

Editorial:

ON NOT BEING LATE

Back in our teaching days, we used to chide our students who came late by saying: "You are not late today; you just did not come on time." The response was as to be expected; they did not like to hear those silly words again, so they came on time.

It is with trepidation that we would say these same words to the brethren who are entrusted with the duty of making those reports required by the Grand Lodge. Since late last year, we had thought of printing the names of newly-raised brethren, stating the dates of raising, lodges and locations, etc. This information can be found in the monthly reports, but since January this year, no more than three dozen reports have come into the hands of the Grand Secretary. Normally, 134 such reports should be in the Grand Lodge at the end of each month. Anyway, we are beginning with the list this month. We will see if we can continue with it.

The list of officers of the lodges for the current year are by regulation due on January 15 of each year. Today, March 15, twenty-five lodges still have to be heard from. We might say some reports are not late; they are not here. Last month we promised we would put an insert in the March issue containing the names of lodges, districts, locations, officers, meeting days and addresses of secretaries. We have to postpone this until next month hoping that by then the twenty-five lodges will have been heard from. No, those lodges are not all overseas lodges; most are within the territorial limits of the Philippines, nine of them in Manila!

Brethren of our blue lodges want to know as early as possible what actions were taken in the annual Grand Lodge communications. It is important that they know the new rules and regulations so that they can govern themselves accordingly. There is something admirable in this desire. We congratulate them for it.

All right, there is nothing wrong with our belly. Not aching. We are merely saying that tardiness is not a virtue; but promptness is. Promptness is like perfume. One does not spray it on himself without the others not getting it.

NBM