

# Danish Brotherhood Magazine

Vol. 38

November, 1953

No. 11

## Minutes of Annual Meeting of Supreme Board

**Monday, September 21**

The annual meeting of the Supreme Officers of The Danish Brotherhood in America was held in the Home Office, 908 W. O. W. Building, Omaha, Nebraska beginning Monday, September 21, 1953.

All officers answered roll call. Present were: Svend Petersen, President; Otto Nielsen, First Vice President; Hilmar W. Hansen, Second Vice President; Axel Skelbeck, Secretary-Treasurer; Viggo Mikkelsen, Hans E. Norregaard and Hans M. Andersen, Trustees.

Svend Petersen presided and called the meeting to order at nine o'clock in the forenoon. He bid the members a hearty welcome and said he was glad to see every one here. Several greetings were received. Among them from former Supreme Presidents John Hansen and C. B. Christensen.

The president gave an interesting report of his activities since the last Board meeting. Visits in many lodges and at annual meetings of General Committees in several areas of the United States were made. He proceeded by reading a list of items to come before the meeting.

A number of applications for general aid from the Relief Fund were acted upon. Action was also taken on applications for special aid from the Relief Fund, ranging in amounts to \$300.00.

The fact that more applications for special aid were received through Lodge No. 106, Trufant, Michigan, than should normally be expected from a lodge its size was discussed. A motion by Hilmar W. Hansen: That Viggo Mikkelsen be authorized to visit Lodge No. 106, at a time convenient to him, to discuss this circumstance, was duly seconded and adopted.

The matter of extending our mutual insurance fund into Canada now came up for discussion. A report submitted by Axel Skelbeck follows:

To the Members of the Supreme Board in Annual Meeting:

**SUBJECT: ACTIVE LODGES (INSURED MEMBERSHIPS) IN CANADA.**

### **A SUMMARY REPORT**

At the meeting of the Board on March 16, 1953, you instructed me to attend the annual meeting of the Pacific Northwest Lodges in Seattle May 15-17, 1953, and to offer Vancouver Lodge No. 328 to attend a meeting of Canadian Members, to be held in Vancouver on May 13, for the principal purpose of supplementing with a personal explanation the Board's written reports on the subject of extending our mutual insurance fund, operating in the States, to include Canadian members.

I have posted our president on the details of these meetings, but since we will discuss it here he suggested that I give you a memorandum on what has taken place since our last meeting.

The Vancouver lodge called a special meeting for Wednesday, May 13 to hear our message. In spite of the fact that the regular meeting of the lodge was held the week before, a very large group attended

this meeting. As a matter of fact, their good-sized meeting hall was filled to capacity. It was as fine a meeting as one can ever expect to attend.

The work done by the Supreme Board to date was reviewed and the Board's decisions up to this point, in view of prevailing circumstances, were explained. We talked on many of the most involved details connected with this matter such as: the Dominion and the Provincial Insurance Departments' requirements; the anticipated costs of entering Canada to do insurance business and also the estimated annual costs thereafter and the extent to which these expenses could be met by the members in Canada; the necessity of a larger membership to reduce this overhead, and so on. At this point I informed them that my official mission ended, but that we would discuss any other questions which they may have in mind.

A large number of members expressed themselves. What they said gave evidence of a fine, a very rare understanding of the actions taken by the Supreme Board in this matter, and of the many problems which must be solved by mutual efforts on both sides of the border. IF we are to reach the common goal or an agreeable understanding to the contrary.

It became clearly understood, I am sure, that we must all work together in harmony to resolve this case and that the next action should be taken by the Canadian members. In the light of the governmental requirements—in so far as we understand them—and the information conveyed to the members in Canada, I expressed the thought that this could best be accomplished in the nature of a decision by insurable members in Canada as to whether they are at all interested in our insurance program and consequently will work for its success in Canada. I then recommended that the Canadian lodges select committees to work towards this purpose. Exact details for accomplishing the purposes of the proposed committees were not discussed but I believe I mentioned that I for one would stand ready and willing to assist with suggestions or in whichever manner they felt that I could be of any help.

As I recall it, they were also given assurance that the Supreme Board would work with them at all times and in the closest cooperation should their decision to pursue this matter be in the affirmative.

I emphasized the fact that there would be many details to be negotiated to the end that a report with recommendations, complete in minutest details, can be worked out and be submitted to the next national convention in September, 1955. That this convention is only two years hence was also mentioned.

Two members of the Prince George Lodge were present at the meeting. The lodge at Port Alberni could not send representatives and expressed regrets for it.

It must be mentioned that our First Vice President, Otto Nielsen, and Trustee, Hans M. Andersen, also

(Continued on Page 4)

## Danish Brotherhood Magazine

Published Monthly By

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As Its Official Organ

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#### OFFICERS OF THE SUPREME LODGE:

##### SUPREME PRESIDENT:

Svend Petersen, Lock Box 155, Askov, Minn.

##### FIRST SUPREME VICE PRESIDENT:

Otto Nielsen, 509 Bellevue Ave. North, Seattle, Wash.

##### SECOND SUPREME VICE PRESIDENT:

Hilmar W. Hansen, 846 Ramona Ave., Salt Lake City 5, Utah

##### SUPREME SECRETARY-TREASURER:

Axel Skelbeck, 908 W. O. W. Bldg., Omaha 2, Nebr.

##### CHAIRMAN SUPREME TRUSTEES:

Viggo E. Mikkelsen, 7422-14 Street, Detroit 6, Mich.

##### SUPREME TRUSTEE:

Hans Norregaard, 617 S. Main St., Council Bluffs, Iowa

##### SUPREME TRUSTEE:

Hans M. Andersen, Rt. 1, Box 260, Parlier, Calif.

November, 1953

## Planning Ahead

By Jul. Andersen

When the veterans who fought so valiantly against the German Army to save our homeland during the war of 1864 and later immigrated to America and formed our Danish Brotherhood in 1882, they planned it to be one society, irrespective of whether the lodges would be located in large settlements or smaller communities where potential members could join with them, to help each other in sickness or health, in good times or bad; to work unitedly as brothers and friends.

The first National Convention I attended was at Fresno, California, in 1910; an attempt was there made to divide our society into Districts, however it failed to pass into law. Like attempts has been made at all succeeding Conventions, but never adopted.

At that time I was not very familiar with the motive for such a division, since then I have carefully listened to such points of reasons given for the continuous clamor for dividing the society up into Districts. It has been said we can save money by doing so, which I have at various times proven is false, inasmuch as the proposers have asked for payment by the society for holding district conventions. It has also been stated we could get more members by doing so. I have never heard of anyone joining us because they anticipated districts some day. Another point, each district desires to make their own laws as it may feel is suitable for it, again others have insisted, the small lodges are too expensive when sending delegates to Conventions, they do not pay into the head lodge enough profit for the expense of such Delegate. We have in the past eliminated lodges with small numbers of members, denying them the same rights and participation in our fraternal life which the larger lodges are trying to dominate.

May I suggest a solution, which I have on several occasions advocated that each delegate pay his own

fare and expense while attending our National Conventions, there are men in small lodges as willing to do so as in the larger ones and could be as fully conscious of what fraternalism means as anyone. I have attended many National Conventions in the past and always had to pay my own expense outside of the Brotherhood. Most other fraternal societies with thousands of more members than we have, do so and like it, because it is proof of real interest in the organization and not for the purpose of getting a free vacation and entertainment.

Naturally, some of those who expect to go to future Conventions will object strenuously, it is human to try and have the other fellow pay us for doing things, but we should have higher ideals in trying to live up to the intentions and plans of our organizers, than just this, to make others pay for our vacation and outings. We should realize that as we live in the land of justice, freedom and equality, we should never try to slight a Brother or fellowman by shoving him out into the innocuous desuetude.

## Hjælpefondet

(Assessment Relief)

Medlemmer som ønsker at ansøge om Hjælp fra Hjælpefondet for det kommende Aar maa indsende Ansøgning derom til Logen i Tide. Nye Blanketter er tilsendt Logens Sekretær, saa henvend jer til ham og faa udleveret en Blanket, som maa udfyldes og returneres til Logens Sekretær snarest.

Samfundets Love bestemmer at Ansøgningerne maa være behandlet af Logen og indsendt til Hovedkontoret senest den 15. December. Ny Ansøgning maa indsendes hvert Aar, da Bevillinger kun gælder til den 31. Marts hvert Aar. Fordeling for næste Aar vil blive foretaget af Overbestyrelsen den 1. April, 1954. Medlemmer hvis Ansøgning tidligere har været godkendt af Overbestyrelsen er opbetalt til den 31. Marts, 1954, men de maa indsende ny Ansøgning til Logen hvis de ønsker at komme i Betragtning for næste Aar.

Med Broderlig Hilsen,  
AXEL SKELBECK, Over-Sekretær.

## Change In Address Of Officers

#### Secretary:

Lodge No. 225, William N. Robert, Robin Hill,  
R. D. 9, North Canton, Ohio.

## NOVEMBER ASSESSMENT

653

IS DUE AND PAYABLE TO THE LODGE  
TREASURER

November 1, 1953

AND MUST BE PAID BEFORE

December 1, 1953

Members failing to pay as per above will be  
considered in arrears.

AXEL SKELBECK, Supreme Secretary.

# Financial Report

SEPTEMBER 30, 1953

## Mortuary Fund

Receipts:	
Balance on hand September 1, 1953	\$21,385.98
Assessments	10,739.77
Interest on bonds	9,152.16
Bonds sold	50,000.00
Premium on bonds sold	1,175.00
	<u>\$92,452.91</u>
Disbursements:	
Death claims	\$ 6,750.90
Cash surrender	232.07
Collection expense on bond coupons	8.00
Bonds purchased 50M	49,743.45
Interest accrued on bonds purchased	191.32
Balance on hand September 30, 1953	35,527.17
	<u>\$92,452.91</u>

## General Fund

Receipts:	
Balance on hand September 1, 1953	\$26,938.38
Received in September	4,421.70
	<u>\$31,360.08</u>
Disbursements:	
Advertising, printing and stationery	\$ 49.23
Postage, express, telephone, etc.	148.90
Rent and lights	180.50
Printing and mailing official publication	397.25
Lodge supplies	27.80
Membership rewards	25.00
Travel expenses	1,510.58
General office expense	50.00
Salaries to officers and employees	2,064.50
Towards repayment of 1951 convention loan	5,500.00
Balance on hand September 30, 1953	21,406.32
	<u>\$31,360.08</u>

## Relief Fund

Receipts:	
Balance on hand September 1, 1953	\$ 5,416.79
Relief Assessments	35.00
Interest on bonds	625.00
Relief payments returned	15.90
Repayment of loan from General Fund	5,500.00
	<u>\$11,592.69</u>
Disbursements:	
Relief payments	\$ 550.50
Balance on hand September 30, 1953	11,042.19
	<u>\$11,592.69</u>

## Juvenile Fund

Receipts:	
Balance on hand September 1, 1953	\$ 1,792.03
Juvenile assessments	121.46
	<u>\$ 1,913.49</u>
Disbursements:	
Balance on hand September 30, 1953	\$ 1,913.49
	<u>\$ 1,913.49</u>

## Assets

Mortuary fund investments	\$3,940,569.30
Relief fund investments	220,000.00
General fund investments	25,000.00
Cash in bank	69,889.17
	<u>\$4,255,458.47</u>

# Honor Roll

## LIST OF LODGES

Lodge No.	Location	New Members	Membership Jan. 1, 1953
328	Vancouver, B. C., Canada	17	163
322	Santa Barbara, California	15	101
4	Racine, Wisconsin	12	537
29	Seattle, Washington	11	364
314	Hartford, Connecticut	10	195
335	Port Alberni, B. C., Canada	9	31
242	Eric, Pennsylvania	8	174
283	Dagmar, Montana	8	133
255	Canton, Ohio	7	27
227	Detroit, Michigan	7	297
299	Solvang, California	7	49
301	Akron, Ohio	7	39
334	Geneva, New York	7	42
49	San Francisco, California	6	367
71	Penn Yan, New York	6	124
126	Los Angeles, California	6	312
39	Oakland, California	5	212
182	Waukegan, Illinois	5	92
306	San Diego, California	5	195
330	Prince George, B. C., Canada	5	60
332	Ripon, California	5	40

(Juveniles included in the above)

## LIST OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Lodge No.	Recommender	Location	New Members Enrolled
225	John Christensen, Canton, Ohio		7
322	O. F. Pedersen, Santa Barbara, Calif.		6
334	E. W. Christensen, Geneva, New York		6
242	Wylie S. Hansen, Eric, Pennsylvania		5
49	Jacob Friedrichsen, San Francisco, Calif.		4
71	Laurids S. Pedersen, Penn Yan, New York		4
126	Paul Herskind, Los Angeles, Calif.		4
283	Vivian J. Thuesen, Dagmar, Montana		4
299	Johannes J. Nielsen, Solvang, Calif.		4
301	Johannes Pedersen, Akron, Ohio		4
322	Nels P. Christensen, Santa Barbara, Calif.		4
335	Fred Rasmussen, Port Alberni, B. C., Can.		4
4	Arne Sondergaard, Racine, Wisconsin		3
32	Chris Pedersen, New Haven, Connecticut		3
75	Donald Nielsen, Albert Lea, Minnesota		3
106	Edward C. Hansen, Trufant, Michigan		3
113	Norbert E. Grove, Enumclaw, Washington		3
164	Paul Petersen, New York, New York		3
182	Thorvald Mouritsen, Waukegan, Illinois		3
227	Johan Emanuelsen, Detroit, Michigan		3
283	Roy Rasmussen, Dagmar, Montana		3
328	Paul Krogh, Vancouver, B. C., Canada		3

(Juveniles included in the above)

Babies should be vaccinated against smallpox between the second and sixth month of their lives. For maximum protection, it is wise to revaccinate at least every five years and whenever cases are present in the community.

## Supreme Board Minutes

(Continued from Page 1)

attended the meeting. They lent much prestige to the meeting and much support to me in my mission which I appreciated very much and hereby wish to acknowledge.

During the meeting of the Pacific Northwest Lodges in Seattle, which followed the meeting in Vancouver, I again went into great detail along the same lines as herein above mentioned. I also enlarged on the discussions which took place at the meeting in Vancouver. From the expressions which followed I gathered that the actions of the Board became well understood. It was nice to have some of the severest critics come forward to say so and to ask me to convey to the Board an appreciation for the thorough way in which the matter has been handled.

Quite a large delegation from Vancouver attended the meeting in Seattle where again Otto Nielsen and Hans M. Andersen added much to the success of our mission.

This is in the main what transpired, but I will probably have minor details to add during our discussion at the meeting.

Comments were made in support of the secretary's report by Otto Nielsen and Hans M. Andersen, who attended the meetings held in Vancouver and Seattle.

Skelbeck said that a letter was sent to Lodge No. 328 on August 27 inquiring whether the members had anything which should come before the Board at this meeting. The reply of September 10 from Robert C. Jensen, secretary, follows:

"Your letter of August 27, 1953, addressed to our President was read and discussed at our last meeting. I was instructed by the membership to convey to the Supreme Board their thanks for the very considerable work done by the Supreme Board on the insurance question to date. I was further instructed to inform you that our lodge realizes that the solution of the problem is up to the Canadian lodges; that we are working on the problem and that we will inform the Supreme Board when we have reached a decision."

A detailed discussion on this subject followed and brought a motion by Hilmar W. Hansen: That the report be accepted with the Board's thanks and that it and the letter of September 10 from Lodge No. 328 be incorporated in the minutes of this meeting. Duly seconded, the motion carried.

An application for change of beneficiary designation in favor of a person upon whom he was dependent was received from Eddie H. Johnson of Lodge No. 46, Perth Amboy, New Jersey. Brother Johnson supplemented his request with an affidavit stating the extent to which he is dependent upon the intended beneficiary, Martha Lauritsen.

The Board found that this request comes within the authority of our laws governing the naming of beneficiaries. By motion of Viggo Mikkelsen, duly seconded, the request was carried.

John Rorup submitted an application through his lodge, No. 314, Hartford, Connecticut, for permission to change the beneficiary designation in his Benefit Certificate in favor of Earl J. Majuire and June N. Majuire, persons upon whom he is a dependent. Lodge No. 314 supplemented his application with a report on the special circumstances in this case.

Having studied the problems, the Board found that the request comes within the limits of our laws governing eligible beneficiaries. Upon motion by Hilmar W. Hansen, duly seconded, the request was granted.

The surety bond covering the seven (7) Supreme Officers and the two (2) home office employees came up for discussion. It was agreed to renew this bond with the United States Fidelity and Guarantee Company for a period of three years, effective October 13, 1953.

The president commented on the drive for voluntary contributions to the Red Cross Bloodmobile Fund of the National Fraternal Congress to which we subscribed in the amount of \$205.00. It was gratifying, he said, that most of our lodges have taken an interest in this program. An amount of \$305.00 was received with small subscriptions still coming in.

### Tuesday, September 22

The meeting convened at 9:30 a. m., in the Safe Deposit Vaults of the First National Bank of Omaha, with all members of the Board and the bookkeeper participating. The securities owned were audited and an inventory taken. The interest coupons coming due in the period from October 1, 1953, through the month of March, 1954, were detached, sorted and segregated by month of due date.

The meeting reconvened at the Home Office later in the day at which time the Trustees submitted a written report on the audit of the investments of the Society:

"This is to certify that we the undersigned Trustees of The Danish Brotherhood in America have this date checked and audited the bonds deposited in the vaults of the First National Bank of Omaha, Nebraska. We found the total face value of such securities to be in agreement with the society's books. Dated: September 22, 1953. Signed: Viggo Mikkelsen, Hans E. Norregaard and Hans M. Andersen, Trustees."

Upon motion by Hilmar W. Hansen, duly seconded and carried, the Trustees' report was incorporated in the minutes of this meeting.

Lodge No. 46, Perth Amboy, New Jersey, submitted proposed amendments to the By-Laws of the lodge. These were studied and approved.

### Wednesday, September 23

The meeting was called to order at 9 a. m.

The informative discussion on the progress and welfare of the Brotherhood which started Monday with the report on the matter of insurance in Canada was continued at this time. Many new ideas on this subject were given careful consideration.

Hilmar W. Hansen submitted a treatise on the subject of suspended members which it was decided to publish in an early issue of the Monthly Magazine.

On the suggestion of Hilmar W. Hansen a discussion evolved on the possibility of a Credit Union within the Brotherhood to function nationwide among the members. Is it practicable? Would it have merit in the way of attracting new members? These were the questions which received the greatest attention.

Hilmar W. Hansen also proposed the question: Is it possible for the Danish Brotherhood to issue a policy to a member, or to a member and his family or to his family without the female members of the family becoming members of the Society?

All members became engaged in conversation on

this question. While one of the similar nature was considered before, this had a new twist by including women in the provision of family protection. It was decided to give this matter more study before taking a definite stand.

Axel Skelbeck spoke on the membership of boys and brought out several thoughts on this subject. Negotiations on similar matters with an Insurance Department where we are licensed are not sufficiently conclusive to proceed at this time, however.

Axel Skelbeck also called attention to the comparative success we enjoy in respect to solicitation of new members with insurance on the non-medical application. He stressed the point that we should give serious consideration to enlarge this method of securing members. A way should also be found, he said, to contact those of our present members who are entitled to obtain additional insurance and to give them the opportunity to take full advantage of the protection our society affords them.

Viggo Mikkelsen recommended plans for an Attendance Contest. The contest is to run from November 1, 1953, through April 30, 1954. During this time the Brotherhood shall be divided into five contesting groups with prizes totaling \$50 for each group. Rules for the contest were also submitted. With only minor changes the plan met with the approval of the full Board for publication in the October issue of the Magazine.

Hans Norregaard spoke on the advisability of opening up wider for membership. We should probably have a more flexible insurance for members. These were things brought up at the annual meeting of the United Iowa Lodges. He mentioned the use of calendars for advertising purposes. The question of a change in name to American Brotherhood was also raised.

Hans M. Andersen reported his thoughts on membership drives. He said that there are in the main two types of drives. One is a concentrated pep-campaign with possibly short-lived results. The other is a more far-sighted and longer lasting program. For maximum benefits to the Brotherhood he would propose a modified version of the two. It should include increased amounts of prizes to the individual sponsor of a new member, with suitable prizes to lodges for increasing their membership on a percentage basis in competition with other lodges. To follow up the effects set in motion by the campaign there should be all possible forms of literature from time to time, promoting the many benefits of membership. He said that he was not prepared at this time to propose a schedule of rewards, but would recommend that we make available printed "flyer" type of envelope enclosures in connection with the "Independent Comparative Report" recently published. Copy of the proposed envelope enclosures was submitted by Andersen and adopted on motion duly made by Viggo Mikkelsen, seconded and adopted.

The secretary reported that a comparative few of the lodges were using the condolence card, judging by the number of cards sold. It was decided that the secretary should send a sample of the "In Memoriam" card, with a bill, to all lodges explaining that we should like to have them use it, since it is adopted by decision of the national convention.

The secretary reported that only a few 25-year



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membership lapel buttons remained of our present supply. This emblem had not proved popular and the suggestion that a new supply be ordered was tabled until next Board meeting.

#### Thursday, September 24

The meeting was called to order at 9 a. m.

The secretary-treasurer asked the Board to interpret section 74, par. 1 in our laws in respect to the payment of the per capita tax and to make a ruling as to whether he is permitted to accept remittances from a local lodge treasurer in the event the per capita tax is unpaid as of September 1.

Following a thorough discussion on this subject it was moved by Hilmar W. Hansen, duly seconded and carried: That Section 74, paragraph 1, in our By-Laws be interpreted to mean that, if the per capita tax is not paid before September 1, the secretary-treasurer shall not be allowed to accept payment of insurance assessments by a lodge treasurer until such time as the per capita tax is paid.

Communications were received from the General Committee of the Eastern Lodges and from Lodge No. 205, Brooklyn, New York, making the same suggestion, in effect: That the home office attempt to secure the names and addresses of Danish Immigrants and in turn furnish this information to the lodge nearest the Immigrants residence. The lodge should then be asked to contact such male Immigrants in a gesture of fellowship.

The secretary was instructed to reply that we have attempted it before, and failed, but will be glad to try again.

The new form of Benefit Certificates which became necessary by the change in the California Insurance Law, effective September 21 in that State, were reviewed and studied. The secretary reported that the Department's approval of the certificate form was not yet received and no certificates will be delivered in California until approval is received. By recommendation of the secretary it was decided to omit the signatures of the member and of the secretary of the lodge on these new Benefit Certificates.

A petition was received from five members of Lodge No. 123, Clifton, Illinois, for permission to disband the lodge and return the charter. The extensive exchange of correspondence on this matter was studied. Viggo Mikkelsen moved that the petition be granted and the members allowed to transfer to Lodge No. 600.

As a committee, appointed by the president, Hilmar W. Hansen and Hans M. Andersen, submitted a formal resolution commending Rudolph M. Olsen, secretary of the General Committee of Danish Brotherhood Lodges in California for meritorious service to the Brotherhood during his 25 years of membership on the Committee, most of which were served as secretary. The resolution was unanimously adopted and signed by all members of the Board and will be presented to Brother Olsen by the Supreme President when he attends the annual meeting to be held in Fresno October 15-17, 1953.

Hans M. Andersen and Otto Nielsen, as a committee appointed by the President, submitted a resolution of appreciation and commendation for meritorious service by Axel Skelbeck during his 30 years in the home office; of which four were served as

Supreme Secretary and the last 10 as Supreme Secretary-Treasurer; and also providing a suitable gift to commemorate the occasion. The resolution was unanimously adopted, signed by the six colleagues and presented with due ceremony.

Finance Committee. A report in behalf of the Finance Committee was made by Axel Skelbeck, covering the activities since the last meeting of the Board. During this period the Committee handled only such bonds as had matured or were called for redemption. The proceeds were re-invested along with surplus funds on hand.

It was also reported that the Finance Committee will sell some of the short-term Canadian bonds in order to bring us within the total amount of such bonds we may own under a new ruling.

Hilmar W. Hansen moved that the Finance Committee's report be accepted and the Committee given the Board's thanks for the watchful attention given to our financial resources.

In respect to the transfer of investment expenses it was suggested by the secretary-treasurer that this be done oftener than once yearly.

Upon motion by Viggo Mikkelsen, seconded and carried, it was decided to transfer at this time all expenses which have accrued from January 1, 1953, and that henceforth the transfer be made quarterly.

It was moved by Axel Skelbeck that an amount of \$5,000.00 be set aside from the General Fund and deposited to the reserve for 1955 National Convention expenses, to increase this reserve to \$10,000.00. Duly seconded, the motion carried.

The wages of the two employees in the home office were reviewed and each received a modest increase.

The next meeting of the full Board became scheduled for the third Monday in March 1954, being March 15.

There being no further business to transact, this meeting of the Board was adjourned at 5:15 p. m.

Svend Petersen presided at and all members attended, all sessions of the meeting.

AXEL SKELBECK, Sec.

Husk at gaa til møde i Loge 318 naar du er paa besøg i Danmark. Logen møder paa St. Knudsvej 26, København, V. I Juni og Juli dog kun den 2, Fredag.

Bemærk ændret Mødedage.

## Important Notice

### TO ALL MEMBERS

Have you recently inspected your membership certificate to see that the proper beneficiary is named therein?

If a change is required, such as by reason of death, marriage or divorce, or by any other intent, you should forward the certificate to your local lodge secretary properly filled out and signed in the space provided for this purpose.

Many members overlook the grave importance of this suggestion, resulting in much delay and often a great expense before the insurance can be paid.

## Midwest District

The response to the proposals as set forth in the October issue of our Magazine are coming in slowly. That is both healthy and expected. Healthy, because hasty actions are seldom sound actions. We may overlook important points. By thinking, studying and then acting, our results will likely be more appropriate. An action taken in the impulse of the moment can do much harm. That the response is also somewhat slow is expected because many lodges have only two meetings—or less—per month, and therefore have not as yet been able to give enough thought and study to the propositions.

But allow me to pass on to you some of the opinions received to date.

First let us take the discussion subject for the fourth quarter of 1953, referring to district division. I erroneously called this Proposal No. 3 in the last Magazine; erroneous, because at **no time** did our Supreme President propose this at the Menominee convention, and at **no time** did I say so in our minutes, but as there seems to be a bit of confusion about this, we will from now on just call this the discussion subject for the 4th quarter 1953, and the proposals by our Supreme President will be numbered in the sequence he presented them in Menominee.

Favorable opinions on district division subject are:

(A): More and more lodges are becoming too small to be represented at our present national convention. If the districts became official, these small lodges will be represented.

(B): The expense of a national convention would be cut; just how much, no one can actually predict, but it would eliminate about two-thirds of the present delegation size.

(C): By allowing the supreme board to create the first set-up, the two main reasons why district division has always failed adoption would be overcome. The first reason is the sectional differences; the second reason is the many lodges who always have voted one of their members a vacation, and who therefore always voted against district division.

(D): Delegates from a district would be better qualified as delegates to a national convention, because through closer and oftener contact they learn each others qualifications, and would send their quota of delegates on a basis of ability, regardless of lodge affiliation.

And now against, and I have only **one**—so far—and that is, that inasmuch as the small lodges are in majority, they dominate the district convention, and could therefore elect their own choice of delegates to the national convention.

On Proposal No. 1, in regard to deferment of assessment to 6 months, opinions in favor are:

(A): Each lodge would have more time to work on delinquents.

(B): Each lodge would have nothing to lose by this experiment.

Against:

(A): If a delinquent does not pay in two months, he will not pay in six months.

(B): Let us not carry a bad risk, nor ease up on our present rules.

(C): The legality of this proposal is questionable.

(D): We should pay in advance rather than as now.

(E): A few favor deferment—not to 6 months, but to 3 months.

Proposal No. 2: That the per capita tax be raised to \$2.00, of which 50 cents revert back to the home district; the opinions on this proposal are, that if the districts do become official, moneys to function with will, of course, have to be appropriated. If the districts remain as now, no money need be appropriated, and no one is in favor of raising our per capita tax under the present set-up.

That is my findings to date. A mere start—to be sure—but let us trade thoughts; only by educating and enlightening ourselves can we intelligently solve our problems. We need not hurry, but neither must we fiddle while Rome burns. Let us discuss these matters as equals, as brothers—let us forget small and big lodges. We are actually **all** small now. We need many more opinions. The pro's and con's are not nearly exhausted as yet. I will list these proposals again, with No. 3 added and I ask your honest opinion. Remember—your name will not be used.

### DISCUSSION SUBJECT FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER 1953

Shall the Danish Brotherhood be divided into official districts, similar to those now in existence; each district (and so forth).

**Proposal No. 1:** Our remittance of assessment shall be delayed six months instead of two.

**Proposal No. 2:** That we raise the per capita tax to \$2.00, of which 50 cents reverts back to the home district.

**Proposal No. 3:** The national convention shall be paid for out of the Mortuary fund.

Awaiting your response, your opinions and suggestions, I am,

Fraternally and sincerely yours,

GERHARD H. RASMUSSEN,  
Midwest District Sec.-Treas.  
710 Grand Ave., Racine, Wis.

## Efterlysning

George Wilhelm Wickman, født 10. Oktober 1899 i Torekinge, Jønsköping, Sverrige, efterlyses af hans Søster i Danmark som sidst hørte fra ham in 1923. Wickman rejste til New York den 22. Marts, 1922, men boede ogsaa i Brooklyn. Søsteren vil være meget taknemlig for mulige Oplysningere om hendes Broder. Venligst tilskriv Peter Olsen, Weeping Water, Nebraska.

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## Resolutions

### JENS L. PETERSEN, Junction City, Oregon

In memory of our late Brother J. L. Petersen, who passed away September 16, 1953, the following resolution was adopted by Lodge No. 268. Be it resolved that we deeply regret the loss of our Brother and wish to extend our most sincere sympathy to his family.

Be it further resolved that our charter be draped in mourning for a period of 30 days and that this resolution be entered in our minutes, inserted in the D. B. Magazine and a copy sent to his widow.

WALTER JENSEN, Vice-Pres.  
FRED PETERSEN, Sec.

### ANDERS P. ERICKSEN, Seattle, Washington

In memory of our departed Brother Anders P. Ericksen, who passed away September 26, 1953, the following resolution was adopted by Seattle Lodge No. 29 at our regular meeting September 30, 1953.

Resolved, that we deeply regret the loss of our Brother, and that we extend to his family our most sincere sympathy.

Be it further resolved, that our charter be draped in mourning for 30 days, that this resolution be entered in our minutes, inserted in the D. B. Magazine and a copy sent to his family.

KRISTEN JORGENSEN, Vice President.  
J. F. C. ANDERSEN, Secretary.

### RUDOLPH L. HANSEN, Duluth, Minnesota

In memory of our departed Brother, Rudolph L. Hansen, who passed away September 9, 1953, the following resolution was adopted at the regular meeting of Lodge No. 65, Duluth:

Resolved, that we deeply regret the loss of our Brother and hereby wish to express our sincere sympathy to his family.

Be it further resolved that our charter be draped in mourning for a period of 30 days, that this resolution be inserted in our minutes and the Brotherhood Magazine and a copy sent to his family.

ROLAND M. HANSEN, Sec.

### CARL JENSEN, Duluth, Minnesota

In memory of our departed Brother, Carl Jensen, who passed away October 6, 1953, the following resolution was adopted at the regular meeting of Lodge No. 65, Duluth:

Resolved, that we deeply regret the loss of our Brother and hereby wish to express our sincere sympathy to his family.

Be it further resolved that our charter be draped in mourning for a period of 30 days, that this resolution be inserted in our minutes and the Brotherhood Magazine and a copy sent to his family.

ROLAND M. HANSEN, Sec.

### SIMON JENSEN, Derby, Conn.

In memory of our departed Brother Simon Jensen, who passed away August 12, 1953.

Resolved that we deeply regret the loss of our good Brother and that we send to his family our most sincere sympathy.

That our charter be draped for 30 days and this resolution be entered in our minutes and published in the D. B. S. Magazine.

In behalf of Lodge No. 41.

HENRY ANDERSEN, President.  
CHRIS ANDERSEN, Secretary.

### NIELS RASMUSSEN, Moline, Illinois

In memory of our departed Brother Niels Rasmussen, who passed away September 28, 1953, the following resolution was adopted at the regular meeting of Moline Lodge No. 5 on October 1, 1953.

Be it resolved, that we deeply regret the loss of a good and loyal Brother, and hereby extend our sincere sympathy to his family.

Be it further resolved, that our charter be draped in mourning for a period of 30 days, this resolution be entered in our minutes, published in the Danish Brotherhood Magazine, and a copy sent to his family.

SIMON LARSEN, President.  
H. P. LARSEN, Secretary.

### KNUD G. NELSON, Milwaukee, Wis.

In memory of our departed Brother Knud G. Nelson, who passed away September 22, 1953, the following resolution was adopted at our meeting October 13, 1953.

Resolved, that we deeply regret the loss of our Brother, and hereby express to his family our deep sorrow.

Be it further resolved, that our charter be draped in mourning for 30 days; that this resolution be entered in our minutes, published in the D. B. Magazine, and a copy be sent to his family.

JOHN JACOBSEN, President.  
EDWARD JUEL, Secretary.

### PETER FRANSDEN, Clear Lake, Iowa

In memory of our departed Brother, Peter Frandsen, who passed away October 9, 1953, the following resolution was adopted by the members of Lodge No. 219:

That we regret the loss of our Brother and hereby wish to express our sincere sympathy to his family, that our charter be draped for a period of 30 days in his memory, and that this resolution be inserted in the Danish Brotherhood Magazine, and entered in the minutes of our lodge, and a copy be sent to his family.

STANLEY M. OREDSSEN, Pres.  
EDWIN C. ESTERGARD, Sec.

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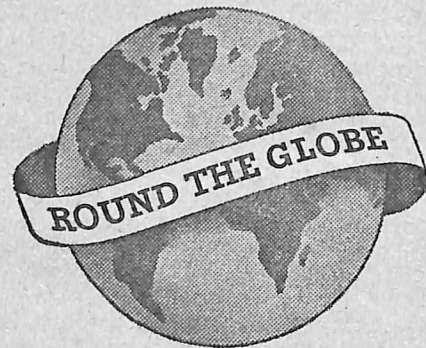
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# News From The Eastern Lodges

By

George V. Petersen, 20 Maywood Dr., W. Warwick, R. I.

## Lurbladet, Philadelphia, Pa.

From Lurbladet from Philadelphia we note that in Lodge No. 172 they have appointed a membership committee. This committee will contact the forever growing list of prospects. Their slogan for 1954 is 10 NEW MEMBERS IN 1954. Good luck to you and I hope you will make it. The season's first card party will be held on October 24th. These are monthly parties, sponsored jointly by the Sisters and Brothers. Refreshments are served and interesting prizes are awarded the high scorers. They ask you to bring your friends.

## Lodge No. 242, Erie, Pa.

We have received from Erie a rather long interesting letter, which promises to be a monthly affair like several other lodges. It gives the details of coming events for the lodge members and surely, according to this notice, they are a busy lot out there.

In Lodge No. 242 they are going to start a drawing at each meeting, \$2.00 will be deposited and all member's names will be deposited in a box and one name drawn each evening, the lucky man, if he is there will receive the money; but if he is absent, the money will be left until next meeting with \$2.00 added and so forth until the name of a member is drawn who is present. Of course, this is something that is being done other places, perhaps there is something to it that it might draw some members who do not usually come. It is too bad to have your name called and you are not there and have lost, say about \$20.00. Oh boy!

Another thing they will have in the near future is a complete roster of all members of the lodge hanging on the wall in the lodge hall, showing not alone their name, but also their birthday, not the year, just the date. Guess why!

Turkey raffle will be held sometime in November. The date is not sure as yet. Torskegilde to be held some time in November and a Christmas party is also planned.

Minstrel Show will be held the 29th or 30 of October, so you see they are active in Erie.

We wish you good luck with your new paper and shall be looking forward to every issue.

## Rosenborg Lodge, Providence, R. I.

At the last meeting in Rosenborg Lodge in Providence it was decided that we should go all out to try to get in on the money for the attendance contest. As we are usually pretty good in turning out to meetings, I hereby ask each and every Brother to do their utmost to attend meetings this coming season.

We had a most interesting meeting last Friday and according to our last paper there should be something to talk about at the coming meetings. The Sisters sent word in to us that at the meeting in December they will have a regular Christmas party

for children, somewhat like the parties we used to have, evidently we must be getting younger here in Providence, because we gave up our regular Christmas parties, because not enough children came.

## Midwest District Convention

I received a copy of the report from the Midwest District convention a few days ago. I thank you for sending it. Believe me, it is a most informative report and from this it seems that you have really been very busy.

I think the Secretary has done a fine job and also, if it goes as he expects, he will have plenty on his hands the coming year.

The Supreme President was present at this convention and had no less than 19 proposals or suggestions before this gathering, so you see we need not be short of subjects for discussions.

Well, it is a good thing, because there are only 22 months until the next national convention.

## Brotherly Spirit

Here is a little bit of Brotherly spirit. The other day I was pleasantly surprised to get a visit from a Brother from Michigan, (Greenville), this Brother did not know me and I had never heard or seen him; but being on a visit to Rhode Island, he felt he would call. He talked Danish and I asked him where he came from in Denmark; but he said, I was born here in U. S. . . . He is now a retired farmer, but reads our monthly magazine and always turns to my page. Believe me, it is gratifying to know in this way that your work is appreciated, in fact, many from our own section often express their pleasure in reading about the East.

I say to this Brother Nielsen from Greenville, "Tak for besøget, og jeg haaber Du kan komme igen." Brother Nielsen has been a member for 50 years on the third of November.

## Himmelbjerget Lodge No. 300

Himmelbjerget Lodge No. 300, Oneonta, New York, is 40 years young.

It was a pleasure to receive the invitation to attend the 40th anniversary of Oneonta Lodge on Saturday, October 3rd. The trip along through the mountains are worth the time and effort and the congenial people in Oneonta are certainly great hosts.

About 70 people gathered in the lodge hall to a very fine turkey dinner and believe me, the dinner was enjoyed and the committee in charge did a wonderful job in preparing and serving.

The president bid all welcome and Brother Chris Nielsen, who was chairman of the committee, also acted as Toastmaster and called upon the invited guests and several other Brothers and Sisters.

Present also was the President of the General Committee, Aage Jespersen, and several guests from

Troy, N. Y. Many were heard from and the Troy people reminded us that their anniversary will be the 24th and expected all to be there. Dancing followed with the music of one of the members. I am sorry I am not sure of his name. He played the accordion, also the piano, and all had a fine time. There in Oneonta, they are lucky in that they own their own building, therefore can have such a fine time in a small community.

Tak for sidst.

## Schenectady Events

From Schenectady we again are receiving the monthly news and find that they really are going to town. Clambake, October the 18th, birthday party at the second meeting in October, Harvest dinner in the Sisterlodge on October 11th, and the bowling team is at it again every Tuesday evening. Congratulations go out to Paul Ljunggreen and Anna Sorensen, who were wed recently.

## Newark News

From the Newark News we note that they have been rather quiet since the convention in Metuchen. We can readily understand that they required a little rest after that job. However, we note that there will be a ladies' night at the October meeting and at the November meeting will be Ex-Presidents' night. They usually have a very good attendance at these meetings and plenty of refreshments will be on hand. Ex-President Justesen will receive his 50-year pin this year. He was born February 16, 1880, and joined Lodge No. 116 November 14, 1903, was President in 1910. This evening will be a fine evening for presenting this pin.

## Valley Stream, New York

The October regular meeting of Lodge 325 was open to the women folk of the members. A short business meeting preceded the festivities planned by the girls.

The girls had a bingo for all those present who wished to join in. Ole Hansen had obtained a crate of Long Island ducks to be given as prizes, not the entire crate, mind you, but individual ducks as individual prizes. Quite a sum of money was cleaned up through the ladies' enterprise. These funds are going to be presented as envelopes to the residents of the old folks' home at Metuchen, New Jersey. Just a little something to promote the feeling of goodwill around Christmas that Lodge 325 wishes to extend to all. The President and members of the Lodge wish to convey a gratifying wish to the women who so generously donated their time and efforts to making this event such a huge success.

November 7 will see the Lodge holding its annual dinner in the Masonic Hall in East Williston, Long Island. Reservations are to be made with Ernest Christoffersen, 47 Henry Street, Valley Stream, New York, CUrtis 5-9035. Martin Schaefer is in charge of the affair; who's direction will insure a success as he has been so successful many times in the past.

The next regular meeting of the Lodge is Nov. 13, see you there.

## Annual Meeting of the Nebraska Lodges

The Nebraska General Committee of Danish Sisterhood and Danish Brotherhood held their annual meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska, Saturday, September 19, at a joint meeting in the forenoon at the Lincoln Hotel. It was opened by Chris Block, president of Lodge No. 84, who welcomed delegates and visitors, and introduced Clark Jeary, mayor of the city of Lincoln, who extended a hearty welcome on behalf of the city.

A noon lunch was served at Ideal Hall by members of D. B. Lodge No. 84 and D. S. S. Lodge No. 90 and judging from the demand it must have been tasty.

The afternoon meeting was called to order by William Johnson, Grand Island, president for Nebraska State Lodges. The high light of the meeting was the presence of so many Supreme Officers, who each was introduced and gave inspiring messages. Supreme President Svend Petersen spoke at some length, and touched on many and varied subjects for the benefit of our organization. New ideas were pondered, and I am sure that everyone present, whether in agreement or against some of the ideas, will bring home subjects for discussion that should create new life in our lodges. It is that kind of discussion we need more than anything else. Other Supreme officers present were Supreme Vice President Otto Nielsen, Supreme Secretary Axel Skelbeck, Supreme Trustees Viggo Mikkelsen and Hans Norregaard. We appreciate that our Supreme Officers took time to spend the day with us, and hope it will be for the future benefit for them as well as us.

Lodge No. 262 had brought a candidate for initiation, and Supreme Vice President Otto Nielsen initiated Kaj Bunde Refslund, into our order before the afternoon meeting adjourned.

The banquet in the evening was attended by 300 people, a record turnout for our State meeting in Lincoln. Some confusion arose due to the fact that it was more than the committee expected. We hope that not too many had their feelings hurt too bad, and will forgive a very hard worked committee.

Toastmaster Niel Tinggaard introduced Supreme Officers of both organizations present, and also the newly elected State officers. Supreme officers of D. S. S. present were Mrs. Christine Miller, past Supreme President; Christine Linderud, Supreme Treasurer; and Supreme Trustees Kristine Hansen and Margaret Sundby. The new State officers were installed by Svend Petersen and Christine Miller, assisted by Omaha D. S. S. Drill Team, which, under the leadership of Mrs. Johanna Christiansen, gave a fine Drill performance.

The new officers for D. S. S. are Mrs. Anna Hensley, Lincoln, president; Mrs. Agnes Erny, Grand Island, vice president; Mrs. Maren Lawson, Omaha, secretary-treasurer; and for the D. B. are as follows: Fred Jensen, Omaha, president; Edward Nielsen, Cozad, vice president; Gunnar Engskov, Omaha, secretary-treasurer. The best of luck to all of you.

The Polka Dots from Omaha furnished music for the dance, and it was enjoyed by all. Minden was selected for next year's meeting, and from past experience, a good attendance will be on hand as we all know the hospitality of Lodge No. 16.

S. C. SORENSEN.

## Pacific Northwest DBS Fireside Chatter

Norbert E. Grove, District Secretary-Treasurer  
711 North Eye, Tacoma, Washington

Christmas will be upon us in but a few weeks. It has long been the custom for the families of our Danish Lodges to gather together for an old fashioned Julefest around a flag and tinsel decorated tree. November meetings will voice the discussion of this annual event throughout Washington, Oregon and Canada as well as from coast to coast. Come out and join your brothers in making preparations. Support your order and encourage its faithful officers to do even better.

Brother Soren Eriksen of Enumclaw's Lodge No. 113, who with his wife is celebrating their fiftieth wedding anniversary this year, is soon leaving for the South on an extended vacation which will really be a second honeymoon. Shortly after the first of the year, another Enumclaw Brother, Peder Livingstone, will be starting a nineteen concert tour through the Middle West. Other news from this little city includes a nice turnout at the season's first card party on October third, held at the DBS hall and sponsored by DSS Lodge No. 75; Brother Martin Pedersen becoming a Grandfather again; and Past President Fred Weston being surprised by the presentation of a television set, a present from all his children.

Since our last message we have had the sorrow of losing one of our Brothers from Number 113, Martin Jensen recently of Bellevue, following a lengthy illness. Transferring his membership to the "Lodge Above," Brother Jensen passed away on September twenty-ninth and was buried in the Evergreen Cemetery near Enumclaw. Wife, Helena of Newell, Iowa, is left to mourn his passing. Sleep well, Martin.

If we may, we would like to reproduce a paragraph from Brother John H. Nissen's Lurblad, official organ for Lodge No. 172, Philadelphia. Quote: "Have you given any thought to your life insurance lately? When some insurance salesman tries to sell you on some kind of program, either from the standpoint of protecting your growing family, or for the purpose of building an estate, get his rates and compare them with the rates for insurance in the Danish Brotherhood. We'll wager the DBS will give you more for

your money. Why? There are no expensive promotional efforts, no fancy salesmen's commissions, no excessively high salaries for the big-wigs. Sometimes we are just too conservative in proclaiming the benefits to be obtained in buying insurance the Brotherhood way. Our organization offers you the maximum protection at the minimum cost—what more can you ask?" Unquote. This lively little lodge of only 95 members deserves rightly recognition in the folds of our great fraternity. "Assure your loved ones—insure in the Brotherhood" and "Firmly resolve to attend lodge meetings regularly" says the editor.

Visiting Old Denmark most of the summer, Past District President Carl N. Grove reported on his sojourn at a regular meeting of Enumclaw's DBS. At Tacoma's DB, your correspondent enjoyed a similar report from Brothers Chris Petersen and Peder Thompson, Trustee and Outguard respectively, of that lodge. Seattle, the Queen City of the great Pacific Northwest, likewise listened to several members as they expressed their joys and happiness in renewing their visits to our fatherland. All stressed the hospitality of Denmark as the very finest.

Our By-Laws specifically rule that a member must have been admitted or have made application for admittance to an Old People's Home before approval can be made of a beneficiary designation in favor of such Home. This law in my humble opinion is like so many of our statutes on the State books, which are obsolete and should be repealed. When a Brother wishes to show his respects to a worthy organization by naming them on his insurance certificate and doing a noble deed for a noble cause, it is ridiculous that our Supreme Office finds itself without discretionary powers. Something should certainly be done in this matter in the way of an amendment at the next national convention.

Please be reminded of District President Vard Eskeberg's membership contest and the prize of one hundred dollars which he has personally deposited in our Tacoma bank account. Even if you or your lodge do not win, you have the satisfaction that you will have helped to increase activities in your organization. The getting of new brothers is perhaps not easy in certain localities now because of very little emigration from the homeland, but do not forget the second and third generation plus the in-laws. New members are the lifeblood of any society and

## DEATH CLAIMS REPORTED

DATE OF DEATH	NAME	AGE	BIRTHPLACE	LODGE NO.	LOCATION	YEAR JOINED	CAUSE OF DEATH	AM'T PAID
Sept. 6—	James Chr. Kragh	90	Fjellerød, Denmark	4	Racine, Wis.	1897	Heart Disease	\$ 644.71
Aug. 26—	Oskar Thomsen	61	Esbjerg, Denmark	241	Sayreville, N. J.	1911	Coronary Thrombosis	500.00
Aug. 26—	Knud C. Beck	67	Odins Sogn, Vejle	183	Troy, N. Y.	1905	Multiple Sclerosis	250.00
June 23—	Max J. Weinrich	51	Copenhagen, Den.	325	Nassau Co., N. Y.	1941	Coronary Occlusion	125.00
Sept. 1—	Theodore Taylor	84	Copenhagen, Den.	43	Denver, Colo.	1906	Heart Disease	819.95
Sept. 24—	Lawrence Loft	64	Aarhus, Denmark	213	Ord, Nebr.	1925	Coronary Thrombosis	250.00
Sept. 11—	Terman Termanen	57	Varde, Denmark	107	Chicago, Ill.	1936	Coronary Occlusion	500.00
Aug. 1—	L. C. Sorensen	82	Forlev, Denmark	161	Ruskin, Nebr.	1911	Chronic Myocarditis	231.52
Sept. 25—	Niels Peter Nielsen	76	Thisted, Denmark	600	Omaha, Nebr.	1905	Acute Hepatitis	904.54
Sept. 28—	Niels Rasmussen	87	Farre, Denmark	5	Moline, Ill.	1909	Arteriosclerosis	222.07
May 19—	Svend Svendsen	67	Salle, Viborg	41	Shelton, Conn.	1911	Cerebral Hemorrhage	248.81
Sept. 26—	Anders Peter Eriksen	76	Ingerslev, Denmark	29	Seattle, Wash.	1910	Coronary Occlusion	250.00
Sept. 16—	Jens L. Petersen	86	Terndrup, Lyngby	268	Junction, City, Ore.	1907	Cardiac Decompensation	861.04
Oct. 5—	Arthur W. Johnson	66	Racine, Wisconsin	4	Racine, Wis.	1910	Heart Disease	1000.00
Oct. 6—	Christian P. Carlsen	87	Torslev Sogn, Jylland	56	Kansas City, Mo.	1902	Cerebral Hemorrhage	771.67
Sept. 9—	Rudolph L. Hansen	74	Denmark	65	Duluth, Minn.	1908	Pulmonary Embolism	934.73
Aug. 23—	Soren T. Jensen	84	Holbæk Amt., Den.	112	Portland, Me.	1899	Heart Disease	789.93
Sept. 26—	Niels E. Caspersen	82	Aalborg, Denmark	91	St. Paul, Minn.	1908	Arteriosclerosis	222.47
Sept. 29—	Robert Jepsen	89	Als, Slesvig, Den.	151	Escanaba, Mich.	1910	Carcinoma of Prostate	227.70

the good works of the Danish Brotherhood can be perpetuated by the candidates you propose for membership. Together, let us strive to make our meetings interesting, educational and constructive. Let us endeavor to bring our friends and the members of our own families into the Order as did our forefathers before us. Just as Midwest District Secretary-Treasurer Gerhard H. Rasmussen of Racine, insists "We want to keep the districts functioning, not just once a year at our conventions, but through the year by working on some specific points"—at the moment, it is increased membership.

Once a year, little Johnnie J. C. Rieck, the first and only juvenile member of Number 113, dresses in his very best and places a one dollar bill in his purse, in preparation of visiting his older Brothers. When his father, President John J. L. Rieck, acknowledges the knock at the door and declares a few moments recess, the wee one presents his birthday buck for the benefit of our Pacific Northwest Old People's Home, a voluntary club which his grandfather, Carl Grove, successfully launched during his regime of the district. "Thank you very much", said Johnnie, as the assemblage arose, applauded and sang Happy Birthday. J. C. was seven on the ninth of September.

In closing this month's scribe, remember three things—one, it is the duty and responsibility of all Brothers interested in their lodge's welfare to attend the meetings; two, in order to promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of your present membership, sign up that new prospect right now; and three, don't forget to read your Danish Brotherhood Magazine.

## New Members

Booster	No. of Lodge	Location	New Member
Norman D. Andker	39	Oakland	Ernest Frank
Hans L. Nielsen	116	Newark	Knud Scholer
Edward A. Nielsen	183	Troy	Paul Turin
John Christensen	225	Canton	Leonard Nelson
C. F. Gallobitz	242	Erie	Egan C. Olsen
Edward Nielsen	262	Cozad	Kaj Bunde Refslund
Carlo Christy	301	Akron	Daniel Christy
O. F. Pedersen	322	Santa Barbara	Helge Hansen
O. F. Pedersen	322	Santa Barbara	D. Pedersen
O. F. Pedersen	322	Santa Barbara	John Hansen
Emil Miller	322	S. Barbara	H. Fredericksen
A. Rasmussen	335	Port Alberni	T. Nasgaard

(Juveniles included in the above)

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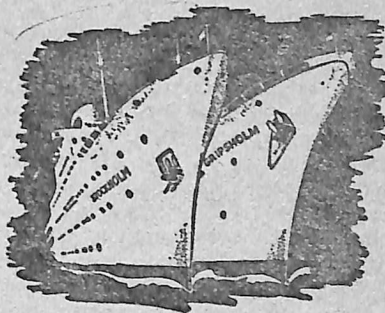
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# CALIFORNIA NEWS

Rudolph Olsen, 210 Post Street, San Francisco 8, California

The 32nd annual convention is over. It was a success. And that is about all there is to it except, of course, the details.

The one factor that perhaps more than anything else made it a success was the presence of our Supreme President, Brother Svend Petersen, and his two very able co-officers of the Supreme Board, Brother Otto Nielsen from Seattle and Brother Hans M. Andersen from Parlier, Calif. These fellows never missed a thing, whether it was a business session or on the lighter side of the convention, the various socials. Of course, we knew Brothers Nielsen and Andersen, they are old friends of ours here in California and as such are taken for one of us. It was different with Brother Svend Petersen, he was an unknown factor, so to speak, and I believe I am right when I say, that even some of the brethren were just a wee bit skeptical about this fellow from Askov. Well, that was before the convention. Now it is different and one can truly say that "han kom, vi saa, og han vandt." Because before the convention was over, he not only had our respect but our affection as well. Both Brother Petersen and his charming wife made themselves a lasting niche in our General Committees of California.

Undoubtedly the high point of the convention was the talk Brother Petersen gave us right after the opening of the convention Friday morning. It was a very serious talk about our beloved Danish Brotherhood and its problems. I believe you could have heard a pin drop when he gave us his 20 suggestions as to how we could, according to his views, better the Danish Brotherhood. Most of these suggestions fell, I feel, in fertile ground, while others, I think, were a little premature. I shall not go into details here, as undoubtedly they will be published in some form or other. Suffice to say, that a committee was appointed to look into these suggestions, and make a report to our next convention. In the meanwhile it is hoped that these suggestions will be thoroughly discussed in our lodges, so that the delegates may know the sentiment of the lodges at the time of the convention. A five-man committee was appointed, consisting of Brothers Sigurd Nielsen, Lodge No. 49; John V. Jensen, Lodge No. 143; Clarence Andersen, Lodge No. 39; Albert Tunsen, Lodge No. 322; and Herbert Helseth, Lodge No. 322, and it will be the work to bring in at the next convention their suggestions and recommendation.

A proposal was brought into the convention relative to the creation of a "Welfare Fund." After considerable discussion a committee of five was appointed, and will bring in a report at the next convention. The committees consist of the following brethren: Herbert Helseth, Lodge No. 322; Charles M. Petersen, Lodge No. 126; Ralph N. Kerr, Lodge No. 39; Walter Kristensen, Lodge No. 299; and Lee Cook from Lodge No. 306.

The purpose of this Welfare Fund is to help needy brethren, or their families, in time of stress. The fund could also be used to pay for the care of any Brother wishing to enter an old folks home, allowing his choice of the home he wishes to enter anywhere

in the United States. Social members would be assisted as well as active members.

Peculiarly enough, before his passing, Brother Jim Andreasen had the idea of the creation of just such a fund, for the purpose of assisting old members. He, of course, went a bit farther and wanted to create an Old People's Home, and he even had an idea about where it would be good to have it located—a place near Santa Barbara, just where I never learned. Perhaps his dream, or at least part of it, will come true some day.

Membership prizes were awarded the following: Brother Paul Herskind of Lodge No. 126, 1st prize; Brother Johannes Jøger Nielsen of Lodge No. 299, 2nd prize and two third prizes were awarded to Brothers Axel Christensen of Lodge No. 126 and Jack Fredrickson of Lodge No. 49.

From the statistics of the Secretary it was shown that California on January 1st had 1652 members. The California lodges had paid out in sick benefit \$8,433.40, and in extra help \$850.80. It would appear that the lodges in California are unusually liberal with sick benefit, as the 17 lodges out here paid out 20.47 per cent of the total paid out for the entire U. S. or better than one-fifth. The lodge which tops all the lodges in America is Lodge No. 49 in San Francisco, having paid out \$3,539.02 in sick benefit and \$564.06 in extra help or a total of \$4,103.08. As the lodge had on July 1st, 335 active members, this would mean, that the lodge paid out \$11.65 per member during the year 1952, which "ain't hay" as the saying goes.

The convention had received two invitations for the convention in 1954. One from Los Angeles and the other from Solvang. In the balloting, Solvang won out. Twice before have we had our convention in Solvang and we have always been royally treated. It was in Solvang in 1928 that I was first elected an officer of the General Committee, so how could I forget it.

As you know, I am an old timer at this convention business, and I have now attended 27 of them, so perhaps I can speak with some authority when I say, that I believe the convention in Fresno was the best attended we have had. We had more delegates and visitors at our meeting than ever before, and the meetings were interesting and instructive. Many good points were brought up for discussion, and perhaps the fact that we had so many Supreme Officers present helped to make the meetings interesting. It was a delight to see so many young men take an active part in our deliberations, for after all it is these young men that will have to carry on, when we old ones eventually drop out of the picture. Ripon Lodge No. 332, our youngest lodge in California showed up with an exceptionally fine array of young talented members and delegates, who never missed a point or a chance to speak their minds. I believe as long as we have such young men in our organization that we need not fear it will die out.

The officers who will serve the General Committee for the ensuing term are as follows: Ex-President Curtis Larsen, Arcata; President Paul Christiansen,

Los Angeles; Vice President Alfred Nielsen, Bakersfield; Secretary-Treasurer Rudolph Olsen, San Francisco; Trustees Herbert Helseth, Santa Barbara, Albert Tunsen, Ripon, Cecil Hedrick, Oakland; Conductor Dan Chr. Andersen, San Francisco; Inner Guard Lee Cook, San Diego; and Outer Guard John V. Jensen, Petaluma.

As you know we have had Husband and Wife team as presidents for the two General Committees, namely, Brother and Sister Curtis Larsen from Arcata. During the next year we will again have the pleasure of seeing such a team, namely, Brother and Sister Paul Christiansen from Los Angeles. We are glad to see this continued and in the new line-up of officers, we have Brother John V. Jensen from Petaluma and his good wife, who was elected by the Sisters.

Our joint installations are always something to which we look forward to and this year was no exception. The two installing officers were: Supreme President Svend Petersen for the Brothers, and the very charming Sister Jean Andker for the Sisters. If there were ever a perfect installation, it was this one. I need not mention that our Supreme President is what we might call a past master in matters of this kind, and as far as the Sisters are concerned, Sister Jean Andker's installation was as near perfect as one can ever hope to see. She was a natural with her winning smile and gracious manners. The two installing officers were assisted by a very fine drill team, which gave color to the ceremony.

The above is about all I can get in about the convention in this issue. Perhaps in a later issue I shall again refer to it.

On the entirely personal side, the convention in Fresno will be one I shall never forget. Those of you who were present will, of course, understand what I mean. As has been mentioned in this column before, I finished 25 years as an officer this year, 21 of which have been as your secretary. Just before the installation of officers, the Supreme President presented me with a citation from the Supreme Board for "Meritorious Service" and a gift from the lodges as well as individual members of the Danish Brotherhood. It was such a complete surprise that it overwhelmed me entirely and for once I was entirely speechless. The gift was a check for \$250.00.

May I take this means of thanking each lodge as well as individuals for making the gift possible. I can assure you it was deeply appreciated. Thanks to the members of the Supreme Board for the citation, and thanks to Brother Svend Petersen for the beautiful presentation. A special thanks to Brother Curtis Larsen, and to my old friends, George Hansen and Nels Christensen, for their work in this connection.

I don't mind telling you that I feel very wealthy. Not in gold and silver, of which I have very little, but in friendships. And as Otto Nielsen and I agreed upon, it is the kind of wealth that is not affected by the stock market. Again thanks to you all.

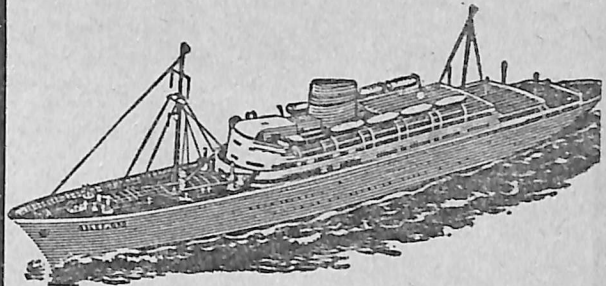
### Change Of Officers

#### Treasurers:

Lodge No. 322, Robert T. Petersen, 250 Alameda Padre Sena, Santa Barbara, California.

Lodge No. 329, Hans C. Andersen, 2358—246th Street, Lomita, California.

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## Straw Vote Ballot

### DISCUSSION SUBJECT FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1953:

Shall The Danish Brotherhood In America be divided into official districts, similar to those now in existence; each district to elect up to 5 delegates to a National Convention every fourth year on a membership basis; under such rules and regulations as shall be established by the Supreme Board for the first division and representation?

Result of vote in Lodge No. \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_\_

YES\_\_\_\_\_

NO\_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary.

Send this, or a similar report, before January 12, 1954, to  
The Danish Brotherhood in America,  
908 W. O. W. Bldg., Omaha 2, Nebr

## Rejs Til Danmark I Julen

Julen fejres verden over paa mange forskellige maader, men ingen steder under saa hyggelige former som i Danmark.

For danske i udlandet staar julehøjtiden som et straalende minde fra barndommen. Tusinder af dansk-amerikanere lever i haabet om før eller senere igen at kunne tilbringe julen i det gamle land og høre juleklokkernes kimen over land og by.

Selv om tiden forandrer paa de gamle skikke, saa fejres julen i Danmark endnu efter de gamle tra-

ditioner, som vi kender fra vor barndom. Hele familien samles omkring det festlige julebord, hvor der severes risengrød med mandler og gaasesteg eller flæskesteg. Aldrig kan man glemme synet i det øjeblik, da døren aabnedes og det pyntede juletræ stod aabenbaret i sin fulde pragt med de levende julelys og den funkende Bethlehem-stjerne i toppen.

I højere grad end nogensinde tidligere vil dansk-amerikanerne i aar benytte lejligheden til at tage turen hjem til Danmark for at fejre julen sammen med familie og venner. Tidspunktet er ideelt. Verdenssituationen er mindre anspændt end tilfælder var for nogle aar siden. De økonomiske forhold i Danmark er de bedste i mands minde. Der er saa godt som ingen arbejdsløshed, folk tjener gode penge og der er en følelse af velfærd overalt. Guds velsignelse hviler over landet og julehøjtiden vil yderligere bringe fryd og glæde i folks hjerter. Det er kort sagt en fornøjelse at gense gamle Danmark under de nuværende forhold.

## Bloodmobile Fund

Additional contributions to the Bloodmobile Fund as set out below are hereby acknowledged:

30 Muskegon, Michigan -----	\$ 1.00
43 Denver, Colorado -----	1.00
51 Ludington, Michigan -----	1.00
109 White, South Dakota -----	1.00
205 Brooklyn, New York -----	5.00
233 Toledo, Ohio -----	5.00
241 Sayerville, New Jersey -----	2.00
257 New York, New York -----	1.00
261 Fowler, Colorado -----	2.00
264 Pocatello, Idaho -----	1.00
329 Long Beach, California -----	1.00

\$ 21.00

Acknowledged in October issue --\$305.00

Total received to date -----\$326.00

AXEL SKELBECK.

### NEW ADDRESS

If you move then write your name and new address in the space provided. Clip this out so that the old address is included and mail to DANISH BROTHERHOOD MAGAZINE, ASKOV, MINN.

Also notify the secretary of your lodge of your new address.

November, 1953

I belong to lodge No. \_\_\_\_\_ My number in the lodge is \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NEW ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

LUTHERSK UGEBLAD  
REV. P. C. JENSEN  
BLAIR, NEBR.