative.

Not so long ago your correspondent uncovered a rumored stock of government-owned shotguns, tucked away in a former garage in uptown New York. This gun hoard, which totals well over \$1,000,000 in value, is made up of every make of inexpensive to medium-priced scattergun manufactured in this country, from singles to autoloaders. Now in the hands of the surplus property people of the Department of Commerce, this large stock of weapons probably will be distributed for civilian sale before Fall, if it isn't already on retailers' shelves before these lines go to press.

Although there was considerable mystery and hush-hush about ultimate disposal of this surplus stock, our guess is that it will be sold to dealers and jobbers, and not to individual purchasers. Unofficial dope

is that these guns will be graded, according to condition, and a ceiling price established for each grade. Brand new weapons, according to best information, probably will retail for 75 per cent of list. In other words, if a certain make and model of weapon lists for, say, \$60, the surplus property weapon of the same make and model will carry a \$45 price tag. Used or slightly damaged guns will be correspondingly cheaper.

There's now little doubt that ample hunting ammunition will be available this fall. Not in prewar quantity, of course, but sufficient to make most powder burners happy. As things stand there's plenty of high-power stuff; the main shortage is still duck and bird loads. With military ammunition production cutbacks announced by most loading companies, it stands to reason more sporting ammo will be produced.

In addition to the previously mentioned surplus property guns, there's something more than a suspicion that stocks of new, fresh-from-the-factory sporting weapons will hit the retail market before snowfall. Matter of fact, some already are in evidence. With the exception of Winchester, most or all well-known manufacturers will be represented. Best information is that the big New Haven outfit, still turning out Garands and M-1 carbines at this writing, will require about five months to set up for sporting firearms production after getting an official green light. That precludes the possibility of new Winchesters this year, barring, perhaps, an abrupt termination of the Pacific war.

All bass bugging nuts have their pet lures, and your agent is no exception. Ours happens to be the Weber Bait Company's "Frogakle,"



a phony hair frog which we have fished from Maine to Florida with frequently startling results.

This flyrod lure comes in several sizes, our preference running to the small, No. 4. Not because larger sizes are any less effective, but because the smaller artificial is nicer to cast.

The "Frogakle" will take bass anywhere and anytime. It has produced for this writer when other lures or baits were completely ineffective, even during the middle of a blazing hot July or August day when other hopefuls were getting nothing but a gaudy sunburn.

There's no particular trick to fishing this lure—or at least nothing the average bass bug fan doesn't know. Best results are obtained when one angler casts while the other rows or paddles. The lure is cast close to shore in likely places as the boat drifts along quietly with a minimum of oar or paddle commotion. The vicinity of lily pads, old stumps or partly submerged rocks should be carefully worked. Matter of fact, it's advisable to work every yard of shoreline for frequently a spot which doesn't look "bassy" is the place where an old lunger will be lurking. We remember hooking a big fellow from beneath a swimming float, from which were dangling three pairs of bare legs. The swimmers, incidentally, all fishermen, were somewhat surprised by this exploit, to say the least.

When the cast is made it's smart strategy to let the lure rest quietly on the surface for a few brief moments before making the retrieve with a series of slight rod twitches. And the more the caster makes his retrieve simulate a swimming frog, the better his chances will be of attracting a smashing strike. And striking bass must be hooked by the angler—they seldom hook themselves. This requires nice timing, which the fisherman must learn for himself. The fisherman shouldn't try to set the hook too quickly and neither should he wait too long. Bass are quick to eject an artificial lure and a nervous, hair-trigger angler frequently will take his bug away from a striking bronzeback before the fish gets it.

It's not advisable to fish this lure on a fine leader, particularly if there are pickerel in the lake. A seven and one-half foot eight to 10-pound test leader is about right. Two seasons ago we lost about seven bucks' worth of bugs while fishing a pickerel-infested bass lake one evening because we had nothing but frail trout leaders in our kit. One slashing strike from a hungry pickerel and it was goodbye lure. At six-bits per lure, it was rather an expensive afternoon's sport.

Bird hunters probably will be interested to read about an Italian quail hunt which an esteemed confrere, Lt. Col. Ray Camp, a N. Y. Times sports department referee, recently enjoyed on the other side. The Colonel has the rostrum:—

"I think I mentioned in a recent letter that Col. George King, General Coffey and I recently had a good day on quail.

It was the queerest quail shooting imaginable, as what follows will reveal:

"We routed out about four a.m. and jeeped to a little village on the side of a mountain to pick up the game warden, one Guiseppe Gallo, and arrived at the Garigliano by daybreak.

There is a marsh about two and one-half miles long, separated from the Mediterranean by a rolling sandy strip covered with clumps of brush somewhat like our bayberry. We had a spaniel, but the dog wouldn't work and was a rotten retriever. We tramped along the sandy strip, about 50 yards apart, and at the end of a mile had seen no sign of quail.

"The warden said it was too early, that the birds were migratory, and wouldn't arrive from Africa until around 7:30 to 8:30. So we sat down and waited on the rim of the beach. After about an hour had passed we decided we'd been kidded and that quail hunting on the Mediterranean's shores was just another of those quaint Italian myths. The General suggested a hasty departure, and nothing to be said around headquarters, when three birds whizzed over my head just as we were getting up. I looked down the beach and saw another bunch of six or eight birds come in from the sea, peel off and drop down about 50 yards inshore. We could hardly believe it, for they must have flown at least 100 miles over water.

"Well, we lined up again, and about every 25 yards a bird flushed. They are faster than our quail, and a bit smaller, but otherwise exactly the same. By three o'clock, with an hour or more out for lunch, we had 102 birds. That may sound like a lot, and rather game hog-gish, but there is no limit here, and it takes quite a few quail to feed an officers' mess.

"Local Italians try to net the birds, but don't shoot them, as shells are expensive and difficult to obtain. Natives also are gosh-awful shots and would be lucky to get one bird in 10. Which would bring the cost of a quail up to approximately 350 lira, and that kind of money ain't hay over here."

Ed note: The African quail the Colonel speaks about are migratory and fly across the Mediterranean from the African mainland to the Italian "boot"—and vice versa—every year. To the best of this writer's knowledge, they are the only so-called upland game bird capable of such a sustained over water flight.

Speaking of eating—as who isn't these days?—we're reminded of a little incident which happened down the road the other day. Your reporter was minding his own business and examining his shootin' irons for signs of hot weather rust when the phone snarled an urgent summons. It was a hunting partner—name of Sandy—speaking from his woodsy retreat nearby.

"I'm down at camp," he informed us. "You got anything to eat up at your dump?"

"Sorry," we replied. "We're fresh out of sirloin steaks, roast beef, pork chops  
(Continued on page 42)

## HOW TO BRING HOME PERFECT FISH and GAME

Cool your fish and game when you leave camp and arrive home with it in perfect shape. Also take frozen foods to camp or cottage and eat like a king. Jewett Arctic Hamper has heavy duck jacket, cork filled, 5 inches insulation top and bottom. Fits between front and back seat of car. No hard edges to tear upholstery. Weight 28 lb. Galvanized interior. Holds 40 lbs. meat. Built to take abuse.

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**ARCTIC HAMPER**

## New PORTA-POKER 8-PLACE FOLD-AWAY CARD Table



An Ideal  
Gift!

- FOLDS DOWN TO 4 INCHES THICK
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- EIGHT NON-SPILL GLASS HOLDERS AND ASH TRAYS
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A CLEVER new convenience for card players. The all-purpose, portable playtable for small apartment, den or recreation room. New improved model. Attractively finished, substantially made, sturdy legs. Nothing to loosen or wear out. Now custom made—delivery within 10 days. Only \$34.50 Express collect. Money refunded if not pleased. Makes ideal gift. HOME EQUIPMENT CO., Dept. F-27 663 N. Wells St., Chicago 10, Ill.



### EVERYTHING FOR FUN AT HOME

Headquarters for game room equipment... accessories for the home. Unusual games, barbecue supplies, etc.

Write for

"Successful Entertaining At Home." It's Free!

## CONSERVE PAPER





# The Grand Exalted Ruler's Report

(Continued from page 27)

some things that can be done to bolster up its use. Admission of members who can pay a part or all of their maintenance will add a few. Letting down the bars to admit invalided members who cannot take care of their own personal wants will be a godsend to many, but it will mean increased hospital facilities and an increased per capita cost. Admittance of veterans needing temporary care and rest is under consideration. On my many trips to Bedford, I have always been impressed with the splendid way in which the Home is managed by its Superintendent, Brother Robert A. Scott.

## New Buildings and Improvements

The tremendous amount of cash and liquid assets in the hands of our subordinate lodges has given me some concern. It may cause them to enter into costly undertakings that they may not be able to support when funds are not so plentiful as at present. Such was our experience and that of other fraternal organizations at the end of the last war.

Many lodges have in contemplation new homes or extensive alterations when restrictions on building are removed. That is a very laudable ambition and, in the great majority of cases, expenditures for such purposes are fully justified. The large increase in membership in recent years, and the greater use of facilities by members and their families make additional accommodations necessary. In some instances, however, new buildings beyond the lodge's resources or reasonable expectation of growth or ability to maintain, are contemplated. Lodges do not always appoint wise building committees. Building committees do not always adopt wise plans.

The Grand Lodge has taken action to prevent building beyond the resources of a lodge to construct or maintain, by increasing the equity a lodge must have in any new property, bought or erected, from forty to sixty per cent. The Board of Grand Trustees has wide latitude in requiring information from lodges before approving applications, and I recommend that they require the following:

1. The application shall be accompanied by plans and specifications, and a copy of the contract with the builder.
2. The permission shall be given in written form, stating the cost and providing that, in the event additional funds are to be spent beyond the ten per cent of the original contract, further permission of the Board shall be obtained.
3. A copy of the authority granted by the Board shall be furnished to the contractor and to the person or persons furnishing funds for the erection or purchase of a building, provided the lodge needs to borrow money.

I recommend to the members of the Board of Grand Trustees that they use great caution in granting permission to erect buildings where any part is to be used for commercial purposes, except stores and offices on the first floor; where sleeping rooms are provided for renting to non-members; or in which will be included swimming pools, moving picture theatres, or restaurants,

where the patronage of the public is expected.

I have always opposed the extension of restrictions by the Grand Lodge upon subordinate lodges, but I feel that these requirements should be adopted to prevent a recurrence of the financial disasters suffered by many lodges in the past.

## Amendment to Grand Lodge Constitution

On November 1, 1944, I issued the following announcement of the amendment to Section 19 of Article III of the Constitution:

"The vote on the amendment to Section 19 of Article III of the Constitution, approved at the Eightieth Session of the Grand Lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America, was submitted to all subordinate lodges for adoption or rejection, and the vote upon the amendment, as tabulated to this date, shows the amendment to have been overwhelmingly adopted.

"Therefore, I hereby declare that said amendment, having received a majority of the votes cast by the subordinate lodges, has been adopted and is promulgated by me as a part of the Constitution of the Order as follows:

"Article III, Section 19. There shall be no branches or degrees of membership in the Order, nor any insurance or mutual benefit features, nor shall there be any other adjuncts or auxiliaries other than the optional organization and maintenance of State Associations and Past Exalted Rulers' Associations."

(Signed) ROBERT S. BARRETT  
Grand Exalted Ruler

## Emergency Relief Funds

On September 17, 1944, a hurricane and tidal wave caused great damage on the New Jersey Coast. Among the victims of Nature's outbreak was the Betty Bacharach Convalescent Home for Crippled Children at Atlantic City. Damage to the extent of \$25,000 resulted. Upon the recommendation of the late Past Grand Exalted Ruler Joseph G. Buch, and with the approval of the Board of Grand Trustees, I sent a check for \$5,000 from the Emergency Charity Fund as a contribution to help repair the damages.

Later in the year, I was informed by Past Grand Exalted Ruler Murray Hulbert that an epidemic of infantile paralysis in New York had thrown such a burden on the Ithaca Reconstruction Home for Crippled Children that it was imperative that additional equipment be purchased at once. Upon his recommendation, and with the approval of the Board of Grand Trustees, I sent a check for \$1,600 from the Emergency Charity Fund for the purpose of assisting in the purchase of the needed equipment.

I recommend that the sum of \$10,000 be appropriated for the purpose of replenishing the Emergency Charity Fund for these disbursements and providing a larger sum to be available when needed.

## Dispensations for New Lodges

I am glad to report that fifteen dispensations for the institution of new lodges were granted. This is the largest

number of new lodges in many years. Several others are pending completion of the papers, and will in all probability be instituted before the end of my term.

## Charter and Dispensation Cancelled

I regret I was compelled to cancel the charter of Hammonton, New Jersey, Lodge, No. 1642, and the dispensation of Meridian, Mississippi, Lodge, No. 515, after obtaining the approval of the Board of Grand Trustees.

## Grand Exalted Ruler's Travels

During the year, I visited some 300 lodges and 30 State Associations. I would have liked to cover much more territory, but I was mindful of wartime travel conditions and endeavored to adhere as far as possible to the wishes of the Office of Defense Transportation. To those States and lodges that I was unable to visit I express my deep appreciation of the magnificent contribution they have made to the welfare of our Order and the diligence they have displayed in behalf of our war effort. I also take this occasion to express my gratitude for the consideration and the many courtesies extended to me during my travels.

Four meetings of District Deputies in the sections of the country where they reside were held: Ogden, Utah; Atlanta, Georgia; Chicago, Illinois, and New York, New York. Many Presidents of State Associations and representatives of Grand Lodge Commissions were present.

## My Birthday Parties

The fact that my birthday fell on March 30, the last day before our fiscal year ends, gave the Lodge Activities Committee an opportunity to use that date to close a large class of initiations and reinstatements, known as the "Grand Exalted Ruler's Birthday Class". The results were outstanding, as some 25,000 members were initiated or reinstated. I am grateful for the great number of gracious expressions of affection and appreciation that came from all parts of the country.

## In Conclusion

There is nothing more to add. In fact, I have gone far beyond what I intended to write. I had in mind a simple narrative of some of the things that have impressed me, as I reviewed what has happened during the year. I hope that I have not been too enthusiastic in the value I have placed upon them.

Elkdom goes forward to newer and greater victories. As our founding fathers eighty years ago had only the slightest conception of our growth in membership and importance, so we have only the slightest conception of what lies before us. I know only that a faithful adherence to the principles of our Order, a determination to think of others before ourselves, and a loyalty to our country that we will place before everything else, will make our Fraternity far greater than we have ever dreamed.

Sincerely and fraternally,  
ROBERT S. BARRETT  
Grand Exalted Ruler





P.M.

*for Pleasant Moments*



Choice of a lifetime...



For a full measure of pleasure in a tall, cool drink, make it with the finest Golden Wedding in more than fifty years. One sip will make this choice whiskey your *choice of a lifetime*.

## Golden Wedding

Has  
had no  
peers for  
fifty  
years



# Excerpts from Annual Reports Submitted to the Grand Lodge at New York, in July

## ANNUAL REPORT OF GRAND SECRETARY

### Membership

During the year ended March 31, 1945, subordinate lodges added to their membership rolls 84,636 new names by initiation; 7,211 by dimit; and 16,837 by reinstatement. In this same period, they expelled 75; dropped from the rolls for non-payment of dues 13,731; granted dimit to 6,408, and lost by death 10,413. Our membership as of March 31, 1945, is 705,570, showing an increase of 78,057 members.

### Grand Lodge Finances

The total income of the Grand Lodge for the year ended May 31, 1945 amounts to \$461,025.63; expenses amount to \$337,802.25, showing an excess of income over expenses of \$123,223.38.

The Grand Lodge holds in its various funds United States War Bonds in the following amounts:

In the Reserve Fund .....\$100,000.00  
In the General Fund ..... 100,000.00  
In the Home Fund ..... 50,000.00

Current assets of the Grand Lodge are \$715,106.78; fixed assets are \$1,209,384.98; other assets are \$27,187.78, making the total assets of the Grand Lodge \$1,951,679.54.

### Subordinate Lodge Finances

Reports filed in this office show that the subordinate lodges of our Order had, at the beginning of the year just closed, cash on hand in the amount of \$8,365,625.80. During the year, they received from all sources \$42,411,841.93 and expended \$39,851,511.17, leaving their cash balance as of March 31, 1945, \$10,925,956.56.

These reports also show the total assets of subordinate lodges to be \$122,797,732.43.

Thirty-five million dollars—a lot of money, isn't it? That's what our lodges have put away in War Bonds!

### Contributions Received from The Elks Magazine

At the Chicago Session of the Grand Lodge, the National Memorial and Publication Commission authorized that \$275,000.00 from the surplus earnings of *The Elks Magazine* be placed at the disposition of the Grand Lodge. By direction of the Grand Lodge, this contribution of \$275,000.00 was allocated as follows: \$25,000.00 was paid direct to the Elks National Foundation by the National Memorial and Publication Commission as a contribution of this Grand Lodge; \$100,000.00 was placed in the Grand Lodge Reserve Fund, created at this Chicago Session; \$125,000.00 was placed in the General Fund of the Grand Lodge, the receipt of which amount made it possible for the Board of Grand Trustees to balance the budget. The remaining \$25,000.00 was placed in the General Fund of the Grand Lodge for use as an Emergency Educational Fund, under the supervision and control of the Elks National Foundation Trustees.

## Growth of the Order

The war has visited some serious handicaps upon our lodges. More than 80,000 of our members have been prompt to answer the call to the colors, and are now on duty with our Armed Forces in far places. Other thousands have left their home cities to assist in the production of war materials.

Yet, in spite of all this, the past year has been one of the most successful in the history of our Order. The net again of 78,057 members is gratifying; and the outlook for the present year is indeed encouraging, as on April 1 our lodges had 14,901 candidates elected to membership and awaiting initiation.

Regular lodge work was conducted in a satisfactory manner, notwithstanding the demands made for extra service due to war conditions. In truth, these demands proved a stimulus to greater endeavor in regular Elk work. An example is found in the fact that the amount expended by our lodges in charitable and welfare work totaled \$3,753,800.86—the largest in the history of Elkdom. Every Elk may well be proud when he learns that of this sum only \$437,213.72 was spent within our ranks. The remaining \$3,316,587.14 was contributed to agencies outside our Order.

### Patriotic Activities

It is highly creditable to our Order that our Army and Navy have called upon it for so much help. And the manner in which the calls have been answered is even more creditable.

Under the direction of the Elks War Commission, our lodges have served as a ready medium for reaching the public in the interests of the various auxiliary war drives our Government found it necessary to conduct in support of our armies in the field, our forces in the air and our ships on the seas. To each and every call, Elks have responded nobly, thus showing that real patriotic spirit which distinguishes members of our Order.

### Charitable, Welfare, and Patriotic Work

Below is a list of Charitable, Welfare and Patriotic activities in which subordinate lodges are engaged, together with total moneys expended for same:

Activities	Amount
Relief of Members, their Widows, Orphans, Dependents, Burials, etc....	\$ 437,213.72
Summer Camps, Outings, etc. ....	37,863.63
Milk, Ice and Fuel .....	28,932.84
Crippled Children .....	256,339.82
Medical Aid .....	43,305.32
Hospitals .....	192,478.66
Miscellaneous Charities .....	1,149,275.09
General Aid for Needy Families .....	62,375.32
Thanksgiving Baskets .....	22,467.46
Christmas Baskets .....	274,768.28
Scout Work .....	64,592.21
Big Brother Work .....	71,658.03
Play Grounds, including prizes .....	60,756.91
Scholarships, Text Books, etc. ....	29,177.66

Red Cross, Salvation Army, etc. ....	478,509.21
Veterans' Relief .....	217,824.33
Flag Day, Constitution Day, etc. ....	178,538.72
Elks National Foundation .....	147,723.65
	\$3,753,800.86

## ANNUAL REPORT BOARD OF GRAND TRUSTEES

### Purchase of War Bonds

In November, 1944, the Board of Grand Trustees purchased \$100,000.00 in G Bonds for the Reserve Fund of the Grand Lodge; \$15,000.00 for the Home Fund, and \$65,000.00 for the General Fund of the Grand Lodge. In May, 1945, the Board purchased an additional \$20,000.00 in G Bonds for the Home Fund.

All of these bonds, together with the \$50,000.00 in bonds already in the hands of the Board of Grand Trustees, have been deposited in safety deposit box 40478, rented from the National Safety Deposit Box Company, Chicago, Illinois.

### Building Applications of Subordinate Lodges

During the current Grand Lodge year, your Board has issued permits to subordinate lodges for the purchase of and additions to lodge buildings in the amount of \$522,705.00. Authorization has also been granted for the sale of subordinate lodge property amounting to \$28,000.00. This has been done in accordance with Section 208 of the Grand Lodge Statutes, which requires all subordinate lodges to obtain a permit approved by the Grand Exalted Ruler and the Board of Grand Trustees before they can acquire property for constructing a home, make substantial alterations, refinance or sell property.

### Elks National Home


Few people, even Elks, understand the Elks National Home, and the place that it fills in the nation.

Some people look upon a Home of this character as closely related to a poor farm. This is far from the fact. The Elks National Home at Bedford, Virginia, is under the management of Robert A. Scott, Superintendent, with the Board of Grand Trustees supervising. It is one of the grandest institutions of its kind in the country, a place where Elks can go in their declining years and find every convenience, each occupant having his own room, and the facilities of a hospital.

Every member of the Board of Grand Trustees tenders his appreciation to Superintendent Scott and his staff, who, even in these trying times, have kept the institution up to a high standard of excellence and within the budget, despite the fact that operation costs have mounted.

During the last year we have had heavy inroads by death, and a few of the residents have accepted, temporarily, positions made possible by the





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war; but the present enrollment is 232, with applications pending at the present time.

This year an extra effort has been made on the part of the Superintendent and Board of Grand Trustees to familiarize the members of the Order with details relative to the Home, and inquiries at this time give every indication of an increase in residents during the coming year.

The cordial manner in which the members of the Board are received on a visit to the Home is indicative of the fine spirit that prevails there. Every Elk talks of it as his "home", and those words are not just put in his mouth; they come from the heart.

The Home, with its fine buildings, is located on a farm of 163 acres, largely given over to the raising of food. A fine herd of dairy cattle furnishes a daily supply of milk at the Home.

One of the highlights of the Home is the Harper Memorial Theatre, where moving pictures are shown free several times a week. The Harper Memorial Theatre was built and financed by Grand Exalted Ruler Robert S. Barrett, who personally supervised the work of construction.

We invite the various lodges throughout the country to make more of a study of the Elks National Home and how it can be made a greater institution.

**Maintenance of Home**

MAY 31, 1945

Operating Expenses of Home, per following statement .....\$127,940.27

To arrive at the base figure upon which per capita cost of maintenance is to be charged to subordinate lodges, the following expenses are deducted:

Building Maintenance .....	\$6,878.38	
Grounds Maintenance .....	1,636.58	
Equipment Maintenance .....	2,946.65	
		11,461.61

Balance to be used for apportionment to lodges .....\$116,478.66

The average number of residents at the Home during the fiscal year ended May 31, 1945, was 232.

The average cost per resident, for the fiscal year ended May 31, 1945, was \$502.06.

members of our Order who serve in the present great World War, and especially those who have made or who shall make the supreme sacrifice in the defense of their country. The Grand Lodge has provided that rededication of the Building should be at such time as might be determined by the Grand Exalted Ruler and the National Memorial and Publication Commission, who were given full, complete and plenary authority in behalf of and in the name of the Order to conduct at the Building such rededication exercises and ceremonies as in their judgment should seem proper and fit. It has not yet been determined when said rededication exercises and ceremonies will be held. The Commission has felt that these exercises and ceremonies ought not to be held until some time after the ultimate victory over Japan. With such postponement, due tribute can then be given to all of our members covered by the rededication resolution, suitable additions to the memorial may be made to give due expression to that tribute, and with the eventual removal of gas rationing and travel restrictions the exercises and ceremonies may be attended by a larger number of our members. Due notice will be given by the Grand Exalted Ruler and the Commission of the date of these ceremonies.

By previous resolutions of the Grand Lodge, your Commission was authorized to pay from surplus earnings of *The Elks Magazine* and charge the same to the Grand Lodge the expense of maintenance of the Memorial Building. The amount so paid by the Commission out of surplus earnings during the fiscal year from June 1, 1944 to May 31, 1945, is \$29,158.09.

**The Elks Magazine**

With the May, 1945, issue, *The Elks Magazine* completed twenty-three years of continuous and successful publication.

During the past year we are able to report surplus earnings of the Magazine of \$411,093.16. This amount is \$74,085.86 more than the surplus earnings for the previous fiscal year, and is \$208,214.22 more than the surplus earnings for the fiscal year ending May 31, 1943. This represents an increase in surplus earnings in two years of over 100%. This increases the surplus earnings of the Magazine for the 23 years of its existence to \$4,395,261.85. Part of this increase is due to increased revenue from subscriptions; part of it is due to increased net advertising receipts, and part of it is due to economical and efficient management by members of our staff.

In view of the vastly increased circulation of the Magazine and the increased advertising, justly due increases in salaries to members of our staff, employment of additional help to take care of additional business and increase in printing costs by reason of additional circulation and a new printing contract, the cost of publication of the Magazine increased only a little more than \$65,000.00 over the cost for the preceding fiscal year, or from \$403,342.98 to \$468,623.91. During the fiscal year the circulation of the Magazine increased nearly 70,000, and this, of course, added materially to the cost of paper and printing.

Effective January 1, 1943, Govern-  
(Continued on page 38)



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The New Quick Trimmer

Something New! Trim your hair without any experience. It's easy! The excess hair comes off smoothly and easily by just pulling trimmer through hair like an ordinary comb. Also removes hair from legs—armpits. Save on hair-cut bills . . . Trim your own hair or the whole family's. Send 59c and your Comb-A-Trim will be sent at once.

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5 Extra Blades (Year's Supply) 25c **COMB-A-TRIM CO.**  
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**Report of  
Elks National Memorial  
and Publication Commission**  
The Elks National Memorial Building

The Elks National Memorial Building at Chicago was erected by the Order as a memorial to the Elks who served in the first World War, and particularly to those who made the supreme sacrifice in that conflict. Since its erection more than 1,100,000 have visited it. While the number of visitors has greatly decreased during the present war, more than 13,000 persons visited it during the last fiscal year.

Last year at Chicago the Grand Lodge declared the Building to be a memorial not only to the Elks who served in the first World War, and particularly to those who made the supreme sacrifice in that great conflict, but also to the



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Don't blame the weather or animal nature when your dog scratches and sheds his coat continuously. It isn't nature's way at all.

A dog's blood may be continually affected by impurities, produced by the restraint of domestic life, improper food, lack of natural exercise and impaired elimination. These conditions act to set up an intense irritation in the nerve endings of his skin. No wonder he is fretful, nervous. He is in torment.

He looks to you for help and you can give it—quickly. Rex Hunters Tasteless Dog Powders in convenient tablet form provide blood tonic elements and a reconstructive for dogs of all breeds, any age. Given regularly on Saturday each week they act to quickly relieve disorders due to lack of proper conditioning that cause scratching, loose coat, listlessness, poor appetite, bad breath and skin irritations. They work to make your pet happier, healthier and more contented.

Rex Hunters Dog Powders are for sale at leading Drug Stores, Pet and Sport Shops. Their well-directed action should show a quick effect. You may never know how fine your dog can be until you have tried them. Ask for Rex Hunters Dog Powders—Keep Dogs Fit.

If unable to obtain locally send 25c or \$1.00 to J. Hilgers & Co., Dept. 851, Binghamton, N. Y.



**DOES YOUR DOG  
ITCH? SCRATCH?**

**DON'T BLAME FLEAS  
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If your dog or cat itches, scratches continually, it's probably not due to fleas, mange or diet. 2 to 1, it's FUNGITCH, grass-borne fungus infection long a puzzle to science. It starts as an itch followed by dandruff-like scales or brownish-edged sores with mouldy odor. May start in ears, on paws, underbody, tail or eyes. Can have serious results—costly care—even total loss. Now a noted specialist's discovery—SULFADENE—applied externally, stops itching in minutes... clears up scales and sores in a few days. Only \$1.00 in stores. If your dealer doesn't have SULFADENE, order direct—Guaranteed.

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# In the DOGHOUSE

with Ed Faust



**The ways and means of  
training a watch dog.**

"ONLY a fathead will try to clean a joint where there's a dog that don't know him, whether it's a pocket pooch or a four-legged battlewagon." It has been some time since I heard this pearl fall from the lips of a not too successful housebreaker who was lounging in the detention room of a county courthouse prior to taking a long vacation—at the people's expense. Now a purist may dispute that man's grammar but nobody can question the logic in the thought. The seasoned, professional burglar has a horror of dogs in the course of his work—any kind of dogs, big or little. Size does not count. The pocket size pooch can make racket sufficient to awaken an entire neighborhood if he's alert, and as for guard duty—well, that's something we'll discuss later. According to the best information, those scallywags who collect midnight souvenirs, as a rule do not go armed for the simple reason, if caught bearing arms, the penalty is heavier. Farthest from that fellow's mind is the idea of shooting it out. If detected all he wants is a quick and safe getaway. But the main thing with him is to pursue his collecting unobserved, undetected and that's what your alert watch dog just won't let him do. Which is precisely why Mr. Nimblefingers will more often than not steer clear of the house that harbors a dog.

If you'll bear with me a moment here's something that may give you a chuckle as it did me. Recently, in a book on dogs, published not long ago, I read that it's a good thing to keep a large dog for guard duty. Check! Anyone will agree to that. The writer of the book conceded that

a fairly large place is needed for such a dog. Check again! Then the author went to town. I read that it was advisable not to tie up such a dog at night. And why do you think? Here's why. Because the burglar could shoot it and, the writer adds whimsically, you then couldn't hear it bark and the prowler could then ransack the house undisturbed. To me this reads like the phrase, "If I don't see you tomorrow, hello." Let's go along with that chap and see what this adds up to. 1. Armed burglar enters grounds or house harboring dog. 2. Shoots dog. 3. Neighborhood undisturbed by shooting. 4. Occupants of house still sleep. 5. Burglar then proceeds to ransack house. Take it away! Otherwise it is a pretty good book. Maybe the burglar, a wishful thinker, wrote that part of it.

But to get back to the real business of this article and that is to discuss the dog as your watchman and to tell those folk who are interested and want to know, just what to do to help make Fido that kind of dog. Strangely, there are some few, very few fortunately, dogs that are laggards when it comes to the matter of watchfulness. It is for these dogs that this is written. You who may own an average kind of wide-awake galoot may find it hard to believe that I do get letters from readers who are much concerned with making their dogs more watchful. Now this isn't a difficult thing because the protective instinct is pretty close to the surface in the majority of dogs. In some, it may be merely dormant but it is usually there and can be developed with a little encouragement. In fact, this

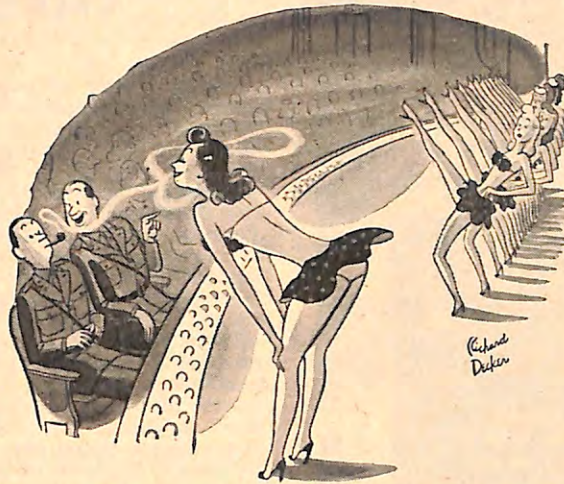


should be an essential for all dogs. Even though the purp is simply kept as a pet there is no reason why the house pet shouldn't also serve some useful purpose, especially when the spirit of watchfulness is such an ingrained part of the dog's character. Just consider that your dog today, is your dog today, simply because his primitive ancestors had to practice eternal vigilance for self-preservation. So the man or woman who would develop his or her dog's ability as a watchman, has a big, running, head-start that Nature herself has given.

Now among some of those reader-letters I've received there have been some few, very few, that have asked what to do to train a dog to really be a tough customer but I'm not going to go into that here. Those few folks I have answered, giving what advice I could. For the general run of house pets, dogs kept in city suburbs or fairly well settled farming areas, I do not favor the training to the point where they are taught to be downright vicious. A dog that has to be so taught is very much the exception, that is, the circumstances requiring the maintenance of such a dog are both rare and unusual. I may add, that such a dog itself will require plenty of watching. Few domestic animals can be more dangerous than the deliberately vicious dog. The owner of such carries a heavy responsibility at all times. But there are, I'll admit, some rare instances where such dogs are necessary.

But you have a purp that's a bit on the lazy side when it comes to looking after things as your watchman and you want to give him a few hints to get on the job and stay there. All right. To begin with, your dog should be trained to be YOUR dog and not allowed to hold hands with every Tom, Dick or Harriet. Not that you should want to make him a tough mugg, but just instill in him the fact that your home is HIS home, that you are HIS boss and that your people are HIS people. He can be all these and still be agreeably friendly with others at the right time. One sure way to make your dog everybody's dog is to allow neighbors and strangers to feed him. This divides his sense of loyalty and weakens his sense of possessiveness toward your home. See to it that only you or the members of your immediate family who dwell with you take care of Fido's dinner pail. Another important thing is not to allow the dog to become a neighborhood gadabout. To do this encourages the dog to have so many ports of call that he'll hardly know which one should get his protection. Besides, being on the loose, he can become a genuine headache to your neighbors especially if you live where there are those who are trying to keep victory gardens. Keep the dog reasonably confined. If you have a backyard, then erect the trolley that I have so often described in these articles. In this way your dog can have plenty of running room and yet still be confined to your grounds.

(Continued on page 43)



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"How to Know and Care for Your Dog" is the title of a new book just published by the Kennel Department of *The Elks*

*Magazine*. Edward Faust, the new editor of "Your Dog" and a well known breeder and expert, has written it in a thoroughly down-to-earth style and it is chock-full of practical information for the average dog owner. It is a beautifully printed, well illustrated, 48-page book and covers such subjects as feeding, bathing, common illnesses, training and tricks, the mongrel versus the pedigree, popular breeds, etc. The retail price of this new book is 50c but it is available to readers of *The Elks Magazine* at a special price of 25c. This can be sent in cash or stamps. Send for your copy NOW. Address—The Elks Magazine—50 E. 42nd St., New York.

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Remember—every scrap of paper you don't use, and every scrap you do save means just so much more ammunition for Victory.

Remember—**PAPER IS  
WAR POWER**

## Excerpts from Annual Reports

(Continued from page 34)

ment rationing of paper was put into effect. By successive regulations, magazines of our character are limited to 75% by weight of paper used during the calendar year 1942. The Grand Lodge will readily appreciate the difficulties of the Commission in printing during the year approximately 160,000 more copies of the Magazine each month than were printed in 1942, the rationing year, with 25% less paper in weight than we used in 1942. There were printed in May of this year 30.1% more copies of the Magazine than were printed in December, 1942; and this was done with a decrease of 26.7% in weight of the paper used in December, 1942. We have to some extent taken care of this situation by using a paper of less weight than heretofore, by reducing the size of the type, by cutting a small and unnoticeable portion from the margin of our Magazine, by omitting headlines in "Under the Antlers", by omitting the illustrations on the editorial pages and thereby, with but very little loss of material, using only one page for editorials instead of two as heretofore, and by other economies.

Last year the Commission reported net advertising receipts of \$179,585.16. For the next preceding fiscal year the net advertising revenue was \$89,504.58. For the fiscal year ending May 31, 1945, we are able to report net advertising revenue of \$238,524.12, an increase of 32.8% over the 1943-1944 year and an increase of more than 250% over the 1942-1943 year. We warn the Grand Lodge, however, that we and it must be prepared to expect some reduction in net advertising revenue, possibly this year but at any rate within the next few years.

Advertising selling costs for the fiscal year were \$79,979.95, or about 34% of the net advertising revenues. This percentage is far below the usual selling cost for magazines of this character.

During the last fiscal year the total cost per capita of publication of the Magazine was 73c, of which advertising income contributed 37c, leaving the net cost per capita to the membership only 36c. This is the lowest net per capita cost to the membership during the history of the Magazine.

During the 23 years of its existence, the surplus earnings of the Magazine have amounted to \$4,395,261.85. The Commission, out of its earnings, has already turned over to the Grand Lodge the sum of \$3,555,362.07; and in addition has paid the maintenance of the Memorial Building for the last year amounting to \$29,158.09, making \$3,584,520.16 already turned over by the Commission to the Grand Lodge, or an average of about \$160,000.00 per year. The money heretofore turned over to the Grand Lodge has been used for various purposes, such as the building of an addition to the Elks National Home at Bedford, Virginia, the decoration of the Memorial Building, and for general Grand Lodge purposes, including the payment of \$100,000.00 to the "Grand Lodge Reserve Fund". If it had not been for the earnings of the Magazine so turned over to the Grand Lodge the per capita tax would for many years have been materially increased, but as a result of the amounts turned over by the Commission to the Grand Lodge out

of earnings, the budget has been balanced, provision has been made for a reserve fund and the per capita tax for each year has been more than 30c lower than it otherwise would have been. If we turn over to the Grand Lodge for various purposes out of surplus earnings this year a further sum of \$350,000.00, that will amount to approximately 50c per member.

On June 1, 1944, our surplus was \$703,806.62; on May 31, 1945, it was \$810,741.69, or an increase of \$106,935.07. It must be remembered that also during the last fiscal year out of surplus we turned over \$275,000.00 to the Grand Lodge and paid the expenses of maintenance of the Memorial Building amounting to \$29,158.09. When these payments out of surplus are added to the increase in surplus it is reconciled with the surplus earnings for the year of \$411,093.16.

With this report and as a part thereof there is filed a financial statement to May 31, 1945, for the fiscal year ending that date under the official audit of Ernst & Ernst, Accountants and Auditors, 19 Rector Street, New York, N. Y.

The Grand Lodge Auditing Committee has also audited the amounts of the funds under the control of the Commission and has certified its approval in its report to the Grand Lodge.

We are advised by the Board of Grand Trustees and the Grand Secretary that if \$125,000.00 is this year allocated for general Grand Lodge purposes, the per capita tax can remain at 30c for the coming year instead of being increased, unless this Grand Lodge shall substantially increase its appropriations.

We are of the opinion that in addition to the \$125,000.00 turned over to the Grand Lodge for Grand Lodge purposes, we can also safely turn over to the Grand Lodge for other purposes an additional \$225,000.00, making the total amount turned over to the Grand Lodge out of surplus earnings of the last fiscal year the sum of \$350,000.00, which, together with the \$29,158.09 paid for the maintenance of the Memorial Building during the last fiscal year, will make the total amount turned over out of earnings for the fiscal year ending May 31, 1945, the sum of \$379,158.09. When this additional amount of \$350,000.00 is turned over and paid, it will make the total aggregate amount turned over to the Grand Lodge out of surplus earnings of the Magazine \$3,934,520.16. The amount so turned over will amount to approximately 50c per capita for each member of the Order in good standing as of April 1, 1945. After this payment is made, the Commission will still have in its hands a sufficient surplus for working capital and contingencies. We feel, in view of the uncertainty of post war conditions, emergencies and contingencies, good business judgment requires that we should maintain at a higher level than heretofore our surplus and keep in the treasury of the Magazine a sufficient sum to take care of such post war emergencies and contingencies, both as to the Magazine and the Building.

In accordance with the privilege that we have, we therefore recommend to the Grand Lodge that of said \$350,000.00 turned over to the Grand Lodge, \$125,000.00 thereof be placed in the general



fund, to be paid at such time or times as may be requested by the Grand Secretary and by him placed to the credit of the general fund, thereby accomplishing the purposes heretofore set forth in this report. We further recommend that the balance of said \$350,000.00, viz: \$225,000, turned over to the Grand Lodge as aforesaid, be used and allocated as follows:

\$25,000.00 to the Elks National Foundation Trustees, to be added to the corpus of its fund, and to be paid direct to the Trustees.

\$25,000.00 to the Grand Lodge to be appropriated for use as an emergency education fund under the supervision and control of the Elks

National Foundation Trustees, as provided by resolution appearing on page 138 of the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodge at its 1944 session.

\$25,000.00 to the Elks War Commission, to be used by it in furtherance of its ends and purposes, to be paid direct to the War Commission. \$150,000.00 to the Board of Grand Trustees, to become and be a part of the "Grand Lodge Reserve Fund", established by the Grand Lodge at its meeting in Chicago in 1944.

Fraternally submitted,  
**NATIONAL MEMORIAL AND  
 PUBLICATION COMMISSION,  
 BRUCE A. CAMPBELL,  
 Chairman.**

## The Grand Exalted Ruler's Speech of Acceptance

(Continued from page 12)

after receiving twenty-five lashes on her naked body from the hands of the Japanese rats. Need I reiterate that I will give the best that is in me for the furtherance of the program that has been already outlined?

Having linked the destiny of our Order with the destiny of our country from the very beginning, our founders could well be proud of the accomplishments to date. Our predecessors have not faltered in their stewardship. It is our duty and our privilege to carry on—to keep our banner so high and our torch so bright that they will be clearly discernible over a war-weary world—a world that is a hospital—a world that is looking to America to be its great physician. Elkdom can be and Elkdom will be one of the main interns serving that physician. For countless centuries the world has been floundering from war to war, never seeming to find an answer to its problem. For two thousand years we have been taught each Christmas season that peace can only come on earth to men of good will, yet today we have only reached the point where we find all civilized peoples are at war—all savages at peace. Brotherhood cannot exist without good will—brotherhood does exist in Elkdom. The world needs leadership away from selfishness and greed; the world needs leadership toward the goal of unselfish brotherhood. What a world this would be if every man, every woman and every child would get down on bended knees and assume an obligation similar to that which every member of our Order has assumed in the quiet of his own lodge room—and really mean it! Am I wrong in feeling that an Order consisting of the greatest cross-section of American manhood has a place in aiding a great nation in recommending the right kind of brotherhood as the healing potion to a hospitalized world? Balancing of the world mental budget will take much longer than the balancing of the world monetary budget. Horizontal thinking toward world brotherhood of men and nations will probably do more to balance the mental budget than could all of the guns that have taken their toll. America has been spending \$270,000,000 daily for war purposes—war dollars which purchase for destruction the very resources of the earth which might have been saved for the happiness of generations yet unborn. I would not attempt to contrast the suffering of the boys and the mental anguish of their loved ones at home with the happiness and pleas-

ure which might have been theirs had the same expenditure of resources been made for highways and parks, for culture and education, for better homes, or for automobiles and baby buggies. There is a place for the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks in future America. There is a place for America in tomorrow's world.

It is not my province to settle world problems in this or any other talk that it may be my privilege to make. It is my province to preach over and over again the ideology of Elkdom. The world needs such an ideology to take the place of that which has belched forth from the mouths of the Hitlers, the Goebbels and the Mussolinis—to replace that ideology which, bad as it may be, has been so indoctrinated in the minds of the German people that they were willing to fight back again and again in the spirit of "Never say die". Can you picture a world in which the principles of charity and brotherly love had been just as firmly indoctrinated? I am happy to help implant such doctrines. There is no use in having given Germany a licking of a lifetime if it has to be repeated each lifetime. More than guns are needed to prevent her from rising from the ashes of this war to become even a more formidable enemy to our children's children. The time has come for the Order of Elks to awaken and with quickened pulse speak out in each of our communities to an America which has been smugly resting behind a Maginot Line of self-content. The time has come to exemplify brotherhood with more than dollars. I am not an idealist. There will never be a Utopia within the confines of any nation on this earth. We can go far, however, in bringing to light an ideology that has made ours a great Order—one that will do more for a war-weary world than the ideology of greed, selfishness and hate.

Following the last war many Elks were dropped for non-payment of dues because they knew little of the activities of Elkdom which took place beyond the social rooms of their own club. It is my firm belief that the names of many good men could have been kept on our rosters had they known more of the program of our Order. It is my intention to teach Elkdom to Elks in every way possible. If they are properly informed, their own personal interest will bring the story quickly enough to others. I am anxious to see a moving picture produced which will tell the story of



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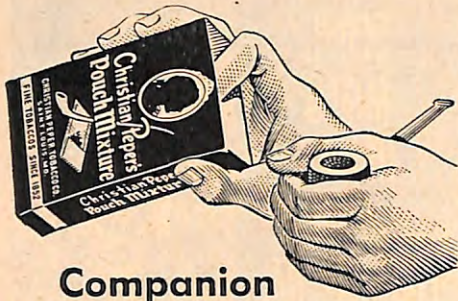
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THE ELKS MAGAZINE

our great Elks National Home, our Memorial Building, the charity work of the Foundation and of individual lodges and State groups, and the work of the War Commission in its endeavor to bring aid and comfort to our soldier boys. Visual education is being used to advantage. If professionally made films can become available to individual lodges and State meetings, they will do more toward telling the story of Elksdom than can possibly be done by the written or spoken word.

A great many lodges are having personal problems for which they are looking to the Grand Lodge for aid in solution. It is my belief that it is the duty of the Grand Lodge to be in position to lend assistance when these problems arise by anticipating such problems in advance. One of the greatest of these problems is that of building and remodeling lodge homes. Unless proper guidance is given there will again be a tendency to overbuild. Many lodges have been acquiring rather easy war dollars. Unless warned they will set up an overhead with which they cannot possibly cope in normal times. It is my hope that suggested building plans can be set out in booklet form and made available to every lodge needing help. Plans could be made for lodges of var-

ious sizes, showing desirable facilities, but guiding officers away from overbuilding. We are not proud of the "former Elks lodge homes" which are studding the landscapes of many of our American cities. The time to prevent such a recurrence is now. Substantial and adequate facilities are, however, to be desired, and should be encouraged when they are financially sound.

It will be a pleasure to serve this Grand Lodge in supporting every worthwhile program that is under way either now or in the future. I am firmly of the opinion that rehabilitation of lodges as well as men is important. It is far easier and much more important to save a lodge before it has fallen than to resurrect it. Members retained through the proper stimulation of interest in a worthwhile program are far more desirable as a rule than those who are coaxed back after having been dropped from our ranks.

It is my pledge to all Elksdom that I will do everything in my power to leave our beloved Order just a little better because of my stewardship. Any mistakes that are made will not be of the heart. I ask for the assistance of every man who loves our Order. I earnestly pray for God's help and guidance as I now assume my duties!

## G.I. Nails in Your Shoes

(Continued from page 5)

World War I veterans, about 20,000 men, served time in prison within four years of their discharges. Criminologists rate this a high percentage for the age group. In 1922 servicemen comprised 18.12 percent of the inmates in twelve State reformatories and nineteen prisons. Wisconsin made an exhaustive study of 300 veterans in State jails and disclosed some startling statistics. In the Wisconsin group, 54 percent were mentally abnormal; 25 percent were diagnosed as psychopathic and 25 percent as feeble-minded. Convictions for theft put 69 percent behind bars and 25 percent were guilty of offenses definitely influenced by alcoholism.

Although few of the "brains" of the liquor and vice mobs that flourished in the 1920's had military records, several of their "trigger men," the psychopathic killers, had been doughboys. In most cases, they were kids from the slums of large cities who never had been familiar with firearms until they had gone into the Army. Country boys who have owned guns and have hunted since adolescence are not as fascinated by the newly-discovered destructive power of a weapon as a city kid. These psychopaths, who were the "artillery" for the mobs, might not have become anti-social animals if they had not been swept into the decline of moral values which always accompanies a war, but it's a cinch their war experience did not stifle such latent, if any, tendencies.

In "The Veteran Comes Back," perhaps the best book ever written on all aspects of the problem, Willard Waller points out that at least 60,000 men who have seen service in this war will go to jail for serious crimes in the years fol-

lowing demobilization if the rate of criminality does not exceed that of World War I. Waller's figure is based on twelve million men in the Armed Forces, but it is apparent now that the number will be nearer fourteen million. And it is becoming increasingly obvious that this war will be infinitely worse in its compound effects upon the men in it than the last one was.

This war probably will last three times as long, at least, as World War I; it still comes as a shock to many of us, in the summer of 1945, to realize there are men in the Armed Forces who were drafted four and a half years ago. More than ever before, ours truly is a professional army and the younger men in it—the millions who went directly from high school or college into uniform before they had a chance to embark upon professions and trades—have the mental attitude of the old soldier.

This war has involved actively more men than the twelve preceding wars combined in our history. By the time the dying and the maiming and the suffering are ended, this war probably will have accounted for more casualties than all our other wars put together. Never before have our soldiers and sailors fought in such numbers under such monstrous conditions, in such strange, far-off places for such long periods. There are men whose remembrances of home are vague and blurred, who have been disassociated from civilian thinking and living so long that they will need complete re-orientation.

"After you've been stuck on a lousy, flea-bitten island in the Central Pacific for forty-four months as I was, you care only about yourself," Cpl. Ed McFad-



den of Brookline, Mass., says. "You don't care whether school keeps. You live so much within yourself that you get narrow-minded."

In World War I, less than half the Americans in uniform were sent overseas and they participated in only one summer campaign. On the basis of that experience, America will be fortunate if no more than one half of one percent of her veterans are booked on criminal charges. And even if the figure does not rise beyond the most conservative expectation, 80,000 pointed, exposed nails are an awful lot of nails in the shoe of conscience—which never has fit perfectly, anyway.

The overwhelming majority of the ex-G.I. prisoners will be first offenders with psychoneuroses. This is a new, fancy word—in the last war it was called shell shock—but the symptoms are as old and deep-seated as war itself. The shocking impact of battle—or the numbing effects of overpowering monotony—imposes an abnormal strain on some individuals. When the strain becomes unbearable they crack mentally. Very few require straitjackets or even protective custody; sometimes the fissure is imperceptible to the scientific eye. It has been said that war leaves everyone with some sort of neurosis. Luckily for society, the aberrations pass in time or never are manifest.

**PSYCHIATRY** is a comparatively young science and, by its nature, it always will be groping for all the answers. We never will know how many men were deferred or discharged from the service for psychoneuroses. It is against Army and Navy policy—and properly so—to give the slightest suggestion of this figure. Even when a man has been given a Section 8—discharge for psychological reasons—this fact is not noted on his separation papers.

There has been some criticism of military authorities for turning loose Section 8's before they are cured, but the harassed, overworked doctors are not at fault. They have intercepted a very substantial number of these cases before they've gone far enough to hurt the service or the individual. Many unquestionably have not been spotted, but there simply are not enough competent psychiatrists in the medical corps—or America, for that matter—to devote enough study to each individual. And, to repeat, all neuroses are not apparent immediately even to the most experienced expert.

Psychoneurotics inevitably will slip through the drag-net. On February 1, one day taken at random, there were these two headlines in the same paper, the *New York World-Telegram*:

Ma Defends GI Son  
In Stupor Murder

Ford Intervenes to Help  
Jailed Guadalcanal Vets

In the first case, Pvt. George Tabler, a paratrooper from Kansas City, Mo., got off a bus at Holly Springs, Miss., en route to Ft. Benning and, while drunk, beat Night Marshal A. D. Hill

into unconsciousness. Hill died five days later.

"He joined the Army and they taught him five different ways to kill a man with his bare hands," Tabler's mother cried. "How can he be expected to be quite the same after that?"

The two Guadalcanal veterans, Pvt. Arthur Davidowitz and Cpl. Mitchell Lodzinski, both 22 from Hamtramck, Mich., were arrested as they stepped from a tavern loaded with loot. Almost eagerly, the account read, they admitted their guilt. They made no excuses—just explanations.

"I can't stand it in a factory," Davidowitz said. "After a few days the noise drives me wild."

Police were unwilling to prosecute after hearing their stories. Ford arranged to have the two men sent to the rehabilitation camp he runs for veterans of this war at Dearborn, Mich.

Where do we go from here? We can't send kids who are ill mentally to jail and forget about them. Those nails in your shoe will give you no rest—even when you're asleep, presumably with your shoes off.

We can't keep suspected psychoneurotics in the service until a doctor, who never can be too sure, is convinced of a man's mental stability. Such treatment may serve only to aggravate the condition; there is nothing wrong with many men that a quick return to civilian life will not cure. The trouble is that the return has not been quick enough for many people. They are allergic to military life and the mere knowledge that they are being kept under Army authority when they otherwise might be free will intensify their neuroses.

There is a safer and sounder solution to the problem. I will not insult your intelligence and oversimplify the proposition by saying it is a question of Jobs or Jail for G.I. Joe. It may be alliterative, but it is nothing more than a cheap catch-phrase. It goes something like that, though. Call it Jobs and Proper Guidance for G.I. Joe and you're close.

It's not easy. Veterans' rehabilitation never has been; that is why a successful program never has been established in this or any other country. We won't have to explain, at this late date, the necessity for providing jobs for veterans. The guys want, above all other things, to return to normal, civilian life and for all Americans, save a few fabulous fellows who inherited a million bucks, normalcy means a job. Not, necessarily, a job that pays \$10,000 a year or even \$5000. But a job that carries some measure of security, pays a living wage and promises a little something extra in the envelope in the near future—and it doesn't have to be tomorrow or next month, either.

You can give a man a job but it patently means nothing if he is unable or unwilling to keep it. So where are we now? This is where Proper Guidance comes in on small, insistent feet with the solution.

Guidance is an abused word used loosely and unimaginatively. It goes far beyond finding a man a job—any

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**CONSERVE PAPER**

job, the first job he gets. It means giving—or making—him a job he can fill and hold. The kid who is driven crazy by factory noises, which remind him of shell-fire, may be perfectly all right in a spot that takes him away from harsh, discordant noises. The boy who says he can't stand to be cooped up in an office all day long—restlessness, a craving for activity, is a common, temporary war hangover—should be given an outdoor job. Truck-driving probably appeals to him. There's nothing wrong with that. It's an honest living and if it helps him during his difficult period of readjustment, the ultimate return will be very much worth-while if the boy tools around with an empty truck for two, three months.

Sympathy and understanding are the key words and, admittedly, all temperaments and personalities do not fit the same lock. You, as civilians, are told you never can begin to understand the man who has come back from the war and you have been told correctly. Words are my business and I saw a small part of the war in Europe for the purpose of reporting what I saw. I have come back with a sense of futility and men who possess talents far greater than mine admit to the same frustration.

But there are men, thousands of them, who do understand the soldier, well-balanced, intelligent men who are coming out of the armed forces able to analyze and prescribe for the difficult cases.

For the first time in our national history, America has a large nucleus of picked, trained leaders—the G.I.'s who rose from the ranks, went through Officers' Candidate School and commanded men in combat. These O.C.S. men were selected because they displayed superior

intelligence, initiative and qualities of leadership; they epitomized democracy at work. A few misfits, goldbricks and bad guys inevitably have fooled the system, but they don't last long in combat. In the rear echelons, yes, but not in combat. They can't take it and the G.I.'s won't take them.

The combat officers who survive—and the mortality rate among them is much higher than it is for enlisted men—in the U. S. Army, officers precede their men into combat—command a profound depth of admiration and confidence from the G.I. that a civilian cannot appreciate or approach remotely. The O.C.S. graduate is smart, he understands men and they will confide in him. He has demonstrated his leadership.

Men who trusted him with their lives will be more disposed to trust him with their futures than someone who has not shared their experiences and suffering. The O.C.S. graduate has the perfect background for personnel work, if industry only will realize it. When we speak of veterans, we are too prone to think only of the G.I.

Officers need jobs too. O.C.S. saved the Army in a critical situation and it can help save the country in the crisis that will follow the peace.

I could be wrong—and old subscribers will kindly refrain from harking back too diligently—but O.C.S. combat men might answer the country's serious need for proper guidance of the millions of men who will be returning to their communities. It's worth a try. There are, and will be, a host of other suggestions. We must try them all. There are many nails in the shoe of conscience and it takes only one to cause an infection that can put us prostrate.

## Rod and Gun

(Continued from page 29)

and other vittles of a kind. I've a can of beans in the kitchen, but am saving that for Thanksgiving dinner. Better try the village dog wagon."

"Hells bells!" exploded our chum, "I'm not trying to mooch a meal, I'd like to feed you!"

"Whazzat?" we questioned.

"How would you like to wrap your big mouth around a mess of South Dakota pheasants and Idaho mallards. I'm also going to whip up a strawberry shortcake and . . ."

"You ain't kiddin', is you, honey chile?" we interrupted.

"Certainly not!" he replied. "I've got five pheasants and seven ducks cooking."

"Be right down soon as I wipe off my drooling puss," we answered, hanging up. Five pheasants and seven ducks! Oh, man! Real food!

Our pal wasn't kidding. The simmering contents could be whiffed 100 yards down the road. It smelled like triple-distilled nectar.

"Take a look at this," he suggested when we arrived, "and take a good smell while you're at it, too."

"Chum," we breathed, "it looks and smells like Heaven. Let's start eating. A couple of pheasants and a duck will do me for a starter. Later, when I hit my stride, I'll really settle down to some serious eating."

"But we can't eat now," protested our friend, "the other guests haven't arrived!"

"You trying to tell me other people are coming to share this piddling little outdoor snack with us?" we questioned. "I knew there was a catch to your invitation! Why, there's barely enough for the two of us!"

"Sorry," he replied, "but that's the way things are. You'll have to manage with one duck and a pheasant, but I'll give you a double ration of vegetables."

"You deceived me," we answered him. "You lured me down here under false pretenses! You flaunt an honest meal before my starving eyes and then tell me all I rate is a few crumbs. However, I'll accept your invitation and try to keep body and soul together on two piddling little birds."

That's what starvation does to you!



## Joseph G. Buch

(Continued from page 14)

and are continuing to do so successfully. Because of the cooperation of the various States, Mr. Buch returned every few years to explain further the details of the work the New Jersey Elks are doing. He was made honorary member of the North Dakota State Elks Association, another group which is extremely active in this work.

In 1930 Mr. Buch was a delegate to President Hoover's White House Conference on Child Health and Protection. Several years ago, the therapeutic pool at the Betty Bacharach Home for Crippled Children in Atlantic City was dedicated in his honor. He was a director of the International Society for Crippled Children.

Past Grand Exalted Ruler Buch was a member of the Hotel Greeters of America, the Inter-State Fair Association, Trenton Country Club, Circus Saints and Sinners and many other social and civic organizations including the Moose, Kiwanis, Republican Club and the Trenton Chamber of Commerce.

Elk services were held the evening of June 24th by the members of Trenton Lodge with the officers officiating. A splendid eulogy was delivered by Secretary Albert E. Dearden, a personal friend of Mr. Buch for many years. Representatives from practically every New Jersey lodge attended.

Funeral services were held June 25th with a Solemn Requiem Mass offered at the Church of the Immaculate Conception. The Mass was attended by Grand Exalted Ruler Dr. Robert South Barrett, Past Grand Exalted Ruler Judge James T. Hallinan, Secretary George I. Hall of the Board of Grand Trustees, William T. Phillips, former Chairman of the Board of Grand Trustees, and many other dignitaries. Interment followed at Our Lady of Lourdes Cemetery.

Mr. Buch is survived by his widow, Mrs. Gertrude Miller Buch; two sisters, Mrs. Anna Carey and Mrs. C. Richard Waller, and a brother, Peter J. Buch, to whom *The Elks Magazine* extends its deep and heartfelt sympathy.

## In the Doghouse

(Continued from page 37)

If you haven't a yard, then don't shoo the dog out in the street unchaperoned when he looks for a comfort station. Take him out yourself, on a leash—at regular intervals. Two more "nots" to add to the feeding and wandering taboos are, do not pamper the dog too much and do not overfeed him. The pampering will do just what it would to little Willie—make a spoiled pet only interested in his own comfort and not at all interested in you except as a source of favors. Overfeeding will dull the sense of alertness, make the dog lazy and few lazy dogs are worth their salt as watchdogs.

Pretty nearly all dogs will respond when the doorbell rings or when someone knocks on the door. If tied outside they'll show signs of excitement at the appearance of a stranger. If, when you are indoors with your dog and the bell rings or there's a knock, pretend to be greatly excited. Try to communicate your excitement to the dog. Rush to the door and sound a few whispered "sic 'ems." Be sure, however to be in position to control your dog when the door is opened. The idea at this stage is not to provoke the dog to attack. At the door restrain the dog. You may have to hold on to its collar. Talk quietly to him at this time. Another method related to this, I used very successfully with my dogs that were house pets and it is this—often, when things were quiet outside, particularly at night, I'd pretend that I would hear a noise and speak in a warning way to the dogs. Perhaps a sharp "What's that?", in a vibrant undertone. With this I would assume something of alarmed alertness myself. You'd be surprised how quickly this can be communicated to dogs. They would be up

on their toes in short order giving low growls and doing their darndest to find out by scent at door or window, just what was the cause of alarm. A silly make-believe game? Not at all. Those same purps became sharp as needles not only at night but in daytime too. It only needed a sharp "Hist" and they were raring to go.

At the start of this I mentioned the dog for guard duty at night to ward off prowlers and said I'd come back to the subject. Well, here it is. Unless you have a well fenced-in property, do not permit your guard dog to prowl around loose. Such a dog can be dangerous particularly in the small hours when certain types of workers are obliged to go about their several businesses. Among these might be your family milkman. That sort of dog should be tied up. He'll sound an alarm against prowlers if he's been properly trained. As a guardian, no matter how big he is he can be knocked off by a determined housebreaker although it isn't likely to be by shooting as our friend the book-writer describes. More likely a bit of poisoned meat or a swift lead pipe would do the trick. At most he will serve best to give an alarm. Dogs used for guard-attack by the armed forces or civilian watchmen usually are confronted by circumstances differing from those that normally face the house or grounds guard dog. Then too, they are nearly always accompanied by a trainer, the service man or the watchman to whom they are assigned.

Do not however, make the mistake of keeping your outside watchdog chained during the day (erect the trolley described earlier in this article) as this is a sure way to make the dog a bad actor for keeps.

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# Editorial

## Our New Leader

**A**T the Emergency Session of the Grand Lodge, held in New York on July 16, Wade H. Kepner, of Wheeling, W. Va., Lodge, No. 28, was elected Grand Exalted Ruler.

The new head of the Order, the first West Virginian to attain this high office, is 42 years of age, has been an Elk since 1924, and active in his lodge from the day of his initiation. He has served in all the Chairs, was a member of the Board of Trustees for ten years, and is still head and front of most of the lodge's activities.

He is a leading business man of Wheeling, a Vice-President of the Security Trust Co., a director of the Ohio Valley Industrial Association, and of the Ohio Valley Board of Trade, has served on the executive committee of the Naselmo Corporation, of Chicago, and is Wheeling's leading mortician. He is a past president of the National Selected Morticians, and of the West Virginia Funeral Directors' Association. He also actively supervises an 800-acre dairy and stock farm in Orangeville, Ohio, and a milk business in Sharon, Pennsylvania.

With all his diverse and wide-spread business interests, Mr. Kepner has maintained an active interest in civic affairs. He has been Fire Commissioner and Playgrounds and Public Recreation Director of Wheeling, is a past president of the Kiwanis Club, Vice-President of the city's Automobile Club, and a director of the Wheeling Young Men's Christian Association.

In February, 1940, Mr. Kepner was appointed to the Board of Grand Trustees to succeed the late Joseph G. Buch, Past Grand Exalted Ruler, and at the Grand Lodge Session held in Houston, Tex., the following July, was elected to a full term of five years, and retired as Chairman of the Board in order that he would be free to assume the office of Grand Exalted Ruler.

Mr. Kepner is a graduate of Dartmouth College, has a charming wife who is deeply interested in the charitable work and civic betterment of Wheeling, two lovely girls and a fine young son.

Wade Kepner is a working Elk who is intensely interested in his own lodge and in the State organization. He has the experience acquired by his years of willing service on many of the Grand Lodge Committees and as a member of the Board of Grand Trustees, a fine personality and a thorough grasp of the business of Elkdom, and its traditions of brotherhood, all of which is assurance that the Order will continue its forward march under the capable guidance of our new leader.

## Joseph G. Buch

**M**ANY years ago, long before he dreamed of becoming Grand Exalted Ruler, the late Joseph G. Buch became interested in crippled children through a little protege of his mother's, whose body was so maimed and twisted that the future seemed to hold for the child nothing but pain and helpless dependence. To "Joe" Buch it seemed wrong that any child, due to an accident of birth or disease, should be robbed of its chance to make good. He resolved to do something about it, and that his life, in so far as possible, would be dedicated to helping those unable to help themselves. He became Exalted Ruler of Trenton, N. J., Lodge, No. 105, and interested the lodge in his work for the crippled and underprivileged. He became President of his State Elks Association and inaugurated a movement that resulted in lodges throughout the State enlisting in the crippled children's cause, establishing clinics, furnishing medical and surgical treatment and necessary hospitalization, and finally in the appointment by the State of a Crippled Children's Commission and a Rehabilitation Commission, and the enactment of legislation providing for the care and rehabilitation of the crippled and underprivileged. Elks Associations in other States took up the cause with the result that today thousands, crippled at birth or from disease, through the Elks have been restored to health, imbued with confidence in the future, and have received vocational training which has restored them to a place of usefulness. "Joe" Buch was a successful businessman but he desired success primarily because it enabled him to carry on his work among the underprivileged. He was a great Elk and able Grand Exalted Ruler, but above all he was a humanitarian, whose "heart vibrated with sympathy at the touch of suffering" and whose mission was "helping others to live".

## Vacation At Home

**T**HE Office of Defense Transportation is greatly concerned over the additional strain upon the Nation's transportation facilities caused by the end of the war in Europe. Trains are already overburdened by wartime conditions, and there is a vast increase in the troop movements from the East to the West Coast, and in the transportation of wounded, arriving in greater numbers every day.

In view of this situation our transportation facilities will be unable to bear the added burden of vacation travel, which reaches its peak in August, and the Government is strongly urging our people to spend their vacations at home. The war is not over, and victory in Europe has increased rather than lessened transportation burdens. Unless vacationists stay off the railroads, many a soldier will lose precious days of his furlough and movement of the wounded will be delayed.

Home is not such a bad place after all, and staying off overcrowded trains to facilitate troop movements and transportation of wounded is a small sacrifice indeed, compared to all that our fighting men have given, and are still giving, in order that some day our people may all enjoy a normal vacation.





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