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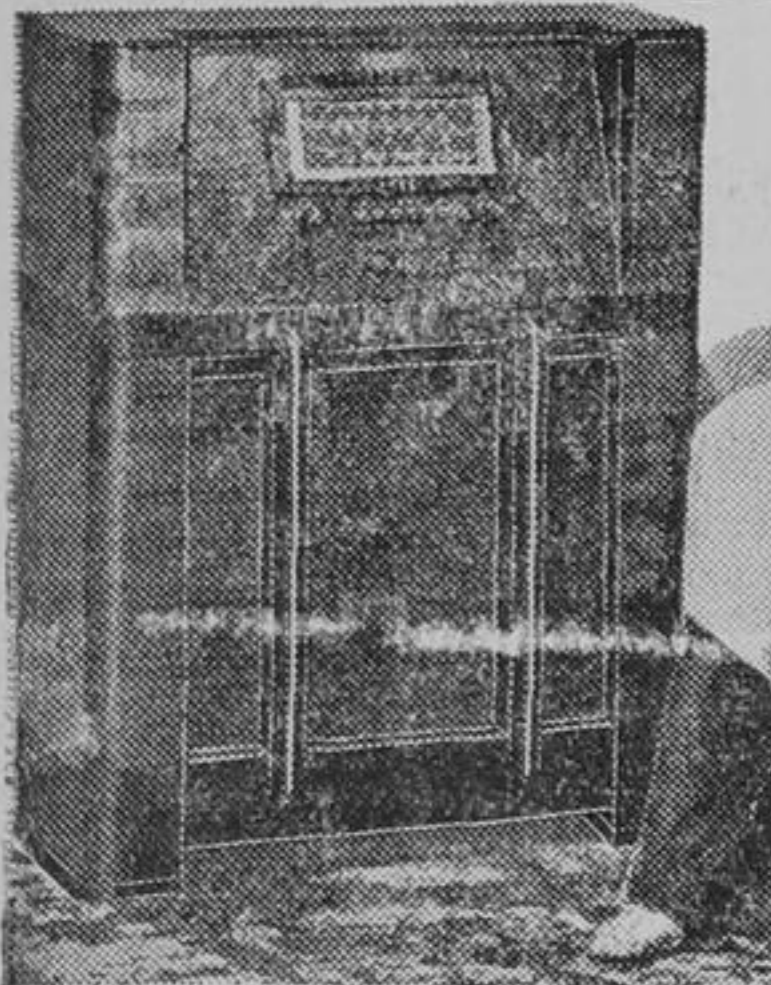
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Vaughan Lodge A.F. & A.M. Celebrated Eighty-fifth Birthday October 12th

W. Bro. R. W. Hadwen and W. Bro. J. S. Kinnee, Past Masters Honored — Interesting History of Lodge Given by Ruling Master

Last Thursday evening, October 12th was a memorable date in the history of Vaughan Lodge when a special meeting was held commemorating the eighty-fifth birthday of Masonry at Maple. The occasion was honored by the presence of M. W. Bro. Dr. J. A. Dobbie of Ottawa, Grand Master for the Province of Ontario and a large number of other prominent masons from Toronto and the surrounding district. A feature of the evening was the introduction of a number of the veteran past masters of Vaughan Lodge. W. Bro. R. M. Hadwen was presented with a veteran's jewel, having been a mason for over fifty years and having served as Master of Vaughan Lodge in 1893. An honorary life membership was conferred on W. Bro. J. S. Kinnee, who was Worshipful Master in 1887.

An interesting history of Vaughan Lodge was given by the ruling master, W. Bro. Neil McDonald, which traced the development of Masonry in the district since the Lodge was first founded at Maple 85 years ago. Speaking of the history of the Lodge W. Bro. McDonald said "As Grand Lodge owes much to its great leader and organizer, Most Worshipful Brother Mercer Wilson, so does Vaughan Lodge owe much to its great leader and organizer, Worshipful Brother James Woods.

James Woods was born in Ireland in 1818. He came to Canada while still a young man and became a blacksmith in the village of Nobleville, as Maple was then called. Beyond this we know nothing of his early life and Masonic standing, until he became a charter member of Vaughan Lodge at its inception, and assumed the office of the first Worshipful Master of the lodge.

The first meeting of Vaughan Lodge was held on September 21st, 1854. The following members of King Solomon's Lodge, No. 22, G.R.C. assumed the chairs, and installed the first officers of Vaughan Lodge: W. Bro. Charles Fitzgibbon, Bro. R. C. McMullen, Bro. Thomas Leach, Bro. John McMullen, Bro. E. R. O'Brien, Bro. William Skeers, and Bro. Thomas McConkey.

The following officers were installed in Vaughan Lodge: W.M., W. Bro. James Woods; S.W., Bro. John Noble; J.W., Bro. James Dick; S.D., Bro. G. Bernard; J.D., Bro. Uriel Chamberlaine; I.G., Bro. Robert Moore; Tyler, Bro. I. Caprouse.

This was a humble beginning, as not even all the usual chairs were filled during the first year, nor for several years afterwards.

However, at its first meeting, five petitions were presented: Joseph Noble, James Gordon, William Cowan, John Cowan, and Andrew Ramsay.

The first meetings of Vaughan Lodge took place in a building on the property of Mr. Valentine McArtney, to whom the Lodge paid rent. In December, 1861, Valentine McArtney put in an application for membership, and on January 21st, 1862, was admitted as a member of Vaughan Lodge. At a meeting the lodge took steps to build a lodge hall of their own.

The committee set to work immediately. The present site was chosen, the land being donated by Bro. J. M. Rupert. A suitable building was erected and within a few months the lodge was at work in its new home. The new building was by no means complete to start with, and from time to time frequent additions were made. At one time a carpet was purchased, later, blinds were added, at another time a driving shed was erected, then a feeding trough was put in it, a fence built, etc.

From the very night it was begun, down to its present time, Vaughan Lodge has had a steady growth and useful existence. Candidates were plentiful, particularly during the early years, and while many dimits were granted, yet the membership continued to grow. Up to 1875 there were very few meetings where less than two or three degrees were worked; it would be unusual to find the minutes of a meeting of this period where no work was done. While in later years the candidates were not so numerous, nevertheless the lodge still flourished. The most notable year, however, was in 1921 when, with the late W. Bro. S. R. Robinson as master, seventeen candidates were initiated. In 1869 Bro. J. E. Davis was elected Worshipful Master of

Vaughan Lodge, but owing to illness, was not able to attend installation. On February 9, the lodge went in a body to his home where he was installed. Shortly afterwards he was called from his duties by death.

In 1871 the officers and members of Vaughan Lodge went to Concord where they installed the first officers of a new lodge, to be known as Patterson Lodge, No. 265. This lodge was later moved to Thornhill. In 1872 the first officers of Robertson Lodge No. 292 were installed at Nobleton by the officers and members of Vaughan Lodge. This lodge was later moved to King. Two other lodges were formed by the brethren of Vaughan Lodge; one in 1870, at Pine Grove, which was then a flourishing village; the other in 1871 at Fisherville. Both these lodges have long since gone out of existence.

In 1874 died Bro. John Rupert, who had so generously donated the property on which the lodge now stands, and the brethren showed their appreciation by erecting a fine monument to his memory.

All through the years, up to the early nineties, the great guiding light of our lodge was Worshipful Brother James Woods. He was Vaughan Lodge's first Master at the age of 36, and he grew old serving his lodge, as secretary, on committees, as treasurer, or in any capacity he was able. He sat in his lodge for the last time on July 17, 1894, the year that Worshipful Brother R. M. Hadwen was Worshipful Master. He passed to the world above on July 15, 1899, at the age of 81 years. Those of our brethren who are still with us, and who knew him, tell us that he was of a strong and upright character and a stalwart Mason.

In 1923 a large sum of money was spent on enlarging and repairing the hall. The committee appointed to carry out this work was Very Worshipful Brother George Brownlee, Very Worshipful Brother Thomas Cousins, and Right Worshipful Brother James B. McLean. The whole building was moved north and west, and twenty feet added to the front. The interior of the building was changed about. The ante-room and entrance, formerly at the front of the building were moved to the back; the Master's chair, which was in the west, was moved to the east, and the whole place was cleaned and redecorated. The financing of this project was largely carried out from funds already in the lodge treasury, and by a subscription taken up among its members.

In its eighty-five years, Vaughan Lodge has been honoured by four visits from ruling Grand Masters. On January 2nd, 1890, Most Worshipful Brother John Ross Robertson spent an evening with our lodge. On June 17, 1913, Most Worshipful Brother A. White, Grand Master, and member of King Solomon's Lodge, was given a reception under the auspices of Vaughan Lodge. It was in that year that the district honoured our lodge by electing Right Worshipful Brother James B. McLean as District Deputy Grand Master. In 1937-38 Vaughan Lodge was again honoured by the district when Right Worshipful Brother Ivan B. Musselman was elected District Deputy Grand Master, and on May 6, 1938, Most Worshipful Brother W. J. Dunlop visited Vaughan Lodge, where a reception was tendered him by the district.

The fourth visit by a ruling Grand Master is not yet history. But as the years go by, we know that the brethren of Vaughan Lodge will look back upon this night and this visit of our Most Worthy Grand Master, Dr. J. A. Dobbie, as an honour not to be forgotten. And as the years go by, we hope that Vaughan Lodge will continue to flourish and uphold Masonry in its own sphere of influence to the honour and glory of the craft throughout the Grand Jurisdiction in the Province of Ontario.

An ostrich went out for a stroll in the desert and thought he'd call at his favorite oasis, in the hope of running across a few of his pals.

When he got there he found six other ostriches standing with their heads buried in the sand. "Just my luck!" he said. "Not a soul about."

"Don't put off until tomorrow what you can do today"—for by then there will be a law against it or a higher tax on it.

THORNHILL

Trinity Women's Club are holding a Bridge and Euchre in the Parish Hall on Monday, October 23rd. Everyone welcome.

The Women's Association of the Presbyterian Church, Thornhill, will hold their annual bazaar on Saturday afternoon, October 28th. Sale will include home cooking, fancy work, jams, vegetables, etc. Fish pond and a cup of tea. All welcome.

Representatives from the West York Deanery Association held their Silver Jubilee Convention in Lawrence Memorial Hall on Wednesday, October 18th. The meeting which lasted from 10.30 a.m. to 9 p.m. comprised of a holy communion, addresses, election of officers, round table conference, etc.

The meeting was opened by the Holy Communion sermon conducted by Rev. W. J. Creighton, M.A., of Bradford. 12.00 noon was a business session. 1.00 p.m. Conference on "Our Lesson Courses and Their Aim" led by Rev. Canon R. A. Hiltz, M.A., D.D., D.C.L., general secretary of the G.B.R.E. 3.30 p.m. an address on "Training of the Devotional Life of the Pupil" by Rev. R. J. Shires, M.A., B.D., of St. Jude's Church, Toronto. 4.30 p.m. address "Why Have a Deanery Association?" by Dr. Hiltz. 6.00 p.m. supper. 7.30 election of officers which are as follows: pres., Mr. Fred Cook, Bradford; vice-pres., Mr. Whitten, Elgin Mills; sec-treas., Rev. Channon, Bradford; executive committee, Rev. R. S. Mason, Richmond Hill; Mr. W. L. McGowan, Schomberg; Rev. J. H. Colclough, Thornhill; Miss Boyd, Aurora. 7.45 round table conference led by Rev. R. S. Mason, Richmond Hill; Sunday School problems were discussed. 8.30 p.m. address on "The Sunday School Teachers' Mission" by Rt. Rev. A. R. Beverley, M.A., D.D., Suffragan Bishop of Diocese. Bishop Beverley said that the West York Deanery was the best unit of organization next to a parish and it enables teachers and parents to discuss their problems with one another. The meeting closed at 9 p.m. with the Benediction.

Miss F. Bowes Passes
Miss Fanny Bowes, for 45 years a resident of the village of Thornhill, passed to her reward on Wednesday morning, October 18, 1939. Born at Concord on May 25th, 1862, she was the youngest daughter of the late Wm. and Ann Bowes. She was the last surviving member of a family of twelve.

Her greatest interest was in the Methodist Church and Sunday School which later became the United Church of Canada. She was for many years the teacher of a class of boys in the Sunday School and in 1885 was elected first visitor of the Home Department. For over forty years she had shown a great interest in the work of the Women's Association having held many important offices. At the time of her death she was financial secretary.

The funeral will be held from the United Church, Thornhill on Friday afternoon with Rev. E. B. Cooke, her pastor, in charge. Interment will take place in the family plot, Thornhill Cemetery.

HEADFORD

The anniversary services will be held at Headford United Church on Sunday, October 22nd. Rev. Hunnissett and his boys of Fred Victor Mission, Toronto, will take charge at the morning service at 11 a.m. Evening service will be conducted by Rev. Rumley of Agincourt and special music by Richmond Hill United Church choir.



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