Nebraska Masons Prepare to Celebrate Their Jubilee Anniversary

TY YEARS ago, September 23, in Omaha City, the first grand lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska was called to order. At that time triere were three blue lodges in the state and degrees above the blue lodge were practically unknown. Of the members of that first grand lodge but one man survives. and it is greatly to the regret of those who celebrate the semi-centennial of the grand lodge next week that he cannot be present. This survivor is Joseph P. Manning, who until recently resided at Benson, but who is now a resident of the state of Washinsten.

The next grand lodge was presided over by R. C. Jordan of Omalua, who was stang master for a number of years and later became grand secretary. L. L. Howen of Believue was deputy grand master, David Lindley of Nebraska City, grand senior warden; L. B. Kinney of Bellevue, grand junior warden; William Anderson of Nebraska City, grand treasurer, and George Armstrong of Omaha, grand secretary. These were the elective officers. The appointive officers were H. N. Cornell of Nebraska City, grand marshal; M. Chivington of Omaha, grand chapjain; Charles W. Hamilton of Omaha, grand senior deacon; John A. Nye of Bellevue, grand junior deacon, and Joseph P. Manning of Omaha, grand tyler. After these officers had been selected they were installed by J. A. W. Bush of Illinois, who had been empowered by the grand lodge of Illinois to perform this service.

Earliest of Nebraska Lodges.

In the days before the organization of the grand lodge the territory had been a free field for every grand lodge, and when the representatives of the three organizations came together it was found that each had been chartered by a different grand lodge. The oldest lodge in the territory was that at Bellevue. It was known as Nebraska lodge, and carried the number given it by the grand lodge of Ilinois-184. The lodge at Nebraska City had been chartered by the grand lodge of Missouri and bore the name of Giddings lodge No. 196, Iowa's grand lodge had chartered the lodge at Omaha, which was known as Capitol lodge No. 101.

The delegates from these lodges were: Nebraska lodge No. 184, L. B. Kinney, L. Bowen and John A. Nye; Giddings lodge No. 156, David Lindley, H. N. Cornell and William Anderson; Capitol lodge No. 101, George Armstrong, Charles W. Hamilton and Robert C. Jordan. A reference to the names of elected and appointed officers will show that there were not enough delegates to fill the grand offices, and Masons were taken from the eraft at large to serve. About the first thing the grand lodge did after officers. were installed was to change the numbers of the lodges, and in the case of the Nebraska City lodge, the name. The lodges were numbered in accordance with the date of their institution and Nebraska City's lodge was given the name of Western Star, upon application of its delegates. changed.

Work of the First Year.

One year after the grand lodge was es-



quently recalls memories of early day Masonry in the state and the first lodge room, in a trader's store at Bellevuc. This building was probably the first house erected on what is now the soil of Nebrasks and was built as a trading post as early as 1823 and was used by Indian traders from that day to the time of its destruction. When it was first built it stood at a considerable distance from the river, but the stream encroached upon the land and at the time the land was thrown open to settlement it was near the shore, A few years thereafter the river, which had long threatened it, came so close that the house was demolished and the timbera were taken by the residents for relics of one of the oldest buildings between the Missouri river and the Spanish settlements, The picture of the building which is kept in the Masonic temple was drawn from a description furnished by old residents of Bellevue and is declared to be fairly accurate by those who best know the old building.

The first lodge in the state was novel in some of its fittings. The official insignia was home-made, being composed of instruments of tin, where now silver is in evidence. They were all that could be secured and were rated at their intrinsic worth by the men who had them made, but today, since they have disappeared. they would be priceless and there are a few veterans who regret that the old insignia was not preserved when the lodge became rich enough to buy those of better

One of the facts recalled by all of the old members of Nebraska lodge No. 1 is that the members in the earlier day attached more importance to attending meetings of the lodge than do those of the present generation. This was probably because social gatherings were less frequent and the pioneer residents took advantage of every opportunity to meet their fellows, but he that as it may, every Mason living within ten miles of the lodge could be counted upon to be present at every regular session, while members living twenty miles away thought nothing of driving that distance to attend lodge several times a year.

-Grand Masters of the Lodge.

A list of the names of grand masters of the order in the state and of the grand secretaries is as follows:

*Robert C. Jordan -1857-58-69 -1860-61-62 1876 1877 Omana *George W. Lininger. Edward K. Valentine, Bee Bldg., •Rolland H. Oakley..... 1878 1879 1880 1881 1882 1883 1884 1880 1887 1888 1889 1890 1894 1895 1894

in the history of the grand lodge.

common with similar organizations all over the United States, passed through comewhat trying times immediately folowing the civil war. When the war had ended, although as patriots the members of the Nebraska lodges rejoiced, as Masons they mourned with those of their brethren who returned to their couthern homes to find them desolate. When such conditions existed it was only natural that these defeated and distressed Masons should look to their victorious and prosperous brethren in the north for relief. No public talk was heard on the subject, but the records of the grand lodge show that when it was a struggling organization on the frontier of the United States, its membership composed largely of homesteaders, rich only in hope, \$150 was contributed to the fund which Masons of the north raised to assist those of the south during the dark days which followed the close of the war.

In the old records are many cases where grand officers asked to be excused from new. service because they were compelled to go to the front with their regiments, and the Nebraska grand lodge authorized the bargain counter when William Bateman organization of one military lodge among members of a Nebraska regiment. When the regiment was mustered out of the Then the fair god got wise. He marked up service the lodge ceased to exist, and the his novelties to almost prohibitive prices. grand lodge after some difficulty made In the game the latest comer made quite arrangements for the future membership a hit. This is jovial "Dan" Hanna, Reof those members who had been initiated cently there appeared the headlines, "Dan in the military lodge while the old mem- Takes Wife No. 3." and "Dan Hanna, bers returned to their formar lodges.

Celebration Twenty-Five Years Ago. began to take notice. Twenty-five years ago the first celebra-

fair grounds at Omaha, which were then ing swains of his set gritted their te-th on Sherman avenue just south of Ames when they saw that on him rested the sunavenue. The grand lodge met in ovecial shine of the glances of May Harrington and communication at the Masonic temple and Datay Gordon. The girls were chums, and then proceeded to the grounds, where the both liked Dan. It was understood that he formal celebration took place. There were was engaged to Miss Gordon. representatives from Iowa, Kansas, Illi- But one day in 1887 Hanna and Miss Harpart in the ceremonies. At that meeting one. original grand lodge present. Robert C. the Iowa grand lodge, was one of the cakers. Of those who delivered ad-

ases on that occasion General John C. Cowin is the only local survivor to be present at the celebration of the semicentennial.

Since that day many men who were recognized as leading citizens of the state, as well as bright and conscientious Masons, have passed away. Among them are recalled the names of former Governor Robert W. Furnas, past grand master and past grand secretary; George W. Lininger, Masonic investigator, traveler and practical founder of the Nebraska Masonic home; W. B. Bowen, at the time of his

the his address to the grand lodge the minor lodge the model Miss Jeannette Irene vices that allure and entice those of in- Let the young man with gambling inclina- open and attract money to the town. But

when eight lodges were chartered, and George Armstrong, Robert W. Furnas, C. Wakeley, James P. Crigler, John P. century ago. this record was not exceeded until 1883, Martin Dunham, Alfred G. Hastings, Ware, jr., George M. Nattinger and Edwin George W. Lininger, Joseph A. Tulleys, F. Cooper. this is the highest record for any year James R. Cane, Edwin F. Warren, Henry Under the terms of the agreement the Brown.

Veterans of the Fraternity.

Chris Hariman, W. R. Bowen, duty of calling the survivors together falls in Nebraska is Daniel H. Wheeler, past, the other lodges passing to their natural a regular attendant for a man of his age. The Nebraska Masonic grand lodge, in George W. Bratton, John H. Maxon, James upon Martin Dunham, but it may be that grand master of the state and the oldest jurisdictions upon the creation of state W. Small, John J. Mercer, A. G. Burnette, he will be deprived of the duty of com- surviving member of the grand lodge or territorial grand lodges. Nathan Carter, John H. Butler, Milo C. bined sadness and joy, for a search has who has been called to the highest office The oldest surviving grand secretary the third degree is conferred, and take Wilson, William J. Lamb, Louis Bradford, failed to discover the bottle in the keeping of the craft. Major Wheeler was grand of the grand lodge is Stephen D. Bangs, great pride in announcing the presence of Oscar B. Sharpless, J. B. Kernahan, John of the grand secretary. In the twenty- master of the order from 1863' to 1864. for many years a resident of Bellevue,

established. All of these lodges are extinct, so far as the jurisdiction of Ne-One of the real veterans of Masonry ceasing with the close of the war and braska is concerned, the military lodge

Bamford, Charles K, Coutant, Theodore S. five years which have intervened since it Under his administration there was con- but now a citizen of Omaha. Mr. Bangs state" in the lodge room. Mr. Clarke fre-

First to Be Initiated. The first man to be made a Mason in Nebraska was Henry T. Clarke. He is a momber of Nebraska lodge No. 1 and to Arres, Siloam Springs, Market M. Crites, Chadron. Nathaniel M. Ayres, Siloam Springs, member of Nebraska lodge No. 1, and is The officers and members of the lodge are

always anxious to have him present when *D:

GRAND BECRETARIES. "George Armstrong, 1857; "Robert W. Furnas, 1868; "Robert C. Jordan, 1859 to 1852; Stephon D. Bangs, 1953 to 1884; J. Newton Wise, 1855 to 1868; "Robert W. Furnas, 1869 to 1872; "William R. Bowen, 1872 to 1889; Francis E. White, 1899 to date. (Stars deceased.)

The semi-centennial celebration on next

Divorce to Rich Has Become Matter of Millions U Divorces a specialty. Fees, \$5.000 road. to \$5,000,000. 138日 millionaires - and millionairesses and at the close of the decade they headed married. -to apply."

has come to be a most expensive luxury, railroad stock, and piled up ever-increas- new Mrs. Leeds \$1,000,000. He purchased a was alleged, at his direction-secured a Hunnewell was a close friend of Kemp,

About seven years ago the prices of Mrs. Leeds lived in her Indiana home, which the couple went honeymooning. divorces began to soar. Love deserted the Leeds lived elsewhere-in other cities and Leeds put up a king's-or queen's-ransom to wed Mrs. Worthington of Cleveland. him his freedom. Divorced Twice, to Wed Again." Other men with divorces hanging at their girdles

Twenty years ago young Hanna was contion of the Nebraska grand lodge took sidered the beau ideal in Cleveland. He place. The festivities were held on the was the favored of the favorites, and aspir. freedom staggered him.

of other states, while one man who held married. Cleveland society was amazed, membership in a South African lodge took For a time the marriage seemed a happy Three children were born to the there were a number of members of the couple. But in 1898 Mrs. Hanna brought a sensational suit against her husband, charg-Jordan, the first grand master, delivered ing him with crueity. The divorce was an address; George Armstrong, the first granted, and Mr. Hanna was mulcted, it is grand secretary, took an active part, while said, to the extent of \$150,000. Mrs. Hanna Theodore S. Parvin, the veteran secretary afterward married Edmund K. Stalle, a New York lawyer.

Old Loves Renewed.

One year before the divorce sult. Miss sale at any price they may bring. Gordon, Hanna's first sweetheart, married

forgotten. Two years later Mrs. Meade with the Casino at Monte Carlo, the Cercle field to view. An extraordinary man, born treasures of the world I so dearly loved, Dan married his first sweetheart. again, it is said Hanna was required to give The term decadent is used advisedly. The others dispute it, he began life with the securities amounting to \$250,000 to secure rapidly-flowing tide of emigration to this equipment of a classic education. his freedom. Three days after the divorce and other newer lands by the great mass. He frankly admits that he does not know

held for twenty-seven years; and Champion \$600, it is said, for performing the ceremony, of "bond and sinew" in that part of the strain of unregenerate blood." held for twenty-seven years; and Champion with it is and to perform that he handsome woman. Her first husban S. Chase, one time mayor of Omaha and William Bateman Leeds, the tinplate and world, and as a consequence there is a He is a millionaire. He denies having was done with Saratoga; they went to him clerk in a store before her divorce.

the lodge upon its growth in the twenty- Gaar, a pretty belle of Richmond, Ind, herited wealth and idle propensities.

NCLE SAM, marriage broker, old Vandalia line of the Pennsylvania rall- \$1,000,000 worth of securities. Thirty min- divorce she was confined in a sanitarium H. Hunnewell moved in the swellest of utes after her lawyers received the papers at White Plains, N. Y. Mr. Fingler paid all swell Back Bay social circles of Boston. Satisfaction not Later they went to Muncie, Ind., and the divorce was granted. And three days expenses with lavish hand and settled con- In 1902 his wife, Mrs. Maud Jaffrey Huneguaranteed. Needless for any but opened tinplate factories. Ten years passed, later Leeds and Mrs. Worthington were siderable property upon her, amounting in well, secured a divorce on sensational

the Tinplate, National Steel American But Leeds was magnanimous. The dis- Flagler-under a law making incurable tentions to "Baby Belle." Mrs. Arthur all, it is said, to \$2,000,000. This sign might be put over most of the Sheet Steel, American Steel Hoop and carded one should not get ahead of his insanity a cause of divorce which was Kemp, a slater of Mrs. Reginald K. Vanderdivorce courts in the country. For divorce other big companies. They also owned new wife. After the wedding he gave the pushed through the Florida legislature, it bilt.

new Mrs. Leeds H. M. Mark, he purchased a was alleged, at the direction solution of Hunnewell was a close friend of Kemp, mansion on Fifth avenue, New York, for divorce from his wife. When it was and, to the surprise of every one, both put aside an old love in order to assume a But as money came in the door love, it nearly \$1,000,000. He purchased jewels granted, he settled on her \$1,000,000 more drove and diaed at the club together during seems, flew out of the window, and while amounting to \$1,000,000, and a yacht on and an annuity of \$100,000.

much in Cleveland. There he met Mrs. first wife were divorced, Mrs. Vanderbilt, Kennan of Wilmington, N. C., and, as a Nannie S. Worthington. She was un- who is now Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, re- wedding gift, gave her a check for \$1,000,000

year, and a lump sum of \$2,000,000. Marble osity of this man of oil and millions.

rich man seeking to be rid of his wife in gave \$50,000, and paid other relatives large acted as attorney for Kemp in disentang-

which the couple went honeymooning. Which is granted Figgler mairied Miss Mary Lilly was granted, and fifty minutes afterward

marry the actress. Mabelle Gilman. Others place the figure even higher; but it is gen-erally agreed that no less than \$4,000,000 was spent in the disreputable proceedings. It's a hard matter to put a monetary value on a woman. At any rate, the figures show Mabelle was marked high. To satisfy his first wife, Corey settled American "prince of gamblers," increasing dislike for vicious pastimes that Richard Canfield, millionaire, litterateur, was spent in the disreputable proceedings. 'I would have loved to have accepted To satisfy his first wife, Corey settled upon her \$3,000,000; upon his mother he settled \$300,000. For Miss Gilman, he bought a French chateau at \$200,000; showered

jewels upon her; settled \$1,000,000 upon her, it is said, and poured out money like water It is said that the Saratogans who so marriage? bitterly fought Canfield's establishment,

with a result that some additional imhis freedom. Three days after the divorce and other newer lands by the great mass. He trackly admits that is determined to Marie Stewart, who had of Europeans, who see nothing at home himself how he became a gambler, and his offering of propiliation, were panic. Mrs. Scott, the former husband of been divorced from Frank Skelly, a hotel but a hopeless struggle against the titled adds: "Somewhere in my Puritan or stricken when they saw the sign upon the of \$100,000 that he had not been suspected W. B. Bowen, at the time of his clerk. Justice Brown of Cleveland received classes, is steadily decreasing the stock Quaker ancestry there must have been a Saratoga announcing that it was for sale of possessing. Mrs. Gary is a strikingly and heard Canfield's declaration that he handsome woman. Her first husband was a

tions listen to what this "prince" says: he shock his head. What were his millions, purchased a residence in New York valued grand lodge, urging him to make an efdelphia North American.

1902 Frank E. Bullard, North Platte Charles E. Burnham, Norfolk...... Melville R. Hopewell, Tekamah...... Zuingle M. Baird, Hartington..... King, Lincoln..... GRAND SECRETARIES.

1901

Announcement of Celebration.

week bids fair to bring out the largest number of Masons ever assembled in Nebraska. There were hundreds present at the festivities which marked the twentyfifth anniversary, but unless all signs fail there will be thousands present at the fiftieth birthday of the grand lodge of the state. Grand Master Ornan J. King of Lincoln and Secretary Francis E. White have issued circulars to all lodges of the state in which is said:

Maxe alleged, at his direction-secured a diverse from his wife. When it was an estimated with the section of the settled on her \$1,000,00 more and an annuity of \$100,000.
Within a few days after the divorce was and her fully the divorce proceedings brought by Mrs. Section of Winnington, N. C. and as an on the limit of the generation of Winnington, N. C. and as an annuity of \$100,000.
But this was not the limit of the generation of the fully of the divorce proceedings brought by Mrs. Section for fully induces all the divorce proceedings brought by Mrs. Section for fully induces all the divorce proceedings brought by Mrs. Section for fully induces all the divorce proceedings brought by Mrs. Section for fully induces all the divorce proceedings brought by Mrs. Section for fully induces all the section and the fully of the section for fully induces all the fully of the section for fully induces all the section for fully induces all the section for fully induces all the sections of the fully of the section for fully induces all the sections and the section for fully induces all the secentions in the divising fully induces all the sections wase

grand jurisdictions. At 12 o'flock m., call from labor to refreshment. At 1:30 o'clock p. m., call to labor, form a procession, (each lodge desiring to form separately will be allowed to do so) march to the Auditorium. At 2 o'clock p. m., at the Auditorium good music will be a part of the program. An historical address by the grand secretary, an oration by for the wedding and honeymoon. And Grand Master Henry H. Wilson, and bried for the wedding and honeymoon. And who can tell what he has spent since his marriage? When Judge Elbert H. Gary, legal ad-viser of the Steel trust, married Mrs. Alexander S. Scott, the former husband of Mrs. Scott went into business with a capital of \$100,000 that he had not been suspected The concert is not for the public been provided especially for but has ternity

bands. For his intended wife he recently pecial attention of every member of the the order in the state.

Eastern Gambler Talks of Fleecing Lambs

ICHARD A. CANFIELD, the created, but there is at the same time an ticated youth or a fool." R has at last actually capitulated sap the intellect, the substance and the art connoiseur, was offered recently \$29,000 and the superb Saratoga club wealth of the people. Nowhere is it now to conduct a gambling establishment in Eu-house and grounds are offered for fashionable to get drunk. Gambling is rope.

growing into disfavor, and the indulgence They cost the gambler nearly \$800,000, and in these vices is becoming more and more the offer. Not that I needed the money, an English army officer. Walter de S. the establishment was the only one in confined to those who inherit wealth. An English army officer, waiter de S. America that might be fairly compared These facts bring back Richard A. Can- my chosen profession, near to the art

secured a divorce, and lo! love smilled when at Aix-le Bains, the Kursaal at Ostend and in Rhode Island, part Puritan and part but a 12-year-old girl wouldn't let me. Who numerous other similar establishments Quaker, educated for Harvard and by some Last June the couple were divorced, and scattered throughout decadent Europe. historians said to have graduated, while

railroad magnate like many other multi- growing attention given to a promotion of as many as \$5,000,000, but admits he is a and offered to withdraw all opposition to Nebraska pioneer. Tabroad magnate may busy other multi- strang of instantian and other forms of luxurious millionaires, was poor when young. In gambling and other forms of luxurious millionaire. He can afford to be candid, him if he would keep his gambling house trust, has entered the list of generous hus- King has brought the meeting to the es-

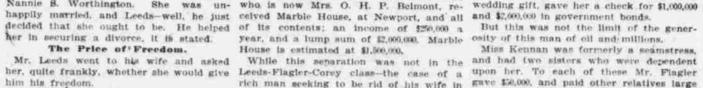
the lodge upon its growth in the twenty- that it is and bealthier America. "The player has no chance at all. There what was Saratoga, compared with the at \$1600,000. It is said to be one of the fort to be present so that the special seafive years which had elapsed since its fury matrice and had had a set in the special sector foundation, and predicted greater growth time Leeds and Daniel G. Reid, the tin- with a natural wealth far greater than is no gambling at which a man can win. respect of his daughter?-Philadelphia finest mansions on Fifth avenue. -Phila- sion will be the largest in the history of

Money Flows Like Oil. In securing a divorce from his first wife, Henry M. Flagler, the Standard Oil magnate, known as the "king of Flor'da," Mr. Flagler couple haggled over the price. But Mrs. secured a divorce in August, 1901. For years

Leeds was uncompromising. So, finally, there had been rumors of the cloud over Leeds decided that his second love was Flagler's home-that of his wife's mental.

nois, California, Colorado and a number rington went to Escanaba, Mich., and were worth the price, and he gave his wife condition. For three years before the like a game of the spider and the fly. Hollis

was she? My daughter.



"Of course," she said, as she smiled. order to wed some other woman-it was sums. "How much money do you want?" He the first in which enormous sums of money was a business man, and intended doing changed hands, and attracted widespread what was right. But his wife's price for attention for that reason.

"One million dollars," she replied. "No," he thundered. 'Yes," she replied, sweetly, Leeds left in a rage. For four years the showed much generosity.