

The Museum Collection

No.30

The Grand Secretary's Tour of India



A pictorial souvenir of Brother Billy Rose's
tour of India in 1927

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Introduction

I have at last got round to putting the pictures and story into a book form, the result being the Museum Collection number thirty which is a pictorial view of Brother Billy Rose's Tour of India during 1927. The book was published early in 1928 (circa April) and is one of the last of his works.

This book like many in the series has been sized to fit in with all the collections and in order to make the text legible I have re-keyed in the body text in Times New Roman and spread it over additional pages, it makes for easy reading and is more pleasant to the eye.

Billy Rose's appointment as Grand Secretary, gave him the opportunity which he sought, and he did not spare himself in the interests of the Order, which he was for ever trying to improve. Right from the time he was made Secretary until a few days before he died, he was at his desk from early until late – from 7.30 in the morning until midnight as a day's work was the rule rather than the exception.

1928 was the last year that we saw Billy Rose for on Wednesday, 9th January 1929 by the death of Brother William Henry Rose, there passed away one of the greatest personalities which the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes under the Grand Lodge of England has ever known.

For the long period of twenty one years he was the Grand Secretary of the Order, its trusted counsellor, to whose brilliant powers of organization and administrative ability was largely due the evolution of the Order from a state of penury to one of unexampled prosperity and power.

His was a life of service to an Order which he loved, an Order of which he always recognized the potentialities for good. He was a combination of kindness, love, humour and imagination, of idealism, personality and sympathy, with cheery optimism forming a large part of his equipment.

Long before he attained any eminence in the Order he was "doing his bit". Even in 1897 he was trying to improve the Order. He has stated more than once that he hated the conditions, which prevailed in those days, those days, happily past now, when the Order of Buffaloes usually provoked a smile from thinking people.

He could see, as many other sober minded people could see, that, properly organized and managed, the Order was capable of great things of real benefit to the community.

Provincial Grand Secretaries and Secretaries of Lodges will smile when they think of the way in which he flooded them with literature. His publicity campaigns, if one may so describe them, were elaborate, but they were never waste; they brought in the money. If it did not come in quickly enough, he would mention the matter to the Grand Lodge, and say, in his whimsical way "I do wish this money would be provided and so put a stop to this terrible 'cadging' by the Grand Secretary".

Invariably he got what he wanted; he never had a failure. Strong, consistent work, and a wonderful faith, a faith always justified, in the members' generosity carried him through. It may be said with absolute truth that he attracted thousands of pounds to the charities of the Order by the very magic of his name. It has been said that tact will carry a man much further than cleverness. Bro. Rose had both, and also he was extremely adroit. He was courageous, too. Another eminent Buffalo, Bro. Stanley Baldwin, the Prime Minister, has said "There are times when leaders have to face their supporters and tell them they are wrong, and the courage to do that is the supreme test of leadership". Such was the leadership of Billy Rose.

This Souvenir is perhaps a fitting tribute to that great man who's influence in Buffaloism has had a tremendous impact on the Order as it is today.

Read and enjoy
Mick Walker
May 2011

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Souvenir

*The Grand Secretary's
Indian Tour*



ROYAL ANTEDILUVIAN ORDER
OF BUFFALOES,
GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.
1927-28.

The Land of Mystery and Charm.



His Highness, Lord Irwin, Viceroy of India.

THE GRAND SECRETARY'S TOUR OF INDIA
November, 1927 :: January, 1928.

Grand Secretary's Tour of India

It is now about two years since I received my first invitation to visit our lodges in India. At first it seemed impossible to accept such a wonderful invitation; it meant leaving home for at least eight or nine weeks, and I think I may justly claim to be a very busy man. There was also the work attached to Grove House, the alterations and preparation for opening, etc., besides trying to get it ship shape. However, I received another pressing invitation, and my good wife, being, I think, somewhat anxious about my health, insisted upon my going if possible. When I mentioned the matter to Grand Lodge they were very kind and unanimous in granting the leave necessary.

Then came all the preparations. It would be impossible to convey by words the large amount of thought necessary in the preliminary stage, the purchase of suitable clothing, the necessary booking etc.. Here I might mention that when I applied for a berth on the P. & O. Rajputani I was informed that all the berths had been taken up and that there was a long waiting list. However I managed to get a berth, second class, and let me say that a second on board these boats is good enough for anybody. As a matter of fact there appears to be very little difference between first and second.

Well, the long looked for day, November 3, 1927, came at last, and accompanied by my dear "old Dutch", we made our way to London, to catch the special train which was to take us to Marseilles.

It was most kind of Bro. Blundell, Bro. Cunningham, and some members of the Willie Rose Lodge, London, to come to Victoria to wish me bon voyage. It was very much appreciated. We left London at 1.50, arriving at Dover at 3.45. We joined the s.s. London from Boulogne. There the special P. & O. express was waiting for us. This train is the last word in comfort, and goes right through without changing from Boulogne to Marseilles. We ran right alongside the Rajputani, which had arrived earlier in the day, a very fine ship, about 16,000 tons. Nearly all the passengers were for India; generally they were, I think, Officers and Civil Servants who had been home for a holiday, and had the good sense to leave the land of rain before "Winter Comes". The journey through France is very interesting, passing Amiens, Avignon, Paris etc. There is one thing sure; the French are not too modest when it comes to charging Englishmen. A dinner on the train cost 11s.; breakfast 4s. Glad there were not too many meals, or I should have had to return home for some more money! We also passed L'Estagne, a wonderful country, where one could, by appearances, live at peace with all the world. There is one thing certain, we were having some sun. I had almost forgotten what "Old Sol" looked like.

We arrived safely at Marseilles, and as we were not sailing until 12 o'clock, one had an opportunity of having a few hours ashore. Marseilles is a wonderful City. The chief point of interest is the Notre Dame, a splendid edifice,

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standing on a point to be seen from almost any part of the city. La Corniche et la Reserve Palace Hotel is also in a magnificent position. There are also other places, but time would not permit me to visit them, and all I know is that I sat outside one of the café's and asked for a cup of tea. Never tasted anything like it in my life; a mixture of camomile and sarsaparilla; still it had its compensations. Surely, Lyons would make a fortune here!

Arrived back in time for dinner, and met my cabin companions. Very lucky, both very decent, one an Englishman named Pepper, an old traveller who had been in India thirty years; the other a Frenchman, who, unfortunately, did not "speak ze mooch Engleesh".

Nearly the whole of the crew on these boats are Lascars. They are attentive and civil; still one would perhaps like to see one's own countrymen doing these jobs.

The usual day's routine on the boat is a cup of tea, biscuits and an orange or apple at 7 a.m. Get up and have a bath, usually a scramble to be first. Slight exercise on deck. Breakfast at 8.30, a good breakfast too, then a mooch on deck. About 11 a.m. a cup of beef tea. Lunch at 1 o'clock, tea at 4 to 4.30, and dinner at 6.30. After dinner there is dancing, and during the day all kinds of sports, but I was satisfied with the deck chair. I felt at peace with the world. Even a resolution to proceed to the next business would have meant continuing to do nothing.

ARMISTICE DAY

This is Armistice Day, and the 'Two Minutes' Silence has just taken place.

Engines stopped, and all very sad thinking of our glorious "Boys".

They had a record collection on this ship last year for Earl Haig's Fund, over £600. They are out to beat this this year. Good luck to them!

But I am going along too fast. I am miles in front. May I go back to leaving Marseilles? Shortly after clearing the dock, we pass Maine Island, a high barren rock of a whitish colour. We also pass Pecimier Island, with a lighthouse. It is wonderful the number of lighthouses in the Mediterranean. Passing Rion Island, bare and rugged, about twenty miles on our way, we pass Sicier. This is only about five miles from Youlon. Bonifacio now comes into view. This is about 130 miles from our starting point. We can see Corsica from here. By the way, Bonifacio is a French torpedo station. Our next point of interest is Stromboli. This volcano is 3,035 feet high, is still active, but cannot be too dangerous as two pretty villages nestle at the foot of the hill.

We are now approaching the Straits of Messina. It was here I had my first sight of porpoise. We do not appear to pass too many ships, and the Mediterranean is like a mill pond. The Straits of Messina were invested by ancients with many imaginary terrors.

We pass the town of Scilla. This is built on a spar terminating in Rocca di Scilla, a large rock on which are the ruins of an old castle. Messina and Reggio were both destroyed by earthquake in 1783 and 1908.

From Messina, we run south, and can see Mt. Actna. We are now 920 miles from Port Said.

THE LAND OF MYSTERY AND CHARM

BANG GOES SAXPENCE

In an unguarded moment I mentioned to a dear old lady (a dear *old* lady mind you) that I had a slight knowledge of Bridge. My doom is sealed. I am chased to make one in four. I pleaded infancy, no good; made a virtue of necessity, and played. Stakes 3d. 100. Of course, I lost. The sixpence would have bought me a lemon squash.

Heaps of children on board, and nice kiddies too. There can be no fear for the future of our nation in the East while we have such splendid material as this coming along.

My pal at meals is Capt. Hancock, a splendid chap, and I extend thanks to his wife and himself for many good tips about India.

We had another game of Bridge. Won 2s. 6d. The world now looks "Rosy", and I have had the squash that I had to go without last night.

A WELCOME AT PORT SAID

Arrived Port Said at 6 a.m. Got dressed quickly in case some of our members turned up.

Arrived on deck. Had my arm nearly pulled out. What a welcome! It's all worthwhile, Billy Cash, P.G. Secretary, and about seven or eight of the boys to give me a welcome to Egypt. Off we went to the Eastern Exchange Hotel for breakfast, and, of course, a long chat. Tried to settle one or two vexed questions which are bound to arise in the East, as elsewhere; then to the Corner Café, and, of course, our photos to be taken, as shown herewith (if they arrive home safely and in time). Port Said is the same as ever. They have a good lodge in Port Said, the "Tourist". Went to the Lodge room and a good

Lodge room it is too. Well, we sailed again at ten, so had to wend our way back to the ship. It was hard luck having to say "goodbye" so soon, but needless to say I was delighted to meet the "Boys" again.

I had about a dozen letters of welcome handed to me, and should like to say how much the kindly thought was appreciated.

Off again, we enter the Suez Canal, and this is indeed worth seeing. The railway runs along the Canal as far as Tsmalia. There is also a fresh water canal running alongside. The Canal is about the width of the Thames at Oxford, only the banks are sand generally instead of grass.

The distance from London to Bombay is 4,536 miles.

Reverting to Port Said, this place came into being with the Canal, and is built of mud. The Suez was opened in 1869. The length is 87½ sea miles, and vessels up to 32 feet draught can pass through.

We are now sailing merrily along down the Red Sea, and rapidly approaching Aden, our next stop.

Had a fancy dress ball last evening, very interesting, and passes the time along.

The sun is warm, but who cares? Our total for Earl Haig's Fund is £425. One lady who won a big sweep, gave one hundred guineas. Sea rough today. Not many in for breakfast, but I am getting one of the hardened travellers. Still, mustn't boast too quickly.

THE GRAND SECRETARY WITH NOTHING TO DO!

I always had an idea the Red Sea was narrow, but we are well out of sight of

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land. I am just getting the habit of doing nothing, but I bet I grow out of this when I get home. Nearly all on the boat live in India, and I have been listening to the terrors of the Indian railway. Never mind I know this, I shall be amongst friends.

Sunday November 13, 10 a.m. We have just arrived at Aden, a wonderful sight, almost indescribable. Of course, I had to go ashore as the boat is taking in oil and will remain here until 6 o'clock tonight. The chief attraction is the Tanks, and one takes a taxi, as the distance is about twelve miles return. The Tanks are there, hewn out of solid rock, and are a wonderful sight, but there is no water there. On the journey you pass the native village of Aden, a typical Eastern village, and then through the gorge and past the Masonic Hall and Barracks.

I have taken a snap or two, but the wife insists I am "The Worlds Worst Photographer", so have little hope of success.

The heat is intense, and one wishes the costume of the time of Adam was still in vogue!

As usual, we had the Arab boatmen selling all kinds of things, and I know our members who smoke will envy my opportunity of buying a fifty box of cigars for 2s. 6d. Seems impossible and they looked all right. I have bought a box to give to my friends. One hundred cigarettes for 1s. 9d! This is a good place for ostrich feathers. These are about 2s. 6d. each.

Well, good-bye, Aden. You look very nice in the evening with the lights, but you are too hot for me, and I am not sorry to get into the Arabian Sea, our last lap prior to arriving at Bombay.

There is a gymkhana this morning, and all appear to be enjoying themselves.

I have been "called to the Bar" by an American, who has been explaining to me how America won the war. He has paid for two lemon squashes, and I wanted them. He has the authority of the United States Government to say they intend to fight the next war all by themselves.

Some people appear bored on board, but it will take a lot of the Arabian Sea to upset me.

Now for Bombay! Hope I shall not disappoint our brethren. A man I am chatting to says I cannot manage the whole of the places I have to go to in the time allotted. Well, we shall see. I want to meet as many of the "Boys" as possible.

The American has just asked me to have another before I leave him. America will be ruling the world. Really, I wonder if the drinks are worth it.

SUCCOURING DISTRESSED ARABS

We had quite an experience yesterday, saw a small boat in distress; all waving. They were Arabs. Presently a boat was pushed off, and our ship was stopped. It appears they had no food or water and looked starved, so they went away with a large sack of rice and some water, and looked happy. Delayed us nearly an hour. Also saw our first whale, tremendous size.

Children's sports this afternoon. I have plenty of pals amongst the kiddies: I am "Uncle Billy".

Now for Bengal!



THE GRAND SECRETARY AND A FEW MEMBERS OF THE LIGHT OF THE EAST LODGE, HYDERABAD, SIND DESERT—and enthusiastic Bulls, too.



"BILLY" AND "MAX" AT QUETTA, before leaving to continue the Tour to Hyderabad (Sind) and Karachi. (Notice the Indian Jewel. What a splendid Tie-pin!)



BRO. JENKINS, K.O.M., AND FAMILY AND "BILLY" AT RAWAL PINDI.

H. G. ANDRUS, C.P., President, All-India Ledges, Antiquary Scheme, 1927.
 India's Famous Sculpture for Groove House Orphanage.



H. E. STANFORD, C.P., P.O. Secretary, Lockman Falls, A Real Fall!



The Provincial Carrying Corps, Northern India, Quetta. On the occasion of the Visit to India of Mrs. W. H. Rose, R.O.I., Grand Secretary, December, 1927.



THE LAND OF MYSTERY AND CHARM

IN INDIA TO THE SECOND

November 18, 1927. At last I am indeed in India! We were timed to arrive in Bombay at 6 a.m., and we arrived to the minute. Fancy, nearly 5,000 miles and getting in exactly at scheduled time!

We had quite a lot of excitement on board yesterday. Nearly ran into a wreck. There was no sign of life to be seen, so the Captain decided to continue his journey.

I was met on arrival by Bro. Hinge (the P.C. Secy.), and P.G.P. They were splendid pals, particularly as my bedding had gone astray, no trace. Had a brain wave (few and far between), probably taken away by someone of the same name who had been on board. This turned out to be correct, after wondering too how much I would win or lose on the insurance. Bro. Price, K.O.M., had kindly given me this bed, and he at least will be pleased that in any case up to now it is still with me.

Bombay is indeed a wonderful city, large buildings. Appears plenty of business, and certainly hundreds of taxis. I am staying over tonight at the Derby Hotel, and proceeding tomorrow to Poona for my first Lodge. I understand I am being taken to the Opera tonight They have been most considerate in not rushing me away immediately upon arrival.

I soon found the necessity of taking some bed things. The bed in my room is just an iron bedstead and a mattress, no sheets or blankets, although if this weather continues there will be no necessity for them. The food is very decent, but it would not do to enquire too keenly into the materials used.

My word, it is hot! but after England it will still take a lot of it to upset me.

Just bought a topee. Now I am indeed one of the "knuts," but it is impossible out here to do without one.

Well, Bengal, I like you very much, and hope to renew your acquaintance on December 24.

My first journey tomorrow is my shortest, about five hours. The Lodge is on Sunday. Hope I prove worthy of you all in England.

P.S. The Opera was splendid. Did not commence until 9.30.

A RIDE ROUND BOMBAY

We had a splendid ride around Bombay on the evening of my arrival. The scene is indescribable, never seen so many people in my life. London is busy, but then people only walk on the paths. Here they walk on the road as well as the pavement. Then you will see a native squat down on the pavement and start selling ice cream, laces, or any old commodity. Shops, miles and miles of them, good, bad, and otherwise.

We have no Lodges in Bombay. During the War we had two Lodges, the Sir Gilbert (named after Bro. Gilbert Sumner, R.O.H.) and the Sir Alfred, but they became defunct soon after the War. I am sure, however, our brethren in India will soon have a Lodge here.

We left for Poona on Saturday at 9.30, arriving at 1.30 (about 200 miles, so not so bad). Drove at once to the Napier Hotel, and very comfortable. Hotels here are different from what we are used to. There are no sheets or bed clothing, just an iron bed and a mattress, so I soon found the benefit of my own bed clothes that I have taken with me, thanks to the tip given by Bro. Price, K.O.M., who also gave me the valise.

Poona is a nice town. Plenty of

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sunshine. Thought of bottling some to send home. I hope the P.G.P. and P.G. Secy. of Southern India will accept my heartfelt thanks for the fine way they looked after me from the ship to Poona.

On Sunday we motored to Kirkee and went for a row on the River Moolta, a nice river about the size of the Thames. They would not allow me to row, which perhaps was a good thing, for them.

Well, I have had my first meeting, and a most successful one too. We had our photos taken in the afternoon, and hope a copy will arrive in time for this Journal.

The Brothers in India are splendidly enthusiastic. All they wanted was to know something of the Order at home. The majority have never been in a Home Lodge, and I can assure Lodges who have a visit at any time from a member visiting from abroad that they have a very keen critic. I did not reach the record of Ernie, who held an audience at Watchet for two hours and a half spellbound. I do plead guilty to one hour, but the splendid attention made the time appear like five minutes.

All good things come to an end, and I had to bid farewell to Southern India on Monday. To show that this is by no means a joy ride, I might mention that I left Poona on Monday midday and arrived in Secunderabad at 6.30 on Tuesday morning. Thirty hours' travelling, and trains in India are not trains at home. I felt the benefit of my blankets, I can assure you.

THE DECCAN

I have left the Bombay Presidency, and am now in the Deccan. The Deccan is practically the property of His

Exalted Highness the Nizam, who also owns the railway. Supposed to be the richest man in the world. I am writing this within five minutes of his Palace. Not far to go for a "sub," but it is only John Wilson (who can make a cast iron dog come down from a doorway and lick his hand) who would be likely to accomplish this feat.

What a pleasure I had on arrival at Wadi to meet "Jock" the P.G. Secy. of the Deccan Province! The guard of the train was also a S.T.B., so no longer any troubles. It was splendid of "J.T." to travel six hours to give me a welcome to the Deccan. On arrival at Secunderabad we met about half a dozen solid Sergeants, and there can be no question life in India must suit them all. Also had the pleasure of meeting the P.G.P., and also one of the members I had met when I went to Cairo. They all came to the Parsons Hotel, and we had a long chin wag. You can trust Buffs to hold their own in this direction.

The chief trouble in India is to find suitable Lodge rooms. If they get one, the rent is terrible. Another thing is the distance many members have to travel to get to their Lodges. If members at home could be made to realize some of the difficulties here they would have the same admiration as I have for the way they surmount every obstacle. It is indeed wonderful.

I can see plainly that if I am not careful I shall get behind in this narrative. For instance, after the thirty hours' travelling, I have had a bath, and my breakfast, and am now waiting for the P.G.P., who is taking me to see the Nizam's lions and tigers. I hope they are behind bars, although I would always face a lion (in a cage).

THE LAND OF MYSTERY AND CHARM

Everything in India is entirely different from home. No one hurries. They take their time, and perhaps with reason. It would indeed be impossible to rush about in the heat.

The food here must be taken on trust. No use enquiring into the pedigree of the meat or fish. Still it's that or nothing, so we carry on.

I am attending Lodge tonight at seven, and the P.G.L. tomorrow afternoon, then I am off to Lucknow, a journey from here of two days and two nights. There are several railway companies here, I think the largest is the G.I.P. (Grand Indian Peninsular).

My stay in Secunderabad has been a very pleasant one. Hyderabad, Secunderabad and Trimulgherry are all close together. Hyderabad is under the direct control of the Nizam. We drove right through here today. Hardly a white man is to be seen. It is indeed a typical Eastern town. Every house appears to have a shop attached. Some of the buildings are splendid; others are the last word in squalor.

I attended the Deccan P.G.L. this afternoon for a Lodge of Instruction, but I am bound to say they are well up to date.

The Mass Meeting last night in Trimulgherry was a most successful one. There is no doubt our Brothers vie one with another to give the G.L. Representative a good time and to make his visit an enjoyable one.

I am off tonight for a long journey to Lucknow.

As I have already explained, the great difficulty out here is getting places suitable to hold our Lodges. The P.G.L. this afternoon was held in a barrack room.

On the way back to Secunderabad this afternoon I wanted to post a few letters. It took me three quarters of an hour to get served. They had nm out of stamps. I have, I think, already explained you cannot rush the natives.

Although the days are very hot, the nights are cold and I'm glad of the topcoat.

Everyone dresses for dinner in the East. To appear in ordinary clothes is quite *infra dig*.

IN LUCKNOW

Well, I have had some experience now of Indian railways. Three nights and days in a train is enough to satisfy the most greedy of individuals.

Here I am in Lucknow, made famous by the Mutiny. We passed Cawnpore on our way. Cawnpore is about an hour and a quarter's run from Lucknow. I have struck the latest word in hotels in India here, the "Royal."

The journey up was quite interesting. I had to change at Marmad to catch the mail to Lucknow. The chief junction, however, is Jhansi.

I was met at Lucknow by several of our Brothers. It was delightful to see such a large number of "good and true" after so long a railway journey.

I don't think I mentioned that prior to leaving Hyderabad we had a trip through the Bazaars. This is a wonderful experience. We did not pass a single white man in our travels, but we had as our guide Bro. Rees Jones, who has been in India many years and knows the ropes. We called upon Bro. Hall, who is major domo to the Nizam. Unfortunately, he was away from home, or we should have gone over the Palace. The Nizam owns all the railways in this



PRESENTED TO BRG. W. H. ROSS, R.O.H., BY THE OFFICERS AND BRETHREN OF THE "TIGER"
 LODGE, No. 5926, G.L.E., KHAT, on the occasion of his visit on December 5th, 1927.



OUR SPLENDID MOTOR DRIVEN during
 our stay at Rawal Pindi.



"BILLY," WITH HBD. FIELDSHOUSE, our
 Host during our stay at Peshawar.



WITH THE P.G.P., OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF SOUTHERN INDIA.
Taken at Poona.



THE OFFICERS OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF NORTHERN INDIA (QUETTA). On the occasion of the Visit to India of Bro. W. H. Ross, B.O.H., Grand Secretary, December, 1927.

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part. Might have managed a slight "sub" for Grove House had I seen him.

I have had a splendid treat today in Lucknow in visiting the Presidency, it is left just as it was after the Mutiny. We saw the room where Sir H. Havelock was killed, and his monument; also the cellar where 400 women and children existed for nine months. It must have been terrible. It is impossible to describe this place, but I have endeavoured to get some photos for insertion.

We have this afternoon visited one of the largest mosques in the world. As a matter of fact, Lucknow is a wonderful city.

Tonight I am addressing a Mass Meeting, and tomorrow (Sunday) opening a new Provincial Grand Lodge.

Just received a wire from the Viceroy of India, granting me an interview. Lord Irwin is a member of the Order. This is a signal honour.

We had quite a good meeting of our members last night in Lucknow. The Sir Redvers Buller Lodge has just arrived here from Quetta, a very fine Lodge too, and will undoubtedly be a great acquisition to Lucknow.

We are this morning (Sunday) having a photo taken, after which I am opening the new P.G.L. of Lucknow and district.

Tonight I am going on to Meerut, leaving Lucknow at 10.10 p.m. and arriving at Meerut at 3.20 tomorrow afternoon. Quite a short journey. Then on to Delhi to see the Viceroy.

By the way, the time in India is upon the twenty four hour system; that is, two o'clock morning would be fourteen, etc. Rather a nuisance until one gets used to it.

Bro. H. E. Stanford, C.P., has been most kind during my stay here, and I cannot thank him sufficiently for all he has done.

I hope the snaps I am taking turn out all right. Mrs. Rose vows I am the "World's Worst Snapshotter" (and I think she is right).

I have experienced my first discomfort travelling on the Indian railway. We could not book a First from Lucknow *en route* to Meerut, so engaged for a reservation on a Second; but Indians are no respecters of persons, and when we got to our carriage it was packed. Seeing this was ten o'clock at night, and I had to travel all night, things looked ominous. Fortunately, there was someone in the same boat as myself, and he made things hum somewhat. Anyhow, things turned out better than anticipated. On changing at Harpur for Meerut I got into a carriage with a Corporal of the R.A., and what a small world this is! He came right over and gave me the grip and welcomed me into his district. I am very indebted to him, too, for his kindness in looking after me. We arrived in Meerut at 10.20. Just twelve hours' journey; but twelve hours is quite a short journey to me now!

TO MEET THE VICEROY

I have a meeting tonight in Meerut. On in the morning at 9.30 to Ambala, arriving in the afternoon, then on the following morning to Lahore to meet Bro. Maxfield, K.O.M., who is accompanying me to Delhi, where I am meeting the Viceroy to convey to him the fraternal greetings from our brethren at home.

THE LAND OF MYSTERY AND CHARM

I walked in today to get some lunch at the Royal Hotel, and who should be there but Captain and Mrs. Hancock, some friends I met on the Rajputani. Captain Hancock has given me some splendid tips. He knows his India inside out.

It is wonderful really to see our Lodges in these outlying places of the Empire, right in the heart of India, but the same principles, the same love for the Order, perhaps more so, as we have at home. If any member thinks the Order is not worth while, let him come out here and sample Buffaloism in India. He would have an eye opener.

We had a splendid meeting in Meerut. I was delighted to meet Bro. Fear, K.O.M., P.P.G.P. Salisbury, in Meerut; also Mrs. Fear. He desires kind remembrances to his many friends in Salisbury.

There are many good Brothers here. Snowball was an ideal W.P., and the Secretary is a good one. They have no early closing for Lodges in India. I left this Lodge at 12.30.

Arrived this afternoon at Ambala, and what a splendid crowd to meet me in, led by Bro. Staff Sergeant Matthews. This looks like being a "gluepot." The general kindness extended is wonderful. There is a Lodge of Instruction tonight at 10.30 to 11, and Lodge tomorrow. All our members here are most anxious to work up to date and in uniformity.

My word, I am having some travelling! Left Ambala after a real good time, thanks to Bro. Matthews, the Secretary, the W.P., and others. Had a very enthusiastic meeting here, too.

Went on to Lahore to meet Bro. E. Maxfield, K.O.M., P.G. Secy., Northern India, who is kindly travelling round

Northern India with me. On arrival at Lahore at 6.45 after travelling from 11 o'clock a.m., received the news that I had to meet the Viceroy next day at 2.15. This meant catching another train straight away for Delhi.

A TALK WITH THE VICEROY

We arrived here about 8 o'clock in the morning, very tired. Well, I duly met His Excellency the Viceroy, Bro. Lord Irwin. He gave me a very cordial reception. I conveyed to him the best wishes from his Brother Buffs. He said he was delighted to meet someone straight from Yorkshire, his home, and asked me to convey to his many friends his good wishes and kind thoughts. I really was very charmed with His Lordship, and the interview I hope will do a deal of good to our Lodges and brethren in India. The Viceroy said he was very proud of being a member and promised the next time he was in England to go over Grove House, of which he had heard so much. I was really lucky to have had nearly half an hour with His Lordship. Many of the very exalted were waiting to see him.

WONDERFUL DEHLI!

Delhi, the capital of India, is a very wonderful place. Its buildings, bazaars, and scenery are well worth visiting. We leave here tomorrow for Peshawar. This is another two days' and nights' travelling, but one has such a reception at the end of these journeys that they are amply repaid. This is the third of December, but the sun is shining brilliantly; as a fact, I have not seen a drop of rain since I left home. If we can spare the time tomorrow, I am anxious to see *the* sight of India, the Taj Mahal.



IN THE COPPERSMITHS' BAZAAR.
A lot similar to this seen in Delhi.



IN THE GARDENS AT LUCKNOW.



You can see what the GRAND SECRETARY had to face.



THE P.O. B. AND P.O. SEC. OF SOUTHERN INDIA, BRO. HIGGS, K.O.M., and BRO. LAWRENCE, K.O.M., taken at Kirtree by the Grand secretary.



A FEW DATES.



A MOHAMMEDAN GIRL. We cannot see much of her.



TAJ MAHAL, AGRA.



CHATTY WALLARS.



MASHED SPORTS:
LADHA COLLEGE.
(N.W.F.)

BARANI CURVE.

"BILLY" UNDER THE BANANA TREES
AT MALIR, KARACHI.





A View of the Kyrenia Pass.



A View of Pishawar, N.W. Frontier.

THE LAND OF MYSTERY AND CHARM

Everyone says there is nothing like it in the world.

Today we have had a visit to the sights of Delhi. We visited the old Palace of the Kings, this must be the most wonderful place in the world, everything solid marble, all inlaid picked out in solid gold. The old kings no doubt did themselves well. I wish I could describe something of its beauty. We then visited the Mosque. This is the largest in the world. Perhaps I could convey some idea of its size by saying that on Prayer Day they have an audience of over twentyfive thousand. No one should miss Delhi when visiting India.

PESHAWAR TO KOHAT

We are travelling tonight at nine o'clock to Peshawar. Peshawar is the most northerly town in India, right on the frontier. I am enjoying the company of Bro. E. Maxfield, K.O.M., and it was splendid of Northern India P.G.L. to arrange for our esteemed Brother to meet and accompany me right through Northern India.

Boarding the train at Delhi at 8.30 p.m. we made ourselves comfortable for the journey, which would take us to Peshawar. The railway people at Delhi were very obliging, having reserved berths in two trains. As is usual in India, they put us in the wrong one. An argument ensued, but when a little "baksheesh" was offered, it settled all matters, and many were the "Salaams, Sahibs," etc., that we received. The journey became rather wearisome towards the end of the second day's travel, and it was pleasant to know that we had at last reached Peshawar, where the P.G. Primo, his officers, and a happy

little squad of smiling members met us, and whirled us off to the R.A.O.B. Institute. The first thing we had to do on arrival at the Institute was to promise to visit a Lodge on the following day (Sunday) at Kohat.

Together with the P.G.P., P.G. Secy., Bro. Lunn, C.P., and Bro. Maxfield, K.O.M., we travelled by motor, over the Kohat Pass to Kohat, to visit the Tirah Lodge. The journey over the Kohat Pass was simply wonderful and awe inspiring, eight thousand feet high around mountains two or three miles high, with hairpin bends. It was something that we shall not readily forget. As a fact, we ran into another car coming down on our way back, and you were nearly short of a Grand Secretary.

The Lodge in Kohat, the Tirah Air Force Lodge, is a splendid one, embracing members from the Regimental Sergeant Major down to the youngest joined recruit. I think nearly all the soldiers are Buffs, and good Buffs, too. We had some food with the Sergeant Major and his good wife, and can assure them we shall never forget their kindness. I thoroughly enjoyed my visit to the Lodge, it was worth the journey.

Arriving back in Peshawar, our next meeting took place at 7 p.m. This was an amalgamated meeting of the Lodges in Peshawar and district, and a very pleasant meeting it was indeed.

Can you at home imagine anybody getting tired of the sun? I can assure you there is still plenty of sunshine left in the world, although we are not troubled with it much at home.

What I miss is the correspondence. It would be nice at least to know what

GRAND SECRETARY'S TOUR OF INDIA.

was going on. Afraid one cannot help feeling anxious sometimes. It is impossible also to convey to our members at home the kindness extended to me by all our brethren. It is someone from *Home*, and "Home" is the only topic amongst the "Boys". They can tell you without any thought when they are due for "Blighty".

Before finishing my little account of our visit to Peshawar, I cannot help but mention the kindness and consideration shown to us by our Worthy Host, Bro. Fieldhouse, C.P. He was really very wonderful indeed, and nothing was too much trouble. We could not have been treated more kindly had we been staying at the Ritz; but then, of course, he is a Welshman, and all Welshmen are noted for their hospitality.

We left Peshawar the following morning for Nowshere. We had a splendid time here, and at the meeting had an enthusiastic audience of eighty members. Not at all bad for a small Station, eh? They gave us a real royal time, but, unfortunately, we could not stay very long as we had to leave at 8.30 in the morning for Rawal Pindi.

We arrived at Rawal Pindi (which is a noted Station in India, as it is a Station for the hills and many go there during the hot summer months) about 1 o'clock. A splendid crowd of members met us, and after a chat we were taken to our hotel, "Flashman's". This is a very large hotel. We are in Room 61. Some of the hotels here are very large and right up to date.

We attended a meeting of the Sub Council at Rawal Pindi in the evening, where we met our dear old Brother, Bro. Jenkins, K.O.M., who, I am dreadfully

sorry to say, is in hospital, and will be shortly going to England invalided. He was brought along in a car by some of our good Brothers, and his presence at the meeting was a pleasure indeed. India owes Bro. Jenkins a deep debt of gratitude for his work in connection with the Order. Bro. Jenkins will be remembered by many of our members at home, particularly in Manchester and in London. He attended Grand Lodge several times, and also Lodges in London, especially the Stanley Lodge. His home in England was in Manchester, and his garden joined that of "Freddy's" (but this was not his fault!). I do express the hope, and I know we all do, that Bro. Jenkins will be restored to health and strength. If you do meet him in England when he returns, just ask him if he knows the Stanley Lodge in London, and then you will be certain of having an hour's chat.

UP TO DATE METHODS

Following the Sub Council meeting, at which we had had a Lodge of Instruction, etc., we had a meeting of the Barter Lodge. This is undoubtedly one of the most successful Lodges in India. The meeting was held in the theatre. The Brothers were most enthusiastic. I am afraid, however, that they take very little notice of time in India. At 11 p.m. a resolution was passed that we had an hour's extension. An amendment was put before the meeting that we had two hours' extension. The resolution was withdrawn and the amendment was carried, so two hours it was. We finished the Lodge at 1.15 a.m., and then had about three miles to go home. However, it was all worth it.

LAND OF MYSTERY AND CHARM.

I might say here that we have very little to teach our Councils in India. They appear to be "bang up to date" in procedure.

The next morning we had to journey to Sialkot, and the members there treated us most kindly. A sumptuous dinner was held, and the amalgamated meeting of the three Lodges was a great success, and was, I am sure, enjoyed by everyone. We met here Bro. Sergt. Cartwright, C.P., who, I think, claimed some relationship with our esteemed Grand Primo. All I know is, that Bro. Cartwright laid himself out to give us a real good time, not only in connection with the dinner, but also with the amalgamated meeting, which, as I mentioned, was a wonderful success. The enthusiasm was splendid, and it has been delightful all the way through to note the wonderful love the whole of our members have for the Order. As a matter of fact, two thirds of the members in India have been initiated in our various Lodges there, and one cannot refrain from saying that when these members arrive home they become a splendid asset to the Lodge or Lodges they attach themselves to.

I also had the pleasure here of interviewing the C.O. of the Durham L.I. Regt., also the Colonel of the 4/7th Dragoon Guards. I am afraid some little misunderstanding had taken place in connection with the work of the Order and what the Order stood for. I think I was able to smooth matters over considerably. As a matter of fact, one of the C.O.'s assured me on leaving that if there was any possible thing he could do on behalf of the Order he would be only too pleased to do it, and to allow his men every facility for attending the

Lodges. I think a great amount of good was done by these interviews.

A VERY DA(R)K BUNGALOW

We had been staying at a Dak Bungalow here. I do not think the caretaker of the bungalow was used to any of his guests being out late, because we found when we returned in the small hours of the morning that they had all gone to bed and locked everything up. Whilst this perhaps is advisable sometimes, we did not look at it from that point when we were on the other side of the door. Anyhow, we had to go over to the native quarter and knock someone up, and after a lot of persuasion that we were not there for a bad purpose, we managed to get hold of the man who held the keys, and I think it was a good job really that I did not understand Hindustani, for if he was not making use of bad language then I'm a Dutchman!

Having got a trifle "fed up" with travelling by train, arrangements were made to proceed from Sialkot to Lahore by motor, and this was a great and welcome change. On arrival, we were met by Bro. Andrews, C.P., and several of the members, and we were soon settled down at a very fine hotel. We had about two hours to spare to change and generally clean up, when we were whirled away to attend the Lodge meeting of the Silver Gun and O'Dwyer Lodges at 4 p.m. I should like to mention that the distance from Lahore, where we were staying, to the Lodges was about 8½ miles, so you can tell we had some travelling to do by motor to and from the hotel to the Lodge house. We had a very excellent meeting, starting, as mentioned, at 4 o'clock. We



BUNDFALL, POONA.



THE CENOTAPH, POONA.

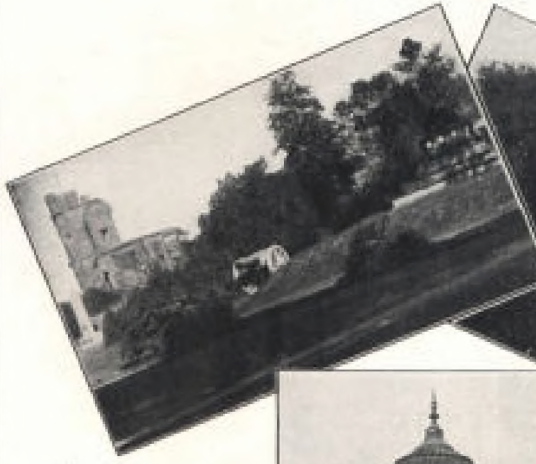


CROCODILES JUST OUTSIDE KARACHE. "BILLY" quite enjoyed looking at these.

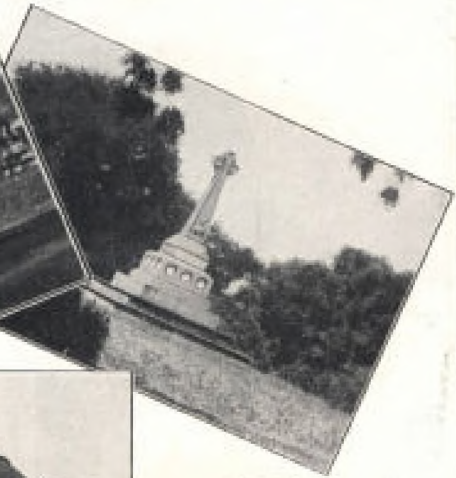


"BILLY" READY FOR A TRIP ACROSS THE SAND DESERT. "Max" said: "Look this way!"

VIEWS OF LUCKNOW.



THE RESIDENCY,
LUCKNOW.



78TH HIGHLANDERS'
MEMORIAL,
LUCKNOW.



NAWAB SADAT,
ALI KHAN'S TOMB,

LUCKNOW.



DILGUSHA, LUCKNOW.



RAZMAK ROAD, between Razmak and Razak, Waziristan.



RAZMAK CAMP, N.W. FRONTIER.



THE ANGEL OF CAWNPUR WELL.



QUEEN VICTORIA'S MEMORIAL, LUCKNOW.



THE JAMA MASJID, DELHI. THE LARGEST MOSQUE IN THE WORLD.

GRAND SECRETARY'S TOUR OF INDIA.

remained in the Lodge room until 7.30, when we went back again to Lahore to partake of a very fine banquet the members had arranged, after which we returned to the Lodge again and continued a very wonderful and pleasant evening until 12 o'clock midnight.

SUCCESS OF AUTOGRAPHIC SCHEME

We had the pleasure here of meeting Bro. Andrews, C.P. Bro. Andrews is an indefatigable member, and he was the promoter of the Indian Autographic Scheme. I had the pleasure of receiving from Bro. Andrews a cheque for £65, being money collected up to that time for Grove House from the Autographic Scheme mentioned. Other amounts have been promised, amounting to another £40, and Bro. Andrews I know will be delighted to send me the balance of money up to 100 guineas that he has set himself out to collect. This is really wonderful work. As a matter of fact, I am sure that as a result of my visit to India it will mean £500 towards our charities.

I also have to draw special attention, and to convey our hearty thanks, to the members responsible for the wonderful decorations in the Lodge room. As a matter of fact, some of the Lodge rooms in India are really splendid, not that they are perhaps decorated as we at home are used to seeing our Lodge rooms sometimes, but the members make up for this in their personal efforts to make the Lodge room look as charming as possible, and they are very successful too.

During the evening I received a presentation of a pair of handsome

inlaid tables. These were given me specially for presentation to Mrs. Rose. (I have to tell the members at Lahore that she very much appreciates their kindness in sending this splendid gift to her).

We were very loath to leave Lahore, but what can one do with about twenty stalwart soldiers coming to see one safely off the premises? There is not the slightest chance of dodging them. You have a train to catch, and they see that you catch it all right; but still, they were wonderfully nice boys, and their generosity appealed to me in many directions. I want all the members in India to rally round Bro. Andrews, and those who have not subscribed to the Autographic Scheme, to do so. I am sure Bro. Andrews will be a proud man indeed when he makes his collection up to the 100 guineas that he has set out to get.

Well, we had to get along, and caught the train to Ferozopore to attend the Thistle Lodge. here again a very fine dinner was arranged, and our thanks are extended to the Committee for their splendid arrangements, and I want to extend to the members of the Thistle Lodge our best thanks for their kind and splendid hospitality, and for their enthusiasm for the Order.

* * *

I want to break off here to say that the account I have been writing of my journey has got right on top of me, and I am afraid it will be impossible for me to keep anything like a correct record in view of the heavy work entailed in travelling and addressing so many Lodges. My dear friend, Bro. Maxfield,

THE LAND OF MYSTERY AND CHARM.

K.O.M., had been so wonderfully good that I ventured to ask him if he would mind continuing the account of the journey and places visited. He said it would be a pleasure to do this for me, and therefore from now on up to my taking the boat at Karachi, the "copy" is being continued by Bro. Maxfield.

* * *

BRO. MAXFIELD CONTINUES THE STORY
My dear Readers,

Our esteemed "Billy" has asked me to assist him in connection with keeping a continuous report of his travelling in India, and it is quite a pleasure for me to do anything possible for him. He tells me that he has got his "copy" as far as the meeting at Ferozopore, where we attended the Thistle Lodge. I should like to say that we had very little time in Ferozopore. We did not finish our meeting until about 12.30. We then had to motor back to the Dak Bungalow, where we were staying, and I am afraid our rest time was rather limited as we had to get up at 4 am. to catch the train back to Lahore, where we were to catch the Lahore Quetta Mail. Great was our consternation when we found we were in the wrong train! There was only one thing to be done, and that was to alight at Raswind and wait for our train there; but this was not all. We had left our luggage at Lahore the previous day, and telegrams were flying in galore, asking the wonderful officials of the railway to put our luggage in the compartments reserved for us. Had we not been travelling first class, we should have had to go on to Quetta without any kit, but it was a relief to see all our luggage O.K. when the train arrived, and we then

boarded the train *en route* for Quetta. It was a very tiring and dusty ride, travelling over the Sind Desert is never a pleasant journey. The most interesting part was from Sibi to Quetta; the mountain scenery is really magnificent. The train journey is very slow, owing to the continuous climb to a height of 5,800 feet which was reached at Kolpur, about half an hour's ride from Quetta.

On arrival at Quetta, all the G.A. officers and Primo's were presented to the Grand Secretary, after which we were taken by motor to the hotel. At 8 p.m. a reception dinner was held, where eighteen G.A. officers of Northern India sat down with the Grand Secretary to a magnificent dinner, which came to a close about 11 p.m.

The next day the amalgamated meeting was held. A splendid meeting it was, and the address given by "Billy" was wonderful and stirred the hearts of every member assembled. It came to a close at 11 p.m.

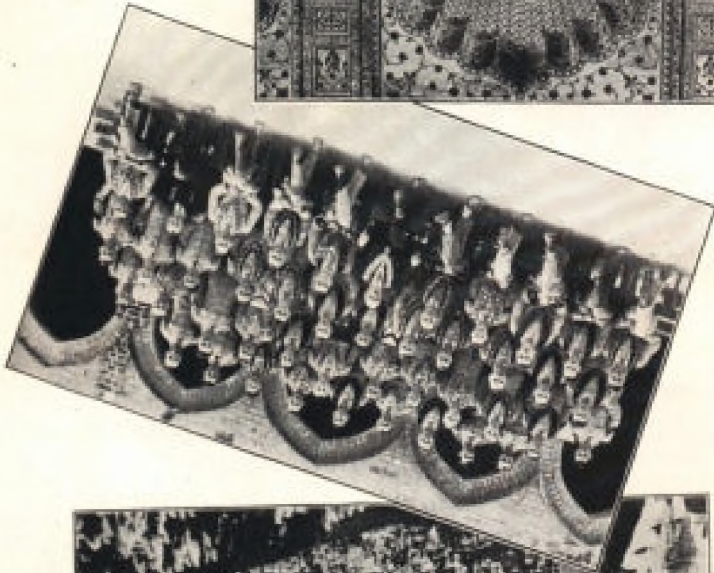
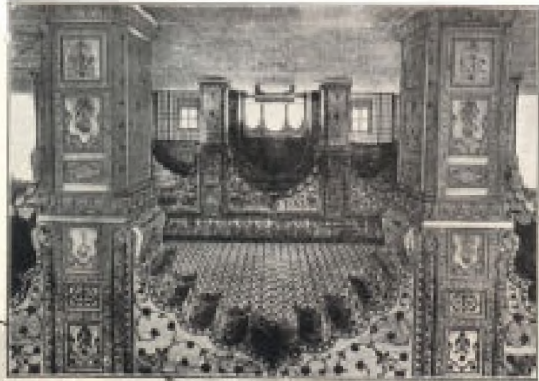
The following day was a very busy one. A photograph was taken at 4 p.m. The Provincial Certifying Council was opened immediately afterwards, and, following this, the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting was held, and the Grand Secretary installed the P.G.P. for 1928. The installation was carried out in a wonderful manner. After the P.G.L. was closed, a banquet was held in honour of the Grand Secretary's visit to Quetta, and a brilliant function it turned out to be. It opened by the Regimental Band, under the conductorship of Bro. Wilfred W. Sayer, Bandmaster, playing "Grove House March," which was heartily encored. After the repast, as per the following menu:—

Top—
 JOHN HAYES PHOTO ENGRAVER,
 225 N. MICHIGAN, DETROIT.

Center—
 "HILLY" OF GOOD COMPANY
 OF LONDON,
 OPPOSED A NEW F.L.C. DETROIT.

Bottom—
 THOMAS HOOK, PHOTO ENGRAVER,
 DETROIT.

VIEWS OF DELHI.





END VIEW OF THE ARSENAL ROAD, POONA.

END VIEW OF THE ARSENAL ROAD, POONA.



VIEW OF VICTORIA GARDENS, POONA.

GRAND SECRETARY'S TOUR OF INDIA.

HORS D'OEUVRES

"The first of foundation"

SOUP

(Kar Mahomed) (Quetta's Best)

"United with a purpose"

FISH

(Filets de Saumon, Sauce a la Tartare)

"From the sands of the sea"

ENTREES

Chicken Vol-au-Vent Financiere

Mutton Cutlets and French Beans

"Worthy of admission to the Brotherhood"

JOINT

Roast Beef, Green Peas, Roast

Potatoes

"Highly prized amongst Buffaloes"

SAVOURY

Iced Asparagus and Mayonnaise

Sauce

"The intricate windings"

PUDDING

Plum Pudding and Brandy Sauce

"I need not dilate upon its excellence"

CHEESE

COFFEE

"recently disturbed"

"To assist his rising"

there followed toasts and a concert, and the presentation of a solid silver tea service, suitably engraved, in commemoration of the Grand Secretary's visit to Northern India.

CHAired!

The address given by our beloved "Billy" was again a stirring one, and Bro. Maxfield, K.O.M., suitably replied. There were shouts of "Grand Old Man!" Then the Brothers let themselves go, and "Billy" was carried shoulder high around the large hall to the tune and singing of "He's a jolly good fellow". He was lucky to get away safe! It was really a wonderful night, and it will live long in the memory of all who were present.

The next day was spent at the Christmas party given to the children. A cinema show was first given, then followed a splendid tea, and "musical chairs" were not forgotten, and then came the giving away of toys from the Christmas tree by Father Christmas. You ought to have seen dear "Billy" amongst the children! He was so happy with them. It all came to a close too soon, but Quetta will always remain long in "Billy's" memory because of the time the members gave him.

THE PROGRAMME AT QUETTA

To give some idea of the arrangements that were made in connection with the visit of the Grand Secretary to our various G.A.'s, I give below a copy of the circular giving particulars of what the Grand Secretary had to do during his four days' stay at Quetta, issued to the whole of the members so far as Quetta was concerned :—

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS AND GENERAL INFORMATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE VISIT OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

Tuesday,	4.30 p.m.	Arrives in Quetta.
18th.		To be met at the Station by G.A. officers and as many members as possible. The Grand Secretary will be introduced to all present and then accompanied to his hotel—"The Stanyon".
	8 p.m.	Dinner for G.A. officers and C.P.'s. Dress optional, but as many as possible should wear dinner dress.
Wednesday	Morning.	Inspect books.
14th.	Afternoon.	Visits round Quetta. Will probably visit the Heart of Baluchistan Lodge room.
	6 p.m. to 11 p.m.	Amalgamated Lodge meeting.

THE LAND OF MYSTERY AND CHARM

		All Dispensations and Registration books to be there. All Lodges should have Agendas.
Thursday, 15th.	Morning.	Inspect books.
	Afternoon.	Free to visit places of interest round about Quetta.
	4 p.m.	Photo to be taken of P.G.L. officers.
	4.30 p.m.	P.G.L. opens.
	6.30 p.m.	Installation Ceremony.
	8 p.m.	P.G.L. closes.
	8.15 p.m.	Amalgamated dinner commences, during which the Grand Secretary will be presented with a souvenir of his visit.
Friday 16th.	Morning.	Inspect books.
	Afternoon.	
	3.15 p.m.	Pictures.
	4.30 p.m.	Tea.
	5.15 p.m.	Christmas tree.
	5.45 p.m.	Grand Secretary leaves Pelliers and returns to hotel.
	6.30 p.m.	Leaves hotel for station to catch the Karachi Mall. As many Brothers as possible should be present to see the Grand Secretary off.

I should like to mention, too, that this was the first time during his round of visits that the Grand Secretary had had any opportunity of getting any washing done. I am afraid we worked him rather too hard, but he was so willing that we don't think he had any objection to helping us in any possible direction.

And now on again, leaving Quetta behind with fond memories of the wonderful time we had there, and all the happy members of our Lodges in Quetta. "Cheerio, Quetta!" "Cheerio, 'Billy,' and Good Luck and God bless you!" were the wishes as the train left Quetta for Karachi, and so "Billy" and "Max" set off to Karachi and Hyderabad, Sind. The last we heard as the train drew out of the station was three rousing cheers for dear "Billy".

ALL THROUGH THE NIGHT

We journeyed during the long night and until 1.30 p.m. the following day, which brought us to Hyderabad, Sind, where we were met by the members of the Sub Council, and Bro. Capt. Smith, C.P., who had journeyed by air from Karachi. Hyderabad Sind, is the city of ventilation. Every building has a huge structure on the top of the roof to allow the air to get through during the sweltering heat. The journey across the desert is always a tiring one, owing to the awful amount of dust and sand. We had a very nice Tiffin, and then we were taken to our abode of residence during our visit. Bro. Flude, C.P., who put us up, was really an excellent Host, simply all kindness.

The meeting of the Light of the East Lodge was a very pleasant one indeed, and the address given by "Billy" was again one of great excellence, and was very instructive to all present. After the closing of the Lodge, the remainder of the evening was devoted to harmony. A very excellent programme had been arranged, and one wondered how so many artistes were to be found in such a place as Hyderabad: but they have them, and all I can say is that they are very lucky. A very pleasant evening came to a close at midnight.

Next day we had to get ready to proceed to Karachi, and we were accompanied by Bro. Capt. Smith, C.P. This was only a short journey, but the Grand Secretary had a sleep, and "Smithy" and "Max" passed the time away by playing pontoon for char annas. We were met at Karachi by a few good members of the Astral Lodge, and were then taken to our hotel.

GRAND SECRETARY'S TOUR OF INDIA.

The Grand Secretary attended a meeting of the Sub Certifying Council in the evening. On the 20th, at the Lodge meeting, the Grand Secretary delivered an address which gave such an insight into the noble proportions of the work of the Order that it must have been an education to all old members as well as the new who were present.

On the Wednesday afternoon a Children's Christmas Party was held, at which the Grand Secretary was present, and in the evening a Social, to which all "Buffesses" were invited to be presented to our "Chief".

On the Thursday our Grand Secretary left Karachi for Bombay, and so closed what was for all Astralites the most memorable event in the Lodge since its opening.

The Reception Committee, Bros. Smith, Lamb and Wood, were responsible for entertaining the Grand Secretary during his visit, and he was taken sightseeing during the mornings, and my only hope is that he will not forget the crocodiles at Mugga pir, or that camel ride!

In conclusion, the thanks of all the members of the Lodge are extended to the Grand Secretary for the tremendous "boost" given to the Lodges in India by his visit; also the Grand Lodge for permitting him to undertake the work. I trust that the results of his visit will exceed the expectations of those responsible for the invitation, and that in the future, when the Imperial Airways have established the Indian air route, we shall have a visit from other Grand Lodge officers.

The Astral Lodge extend best wishes for the future prosperity of our Order, its Lodges and members.

THE GRAND SECRETARY SUMS UP

We duly left Karachi by B.I. boat *Valera*, joining at Bombay the P. & O. *Ranpura*, a splendid boat, 16,000 tons, on Christmas Eve. There were hardly any passengers on board, the reason, probably, being that there is a transhipment at Aden. Christmas Day was very quiet. One's thoughts naturally went homewards, and one wondered what all the folk were doing.

I am writing this on Christmas Day, and perhaps a general summary of my journey will be found interesting.

P. & O. s.s. *Ranpura*.

Christmas Day Dinner

Sunday December 25th, 1927

SOUPS

Clear—Royal

Thick—Mulligatawny

FISH

Turbot Hollandaise

JOINTS

Roast Sirloin of Beef

Roast Haunch of Mutton

ENTREES

Fillet of Beef Béarnaise

Asparagus Spitzbergen

POULTRY

Roast Turkey Salad

VEGETABLES

Cauliflower

Potatoes—Boiled and Roast

SWEETS

Xmas Pudding Peach Melba

SAVOURY

Cheese Straws

COLD BUFFET

York Ham. Boar's Head. Terrine of Pheasant.

DESSERT

COFFEE

THE LAND OF MYSTERY AND CHARM.

There is no doubt at all the visit has been a most useful one, and it has undoubtedly done a deal of good. The Lodges and members have done splendidly in making the visit possible. Northern India have been magnificent, but all have done their best, and I thank them heartily.

UNSELFISH MEMBERS OF INDIA

One would perhaps imagine that being so far away from home the work in the Lodges would be somewhat behind the times, but this is not so. I was astonished and delighted to find they were practically up to date. As a fact, they could give points to many of our Lodges at home. The brethren are enthusiastic. They love the Order, and nothing is too much trouble if they think they can in any way assist Grand Lodge. They pay their dues willingly, although they know it is unlikely that any of them will reap any benefit. They certainly give some of us a lesson in unselfishness.

I am pleased to say they have responded splendidly to our appeal for Grove House. One cheque alone was for £65, being the result of the Autographic Scheme of Bro. Andrews, C.P., of Lahore. This book has been around all the Lodges in India, each member signing his name for a certain amount. We shall, I know, realize over £100 by this Scheme, and all credit is due to Bro. Andrews who has worked so hard to make it a success.

Other sums are coming along, and with what has been already sent and promised, Grove House will benefit to the extent of £500 as a result of my visit. Thank you, India!

Our brethren in India will be pleased to know that it has been decided to devote this money for a playroom, to be known as the "Indian Playroom".

BOUNDARIES TO BE RE-ARRANGED

Naturally, following the rapid progress that has taken place in recent years, there are one or two things that I think could be improved. The first thing required is a re-arrangement of boundaries. The procedure has been that if a Lodge opened, say under Southern India, no matter what Station they were moved to subsequently, they would still remain under that jurisdiction. This, of course, meant that I found Lodges perhaps five days' journey away from their G.A. It is suggested marking out new boundaries. I opened a new G.A. at Lucknow; a new one is to be opened at Sialkot, and another, probably, at Karachi. Any Lodge now removing into these and the present boundaries will, of course, be placed under their jurisdiction. I think this will be welcomed by every Lodge in India.

A CENTRAL DISTRIBUTING OFFICE

There is also some dissatisfaction at the terrible costs of stationery and jewels, particularly the latter, on account of duty. As an instance: a supply of Indian jewels recently arrived, and the duty was Rs. 70—about double the price paid for the jewels. A heavy duty is also charged on all goods sent from England. To obviate this, I am suggesting a Central Office in India, where we can send all our stationery and jewels in bulk, at a much cheaper rate, and all orders required will be sent to the Central Office for local delivery.

WAZIRISTAN, INDIA. N.W.F.P.



"SCHOOLBOY" OLIVER CALLOWAY soliciting and collecting D's for Buffalo charities on Afghan Frontier. Reading from left to right—Back Row—Bros. HADCLIFFS, C.P., BROS. SULLISS, PETERSENWICK, SMITH and FOSTER. Front Row—Bros. HOLLOWAY, FITE, CHAMBER and HATZER.



THE DOG, "GITCOCK," in the lower photo attends Lodge regularly, pays his registration fee regularly, and behaves with decorum. (The other dog, in the background, judging from his attitude and expression, seems to have been blackballed!)

ASTRAL LODGE, INDIA.



SIND DESERT, KARACHI, INDIA. — No Ties or car here.



ASTRAL LODGE, INDIA.

The Grand Secretary visited this splendid Lodge while in India.

GRAND SECRETARY'S TOUR OF INDIA.

It is simply impossible adequately to thank Bro. E. Maxfield, K.O.M., the P.G. Secretary of Northern India, for his kindness to me during my Tour. He met me at Lahore and accompanied me during the whole of the remainder of my visit, even coming to Karachi, from where I sailed. His knowledge of the country was naturally a great help. Bro. Maxfield is removing from Quetta to Lucknow, and I am recommending him for the appointment of Central Grand Secretary of India, firstly because he is thoroughly qualified, and secondly because he is staying in the country about another eight years, and therefore avoiding the disadvantage of continual changes.

It would be impossible to have a Grand Lodge in India for obvious reasons, one being the continual changes, but my opinion is that the Central Office will be a boon to the whole of India.

I have also to convey my thanks to Southern India for sending their P.G.P., Bro. Lawrence, K.O.M., and the P.G. Secretary, Bro. Hinge, K.O.M., to meet me in at Bombay. They entertained me at night, and saw me safely in Poona the next morning. Bro. Hinge also came along to Bombay to see me off by the *Ranpura*.

The Deccan Province also sent their P.G. Secretary, Bro. J. Tee, to meet me at Wadi, and a welcome sight he was. I had to change here in the middle of the night for Secunderabad; he was splendid. The native Guard had lost my baggage at Wadi, and a most remarkable incident took place. I was arguing the point with the Guard, when someone came up saying, "Hello, Knight Rose". I was pleased, to say the

least of it, and it turned out he was a Knight of the Order and was the relief Guard of the train to take me to Secunderabad. You can imagine my relief. All my troubles were at an end. He soon found the missing bags, and all was merry and bright. I could go on *ad lib.* quoting the many kindnesses I received. All were so anxious to do honour to the Representative of Grand Lodge.

A MISSIONARY EFFORT

No one can deny that a missionary effort like this must broaden the general aspect of the whole of the Order. It has certainly brought the members in India and at home in closer touch one with another. The great majority of members in India were initiated abroad, and the Grand Lodge was only a name, but what a cheer went up when I conveyed to them the "Hands across the Sea" message from our members at home! They take the Order very seriously in India. Let us at home try to prove worthy of their confidence.

There is a Lodge stationed in Kohat. To get here you have to cross ten miles of tribal territory belonging to Afghanistan. Truly an outpost of the Empire. Every man you meet is armed, and by their appearance one could quite expect a stray bullet coming one's way!

The general procedure during my visit was: a Committee met me at the station and whirled me to my hotel, generally to meet many of the Brothers for a quiet (?) talk, and to reply to heaps of questions they had evidently prepared.

It is impossible to individualize when all were so kind, but to the members throughout India who looked after me,

AMALGAMATED MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SILVER GUN LODGE, No. 3034, AND O'DWYER LODGE, No. 2355, LAGOS, NIGERIA,
on the occasion of the visit of Bro. W. H. ROSE, R.O.H., Grand Secretary, England, Saturday, 16th December, 1937.



Back Row (standing)—Bro. J. T. WATTS, E. ASHMAN, F. CROFT, A. G. GIBSON, F. J. SOUTHERN, A. WATSON, J. WARRIN, R. ELLIOT.
Second Row (standing)—Bro. F. CLIFF, H. J. HASKETT, C. E. LINDSAY, W. G. PELLING, J. KINGSLEY, J. HASKETT, S. J. MOY, N. STEWART, J. MIMBLE, B. ATTRELL,
E. S. PITT, F. T. DEAL, C.P.
First Row (standing)—Bro. G. SCOTLAND, W. A. HUNT, J. PARRY, E. A. BRIDMAN, A. W. MERRILL, C.P., L. NICHOLSON, E. L. AYRE, F. T. BASTIN, S. C. STUBBS,
W. ENGLAND, F. J. CHANDLER, C. H. DRAGON.
Seated—Bro. A. BICE, C.P., J. GOSWELL, C.P., R. D. ANDREWS, C.P., H. CARTWRIGHT, C.P., N. J. LINDSAY, C.P., W. H. ROSE, R.O.H., Grd. Secy., Eng.,
E. HAYFIELD, R.O.M., J. M. PUTTON, C.P., C. H. ELFORD, C.P., HOLLOWAY, C.P., C. G. TORRES.



TAKING THE MORNING AIR.
BROD, MASON, C.P., and ALLEN, C.P.,
have a chat with the milkman.

As you will realize, Bro, Mason has a
strong belief in the milkman's
milk. He says it is not towards
them they had a very successful evening
the night before.

(These are the methods used in India.
The milk is sweet.—E.L.)



HERE THEY ARE: A HAPPY GROUP
OF THE WILKINSON LOCAL INDIANS.
The men are ready for anything:
they are going on a picnic to Lard
Khan and are taking their rifles for
protection, as they never know the
situation. They had talked the British
soldiers out! I have had some
difficulties, but I have had some
although my good books protected
me probably!—E.L.)



FOUR STRAGGERS OF THE THUNDER
LOANS, INDIA.

BRO. A. LAMBERT, C.P., W. A.
ROGERS, C.P., A. R. BUSHBY,
C.P., and A. E. MASON, C.P.
(A happy crowd, are they not?—E.L.)



HERE YOU HAVE A GROUP OF AMERICANS.
BRO. A. LAMBERT, C.P., F.F.O.A.H. (U.S.).
Yes, he is watching you and wondering how
many it's he can collect from you for his
grand (overseas) collection. (Bro. Mason's
Pious)

(A proper introduction.—E.L.)

THE LAND OF MYSTERY AND CHARM.

I extend my grateful thanks. Naturally, heaps of photographs have been taken, and many will be shown in this Booklet or the Journal. It was a special request to have this little report in book form, as a memento of a wonderful time.

I have travelled thousands of miles; it has not been a joy run, as one can believe when I say we travelled in fourteen days over two thousand miles, and addressed thirteen meetings. I never unpacked my bags (not having time) until I arrived in Quetta, four weeks after arrival in India. But it was all worth it. All I hope is there will be some lasting benefit to the "Boys" it was my good fortune to meet.

As we go to press we have received a letter from Bro. E. Maxfield, K.O.M., embodying the result of the recommendations and suggestions made by the Grand Secretary during his visit. We do not think we can do better than put this in *in extenso*.

LETTER BY BRO. E. MAXFIELD, K.O.M.,
WHICH IS BEING DISTRIBUTED BY THE
EXPRESS WISH OF BRO. W. H. ROSE,
R.O.H., GRAND SECRETARY

The following are points which were discussed and which Bro. W. H. Rose, R.O.H., Grand Secretary, has asked me to put into letter form and to submit a copy to Provincial Grand Lodges and Lodges in India, as a result of his recent Indian tour.

I. GOVERNING AUTHORITIES.

The Grand Secretary states that Lodges are too scattered and are much too far away from their G.A.; in many cases this could be avoided. It appears that a Lodge which came under a G.A. on its inauguration, and Minor Lodges which

have been opened in a station or near to a G.A. which they have come under the jurisdiction of, and have later left for a station perhaps two or three days' train journey, are still, and want to remain, under the same G.A. as they were first under, when they might come under another G.A. which is within a few hours' journey from it. The Grand Secretary wishes it to be generally known that when Lodges move away from their present G.A., and are nearer to another G.A., that they must come under the jurisdiction of the G.A. which is nearest to them. During his stay in Quetta a map of India was procured, and boundaries have been marked off, allotting districts, which means that several new G.A.'s will be opened in the near future. This is being brought before the body of the Grand Lodge, and will be sent to India to all G.A.'s for their approval and returned to Grand Lodge, after which the new G.A.'s will be opened. This will result in some of the G.A.'s at present functioning either losing or gaining Lodges.

But I feel sure that G.A.'s will part with a Lodge or Lodges without bearing any selfish feeling of having to part with them, well knowing that the Lodges will be near their G.A. and will be able to take part in the administration of the same. As the situation stands at present, many Lodges are days' journeys from their G.A., and do not even have the opportunity of ever attending, and have no earthly possible chance of ever attaining a P.G.L. office; and it does not appear to be acting in fairness to those hard working members who are so many miles away from a G.A., and who never have the opportunity of ever only entering or participating in the administration of their G.A. I am open to criticism and comment, and shall be only too pleased to receive suggestions, so that nothing

GRAND SECRETARY'S TOUR OF INDIA.

may be brought into actual being without everyone concerned having a chance of expressing his opinion for the betterment of Buffaloinism in India, and for the better administration of G.A.'s, and especially for the betterment of the Minor Lodges. Members of a G.A. should always try and devote their work for the improvement of our Minor Lodges, because we are fortunate in being in a station where we can hold a P.G.L. office and attend all meetings. We should also let our thoughts go out to the members of our Minor Lodges, who are doing equally as good a work as we are doing as G.A. officers, but they have not the same opportunity as we perhaps have.

Cases are apparently frequent where members obtain a G.A. office and could also attend Minor Lodges in the station, but yet it occurs that as long as they attend the P.G.L. that is all that is expected of them. This then could be remedied by them by occasionally attending Lodges as visiting members, for I cannot see where a member who seldom visits a Minor Lodge (especially I am referring to India) has any right or can express his views if cases arise or discussions come forward. Yet I have seen cases come forward, and G.A. officers who perhaps never enter a Minor Lodge get up and give their views on the subject. It is not fair to the G.A., and particularly unfair to a Minor Lodge, when a ruling is perhaps given by members who know nothing about the Lodge or have never attended it.

As G.A. officers it becomes our duty to attend Minor Lodges to get used to the members and the workings and administration of the Minor Lodges, and thus give members of the Minor Lodges that confidence in their G.A. officers which is always essential to a smoothly run G.A.

2. ACCOUNTS.

The Grand Secretary has noticed that in some cases accounts are not kept so well as they might be; perhaps this is due to a young member being elected Treasurer, and for the sake of older members failing to give a little advice, or a helping hand, he may perhaps try to carry on in his own way, quite correctly, admitted, but sometimes accounts become very complicated through this oversight. The Grand Secretary hopes that when Lodges proceed to elect a Treasurer, they will always elect a member, if possible, with a knowledge of keeping accounts. The same applies to electing Auditors. On some occasions members are elected Auditors and have not the faintest idea of accounts, and could not tell if they are correct or wrong, but sign as correct simply because they have been elected Auditors; it is not fair to the Lodge or to the member himself. The Grand Secretary has asked me to point this out for future guidance in election of Auditors.

Cases were found where Lodges are running the Bar Account with the Lodge funds, and the Grand Secretary states that Lodges who are following this procedure must at once cease, and that the accounts must be separate, and P.G.L. Book Examiners are requested to note this for their inspection of Minor Lodge books on examination of same.

8. CEREMONIES.

The Grand Secretary noticed that in some Lodges, especially during the First Degree or Initiation Ceremony, that little additions are made, and he desires that only the Ceremony as laid down shall be read, and that nothing whatever must be added; also that some W.P.'s try to give the Ceremony from memory and that they miss some part of it out, and he desires that if they are not sure of memorising it,

THE LAND OF MYSTERY AND CHARM

that they must give it from the Ritual provided for that purpose.

4. STATIONERY.

The subject of Stationery put up by many Lodges with reference to the very high cost from G.A.'s. This is being fully gone into by the Grand Secretary on his arrival in England. He is submitting a scheme to Grand Lodge for approval, whereby to have a headquarters fixed in some part of India, and to hold a large stock of stationery of all descriptions used by G.A.'s and Minor Lodges, so that they can obtain same from the headquarters in India. This will ensure prompt despatch, and Lodges should receive their orders three days from receipt of their needs for stationery from the headquarters in India; also Blank Dispensations will be available, signed of course by the three Chief Officers of the Grand Lodge, so that they can be issued straight away without having to wait for them to come from England; the only thing will be that Lodges can be opened, but will have to wait for the number, which must come from the Grand Lodge in order of sequence. The Grand Secretary is putting forward a proposition in Grand Lodge that they appoint a member in India to be Grand Secretary (India), who will have full control of the Stationery Headquarters and powers to deal with any matters of importance, whereas now cables have to be sent to Grand Lodge. The place of the Headquarters cannot be definitely stated, but in all probability it will be at Lucknow. This Headquarters will be absolutely distinct from the jurisdiction of any G.A. and will be absolutely under the jurisdiction of Grand Lodge; also it is being arranged to have a quantity of First and Second Degree Jewels in stock, so that they can be immediately sent to

Lodge Secretaries after certification in the case of Second Degree, but Lodges will have to have the engraving done locally.

The matter of Second Degree Raisings may be coming before the Convention at Whitley Bay this year, whereby applications for Second Degree be that of the same as the Third Degree: this, however, in any case will not take effect until next year.

The Grand Secretary is making arrangements for Lodges in India to receive names of candidates for the War Annuity Fund in good time to allow them to get their votes or nominations at Grand Lodge by October 2nd of each year.

5. SECOND DEGREE

The Grand Secretary has expressed his desire for it to be known that the Second Degree is not given or bestowed upon a member merely because he has done good work in the Lodge, and simply because he has the necessary time as a First Degree member. Lodges must be careful that the Second Degree is not conferred on a member who is leaving Lodge for home, as he will become useless as a Primo in that Lodge, and Lodges when raising members to Second Degree are requested to elect members who are likely to stay with the Lodge and be of good use to it. In the case of a member who is eligible for Primo, and who is about to go home, some Lodges in India confer the Degree on him for services rendered. The Grand Secretary desires that his services to the Lodge be recognized in some other way than the Degree of Primo; and there are many ways in which a Lodge can do this.

The Grand Secretary has definitely stated that military members need not have the necessary period of terms in Lodges *re* Third Degree, where it states a Primo must be a member of the Lodge

GRAND SECRETARY'S TOUR OF INDIA.

three years. This is waived for military members, but under no circumstances must application be submitted for a higher Degree unless he has been a Primo for three years, and a K.O.M. for five years. This does not refer to the rule of Founders' privileges.

The Grand Secretary is very pleased with the way in which he found Lodges working, and expresses his heartfelt thanks to all members. He states that in some parts of India the Spirit of Buffaloinism is much more marked, and better cooperation appears to exist between Lodges. This perhaps is due to some parts where Buffaloinism is very strong and in other parts it is weaker, he means numerically. The Grand Secretary thought that a little more communication between P.G. Lodges would add to the betterment and foundation, and would cement that bond of brotherly love and friendship between G.A.'s and Minor Lodges.

The Grand Secretary is writing a book on his tour in India, and it will be a very fine record indeed, and I should say will be available about April, 1928. I would be glad if Secretaries will get their orders from their members, so that as soon as I receive them I can despatch them without delay.

The Grand Secretary is sending me 1,000 copies, and if more are required same can be cabled for by me.

I have referred to the Grand Secretary's Compassionate Fund. I explain the object of the Fund, which is as follows:— The Grand Secretary keeps a fund by contributions from members, and in some cases from Lodges at home, and he receives letters of appeal from members and Lodges for relief; it cannot be granted simply because they do not qualify according to qualifications for relief as per our rules, and in cases where it is not

a member's fault he cannot attend his Lodge, but through some misfortune that prevents, a sum is given to him from the Compassionate Fund. These grants are never published, because they do not come within the rules for relief, but a record is kept at Grand Lodge of all donations received and how they are disbursed to these unfortunate members.

All the points put forth in this letter are simply little items which the Grand Secretary hopes that where they exist they will be remedied, not only for us as members now, but to all who come after us, so that they may be able to carry on the work as handed over to them in such a way and befitting manner as is due and expected from each and all of us as members of such a glorious Order as the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes.

With Greetings to all members in India,
Believe me to be,

Yours very sincerely and
fraternally,

E. MAXFIELD, K.O.M.,
Central Grand Secretary,
India.

THE LAND OF MYSTERY AND CHARM.

It will no doubt be interesting to summarize the various places visited on the tour through India by the Grand Secretary.

PLACES VISITED ON THE TOUR THROUGH INDIA

November 18, 1927.—Arrived Bombay
Poona and Kirkee
Secunderabad and Trimuigherry
Lucknow
Meerut
Ambala
Delhi (Interview with H.E. The Viceroy,
December 2, 1927)

Peshawar
Kohat (the famous Pass)
Nowshera
Rawal Pindi and Chakiala
Sialkot
Lahore
Perozopore
Quetta
Hyderabad-Sind
Karachi

December 24, 1927.—
Embarked for U.K.

“SAILING THE SEA!”

(*To Bro. Rose upon his return from India*)

‘Tis the time of excitement, commotion and haste,
Of bustle and hurry and rush,
Of parting, leave taking, “bon voyages” “good-bye,”
And all is confusion and crush!

So sing us a song of the ocean main,
Where the billows leap with glee,
For we’re going to sail the sea, my lads;
We’re going to sail the sea!

What matter it yet if the gale is fierce,
Or thunder’s roll is heard?
If the lightning flashes across the sky,
Or the sea to fury is stirred?

The tempest will soon be followed by calm,
And quite content are we;
For *now* we are sailing the sea, my lads;
Yes, *now* we are sailing the sea!

Landed at last in a far-away clime,
We are taking a good look round,
And observe that abroad quite a number of things
And places of Interest are found.

The reception we’ve had we shall never forget,
Nor the kind hospitality
To those who have sailed the sea, my lads;
To those who have sailed the sea!

And when we arrive at our haven of peace,
With a cheer and a welcome shout,
When our voyage is over, our journey complete,
When the harbour lights gleam out;

May each one confess, as he anchors down
In the calm that must surely be,
That he’s glad that he sailed Life’s sea, my lads;
He’s glad that he sailed Life’s sea.

We were quite overwhelmed by the loyalty and zeal
Of our Brothers ‘neath India’s sun,
All steadfast, warm hearted, courageous, and true
To the vows by which greatness is won.

Our visit completed we once more embark
With a jovial company;
And again we are sailing the sea, my lads;
Yes, homeward we’re sailing the sea!

And now we are back at home again
With a wealth of memories gay
Of friendship and kindness, all fragrant and sweet,
We shall cherish for many a day.

So here’s to the roll of the ocean main,
Where the billows leap with glee;
For we’ve been and sailed the sea, my lads;
We’ve been and sailed the sea!

And, brethren all, on the voyage of life,
Though at times the gale may roar,
Though the sunshine and calm may give place to storm,
Look ahead to the distant shore;

Though you dwell for a time in a strange, strange land,
Never crave from your task to flee;
For you’re sailing the Sea of Life, my lads
You’re sailing across Life’s sea.

J. B. M.

GRAND SECRETARY'S TOUR OF INDIA. A REGALIA VISIT THAT WASN'T

LUCKNOW TO ALLAHABAD BY CHARABANC.

When it was passed in Sincerity Lodge, No. 5676, Lucknow, India, that we should pay a regalia visit to the Firm Lodge at Allahabad, a distance of 175 miles away, by charabanc, no one thought of the difficulties that were to beset us.

Eighteen of us started from Lucknow, with the hooter blowing merrily, at 11.45 a.m. on Saturday, August 18, 1927, after first having had our photographs taken to commemorate the event, in the best of spirits and as excited as schoolboys.

All went merrily and well until we had proceeded a distance of 80 miles, when, to our great amusement, bang went one of our back tyres. This did not hinder us much, as out we climbed and proceeded to demolish our lunch on the roadside, whilst the one and only spare wheel was fitted on. In we got again and were once more on the way. We proceeded about another five miles when, on rounding a rather dangerous corner, we saw an antique Ford car minus half its bonnet lying on the side of the road; it had evidently run into the hedge bottom some time or other. Naturally, on passing this spectacle we were all highly amused, but before our laughter had died away, bang went our back tyre, burst was our one and only spare wheel!

There we were, 85 miles from Lucknow and 145 miles from our destination, absolutely stranded, with nothing but a collection of jungle shacks anywhere near us, no familiar wayside inn, as in England, but a pretty hot temperature to keep us company.

The only thing to do was to proceed to the nearest telegraph office and wire to Lucknow for them to send out a relief car conveying tyres and tubes. This we did, but after waiting two hours there was no sign of the relief car coming. Eventually we saw a charabanc coming our way which was used for conveying natives from one village to another; this we held up, and after haggling for about half an hour managed to persuade the driver to take us to Rai Bareilly, the nearest town, a distance of 27 miles.

The journey to Rai Bareilly was accomplished without any mishap, but much to our surprise the driver pulled up in the middle of the native bazaar and began bargaining for our fares to Allahabad. Probably the last time the native population of Rai Bareilly saw a British soldier was during the Mutiny; and in

less than two minutes we were surrounded by about 500 natives, curious to see what we looked like.

SITTING ON GUNPOWDER

I can assure you that it is no pleasant feeling to be surrounded by 500 natives, for it only wants one to "put his foot in it" and the "fat would soon be in the fire." However, we managed to get the driver to move off from the bazaar and so get away from the crowd to enable us to complete the bargaining for our fares to Allahabad. The price originally asked was Rs. 75, but we eventually got him to move off for Rs. 54.

We started from Rai Bareilly at 6 p.m., and reached Allahabad at 12 midnight without further mishap.

We had originally timed our arrival for 4.30 p.m., and were due in Firm Lodge at 7 p.m. Firm Lodge very kindly kept open until midnight, so you can see that we just missed them.

However late it was, we at once found that the Firm Lodge had not given us up, for immediately on our arrival we found their scouts out waiting to conduct us to the barracks, where beds were all ready for us.

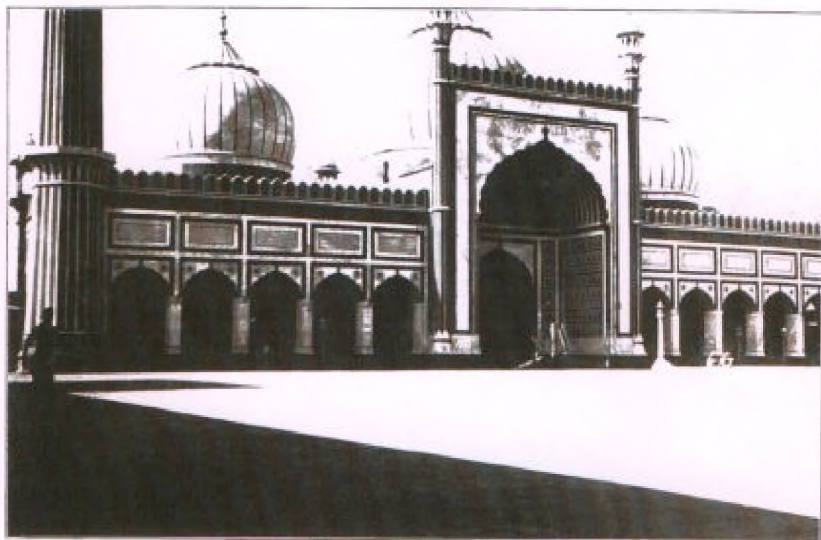
Having spent a most welcome rest, Sunday morning found us down at their Lodge room, where a fine breakfast was waiting for us, so our visit was not in vain. We then arranged to pay another visit at the end of September, but it was unanimously decided that we should travel by rail, no more motors.

We left Allahabad at 12 noon and came back to Lucknow via Cawnpore, a distance of 175 miles, intending on arrival to pay a regalia visit to Lucknow Lodge; but once again we were beaten, for we did not arrive at our destination until 10.15 p.m., just 15 minutes late. However, it has been a wonderful experience for us, as we met some jolly good Buffs, whom we hope to meet again when we entertain Firm Lodge, who are visiting us *by rail*.

I believe this is something unique for India, for altogether we travelled a distance of 350 miles in two days by motor along roads that were either under repair or needing repairs, with only the sight of dirty mud villages and native huts on our way, and a very hot temperature to keep us company.

Can anyone beat it?

LUCKNOW,
September 9, 1927.



THE JAMA MASJID, DELHI.

The largest Mohammedan praying-place in the world, where 25,000 assemble every Friday to pray.
Photo by [E. Maxfield, K.O.M., P.G. Secy.]



SHIPS OF THE DESERT.

Taken from the train on one of our long journeys from Delhi to Peshawar.



COMBINED LODGES, DECCAN PROVINCE.
[Unique, 2467; Nolle Secundus, 3917; Hydant, 5018; Kimberley, 6120.
Trinmpherry, 1927.]



OUTSIDE KARACHI STATION.



THE GRAND SECRETARY AND
 BRO. R. MAXFIELD, K.O.M.,
 ready to leave Pondicherry to
 continue their Tour through
 India.



NATIVE GUARD AT THE
 ARUNACHAL FRONTIER.
 Photo by Grand Secretary.



BAZAAR SCENE,
 PUNJAB.



A FEW OF THE GOOD BOYS AT
 PUNJAB.

BRO. LAMB, C.P., P.G.P.,
 PUNJAB.
 Is, on a native ledge of
 rock I stand!



"MAX" AMONG THE SWEET-SCENTED
 GARDEN, FORT AT DELHI.
 Photo by Grand Secretary.



VIEWS OF
BOMBAY.



THE
Taj Mahal Hotel.



THE
General Post Office.
Not Incl. ch. 7



↑
THE
Gateway
of India.



A SCENE
in Bombay.



CLIFF
Palace,
Colaba.



THE ROYAL YACHT CLUB.



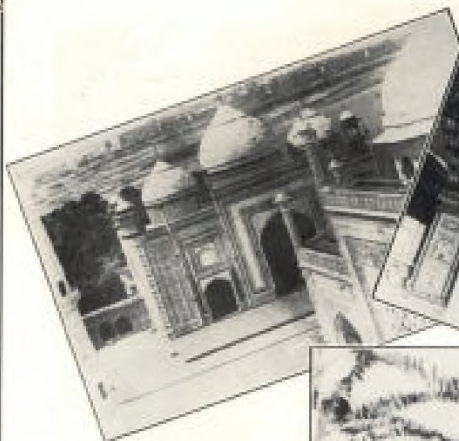
THE VICTORIA TERMINUS.



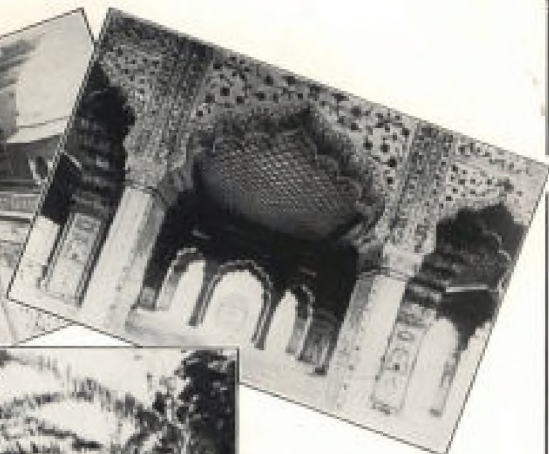
"BILLY" AT PORT SAID, WITH THE P.G. SECRETARY (HON. W. CASH, K.O.M.) AND THE D.P.G.P.
 You can see we are all men of straw!



AT PORT SAID, 6-30 A.M.
 The black stuff in the glasses must be coffee. The venerable member on my left in disguise is
 "Old Bill." The Walsall "boys" will recognise him--eh, Charlie?



ENTRANCE TO THE
Taj MAHAL.
One of the wonders of the
world.

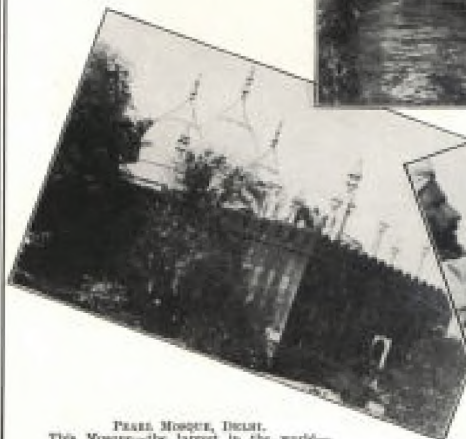


INTERIOR, DIWAN KHANA,
FORT DELHI.
Visited here; magnificent
place.

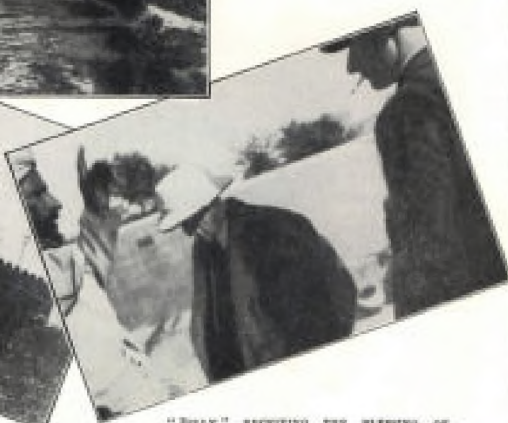


BANANA GROVE, MEERUT,
nr. KANNOH.

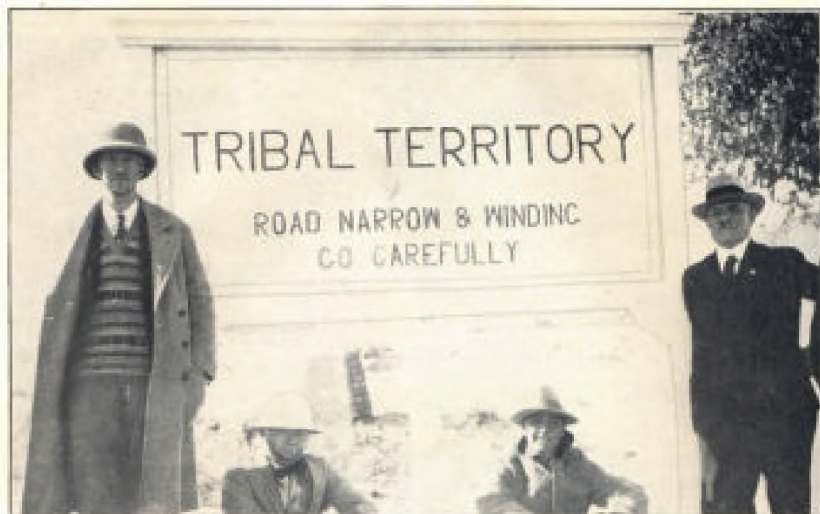
Went through here; picked
a few BANANAS. Very nice,
too.



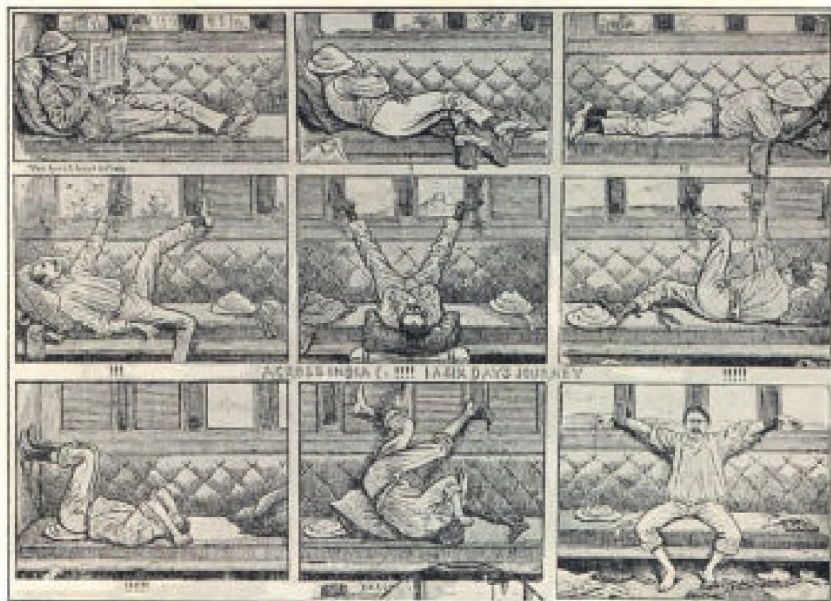
PEARL MOSQUE, DELHI.
This Mosque—the largest in the world—
will hold 25,000 people.



"JOLLY" RECEIVING THE BLESSING OF
ALLAH.



"BILLY" READY TO START PUSHING BACK THE MASSICUS.
The entry into Afghanistan. This is the start of the celebrated Kohat Pass.



Please imagine this to be the Grand Secretary, who had a similar experience.
Published by kind permission of Mr. W. H. Deakin, Worcester.



"BILLY" AND "MAX,"
The world forgetting, by
the world forgot.



"BILLY."



"BILLY'S"
BACK AGAIN!
Watching the Allisons.



NON-CORRUPTING COUNCIL,
HAWAII FIRST DISTRICT,
EWAII.



A CUP OF COFFEE
WITH MRS. AND BRO. FEAR,
K.O.M., P.P.O.D., SALLISBURY.
"Billy" had to pull his socks up, evidently



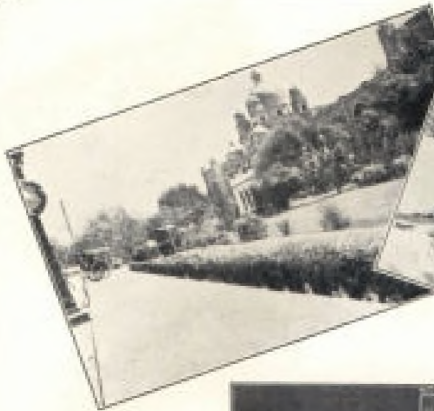
GOLDEN TEMPLE
AMRITSAR.



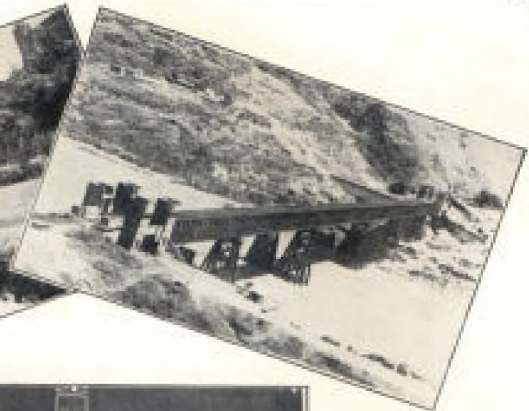
"FAIR," "HOPE," and Bro. CAPT. SMITH.
RECEPTION COMMITTEE AT KARACHI.



MERRITT CHURCH.
This is where the Rally first
started.



MUSEUM,
Lahore.



ATTOCK BRIDGE.
Went over this;
supposed to be rather
unsafe.



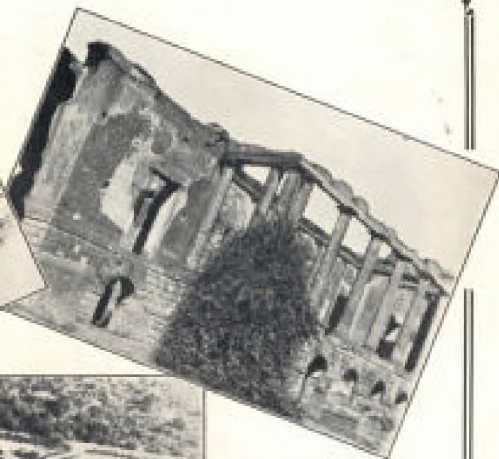
LORD CARDIGAN LORR, R.A.O.B., G.L.E.,
(November 29th, 1927), Meerut, INDIA.
An Outpost of Empire.
[Taken by S. L. Fear, K.O.M., P.P.G.P., Salisbury.]



THE BARTER LODGE, No. 4913, R.A.O.B., G.L.E., INDIA.



THE BADLEY GUARD GATE, LUCKNOW.
Very interesting
viewing Lucknow.



BANQUETING HALL IN
THE RESIDENCY,
LUCKNOW.
Showing the shell and
shot of the Mutineers.



AERIAL VIEW—VICEREGAL LODGE, DELHI,
where I interviewed the Viceroy,
HIS LORD IRWIN.



THE RECEPTION COMMITTEE, AMBALA STATION. THE BRISTOL LODGE.



OUR BELOVED "BILLY" IN THE BAZAAR AT DELHI. Poles are very ridiculous; but there are none on "Billy."

[Photo by G. Maxfield, K.O.M., P.G. Secy.]



"BILLY" IN THE MARBLE TEMPLE-ROOM inside the Fort at Delhi. Note the slippers one has to wear—sacred ground.

THE BUNGALOW used by the THISTLE LODGE for its meetings during the time that the brethren of



this Lodge were stationed on the Borders of India and Afghanistan, at a place called Landi Kotal.



IRRIGATION WHEEL, LAHORE.



FEROZ FORT (N.W.F.P.). Our Outpost of Empire. Splendid reception here.

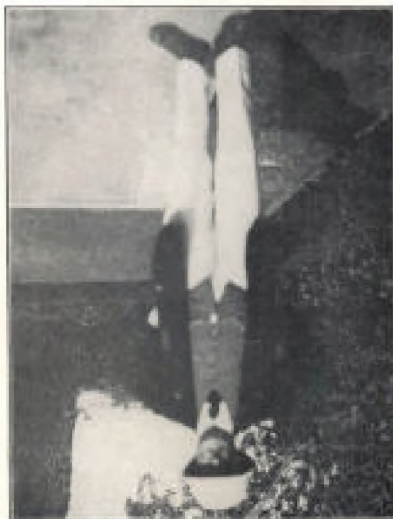
A few of "The Boys," Poona.



Mohammedan Festival, Poona.



The Garden Secretary in the beautiful garden inside the Fort at Delhi.



"Bully" with Bro. Lamb, C.P., and Bro. Forest, C.P., Peshawar.





THE GRAND SECRETARY AT THE ASTRAL LODGE, KARACHI.
 Note the Presentation Clock. This is a splendid Lodge-room out on the Sind Desert.



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 Spent a few hours in Aden.



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