

OCCIDENT LODGE

A.F. & A.M. 346 G.R.C.



CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

1876

1976

Tuesday, March 30th, 1976

The Masonic Temple  
888 Yonge Street  
Toronto

*On the 23rd February 1876, eighty-nine masons signed a petition to the Most  
Worshipful Grand Master which read as follows—*

*“We, the undersigned, being regularly registered masons of  
the lodges mentioned against our respective names, having the  
prosperity of the Craft at heart, are anxious to exert our  
best endeavour to promote and diffuse the genuine principles  
of the Art, and for the convenience of our respective dwellings  
and other good reasons, are desirous of forming a new lodge  
to be named the “Occident”. In consequence of this desire,  
we pray for a Warrant of Constitution empowering us to  
meet as a regular lodge at the corner of Bathurst and  
Little Richmond Streets in the City of Toronto, in the  
County of York, on the first Wednesday of every month,  
and there to discharge the duties of masonry in a constitu-  
tional manner, according to the forms of the Order and the  
laws of the Grand Lodge, and we have nominated and do  
recommend Bro. James Wilson to be the first Master,  
Bro. William Watson to be the first Senior Warden and  
Bro. Josiah Green to be the first Junior Warden of the  
said lodge.*

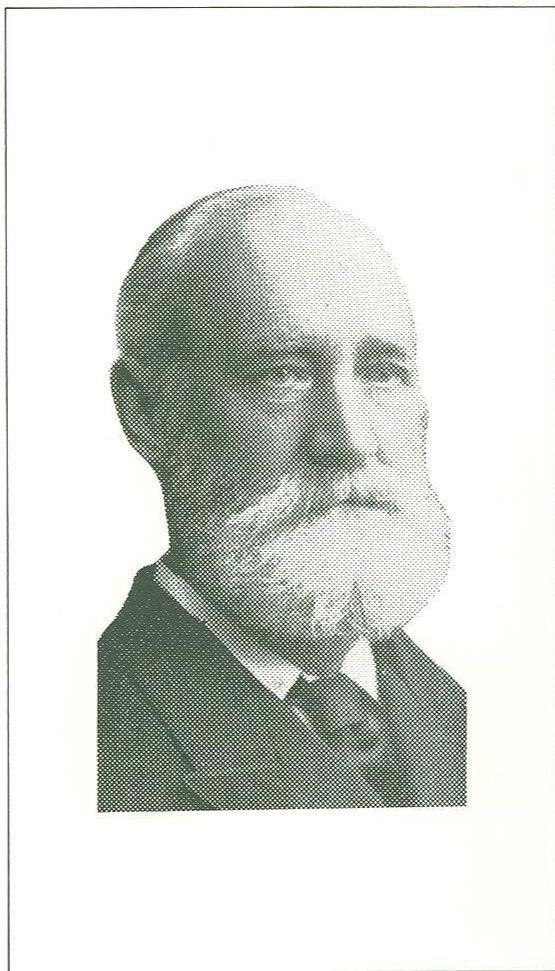
*The prayer of this petition being granted, we promise strict  
obedience to the commands of the Grand Master and the  
laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge.”*



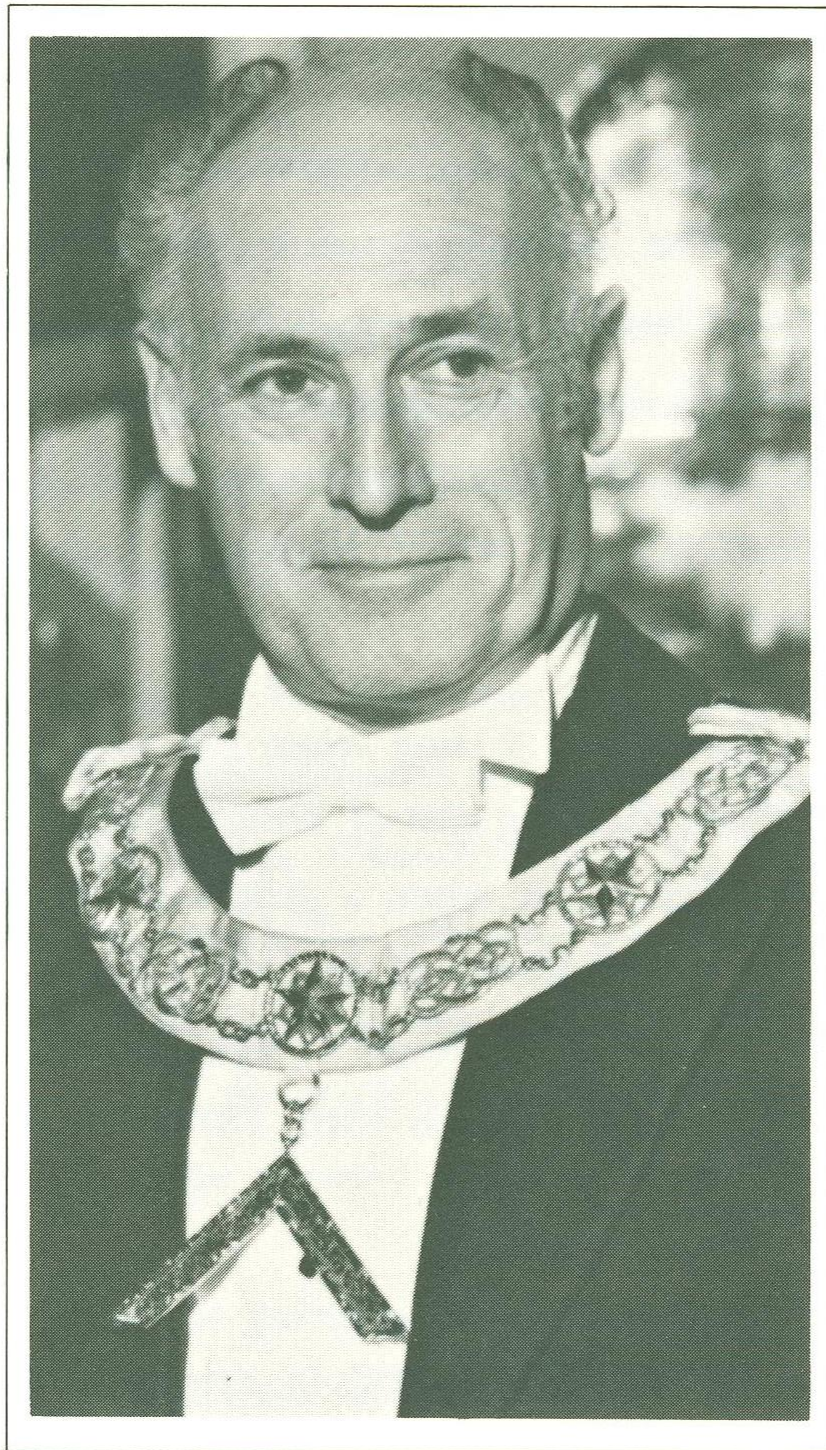


Most Worshipful Brother  
ERIC W. NANCEKIVELL, M.D.  
Grand Master  
The Grand Lodge of Canada  
In the Province of Ontario





V. W. BRO. JAMES WILSON  
First Master of Occident Lodge  
1876



W. BRO. DENNIS J. ROSS  
Master of Occident Lodge  
in its one hundredth year  
1976



# Occident Lodge

A full history of the lodge in the one century of its existence would be a major undertaking. The lodge, first instituted in 1876, has a background of achievement and growth, and has gathered around it a tradition that comes with age. To tell the story in detail would take a book. We have only a few short paragraphs to record a hundred years of progress, a hundred years in which fine men have practised their craft and contributed to the art.

Occident Lodge was formed at a time when the city of Toronto had twelve lodges, all of them meeting east of Yonge Street. The new lodge was instituted west of that street when a group of masons, headed by W. Bro. James Wilson, a Past Master of St. John's Lodge No. 75, called for a new lodge to be known as Occident Lodge. Grand Master, M.W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, announced on March 15th, 1876 that the request had been granted.

On April 5th, 1876, the first regular meeting was held and the lodge instituted, with W. Bro. Wilson placed in the Chair of King Solomon.

For several months, the lodge used temporary quarters, until it moved to Occident Hall, Queen and Bathurst Streets on December 27th, 1876. That remained home for Occident Lodge for thirty-four eventful years until September 1911 when the lodge took up residence in the College Street Temple, where it remained for fifty-three years, experiencing two World Wars and, in this period, produced its most dedicated sons.

Occident moved to the new York Temple on September 16th, 1964 and, finally, to its present address at 888 Yonge Street on the 7th March, 1972.

During the hundred years of the existence of Occident Lodge, it has taken its place and fulfilled its purpose in the Order. Many of its brethren have distinguished themselves, not only in public and professional life, but in masonic undertakings. Over the years, Grand Lodge has elected or appointed many of these stalwart masons to serve the Craft with honour, dignity and skill.

Of these notable masons, V.W. Bro. Max Smeall could, in addition to these attributes, be truly epitomised as a skilled craftsman. The beautiful wood carvings in the Senate Chamber and the library in Canada's Houses of Parliament stands for all time as a memorial to cunning workmanship. This distinguished mason, until his death in 1967, carved individual setting mauls for each of Occident's Worshipful Masters. V.W. Bro. Max Smeall also formed and became first Master of Patricia Lodge #587.

Such has been the heritage of Occident Lodge to produce men who make their mark on society.

Much more could be written and accolades given to many fine men who have passed through Occident Lodge. Let it suffice by this short summary and example of our past to say that Occident's standards remain high, and in remembering those one hundred years, we look forward with high expectations to continue our work and our friendship based on those old pioneers who laid the foundation of Occident Lodge. During that time, 1,757 candidates have been initiated and the present membership stands at 308.

# Banquet Programme

Invocation	R.W. Bro. Rev. W. Fairley
Toast	The Queen

## Dinner

Welcome	W. Bro. D. J. Ross
Introduction Head Table Guests	R.W. Bro. J. D. Fraser
Centennial Chairman Remarks	W. Bro. D. Atkinson
Toast — The Grand Master and The Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario	Bro. John Gilmour
Response	M.W. Bro. E. W. Nancekivell
Presentation	R.W. Bro. H. McBride
Toast to the Visitors	R.W. Bro. R. G. Loftus
Response	R.W. Bro. W. McLeod
Junior Warden's Toast	Bro. Joseph Binns



# Lodge Room Programme

Opening —

Reception of all guests, except present and  
past Grand Lodge officers

Reception of present and past Grand Lodge officers

Reception of the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. E. W. Nancekivell

## Regalia Dedication Ceremony

Presiding Grand Lodge officer	R.W. Bro. J. McCrae, D.D.G.M.
Chaplain	R.W. Bro. Rev. W. Fairley
Presentation of pins	M.W. Bro. E. W. Nancekivell
Historical briefs	R.W. Bro. J. D. Fraser

## Closing

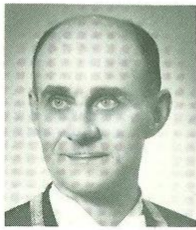




Past Masters of Occident Lodge 1976  
and the District Deputy Grand Master of Toronto District 2  
R.W. Bro. James McRae



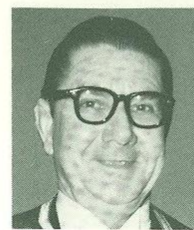
# Occident Grand Lodge Officers 1976



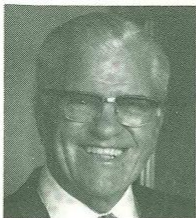
R.W. Bro.  
H. McBride



R.W. Bro.  
R. Loftus



R.W. Bro.  
J. Fraser



V.W. Bro.  
J. Berry



V.W. Bro.  
G. Sandford



V.W. Bro.  
C. Emmett



V.W. Bro.  
S. Haines



V.W. Bro.  
H. B. Hutchins



V.W. Bro.  
G. Bonney



# Occident Past Masters elected and honoured by Grand Lodge

R.W. Bro. E. J. Duncan  
R.W. Bro. Tim Barber  
R.W. Bro. J. W. Lawrence  
R.W. Bro. C. S. Hall  
R.W. Bro. H. McBride  
R.W. Bro. R. G. Loftus  
R.W. Bro. H. E. Wilson  
R.W. Bro. J. D. Fraser  
V.W. Bro. James Wilson  
V.W. Bro. J. S. Williams  
V.W. Bro. J. R. Dunn  
V.W. Bro. A. Curran  
V.W. Bro. R. Charlton  
V.W. Bro. W. J. A. Lake  
V.W. Bro. J. Muir  
V.W. Bro. J. C. West  
V.W. Bro. J. Howlett  
V.W. Bro. H. B. Magill  
V.W. Bro. Max Smeall  
V.W. Bro. W. M. Williams  
V.W. Bro. T. C. Johnson  
V.W. Bro. A. E. Powell  
V.W. Bro. J. Berry  
V.W. Bro. T. W. Horn  
V.W. Bro. G. Sanford  
V.W. Bro. C. W. Emmett  
V.W. Bro. S. C. Haines  
V.W. Bro. H. B. Hutchins  
V.W. Bro. G. G. Bonney

# Officers 1976

W. Bro. D. J. Ross	Worshipful Master
W. Bro. A. H. Brooks-Dowsett	Immediate Past Master
Bro. E. Rawling	Senior Warden
Bro. J. E. Binns	Junior Warden
Bro. J. P. Bennett	Chaplain
W. Bro. W. Glover	Treasurer
V.W. Bro. G. G. Bonney	Secretary
Bro. J. Gilmour	Senior Deacon
Bro. J. Boersma	Junior Deacon
W. Bro. R. Wilkinson	Director of Ceremonies
Bro. W. Munro	Inner Guard
Bro. K. Spence	Senior Steward
Bro. R. Binns	Junior Steward
Bro. J. Morrall	Organist
Bro. F. Wilson	Tyler



J. Wilson G. M.

To all and every our Right Worshipful, Worshipful and Loving Brethren,

We James Kirkpatrick Kerr Esquire &c &c &c.  
Of the City of Toronto, Province of Ontario, Dominion of Canada.

Grand Master

Of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Canada.

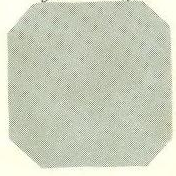
Send Greeting,

Know Ye, That We by the authority and under the sanction of the Grand Lodge of Canada, vested in us for that purpose and at the humble petition of our Right Trusty and well Beloved Brethren, James Wilson, William Wilson, Josiah Green, Thomas Fernman, Do. Mc. Adamson, Thomas Fair, Thomas Spronk, John Linton, George Sret, Levi Clark, James D. Hall, John Gardou, W. F. Fayett, and others Do hereby constitute the said Brethren into a Lodge of free and accepted Masons under the title or Denomination of the

No 346

"The Occident" Lodge

the said Lodge to meet at Toronto Ontario on the first Wednesday of every Month, empowering them in the said Lodge, when duly congregated, to make pass and raise Free Masons according to the Ancient custom of the Craft in all ages and Nations throughout the known World, and further at their said petition and of the great trust and confidence reposed in every of the above named Brethren We do hereby appoint the said James Wilson to be the first Worshipful Master, the said William Wilson to be the first Senior Warden, and the said Josiah Green to be the first Junior Warden, for opening and holding the said Lodge, and until such time as another Master shall be regularly elected and installed, strictly charging that every Member who shall be elected to preside over the said Lodge and who must previously have duly served as Warden in a Warranted Lodge, shall be installed in ancient form and according to the Laws of the Grand Lodge that he may thereby be fully invested with the dignities and powers of his Office. And we do require you the said James Wilson to take special care that all and every the said Brethren are or have been regularly made Masons, and that you and they and all other the Members of the said Lodge, do observe, perform and keep the Laws, Rules and orders contained in the Book of Constitutions, and all others which may from time to time be made by our Grand Lodge or transmitted by us or our Successor Grand Masters or by our Deputy Grand Master for the time being. And we do enjoin you to make such By-Laws for the government of your Lodge, as shall to the majority of the Members appear proper and necessary, the same not being contrary to, or inconsistent with, the General Laws and Regulations of the Craft, a Copy whereof you are to transmit to us. And we do require you to cause all such By-Laws and Regulations and also an account of the proceedings in your Lodge, to be entered in a Book to be kept for that purpose. And you are in no wise to omit to send to us or our Successor Grand Masters, or to Our Deputy Grand Master for the time being, in form and manner directed by the Book of Constitutions, at least once in every year, a List of the Members of your Lodge and the names and descriptions of all Masons initiated therein and Brethren who shall have joined the same, with the fees and monies payable thereon, it being our will and intention that this our Warrant of Constitution shall continue in force so long only as you shall conform to the Laws and Regulations of our Grand Lodge. And you the said James Wilson are further required, as soon as conveniently may be, to send us an account in writing of what shall be done by virtue of these presents.



Given under our Hands and the Seal of the Grand Lodge at Mc. Amittion this 15<sup>th</sup> July A. D. 1876 A. D. 1876.

By Command of the M. W. Grand Master

J. A. G. M.

J. J. Mason G. S.



# Centennial Committee

Chairman: Wor. Bro. Don Atkinson

Vice Chairman: Bro. Dennis Ross

Secretary: Wor. Bro. T. Lloyd-Jones

Lives of great men all remind us  
We can make our lives sublime,  
And, departing, leave behind us  
Footprints in the sands of time.