

IN MEMORIAM BROTHER PHILIP A. JERGUSON

Past Most Worthy Grand Patron,
1928-1931
Worthy Grand Patron of Massachusetts
1919-1920

By R. DONALD STEWART, PMWGP

It was with great sorrow that we received the news that Brother Philip A. Jerguson of West Medford, Massachusetts, had passed away on the evening of August 19, 1947 at his summer home on Capitol Island, Boothbay Harbor, Maine. Brother Jerguson was born in Georgia on June 13, 1874.

In 1898 he moved to Massachusetts where he lived for the remainder of his life. He was a man of great ability and was prominent in civic and business affairs. In business he was president and manager of Jerguson Gage & Vale Company, Somerville; was founder and president of First National Bank in Medford and Courier Publishing Company; and served "as director in other firms. He was a member of the City Hall Commission and Chairman of the School- house Building Commission.

He became a member of the Order of the Eastern Star in Royall Chapter No. 153 of Medford, Massachusetts, on February 5, 1916, and was Worthy Patron of that Chapter in 1917. His sterling qualities were recognized by the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts by his election to the offices of Associate Grand Patron in 1918 and Worthy Grand Patron in 1919.

In General Grand Chapter he served as Worthy Grand Sentinel, 1919-22; Chairman of the Board of Right Worthy Grand Trustees, 1922-25; Right Worthy Associate Grand Patron, 1925-28; and Most Worthy Grand Patron, 1928-31. Brother Jerguson was most diligent in the work of the Order and during his years as Worthy Grand Sentinel acted as Deputy of the Most Worthy Grand Patron in or ganization duties in Canada. When he became Most Wor. Gr. Patron he continued the activities of establishing new Chapters. **On November 5, 1930 at Fredericton he constituted the Grand Chapter** Order of the Eastern Star of New Brunswick, and many are here today who were present on that occasion. Previously in that city on July 16, 1930 he had conducted a preliminary meeting of representatives from New Brunswick Chapters to explore and consider this very important matter. He had been present as Worthy Grand Sentinel and assisted the Most Worthy Grand Patron, Brother Alfred C. McDaniel of Texas, when the latter had organized the Grand Chapters of Quebec Order of the Eastern Star at Sherbrooke on July 6, 1922, and the Grand Chapter of Delaware Order of the Eastern Star on November 15, 1922.

In Quebec in the years 1920 to 1922 Brother Jerguson presided at the institutions of Chapters Numbers 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 15. He presided at the institution and constitution of the first Chapter in Nova Scotia, Port Royal No. 1, at Annapolis Royal, on March 29, 1921 and June 24, 1922 respectively. In Nova Scotia he also presided at the following: Mayflower Chapter No. 2, Aylesford—Instituted June 26, 1922. Constituted October 3, 1922. Acadia Chapter No. 4, Lawrencetown.—Instituted July 14, 1930. Constituted May 19, 1931. Keystone Chapter No. 5, Yarmouth—Instituted Nov. 26, 1930. Constituted May 20, 1931. Lady Laurie Chapter No. 6, Springhill—Instituted March 23, 1931. Constituted Sept. 11, 1931. Halifax Chapter No. 7, Halifax—Instituted May 18, 1931. Constituted September 12, 1931. He instituted Abegweit Chapter No. 5 at Montague, Prince Edward Island on Sept. 29, 1930, and constituted it on July 28, 1931. By Deputy he established Shanghai Chapter No.3, Shanghai, China, in 1931.

He presided at the formation of New Brunswick Chapters as follows:

Queen Mary No. 4, Milltown—Instituted March 25, 1921. Constituted October 5, 1922.
Friendship No. 6, Hartland—Institution June 15, 1922. Constitution October 6, 1922.
Carleton No. 7, East Florenceville—Institution June 15, 1922. Constitution October 6, 1922.
Malabeam No. 10, Grand Falls—Institution April 29, 1929. Constitution February 14, 1930.
Fort Monckton No. 11, Port Elgin—Institution Sept. 26, 1930. Constitution Nov. 1, 1930.

Philip A. Jerguson Chapter No.18 at West Saint John, was named in honor of our distinguished brother. Brother Jerguson is survived by his wife, Sister Cora Fletcher Jerguson, and two daughters, Mrs. Virginia May Brooks and Miss Thelma Jerguson. Brother Jerguson was a man of strong character and wide vision. He was genial in his manner and as he journeyed through life made many friends. He was true in his friendships. We hold him in especial remembrance in New Brunswick, not only for the love we bore him, but because of the labors he performed in the development of the -Order here and the creation of our Grand Chapter.

*“Sleep on, O friend, until the waking day,
And ever we, who loved thy presence here,
Will keep for thee, through changes manifold,
A tender memory, growing with the years.”*

**MEMORIAL SERVICE
TRIBUTE TO PHILIP A. JERGUSON, PMWGP**

- Prepared by P. G. M. EDNA KILPATRICK

W.M.—We have honored and paid tribute to those who are with us, and now it is fitting that we should pay loving tribute to those who have passed on, so we set aside this hallowed Memory Hour, as we lift our voices in song, praise and love, to those who, while on earth, shed on us the fragrance of their lives.

*“Somewhere back of the sunset, where loveliness never dies,
They live in the land of glory, mid the blue and gold of the skies.”*

Draping of Altar—“Face to Face” sung softly while Altar is draped by Grand Conductress and Grand Chaplain. (Chaplain holds Bible while Altar is draped, then walks slowly to Altar & places Bible.) Then all return to stations. Grand Secretary approaches Altar with scroll and repeats: This is the roll of the Sisters and Brothers whose names are now enrolled on the roster of the Grand Chapter on High. Upon the Altar we place this roll, and, in so doing, rededicate ourselves to the principles of our Order, so that when our names are placed here, we may gather joyfully with them around the Grand Altar above. (Retires to station.)

W.M.—Worthy Grand Patron: You will light the candles at the points of our emblematic Star in memory of our departed Sister and Brothers. (W.G.P. lights candles, quoting John 14: 1-7. Then goes to position east of Altar where he is met by W.G.M., after which Associate Grand Matron, Grand Star Points and Grand Chaplain form circle around Altar.) Solo: Evelyn Greene.

W.G.M.—The words spoken here fall upon the ears of the living and not the dead. Therefore, let Love and Remembrance be spoken of the beloved dead and Love and Admonition to the Sisters and Brothers gathered here.

Grand Adah—upon this Altar I place with loving thought these flowers of blue. Let these beautiful flowers remind us that faithfulness to all moral obligations is required of us if we would be true to the principles of our Order.

Grand Ruth—upon this Altar I place with constant love these yellow flowers. Let these yellow blossoms remind us that obedience to the demands of honor and justice brings its sure reward in the happiness we bring to others and the joy we may earn for ourselves in a life of service.

Grand Esther—upon this Altar I place, with love, these flowers of white. Let the purity of Esther’s life and joy she gave her people remind us that a pure and upright life is the only life compatible with the teachings of our Order.

Grand Martha—upon this Altar I place with love this tribute of green. Let the teachings of Martha remind us that we are united • with those gone before by the mutual hope of immortal life. Our Order teaches that “they are waiting to welcome us to our eternal home.”

Grand Electa—upon this Altar I place with love these flowers of red. As Electa clasped the precious cross to her breast, so let us clasp ever closer the principles of our beloved Order, and emulate the virtues of those whom “we have loved long since, and lost a while.”