

— A Sister Speaks —

by
MRS. MARIA G. MILLARE
Scottish Temple, Dec. 3, 1960

I am not a preacher and if at times I seem to preach, please understand that I am preaching to myself most of the time.

Sampaguita Chapter No. 3, like any other organization, can stand or fall at the will of the members. Internal dissensions and strifes, little personal animosities and jealousies tend to rock the foundation of any organization. It is so hard to build, but so easy to destroy, and sometimes the reputation of a lifetime can be spoiled by a careless act of the moment. So, sisters and brothers, let us beware of the pitfalls. If at times we are too hasty to criticize and say unkind things about a fellow member, let us recall this poem:

"If you are tempted to reveal
A tale to you someone has told
About another, make it pass,
Before you speak, three gates of
gold.
These narrow gates: First, "Is it
true?"
Then, "Is it needful?" In your
mind
Give truthful answer. And the next
Is last and narrowest, "Is it kind?"
Then again:
"There is so much good in the
worst of us,
And so much bad in the best of us,
That it ill behooves any of us,
To find fault with the rest of us."
Sometimes in the jungle of little
details, we lose sight of our main
objectives. Sampaguita Chapter No.

3, aims to foster among its members the spirit of brotherhood. We call each other brother or sister, let it be so in our hearts. When we meet here or elsewhere, let our looks be full of good will, our handshakes expressive of sincere fellowship; and let our talk and actions reveal that our hearts are overflowing with the milk of human kindness. And this temple where we meet, let it be a place where we can be ourselves without fear of being misunderstood, because we are with kindred spirits. When these things come to pass, then this temple, these meetings, will have happy associations for us, where members and visitors alike will feel welcome and will want to come again. These things I covet for ourselves and our chapter.

"There are loyal hearts, there
are spirits brave,
There are souls that are pure and
true;
Then give to the world the best
you have,
And the best will come back to
you
Give love, and love to your life
will flow,
A strength in your utmost need;
Have faith, and a score of hearts
will show
Their faith in your word and deed.
Give truth, and your gift will be
paid in kind;
And honor will honor meet;
(Continued on page 88)

Two Letters

November 14, 1960

Most Worshipful Sir:

I cannot think of a more precious gift to a true and upright mason like you than these gavels that I am presenting to you. But before doing so let me say a few words about this present.

Masonic traditions inform us that the spiritual edifice, the Lodge which we, as Free and Accepted Masons, and as brethren of an ancient fraternity, represent, is supported by three great columns represented by the Worshipful Master in the east who symbolizes wisdom to guide, by the Senior Warden in the west who symbolizes strength to support, and by the Junior Warden in the south who symbolizes beauty to adorn.

These gavels which I am presenting to you, Most Worshipful Sir, are made of the three finest woods of the Philippines, namely: narra, molave, and lanete, are symbolic of the great columns of our lodge. Narra, the Philippine national tree, is symbolic of wisdom to guide; molave, the strongest and most majestic of our luxuriant forests, is symbolic of strength to support; and lanete, the most beautiful and immaculate of all species of Philippine woods, is symbolic of beauty to adorn.

I have thus the honor and pleasure of presenting to you these gavels, symbols of the authority of the respective offices in the lodge which you had so ably administered, with the hope that they will be used for more glorious purposes, that of perfecting the human ashlar with which you will continue building our spiritual edifice and, may I add, that of asserting or preserving our rights as freedom-loving citizens of a democracy.

(Sgd) ROMULO Y. MENDOZA
Pampanga Lodge No. 43

The Most Worshipful
Dr. Luther B. Bewley
Grand Master
Grand Lodge of the Philippines
November 17, 1960

Bro. Romulo Y. Mendoza
Chief, Arts and Trades Division
Bureau of Public Schools
Manila

Dear Bro. Mendoza:

The beautiful gavels that you so kindly sent me are an exquisite gift that I shall always cherish from my friend and former co-worker in the Bureau of Public Schools. It is most difficult for me to express in words my deep appreciation to you for your generosity.

Your letter accompanying the gavels is a gem of Masonic literature which I shall place in my files of important papers that have come to me during my long sojourn in the Philippines.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,
(SGD) LUTHER B. BEWLEY
Grand Master

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A Sister Speaks...

And a smile that is sweet will
surely find
A smile that is just as sweet.

Give sorrow and pity to those
who mourn;
You will gather in flowers again
The scattered seeds of your
thought outborne,
Though the sowing seemed but
vain.

For life is the mirror of King
and slave
'Tis just what we are and do;
Then give to the world the best
you have
And the best will come back to
you."