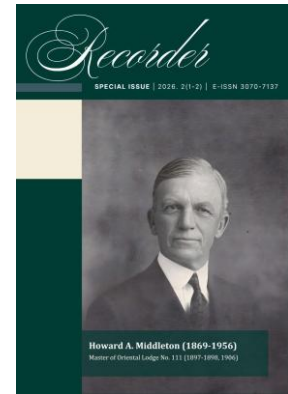


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Original Research

The Activities of Oriental Lodge No. 111, A.F. & A.M. (Broad Brook, Connecticut) during the Second World War

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Abstract

This article examines the activities of Oriental Lodge No. 111, A.F. & A.M. (Broad Brook, Connecticut) during the Second World War (1941–1945), based on archival documents introduced into scholarly circulation for the first time. The study aims to reconstruct the institutional life of the lodge and to analyze its adaptation to wartime conditions. The source base consists primarily of lodge minutes, which provide detailed information on administrative practices, ritual activity, financial management, and social interactions within the Masonic community.

The study demonstrates that the lodge maintained a stable organizational structure and regular rhythm of work throughout the war years. Particular attention is given to the continuity of initiatory practices, which ensured the reproduction of the fraternity, as well as to the role of ritual in reinforcing collective identity. The article also highlights the lodge's involvement in charitable and patriotic initiatives, including support for the Masonic Service Association, participation in war relief efforts, and investment in U.S. War Bonds.

In addition, the study reveals the importance of fraternal mutual assistance and memorial culture, as reflected in support for members and their families and in participation in funeral rites. Overall, Oriental Lodge No. 111 is presented as a resilient local institution that successfully combined traditional Masonic practices with adaptation to the challenges of wartime society.

Keywords: Oriental Lodge No. 111, A.F. & A.M., Broad Brook, Connecticut, Second World War, 1941–1945, York Rite.

1. Introduction

The study of local Masonic institutions during the Second World War provides valuable insight into the ways in which civil society organizations adapted to periods of global crisis while preserving their internal traditions and structures. This article examines the activities of Oriental Lodge No. 111, A.F. & A.M. (Broad Brook, Connecticut) in the years 1941–1945, a period marked by profound social, political, and cultural transformations. Drawing upon previously unpublished archival materials, the research aims to reconstruct the institutional life of the lodge and to analyze its responses to wartime conditions. Particular attention is paid to ritual practice, administrative continuity, charitable activity, and patriotic engagement. By focusing on a single lodge, this study contributes to a broader understanding of the role of Freemasonry in American society during the mid-twentieth century. It demonstrates how local fraternal organizations functioned as stable communities that combined tradition with adaptability in a rapidly changing historical context.

2. Materials and Methods

The materials for this study consist of documents of Oriental Lodge No. 111, A.F. & A.M., introduced into scholarly circulation for the first time, which are preserved in the Archive of Cherkas Global University (Houston, USA). These documents form Fond 11 — *Documents of Oriental Lodge No. 111 A.F. & A.M. 1940–1963 (Broad Brook, Connecticut)* and were deposited in January 2026.

The present study makes use of files relating to the period of the Second World War, specifically files 2–6 (1941–1945) (Pic. 1). Of secondary importance for this research is the brochure *Seventy-fifth Anniversary (1871–1946): Oriental Lodge No. 111, A.F. & A.M., Broad Brook, Connecticut* ([Seventy-fifth Anniversary..., 1946](#)).

ORIENTAL LODGE, No. 111, A. F. & A. M.

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., January 8th, 1941 AL 5941. A. L. 59

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. <u>Fred Kreyszig</u> W. M.	Bro. <u>Norman Stolle</u> J. D. PT
Bro. <u>Wilfred Chapman</u> S. W.	Bro. _____ S. S.
Bro. <u>Howard Middleton</u> J. W. PT	Bro. _____ J. S.
Bro. <u>Louis C. Myers</u> Treas.	Bro. <u>Irving A. Burnap</u> Chap.
Bro. <u>Boyd. R. Grant</u> Sec'y	Bro. _____ Marsh.
Bro. <u>Edward Staiger</u> S. D.	Bro. <u>Emery Abbe</u> Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 29 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid: None--

H. C. Brainard Printing cards \$150.

Letters were read from the Grand Lodge giving notice of the 153 rd. Annual meeting on February 5th. and of the Grand Lodge dinner at Bond Hotel on the evening of the Fourth.

Pic. 1. Document of Oriental Lodge No. 111 A.F. & A.M. 1941. ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 1](#))

This study is based on a complex of historical and scholarly methods characteristic of research in social and institutional history, as well as source studies and source criticism. In particular, the source-critical method was employed, as the lodge minutes are treated as primary historical sources introduced into scholarly circulation, while the historical-descriptive method was used to reconstruct events and processes.

3. Results

Oriental Lodge was constituted October 15th, 1871. R. W. William Wallace Lee (who later became a distinguished Grand Master) reported the event to the Grand Lodge as follows:

"On the 15th of October (1871) I visited Broad Brook, constituted Oriental Lodge, No. 111, and installed its officers, assisted by Bro. R. M. Dawson as D. G. M. of Fayette Lodge, No. 69, together with a large delegation from Morning Star, No. 28, who showed much interest in the new Lodge as was natural, it being a child of their own. The exercises were in public and a short impromptu address was made by the installing officer. The brethren of the Lodge have fitted up in a tasty manner a small but convenient hall and from the spirit manifested by them I feel confident that the reputation of Masonry will be by them kept unspotted before the world" ([Seventy-fifth Anniversary..., 1946: 6](#)).

The minutes of the communication inform us:

"The hall being considered small for the public installation a procession was formed by the Grand Marshal and repaired to the lecture room of the Congregational Church, where after prayer and a reading of the Charter by the Secretary the installation of officers was proceeded with."

The first Masonic hall was located on the East Side of Main Street in Broad Brook, directly across the street opposite to the building now occupied by the Post Office, Public Library, etc., in what was then a tenement house. The rooms in the upper story were thrown together and a double floor was laid with tons of sand placed between the old and new floor to deaden the sound.

This was occupied by the Lodge until 1881 when the Lodge home was changed to the present building, occupying the story above the present Lodge Room. They brought over the fine altar which was made by Ansil Woodworth, a charter member, and secured 125 yards of that wonderful red and green carpet which so clearly displayed the Masonic emblems. It was woven in Thompsonville and Morning Star No. 28 possessed the only other example. This Lodge home was dedicated November 15, 1881. The D. G. M. appointed for the purpose by the G. M., again doing the work, only this time it was D. G. M. James McCormick, one of the most distinguished Masonic characters the jurisdiction has produced.

This Lodge room was destroyed by fire October 11, 1897, and the lodge lost its records and charter at that time. We met for about a year in the Opera House under dispensation.

The Grand Lodge granted us a new charter January 19, 1898, which bears the names, H. A. Middleton, W. M., Thos. Lawson, S. W., Wm. F. English, J. W. This, our third Lodge room, was dedicated October 26, 1898, a Deputy Grand Master again doing the work.

The Lodge room was again damaged by water and smoke from a fire which partly destroyed the building in which the Lodge's quarters are located. The Secretary of the Lodge failed to record the date of the fire, which occurred sometime between December 26, 1928, and January 9, 1929, for the record of the Lodge meeting held December 26, 1928, states that the officers for the ensuing year were installed that evening. The next meeting of the Lodge was held January 9, 1929, in Masonic Hall, Windsor Locks, by courtesy of Euclid Lodge, No. 109, our Lodge room having been badly damaged by water and smoke and continued to be held in Windsor Locks until April 24, 1929, when the record discloses that the Lodge held its meeting of that date in Masonic Hall, Broad Brook. Both the Grand Secretary's records and the Lodge records fail to show that a dispensation was sought by the Lodge to hold its meetings in Windsor Locks or that a dispensation was granted.

However the brethren appointed a committee, consisting of Bros. L. C. Myers, H. G. Staiger, A. H. Grant and Wor. M. C. H. Staiger to make the necessary repairs, purchase new equipment, etc. This was done to the satisfaction of the brethren and to the credit of the committee.

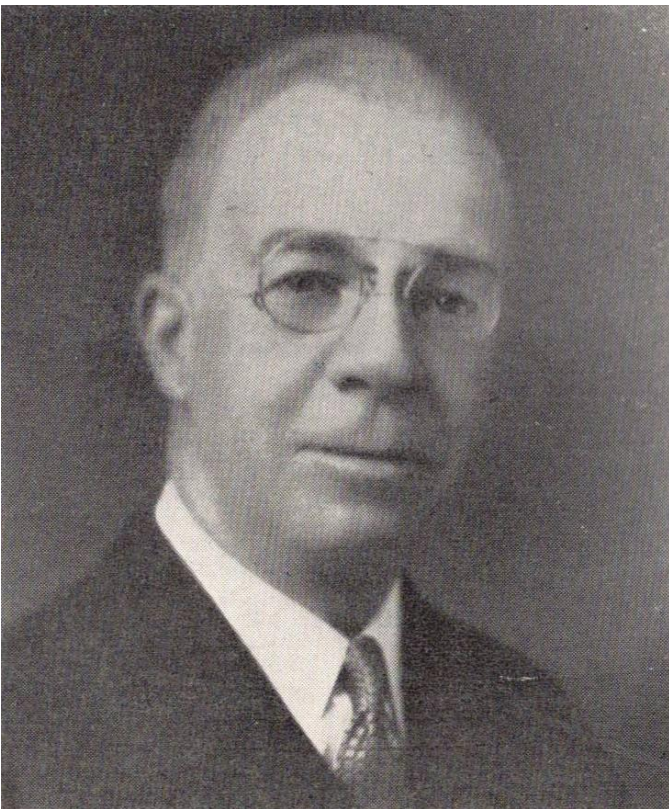
In our 75 years of existence, we are inordinately proud of the fact that we have produced two Grand Masters, W. F. English (Pic. 2) and Howard W. Middleton (Pic. 3), and one who attained the high honor of 33° Mason, Louis C. Myers (Pic. 4). Another of our brothers has distinguished himself in the service of his country, Brigadier-General John W. Middleton, U. S. A., a son of the Most Worshipful Past Grand Master Howard A. Middleton ([Seventy-fifth Anniversary..., 1946: 7](#)).



Pic. 2. William F. English ([Seventy-fifth Anniversary..., 1946: 10](#))



Pic. 3. Howard W. Middleton ([Seventy-fifth Anniversary..., 1946: 11](#))



Pic. 4. Louis C. Myers ([Seventy-fifth Anniversary..., 1946: 13](#))

The Activities of the Lodge in 1941

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., January 8th, 1941, A.L. 5941.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Fred Kreyssig — W.M.
Bro. Wilfred Chapman — S.W.
Bro. Howard Middleton — J.W. PT
Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.
Bro. Boyd R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Edward Staiger — S.D.
Bro. Norman Stolle — J.D. PT
Bro. Irving A. Burnap — Chap.
Bro. Emory Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 29 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

H. C. Brainard — Printing cards — \$1.50.

Letters were read from the Grand Lodge giving notice of the 153rd Annual meeting on February 5th, and of the Grand Lodge dinner at Bond Hotel on the evening of the Fourth.

Lodge was called to refreshment for the purpose of installing the officers for the ensuing year by Public Installation.

A very fine gathering of relatives and friends were present to witness the ceremonies, and enjoy the entertainment with refreshments which followed.

Past Grand Master Howard A. Middleton acted as installing officer assisted by Past Master Louis C. Myers as Marshal.

The following officers were installed:

Wilfred S. Chapman W.M.; Joseph Maslak S.W.; Emery W. Abbe J.W.;

Louis C. Myers Treasurer; Boyd R. Grant Secretary; Edward Staiger S.D.;

Richard Carter J.D.; Edward Nield S.S.; Norman Stolle J.S.; Irving A. Burnap Chaplain; Fred Stolle Marshal; and Fred M. Kreyssig Tyler.

Lodge called from refreshment to labor and closed in due form.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$49.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 1](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., January 22nd, 1941, A.L. 5941.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — W.M.
Bro. Joseph Maslak — S.W.
Bro. Emery Abbe — J.W.
Bro. Boyd R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Edward Staiger — S.D.
Bro. Richard Carter — J.D.
Bro. Edward Nield — S.S.
Bro. Norman Stolle — J.S.
Bro. Irving A. Burnap — Chap.
Bro. Howard Staiger — Marsh PT
Bro. Fred Kreyssig — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 40 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Electric Light Bill — \$4.40

The event of the evening was the raising of Kenneth Kreyssig to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by his Father and Uncle, assisted by a cast of Past Masters. After the W. Master, W. Bro. Chapman, had called for a recess in the work of the evening, the brothers following were escorted into the Lodge and with due ceremony assumed their respective stations for the conferring of the degree:

Fred M. Kreyssig — W.M.
Frank Kreyssig — S.W.
Boyd R. Grant — J.W.
Edward Schlichting — Treas.
Harold Staiger — Sec'y
Edwin Stolle — S.D.
Paul Lehmann (Fayette Lodge) — J.D.
Louis Smith — S.S.
Earl Clark — J.S.
Wilfred Chapman — Tyler
Fred Stolle — Mar. & Sea Captain
Henry Hudson — 1st Ruffian
Kenneth Arnold — 2nd
Chas. Koetsche — 3rd
Edwin Stoll — 1st Craftsman
Chas. Staiger — 2nd
Michael Margelony — 3rd
Howard Staiger — Captain Fellowcraft Team
Stanley Arnold —
Clarence Bartlett —
Fred Dengler —
Leland Sloan —

The working tools of the degree were presented by Bro. Fred Kreyssig; the charge was given by Bro. Frank Kreyssig, and the lecture was rehearsed by the Past Masters Earl Clark and Louis Smith.

The work of the evening was all very fine and brought many compliments. A social hour with refreshments followed.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$102.00 and with \$49.00 previously received were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt, deposited in safe by the W. Master, Chapman.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 1v](#))

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., February 12th, 1941, A.L. 5941.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — W.M.
Bro. Joseph Maslak — S.W.
Bro. Emery Abbe — J.W.
Bro. Louis Myers — Treas.
Bro. Ed. Schlichting — Sec'y PT
Bro. Edward Staiger — S.D.
Bro. Richard Carter — J.D.
Bro. Edward Nield — S.S.
Bro. Norman Stolle — J.S.
Bro. Irving A. Burnap — Chap.
Bro. Fred Kreyssig — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 16 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Communication were omitted.

The following bills were read and later voted paid: None.

Bro. John Lang, an Entered Apprentice, being found in waiting to receive the Fellowcraft Degree, the Lodge was called to refreshment on the Master Mason Degree and opened on the Fellowcraft Degree, after which he received that degree in due form.

The working tools were presented by W. M. Chapman, lectures rehearsed by J.D. Carter and S.S. Edward Nield, and the Charge was given by P.M. Koetsch.

Lodge of Fellowcraft closed. Labor resumed on the Master Mason Degree and closed in form.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$75.00 and were not turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 2](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., February 26th, 1941, A.L. 5941.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — W.M.

Bro. Joseph Maslak — S.W.

Bro. Emery Abbe — J.W.

Bro. Howard Middleton — Sec'y PT

Bro. Edward Staiger — S.D.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D. PT

Bro. Edward Schlichting — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 7 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Northern Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$1.00.

Voted to instruct the Secretary to write and mail registered letters to the following brothers, who are in arrears:

Fred Ertel, Joseph Bilanger, John Woolam, Walter Drechsler.

Voted to renovate and repair officers aprons which are in need of repairs, at a cost not to exceed \$16.00.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$16.00 and were not turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe and are held by the Secretary.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Howard Middleton, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 2v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., March 12, 1941, A.L. 5941.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — W.M.

Bro. Joseph Maslak — S.W.

Bro. Howard Middleton — J.W. PT

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Edward Staiger — S.D.

Bro. Richard Carter — J.D.

Bro. Edward Nield — S.S.

Bro. Kenneth Kreyssig — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 8 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

A letter from Walter Drechsler was read in which he said he was unable to pay his dues until April, and Harold Skinner reported he could not pay until May 1st. Lodge voted to grant both extensions of time.

Brothers Thomas Belanger, Fred Ertel, Stanley Osborn, and William Sansom responded favorably.

W.M. Chapman announced that the Master Mason Degree would be conferred on Bro. John Lang at our next meeting which would be on March 26th. He suggested cards be mailed to all brothers residing locally except present officers.

The Lodge is very pleased to have their apartments redecorated in such a splendid manner.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$56.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 3](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., March 26th, 1941, A.L. 5941.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — W.M.

Bro. Joseph Maslak — S.W.

Bro. Emery Abbe — J.W.

Bro. Louis Myers — Treas.

Bro. Boyd Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Richard Carter — S.D. PT

Bro. Edward Nield — J.D. PT

Bro. Norman Stolle — S.S. PT
Bro. Louis Smith — J.S. PT
Bro. Irving A. Burnap — Chap.
Bro. Louis Myers — Marsh. PT
Bro. Fred Kreyssig — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 30 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Ct. Light & Power Co. — \$3.40

Emery Abbe — \$20.00

Letters were read from the Grand Lodge concerning finger prints and also reports on Pneumonics.

Bro. Myers reported that Bro. James Ravich had met with a very severe accident while driving home from his work and was confined at the Hartford Hospital. Motion was entertained to send him flowers and to visit him when possible. All voted in favor.

Bro. John Lang, a Fellowcraft, being found in waiting to receive the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, he was duly prepared, conducted into the Lodge and then received that degree in due form.

The working tools were presented and explained by P.M. H. W. Graham, a friend of John's. He was raised by the assistance of Bro. Arthur Lang, also a friend. Bro. Middleton gave the History of the Degree, the lectures were rehearsed by P.M. Bros Fred Dengler and Edward Schlichting, and the charge given by P.M. Bro. Myers.

After the work of the evening the visiting Bros. H. W. Graham of Manchester Lodge No. 12 of Connecticut and Arthur Lang of Anthony, R.I., and also from our own Bros. Burnap and Middleton.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$78.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 3v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., April 9th, 1941, A.L. 5941.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Louis Smith — W.M. PT

Bro. Joseph Maslak — S.W.

Bro. Emery Abbe — J.W.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Richard Carter — S.D.

Bro. Edward Nield — J.D.

Bro. Edward Nield — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 7 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Broad Brook Insurance Agency — \$16.20

Spaulding Gardens — \$2.50

Letters were read from the Grand Lodge encouraging hospitality to all Masons sojourning within the jurisdiction of this Lodge, and also from the Masonic Home at Wallingford asking that an Easter plant be sent them in time for Easter Sunday services.

Lodge voted to send Bro. James Ravich a suitable plant in the near future and to make an effort to visit him from time to time. He is feeling some better.

Lodge voted to send an Easter lily to Masonic Home.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$28.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 4](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., April 23rd, 1941, A.L. 5941.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — W.M.

Bro. Joseph Maslak — S.W.
Bro. Howard Middleton — J.W. PT
Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Richard Carter — S.D.
Bro. Edward Nield — J.D.
Bro. Henry Hudson — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 8 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Nor. Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$1.00

W.M. Chapman announced that District Deputy W. H. Brainard would make his official visitation on May 14th, when the Entered Apprentice Degree would be conferred.

Voted to write another letter to Bro. John Woolam and impress him with the fact that he must respond to our letters if he wishes to remain a Mason. Same to be sent by registered mail.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$21.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 4v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., May 14th, 1941, A.L. 5941.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — W.M.
Bro. Joseph Maslak — S.W.
Bro. Emery Abbe — J.W.
Bro. Louis Myers — Treas.
Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Richard Carter — S.D.
Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D. PT
Bro. Norman Stolle — S.S. PT
Bro. Louis Smith — J.S.
Bro. Irving A. Burnap — Chap.
Bro. Louis Myers — Marsh. PT
Bro. Fred M. Kreyssig — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 30 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

John Labis — Ice cream — \$7.60

Spaulding Gardens — \$1.85

B. R. Grant, Sec'y — supplies — \$7.75

Standard Paper Co. — \$6.06

Lodge called to refreshment on MM degree and opened on E.A. Degree.

Two candidates from Wyllis Lodge No. 99 were found in waiting to receive their E.A. Degree, namely: Thos. Miles Wilks and Chas. Louis Hurlburt, Jr. They were properly prepared and conducted into the Lodge, having gained admission by three distinct knocks with their own right hands, after which they received the degree in due and ancient form.

The apron was presented by P.M. Louis Myers, the Working Tools by P.M. B. R. Grant and the Charge given by P.M. Fred Stolle. The first section of the lecture pertaining to the Degree was rehearsed by P.M. Louis Smith & S.D. Richard Carter, after which the second & third sections were given by P.M. Howard Middleton.

Lodge was closed on the F.A. Degree and called to labor on the MM Degree. Brief remarks were heard from R.W. Frank Newton, R.W. W. H. Brainard District Deputy of the Sixth Masonic District, R.W. Ralph Morris, Bros. Middleton & Burnap.

The occasion of the evening being the official visitation of R.W. W. H. Brainard, he was escorted into the Lodge in company with his associate officers and was received by W.M. Chapman with usual ceremony.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$19.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature) B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 5](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., May 28th, 1941, A.L. 5941.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — W.M.
Bro. Joseph Maslak — S.W.
Bro. H. A. Middleton — J.W. PT
Bro. H. A. Middleton — Sec'y PT
Bro. Louis Smith — S.D. PT
Bro. Edward Nield — J.D.
Bro. John Lang — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 6 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were not read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

None

Petition for membership received from William Young and read.

W.M. Chapman appointed Bros. Stanley Arnold, Charles Staiger & Albert Goettler a committee of investigation.

W.M. Chapman announced a meeting of the Masters & Wardens Assoc. on June 13th at 6 P.M.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$7.00 and were not turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

H. A. Middleton, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 5v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., June 11th, 1941, A.L. 5941.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — W.M.
Bro. Joseph Maslak — S.W.
Bro. Emery Abbe — J.W.
Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Richard Carter — S.D.
Bro. Edward Nield — J.D.
Bro. Norman Stolle — S.S.
Bro. Fred Stolle — Marsh.
Bro. Gus Schlichting — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 15 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Grand Lodge Bill — \$275.75

Electric Light Bill — \$4.20

Voted to pay such part of the Grand Lodge bill as the Treasury warrants.

Voted to empower the Treasurer & Secretary to transact all necessary business of the Lodge during the coming summer recess as this is the last meeting of the season.

Voted to suspend Bro. John Woolam but not before the Annual Meeting in December.

The application of William Young being properly signed by the committee of Investigation, the ballot was spread and after all had voted Mr. Young was found to have been elected to membership. The candidate being promptly notified appeared properly prepared after which he received his Entered Apprentice Degree in due form.

The Lambskin was presented by W.M. Chapman.

The Working Tools presented by B. R. Grant.

Lectures of the Degree were rehearsed by Edward Nield & Bro. Richard Carter.

Charge was given by P.M. Fred Stolle.

W.M. announced St. Johns Sunday would be observed on June 22nd at the Congregational Church.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$39.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 6](#)).

A Special Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., Sunday, June 22nd, 1941, A.L. 5941.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — W.M.
Bro. Joseph Maslak — S.W.
Bro. Emery Abbe — J.W.
Bro. Wilfred Chapman — Sec'y PT
Bro. Richard Carter — S.D.
Bro. — Gus Schlichting — J.D.
Bro. Gus Schlichting — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 5 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Purpose of the meeting being to attend the Congregational Church in a body, to observe St. Johns Day, those present repaired to the Church where they were joined by Bros. Fred Dengler, John Lang, Louis Smith & Howard Middleton.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$_____ and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Wilfred Chapman, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 6v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., June 28th, 1941, A.L. 5941.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — W.M.
Bro. Joseph Maslak — S.W.
Bro. H. A. Middleton — J.W. PT
Bro. H. A. Middleton — Sec'y PT
Bro. Louis Smith — S.D. PT
Bro. Edward Nield — J.D.
Bro. John Lang — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 6 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Because of the absence of the Secretary reading of the minutes of the last meeting were omitted.

A petition for membership was read from William Albert Young.

Investigating committee appointed consisting of Bros. Stanley Arnold, Chas. Staiger, & Albert Goettler.

W.M. Chapman announced a meeting of the Masters & Wardens Assoc. in Wethersfield June 13.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$7.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

H. A. Middleton, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 7](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., September 10th, 1941, A.L. 5941.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. J. Maslak — W.M. PT
Bro. Louis Smith — S.W. PT
Bro. Emery Abbe — J.W.
Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Richard Carter — S.D. PT
Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D. PT
Bro. Fred Kreyssig — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 8 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Ct. Light & Power Co. — \$1.00

Spaulding Gardens — \$2.00

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$NONE and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 7v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., September 24th, 1941, A.L. 5941.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. J. Maslak — W.M. PT

Bro. E. Abbe — S.W. PT

Bro. L. Smith — J.W. PT

Bro. H. Middleton — Sec'y PT

Bro. R. Carter — S.D. PT

Bro. Ed. Schlichting — J.D. PT

Bro. N. Stolle — S.S.

Bro. F. Dengler — J.S. PT

Bro. H. Middleton — Chap. PT

Bro. Fred Kreyssig — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 12 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated or Special Communication were not read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$2.00

Motion was made that the Lodge contribute \$10.00 from the Treasury funds to cover 40¢ per member for the Masonic Service Assoc. for the support of recreation centers for masons in the service.

Voted to lay this motion on the table.

Bro. William Young, an E.A. Mason, being found in waiting to receive the Fellowcraft Degree, Lodge was called to refreshment on the M.M. and a Lodge of Fellowcraft opened, after which he received that degree in due form.

Working tools were presented by P.M. Louis Smith, Charge by P.M. Chas. Koetsch, and the lectures were rehearsed by S.S. Norman Stolle & P.M. Fred Dengler.

Lodge called from refreshment closed on the F.C. Degree and called to labor on the M.M.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$61.00, except \$15.00, and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

H. A. Middleton, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 8](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., October 8th, 1941, A.L. 5941.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. J. Maslak — W.M. PT

Bro. E. Abbe — S.W. PT

Bro. H. Hudson — J.W. PT

Bro. J. Maslak — Sec'y PT

Bro. R. Carter — S.D. PT

Bro. J. Lang — J.D. PT

Bro. J. Lang — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 5 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated or Special Communication were not read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$none and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

J. Maslak, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 8v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., October 22nd, 1941, A.L. 5941.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Jos. Maslak — W.M. PT
Bro. Ed. Schlichting — S.W. PT
Bro. Harold Staiger — J.W. PT
Bro. Howard Middleton — Sec'y PT
Bro. R. Carter — S.D. PT
Bro. Ed. Nield — J.D.
Bro. Ed. Nield — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 6 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated or Special Communication were not read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Voted to take from table a motion from the previous meeting, which was to contribute \$10.00 to the Masonic Service Association for Masons in the U.S. Service.

After some discussion it was voted to make this contribution and to pay it from funds of the treasury.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$none and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Howard Middleton, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 9](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., November 12th, 1941, A.L. 5941.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — W.M.
Bro. Joseph Maslak — S.W.
Bro. Emery Abbe — J.W.
Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.
Bro. Boyd R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Louis Smith — S.D. PT
Bro. Edward Nield — J.D.
Bro. Norman Stolle — S.S.
Bro. Irving A. Burnap — Chap.
Bro. Louis Myers — Marsh. PT
Bro. Fred M. Kreyssig — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 65 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

B. R. Grant — Flowers — \$2.00
Ct. Light & Power Co. — \$3.00
Grand Lodge — \$0.50

The Pratt & Whitney Square Club being found in waiting to confer the Master Mason Degree on Bro. William Young, they were conducted into the Lodge and after proper introductions Wor. Bro. Arthur Allen accepted the Gavel and also the invitation of our W.M. Chapman to preside over the East for the evening, and other officers exchanged stations with our officers, as follows:

S.W. — Arthur Curtis, Hartford #88
J.W. — Buell Hasbrook, Seneca #55, Torrington
Treas. — Lawrence Nickerson, Lafayette #100
Sec'y — Edward Brewer, Manchester #73
S.D. — William Farmer Jr., Hartford #88
J.D. — C. Morris Gardiner, Wyllys #99
S.S. — Clayton Adams, Hartford #88
J.S. — Clyde Weiss, Orient #62
Chap. — Everett E. Esty, Quaboag, Warren, Mass.
Marshal — L. Collins, Columbia #25

The work of the evening progressed smoothly, and brought many congratulations from those who spoke later when the degree had been completed, namely Bros. Middleton, Thomas, Brock, Grant, Myers, Clyde Weiss & Edward Brewer, and also our newly admitted Bro. William Young.

Refreshments & social hour followed.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$36.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 9v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., November 26th, 1941, A.L. 5941.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — W.M.

Bro. Joseph Maslak — S.W.

Bro. Emery Abbe — J.W.

Bro. Boyd R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Richard Carter — S.D.

Bro. Edward Nield — J.D.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 15 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Ct. Light & Power Co. — \$2.70

A letter of appreciation was read from the family of our late deceased Brother Albert D. Ellsworth who passed away at his home on Nov. 14th, after a short illness, expressing their gratitude for flowers and expressions of sympathy. Bro. Ellsworth was raised in this Lodge Mar. 28th, 1906 and has been a faithful member. Although he did not attend Lodge in late years, he met all his obligations and was always loyal to the fraternity. W.M. Chapman ordered the altar draped in mourning for a period of 30 days, and called the Lodge up to stand in silent meditation as a token of our esteem.

Applications for membership were read from Edwin Pease and Samuel Neelans. It was voted to accept these applications and the W.M. named the following as investigating committees:

For Mr. Pease — Louis Smith, Fred Kreyssig & Chas. Koetsch.

For Mr. Neelans — Bros. Emery Abbe, Fred Stolle & Boyd Grant.

Letters were read regarding the question of Past Masters joining the Grand Lodge. Discussion followed. All the Past Masters present did not desire to join the Grand Lodge and expressed themselves as not believing it would benefit those concerned. The Secretary was instructed to write R.W. Bro. E.M. White giving him this information.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$9.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 10](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., December 10th, 1941, A.L. 5941.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — W.M.

Bro. Joseph Maslak — S.W.

Bro. Emery Abbe — J.W.

Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.

Bro. Howard Middleton — Sec'y PT

Bro. Richard Carter — S.D.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D. PT

Bro. Norman Stolle — J.S.

Bro. Chas. Koetsch — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 14 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Adam Hoffman — Janitor service — \$15.00

M. W. Grand Lodge dues, 2nd half year of 1941 — \$191.75

Smiths Market — for cups — \$4.93

The petition for membership from Edwin Thrall Pease was read and the W.M. ordered the ballot spread. After voting of members the ballot was found clear and Edwin Thrall Pease was declared elected to membership.

The present communication being the Annual Meeting of the Lodge, the customary procedure of business followed.

The reports of the Treasurer, Secretary and of the Trustees were read and each in turn was accepted by vote of the Lodge and ordered placed on file.

The following officers were elected to office by ballot for the ensuing year:

W.M. — Joseph Maslak;

S.W. — Emery W. Abbe;

J.W. — Richard Carter;

Treasurer — Louis C. Myers;

Secretary — Boyd H. Grant;

Trustee for three years — Stanley E. Arnold.

The officers appointed by the newly elected Master were:

S.D. — Edward Niel;

S.S. — John Lang;

J.S. — William Young;

Chap. — Irving A. Burnap;

Organist — Gus L. Goettler;

Tyler — Edward Schlichting.

Announcement was made that the Installation of Officers would be held on January 7th, 1942 at a Special Communication. Past Grand Master Howard Middleton to be the installing officer assisted by Past Master R. W. Louis C. Myers.

Voted to contribute \$5.00 to the Masonic Christmas Fund.

Voted to authorize Treasurer Myers to invest \$300 of the Lodge funds now deposited in the Broad Brook Bank & Trust Co. in United States Defense Bonds, and also to so invest additional funds as the Lodge Treasury may warrant during the coming year.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$56.00 and were not turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Howard Middleton, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 10v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., December 24th, 1941, A.L. 5941.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — W.M.

Bro. Joseph Maslak — S.W.

Bro. Emery Abbe — J.W.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Edward Niel — S.D. PT

Bro. Fred Kreyssig — J.D. PT

Bro. Fred Kreyssig — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 5 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated or Special Communication were not read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$21.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt.

Deposited in safe December 27th, 1941.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 11](#)).

An analysis of the minutes of Oriental Lodge No. 111 (Broad Brook, Connecticut) for 1941 shows that during this period the lodge maintained steady and regular organizational activity, combining ritual work, current administrative and financial management, and participation in the broader social and patriotic initiatives of the Masonic community in the United States.

First and foremost, the documents testify to the stability of the lodge's internal life. Throughout the year, stated and special communications were held regularly; officers were elected and installed; bills were reviewed; correspondence was maintained with the Grand Lodge; and decisions were made on matters of

membership and financial obligations. Even when attendance at certain meetings was comparatively low in some months, the lodge continued to function without interruption, which indicates the preservation of its institutional stability.

A particularly important place in the lodge's activities was occupied by ritual and initiatory work. In 1941, Oriental Lodge actively conducted degree work: candidates were admitted to the Entered Apprentice degree, advanced to the Fellowcraft degree, and raised to the degree of Master Mason. Some of these ceremonies were marked by an especially solemn and collective character. Particularly noteworthy is the January raising of Kenneth Kreyssig, in which his father and uncle participated along with a group of Past Masters. This points to the important role of family and personal ties, as well as continuity, in the life of the lodge. No less significant was the November work, when the Master Mason degree for William Young was conferred with the participation of the Pratt & Whitney Square Club, demonstrating well-developed inter-lodge connections and the lodge's integration into the broader Masonic network of Connecticut and neighboring territories.

The sources also show that the lodge devoted considerable attention to membership discipline and to maintaining the financial responsibility of the brethren. The minutes repeatedly record measures taken with respect to members who were in arrears in their dues, including the sending of registered letters, the granting of extensions, and, in one case, the decision to suspend a member. This suggests that by the beginning of the 1940s the lodge sought to preserve a balance between fraternal support and administrative strictness.

Another important aspect of its work was careful material and financial management. The minutes record the payment of utility bills, the purchase of supplies, expenditures for flowers, ice cream, stationery, janitorial services, as well as repairs and the renovation of lodge premises and regalia. It is noted separately that in the spring of 1941 the brethren were pleased with the quality of the refurbishment of the lodge rooms. This shows that maintaining the material space of the lodge was regarded as an important element of corporate culture and of the public representation of the fraternity.

Social and charitable activity was also of considerable importance. Oriental Lodge sent flowers and plants to sick brethren and to the Masonic Home, expressed condolences to the families of deceased members, and preserved mourning rituals of remembrance. These episodes show that the lodge functioned not only as a ritual association, but also as a community of mutual support.

The year 1941 is especially interesting in the context of the lodge's gradual involvement in the military and patriotic agenda connected with the Second World War. As early as the autumn of 1941, the minutes record discussion of aid to the Masonic Service Association for the support of Masons in military service. In October, the lodge approved a financial contribution for this purpose. Even more revealing is the December decision to invest part of the lodge's funds in United States Defence Bonds. This clearly demonstrates that by the end of 1941 Oriental Lodge did not remain apart from the mobilizational mood of American society, but became involved in nationwide patriotic practices.

At the same time, it is important to note that even against the background of a worsening wartime situation, the lodge preserved its usual structure of work: ritual, fraternal fellowship, charity, financial discipline, and cooperation with the Grand Lodge. Thus, Oriental Lodge No. 111 in 1941 appears as a local Masonic institution which, on the one hand, remained faithful to traditional forms of lodge life, while, on the other, gradually adapted itself to the new historical conditions of wartime.

The Activities of the Lodge in 1942

A Special Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., January 7th, 1942, A.L. 5942.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — W.M.

Bro. Joseph Maslak — S.W.

Bro. Emery Abbe — J.W.

Bro. Louis Myers — Treas.

Bro. Boyd R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Richard Carter — S.D.

Bro. Edward Nield — J.D.

Bro. Norman Stolle — S.S.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 25 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved. (note: "no minutes read")

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

The purpose of the meeting was to install the newly elected and appointed officers. W.M. Chapman called a recess of the Lodge after which the installation ceremonies took place.

Past Grand Master Howard A. Middleton acted as the installing officer and was assisted by Past Master Louis C. Myers. The following were duly installed:

Joseph Maslak — W.M.
Emery W. Abbe — S.W.
Richard Carter — J.W.
Louis C. Myers — Treasurer
Boyd R. Grant — Secretary
Edward Nield — S.D.
Norman Stolle — J.D.
John Lang — S.S.
William A. Young — J.S.
Irving A. Burnap — Chaplain
Fred Stolle — Marshal
Gus Goettler — Organist
Edward L. Schlichting — Tyler

Bro. Middleton and Bro. Myers performed their duties not only perfectly, but with sincerity and a feeling of right good fellowship to all. After the installation they were called upon to speak and responded with very fitting remarks as did Bro. Burnap. Oriental Lodge respects them.

After brief remarks our newly installed Master, Bro. Maslak, announced the conferring of the Entered Apprentice Degree upon candidate Edwin Thrall Pease, on January 14th, 1942.

Refreshments and social hour followed.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$146.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 2. F. 11v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., January 14th, 1942, A.L. 5942.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Joseph Maslak — W.M.
Bro. Emery Abbe — S.W.
Bro. Louis Smith — J.W. PT
Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.
Bro. H. A. Middleton — Sec'y PT
Bro. Edward Nield — S.D.
Bro. Norman Stolle — J.D.
Bro. John Lang — S.S.
Bro. William Young — J.S.
Bro. Louis C. Myers — Tyler PT
Bro. Harris Dickinson — Organist PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 12 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated and Special Communications were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

NONE

Letters from W.M. Bro. Walter Prickett, Grand Master, and M.W. Bro. Winthrop Buck, Grand Sec'y, were read.

Mr. Edwin Thrall Pease being found in waiting to receive the Entered Apprentice Degree, Lodge was called to refreshment and opened on the E.A. Degree, and after paying the usual fee of \$15.00, he was initiated an E.P. Mason in due form.

The apron was presented by Past Master L. C. Myers; the working tools by Bro. Norman Stolle; and the charge was given by P.M. Bro. Fred Stolle. First section of the lecture of this Degree was rehearsed for the benefit of the candidate by Bro. John Lang S.S. and Bro. William Young J.S.

Lodge of Entered Apprentice closed and work resumed on the Master Mason Degree.

W.M. Maslak ordered the altar draped in mourning in memory of our late deceased Bro. Henry Neuschler who passed away on January 11th, at the home of his son in Denver, Colorado. He was 82 years of age and had long been faithful to this Lodge. He was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in this Lodge on April 24th, 1883 — fifty-nine years ago.

Secretary Grant answered a telegram from the Denver Masonic Service Assoc. in which that organization offered to conduct the funeral services for Oriental Lodge at the request of Bro. Neuschler's son, Edward,

giving the consent of this Lodge with appreciation, and also ordering a suitable floral piece. These arrangements were made Sat. Jan. 19th.

Bros. Fred Stolle and Harris Dickinson were present and therefore were duly installed to the offices of Marshal and Organist respectively.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$22.00 and were not turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

H. A. Middleton, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 3. F. 1](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., January 28th, 1942, A.L. 5942.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Joseph Maslak — W.M.

Bro. Emery Abbe — S.W.

Bro. Louis Smith — J.W. PT

Bro. Boyd Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Edward Nield — S.D.

Bro. Norman Stolle — J.D.

Bro. John Lang — S.S.

Bro. William Young — J.S.

Bro. Norman Stolle — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 8 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Nor. Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$3.65

A letter of appreciation from Edward Neuschler, for the Masonic funeral of his late deceased father and member of our Lodge, and also in appreciation for the floral tribute we sent.

It was voted to send Bro. Fred Dengler who has been confined at the Hartford Hospital, but has returned home. Bro. Fred is suffering from a throat ailment which has taken away his voice.

Bro. Louis Smith proposed the getting out of a News Letter giving current events of the Lodge, the same to be sent to absentee members.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$46.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 3. F. 1v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., February 11th, 1942, A.L. 5942.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Joseph Maslak — W.M.

Bro. Emery Abbe — S.W.

Bro. Richard Carter — J.W.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Edward Nield — S.D.

Bro. Henry Hudson — J.D. PT

Bro. John Lang — S.S.

Bro. William Young — J.S.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 10 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

H. A. Middleton — wood — \$4.00

Bro. Middleton made a motion that Bros. George Sargent & James Ravich, who are both confined to the hospital, be sent baskets of fruit. Motion so carried and passed by vote.

Bro. Abbe made a motion which was also carried & passed by vote, that Bro. Albert Schlude's dues be remitted and a sum of \$10.00 be sent to him.

W.M. Maslak reported on the Grand Lodge proceedings at the Annual Meeting on Feb. 7th.

(Handwritten note):

“Appropriated to contribute \$2.00 to the War Relief Service Campaign”

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$28.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 3. F. 2](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., February 25th, 1942, A.L. 5942.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Joseph Maslak — W.M.

Bro. Emery Abbe — S.W.

Bro. Richard Carter — J.W.

Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.

Bro. Boyd R. Grant — Sec’y

Bro. Edward Nield — S.D.

Bro. Norman Stolle — J.D.

Bro. John Lang — S.S.

Bro. William Young — J.S.

Bro. Irving A. Burnap — Chap.

Bro. Louis C. Myers — Marsh. PT

Bro. Henry Hudson — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 32 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Nep. Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$1.55

Denver Masonic Serv. Assoc. — \$11.09

B. R. Grant, Sec’y — \$2.55

A letter from the Grand Lodge was read which enclosed an application to the care of Masonic Charity Foundation.

The District Deputy, R.W. William H. Brainard, being found in readiness to make his official visitation, the Lodge was recessed, after which R.W. Brainard was escorted into Lodge accompanied by his associate Grand Lodge officers, R.W. Ralph Morris, Grand Chaplain and also R.W. Edward M. White and Bro. Howard A. Middleton, Past Grand Master.

The Fellowcraft Degree was conferred on Edwin Thrall Pease, an Entered Apprentice.

The Working Tools were presented by P.M. Louis E. Smith.

The Charge was given by P.M. Charles Koetsch, and the lecture was rehearsed by the Stewards, Bros. Lang and Young.

During an intermission the District Deputy inspected the records of the Lodge and books kept by the Secretary, which he found very satisfactory.

After the work of the evening was finished D.D. Brainard gave his report which was very complimentary to W.M. Maslak and his officers. Remarks were later heard from R.W. Bros Morris and White, also from our own Bros. Burnap, Myers & Middleton.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$57.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 3. F. 2v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., March 11th, 1942, A.L. 5942.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Joseph Maslak — W.M.

Bro. Emery Abbe — S.W.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.W. PT

Bro. H. A. Middleton — Sec’y PT

Bro. John Lang — S.D. PT

Bro. Edward Nield — J.D.

Bro. Edward Nield — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 6 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were not read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Joseph Maslak — Fruit baskets — \$6.50

H. A. Middleton — Wood — \$4.00

It was voted to authorize the Secretary to purchase a jewel for the Marshal.

Also voted — The present Worshipful Master and each succeeding Master be and hereby appointed a committee to keep in touch with all members of this Lodge who are in the Service of their Country for the duration of this War.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$NONE and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

H. A. Middleton, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 3. F. 3](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., March 25th, 1942, A.L. 5942.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. J. Maslak — W.M.

Bro. Emery Abbe — S.W.

Bro. Richard Carter — J.W.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Edward Nield — S.D.

Bro. Henry Hudson — J.D. PT

Bro. Edward Schlichting — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 8 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$1.90

A letter from the Masonic Charity Foundation asking that a potted plant be sent to the Masonic Home for Easter.

Voted to comply with this request and have it sent to a member who was not remembered otherwise.

W.M. Maslak announced that the Master Mason Degree would be conferred on Bro. Edwin Pease on April 8th.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$21.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 3. F. 3v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., April 22nd, 1942, A.L. 5942.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Joseph Maslak — W.M.

Bro. Emery Abbe — S.W.

Bro. Richard Carter — J.W.

Bro. Louis Myers — Treas.

Bro. Boyd Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Edward Nield — S.D.

Bro. Norman Stolle — J.D.

Bro. John Lang — S.S.

Bro. William Young — J.S.

Bro. Irving A. Burnap — Chap.

Bro. Fred Stolle — Marsh.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 25 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Broad Brook Insurance Agency — \$15.75

A letter from Lilley-Ames Co. advising that a Marshal's Jewel could not be furnished due to the Government restrictions of metal.

Sec'y Grant reported that he had ordered a suitable floral gift and sent it to the Masonic Home for Easter.

Bro. Edwin T. Pease, a Fellowcraft, being found in waiting to receive the M.M. Degree, Lodge was called to refreshment and a Lodge of Fellowcraft opened after which he was conducted into the Lodge and received the Sublime Degree of M. Mason in due form.

Working tools were presented by P.M. Louis Smith, Charge by P.M. Louis Myers and the lectures were given by Past Masters Edward Schlichting, Fred Dengler and Howard Middleton, P.G.M. Bro. Burnap spoke briefly afterwards.

It was voted to adopt the custom of pledging allegiance to the flag at the opening of all meetings.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$56.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 3. F. 4](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., May 13th, 1942, A.L. 5942.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Joseph Maslak — W.M.

Bro. Emery Abbe — S.W.

Bro. Richard Carter — J.W.

Bro. H. A. Middleton — Sec'y PT

Bro. Edward Nield — S.D.

Bro. Fred Kreyssig — J.D. PT

Bro. John Lang — S.S.

Bro. William Young — J.S.

Bro. Louis Smith — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 12 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were omitted.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Worshipful Bro. Maslak stated that all necessary arrangements having been completed, he took Bro. Albert Schlude to the Masonic Home on Sunday P.M., May 11th.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$21.00 and were not turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

H. A. Middleton, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 3. F. 4v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., May 27th, 1942, A.L. 5942.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Joseph Maslak — W.M.

Bro. Emery Abbe — S.W.

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — J.W. PT

Bro. Boyd R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Edward Nield — S.D.

Bro. Louis Smith — J.D. PT

Bro. John Lang — S.S.

Bro. Howard Middleton — J.S. PT

Bro. Gustave S. Schlichting — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 8 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Spaulding Gardens — \$2.26

Ct. Light & Power Co. — \$1.80

Voted to decorate the grave of Past Grand Master William F. English who is buried in the Scantic Cemetery.

A letter from Bro. Albert Schlude who recently entered the Masonic Home was read in which he thanked the Lodge for all they did for him and said he was comfortably located.

An application for membership from Henry Francis McCaffrey was received and read.

W.M. Maslak appointed the following Committee for Investigation: Howard A. Middleton, Wesley Sargent, Jas. A. Hall, and announced this application, if received favorably, would receive his Entered Apprentice Degree at the next stated communication — June 10th.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$7.00 and were not turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 3. F. 5](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., June 10th, 1942, A.L. 5942.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Joseph Maslak — W.M.

Bro. Emery Abbe — S.W.

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — J.W. PT

Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Edward Nield — S.D.

Bro. Norman Stolle — J.D.

Bro. John Lang — S.S.

Bro. William Young — J.S.

Bro. Fred Stolle — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 14 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Joseph Maslak — Flowers — \$2.00

A letter was read from the Masonic Home regarding Bro. Schlude and the disposal of his furniture. Bro. Myers offered to contact R.W. Robt. Walker from the Masonic Charity Foundation relative to a settlement.

The Application for membership from Harry Francis McCaffrey was presented by Bro. Middleton and duly signed by the Committee of Investigation. The Ballot was spread and when all had voted it was found clear and W.M. Maslak announced Harry Francis McCaffrey duly elected to membership. After a recess, McCaffrey was notified of his election and came to Lodge, was conducted into the Lodge and received the Entered Apprentice in due form.

The Apron was presented by P.M. Louis Myers, the Working tools presented & their uses explained by P.M. Boyd R. Grant, the lectures rehearsed by S.S. John Lang and J.S. William Young, and the charge given by P.M. Fred Stolle.

S.W. Emery Abbe, who had previously been invited to the East, occupied the Master's Chair and presided over the work of the evening.

As this was the last regular meeting before the summer recess, it was voted to instruct the Secretary and Treasurer to carry on the necessary business of the Lodge during that time.

W.M. Maslak announced St. Johns Day would be observed June 21st at the Episcopal Church.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$29.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 3. F. 5v](#)).

A special Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., June 21st, 1942, A.L. 5942.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery Abbe — W.M. PT

Bro. Fred Dengler — S.W. PT

Bro. Edward Nield — J.W. PT

Bro. Edward Nield / Wilfred Chapman — S.D. PT

Bro. I. A. Burnap — Chap.

Bro. Thos. Sargent — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 11 Brothers present at 8:30.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

The brothers present assembled at the Lodge and marched to the Episcopal Church and attended services in observance of St. Johns Day.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$_____ and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 3. F. 6](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., September 9th, 1942, A.L. 5942.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Joseph Maslak — W.M.

Bro. Emery Abbe — S.W.

Bro. Louis Myers — J.W. PT

Bro. Louis Myers — Treas.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Edward Nield — S.D.

Bro. John Lang — J.D. PT

Bro. John Lang — S.S.

Bro. Wm. Young — J.S.

Bro. Wm. Young — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 7 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

None

The minutes of the last stated and Special communications were read and approved.

It was voted to empower the W.M. to change the insurance on the Schlude property for \$1500 to \$1000 using a new policy if necessary.

It was announced that we now have four brothers in the War Service, namely: Edward Staiger, Normand Stolle, Louis Smith & Edwin Pease, and perhaps more who are not reported.

The receipts given below are for the summer recess.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$35.75 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 3. F. 6v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., September 23rd, 1942, A.L. 5942.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Joseph Maslak — W.M.

Bro. Emery Abbe — S.W.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.W. PT

Bro. Louis Myers — Treas.

Bro. Boyd Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Edward Nield — S.D.

Bro. John Lang — J.D. PT

Bro. John Lang — S.S.

Bro. William Young — J.S.

Bro. William Young — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 7 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

None

A letter to the Lodge from Bro. Louis Smith was read. He is stationed at Miami, Florida.

W.M. Maslak reported on the insurance of the Schlude (property) furniture.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$41.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 3. F. 7](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., October 14th, 1942, A.L. 5942.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Richard Carter — W.M. PT

Bro. Emery Abbe — S.W.

Bro. Joseph Maslak — J.W. PT

Bro. Louis Myers — Treas.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Edward Nield — S.D.

Bro. Fred Dengler — J.D. PT

Bro. John Lang — S.S.

Bro. William Young — J.S.

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — Chap. PT

Bro. Edward Schlichting — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 15 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$1.25

A letter from the Grand Lodge was read giving items of current interest.

An application for re-instatement from Leonard Badstuebner was read and later turned over to the Secretary to look up the amount back dues which he owed the Lodge when he was stricken from the roll for non-payment of dues.

Bro. Harry McCaffrey being found in waiting to receive the Fellowcraft, the Lodge was called to refreshment and a Lodge of Fellowcraft opened. Bro. McCaffrey received the Fellowcraft Degree in due form. The Working Tools were presented by P.M. Wilfred Chapman; the Charge of the Degree was given by P.M. Chas. Koetsch and the lectures were rehearsed for his benefit by Stewards, Lang & Young.

Mr. Hoffman, who has been janitor of the Lodge Hall for many years, reported that he could no longer serve due to changes in his working hours. After some discussion a way was found to assist him so that he might continue. Mr. Hoffman has been a very efficient worker and contributed much to making the Lodge hall a clean wholesome place in which to meet. Our sincere appreciation goes to him.

Lodge called closed on the Fellowcraft Degree & labor resumed on the M.M. Degree.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$55.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 3. F. 7v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., October 28th, 1942, A.L. 5942.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Joseph Maslak — W.M.

Bro. Emery Abbe — S.W.

Bro. Richard Carter — J.W.

Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.

Bro. Boyd R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Edward Nield — S.D.

Bro. Fred Kreyssig — J.D. PT

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — J.S. PT

Bro. — Fred Kreyssig — S.S.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 15 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Grand Lodge — due receipts or pass cards — \$0.50
Conn. Light & Power Co. — lights — \$2.75
Broad Brook Company — hall rent — \$100.00
Letters from the Grand Lodge were read.

A letter from Phillip J. Jones, Recorder of Washington Commandery No. 1 of Hartford, was read in which he extended an invitation to the officers and members of our Lodge to visit the Commandery on Nov. 17th for a social evening and to hear a concert by the Sphinx Temple Band. An answer and list of those intending to accept was asked for by the 13th.

Lodge voted that a Committee consisting of the W.M., S.W., J.W., Treas. & Sec'y take charge of the disposal of the Schlude property.

W.M. Maslak & Secretary Grant reported very satisfactory response from those asked to contribute to the Masonic Service Association. Absentee members have replied promptly and most cheerfully.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$52.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 3. F. 8](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., November 11th, 1942, A.L. 5942.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Joseph Maslak — W.M.

Bro. Emery W. Abbe — S.W.

Bro. Richard Carter — J.W.

Bro. Louis Myers — Treas.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Edward Nield — S.D.

Bro. Thos. Sargent — J.D. PT

Bro. John Lang — S.S.

Bro. William Young — J.S.

Bro. Irving A. Burnap — Chap.

Bro. Fred Stolle — Marsh.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — Tyler

Bro. Gus L. Goettler — Organist

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 75 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

B. R. Grant — for 300 stamped envelopes — \$9.69

Bro. Abbe suggested the Lodge be called to stand in silent prayer in honor of those who served in World War No. 1 and also the present war.

As the work of the evening was to be done by Past Masters of the Lodge, they being found in waiting, were properly conducted into the Lodge accompanied by distinguished visitors, namely, Phillip J. Jones, 33° Mason; R.W. Irving Partridge; R.W. Walter L. Taft; R.W. Louis R. Brock; and Past Grand Master Howard A. Middleton.

W.M. Maslak welcomed all most cordially and with very well spoken salutations. Past Master R.W. Louis C. Myers was welcomed to the East and to the Master's station which he held in presiding over the work of the evening.

His associate officers were the Past Masters:

Edward Schlichting — S.W.;

Fred Dengler — J.W.;

Stanley Arnold — Treas.;

R. R. Grant — Sec'y;

Howard Staiger — S.D.;

Wilfred Chapman — J.D.;

Chas. Staiger — S.S.;

Michael Margelony — J.S.;

Fred Stolle — Marshal;

Gus Goettler — Organist;

Fred Kreyszig — Tyler.

Bro. Harry McCaffrey, a Fellowcraft being found in waiting to receive the Master Mason Degree, he was conducted into the Lodge after giving the three distinct knocks with his own right hand, and received that degree in due form.

The working tools were presented by Past Master B. R. Grant, the Charge given by P.M. L. C. Myers and the lectures rehearsed by Past Masters Edward Schlichting & Fred Dengler.

Brief remarks were made by several of the distinguished guests only, as the hour was late, and refreshments were yet in store.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$30.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 3. F. 8v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., November 25th, 1942, A.L. 5942.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Joseph Maslak — W.M.

Bro. Emery Abbe — S.W.

Bro. William Chapman — J.W.

Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.

Bro. Fred Kreyssig — Sec'y PT

Bro. Edward Nield — S.D.

Bro. William Young — J.D. PT

Bro. Harry McCaffery — S.S. PT

Bro. William Young — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 8 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

H. Wesley Sargent — Insurance on Schlude furniture — \$17.50

and later turned over to the proper committee namely: L. C. Myers, Jas. E. Ravich, Emery Abbe, Howard Smith and Joe Maslak.

W.M. Maslak announced the Annual Meeting of the Lodge on the next regular meeting night which would be December 9th, and that the Secretary was instructed to give notice thereof when mailing the regular annual due statements.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$None and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Fred Kreyssig, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 3. F. 9](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., December 9th, 1942, A.L. 5942.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Joseph Maslak — W.M.

Bro. Emery Abbe — S.W.

Bro. Richard Carter — J.W.

Bro. Louis Myers — Treas.

Bro. Boyd Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Edward Nield — S.D.

Bro. Fred Dengler — J.D. PT

Bro. John Lang — S.S.

Bro. William Young — J.S.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 16 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Mr. Rolocut — wood — \$15.00

Adam Hoffman — Janitor — \$15.00

Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$0.60

Grand Lodge — \$455.50 (to be paid when corrected)

It was voted to send \$5.00 to the Masonic Home Christmas Fund.

It was voted to send a gift of \$10.00 and a letter of appreciation to Mr. Adam Hoffman for his long and faithful years of service as the Lodge Janitor. His resignation was accepted after discussion.

This being the Annual Meeting of the year, W.M. Maslak called for annual reports from the Secretary, Treasurer, Trustees and later gave his own. All reports were well accepted by a vote of the Lodge.

Election of officers followed with these results:

Emery W. Abbe — W.M.

Richard Carter — S.W.

Edward Nield — J.W.

Louis C. Myers — Treasurer

Boyd R. Grant — Secretary

The appointed officers were announced as follows:

John Lang — S.D.

Wm. Young — J.D.

Harry McCaffery — S.S.

Joseph Maslak — J.S.

I. A. Burnap — Chaplain

Harris Dickinson — Organist

Fred Stolle — Marshal

Edward Schlichting — Tyler

Worshipful Master-elect Abbe announced the Installation of Officers would be public and fall on Wednesday evening, January 6th, 1943, and that he hoped R.W. Louis R. Brock would be the Installing Officer.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$159.75 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt (dated 12/12) deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 3. F. 9v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., December 23rd, 1942, A.L. 5942.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery Abbe — W.M. PT

Bro. Joseph Maslak — S.W. PT

Bro. Edward Nield — J.W. PT

Bro. Edward Schlichting — Sec'y PT

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — S.D. PT

Bro. Wm. Young — J.D. PT

Bro. Harry McCaffery — S.S. PT

Bro. Wm. Young — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 7 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved (note: omitted).

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Joseph Maslak — Insurance on Schlude furniture — \$3.55

Bro. Maslak was chosen chairman of the Committee in charge of the Schlude case by a vote of those present.

It was voted to strike from the Membership Roll the name of John D. Woolam for the non-payment of dues, and to instruct the Secretary to write him to that effect, and also to write the Grand Lodge of our action.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$7.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Ed. L. Schlichting, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 3. F. 10](#)).

An analysis of the minutes of Oriental Lodge No. 111 for 1942 shows that the lodge continued to preserve the stability of its organizational structure and the regularity of its work under wartime conditions. Despite the comparatively low attendance at many ordinary meetings, the lodge's activity was not interrupted: stated and special communications were held, officers were installed, new members were admitted, degree work

was conducted, financial and property-related matters were resolved, and communication was maintained both with the Grand Lodge and with brethren who were away from the lodge.

One of the principal features of 1942 was the lodge's active ritual and initiatory work. Throughout the year, Oriental Lodge carried out initiations and the further advancement of candidates through the degrees. Edwin Thrall Pease received the Entered Apprentice degree in January, the Fellowcraft degree in February, and was raised to the degree of Master Mason in April. In a similar manner, Harry Francis McCaffrey was admitted as an Entered Apprentice in June, received the Fellowcraft degree in October, and was raised to the degree of Master Mason in November. This demonstrates that even under wartime conditions the lodge continued to fulfill one of its basic functions, namely the reproduction of the fraternity through full and regular degree work. At the same time, the most solemn meetings, especially the November work conducted by the Past Masters, had a distinctly ceremonial character and attracted significantly larger attendance than ordinary administrative meetings.

The documents also testify to the preservation of a high degree of administrative order. At meetings, letters from the Grand Lodge, financial accounts, organizational matters, officers' reports, and membership issues were regularly considered. An important feature is that even when certain officers were absent, the lodge quickly compensated through temporary appointments, which points to the flexibility of its internal administrative mechanism and the presence of a stable cadre of experienced members.

Social and fraternal mutual assistance occupied a special place in 1942. The lodge sent flowers and fruit baskets to sick brethren, assisted those in need, and adopted decisions concerning the remission of dues and the granting of financial aid. Particularly illustrative is the case of Brother Albert Schlude: the lodge not only relieved him of financial obligations and extended assistance, but also effectively helped arrange his admission to the Masonic Home. This shows that Oriental Lodge perceived itself not merely as a ritual organization, but as a fraternal community with a pronounced function of social support.

Another important sphere of activity was the preservation of memorial culture and rituals of remembrance. In January, the lodge honored the memory of the deceased Brother Henry Neuschler, arranged participation in his funeral through the Denver Masonic Service Association, and sent a floral tribute. Similar practices were recorded throughout the year, along with concern for commemorative space, for example the decision to decorate the grave of Past Grand Master William F. English. This testifies to the important role of memory, continuity, and the honoring of the dead in the culture of the lodge.

The year 1942 is particularly important as a period of the lodge's further incorporation into the military and patriotic agenda of the United States. Whereas in 1941 this tendency had only begun to emerge, in 1942 it became far more pronounced. As early as February, a sum was appropriated for the War Relief Service Campaign. In March, it was resolved that the acting Worshipful Master and each succeeding Master should maintain contact with all members of the lodge serving their country for the duration of the war. In April, the lodge introduced the practice of pledging allegiance to the flag at the opening of all meetings. By autumn, the minutes explicitly recorded that the lodge already had brethren in military service, naming Edward Staiger, Normand Stolle, Louis Smith, and Edwin Pease. In November, it was proposed that the lodge stand in silent prayer in honor both of those who had served in the First World War and of those participating in the present war. All this shows that by 1942 Oriental Lodge was no longer merely reacting to external circumstances, but was consciously incorporating the war into its own symbolic and organizational order.

In addition, the minutes show that the lodge actively dealt with property and financial matters connected with the so-called Schlude property, including its furniture, insurance, and disposal. This indicates that during the war years the lodge continued to pay attention not only to ritual and charitable matters, but also to questions of property, financial protection, and material responsibility.

At the same time, the sources also demonstrate a strengthening of disciplinary principles. In December 1942, a decision was made to strike John D. Woolam from the membership roll for non-payment of dues. This confirms that the lodge sought to maintain financial and organizational discipline even under the difficult conditions of wartime.

Taken as a whole, Oriental Lodge No. 111 in 1942 appears as a local yet viable Masonic institution that succeeded in combining traditional forms of lodge life with adaptation to new historical circumstances. It continued its initiatory work, maintained internal administrative stability, provided social support, preserved memorial practices, and at the same time became ever more deeply integrated into the patriotic and military agenda of American society during the Second World War.

The Activities of the Lodge in 1943

A special Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., January 6th, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Joseph Maslak — W.M.

Bro. Emery Abbe — S.W.

Bro. Richard Carter — J.W.
Bro. Louis Myers — Treas.
Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Edward Nield — S.D.
Bro. Fred Kreyssig — J.D. PT
Bro. John Lang — S.S.
Bro. William Young — J.S.
Bro. Edward Schlichting — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 6 Brothers present.
The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved (note: omitted).
The following bills were read and later voted paid:
The occasion of the evening was a Public Installation of Officers.

About 50 relatives & friends of the Lodge members were present to witness the ceremonies of the evening, which were conducted by R.W. Louis R. Brock acting as Installing Officer assisted by R.W. William E. Hamner, Marshal.

Those who were installed were:

Emery W. Abbe — W.M.
Richard Carter — S.W.
Edward Nield — J.W.
Louis Myers — Treasurer
Boyd R. Grant — Secretary
John Lang — S.D.
William Young — J.D.
Harry McCaffery — S.S.
Joseph Maslak — J.S.
Irving A. Burnap — Chaplain
Harris Dickinson — Organist
Edward Schlichting — Tyler

After W.M. Abbe had conducted the ceremony of presenting the Colors, Bro. Hamner assisting, he introduced his parents and presented them with a bouquet which had adorned his station.

Entertainment was furnished by a company of entertainers from Hartford, consisting of acrobatic dancing and a series of acts by a magician. All very good. Refreshments followed which were also excellent and a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$104.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt (note: \$14.00 on Jan 9th) deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 3. F. 10v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., January 13th, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery Abbe — W.M.
Bro. Joseph Maslak — S.W. PT
Bro. Edward Nield — J.W.
Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Fred Dengler — S.D. PT
Bro. William Young — J.D.
Bro. Edward Schlichting — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 8 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$1.70

We were very fortunate in having with us our good friend & brother Corporal Louis E. Smith, who spent a part of the evening in Lodge.

His present address is: 1074 N.W. 22nd St., Miami, Florida, c/o the Army Warehouse. He is looking well & reports all is well with him.

Janitor service was discussed. W.M. Abbe is working on the problem and hopes to make satisfactory arrangements to all concerned.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$21.00 and were not turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.
(Signature)
B. R. Grant
Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 1](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., January 27th, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery Abbe — W.M.
Bro. Richard Carter — S.W.
Bro. Edward Nield — J.W.
Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Fred Dengler — S.D. PT
Bro. John Lang — (office not specified)
Bro. Fred Dengler — J.D. PT
Bro. Fred Dengler — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 6 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$3.50

A letter was read from the Grand Lodge announcing the omission of the Grand Lodge Dinner.

A letter from the Mile-O-Dimes Campaign was read asking for donations and the brothers present voted to respond with the same amount as last year, namely \$3.00.

Secretary Grant presented the Lodge with a Service Flag bearing six stars representing the present members in the service.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$60.00, plus \$21.00 from previous meeting, and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt after the present meeting & at his home, deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 1v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., February 10th, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery Abbe — W.M.
Bro. Fred Dengler — S.W. PT
Bro. Edward Nield — J.W.
Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. John Lang — S.D.
Bro. William Young — J.D.
Bro. William Young — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 6 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Grand Lodge — balance due — \$42.00

W.M. Abbe instructed the Secretary to write John Woolam again relative to a previous letter, and make another attempt to obtain a reply.

W.M. Abbe gave a report on his visit to the Grand Lodge Meeting and the information he gained while there.

An informal discussion of personal experiences and observations in Masonry was given by those present which proved most interesting.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$14.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt after the meeting, deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 2](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., February 24th, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery Abbe — W.M.
Bro. Fred Dengler — S.W. PT
Bro. Edward Nield — J.W.
Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Edward Schlichting — S.D. PT
Bro. William Young — J.D.
Bro. William Young — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 6 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

W. J. Sansom — \$8.90
Nor. Conn. L. & P. — \$7.65
H. C. Brainard — \$1.50

Letter read from the Grand Lodge regarding vocabularies & mnemonics.

A letter was read which was received from Bro. John Woolam enclosing a check for \$42.00 to cover back dues. This letter was gladly received by the Secretary who has hoped that Woolam would be contacted successfully and again be a Mason in good standing.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$49.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt (dated 2/25/43) deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 2v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., March 10th, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery Abbe — W.M.
Bro. Richard Carter — S.W.
Bro. Edward Nield — J.W.
Bro. Howard Middleton — Sec'y PT
Bro. John Lang — S.D.
Bro. William Young — J.D.
Bro. Fred Dengler — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 7 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved (note: omitted).

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

The customary presentation of the colors and the salutation thereof was carried out.

The petition for membership from Floyd Donald Cotton of Windsorville was read and the following were named a committee of investigation: B. R. Grant, William Young & Fred Dengler.

It was voted to request the committee in charge of the Albert Schlude Estate make a report at the next meeting.

Voted to send a floral tribute from the Lodge to the funeral of the wife of our Bro. Fred M. Kreyszig, who passed away Mar. 9th.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$_____ and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Howard A. Middleton, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 6](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., March 24th, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery Abbe — W.M.
Bro. Fred Dengler — S.W. PT
Bro. Edward Nield — J.W.
Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. John Lang — S.D.
Bro. William Young — J.D.
Bro. Harry McCaffery — S.S.
Bro. Thomas Sargent — J.S. PT
Bro. Edward Schlichting — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 10 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$1.70

The petition for membership of Floyd Cotton, which had been duly signed by the investigating committee, was read, after which the ballot was spread and all present voted. The ballot was found clear in the South, West & East and W.M. Abbe declared Floyd Donald Cotton duly elected to become a member.

A petition for membership was read and found signed by Charles Everett Boyle and a second was read signed by Martin Mathew Hensel. Both were accepted by vote of the Lodge and W.M. Abbe announced Investigating Committees as follows:

For Boyle — John Lang, Thomas Sargent & Henry Hudson.

For Hensel — Edward Nield, Edward Schlichting & William Young.

W.M. Abbe instructed the Secretary to write to the District Deputy, R.W. Morris G. Bennett of Hartford relative to making his official visitation to the Lodge on the 14th of April or some convenient date following.

Lodge voted to contribute a sum of \$5.00 to the Red Cross Fund.

Lodge voted to send \$10.26 to Bro. Albert Schlude at the Masonic Home.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$49.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt (dated 4/25/43) deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 6v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., April 14th, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery Abbe — W.M.

Bro. Richard Carter — S.W.

Bro. Edward Nield — J.W.

Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.

Bro. Boyd R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. John Lang — S.D.

Bro. William Young — J.D.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 12 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Enfield Gardens — \$5.00

Spaulding Gardens — \$5.00

B. B. Ins. Agency — \$15.75

A report on the Albert Schlude case was read by Bro. L. C. Myers & later accepted by vote of the Lodge.

W.M. Abbe announced that the Committee in charge of the Schlude affairs had been excused as their duties had been completed. Much credit is given them for their thorough diligence and care in this work.

Lodge voted to send an Easter Lily to the Masonic Home & later present it to Bro. Schlude.

The petitions for membership of Martin Mathew Hensel and Chas. Everett Boyle, having been duly signed by their respective Investigating Committees, were voted on in the usual manner. The ballot was found clear in the South, West & East and the W.M. declared them duly elected to become members of this Lodge & instructed the Secretary to so inform them.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$35.00 and were not turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 7](#)).

A Special Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., April 21st, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery W. Abbe — W.M.

Bro. Richard Carter — S.W.

Bro. Edward Nield — J.W.

Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.

Bro. Boyd R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. John Lang — S.D.

Bro. Harold Staiger — J.D. PT

Bro. Joseph Maslak — S.S.

Bro. Chas. Staiger — J.S. PT

Bro. Irving A. Burnap — Chap.

Bro. Louis C. Myers — Marsh. PT

Bro. Edward L. Schlichting — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 26 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$1.60

The following distinguished visitors being found in waiting, P.M. Louis C. Myers acting as Marshal, retired & escorted into the Lodge:

R.W. Morris G. Bennett — District Deputy

R.W. Frank Newton

R.W. William Brainard

P.G.M. Howard A. Middleton

W.M. Abbe welcomed them to Oriental Lodge with due honors.

Floyd Donald Cotton being found in waiting to receive the Entered Apprentice Degree, the Lodge was called to refreshment & opened in that degree, after which Cotton was conducted into the Lodge, after being duly prepared, & received that degree in due form.

The apron was presented by P.M. Louis C. Myers; the Working Tools by P.M. Boyd R. Grant; the Charge given by P.M. Earl W. Clark and the lectures rehearsed by J.W. Edward Nield & S.D. John Lang.

The District Deputy took occasion to pay high praise to the Degree work.

The Lodge voted to contribute a sum of \$100.00 to the Masonic Service Association.

The Lodge also voted to assess each member of the Lodge \$1.00 for the Masonic Service Association, & W.M. Abbe named a committee in charge consisting of the W.M., S.W., J.W., & S.D.

It was learned that Bro. Burnap was celebrating his 80th Birthday.

Brief remarks were heard from the distinguished guests & Bro. Burnap. Lodge work was followed by refreshments & social hour.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$86.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 7v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., April 28th, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M. PT

Bro. Richard Carter — S.W.

Bro. Emery Abbe — J.W. PT

Bro. Boyd R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. John Lang — S.D.

Bro. William Young — J.D.

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — S.S. PT

Bro. Fred Dengler — J.S. PT

Bro. Edward Schlichting — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 19 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

There were none.

A letter was read from the District Deputy, Morris G. Bennett, acknowledging the \$100.00 which the Lodge voted to contribute to the Masonic Service Association. He also expressed his thanks for the courtesy extended him, and said our Lodge would receive recognition by him for our generosity in supporting the M.S.A. He also stated that because he thoroughly enjoyed meeting our members he hoped to visit us again at his earliest opportunity. It was in all the finest compliment a District Deputy ever paid Oriental Lodge.

Candidate Chas. E. Boyle and Martin Mathew Hensel being found in waiting to receive the Entered Apprentice degree, the Lodge was called to refreshment and a Lodge of Entered Apprentice Masons opened, after which they were conducted into the Lodge and received that degree in due form.

The lambskin or white leather apron was presented by P.M. Fred Dengler.

The Working Tools were presented by P.M. Boyd Grant.

The lectures were rehearsed by P.M. Dengler & S.D. Lang.

The charge of the degree was given by P.M. Earl Clark.

Lodge of Entered Apprentice Masons closed & work resumed on the M.M. Degree.

W.M. Abbe called attention to the cleaning of the Lodge Room and also the fine job of laundering the aprons and a vote was taken at once to instruct the Secretary to write Mrs. Abbe a letter of appreciation & thanks.

Refreshments & social hour followed the meeting.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$55.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 8](#)).

A Special Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., April 29th, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Richard Carter — W.M. PT

Bro. P.M. Wilfred Chapman — S.W.

Bro. Edward Nield — J.W.

Bro. P.G.M. Howard Middleton — Sec'y PT

Bro. John Lang — S.D.

Bro. P.M. Henry Hudson — J.D. PT

Bro. P.M. Edward Schlichting — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 7 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved (note: omitted).

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Bro. Chas. Boyle, being found in waiting to receive the Fellowcraft Degree, the Lodge was called to refreshment & a Lodge of Fellowcraft opened, after which he was conducted into the Lodge & received that degree in due form.

The charge of the degree was given by P.G.M. Howard Middleton.

Lodge closed on the Fellowcraft degree & called to labor on the M.M. degree.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$15.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Howard Middleton, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 8v](#)).

A Special Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., April 30th, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery W. Abbe — W.M.

Bro. Richard Carter — S.W.

Bro. Edward Nield — J.W.

Bro. P.M. Louis C. Myers — Treas.

Bro. P.M. Boyd R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. P.M. Wilfred Chapman — S.D. PT

Bro. Wm. Young — J.D.

Bro. John Lang — S.S. PT

Bro. Chas. Staiger — J.S. PT

Bro. P.M. Edward Schlichting — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 17 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved (note: omitted).

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Bro. Chas. Boyle was found in waiting to receive the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

W.M. Abbe invited P.G.M. Howard Middleton to occupy his station and conduct the work of the degree.

Bro. Middleton therefore presided in the East.

The lectures were rehearsed by S.W. Carter and S.D. John Lang.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$11.00 and were not turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 9](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., May 26th, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery Abbe — W.M.

Bro. Richard Carter — S.W.

Bro. Edward Nield — J.W.

Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.

Bro. Boyd R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. John Lang — S.D.

Bro. Chas. Staiger — J.D. PT

Bro. Harry McCaffery — S.S.

Bro. Joseph Maslak — J.S.

Bro. Louis C. Myers — Marsh. PT

Bro. Thos. Sargent — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 26 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved (note: omitted).

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Bros. Floyd Cotton & Martin Mathew Hensel, both Fellowcrafts, being found in waiting to receive the Master Mason Degree, were conducted into the Lodge, after being duly prepared, and were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

The work of the evening was exemplified by the Pratt & Whitney Square Club of Hartford. The offices were filled by the following:

Wor. Bro. Curtis — W.M.

Arthur Allen — S.W.

Everett Estey — J.W.

Kenneth Goslee

John Hamilton

John Trent

John Stevenson

Clarence Lathrop

Arthur Dinsmore

The evening passed very pleasantly with excellent work and hearty good fellowship prevailing.

Compliments were exchanged freely, and all visitors seemed to enjoy themselves at the social hour.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$39.00 and were not turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 9v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., June 9th, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery Abbe — W.M.

Bro. Richard Carter — S.W.

Bro. Edward Nield — J.W.

Bro. Boyd Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Howard Middleton — S.D. PT
Bro. Wilfred Chapman — J.D. PT
Bro. Martin Hensel — J.S. PT
Bro. Wilfred Chapman — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 8 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$1.95

Spaulding Gardens — \$2.60

A card of thanks from Bro. Jas. Hall expressing thanks for the flowers sent him while he was at the Rockville Hospital where he suffered an attack of pneumonia. He is much improved and is getting around again, for which we are very glad.

It was voted to instruct the Secretary & Treasurer to transact any ordinary business of the Lodge during the Summer Recess which follows this meeting.

W.M. Abbe announced the observance of St. Johns Sunday at the Broad Brook Congregational Church on June 29th. Lodge to open at 8:30 A.M.

(Separate note in the text):

War Bond Coupon

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$3.75 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 10](#)).

A Special Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., June 29th, 1943, at 8:30 A.M., A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery Abbe — W.M.

Bro. Edward Nield — S.W. PT

Bro. Thos. Sargent — J.W. PT

Bro. Fred Dengler — S.D. PT

Bro. Kenneth Arnold — J.D. PT

Bro. Martin Hensel — Marsh. PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 8 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

The other brothers in attendance were:

James Gilmore and Bro. Nelson from Morning Star Lodge, Warehouse Point.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$_____ and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 10v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., September 8th, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery Abbe — W.M.

Bro. Louis C. Myers — S.W. PT

Bro. Edward Nield — J.W.

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 3 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Conn. Light & Power Co.

Voted to re-instate Harry W. North who was suspended for non-payment of dues on Dec. 15, 1935, upon receipt of unpaid dues up to that time.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$21.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 11](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., September 28th, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery Abbe — W.M.

Bro. Richard Carter — S.W.

Bro. Edward Nield — J.W.

Bro. Richard Carter — Sec'y PT

Bro. John Lang — S.D.

Bro. Wm. Young — J.D.

Bro. Wm. Young — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 5 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

After a general discussion concerning the usual business of the Lodge the Lodge was closed in due form.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$21.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 11v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., October 13th, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery Abbe — W.M.

Bro. P.M. Wilfred Chapman — S.W. PT

Bro. P.M. Edward Schlichting — J.W. PT

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. John Lang — S.D.

Bro. Wm. Young — J.D.

Bro. Martin Hensel — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 8 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Nor. Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$1.20

Emery Abbe — fire wood — \$30.00

The Lodge now has a fine wood pile carefully stored in the back room, which should provide plenty of heat for many a cold Lodge night. The cooperation of several brothers in helping Bro. Abbe with the wood is appreciated by all connected with the work of the Lodge.

Bro. William Young donated and presented to the Lodge a chest in which the aprons are to be kept. It is made of plywood & provided with handles so that it will be very convenient to carry and put away in the metal cabinet where all the other equipment is stored.

A list of names of members for use in canvassing for the Masonic Service Association was handed the Master by the Secretary & arrangements were made for collecting contributions.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$28.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 12](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., October 27th, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery Abbe — W.M.

Bro. Richard Carter — S.W.
Bro. Edward Nield — J.W.
Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. John Lang — S.D.
Bro. P.M. Wilfred Chapman — J.D. PT
Bro. P.M. Chapman — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 7 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Conn. Lt. & Power Co. — \$1.50

Letters were read from the Grand Lodge concerning M.S.A. and War Bond Drive.

Voted to contribute \$10.00 to United War Relief payable to Lawrence Loftus.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$29.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 12v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., November 10th, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery Abbe — W.M.
Bro. Edward Nield — S.W. PT
Bro. Wilfred Chapman — J.W. PT
Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.
Bro. Boyd R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Howard Middleton — S.D. PT
Bro. Louis Myers — J.D. PT
Bro. Gus Schlichting — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 9 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Bill from Grand Lodge for pass cards — \$0.50

P.M. Louis Myers presented to the Lodge an engraved placard bearing a citation of merit for a 100% contribution to the Masonic Service Association during the year 1943.

This was accepted by W.M. Emery Abbe. Bro. Edward Nield offered to provide a suitable frame for the citation so that it could be preserved and hung in a place of honor on our walls.

This is surely a mark of distinction for Oriental Lodge of which we may well be proud. It was sent to the Lodge by the District Deputy of this 6th Masonic District, Morris Bennett.

(Handwritten note):

“but the receipts of the previous meeting amounting to 39.00”

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$none and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 13](#)).

A Special Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., Sunday, November 21st, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery Abbe — W.M.
Bro. Fred Kreyssig — S.W. PT
Bro. Edward Nield — J.W.
Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.
Bro. Boyd R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. John Lang — S.D.
Bro. William Young — J.D.
Bro. Harry McCaffery — S.S.
Bro. Gus Schlichting — J.S. PT

Bro. Fred Stolle — Marsh.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 38 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved (note: omitted).

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

The Lodge was opened at 1:15 for the purpose of attending the funeral of our late deceased brother, Past Master Clarence Bartlett, who passed away very suddenly while at his work at the Burnside Station of the New Haven Railway, Nov. 18. He had reached the age of 64. The afternoon was very mild and fair.

The Masonic ceremony at the grave was conducted by our Past Grand Master Howard Middleton, in his usual proficient manner. Our Lodge is most fortunate in having the never failing help and cheerful hearty response of Brother Middleton on these occasions which call for the highest perfection in Masonic work, and the sincere desire to serve a past, comrade, brother.

The Secretary announced the death of Bro. Walter Oliver who passed away at his home in Danielson, Conn., on Nov. 12th. He had no near relatives & we are most grateful to our brothers in Danielson for doing what they could for his burial, as it was too far for our officers to travel.

The Brothers acting as Bearers were: Stanley Arnold, Clyde Arnold, Howard Smith, Leonard Smith, Fred Dengler & Wilfred Chapman.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$25.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 13v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., November 24th, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery W. Abbe — W.M.

Bro. J.W. Edward Nield — S.W. PT

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — J.W. PT

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. John Lang — S.D.

Bro. Tyler Edward Schlichting — J.D. PT

Bro. Edward Schlichting — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 9 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Nor. Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$1.80

A card of appreciation was read to the Lodge from the family of our late deceased Bro. Past Master Clarence Bartlett.

W.M. Abbe ordered the Altar draped in mourning for a period of thirty days in respect for deceased Bros. Bartlett and Oliver.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$28.00 and were not turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 14](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., December 8th, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery Abbe — W.M.

Bro. Richard Carter — S.W.

Bro. Edward Nield — J.W.

Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.

Bro. Howard Middleton — Sec'y PT

Bro. John Lang — S.D.

Bro. William Young — J.D.

Bro. Joseph Maslak — J.S.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 15 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Grand Lodge — \$12.00

Spauldings — \$10.00

Tillinghast Sons — \$5.00

A letter was read from Bro. Harold S. Backus asking for a demit, and after some discussion it was granted.

Bro. Edward Nield promised to submit a detailed report of the Masonic Service Association funds collected and on hand at the next meeting.

This being the Annual Meeting:

Report of the Secretary was read and accepted.

Report of the Treasurer was read and accepted.

Report of the Trustees was read and accepted and placed on file.

Lodge voted to invest \$500.00 of the Lodge funds in five One Hundred Dollar Series G U.S. War Bonds.

Election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:

Richard Carter — W.M.

Edward Nield — S.W.

John Lang — J.W.

Louis C. Myers — Treasurer

Boyd R. Grant — Secretary

Henry Hudson — Trustee for Three years

(Handwritten note):

“Bro. Nield along with M.S.A. collection turned over \$140.00 to Secy P.T. Middleton who turned same to Treasurer Myers.”

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$136.75 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt (dated 12/13/43) deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Howard Middleton, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 14v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., December 22nd, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery Abbe — W.M.

Bro. Richard Carter — S.W.

Bro. Edward Nield — J.W.

Bro. Boyd Grant — Sec'y

Bro. John Lang — S.D.

Bro. William Young — J.D.

Bro. Gus Schlichting — S.S. PT

Bro. Edwin Pease — J.S. PT

Bro. Edward Schlichting — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 9 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

A card of Christmas Greetings and cheer was read from Bro. Louis E. Smith who is stationed in Miami Beach, Fla.

The idea that our Brother in Florida was remembering us in Oriental Lodge at this Christmas Season was very pleasing to us all. He is a Bro. we shall remember.

A letter from H. S. Backus was read asking the Lodge to re-consider his demit which he said he regretted having sent. He said he did not know that demitting from the Blue Lodge automatically suspended him from all higher Masonic Bodies.

After due consideration by those present, the Lodge voted to re-instate him a member in good and regular standing. He has been a member of this Lodge 24 years — always in good standing. He is also a Past Master.

Bro. Nield presented a report on the progress of the collection of the Masonic Service Association contributions. To date \$64.00 has been collected, with quite a few more brothers to be heard from.

Bro. Carter announced our Master-elect for the ensuing year, Senior Warden Private Richard Carter, announced the names of the appointed officers. Installation service with him as follows:

Wm. Young — S.D.;

Harry McCaffery — S.S.;
Edwin Pease — J.S.;
Martin Hensel — J.S.;
Fred Stolle — Marshal;
I. A. Burnap — Chaplain;
Gus Goettler — Organist;
Frank Smith — Tyler.

W.M. Abbe announced the death of Bro. Frank Smith on Dec. 22nd. Masonic funeral on Dec. 24th.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$22.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 15](#)).

A Special Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., December 24th, 1943, A.L. 5943.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery Abbe — W.M.
Bro. Richard Carter — S.W.
Bro. Edward Nield — J.W.
Bro. Louis Myers — Treas.
Bro. Boyd Grant — Sec'y
Bro. John Lang — S.D.
Bro. Chas. Staiger — J.D.
Bro. Michael Margelony — S.S. PT
Bro. Richard Reeder — J.S. PT
Bro. Edward Schlichting — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 10 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Lodge called to refreshment for the purpose of attending the funeral of our late deceased brother Frank L. Smith, who passed away at his home in town on Wednesday A.M., December 22nd, 1943.

At the home we were joined by about 35 brothers.

The Masonic Service was conducted by Past Grand Master Howard A. Middleton at the house owing to the extreme cold weather. Burial was in the Windsorville Cemetery which was attended by a large majority of the brothers.

(Handwritten note):

“Installation & given after Lodge closed”

“Dec. 24, 1943”

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$7.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 15v](#)).

DONATIONS TO MASONIC SERVICE ASSOCIATIONS

(Left column — Emery Abbe):

Emery Abbe — 1.00
Fred Dengler — 1.00
Raymond Dengler — 1.00
Lynn Grant — 1.00
Henry Hudson — 1.00
William Sansom — 1.00
Walter Siebert — 1.00
Boyd Grant — 1.00
Charles Pratt — 1.00
Ed Schlichting — 1.00
Stanley Osborn — 1.00

E. Hove – Hamden Lodge – 1.00
Dr. Backus – 1.00
Roger Osborn – 1.00
Total collected (E. Abbe): \$13.00
(Middle left column – Ed Nield):
Charles Boyle – 1.00
Edward Nield – 1.00
Earl Clark – 1.00
Kenneth Arnold – 1.00
Adolph Geissler – 1.00
Richard Fiedler – 1.00
William Sargent – 1.00
Clyde Arnold – 1.00
James Ravich – 1.00
Wesley Sargent – 1.00
Howard Reed – 1.00
Total collected by Ed Nield: \$8.00
(Lower left column – Joe Maslak):
Joseph Maslak – 1.00
Fred Kreyssig – 1.00
E. Normand Myers – 5.00
Louis Myers – 1.00
Irving Samson – 1.00
Harris Dickinson – 1.00
Kenneth Kreyssig – 1.00
George Samson – 1.00
Floyd Cotton – 1.00
Collected by Joe Maslak: \$11.00
(Right upper column – John Lang):
John Lang – 1.00
Lawrence Arnold – 1.00
Stanley Arnold – 1.00
Edwin Stolle – 1.00
Charles Staiger – 1.00
Henry Sargent – 1.00
George Sargent – 1.00
Gustave Goettler – 1.00
Fred Stolle – 1.00
Total collected (John Lang): \$8.00
(Right middle column – Bill Young):
William Young – 1.00
Thomas Carter – 1.00
James Hall – 1.00
Howard Smith – 1.00
James Gilmore – 1.00
Thomas Sargent – 1.00
Leonard Smith – 1.00
Albert Goettler – 1.00
Total collected (Bill Young): \$7.00
(Right lower column – Dick Carter):
Dick Carter – 1.00
Charles Koetsch – 1.00
Howard Staiger – 1.00
Stanley Mason – 1.00
G. Schlichting – 1.00
Wilfred Chapman – 1.00
Martin Hensel – 1.00
Harold Skinner – 1.00
William Drechsler – 1.00
Total collected (R. Carter): \$7.00

(Final summary):
Emery Abbe – 13.00

Ed Nield — 8.00
 John Lang — 8.00
 Bill Young — 7.00
 Dick Carter — 7.00
 Joe Maslak — 11.00
 Total: \$54.00

Money turned into Treasurer: 12/8/43 ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 4. F. 16](#)).

An analysis of the minutes of Oriental Lodge No. 111 for 1943 shows that the lodge continued to function as a stable local Masonic institution, maintaining the regularity of its work under the conditions of the ongoing war. Despite the comparatively low attendance at some ordinary meetings, the lodge did not suspend either its administrative, ritual, or charitable activity. The minutes record stated and special communications, the public installation of officers, the admission of new members, degree work, financial operations, support for charitable initiatives, and participation in memorial observances.

One of the most notable characteristics of 1943 was the continued activity of the lodge in the sphere of ritual and initiatory work. Throughout the year, the lodge continued to admit new candidates and advance them through the successive degrees. Floyd Donald Cotton was initiated as an Entered Apprentice in April and was already raised to the degree of Master Mason in May. Charles Everett Boyle and Martin Mathew Hensel were initiated as Entered Apprentices in April; Boyle received the Fellowcraft degree the very next day and was raised to the degree of Master Mason on April 30. In May, the degree of Master Mason was also conferred upon Cotton and Hensel with the participation of the Pratt & Whitney Square Club. This demonstrates that even under wartime conditions Oriental Lodge retained its capacity for the regular renewal of the fraternity and for the complete cycle of degree work. It is particularly important that some of the most solemn ceremonies were conducted with the participation of Past Grand Master Howard A. Middleton and invited Masonic groups, which enhanced the prestige of the lodge and connected its activities with the broader Masonic world of Connecticut.

The sources also testify to the stable administrative organization of the lodge. Letters from the Grand Lodge, petitions for membership and reinstatement, financial matters, charitable collections, and practical needs were regularly considered. Even in the absence of certain officers, the lodge compensated through temporary appointments, which points to the flexibility of its organizational mechanism and the presence of an experienced internal cadre. The year concluded with the regular election of officers, confirming the preservation of the normal administrative cycle.

Military-patriotic and charitable activity assumed special importance in 1943. As early as January, a Service Flag bearing six stars, symbolizing six members on military service, was presented to the lodge. This was not merely a symbolic act, but a visible incorporation of the war into the ritual and emotional space of the lodge. Throughout the year, Oriental Lodge participated in fundraising for the Masonic Service Association; in April, it voted a substantial contribution of 100 dollars and introduced an additional assessment of 1 dollar per member. In the autumn, letters from the Grand Lodge concerning the M.S.A. and the War Bond Drive were discussed, and in October the lodge voted to contribute to United War Relief. In December, it was decided to invest 500 dollars of lodge funds in U.S. War Bonds. These facts show that in 1943 the patriotic engagement of Oriental Lodge was not only maintained but intensified, taking on both symbolic and concrete financial forms.

An important result of the year was that Oriental Lodge achieved one-hundred-percent participation in fundraising for the Masonic Service Association, as evidenced by the citation of merit awarded to the lodge. The appended list of donations shows that the collection was organized systematically through the distribution of responsibility among several brethren, each of whom gathered contributions within his own circle of contacts. This indicates the lodge's high mobilizational capacity, the effectiveness of its internal communication, and the fact that support for Masons in military service had become the concern of the entire community rather than of a narrow group of activists alone.

A significant aspect of the lodge's work remained social and fraternal mutual assistance. Oriental Lodge continued to support Albert Schlude in the Masonic Home by sending him financial aid and Easter gifts, while also completing the settlement of his property case. The lodge allocated funds to assist individual brethren and participated in broader charitable campaigns, including a contribution to the Red Cross Fund. These episodes show that even under wartime conditions the lodge preserved a clearly defined function of fraternal and social care.

Memorial culture also occupied an important place in the life of Oriental Lodge. In 1943, the minutes record funeral and mourning practices in particular detail. In the spring, the lodge sent a floral tribute to the funeral of the wife of Brother Fred M. Kreyssig. In November, a Masonic funeral rite was conducted for Past Master Clarence Bartlett, while the death of Brother Walter Oliver was also respectfully noted. In December, the lodge took part in the burial of Brother Frank L. Smith. The altar was draped in mourning in memory of the deceased. All this shows that remembrance of brethren and participation in funeral rites continued to be among the most important elements of the lodge's internal culture and one of the means of preserving fraternal unity.

The minutes of 1943 also demonstrate attention to the material side of lodge life. Utility bills were paid, firewood was purchased, the storage of lodge property was discussed, a special chest for aprons was donated, and work continued to maintain order and proper equipment in the lodge room. These details show that the lodge regarded its material space as an integral part of its stability and public representation.

At the same time, the sources also point to the preservation of a disciplinary function. In 1943, questions of reinstatement and demit were considered. Harry W. North was reinstated after an earlier suspension for non-payment of dues; John Woolam paid his arrears and once again became a brother in good standing; and Harold S. Backus's request for a demit was initially granted but later reconsidered, resulting in his reinstatement. This indicates that the lodge combined disciplinary strictness with a willingness to reintegrate members once they renewed their obligations to the fraternity.

The Activities of the Lodge in 1944

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., January 12th, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Emery Abbe — W.M.
Bro. Richard Carter — S.W.
Bro. Edward Nield — J.W.
Bro. Louis Myers — Treas.
Bro. Edward Schlichting — Sec'y PT
Bro. John Lang — S.D.
Bro. Wm. Young — J.D.
Bro. Joseph Maslak — S.S.
Bro. Edwin Pease — J.S. PT
Bro. Irving A. Burnap — Chap.
Bro. Louis C. Myers — Marsh. PT
Bro. Thomas Sargent — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 16 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Spaulding Gardens — \$10.00
Harvey Brainard — \$4.00

P.M. Louis C. Myers gave an explanation of how and why P.M. Bro. Harold S. Backus asked for a demit.

The outgoing Master Emery Abbe gave a short speech in which he reviewed his year in the East and took the opportunity to thank his associate officers for their faithful cooperation during the past year.

Installation ceremonies followed with P.G.M. Howard Middleton as installing officer assisted by P.M. Louis C. Myers.

The following were installed for the ensuing year:

Richard Carter — W.M.
Edward Nield — S.W.
John Lang — J.W.
Louis C. Myers — Treasurer
William Young — S.D.
Edward Schlichting — J.D.
Irving A. Burnap — Chaplain
Gus L. Goettler — Organist
Edwin Pease — S.S.
Emery Abbe — Tyler

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$70.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt (dated January 18th, 1944) deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Edw. L. Schlichting, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 1](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., January 26th, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Richard Carter — W.M.

Bro. Edward Nield — S.W.
Bro. John Lang — J.W.
Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Wm. Young — S.D.
Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D.
Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 7 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Nor. Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$3.50 (if found correct)

Letters read from Grand Lodge giving notice of the Annual Grand Lodge meeting on February 2nd & 3rd.

A check up of those brothers in the armed forces & those having served resulted in the following list to date:

Edward Staiger
Louis E. Smith
Edwin P. Stolle
Norman Stolle
Edwin Pease
Harold Martin
Martin Hensel
John Middleton

This list of names will be sent to the Grand Lodge as requested.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$none and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 1v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., February 9th, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Richard Carter — W.M.
Bro. Edward Nield — S.W.
Bro. Louis C. Myers — J.W. PT
Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.
Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Wm. Young — S.D.
Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D.
Bro. Emery W. Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 8 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

A bill from Spaulding Gardens for flowers — \$10.00

Applications for membership were read which were signed by:

Clarence Warren Kibbe Gowdy
Frank Kibbe Gowdy
Julian Stroczyk

These applications were tabled for a period of two weeks.

W.M. Carter named the following Committee of Investigation:

F. Normand Myers, B. R. Grant and Emery Abbe.

W.M. Carter also named the following to comprise a committee of arrangements to take charge of a suitable celebration of the 50th Anniversary as a Mason of Past Grand Master Howard A. Middleton, to be held March 20th:

Louis C. Myers, B. R. Grant, Edward Nield, John Lang and Richard Carter.

W.M. Carter expressed a desire to entertain District Deputy Morris Bennett at the next meeting in February, the 23rd, and instructed the Secretary to make such arrangements, if convenient.

Edward Nield, S.W., gave an interesting account of his visit to the Grand Lodge Meetings, and Bro. Carter told of a change in ritual which was adopted and would be used in the Entered Apprentice Degree.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$28.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)
B. R. Grant
Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 2](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., February 23rd, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Richard Carter — W.M.
Bro. Edward Nield — S.W.
Bro. John Lang — J.W.
Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.
Bro. Boyd R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. William Young — S.D.
Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D.
Bro. Howard Staiger — S.S. PT
Bro. Edwin Pease — J.S.
Bro. Irving A. Burnap — Chap.
Bro. Fred H. Stolle — Marsh.
Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 36 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved (note: omitted by order of the Worshipful Master Carter).

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$1.00
H. C. Brainard (printing) — \$5.75
B. R. Grant (Sec'y supplies) — \$18.95

A letter from the American Red Cross asking for a donation was read and immediately the Lodge voted to respond with \$10.00.

Applications for membership, which were properly signed by the Investigating Committee, were read from Frank Gowdy, Clarence Gowdy & Julian Storaszuk. W.M. Carter ordered the ballot spread and after all had voted, they were found duly elected to membership.

District Deputy Morris Bennett and his associate Grand Lodge officers, Past Grand Master Howard A. Middleton and R.W. Feldman, being found in waiting, the Marshal retired and escorted them into the Lodge and introduced them to the Worshipful Master in the East, who welcomed them in the usual manner with fitting remarks and grand honors.

The Lodge was called to refreshment on the M.M. Degree and a Lodge of Entered Apprentice Masons opened in due form.

Candidates Frank & Clarence Gowdy, Julian Storaszuk and a candidate who came with the Deputy, Howard Goszellek, being found in waiting to receive their E.A. Degree, were conducted into the Lodge and received the Degree in due form.

The apron or white leather lambskin was presented by P.M. Louis C. Myers.

The lectures were rehearsed by J.W. John Lang & S.D. Wm. Young.

The second & third sections were given in monologue later by Wor. Bro. Howard A. Middleton.

The charge was given by P.M. Fred H. Stolle.

After the ceremonies District Deputy Bennett gave his report which was very complimentary to the Worshipful Master and his officers.

Chap. Burnap & R.W. Feldman spoke briefly as the hour was late.

Refreshments & a short social hour followed the work of the evening.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$105.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)
Boyd R. Grant
Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 2v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., March 8th, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Richard Carter — W.M.
Bro. Edward Nield — S.W.
Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Wm. Young — S.D.
Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D.
Bro. Edwin Pease — S.S. PT
Bro. Howard Staiger — J.S. PT
Bro. Howard A. Middleton — Chap. PT
Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 25 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

NONE

A letter was read from Level Lodge of Hartford expressing their appreciation to Oriental Lodge for conferring the E.A. degree on their candidate — Howard Green Wallack.

A card was read from a Lodge in Sparta, Wisconsin stating that our Bro. Martin Hensel had visited their Lodge. W.M. Carter instructed the Secretary to send a letter of thanks to them.

A letter was read from Bro. Harold Martin to the Secretary telling of his experiences and life at a military camp in Greenland where he is stationed. Sec'y Grant has answered it thanking him and sending wishes to his friends of Oriental & wishing him the best of luck.

Having found Bros. Frank & Clarence Gowdy & Julian Storozuk in waiting to receive their Fellowcraft Degree, W.M. Carter called the Lodge to refreshment on the M.M. Degree and opened on the Fellowcraft, after which they were conducted into the Lodge & received that degree in due form.

Bro. Edward Nield acted as Senior Warden;

Wm. Young as Junior Warden;

John Lang gave the Middle Chamber Lecture.

The lecture of the Fellowcraft Degree was rehearsed for the benefit of the Bros. by P.M. Edward Schlichting and Fred Kreyssig.

The charge was given by P.M. Earl W. Clark.

Lodge of Fellowcraft closed & called to labor on the M.M. Degree.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$54.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 3](#)).

A Special Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., March 15th, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Richard Carter — W.M.

Bro. Edward Nield — S.W.

Bro. John Lang — J.W.

Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.

Bro. Howard A. Middleton — Sec'y PT

Bro. Edwin D. Stolle — S.D. PT

Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D.

Bro. Edwin Pease — S.S.

Bro. Howard Staiger — J.S. PT

Bro. Howard A. Middleton — Chap. PT

Bro. Louis C. Myers — Marsh.

Bro. Emery W. Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 15 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved (corrected).

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

NONE

Bro. Julius Storozuk, a Fellowcraft, was found in waiting to receive the Master Mason Degree and after payment of the usual fee he was raised to the Sublime Degree.

The lectures were rehearsed by Past Masters:

Edward Schlichting & Edwin P. Stolle.

The charge was given by P.M. Louis C. Myers.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$11.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Howard A. Middleton, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 3v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., March 22nd, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Richard Carter — W.M.

Bro. Edward Nield — S.W.

Bro. John Lang — J.W.

Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.

Bro. Boyd R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Edwin D. Stolle — S.D. PT

Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D.

Bro. Edwin Pease — S.S.

Bro. E. Normand Myers — J.S.

Bro. H. A. Middleton — Chap. PT

Bro. Gus Goettler — Organist / Marsh.

Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 26 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$1.40

Bro. Frank Kibbe Gowdy, being found in waiting to be raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, was conducted into the Lodge and received the Master Mason Degree in due form.

Lectures were rehearsed by Past Masters Stolle & Schlichting.

Working Tools were presented by Past Master Boyd R. Grant and the Charge was given by Past Master Louis C. Myers.

A social hour & refreshments followed the meeting.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$18.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 4](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., March 29th, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Richard Carter — W.M.

Bro. Edward Nield — S.W.

Bro. John Lang — J.W.

Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.

Bro. Boyd R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — S.D. PT

Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D.

Bro. Edwin Pease — S.S.

Bro. E. Normand Myers — J.S.

Bro. Irving A. Burnap — Chap.

Bro. Fred Stolle — Marsh.

Bro. Emery W. Abbe — Tyler

Bro. Gus L. Goettler — Organist

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 125 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved (omitted).

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

This evening marks one of the high lights in the history of our Lodge. The occasion of great importance was the celebration in honor of Bro. Howard A. Middleton who has reached his Fiftieth year as a Mason.

A banquet was served in the Broad Brook Congregational Church Parlors at 6 P.M. by the ladies of the church. It was a meal long to be remembered, by its pleasing menu of roast turkey & appropriate dishes to go with it, & the elegant way it was served.

Wor. Bro. Louis C. Myers was the toastmaster and was accompanied by 25 distinguished guests & officers at the head table, including Grand Master Ansel A. Packard. All were called on for brief speeches.

Following the banquet, all present repaired to the Masonic Hall.

The distinguished visitors who were escorted into the Lodge & given a hearty welcome by W.M. Carter were:

M.W. Ansel A. Packard,
Wor. Bro. Howard A. Middleton,
R.W. Phillip J. Jones,
R.W. Edward M. White,
R.W. Winthrop A. Buck,
R.W. Walter A. Taff,
R.W. Ernest May of the Grand Lodge of Mass.,
R.W. Louis A. Brock,
R.W. William Brainard.

Clarence Gowdy, a Fellowcraft being found in waiting to receive the Master Mason Degree, he was duly prepared and later conducted into the Lodge and received that degree in due form.

The Working Tools were presented & their uses explained by P.M. Boyd R. Grant;
the lectures were rehearsed by P.M. Wilfred Chapman & P.M. Edward Schlichting;
and the Charge was given by R.W. Bro. Louis C. Myers.

After the degree had been conferred in full & Bro. Gowdy seated among the Craft, Bro. William English who came from his home in Norwood, Mass., with a party of Bros., gave a fine talk and presented the Lodge with a jewel which his father had worn as a Past Grand Master. It was accepted with honor & pleasure by our W.M.

Grand Master Packard gave a very fine address, explaining the common usages of the Lodge and complimenting all who took part in the work of the evening.

Some other guests spoke briefly as the hour was late & refreshments were to follow.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$46.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 4v](#)).

A Special Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., April 4th, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield, P.T. — W.M.
Bro. Wilfred Chapman, P.T. — S.W.
Bro. Earl Clark, P.T. — J.W.
Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.
Bro. Boyd R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Howard Staiger, P.T. — S.D.
Bro. Clyde Arnold, P.T. — J.D.
Bro. Albert Goettler, P.T. — S.S.
Bro. Gus L. Goettler — Organist / Marsh.
Bro. Gus Schlichting, P.T. — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 10 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved (omitted).

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

We were called together for the purpose of attending the funeral of our late deceased Bro., Past Master Joseph T. Belanger, who died March 31st, at his home in Wheeling, West Virginia. He was 72 years of age.

Bro. Howard Middleton officiated. In all about 20 brothers assembled at the grave. Burial was in the Melrose Cemetery.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$7.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 5](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., April 12th, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Richard Carter — W.M.
Bro. Edward Nield — S.W.
Bro. John Lang — J.W.
Bro. Edward Schlichting, P.T. — Sec'y
Bro. Wilfred Chapman, P.T. — S.D.
Bro. Emery Abbe, P.T. — J.D.
Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 7 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved (omitted).

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Broad Brook Insurance Agency — \$15.75

Lodge voted to permit the American Legion to use the Lodge Hall on June 7th for the installation of their officers and also to permit the Veterans of Foreign Wars to use it for the same purpose on April 14th.

Wor. Bro. Middleton again took the opportunity to thank all those who took part in the observance & celebration of his Fiftieth Anniversary as a Mason. He was most pleased and gratified at the splendid manner in which it was all conducted & carried out.

(Handwritten note):

“A letter was read from Bro. Earl Belanger in which he expressed his sincere thanks to the members of the Lodge for their fraternal gesture.”

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$none and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Edw. L. Schlichting, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 5v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., April 26th, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Richard Carter — W.M.
Bro. Edward Nield — S.W.
Bro. John Lang — J.W.
Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Wilfred Chapman, P.T. — S.D.
Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D.
Bro. Edwin Pease — S.S.
Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 8 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Northern Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$1.50

An application for membership signed by Joseph Anthony Wagner of Scitico was read. The Secretary was instructed to correspond with Doric Lodge of Thompsonville, in whose jurisdiction he resides, and request a release of jurisdiction.

Also W.M. Carter named the committee of investigation as follows:

B. R. Grant, Emery Abbe and E. Normand Myers.

Wor. Bro. Carter gave a report of the meeting which he and Sec'y Grant attended at the Hotel Bond on April 17th, at which they received information regarding the drive for Masonic Service funds.

A very fine sound picture was shown which gave a very vivid story of how the Masonic Service Association is serving our men & women in the armed forces, giving the Masons of the country a chance to contribute toward this worthy cause.

A committee was named to solicit the members of our Lodge for contributions or pledges, namely:

Emery Abbe, Wilfred Chapman, Earl Clark, B. R. Grant, John Lang, Edward Nield, Howard Staiger & Richard Carter.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$none and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature) B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 8](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., May 10th, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Richard Carter — W.M.

Bro. Edward Nield — S.W.

Bro. John Lang — J.W.

Bro. Boyd R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Wilfred Chapman — S.D.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D.

Bro. Edwin Pease — S.S.

Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 11 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Brainard (printing) — \$8.50

Spaulding Gardens — \$13.30

A summary of the business accomplished at the Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge was read and placed on file.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$18.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 8v](#)).

A Special Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., May 17th, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Richard Carter — W.M.

Bro. Edward Nield — S.W.

Bro. John Lang — J.W.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. William Young — S.D.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D.

Bro. Thomas Sargent — S.S. PT

Bro. Edwin Stolle — J.S. PT

Bro. B. R. Grant — Chap. PT

Bro. Fred Stolle — Marsh.

Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 12 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved (omitted).

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

NONE

A letter was read from Doric Lodge granting a release of jurisdiction in the case of Joseph Anthony Wagner of Scitico, who is a candidate for membership in our Lodge.

An invitation from Morning Star Lodge No. 28 was read, inviting our members to attend their lodge on May 27th, when they celebrate their 150th anniversary. Secretary was instructed to reply expressing thanks.

The ballot was spread and voting carried out in the usual manner, after which it was found clear in all stations and W.M. Carter declared Joseph Anthony Wagner duly elected to membership.

Being found in waiting to receive the Entered Apprentice Degree, W.M. called Lodge to refreshment on the M.M. Degree and opened a Lodge of Entered Apprentices, after which he received the degree in due form.

The working tools were presented by P.M. Grant and the charge given by P.M. Fred Stolle.

(Handwritten note):

“Lodge closed on E.A. & labor resumed on the M.M.”

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$15.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 9](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., May 24th, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield, P.T. — W.M.
Bro. John Lang, P.T. — S.W.
Bro. Howard Staiger, P.T. — J.W.
Bro. L. C. Myers — Treas.
Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Wm. Young — S.D.
Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D.
Bro. Edwin Pease — S.S.
Bro. Joseph Maslak — J.S. PT
Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 18 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$6.10

Bro. Joseph Wagner being found in waiting to receive the Fellowcraft Degree, the Lodge was called to refreshment on the M.M. Degree and a Lodge of Fellowcraft opened after which he was conducted into the Lodge, duly prepared, and received that degree in due form.

The working tools were presented by P.M. B. R. Grant;
the lectures rehearsed by Bros. John Lang and Edwin Stolle;
and the charge was given by P.M. B. R. Grant.

Lodge of Fellowcraft was closed and the Lodge was called from refreshment to labor on the Master Mason Degree.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$32.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 9v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., June 14th, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Richard Carter — W.M.
Bro. Edward Nield — S.W.
Bro. John Lang — J.W.
Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.
Bro. Boyd R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Wilfred Chapman — S.D. PT
Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D.
Bro. Edwin Pease — S.S.
Bro. Howard Staiger — J.S. PT
Bro. I. A. Burnap — Chap.
Bro. Fred Stolle — Marsh.
Bro. Emery W. Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 42 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Spaulding Gardens — \$3.85

Grand Lodge aprons — \$9.00

An application from Francis Morgan Foster was read and the W.M. appointed an investigating committee of:

Jos. Maslak, Emery Abbe & Edward Nield.

Paul Spear wrote to the Lodge donating \$3.58 for the Masonic Service Association.

Voted to extend thanks to him.

Voted to authorize the Treasurer to invest about \$1,000.00, which would be due from the Schlude estate sometime this summer, in War Bonds.

Bro. Joseph Wagner, being found in waiting to receive the Master Mason Degree, was conducted into the Lodge after being duly prepared, having given three distinct knocks with his own right hand, and received that degree in due form.

The Working Tools were presented by Bro. Howard Middleton.

The lectures were rehearsed by Bros. Julian Storozuk & P.M. Edward Schlichting.

The Charge was given by P.M. Louis C. Myers.

Refreshments & social hour followed the work of the evening.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$49.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 10](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., September 13th, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Richard Carter — W.M.

Bro. Edward Nield — S.W.

Bro. John Lang — J.W.

Bro. Howard Middleton — Sec'y PT

Bro. William Young — S.D.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D.

Bro. Edwin Pease — S.S.

Bro. Joseph Maslak — J.S.

Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 9 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved (omitted).

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

No bills presented

A card was read which came from the Masonic Service Center at Norfolk, Va., and which stated that Robert B. Grant, who is in the Navy and stationed there at the Naval Base, had visited their Center and had made himself acquainted.

Robert Grant is the son of our Secretary, B. R. Grant, who says that he received a letter from his son in which he spoke very highly of the fine way he was entertained at the Masonic Service Center.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$46.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Howard Middleton, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 10v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., September 27th, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Richard Carter — W.M.

Bro. Edwin Stolle, P.T. — S.W.

Bro. John Lang — J.W.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Wm. Young — S.D.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D.

Bro. Edwin Pease — S.S.

Bro. Joseph Maslak — J.S.

Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 10 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$2.00

An invitation was read coming from Apollo Lodge, Suffield, to visit them on October 17th to witness the conferring of the Master Mason Degree. The Grand Master is expected to be present.

Several letters were read from the Grand Lodge office, giving timely information to all Masons.

An application for membership signed by the Investigating Committee, which had been previously presented to the Lodge, was voted on. Ballot was found clear at all stations, and W.M. Carter announced the application of Francis M. Foster accepted and he duly elected to membership, and that the Entered Apprentice Degree would be conferred on Oct. 11th.

W.M. Carter read a report on the standing of our Lodge relative to the Masonic Service Association campaign. It showed that 64 of our members had contributed a total of \$323.53, which was considered very good.

Mention was made of the honor which had come to our Brother Louis C. Myers in that he had received his 33rd Degree. A committee will be named to prepare a suitable recognition by the Lodge.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$NONE and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 11](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., October 11th, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Richard Carter — W.M.

Bro. Edward Nield — S.W.

Bro. John Lang — J.W.

Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Wm. Young — S.D.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D.

Bro. Edwin Pease — S.S.

Bro. Joseph Maslak — J.S.

Bro. Fred Stolle — Marsh.

Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 20 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

None

Following is a list of officers and the offices they filled in order to conduct the conferring of the degree for the evening:

John Lang — W.M.

Edward Nield — S.W.

Richard Carter — J.W.

L. C. Myers — Treas.

B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Wm. Young — S.D.

Edward Schlichting — J.D.

Edwin Stolle — S.S.

Edwin Pease — J.S.

Fred Stolle — Marsh.

Emery Abbe — Tyler

Francis Foster, being found in waiting to receive the Entered Apprentice Degree, he was conducted into the Lodge after having been duly prepared and had given the three knocks with his own right hand at the door.

Those who assisted the W.M. and their respective work were:

The Lambskin was presented by Wor. Bro. Louis C. Myers.

The Working Tools were presented by P.M. B. R. Grant.

The lectures were rehearsed by S.W. Nield & S.D. Wm. Young.

The Charge was given by P.M. Fred Stolle.

W.M. Carter appointed the following to be a committee in charge of a testimonial dinner to honor Bro. L. C. Myers, who has been chosen 33rd degree Mason:

Richard Carter, Edward Nield, Howard Middleton, Edward Schlichting, Edwin Stolle & B. R. Grant.

Lodge voted to send each member in the Armed Services a Money Order for \$5.00 & a pass card showing that his dues for 1945 had been cancelled.

(Handwritten note):

“Deferred for later to 11/15/45”

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$32.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 11v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., October 25th, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Richard Carter — W.M.

Bro. Edward Nield — S.W.

Bro. John Lang — J.W.

Bro. Louis Myers — Treas.

Bro. Boyd Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Wm. Young — S.D.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D.

Bro. Edwin Pease — S.S.

Bro. Fred Kreyssig — J.S. PT

Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 20 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

None

Following is a list of officers & their respective offices for the work of the evening:

Edward Nield — W.M.

Edwin Stolle — S.W.

John Lang — J.W.

L. C. Myers — Treas.

Boyd Grant — Sec'y

Edward Schlichting — S.D.

Edwin Pease — S.S.

Fred Kreyssig — J.S.

Emery Abbe — Tyler

W.M. Carter greeted Bro. Edward Staiger, who is home on furlough after service in the South Pacific area. He received a very hearty welcome from all those present.

Wor. Bro. Myers took the occasion to present to Bro. Staiger his Xmas present of \$5.00 and a paid-up pass card.

Later in the evening he spent a social hour with us and told of the Masonic Lodges he visited in Australia.

Bro. Francis Foster, being found in waiting to receive the Fellowcraft Degree, the Lodge was called to refreshment on the M.M. and a Lodge of Fellowcraft opened, after which he, being duly prepared, was conducted into the Lodge and received the Degree.

The working tools were presented by Bro. Nield.

The Middle Chamber Lecture was given by Bro. Carter.

The lectures were rehearsed by Bros. Wm. Young & Edward Schlichting.

The Charge was given by Bro. (Corrected by hand) Earl Clark.

Lodge of Fellowcraft closed.

Lodge called from refreshment to labor on the M.M.

W.M. Carter announced the Master Mason Degree would be conferred on the next meeting night — Nov. 8th.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$15.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Boyd Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 12](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., November 8th, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Richard Carter — W.M.

Bro. Edward Nield — S.W.
Bro. John Lang — J.W.
Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.
Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Wm. Young — S.D.
Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D.
Bro. Edwin Pease — S.S.
Bro. Joseph Maslak — J.S.
Bro. Irving A. Burnap — Chap.
Bro. Harry W. North — Organist / Marsh. PT
Bro. Emery W. Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 35 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Spaulding Gardens — \$7.60

Bro. Francis Foster, being found in waiting to receive the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, he was prepared & conducted into the Lodge after giving the three distinct knocks with his own right hand & the Degree was conferred in due form.

The lectures were rehearsed by P.M.'s Fred Dengler & Edward Schlichting, & the Charge of the degree was given by P.M. Louis C. Myers.

The Fellowcraft Team was led by P.M. Howard Staiger & Edwin P. Stolle, who also filled the office of Senior Deacon.

A very fine short talk was given by Chap. Burnap. Bro. Burnap seems to enjoy being present as much as we do in having him & hearing him.

Bros. Collins & Goehring from Evergreen Lodge were present & Bro. Will spoke briefly.

Refreshments & Social Hour followed the work of the evening & was enjoyed by all & practically all the bros. stayed.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$25.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 12v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., November 22nd, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield, P.T. — W.M.
Bro. Emery Abbe, P.T. — S.W.
Bro. Henry Hudson, P.T. — J.W.
Bro. Edward Schlichting, P.T. — Sec'y
Bro. Edwin Pease, P.T. — S.D.
Bro. Emery Abbe — J.D. PT
Bro. Francis Foster, P.T. — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 6 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

F. H. Johnston Studio — \$7.14

Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$3.00

A letter was read which came from the Masonic Home, asking for a Christmas Donation.

Those present voted to defer action on this matter until a later meeting.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$28.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Ed. Schlichting, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 13](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., December 13th, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Richard Carter — W.M.

Bro. Edward Nield — S.W.

Bro. John Lang — J.W.

Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. William Young — S.D.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D.

Bro. Emery W. Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 21 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Lux Bond & Green — 1 jewel — \$68.75 (Past Masters Jewel)

Broad Brook Congregational Church — 100 dinners — \$150.00

Richard E. Carter — cigars — \$21.00

Voted that all bills be paid from the Lodge Treasury.

Letter from Bro. Raymond Burnap, who is confined in the Veterans' Hospital at Saratoga Springs, N.Y., was read. The Secretary promised to make a prompt reply expressing sympathy.

Letter of invitation from the Eastern Star Chapter of Rockville was read, cordially inviting us to attend a dance on Dec. 29.

Voted to send \$10.00 to the Masonic Xmas Fund for Masonic Home.

Voted to send \$5.00 money order to the sailor assigned to our Lodge by the Grand Lodge.

Voted to send Bro. Schlude \$5.00 for Christmas.

Voted to accept Bro. Myers' suggestion and pay \$105.00 to cover expense of the Schlude Case.

Voted to write a report on the testimonial dinner given to honor Bro. Louis Myers, and have it put in the minutes of the Lodge.

Annual Meeting Procedure

Reports of the Secretary, Treasurer and Trustees respectively were read, presented and accepted by vote of the Lodge.

Election of Officers resulted as follows:

Edward Nield — W.M.

John Lang — S.W.

William Young — J.W.

Louis C. Myers — Treasurer

B. R. Grant — Secretary & Trustee for three years

Stanley Arnold — Trustee

Officers appointed by Master-elect E. Normand Myers:

Edwin Pease — J.D.

Floyd Cotton — S.S.

Francis Foster — J.S.

I. A. Burnap — Chaplain

Gus Goettler — Organist

Fred Stolle — Marshal

Emery Abbe — Tyler

Public Installation of Officers — January 10th.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$117.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 13v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., December 27th, 1944, A.L. 5944.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield, P.T. — W.M.

Bro. John Lang, P.T. — S.W.

Bro. Wilfred Chapman, P.T. — J.W.

Bro. Joseph Maslak, P.T. — Sec'y

Bro. Gus Schlichting, P.T. — S.D.

Bro. John Lang, P.T. — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 5 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid: -

No business transacted

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$14.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Jos. Maslak, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 14](#)).

An analysis of the minutes of Oriental Lodge No. 111 for 1944 shows that the lodge preserved its organizational stability, regularity of work, and capacity for adaptation under the continuing conditions of the Second World War. Despite moderate or even low attendance at some ordinary meetings, the lodge continued its full range of activities: stated and special communications were held, officers were installed, new members were admitted, degree work was carried out in sequence, charitable collections and patriotic initiatives were undertaken, and matters of property and administration were addressed.

One of the most important characteristics of 1944 remained the lodge's active ritual and initiatory work. Throughout the year, the lodge continued to admit new candidates and advance them successively through the degrees. Frank Gowdy, Clarence Gowdy, and Julian Storozuk were initiated as Entered Apprentices in February; by March all three had advanced further, with Julian Storozuk being raised to the degree of Master Mason on March 15, Frank Gowdy on March 22, and Clarence Gowdy on March 29. In a similar manner, Joseph Anthony Wagner was admitted in May as an Entered Apprentice, soon received the Fellowcraft degree, and was raised to the degree of Master Mason in June. In the autumn, Francis M. Foster passed through the same sequence of degrees. This demonstrates that even in wartime Oriental Lodge not only maintained but pursued with considerable energy one of its principal functions, namely the reproduction of the fraternity through the full cycle of Masonic degrees.

The minutes also testify to the stable administrative organization of the lodge. Throughout the year, letters from the Grand Lodge, applications for membership, reports, bills, questions of investment, charitable contributions, and the ordinary maintenance of the lodge were regularly considered. Even in the absence of particular officers, the lodge compensated through temporary appointments, which indicates the presence of a stable internal cadre and a well-established mechanism of internal administration. The year concluded with the regular annual meeting and the election of officers, confirming the preservation of a normal administrative cycle.

A particularly notable development in 1944 was the deepening of the lodge's military-patriotic orientation. As early as January, the list of brethren who were in military service or had already served was updated. Throughout the year, the lodge continued to participate in fundraising campaigns in support of the Masonic Service Association. In the spring, forms of mobilizing donations were discussed, and a sound film was shown illustrating the work of the Masonic Service Association for servicemen and servicewomen. By the autumn, a very substantial result of the campaign had been recorded: 64 members of the lodge had contributed a total of \$323.53. In addition, in June the lodge resolved to invest approximately \$1,000, expected from the Schlude estate, in War Bonds. These decisions show that by 1944 Oriental Lodge regarded participation in military and patriotic initiatives as an important part of its public and fraternal mission.

Closely connected with the wartime theme was the lodge's concern for brethren in the armed forces. The minutes record information about brethren in service, letters and reports received from them, and attention to their circumstances. Particularly revealing are the reports concerning sailor Robert B. Grant's visit to a Masonic Service Center and the favorable account of the reception he received there, as well as the warm welcome extended to Edward Staiger, who had returned on furlough after service in the South Pacific. The lodge also discussed forms of assistance to brethren in service, including plans for money orders and the payment of their membership obligations. This confirms that fraternal ties in wartime were understood not merely symbolically, but as a real form of moral and material support.

An important place in the life of Oriental Lodge in 1944 was occupied by commemorative and memorial culture. The most significant event in this respect was the solemn celebration in honor of Howard A. Middleton on the occasion of his fiftieth year in Masonry. The celebration of March 29 became one of the most notable events in the history of the lodge: it included a banquet, the presence of numerous distinguished guests, including Grand Master Ansel A. Packard, solemn lodge work, and the presentation of a commemorative jewel associated with the family of William F. English. This episode shows the importance attached within the lodge to continuity, memory, personal authority, and the symbolic representation of Masonic service.

No less important a part of the internal culture of the lodge remained funeral and mourning practices. In April, a special communication was held for participation in the funeral of Past Master Joseph T. Belanger. Throughout the year, the minutes also record letters of thanks from relatives of the deceased, discussion of assistance to families, and the ritual participation of the lodge in mourning ceremonies. This confirms that participation in rites of remembrance and burial ceremonies remained one of the principal means of maintaining fraternal unity and continuity.

Another significant aspect of the lodge's activity was its social and charitable work. Oriental Lodge continued to send funds to the Masonic Home and the Masonic Christmas Fund, to provide assistance to Albert Schlude, and to respond to requests for support. In December, additional Christmas payments and charitable remittances were approved. At the same time, the lodge also participated in broader public initiatives, for example by contributing through the American Red Cross. All this shows that the social function of the lodge did not weaken even under wartime conditions.

The sources for 1944 also demonstrate attention to the material side of lodge life. Utility and insurance bills were paid, regalia were purchased, expenses for dinners, commemorative jewels, household needs, and the completion of the Schlude case were discussed. It is noteworthy that the question of investing funds was considered regularly and within the logic of preserving and strengthening the financial stability of the lodge. Thus, the lodge combined charitable activity with a practical and disciplined approach to its material resources.

Finally, it is worth noting the expansion of the lodge's external ties. Oriental Lodge maintained active contacts with the Grand Lodge, with other lodges in Connecticut, and with public and veterans' organizations. For example, in April 1944 the lodge permitted the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars to use the lodge hall for the installation of their officers. This shows that the lodge was not a closed ritual structure, but part of the broader patriotic and public life of the local community.

The Activities of the Lodge in 1945

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., January 10th, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Richard Carter — W.M.

Bro. Edward Nield — S.W.

Bro. John Lang — J.W.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. William Young — S.D.

Bro. Edward Nield — J.D. PT

Bro. Irving A. Burnap — Chap.

Bro. Gustave Schlichting — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 10 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Spaulding Gardens — \$3.10

Spaulding Gardens (for Myers Banquet) — \$10.00

Ct. Light & Power — \$4.00

Harvey Brainard printing (for Myers Banquet) — \$17.50

Lodge called to refreshment for the purpose of attending a Public Installation of Officers, which followed promptly.

Our guests and friends arrived in good season and numbered 73.

Many of these friends were ladies and relatives of the brothers attending. It was most pleasant and inspiring to the Master-elect and his incoming officers to have the honor of their company.

Past Grand Master Howard Middleton acted as Installing Officer and was assisted by Ill. Bro. Louis C. Myers.

Our Lodge is very proud of these brothers and of their faithfulness to us in performing these functions for their own brothers as only they can do.

Very few Lodges can have as Installing Officers a Past Grand Master and a brother who is a 33rd Degree Mason.

Officers installed were:

Edward Nield — W.M.

John Lang — S.W.

William Young — J.W.

Louis C. Myers — Treasurer

B. R. Grant — Sec'y

E. Normand Myers — S.D.

Edwin Pease — J.D.

Floyd Cotton — S.S.

Francis Foster — J.S.

Irving A. Burnap — Chaplain

Gus L. Goettler — Organist

(Marshal was absent)

Emery W. Abbe — Tyler

Refreshments were served and thoroughly enjoyed, after which a program of entertainment followed consisting of:

dances

singing

baton spinning

and a very good magician who also gave a fine exhibition of building patch pictures

Everyone seemed to enjoy the evening to the utmost.

Lodge called to labor.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$115.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 5. F. 14v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., January 24th, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M.

Bro. John Lang — S.W.

Bro. William Young — J.W.

Bro. (absent) — Treas.

Bro. Joseph Maslak, P.T. — Sec'y

Bro. Wilfred Chapman, P.T. — S.D.

Bro. Richard Carter, P.T. — J.D.

Bro. Floyd Cotton — S.S.

Bro. Francis Foster — J.S.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 10 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid: -

No business transacted

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$46.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Jos. Maslak, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 1](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., February 28th, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M.

Bro. John Lang — S.W.

Bro. William Young — J.W.

Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.

Bro. Edward L. Schlichting — Sec'y

Bro. E. Normand Myers — S.D.

Bro. Louis C. Myers — J.D. PT

Bro. Floyd D. Cotton — S.S.

Bro. Francis Foster — J.S.

Bro. Emery W. Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 10 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved (not).

The following bills were read and later voted paid: -

An application for membership signed by William John Neelans was read and the W.M. appointed the following members of an Investigating Committee:

Edward Schlichting, Emery W. Abbe, & John Lang.

W.M. Edward Nield announced that in the event this petition was favorably accepted by the investigating committee, it would be balloted on at the next meeting which would be on March 14th, and that the Entered Apprentice Degree would be conferred on March 28th, and that a rehearsal for the cast of characters conferring the Degree would be held on the evening of March 20th, at the home of Bro. E. Normand Myers.

W.M. Edward Nield took the opportunity to ask S.W. John Lang & J.W. William Young to give the lecture of the Degree for the benefit of the candidate, on the evening of the 28th.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$7.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Edw. L. Schlichting, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 1v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., March 14th, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M.

Bro. John Lang — S.W.

Bro. Joseph Maslak, P.T. — J.W.

Bro. L. C. Myers — Treas.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. E. Normand Myers — S.D.

Bro. Edwin Pease — J.D.

Bro. Floyd Cotton — S.S.

Bro. Francis Foster — J.S.

Bro. Henry Hudson — Tyler PT

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 15 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Nor. Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$2.00

It was voted to contribute \$10.00 to the American Red Cross.

The petition for membership of William John Neelans, having been properly signed by the Investigating Committee & presented to the W.M., the ballot was spread and after all had voted, he was found to have been duly elected to membership in Oriental Lodge.

W.M. Nield announced that the Entered Apprentice Degree would be conferred on the 28th.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$61.50 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 2](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., March 28th, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M.

Bro. John Lang — S.W.

Bro. Wm. Young — J.W.

Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. E. Normand Myers — S.D.

Bro. Edwin Pease — J.D.

Bro. Floyd Cotton — S.S.

Bro. Francis Foster — J.S.

Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 17 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$1.00

Lodge voted to send a plant costing \$3.00 to Bro. Albert Schlude at the Masonic Home, for Easter.

William John Neelans, being found in waiting to receive the Entered Apprentice Degree, the Lodge was called to refreshment on the M.M. Degree and a Lodge of Entered Apprentices opened.

Neelans was conducted into the Lodge, after having been duly prepared & having given three distinct knocks on the door of the preparation room with his own right hand, and received that degree in full form.

P.M. Louis C. Myers presented the Lambskin or white leather apron.

P.M. Boyd R. Grant presented him the Working Tools & taught him their uses.

The Lectures were rehearsed for his benefit by S.W. Lang & J.W. Young.

The Charge was given by P.M. Earl W. Clark.

Lodge was closed on the Entered Apprentice Degree & called to labor on the Master Mason Degree.

It was a vote of the Lodge that members raised in 1944 or previously, who have not received aprons but who desire them, should be provided with them.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$38.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 2v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., April 11th, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M.

Bro. John Lang — S.W.

Bro. Wm. Young — J.W.

Bro. L. C. Myers — Treas.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Jos. Maslak, P.T. — S.D.

Bro. Edwin Pease — J.D.

Bro. Floyd Cotton — S.S.

Bro. Francis Foster — J.S.

Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 15 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Spaulding Gardens — \$3.30

Wesley Sargent — \$15.75 (insurance)

Lodge voted to increase the insurance on the Lodge furniture from \$15.00 to \$2,000.00.

Letters were read informing the Lodge:

That District Deputy Conrad Hahn would make his official visitation on May 23rd.

Giving notice of a meeting of Lodge officers of the 6th District on April 21st.

That Grand Master Plum calls upon all subordinate Lodges to contribute toward a fund to assist Lodges in the Philippines.

That the book entitled "He Walks Alone" is highly recommended to all Masons.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$25.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 3](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., April 25th, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M.

Bro. John Lang — S.W.

Bro. William Young — J.W.

Bro. (Absent) — Treas.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Richard Carter, P.T. — S.D.

Bro. Edward Schlichting — J.D. PT

Bro. Floyd Cotton — S.S.

Bro. Francis Foster — J.S.

Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 17 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$2.00

Broad Brook Ins. Agency — \$21.00

A letter was read signed by George M. Dunham requesting an affiliation with our Lodge. It was accompanied with a Demit Certificate from Day Spring Lodge of Monson, Mass., and also \$7.00 to cover dues to this Lodge for the current year.

This matter was tabled until such time as the Secretary could procure the proper application for affiliation from the Grand Lodge of Conn. for Mr. Dunham to fill out.

Lodge voted to remit the usual Affiliation Fee in this case.

W.M. Nield gave a report on Lodge for Instruction which he attended.

Bro. Louis C. Myers was reported as seriously ill.

Bro. William Neelans, being found in waiting to receive the Fellowcraft Degree, the Lodge was called to refreshment on the Master Mason Degree and a Lodge of Fellowcraft opened.

Senior Warden John Lang occupied the Master's Chair & Office and conducted the working of the Degree in excellent manner.

Bro. Neelans, after being duly prepared, was conducted into the Lodge & received the Degree.

The working tools were presented by Acting Master Lang.

The Second Section of the Fellowcraft Degree lecture was very well given by Past Master Richard Carter.

The Charge of the Degree was given by Past Grand Master Howard Middleton in his usual good form.

Lodge was closed on the F.C. Degree and called to labor on the Master Mason Degree.

It was voted to instruct the Secretary to purchase a new Hoodwink.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$29.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 3v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., May 9th, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M.

Bro. John Lang — S.W.

Bro. Wm. Young — J.W.

Bro. Louis C. Myers — Treas.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. E. Normand Myers — S.D.

Bro. Edward Schlichting, P.T. — J.D.

Bro. Floyd Cotton — S.S.

Bro. Francis Foster — J.S.

Bro. Julian Storozuk, P.T. — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 12 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

No bills

The application of affiliation signed by Geo. M. Dunham was read and since it was found in order, the ballot was spread & after all had voted it was found clear in the South, West & East.

W.M. Nield then declared Bro. Geo. M. Dunham duly elected to regular membership.

W.M. Nield announced that the Master Mason Degree would be conferred on Bro. Neelans at our next regular communication on May 23rd, at which the District Deputy Conrad Hahn of Suffield would make his official visitation, and that he would send out cards giving notice thereof to all members.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$27.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 4](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., May 23rd, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M.

Bro. John Lang — S.W.

Bro. Wm. Young — J.W.

Bro. L. C. Myers — Treas.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. E. Normand Myers — S.D.

Bro. Edwin Pease — J.D.

Bro. Floyd Cotton — S.S.

Bro. Francis Foster — J.S.

Bro. Irving A. Burnap — Chap.

Bro. Richard Carter, P.M. — Marsh.

Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

Bro. Harris — Organist

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 35 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$5.70

C. E. Ward — \$0.70

The function of the evening was the official visitation of the District Deputy, R.W. Conrad Hahn of Suffield.

He and his associate Grand Lodge officers were escorted into the Lodge and welcomed in a most hearty manner by our Worshipful Master, Edward Nield, and the Grand Honors were given by the brothers present.

Bro. William Neelans, a Fellowcraft, being found in waiting to receive the Master Mason Degree, was conducted into the Lodge and that degree was conferred in due form.

The lectures of the degree were rehearsed by Past Masters Richard Carter and Fred Dengler.

The Charge was given by Past Grand Master Howard A. Middleton.

After the work of the evening several speakers were called on and spoke briefly as the hour was late.

The District Deputy gave a fine talk in which he paid high tribute to the excellent manner in which the degree had been conferred.

Refreshments & social hour followed, after the Lodge closed.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$18.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 4v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., June 13th, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M.

Bro. John Lang — S.W.

Bro. Wm. Young — J.W.

Bro. (absent) — Treas.

Bro. Howard Middleton, P.T. — Sec'y

Bro. Joseph Maslak, P.T. — S.D.

Bro. Julian Storozuk, P.T. — J.D.

Bro. Floyd Cotton — S.S.

Bro. Wilfred Chapman, P.T. — J.S.

Bro. Thos. Sargent, P.T. — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 9 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved (omitted).

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

None

An application for membership signed by Edward John Sargent was presented and W.M. Nield appointed John Lang, Wm. Young, and Wilfred Chapman as an investigating committee.

The Treasurer was empowered to transact all necessary business of the Lodge during the summer recess which follows the present communication.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$19.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Harold Middleton, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 5](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., September 12th, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M.

Bro. John Lang — S.W.

Bro. Wm. Young — J.W.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Normand Myers — S.D.

Bro. Wilfred Chapman, P.T. — J.D.

Bro. Floyd Cotton — S.S.

Bro. Joseph Maslak, P.T. — J.S.

Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 15 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated & Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$1.00

A letter from Mrs. Grace Gilcrest, Sec'y of the Eastern Star Chapter No. 96 in Washington, D.C., was read, which requested a statement as to the standing of our late deceased Bro. Thomas J. Stewart in our Lodge at the time of his death, inasmuch as his widow has applied for membership in their order.

The Secretary will reply promptly stating that his standing was excellent.

The application of Edward John Sargent, having been signed by the Investigating Committee, was presented to the Lodge for a ballot. He was found elected & W.M. Nield announced the Entered Apprentice Degree would be conferred at the next meeting.

An application for membership signed by Gerald Milton Rumery was read & the W.M. appointed Bros. Lang, Young & Grant to be an Investigating Committee.

An application for membership signed by Leland Nash Willson was read & the W.M. appointed Bros. Myers, Maslak & Thos. Sargent to be an Investigating Committee.

Lodge voted to have the Secretary order 3 candidate outfits complete.

Bro. Earl Clark was reported confined to the hospital suffering with an eye injury. It was suggested that flowers be forwarded to him.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$12.50 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 5v](#)).

A special Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., September 12th, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M.

Bro. B. R. Grant, P.T. — S.W.

Bro. Wm. Young — J.W.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Henry Hudson, P.T. — S.D.

Bro. Chas. Boyd, P.T. — J.D.

Bro. I. A. Burnap — Chap.

Bro. Chas. Boyd, P.T. — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 15 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved (omitted).

The following bills were read and later voted paid: -

We were assembled at 1:30 P.M. for the purpose of attending the funeral of our deceased Bro. James Gilmore, who passed away on Sept. 19th.

Death was caused from the serious accident which he suffered when he was run over by a freight train near his home. Both legs were severed.

Bro. Gilmore had been a Mason over 60 years and was always faithful to his trust. He was highly respected by all and will be missed, although he was not able to attend Lodge regularly during the later years.

The funeral was held at the Broad Brook Congregational Church.

Past Grand Master Howard Middleton officiated and conducted the Masonic burial service.

Burial was in a Springfield, Mass., cemetery.

Bro. Gilmore was 88 years of age.

Receipts of the evening amounted to - and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 6](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., September 26th, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M.

Bro. John Lang — S.W.

Bro. Wm. Young — J.W.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. E. Normand Myers — S.D.

Bro. Edwin Pease — J.D.

Bro. Floyd Cotton — S.S.

Bro. Francis Foster — J.S.

Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 20 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$2.00

A card of appreciation from the family of our late deceased Bro. Gilmore was received & read.

An invitation was received from Apollo Lodge to attend their 125th Anniversary on October 16th, which we hope we can accept with pleasure.

Applications of Gerald Rumery & Leland Willson, having been properly signed by members of the investigating committees, the ballots were spread and after all had voted, the ballot found clear. W.M. Nield announced them duly elected to membership.

The application for membership of Clyde Lasbury was read and the following were appointed as an investigating committee:

Howard Middleton, Wilfred Chapman & Edward Schlichting.

Lodge called to refreshment & Lodge of Entered Apprentices opened.

Candidates Rumery & Willson, being found in waiting to receive their Entered Apprentice Degrees, were duly prepared & later conducted into the Lodge where the Degree was conferred.

The Lambskin or white leather apron was presented by P.M. Wilfred Chapman.

The Working Tools were presented by P.M. B. R. Grant.

The Charge was given by P.M. Fred Stolle.

The Lectures of the degree were rehearsed for the benefit of the newly admitted Bros. by S.W. Lang & J.W. Young.

Lodge of Entered Apprentices closed & work resumed on the Master Mason Degree.

Refreshments & social hour followed the work of the evening.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$45.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 6v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., October 10th, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M.

Bro. John Lang — S.W.
Bro. Wm. Young — J.W.
Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Richard Carter, P.T. — S.D.
Bro. Wilfred Chapman, P.T. — J.D.
Bro. Floyd Cotton — S.S.
Bro. Francis Foster — J.S.
Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

W.M. Nield & S.W. Lang exchanged their offices for the evening.

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 25 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Grand Lodge — receipts for dues — \$0.63

Spaulding Gardens — \$10.00

The application of Clyde Lasbury, having been signed by the Investigating Committee, the ballot was spread and after all had voted it was found clear at all stations.

W.M. Nield declared Mr. Lasbury duly elected to membership and announced a special meeting would be held on October 17th to confer the Entered Apprentice Degree.

It was brought to the attention of the Lodge that Bro. Clarence Gowdy had suffered a very serious automobile accident and was confined at the Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

It was suggested that the Secretary send flowers.

Bros. Sargent & Rumery, being found in waiting to receive the Fellowcraft Degree, the Lodge was called to refreshment & a Lodge of Fellowcraft opened.

They were duly prepared & after giving three distinct knocks on the door of the preparation room were conducted into the Lodge & the degree conferred.

The Charge was given by P.G.M. Howard Middleton and the lectures rehearsed by the Stewards, Cotton & Foster.

Lodge of Fellowcraft closed & labor resumed on the Master Mason Degree.

(Handwritten note)

“Our sympathy goes out to our beloved Bro. H. — who is still very ill.”

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$55.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form & refreshments enjoyed.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 7](#)).

A special Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., October 17th, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M.
Bro. Joseph Maslak, P.T. — S.W.
Bro. William Young — J.W.
Bro. (Absent) — Treas.
Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. E. Normand Myers — S.D.
Bro. Fred Kreyssig, P.T. — J.D.
Bro. Floyd Cotton — S.S.
Bro. Francis Foster — J.S.
Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 21 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

None

Clyde Pinney Lasbury, being found in waiting to receive the Entered Apprentice Degree, the Lodge was called to refreshment on the Master Mason Degree and a Lodge of Entered Apprentices opened.

Having been duly prepared, and given the three distinct knocks with his own right hand, Clyde Lasbury was conducted into the Lodge and received the Entered Apprentice Degree.

The Lambskin, or white leather apron, was presented by Past Grand Master Howard Middleton, and the working tools were presented by Past Master B. R. Grant.

The Charge was given by Past Master Fred Stolle, and the lectures were rehearsed for the candidate by Past Master Edward Schlichting & Bro. Julian Storozuk.

Brother Middleton gave the second and third sections of the same.
Lodge of Entered Apprentices closed & work resumed on the Master Mason Degree.
Receipts of the evening amounted to \$15.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.
Refreshments & Social Hour followed.
No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.
(Signature)
B. R. Grant
Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 7v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., October 24th, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M.
Bro. Edward Schlichting, P.T. — S.W.
Bro. William Young — J.W.
Bro. Joseph Maslak, P.T. — Sec'y
Bro. Edwin Stolle, P.T. — S.D.
Bro. Edwin Pease — J.D.
Bro. Floyd Cotton — S.S.
Bro. Francis Cotton — J.S.
Bro. Irving A. Burnap — Chap.

Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 20 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated & Special Communications were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$1.00

C. E. Ward Co. — Candidates' outfits — \$36.92

Bro. Edward Sargent, being found in waiting to receive his Master Mason Degree, was conducted into the Lodge after being duly prepared & having given three distinct knocks with his own right hand, and that degree was conferred.

The Working Tools were presented by W.M. Nield.

The Charge was given by P.G.M. Howard A. Middleton.

The lectures were rehearsed for his benefit by Bros. Richard Carter & Julian Storozuk.

Past Master George Sargent presented the newly admitted Brother with a Masonic pin in token of his high esteem and which he hoped he would wear with equal pleasure to himself & honor to the Fraternity.

(Handwritten note)

"Bro. Sargent spoke briefly"

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$18.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

(Handwritten note)

"Refreshments followed meeting"

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Jos. Maslak, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 8](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., October 24th, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M.
Bro. Edward Schlichting, P.T. — S.W.
Bro. Wm. Young — J.W.
Bro. Jos. Maslak, P.T. — Sec'y
Bro. Edwin P. Stolle, P.T. — S.D.
Bro. Edwin Pease — J.D.
Bro. Floyd Cotton — S.S.
Bro. Francis Foster — J.S.
Bro. I. A. Burnap — Chap.

Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 25 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated & Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

C. E. Ward Co. — 3 candidate outfits — \$36.92

Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$1.00

Bro. Edward Sargent, being found in waiting to receive the Master Mason Degree, was duly prepared & after giving three distinct knocks to gain admission at the door of the preparation room, was conducted into the Lodge where the degree was conferred.

The working tools were presented & their uses explained by W.M. Nield.

The Charge was given by P.G.M. Howard Middleton & the lectures by P.M. Richard Carter & Bro. Storozuk.

P.M. George Sargent very nicely presented a Masonic pin to the newly admitted brother.

After a few well worded remarks by Bro. Burnap, the Lodge closed, refreshments were enjoyed.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$18.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

Joseph Maslak, P.T.

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 8v](#)).

A special Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., October 31st, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M.

Bro. John Lang — S.W.

Bro. Wm. Young — J.W.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. Richard Carter, P.T. — S.D.

Bro. Howard Staiger, P.T. — J.D.

Bro. Floyd Cotton — S.S.

Bro. Francis Foster — J.S.

Bro. Chas. Boyd, P.T. — Tyler

Bros. Nield & Lang exchanged offices for the work of the evening.

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 15 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved (omitted).

The following bills were read and later voted paid: -

Brothers Lasbury and Willson, being found in waiting to receive their Fellowcraft Degrees, the Lodge was called to refreshment on the Master Mason Degree and a Lodge of Fellowcraft opened.

Having been duly prepared and having given three distinct knocks at the preparation room door, they were conducted into the Lodge of Fellowcraft and that degree conferred.

The Working Tools were presented by Bro. Lang.

The lectures were rehearsed by the Stewards, Bros. Cotton and Foster.

The Charge was given by P.G.M. Howard Middleton.

A beautiful bouquet of Fall flowers was presented to Bro. Middleton from the Lodge in token of remembrance of his 76th birthday.

All present extended their sincere good wishes & warm congratulations. We all are mindful of his long & faithful service to Oriental Lodge.

Lodge of Fellowcraft closed. Lodge called to labor on the Master Mason Degree.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$30.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt (held by the Secretary) deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 9](#)).

A special Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., November 7th, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M.

Bro. John Lang — S.W.

Bro. Wm. Young — J.W.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. E. Normand Myers — S.D.
Bro. Wilfred Chapman, P.T. — J.D.
Bro. Floyd Cotton — S.S.
Bro. Francis Foster — J.S.
Bro. Harry North — Organist PT
Bro. Fred Stolle — Marsh.
Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 27 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

There were none.

Bro. Leland Marsh Willson, a Fellowcraft, being found in waiting to receive the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, the Stewards retired to the preparation room and prepared him to receive the degree in form.

Having given three knocks on the door of said room, he was conducted into the Lodge, where the degree of Master Mason was conferred.

The lectures were rehearsed by Bros. Storozuk & Dunham, and the Charge was given by P.G.M. Middleton.

The work of the evening & the floor work of the Fellowcraft team was all very well conducted.

Social hour with refreshments followed the meeting.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$32.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 9v](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., November 14th, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M.
Bro. John Lang — S.W.
Bro. William Young — J.W.
Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. Edward Stolle, P.T. — S.D.
Bro. Jos. Maslak, P.T. — J.D.
Bro. Floyd Cotton — S.S.
Bro. Francis Foster — J.S.
Bro. B. R. Grant, P.T. — Marsh.
Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 25 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated & Special Communications were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Spaulding Gardens — \$3.50, \$5.55 & \$3.00

Bro. Gerald Rumery, a Fellowcraft, being found in waiting to receive the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, and when he had made three distinct knocks on the door of the preparation room, he was conducted into the Lodge where the Degree was conferred.

The Charge was given by Past Grand Master Howard A. Middleton.

After the ceremonies of the evening, Bro. Rumery was presented with a Masonic pin by visiting Bro. Hayden Allen in behalf of the Pratt & Whitney Square Club.

Refreshments & Social hour were enjoyed after Lodge closed.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$11.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 10](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., November 28th, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M.

Bro. John Lang — S.W.
Bro. William Young — J.W.
Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y
Bro. E. Norman Myers — S.D.
Bro. Chas. Staiger, P.T. — J.D.
Bro. Floyd Cotton — S.S.
Bro. Francis Foster — J.S.
Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 49 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

No. Conn. Light & Power Co. — \$5.70

A letter from Mrs. Louis C. Myers was read acknowledging with many thanks the "Welcome Home" which the Lodge sent to Bro. Louis, and also all other expressions of sympathy.

She gave us the glad news that he is improving in health & hoped he would again be able to attend Lodge before long.

A letter from the Masonic Home Xmas fund was read requesting a Christmas present, and the Lodge promptly voted to send \$10.00.

Visiting Masters were recognized & greeted by our W.M.

As the work of the evening was to be conducted by a cast of Past Masters of the Lodge, Past Master Howard Staiger, Acting Master and his associate officers were escorted into the Lodge & presented to W.M. Nield, who greeted them & extended the authority of his office to Bro. Staiger.

Past Masters' Officers for the evening:

Howard Staiger — W.M.

Fred Stolle — S.W.

Boyd R. Grant — J.W.

Joseph Maslak — Sec'y

Edward Stolle — S.D.

Chas. Staiger — J.D.

Fred Dengler — S.S.

Stanley Arnold — J.S.

Howard Middleton — Chaplain

Richard Carter — Marshal

Harry North — Organist

Emery Abbe — Tyler

The first section of the Degree was given by Bros. Charles Staiger & Fred Dengler.

Bro. Middleton gave the second & third sections of the same, and also the charge.

P.M. Emery Abbe presented Bro. Lasbury with a Masonic emblem in behalf of Mrs. Lasbury.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$11.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 10v](#)).

Dec. 7 — 1945

The Trustees of Oriental Lodge No. 111, F. & A. M. beg to report that we have examined the cash book of the Secretary, the ledger of the members accounts and receipts of the Treasurer, together with the account of the Treasurer compared same with bills paid, finding all entries properly made and all accounts correct.

The financial condition of the Lodge is as follows:

Deposit in Savings Acct. B.B. Bank — \$524.59

Deposit in Checking — \$103.68

U.S. War Bonds Series G — \$1800.00

Total — \$2428.27

A. A. Middleton

B. R. Grant

Henry C. Hudson ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 11](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., December 12th, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M.

Bro. John Lang — S.W.

Bro. William Young — J.W.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. E. Normand Myers — S.D.

Bro. Edward Schlichting, P.T. — J.D.

Bro. Floyd Cotton — S.S.

Bro. Francis Foster — J.S.

Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 25 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Spaulding Gardens — \$5.00

All Bros. present were very pleased to have Bro. Norman Stolle with us in Lodge again.

W.M. Nield welcomed him back from service in the army which he served in the South Pacific area.

He assured us he was very glad to be home and told of his experiences in Masonic Lodges during his travels during the past three years he has been away.

Oriental may well be proud of these boys who have served their country so well and who have not failed to remember the precepts of our order, and more especially their Bros. in their own Lodge in Broad Brook.

As this communication was the Annual one, the business of the evening was taken up.

Reports of the Treasurer & Secretary were read, accepted by vote and placed on file.

Also, a report of the Trustees was read by P.G.M. Middleton, accepted by vote & placed on file.

This report stated that the books of the Treasurer & Secretary had been thoroughly audited and found correct and gave the present assets of the Lodge as \$2,428.27.

Election of Officers followed:

John Lang — W.M.

William Young — S.W.

E. Normand Myers — J.W.

Louis C. Myers — Treas.

Boyd R. Grant — Sec'y

Edward Staiger — S.D.

Floyd Cotton — J.D.

Francis Foster — S.S.

Julian Storozuk — J.S.

I. A. Burnap — Chap.

Fred Stolle — Marsh.

Harry North — Organist

Emery Abbe — Tyler

Bro. Middleton was elected a Trustee for three years.

Master-elect John Lang announced the Installation of Officers would be held at the next meeting on December 26th, 1945, and would be a private installation.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$189.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 12](#)).

A stated Communication of Oriental Lodge, No. 111, A. F. & A. M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Broad Brook, Conn., December 26th, 1945, A.L. 5945.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Bro. Edward Nield — W.M.

Bro. John Lang — S.W.

Bro. William Young — J.W.

Bro. B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Bro. E. Normand Myers — S.D.

Bro. Fred Dengler, P.T. — J.D.

Bro. Floyd Cotton — S.S.

Bro. Francis Foster — J.S.

Bro. I. A. Burnap — Chap.

Bro. Harry W. North — Organist

Bro. Emery Abbe — Tyler

The Lodge was opened in due form on the Master Mason Degree, with 22 Brothers present.

The minutes of the last Stated Special Communication were read and approved.

The following bills were read and later voted paid:

Nor. Conn. L. & P. — \$1.00

The work of the evening consisted of the installing of the newly elected officers.

Past Grand Master Howard A. Middleton was the installing officer and was assisted by P.M. Howard G. Staiger as Marshal.

Officers installed:

John Lang — W.M.

William Young — S.W.

E. Normand Myers — J.W.

B. R. Grant — Sec'y

Edward Staiger — S.D.

Floyd Cotton — J.D.

Francis Foster — S.S.

Julian Storozuk — J.S.

I. A. Burnap — Chap.

Harry W. North — Organist

Emery W. Abbe — Tyler

Those officers not present for installation were:

Louis C. Myers — Treas.

Fred Stolle — Marsh.

Bro. Louis C. Myers is still confined at his home but improving slowly.

The evening closed with remarks from Bro. Burnap and a Social Hour with refreshments.

Receipts of the evening amounted to \$63.00 and were turned over to the Treasurer upon his receipt deposited in safe.

No further business appearing, the Lodge was closed in due form.

(Signature)

B. R. Grant

Secretary ([Archive CGU. F. 11. Op. 1. D. 6. F. 12v](#)).

An analysis of the minutes of Oriental Lodge No. 111 for 1945 shows that the lodge not only preserved its organizational stability and regularity of work, but also entered a new stage of its development associated with the transition from wartime conditions to postwar reality. Throughout the year, the lodge continued to hold stated and special communications, install officers, admit new members, carry out successive degree work, consider property and financial matters, support charitable initiatives, and maintain a well-developed system of fraternal mutual assistance.

One of the most important characteristics of 1945 remained the lodge's active ritual and initiatory work. Throughout the year, Oriental Lodge continued regularly to admit candidates and advance them through the degrees. William John Neelans received the Entered Apprentice degree in March, the Fellowcraft degree in April, and was raised to the degree of Master Mason in May. In the autumn, Gerald Rumery, Leland Nash Willson, and Clyde Pinney Lasbury passed through the degrees in a similar manner. Edward John Sargent was likewise raised to the degree of Master Mason in October. This indicates that even under the conditions of the war's end and the restructuring of social life, the lodge preserved one of its principal functions, namely the continuous reproduction of the fraternity through the full cycle of Masonic degrees.

The minutes also demonstrate the stability of the lodge's administrative structure. Applications for membership and affiliation, bills, insurance and property matters, correspondence with the Grand Lodge, as well as annual reports and the election of officers were regularly considered. Even when particular officers were absent, the lodge compensated through temporary appointments, which points to the flexibility of its internal administration and the existence of a stable cadre core. The year ended with the annual meeting, the approval of the financial report, the election of new officers, and their installation, confirming the preservation of a full administrative cycle.

Especially important for 1945 is the fact that the lodge continued to combine patriotic and fraternal concerns against the background of the war's conclusion. Whereas in previous years the chief emphasis had been placed on supporting brethren in service and on wartime initiatives, in 1945 the minutes particularly reflect a transition toward the theme of the return of veterans and their symbolic reintegration into lodge life. The warm welcomes extended to Norman Stolle and Edward Staiger, returning from service in the Pacific, are especially revealing. At the same time, the minutes emphasize that the lodge was proud of its brethren, who had not forgotten the "principles of the order" during their military service. Thus, Oriental Lodge acted not only as a place of remembrance of wartime service, but also as an institution for the reintegration of returning servicemen into the fraternal community.

At the same time, patriotic and charitable activity was also maintained. The lodge continued to contribute to the American Red Cross, support the Masonic Home, send Christmas remittances, and maintain its attention to the Masonic Service Association. Although by 1945 wartime mobilization was gradually giving way to postwar recovery, the minutes show that the patriotic and charitable function of the lodge did not weaken, but merely shifted its emphasis. In this sense, Oriental Lodge demonstrated an ability to adapt to a changing social context.

A significant place in the life of the lodge was occupied by social and fraternal mutual assistance. Throughout the year, the lodge continued to support Albert Schlude in the Masonic Home, sending him an Easter gift, Christmas assistance, and taking decisions concerning related expenses. No less indicative was the case of Louis C. Myers, who was seriously ill in 1945: his condition was repeatedly noted in the minutes, and the lodge expressed its support while preserving his symbolic presence in its life. This shows that fraternal mutual assistance in Oriental Lodge was not limited to formal acts, but constituted an important part of its everyday internal culture.

A special importance in 1945 was attached to the memorial function of the lodge. In September, a special communication was held for participation in the funeral of James Gilmore, who, as the minutes emphasize, had been a Mason for more than sixty years and had remained faithful to the lodge until the end of his life. This episode, like other references to the memory of deceased brethren, shows that funeral and mourning practices continued to remain among the most important means of preserving continuity and fraternal unity.

The sources for 1945 also vividly demonstrate attention to the material and financial side of lodge life. The minutes record utility and insurance expenses, the purchase of candidates' outfits, care for regalia and equipment, as well as discussion of the general financial condition of the lodge. Especially important is the trustees' report of December 7, 1945, which recorded the lodge's sound financial condition: funds were held both in bank accounts and in U.S. War Bonds Series G, and the total assets amounted to \$2,428.27. This testifies to the financial stability of Oriental Lodge and to the fact that the war years had not undermined its material base.

Another important development in 1945 was the expansion of the membership body. Throughout the year, the lodge considered not only ordinary petitions for admission, but also questions of affiliation, as in the case of George M. Dunham. At the same time, new brethren were incorporated into lodge life rather quickly, and the lodge itself, judging by the number of initiations and advancements performed, was experiencing a noticeable revival after the end of the war. This makes it possible to speak of the beginning of postwar growth and the renewal of the lodge's human resources.

The minutes also reflect the importance of internal symbolic culture and fraternal recognition. This manifested itself in public installations, festive evenings, the presentation of Masonic pins to newly admitted brethren, entertainment programs, and expressions of respect toward such figures as Howard A. Middleton and Louis C. Myers. These episodes show that Oriental Lodge strove not only for administrative efficiency, but also for the strengthening of internal identity, fraternal solidarity, and a sense of belonging to a common tradition.

In 1946, when the lodge celebrated its 75th anniversary, special attention was once again given to the sacrificial service of the lodge's members who were veterans of the Second World War in a commemorative booklet. There we find the following words:

Tribute
To Veterans of World War II

To you, the veterans of World War II, we dedicate this; our 75th Anniversary.

You went forth at the call of your country, with a full knowledge that you might be called upon to give your life. That you all returned safely we thank God.

We owe you a great debt of gratitude, that through you our country's liberty and our cherished religious heritage has been saved for us.

Men are prone to forget after the battle is won who won and for what they fought. Therefore we are dedicating this roll of honor that those who come to this Lodge may pause and say: "These men helped make this possible."

Hugo C. Heidrich, Jr.
Martin Hensel
Harold Martin
John W. Middleton
William J. Neelans

Edwin T. Pease
Edwin P. Stolle
Norman Stolle
Edward Staiger
Louis E. Smith ([Seventy-fifth Anniversary...](#), 1946: 14).

4. Conclusion

The analysis of the minutes of Oriental Lodge No. 111, A.F. & A.M. (Broad Brook, Connecticut) for the years 1941–1945 allows for a detailed reconstruction the institutional life of a local Masonic lodge during the period of the Second World War. The documents demonstrate that the lodge not only preserved continuity in its organizational structure and everyday practices, but also proved capable of adapting to the profound social, political, and cultural transformations associated with wartime conditions and the transition to peace.

First and foremost, the materials clearly indicate that Oriental Lodge maintained a stable and uninterrupted rhythm of activity throughout the entire period under consideration. Despite fluctuations in attendance, which were often conditioned by wartime mobilization, economic pressures, and the absence of members serving in the armed forces, the lodge continued to function regularly. Stated and special communications were held, officers were elected and installed annually, financial and administrative matters were addressed, and correspondence with the Grand Lodge was consistently maintained. This continuity underscores the resilience of Masonic institutional frameworks, even in times of global crisis.

A central component of the lodge's activity remained ritual and initiatory work. Throughout the war years, Oriental Lodge consistently admitted new candidates and advanced them through the traditional sequence of Masonic degrees. The cases of Edwin T. Pease, Harry F. McCaffrey, Floyd D. Cotton, Charles E. Boyle, Martin M. Hensel, Joseph A. Wagner, and others demonstrate that the lodge sustained a full cycle of initiation, progression, and integration. This continuity is of particular significance: it shows that even under conditions of war, the lodge did not suspend its fundamental function—the reproduction and renewal of the fraternity. Moreover, the ceremonial character of many degree conferrals, often involving Past Masters, visiting brethren, and inter-lodge cooperation (e.g., the participation of the Pratt & Whitney Square Club), highlights the importance of ritual as both a symbolic and social practice that reinforced cohesion and identity.

Equally important is the evidence of a well-functioning administrative system. The minutes reveal a structured and disciplined approach to governance, including the regular review of financial accounts, the management of property and insurance, and the maintenance of membership records. The lodge demonstrated flexibility in addressing temporary absences of officers through pro tempore appointments, which ensured continuity of leadership and operations. This adaptability points to the presence of a stable and experienced cadre of members—a core of committed members capable of sustaining institutional stability.

The documents also provide valuable insight into the social dimension of lodge life. Oriental Lodge functioned not merely as a ritual body but as a community of mutual assistance. The lodge provided material and moral support to its members, particularly those in need. The case of Albert Schlude, who was assisted in his relocation to the Masonic Home and supported financially thereafter, is especially illustrative. Similarly, the lodge's concern for ill members, such as Louis C. Myers, and its consistent attention to their well-being demonstrate the practical application of Masonic principles of charity and brotherhood. These actions were not exceptional but rather embedded in the everyday functioning of the lodge.

A significant aspect of the lodge's activity during the war years was its engagement with the broader patriotic and military context of American society. Beginning in 1941 and intensifying in subsequent years, the lodge increasingly integrated wartime themes into its organizational and symbolic life. Contributions to the Masonic Service Association, participation in War Relief campaigns, investment in U.S. War Bonds, and support for the American Red Cross all indicate that Oriental Lodge actively participated in national efforts. The presentation of a Service Flag in 1943 and the systematic collection of funds among members further demonstrate a high level of mobilization and collective responsibility.

At the same time, the lodge maintained close ties with its members serving in the armed forces. The minutes record letters received from servicemen, visits by brethren on furlough, and various forms of support extended to them. These practices reveal that the lodge acted as a stable point of reference and emotional support for members during wartime. In 1945, as the war came to an end, this function evolved into a process of reintegration, with returning veterans being warmly welcomed back into lodge life. Thus, the lodge served both as a symbolic and practical mechanism for maintaining continuity between civilian and military experiences.

Another key dimension of lodge life was the preservation of memorial culture. Funeral rites, expressions of condolence, and commemorative practices occupied an important place in the minutes. The lodge consistently honored deceased members, participated in burial ceremonies, and maintained rituals of mourning. These practices reinforced a sense of continuity across generations and underscored the enduring nature of fraternal bonds. The 1944 celebration of Howard A. Middleton's fiftieth anniversary in Masonry

further illustrates the importance of memory, tradition, and personal authority within the lodge's symbolic system.

The material and financial aspects of lodge activity also deserve attention. The minutes document careful management of resources, including the payment of bills, investment of funds, and maintenance of lodge property. The trustees' report of December 1945, which recorded assets totaling \$2,428.27, demonstrates that the lodge remained financially stable throughout the war. The decision to invest in War Bonds and the systematic approach to fundraising reflect a balance between prudence and civic engagement.

Finally, the postwar year of 1945 marks a transitional phase in the development of Oriental Lodge. While the lodge continued many of its wartime practices, the emphasis gradually shifted toward rebuilding and expansion. Increased admission of new members, renewed attention to social events, and the reintegration of veterans all point to the beginning of a new stage characterized by growth and renewal. At the same time, the lodge preserved its core identity, rooted in ritual, discipline, and fraternity.

In sum, Oriental Lodge No. 111 during the Second World War emerges as a resilient and adaptive institution that successfully combined continuity with change. It maintained its traditional functions while responding to the demands of wartime society, thereby demonstrating the capacity of local Masonic structures to serve as both custodians of tradition and active participants in broader historical processes.

References

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