

34 YEARS AGO IN THE CABLETOW

January 2, 1924. *Masonry and Party Politics*. This is the heading of an editorial for the month. We are reproducing it in full for the good of all concerned. It follows:

The Ancient Charges say that we Masons "are resolved against all politics, as what never yet conducted to the welfare of the Lodge, nor ever will." This does prohibit Masons from engaging in party politics outside of the Lodge; but merely means that all party politics must be kept out of the Lodges and Masonry, and that Masonry must keep, *and be kept*, out of all party politics. To bring up in the Lodge a matter that is an issue in party politics and regarding which the Brethren, being members of various parties, may differ in opinion, would be highly unmasonic and could under circumstances cost the offending Lodge its charter. A candidate for political office soliciting votes on the strength of his being a Mason would be guilty of unmasonic conduct. Any Lodge or individual Mason electioneering for or against any candidate for political office on account of his being or not being a Mason commits a serious Masonic offense. The name of Masonry must be kept out of all electoral and party strife, because as Albert Pike says:

No good is wrought by mingling in the fray
Of party-war.

Many a fraternal organization has been shipwrecked on the rocks of party politics, and the wise men who shaped the destinies of Masonry in the days of old must have realized that they were building for aye when they rejected politics.

Among the many interesting Masonic articles deposited in the huge corner-stone of the George Washington National Masonic Memorial at Alexandria, Virginia is a silver medal with the seal of the Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands.

The word degree, in its primitive meaning, signifies a step. The degrees of Masonry are, then, the steps by which a candidate ascends from a lower to a higher condition of knowledge.

Bro. Wor. Nicolas E. de Guzman, Master-elect of Plaridel Lodge No.

74, F&AM, informs us that on the day of St. John the Evangelist, December 27, 1923, the cornerstone of the Lodge Hall to be erected at Calauag, Tayabas, was laid with imposing ceremonies under the direction of Wor. Bro. Maximino Zepeda, the outgoing Master of Plaridel Lodge, with other prominent Masons assisting. Bros. A. J. Martin (Cosmos No. 8), Thomas B. Morato (Rizal No. 22) and Honorio Musni (Silañaganan No. 19) acted as "padrinos."

Of interest to the Brethren is the attendance of Bro. Adolfo Belen of Malinaw Lodge No. 26 in the assembly of Internal Masonic Association held at Geneva, Switzerland on September 1923.

The Masonic Club of Manila (Plaridel Temple) is now in full swing, taking into account the increased patronage of the bowling alleys as well as the game of billiards, pin-pool, etc.

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(Continued from December, 1957 issue)

Bro. Antonio de las Alas was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives vice Bro. Manuel Roxas of Makawiwili Lodge No. 55, who has left for the United States.

Bro. Arsenio N. Luz, Director General of the Carnival and Editor of The Philippines Herald has just returned to the city from his native town Lipa after recuperating from his recent illness.

Bro. Sixto Y. Orosa of the Philippine Health Department, has just returned from an inspection trip to Jolo, Sulu.

Dapitan Lodge No. 21--Bro. Arcadio Laperal has passed the bar examination held recently. He is still working in the office of the Chief of Police of Manila and has no definite plans as yet for the future.

Mt. Lebanon No. 80--Wor. Bro. M. Goldenberg was on the sicklist for two days last month.

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A MASON'S OBLIGATION

(Virginal Masonic Herald)

The obligation of a Master Mason is conceded to be among the most forceful and binding obligations ever administered, and a man whom it cannot restrain, a man upon whom it does not make

a lasting impression for good, and cause him to think more seriously and soberly of the duty he owes to his God and to his fellowman, is unworthy of the name of a Mason.