

Volume III

March, 1950

No. 3



J. Dwight Cook, J.D.G.T.C.



MONTGOMERY FOREST NO. 134

TALL CEDARS OF LEBANON

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PROCLAMATION

By virtue of the power and authority in me vested by the Supreme Forest, Tall Cedars of Lebanon of the United States, and the specific authority bestowed by Blanket Authority granted by the Senior Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar, under date of 17 December, 1949, I hereby call a meeting of Montgomery Forest No. 134, to be held in the Leland Junior High School, Bethesda, Maryland, at 8 p.m., on 22 March, 1950, for the purpose of transacting such business as may come before the Forest.

Given under my Hand and Seal this Sixth day of March, nineteen hundred and fifty.

ATTEST:

Don A. Smith
Scribe

Wm. Homer Carroll, Sr.,
Grand Tall Cedar

James G. Reese, P. G. T. C., No. 104, District Representative

GRAND TALL'S MESSAGE

Dear Brother Cedars:—

May the coming Easter Season be a joyous one for you and yours. May it be a reaffirmation of Faith. May your love for the Lonely Man of Galilee, who laid down those sterling principles of Brotherly Love which constitute the foundation and support of every fraternal organization, grow stronger and more sincere. Let each of us see to it that we refrain from emulating Judas Iscariot, and not sell our glorious Masonic and Cedar Heritage for a few pieces of silver or some other insignificant pecuniary gain, personal aggrandizement or satisfaction of ego. This is a season for reflection, personal analyzation, and the fuller realization of the meaning of the empty tomb.

Cedarly,

“Willie Homer”

Senior Deputy Nite

Prince George Forest held a Senior Deputy Nite on March the 4th. All of the officers were Senior Deputies of District No. 20. Lots were drawn to determine the officers and the following were selected; Clarence Price; Senior Deputy of Prince George Forest No. 139 as Grand Tall; George Heilman, Senior Deputy of Montgomery Forest No. 134 as Senior Deputy; and Paul Robey, Senior Deputy of Temple Forest No. 136 as Junior Deputy.

The appointed officers conducted a

short form initiation.

It can be noted that our George can not get out of the fact that he is Senior Deputy and therefore, it was the only shoes he could fill.

The meeting ended with eats.

We understand that George was complimented on his part. Our Grand Tall Carroll was also present and can verify the above.

Echo Advertisers—Your splendid support has made our new printed Bulletin possible. Thank each and every one of you.

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The Cedar of Lebanon

Centuries before anyone ever thought of a Christmas tree, the cedar of Lebanon was revered in Scripture and local worship. The 80th Psalm speaks of the "Cedars of God" and Isaiah tells us there how the "Glory of Lebanon shall come unto thee." A Christmas shrine still stands in the Bishareh Cedars, where once Venus and Adonis were worshipped.

Even before the time of the Pyramids, the Egyptian Pharaohs established a trading station at Jibail for the purpose of obtaining cedar wood for their ships and palaces. I Kings 5 tells how King Solomon joined with Hiram, King of Tyre, to fell trees in the mountains of Lebanon and transport them by land, sea and land to Jerusalem. Phoenician craftsmen fashioned cedar logs into rafters and paneling for their temples and palaces. They also used the trees to make columns for the "House of the Forest of Lebanon," which was Solomon's great throne room and judgment hall. Masonic orders trace their origins to Solomon's time and still have a sentimental attachment for the Cedar. This is particularly true with respect to members of the Order of Tall Cedars of Lebanon as it exists today and no doubt was equally true with respect to the ancient hewers of wood in the forests of Lebanon, who, tradition ascribes, constituted the first and original Order of Tall Cedars.

The Roman Emperor, Hadrian, is said to have established an imperial forest in Lebanon, with a monopoly to use the cedars and three other types of trees to produce the oars and masts of his triremes. Several boundary stones taken from Hadrian's Forest can be seen in the Museum of the American University at Beirut, present capital of the Republic of Lebanon.

The Crusaders observing the beauty of the forests of Lebanon taught their friends at home to love the cedar tree, and as a result there are still many cedars in public and private parks of England and France.

The largest existing forest of cedars in

Lebanon is that owned and administered by a pious foundation, headed by the Patriarch of the Maronite Church. A watchman guards the young trees in this forest and even the large cedars can only be cut to make the roof beams for houses in the neighboring villages. However, the most famous of the cedar forests of Lebanon is said to be a small grove of very ancient trees located above Bishareh, protected by a wall paid for by Queen Victoria. This grove is six thousand feet above sea level and faces a mountain range ten thousand feet high rising behind the Kadisheh canyon. There are also large groves of cedar trees above Ain Zahaltah and Baruk and smaller ones in other parts of Lebanon.

The flag of the new Lebanese Republic very appropriately shows a green cedar tree on a white background with red bars on either side.

The ancient word for cedar is believed to have been formed from the consonants Q, T, and R, as commercial cedar timber is called qatraneh and cedar pitch, qatran. In the old days, the woodsmen made pitch from cedar stumps as a salve for sores on their camels' backs.

Because the mountain people of Lebanon have permitted their goats to destroy young seedlings which spring up readily, the supply of cedar timber has become somewhat depleted in some of the forests of Lebanon, especially in the mountain regions, during the past quarter of a century. Several years ago the American Legation at Beirut assisted in sowing thousands of cedar seeds on the high mountains. The fate of these seeds will depend largely upon the mountain goats. If the Lebanese mountaineers, who raise these goats for food, control their animals as efficiently as the people of Cyprus have done, it will not be long perhaps before poets like Isaiah will sing again of the "Glory of Lebanon."

James R. Britt, *Historian*

This is one of a series of articles on the history of Cedarism in general and its development down to and including the institution of our Forest in particular.

J. R. B.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 18 March—Master Mason Nite—Temple Forest, Recreation Center, Alexandria, Va.
20 March—Third Degree Special Communication, Silver Spring Lodge, Silver Spring, Md.
22 March—Regular meeting—Leland Junior High School at Bethesda, Md., 8 P. M. Ceremonial and Parade postponed until a later date. Initiation will be conferred in short form.
24 March—LADIES' NITE—Kennedy Warren Apartments, Connecticut Ave., Washington, D. C. Dancing from 10 to 1. (BYOL) Tables will be available and a small charge will be made for setups. Cedars may bring a prospective member and lady. No charge for admission.
25 March—Regular Meeting of Temple Forest, Henry Knox Lodge, Alexandria, Va.
27 March—Fellowcraft Degree, Silver Spring Lodge, Silver Spring, Md., 7:30 P. M.
9 May —“Maryland Nite”—Takoma Lodge No. 29, Carroll and Maple Sts., Takoma Park, D. C. 7:30 P. M. One of Carl Claudy's Masonic Plays will be presented.
1 April —Square Dance at the Silver Spring Intermediate School, Chicago and Philadelphia Avenues, Silver Spring, Md. Time 9 P. M. to 12 Midnight. Admission \$1.00 per person. Bring your friends.
Memorial Service scheduled for March 26th has been postponed. Details later.

Our Junior Deputy

by

George T. Heilman, S.D.G.T.C.

Last Fall when it became necessary to elect the new Junior Deputy Grand Tall Cedar, the members of Montgomery Forest didn't have to do much thinking as all eyes were focused on Brother J. Dwight Cook.

Dwight worked hard last year in helping promote our many activities serving in the Rangers and as Chief Frolicer. He is a good leader and knows how to work with men and there isn't anyone in the Forest who likes to have a good time better than he does. On the other hand, while helping to administer the Affairs of the Forest, his sound reasoning usually commands attention. He is a good parliamentarian and his timely logic will help

us a lot in the future.

Dwight has been associated with the Judd & Detweiler Printing Company for the past fifteen years. He is a member of Silver Spring Lodge No. 215. He was organizer and Secretary of the Judd and Detweiler Fellowcraft Club. He is a Charter Member of the Montgomery Fellowship Club and is a member of the Baptist Church.

He resides with his wife Verneen in their home at 10211 Ridgemoor Drive, in Woodmoor.

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Salesman: “That's my hotel bill.”

Sales Manager: “Well, don't buy any more hotels!”

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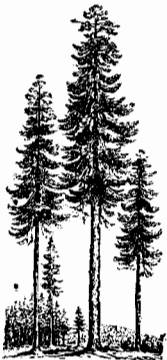
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Echoes of Montgomery Forest

Again the Editor has to make an apology. In the February issue of the bulletin, we had the picture on the front page and it was a darn good picture, and unlike the first issue, when we forgot to put our Grand Tall's name under the picture, this time we got the name there and then gave him the wrong title. My apology to you George and I hope that I don't continually pick on you.



(*Cedrus Libani*)

Thank you contributors to this issue. Those that gave me material were a little more prompt, however, we need the material as far in advance of the deadline as possible.

I understand that the models are still working overtime and that the robes for the ritualistic portion of our degrees are being whipped into shape. They are really beautiful according to the reports that have been received. We will not only have the honor of having the best rendition of the ritual but also the best dressed cast.

Remember the last square dance we had last January? Well, don't forget April 1st is our next one and let us all turn out and bring your friends so that we will have even a bigger and better time.

The band is still practicing and Petranek feels that he will be able to have a real band for Montgomery Forest very soon. The more in the band, the more noise, so if you can make any music come out. The band is rehearsing every

other Friday night in the Chevy Chase High School.

Your Editor

Honor Roll of 1950

Cedar	No. of Candidates
Wm. Homer Carroll	1
James E. Britt	1
Oliver Hardesty	1

First Cedars, let your name get on this list and then have the number after your name increase each month. To get your name on this list, all you have to do it procure one (1) SAP. Let's go and see who will top the list at the end of the year.

Costumes

We have a report that progress is being made on the costumes for the Prolog and Royal Court. Now it is not the simple thing of appropriating the money, ordering the costumes and waiting for the finished product to arrive. It takes a lot of hard work, first to secure the best price, select the material, design the robes, and finally follow them through the workshop. Credit is due our Grand Tall, and Brothers Thompson and Pelley for their part in the affair—and that is they are models. Services of a professional firm from New York has also been secured gratuitously. From all indications we should have the best costumes in Cedardom and our March Ceremonial will be the first showing.

Slim: "You ain't yerself lately, Luke. Yu sick er sumpin'?"

Luke: "Yeah. Got insomnia. Keep wakin' up ever' few days."

Change in Convention Dates

An emergency change in the program for our Convention in Washington was necessitated by the recent decision of the Government, through the Office of Defense, to make Saturday, May 20th, Army and Navy Day. The result of this announcement will mean that Washington will be overrun with a gigantic display of the armed forces. Under these circumstances, it would be impossible to hold our traditional parade on the same day. Since this day has been set forth throughout the United States as Army and Navy Day, as Americans, we Tall Cedars will accept the change and postpone our Convention one week.

As our parade is the highlight of our Convention, and as plans for a bigger and better parade are being made, the Supreme Forest has postponed our National Convention one week, namely, to May 25, 26, 27, and 28th. This will mean that the Supreme Forest Session will meet on Friday, May 26, that our show will be held on that Friday evening, and that our parade will be staged without obstacles at our usual hour Saturday afternoon, May 27. Headquarters and the session meetings will be transferred from the Statler Hotel to the Mayflower Hotel.

Further information concerning the extensive program now being planned for the greatest Convention ever, at the Nation's Capital, will be published as received from the Supreme Forest. At the present time, remember the dates so that none of your other plans will interfere with your attendance at the Convention. The dates again, May 25, 26, 27, and 28.

The very small son of a contractor asked his father, "Daddy can I have a baby brother?"

The father absorbed in his contracting business replied, "I don't have time, son."

To which sonny replied, "Can't you hire some more men daddy?"

Dear Editor

Dear Editor

Overheard your remark at Exec meeting "We need some one to interpret some of the big words that come in on the manuscripts submitted." How about me? Here are a few examples.

Auditorium—From two Latin words Audio—to hear—Taurus the bull.

22 February—Regular meeting, Richard Montgomery High School. Rockville, Maryland at 8 P. M."

We met in the AUDITORIUM? (from the Feb. issue of the Echo).

Adult—A human who has ceased growing at both ends and started to grow in the middle.

Frankfurter—From two words—Frank—open Furter—BRAVE.

Refreshments—served in the open—and eaten by the brave.

An Expert—One who knows more and more about less and less. Hence a great deal about nothing.

With such a recommendation as this, immediately above, do I get a shot at trying to fill your need,

Yours respectfully,

(Giddy on words)

"Don't you think this is a duck of a hat?" the little woman cried, preening herself before a mirror in the Exclusive Hat Shoppe.

Hubby, with a caution born of long experience, peeked at the price tag.

"Yes, dear," he grudgingly admitted, "but, please, honey, can't you find a duck with a smaller bill?"

We are sorry to announce that Brother George Werner will have to give up his job as Chairman of the Membership Committee. With the additional work he must assume as Junior Deacon of his Blue Lodge, he feels that he can not devote the time required to do a good job in the Membership Committee. We know you are a good man and we are sorry you are not two people. George.

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The Grand Tall's Thanks

To "Ernie" Shaffer, our Editor, who is doing a bang up job. Phoned at midnight and we transacted business until the wee small hours of the morning. That is the spirit which will achieve goals and make Montgomery Forest the organization we would have it be. Real team work. To Lowell Decker and Dwight Cook for the ads. It is marvelous that in so short a time "Ernie," we could get the ads and go to print. See what can be accomplished when we work together and try. To the advertisers for their ads and I trust they will continue to advertise in The Echo. Oh yes! to Joe Gerber for his good work and assistance in the printing. To Don for drawing the picture for the cut which appears at the top of the front cover. Thanks to all who have helped.

Advertisements

Lowell Decker is on the job and you will note that this issue has a few more ads. It is the hope that the Echo will be self-supporting and the ads will pay the way together with the Booster List. You readers should read the ads and where possible support them, and in that way cooperation will result in success for all.

There are a few vacancies in the ad section so contact Lowell and he will assist you in the publicity that you desire. Lowell has recently mailed cards to every member of the Forest. Do your part and send in the stub whether you are a potential advertiser or not.

"Can you stand on your head?"

"Nope. It's too high."

Dances

The Kennedy Warren will be the scene of a real dance. Montgomery Forest will be host to its members and their friends on March 24th. Tables will be available and setups can be purchased—that means B.Y.O.L. Music will be supplied through Brother Petranek and dancing will continue from 10 til 1. Let us see a good crowd. No admission charge.

On April 1st, gather up your friends, see that they have a buck a piece and then head for the Silver Spring Intermediate School, Chicago and Philadelphia Avenues, the same place as before and do some square dancing. It is becoming a popular pastime and you will surely enjoy it. A crowd is a prerequisite and after the gang has assembled, you can not miss having a great time.

Brother John Grubb has been in the hospital but he is recuperating at his home, No. 8 Belmont Court.

The Grand Tall says that we have 597 more Saps to secure to reach the goal set up for this year. Where are those you have been telling him about? If Prince George can initiate fifteen or more per month, why can't we double the figure, especially since we have so many more prospects to draw from?

Will someone in the Forest be a good Sidonian and show our District Representative James Reese how to wear his pyramid? Also please advise him this is District 20 and not District 14. Come on Jimmie and wake up.

BOOSTER LIST

"Willie" Homer Carroll, Sr.
G.T.C.
George T. Heilman,
S.D.G.T.C.
J. Dwight Cook, J.D.G.T.C.
Ernest C. Shaffer
R. Lamont Thurston
"Bob" Gerstmyer
J. P. Fitzgerald
Ernest V. Mallette
James E. Britt

Leroy E. Hill
Paul V. Thompson
Lowell Decker
J. Myron Jones
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Richard Harries
"Bill" Singer, D. R. 14
Paul Miley, Sr.
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J. Melvin Miller
"Pete" Petraneck
Ray Eccleston
James G. Reese, D. R. 20
"Tom" Havell, P.S.T.C.
Mathew Hindman
John J. Degan
Everett Terry
Courtland U. Kramer
John R. Alcorn
Herman Engelhardt

If you want to help your Forest, please send a "buck" to the Editor, "Ernie" Shaffer, or the Assistant Editor, Lower Decker and have your name added to the above Booster List for remainder of the year 1950. Don't wait to be solicited, just volunteer.

The Rangers

The Rangers have about six vacancies, that is six suits that must be filled to bring this unit up to full strength. Just call Chief Ranger Oliver Hardesty, your officers, or better yet come out to drill the 1st and 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Pine Crest Cabin.

Have you heard that Montgomery Forest has an Altar Boy—check with Myron Jones.

Lowell Decker received an answer from his card inquiries on advertising from Brother Ed Davidson located with the Army in Germany. In his reply, he states that he is not interested in advertising at the present time, but that he wants to be contacted in about two years. Ed also wanted to say Hello to everybody, and that he is still waiting for the letter from Layton Miner. Good Luck Ed, we will be looking for you.

Life is like a game of cards, says a philosopher. And the queen takes the jack.

It seems that Montgomery Forest is a coffee drinking group of fellows. Go to any of their homes, Homer, Cookie, Decker, Miner, and a long list of other names could be added and there is the pot of coffee. Your cup is never empty and if perchance, the amount in the cup is slightly below overrunning, zip, in goes the coffee. This is mentioned because we seem to have a champion of some sort in our Forest, namely, Chaplain Pixley. There is a rumor to the effect that he consumed 12 cups of coffee at Prince George's, some hot and some cold.

Husband: "Are you ready yet, dear?"

Wife: "I wish you'd stop nagging me. I told you an hour ago I'd be ready in a few minutes."

Brother William Perry has been ill and is getting around again, but at the last word is not quite up to "par". He is home at 820 Bonifant Street, Silver Spring.

A man is not remembered for the things that he does for himself.

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Miner: "I've never seer: such a big fish as I caught yesterday."

Enyeart: "That I can believe."

When a man pants for a woman and a woman pants for the man, it's a pair of pants. Such pants may wear out quickly, and then they may be called breeches of promise. And somebody may get a suit out of the deal!

Uncle Josh was talking about the death of another village native, "What wuz the complaint?" someone asked.

"Complaint?" Uncle Josh shrugged. "I didn't hear none. Ever'body I talked to wuz satisfied."

"You remind me of the ocean."

"You mean I'm wild, romantic, restless?"

"Naw. I mean you make me sick!"

Two women, dining in a restaurant, were discussing a third, who had just made her entrance.

"Her husband was a judge, wasn't he?" one woman asked.

"Everyone thought so," replied the other, "until he married her."

Tom: "Here's a snapshot of a girl I met on the beach last summer."

Jerry: "Snapshot, you say—that's an exposure."

The Churchill

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A small business man and his partner closed their office one Saturday and went to the movies. When they were seated, one of them nudged the other and gasped, "Gosh, Joe we forgot to close the safe!"

"What's the difference?" answered the other. "We're both here, aren't we?"

"Daddy isn't home," said Junior, answering the parson's knock on a Sunday afternoon." He went over to the golf club."

Then, noting the expression on the parson's face, he added helpfully, "Oh, he isn't playing golf, of course. He just went over for a few highballs and poker."

"The most common wheel of chance is the steering wheel. Don't gamble your future with it!"

"Where did I come from, Mother?" inquired a six-year old, just home from his first day at school.

"This is it," thought his mother. She had been reading and rehearsing herself for this very moment. So she told him at length, with natural manner and tactful language the story of birth and life. Then, drawing a relieved breath, she smiled and said, "Does that answer your question, dear?"

The little boy, looking a little perplexed, replied, "I guess so, Mom. I was just wondering. The boy who sits in front of me at school came from New Jersey."

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George T. Hellman, S.D.G.T.C. . . . 10420 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring—SI 0538
J. Dwight Cook, J.D.G.T.C. 10211 Ridgemoor Drive, Silver Spring—SH 8952
Don A. Smith, Scribe 10016 Brunett Ave., Silver Spring—SL 3151
Everett B. Terry, Treasurer 9900 Sutherland Rd., Silver Spring—SH 6420

TRUSTEES

George A. MacKay—3 years
Joseph P. Fitzgerald—1 year
Orville J. Montgomery—2 years

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meets third Friday of each month

Consists of elective officers, trustees and Brother Tall Cedars G. Leonard Daymude, Ray H. Eccleston and R. Lamont Thurston. All appointive officers and the chairmen of committees are requested to attend meetings of Executive Committee.

APPOINTED OFFICERS FOR 1950

Chaplain Rev. Alonzo R. Pixley, 1323 Holly St., N. W.—TA 3034
Preceptor John R. Alcorn, 915 Columbia Blvd., Silver Spring—SL 8324
Marshal George Angel, 7302 Hilton St., Takoma Park, Md.—SH 8219
Guide Mathew J. Hindman, 207 Plymouth St., Silver Spring—SH 4127
Sentinel Robert G. Gerstmyer, 10606 S. Dunmoor Dr., Silver Spring—SH 9160
Asst. Sentinel Leroy E. Hill, 900 Philadelphia Ave., Silver Spring—SH 5366
Editor and Asst. to Scribe Ernest C. Shaffer, 8713 Second Ave., Sil. Spr.—SL 1543
Adv. Editor Lowell A. Decker, 208 Philadelphia Ave., Takoma Park, Md.—SH 5646
Captain, Color Guard Courtland U. Kramer, 8341 Colesville Rd., Sil. Spr.—SH 3857
Chief Steward Harold A. Dillenbeck, 2010 Lansdowne Way, Silver Spring—SH 6782
Chief Ranger Oliver L. Hardesty, 8112 Grove St., Silver Spring—SH 4809
Chief Frolicer Oran H. Geedy, 10017 Dallas Ave., Silver Spring—JU 7-6956
Chief Sidonian J. Myron Jones, 8818 Reading Rd., Silver Spring—SH 3847
Aide to Grand Tall Paul V. Thompson, 9306 Worth Ave., Silver Spring—SH 4268
Musician Chester J. Petranek, 9821 Rosensteel Ave., Silver Spring—SL 2421
Historian James R. Britt, 8806 Colesville Rd., Silver Spring—SL 9354
M. dico Dr. Samuel Allen, 16 Fawcett St., Kingston, Md.—LO 5-1389
Custodian James D. Boole, 9904 Gardner Ave., Silver Spring—SL 4743

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Audit Henry J. Carr, 107 Holly Ave., Takoma Park, Md.—SH 2990
Membership George Werner, 808 Cox Ave., Hyattsville, Md.—SH 7439
Publicity Elmer A. Nelson, 2011 Hanover St., Silver Spring—SL 4506
Fellowship and Entertainment Oran H. Geedy, 10017 Dallas Ave., Sil. Spr.—JU 7-6956
Refreshment Harold A. Dillenbeck, 2010 Lansdowne Way, Silver Spring—SH 6782
Awards, Paraphernalia James D. Boole, 9904 Gardner Ave., Silver Spring—SL 4743
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Community Service Walter C. Clarke, 8920 Colesville Rd., Silver Spring—SH 5615
Music Committee Chester J. Petranek, 9821 Rosensteel Ave., Silver Spring—SL 2421
Bulletin Committee Lowell A. Decker, 208 Philadelphia Ave., Tak. Pk., Md.—SH 5646
Reception Committee George Angel, 7302 Hilton St., Takoma Park, Md.—SH 8219

PAST GRAND TALL CEDARS

William R. Enycart—1948

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