

Points to Ponder

By R.W. Bro. J. Gordon Russell

The following are some points for us as Masons to ponder. These extracts are taken from the summons from Lodges around our Grand Jurisdiction. The committee for the Ontario Mason; is indebted to the Internal Public Relations Committee of Grand Lodge and wish to express our gratitude to the Worshipful Masters of the Jurisdiction, for providing these *Points to Ponder!*

W. Bro. Paul E. Big Canoe, St. John's Lodge No. 209a

...If Masonic influence is to continue to be felt long after we have passed through the corridors of the Temple, we must take our truths and mysteries to heart and make them an integral part of our lives. Masonry is a way of life, not merely a series of ritualistic performances. Masonry is a set of virtues, of fundamental truths, which must be a living, vital part of our existence.....

W. Bro. Richard Andrews, Niagara Lodge No. 2

.....We all know that the lessons of the craft are not just empty words to be mouthed in hollow ceremony, but should have meaning as significance to all of us as we continue to progress through the honorable education that is Masonry. We should all use these lessons as the guide to our Masonic conduct. We should look to amend in ourselves that which we discover to be deficient, both in us and in others. If we are better masons, our Lodges can only continue to prosper and grow.....

W. Bro. Kris D. Nickerson, The Barton Lodge No. 6

.....The effort you put in to the work..will reward you and the Lodge as you move through your Masonic life.The friendships formed through this association will reward all of you for the rest of your lives...Brethren, if you see a brother on the street don't just nod politely. Stop! Offer your hand and find out how he is doing.....

Extract from a summons of Tweed Lodge No. 239

Masonry is "sold" in the Lodge Room by the way the ritualistic work is presented, the manner in which meetings are conducted and enthusiasm for the program that is arranged, If the Officers create informative and inspiring meetings and perform their

duties efficiently and judiciously, members will return again and again. Visitors, who have been stimulated by a well-planned meeting, will come back. Thus, a Lodge has "sold" itself to its own members and Visitors...

Some further thoughts:

...Freemasonry is more than the art of learning the ritual; it is the science of living...

.....Our object is not so much to get more men into Freemasonry, as to get more freemasonry into men.....

.....Remember that you are the windows of Freemasonry. Through you freemasonry is judged...

.....When someone, noticing your Masonic ring or lapel pin, asks, What is that? What does it stand for? What do the characters represent? What is your answer?

.....Many a father fails to realize how little he knows until he has to help a child with his homework. Likewise many a Master Mason only realizes the limit of his Masonic knowledge when faced with the questions of an Entered Apprentice. Has your knowledge grown today?.....

Your comments, and submissions are encouraged, and most welcomed. Send them c/o the Editor: David R. Dainard, 158 Coronation Drive, West Hill, Ontario M1E 2H5.