

MOST WORSHIPFUL

United Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M.

(PRINCE HALL AFFILIATION)

FOR IOWA AND JURISDICTION

WM. PERCY PARKER, Grand Master
7 South Ohio Street, Mason City, Iowa

A. R. JOYCE, Deputy Grand Master
710 8th St. S. E., Cedar Rapids, Iowa

PAUL GOODLOE, Senior Grand Warden
1107 12th Street, Des Moines, Iowa

FLOYD PLEASANT, Junior Grand Warden
621 So. Main Street, Burlington, Iowa

OFFICE OF C. C. F. C.
N. L. BLACK
212 SOUTH IOWA AVENUE
WASHINGTON, IOWA

DR. H. A. MARTIN, Grand Treasurer
204 Security Bldg., Dubuque, Iowa

C. T. CULBERSON, Grand Secretary
713 So. Capitol St., Iowa City, Iowa

CARL M. MAYS, Grand Custodian
2624 Chester Ave., Des Moines, Iowa

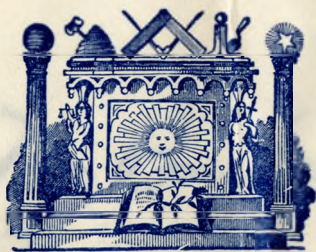
N. L. BLACK, C. C. F. C.
212 So. Iowa Ave., Washington, Iowa

7/2/40

Hon. Wm. Percy Parker, M. W. Gr. Master
Jurisdiction of Iowa
7 So. Ohio St., Mason City

Dear Sir and Bro.:

Your most interesting letter received this morning and hasten to reply before you embark for the Grand Session, and get this reply at home and can act accordingly. As to the letter from the C. C. F. C. of Dist. of Columbia Jurisdiction, have written Bro. Smith some time ago, but have received no answer to date, but requested him to reply on or before July 1st, that I might have something from him to encouch in my report to my Grand Body, and have been looking for a message every day now; if it would go to my home it would be forwarded here and I would get it just the same, as I get mail that way most every day. Am returning the letter as requested. And before going any further will say that I will accept the same office for next year and will be in better condition to function than this year as my treatments are doing good and far better than I had anticipated, for which I give thanks to the Good Lord for His Goodness to me and keeping me as He has for the past few years; I sure have a good report to render to the Grand Lodge, and have got in touch with Brazil this year, altho it is in Spanish, have been able to get enuf out of it that that Grand Juris. has just begun to function after lying dormant for two years owing to the depression affecting it, as was our Grand Body was hit, but now recovering slowly; I look for a real uprising in our Grand Jurisdiction next year with a substantial increase in numbers and finance, for which we all will be very thankful; this Jurisdiction here is not so hot; attended the St. John's Day and heard an excellent sermon; exercises were fine; there are 5 lodges here, but had only about 75 out to the exercises; my doctor is S. D. of his lodge and he surely knows his stuff; am to visit his lodge this Thursday night; was recognized at the program as a representative from the Jurisdiction of Iowa; right after I came here wrote to the G. M. of this Jurisdiction, but to date have received no answer; also wrote the Gr. Sec., and as yet received no answer; I expected to meet the C. C. F. C. of this Jurisdiction when I got here, but on arriving was apprised of his death just a short time before I got here, so then I wrote those other officers of whom I mentioned above; have written all the Jurisdictions, and have yet to hear from a lot of them, but have replies from about 20, and that is pretty good; as the report is never read at the session, want to ask you if it will be all right if I would send my prelude to the Gr. Sec. and he could read it if you wanted him to, or let it go as before; and when I get home will take the balance of it over to Cub, as I did last year; according to the present outlook I will be in better condition to give you more assistance than this year for next year if I continue to improve as I have thus far and will be glad to accept the office for the coming year; I wrote to Cub some time ago and told him that to do all he could for your re-election at the coming session and he could use my name if necessary and also be a proxy for me at the election if he could put it over, and I hope he will be able to use my proxy influence in furthering your cause for ultimate result in your succeeding yourself for another term; also used my influence with our representative to that end and will again send word to that effect; I have had two light strokes, the first was about three years ago when my right side was affected and partially come back, and then the fore part of this year had another attack on my left side; at this time I could not talk for some time; could not walk; affected my hearing; affected my memory and



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my mind could not function as before; had to learn to talk, walk, hear and the other senses bring back to normal by close application to the use of them; but now I am functioning in all of them and gradually getting back to normal in a big way and if I keep on improving will be about to normal in a short time, if I do not have another attack and I am doing everything possible to do to avoid another; doing just as the several doctors have ordered--keep quiet, rest as much as possible, avoid crowds, and go on the diet the doctors order, which I did and have got along fine; when I came here and the doctor diagnosed my case he said I was on the verge of another attack; but I guess he has staved it off as I feel a whole lot different and can function along all lines a great deal better than when I came; and have great confidence in my doctor; I don't go any place hardly; just stay here at home, eating and sleeping, listen to the ball games every day and when not writing am out on the front porch taking care of the neighbors' business and watching the highway which is in clear view just a block from the house, and the main highway to Michigan and there is a lot of traffic on it and it is interesting to watch all the different "vehicles" going all the time; in my bedroom my sister had a table fitted with all the comforts with a typewriter and accessories for writing, and down stairs in the front window is a table with radio and my smoking paraphernalia at my command, and they won't allow me to buy my cigarettes, they are furnished, and all I have to do is to do as they want me to do and take care of the cat as we sit on the front porch; I sure am enjoying myself and improving; they run a picture show and I have been down twice and then did not see all of either show; I came here to improve myself and am sure doing all I can to improve every moment in that direction and have thrown personal whims to the winds so as to take the real advantage of the more wholesome things of life for my needed benefits to enhance my life; so that is the story to date; if things good I expect to be passing thru your city some time this fall en route to Sioux Falls, S.D., and will spend a night in your city (if you folks can find accommodations for my party) and Virg wanted me to make a talk in the church, which I promised him I would do; and sure will be glad to spend an evening with old friends, but I don't want you to keep me up all night, as you know when old friends meet they don't know when to quit; but it will be a pleasure to be among you, never to be forgotten. Well, here is wishing you success in your endeavors at the Grand Session, and very sorry that I will be unable to be with you in person, but in heart and mind will be; am praying that you have a very good and successful session, overshadowed with peace, prosperity, brotherly love very much in evidence; no doubt you will succeed yourself; the first year one just gets an insight to what his office needs him to do; the second gives him inspiration to put forth efforts that were unearthed in the former tenancy, whereby he attains his conception; and you have my undivided support in your re-election; only wish I could be there to assist in putting the thing over; and will take the same office next year; thank you in advance for the proffer and will be in position to render you more service is my thot at the present time; remember me to the Madam, and to all friends and brothers and sisters; guess have said enuf for this time and will quit; keep up a stiff upper lip and success will be yours, supported by your Heavenly Father, in whom you must put your burdens and you will come out more than "victorious conquerer." I remain,

Sincerely, truly and fraternally yours,

N. L. Black
N. L. Black, C. C. F. C.
Jurisdiction of Iowa

(Have run out of my lodge envelopes)