

# GUARD YOUR INFLUENCE



"Our Object Is Not so Much to Get More Men Into  
Masonry as to Get More Masonry Into Men"

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## SILAS H. SHEPHERD LEFT US

By RABBI H. GEFFEN, 32°, F.P.S.

### Our Actions and Achievements Build Up a Definite Stream of Influence

LT. EDWIN R. HARTZ, *Chaplain, USNR*  
MONTAUK, N. Y.

**E**VERY man's influence, in one way or another, leaves a permanent mark upon the well being of succeeding generations. A million years after a star has collided with another, or had a sudden burst of energy before cooling down, astronomers are able to read the record of that distant event. The star lived its span of activity before settling down to an inert death, but the effect of its existence passes on through space centuries later.

So with your lives and mine; our actions and our achievements build up a

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### Entanglements

Those who have read *Quo Vadis* will remember the description of the contest in the amphitheater between the giant, heavy-armed gladiator and the lithe and nimble net-thrower. Helmet and breast-plate and shield and sword were useless when the giant became entangled in the gossamerlike net which fell over him like a mist, but which bound him hand and foot. Moral nets may be vastly more dangerous than the direct blows of formidable temptations. We may arm ourselves against such attacks, but we must flee from entanglements of evil.

—Masonic Quarterly, Seattle, Wash.

**M**Y LIMITED vocabulary is not in a position to pronounce some eulogy on the passing of our Secretary of the Philalethes Society, the illustrious Brother Shepherd. What are the thoughts and comforts that sustain us at the passing of one who has done so much for Masonry in general and for our Society in particular, who has been our guide and teacher, our wise counselor, who has knitted to our Masonic ideals with every fibre of our heart, in which we first became Masons. Our thoughts are penetrated by a glorious reality. We realize what we have lost. I imagine that those who have stood by the death bed of Brother Silas H. Shepherd, can testify that there has been passing the sublime Masonic consciousness of a high ideal excellent noble Craftsman.

We have lost a great man in Masonry and our only consolation consists of that he is imperishable, immortal; he lived worthily upon earth-deathlessness even in this world, amid the scenes of strivings and their struggles.

He is not dead, because his works have not gone forth without sewing some seeds of virtue and piety in fruitful hearts. Brother Shepherd had labored for a sublime cause; he may be assured that his example, influence and deeds do not perish with him.

It is not fitting, maybe, for me to deliver an eulogy on him because I have not had the opportunity and the great privilege to know him personally, only by literary contact, by correspondence. Yet, valuing his generosity and being influenced by his talented writings in

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## Silas H. Shepherd Left Us

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prose and poetry, by his sincerity and unequivocal expressions, firmness of character, by his strivings for research work and deep diggings in the spiritual mines of Masonic truths, I decided to express my thoughts of lamentation and grief.

He loved Masonic literary work with passionate devotion. He clung to the performance of the duties of the Philaethes Society to the utmost as long as declining years permitted him. Although he did not feel lastly very well, yet it was no hindrance for him to edit or to be associated in edition of a new Masonic Philaethes Society Magazine, and a splendid one too; he was very happy to let me know about this and to surprise me with the appearance of that sublime Masonic periodical.

While our Masonic eyes were still in tears of the great losses we suffered by the deaths of Hugo Tatzh, Cyrus Field, Williard and Henry F. Evans, builders and originators of the Philaethes Society, we have learned of the shocking frightful bad news that our good, fine and gentle Craftsman, Silas H. Shepherd, has been elevated to the Grand Lodge above.

Brother Shepherd had never allowed even by bodily weakness to in-

terrupt his Masonic research studies and his literary and poetical occupations.

Almost to the day of his death he was engaged in writing a Masonic poem. There is a Talmudical expression which fits very much to our eulogy. One sage had expressed himself when Rabbi Jehudal the Saint died: "Angels and men have wrestled for the Ark of the Covenant; the Angels have prevailed, and the Ark of the Covenant has been removed from our midst."

But it is within our power to make our departed Brother Shepherd spiritually alive, immortal, everlasting, if only we will continue the sublime work of Masonry which he started; if we will fulfill his wish that the light of the Philaethes Society, which illumined his life, should burn in our hearts and minds; that the institution of research that was so dear to him should be preserved and maintained after his departure.

Silas H. Shepherd did not die, if we exert to imitate the faithfulness, convictions and pledges with which he discharged his duty on earth, the forbearance and gentleness he manifested towards all men, the piety and humility in his writings and poems.

How great is his spirit of devotional prophecy and humane emotions and feelings in his immortal masterpiece, *fortelling fantasy, about what will happen in 2050: "Masonry in 2050."*

May his noble soul be bound in the bonds of life everlasting.

\* \* \*

## Masonic Writers of the World

*The Philaethes Society*—

Following is the official explanation of the Philaethes Society:

"The Philaethes Society is an international body composed of the leading Masonic writers and editors of the world. Its forty Fellows, like the 'Forty Immortals' of the French Academy, constitute the Royal Society of Freemasonry by virtue of achievement. When vacancies occur, new Fellows are elected from the corresponding members who also have the benefit of the masterpieces contributed by these Fellows. The society is not localized to one Grand Lodge jurisdiction but elects members from all Lodges of Masonic Research and from every country, when their attainments justify it."

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## Guard Your Influence

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complex but definite stream of influence which, for better or worse, will filter down through all generations.

Moses, with an impediment of speech led a captive race to freedom and influenced the destiny of the Hebrew people for all time. Alexander the Great, who wept because he found no worlds to conquer, waged wars that changed the map of the world for centuries. The very names, Christian, Buddhist, Mohammedian, Lutheran, Wesleyan, Campbellite, and Calvinist suggest the extent which a man's influence may exert upon the religious thought of generations yet unborn.

Pondering the fact, John Keble, the poet, wrote:

*We scatter deeds with careless hand,  
And dream we ne'er shall see them more  
But for a thousand years  
Their fruit appears,  
In weeds that mar the land,  
Or healthful shore.*

*The deeds we do, the words we say,  
Into still air they seem to fleet,  
We count them ever past;  
But they shall last;  
In the dread judgment,  
They and we shall meet.*

*I charge thee by the years gone by,  
For the love's sake of brethren dear,  
Keep thou the one true way  
In work and play;  
Lest in that world their cry  
Of woe thou hear.*

Inevitably, the time will come when the world will call upon us for an accounting of the manner in which we have exerted influence. What we, who are young, have today the world has largely given to us; what we shall have done with it tomorrow will depend upon each one of us.

It is a privilege of youths, at home and abroad, to use their opportunities for casting good influences so that when the accounting time comes, the world will say unto each of them, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

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Justice Robert H. Jackson, American prosecutor at the Nurnberg trials in Germany, is a member of Ismailia Shrine Temple at Buffalo, N.Y.

## Protest to Associated Press

Although Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam's address at St. Louis, Mo., on October 28, was one of the most statesmanlike and forthright pronouncements to be made by a man of prominence on the Roman Catholic and Protestant issues, yet citizens of Washington, D.C., the Nation's Capital, were deprived of an opportunity to read it in any of Washington's four newspapers, except in a watered-down version which left out all the vital portions of the address, despite the fact that official and extensive excerpts of the address were mailed from the Methodist Information Bureau, October 23, five days before the scheduled date of delivery, and were sent to the metropolitan press of the entire country.

So indignant were many of the leading Protestant ministers of the Nation's Capital when they learned of Bishop Oxnam's address through reading such out-of-town papers as the New York Times, the Christian Science Monitor, PM, and the three St. Louis dailies—the Post-Dispatch, Times-Star and Globe-Democrat—that they sent a joint letter of protest to Kent Cooper, General Manager of the Associated Press, 50 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. The letter of protest emphasized that the emasculated version received over the AP wire by the Washington papers failed to report the real issue at stake, and that this amounted to a violation of freedom of the press and of religious liberty.

—Masonic Quarterly, Seattle, Wash.

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## Education, Books, Reading

We protract the career of time by employment, we lengthen the duration of our lives by wise thoughts and useful actions. Life to him who wishes not to have lived in vain is thought and action.—Zimmerman.

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Our forefathers came to certain conclusions and decided upon certain courses of action which have been a great blessing to the world.—Calvin Coolidge.

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Genius is entitled to respect only when it promotes the peace and improves the happiness of mankind.—Lord Essex.



## THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MASONRY IN GEORGIA

Compiled by Walter A. Quinke, 32°, KCCH, in conjunction with Bordley Clarke, W. J. Penn Jr., Chas. S. Wood and John L. Travis

### PART V

The Grand Commandery, Knights Templar, of Georgia, was organized in Augusta during April, 1860, with William Tracy Gould, a very prominent Judge, as the first Grand Commander, and Charles R. Armstrong, the first Grand Recorder. Four Commanderies participated in the constitution of the Grand Commandery: *Georgia No. 1*, of Augusta, established on May 5, 1823; *St. Omer No. 2*, of Macon; *St. Aldemar No. 3*, of Columbus, and *Coeur de Lion No. 4*, of Atlanta, the three last mentioned formed within a few years after 1823. Following the establishment of the Grand Commandery, *DeMolay No. 5*, of Americus, was immediately organized. At the present time thirty-four Commanderies are working in Georgia.

To be continued.

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### A Menace to Evil or Good

Through the streets of Bourges during the French Revolution marched a regiment of school boys, uniformed and drilled, bearing a banner on which were inscribed the words: "*Tremble tyrants, for we shall grow up.*" Many types of evil men might well tremble on the reflection that an army of boys will grow up into the strength of righteous character. Herein lies our responsibility. Good men and women may well tremble at the possibility of these boys growing up into evil and corrupt character. We can do much to determine their growth and motivate their lives.

—Masonic Quarterly, Seattle, Wash.

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Set the course of your lives by the three stars—sincerity, courage, usefulness. From these flow a host of other virtues. . . . He who follows them and does not seek success, will attain the highest type of success, that which lies in the esteem of those among whom he dwells.—Dr. Monroe E. Deutsch.

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If I can put one touch of rosy sunset into the life of any man or woman, I shall feel that I have worked with God.—George Macdonald.

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### York Rite in Mexico

The York Rite Trestle Board, bi-monthly magazine published by the York Rite Bodies in Mexico, in a recent issue carries some gratifying information. The Grand Master of the York Grand Lodge, Archibald H. Seabrook, has been very active and is doing quite a bit of visiting with Lodges of other Grand Jurisdictions. He seems to be in thorough accord with the intervisitation plan, which has been in effect for some time between Lodges under his Grand Lodge and those under the Grand Lodge Valle de Mexico and other Grand Lodges in several states of Mexico.

One of his recent official visits was to Anahuac Lodge No. 3 when he spoke of the cosmopolitan nature of the Cork Grand Lodge, stating that on its rolls were American, Canadian, Norwegian, Welsh, Dutch, German, Swedish, Mexican, Italian, French, Spanish, Russian, Swiss and other members, and this he said shows the universality of Freemasonry.

He visited Toltec Lodge No. 1 when there were present also the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge Valle de Mexico, Alfonso Perez, and the Deputy Grand Master of the same Grand Body, Past Grand Master Valentin Rincon. Grand Master Seabrook gave full credit to Past Grand Master Rincon and to Past Grand Master M. A. Loevy for the initiation of the intervisitation idea. Judge Rincon had stated when he was elected Grand Master of his Grand Lodge that he was going to do his utmost to bring about the most friendly relations between that Grand Lodge and the York Grand Lodge and other state Grand Lodges which were regular.

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### The Master

The Master of a Lodge represents the sun rising in the East, to dispense light to all within its reach. It is the source of light; and so should the Master be to his Lodge a fountain of information.

It rises with unbroken regularity; so should the Master always be at his post at the proper time.

Its influences reach to all on the earth; and so should the Master preside with impartiality, and dispense the needed information to every member of the Lodge; if any receive more attention than others, it should be those who need it most.