

# DIGEST

IMPORTANT LEGISLATION ENACTED AT THE NINETEENTH TRIENNIAL ASSEMBLY OF THE  
GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER, DENVER, COLORADO, JULY, 1928.

**Revised Ritual Committee.**—Sisters Emma C. Ocobock and M. Alice Miller, Past M. W. G. Matrons, were made a Special Committee to complete the new Ritual and prepare it for printing and copyrighting. The latter to be done with the co-operation of the Most Worthy Grand Matron and Right Worthy Grand Secretary. Funds were appropriated to cover the cost.

**New Ritual.**—The new Ritual shall go into effect January 1, 1929, but provision is made to allow Grand Jurisdictions sufficient time to enact necessary legislation for themselves and subordinate Chapters to take care of the new officer "Associate Patron" for which the new Ritual provides, but in no case shall the time be extended beyond January 1, 1930.

**Exchange of Rituals.**—All Rituals on hand in the office of Grand Secretaries may be forwarded to the Right Worthy Grand Secretary and exchanged for new ones by paying transportation. All members may forward their old Rituals to their Grand Secretary and receive a new one at half the market price. The Grand Secretary in turn can exchange them for new ones at the same rate.

**Associate Patron.**—The new Ritual provides for the election of an Associate Patron in subordinate Chapters.

The Most Worthy Grand Matron, whenever in her judgment a situation exists in any Grand Jurisdiction making it impossible to comply with the requirements of the new Ritual with reference to the office of Associate Patron, grant permission to such Grand Chapter for its subordinate Chapters to hold their meetings and confer the degrees of the Order without the use of an Associate Patron.

**Meetings.**—All meetings of Chapters shall be designated as "stated" meetings instead of "regular."

**Officers' Jewels.**—No change was made in the jewels of the Order.

**Salary of Most Worthy Grand Matron.**—The salary of \$1,500.00 which would have been paid to Sister Clara Henrich was paid \$750.00 to Sister Emma P. Chadwick and \$750.00 to Brother Louis J. Henrich.

**Appropriation of Most Worthy Grand Matron and Patron.**—An appropriation of \$6,000.00 was made for the Most Worthy Grand Matron and \$5,000.00 for the Most Worthy Grand Patron.

**Contingent Funds.**—When officers to whom Contingent Funds are provided for, are called upon to attend meetings of any character germane to the work of the General Grand Chapter, the expenses of attending such meeting shall be charged to the expense account of such officer.

**Deputized Work.**—Expenses of those having authority delegated by the Most Worthy Grand Matron or Most Worthy Grand Patron shall be charged to the appropriation account of the officer granting the authority.

**Proceedings of 19th Assembly.**—1,500 copies of the 1928 Proceedings ordered printed.

**Supplies on Hand.**—All supplies on hand in the office of the General Grand Chapter, no matter from what source acquired, shall be disposed of before any new stock is purchased.

**General Grand Chapter Demits.**—The Demits granted to the members of Valdez Chapter No. 5, Alaska, were declared valid. In the future all General Grand Chapter Demits shall be signed by the Most Worthy Grand Matron and attested to under seal by the Right Worthy Grand Secretary.

**Demits.**—All Demits purchased and sold by the General Grand Chapter shall be arranged for the signature of the Worthy Matron and attested to by the Secretary.

**Memorials.**—Memorials shall only be sent out by the General Grand Chapter on the occasion of the death of the Most Worthy Grand Matron or Most Worthy Grand Patron or a Past Most Worthy Grand Matron or Patron.

**Solicitation.**—In the future no further endorsements shall be given by a Most Worthy Grand Matron or other General Grand Chapter Officer for the purpose of lending influence or raising funds for any other than Eastern Star or Masonic purposes.

**Henrich Memorial Fund.**—The fund collected by the Acting Most Worthy Grand Matron for a Memorial to Sister Henrich was placed in the hands of George Peak, Past Grand Patron of Kentucky, as trustee of the fund, and he may purchase and have placed at the grave of Sister Henrich a suitable monument.

**Jewels.**—The jewel of a Past Most Worthy Grand Matron is to be presented to Mrs. Emily Henrich Moore, the daughter of our late Most Worthy Grand Matron, and a gift of the same value to Brother J. Ernest Teare, Past Most Worthy Grand Patron.

**Engle History.**—The matter of purchasing the copyright of the Engle History was left to the new Trustees.

**Twentieth Triennial Assembly.**—The delegates decided upon Dallas, Texas, as a meeting place for 1931. (Date to be decided later.)

**Scotland.**—The fourth clause in the agreement entered into by the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland and the General Grand Chapter 1919 Proceedings, page 244, has been annulled and the Most Worthy Grand Matron and Patron shall undertake to secure as close an adherence to the Ritual of the General Grand Chapter as conditions in Scotland shall justify.

**New York and New Jersey.**—New York and New Jersey declined the invitation of the General Grand Chapter to become members of that body and the following action was taken: No request may be made or granted to confer degrees by courtesy, upon a chapter working under another Ritual than the one authorized by the General Grand Chapter.

The right of visitation by members regardless of rank who have been initiated by any Ritual other than the one authorized by the General Grand Chapter, shall be limited to a seat as a casual visitor, with no further rights or courtesies, such as grand honors, formal introduction, seats in the East or the rights of the floor. No further overtures shall be extended to Independent Grand Chapters by this General Grand Chapter, as overtures to the General Grand Chapter should come from said Grand Chapters, New York and New Jersey.

#### RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS UNDER JURISDICTION OF THE GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

The Committee on Jurisprudence were authorized to prepare a new book of Rules and Regulations. The same was presented, adopted and will be printed in the Proceedings. This includes a new Penal Code and new Form for By-laws.

**Fees for Initiation.**—Fees for Initiation must be the same for both men and women.

#### AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION AND GENERAL REGULATIONS.

##### DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

##### ARTICLE XII.

##### RIGHT WORTHY ASSOCIATE GRAND MATRON AND PATRON.

It shall be the duty of the Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron to assist the Most Worthy Grand Matron in the performance of her duties, and in the case of the death or permanent disability of said officer the duties of the Most Worthy Grand Matron shall devolve upon the Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron and she shall be installed as Most Worthy Grand Matron by the Past Most Worthy Grand Matron or Patron residing nearest the officer to be installed, and it shall not be necessary to call the General Grand Chapter in session for this purpose.

(THE SAME LAW WAS MADE FOR THE RIGHT WORTHY ASSOCIATE GRAND PATRON, in event of the death of the Most Worthy Grand Patron.)

##### SUCCESSION IN OFFICE.

**New Section.**—In the case of the death or permanent disability of both the Most Worthy Grand Matron and Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron the succession in office shall pass to the Right Worthy Grand Conductress and in turn to the Right Worthy Associate Grand Conductress.

## AMENDMENT TO GENERAL REGULATIONS.

## ARTICLE XXIX.

**MILEAGE AND PER DIEM.**

Section 19, General Rules and Regulations, amended to make the mileage of officers and committee members attending the General Grand Chapter four cents per mile and the per diem seven dollars per day. Same was effective at the 19th Triennial.

**PROCEEDINGS COMMITTEE.**

Article 29, Section 14, repealed. This does away with the Proceedings Committee.

**DECISIONS, QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS OF CLARA HENRICH, MOST WORTHY GRAND MATRON.**

Dec. 1.—That letters of secret work be not placed on buttons, pins or badges or on stars for street decorations.

Dec. 2.—That figure one (page 42, line 17 of the Ritual) is instruction to the Conductress and should read (2).

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.**

Ques. 1.—If the Associate Matron inspects the ballot, declares the ballot clear and it is taken to the East, and the Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron inspect it and find it dark, what should be done?

Ans.—Return it again to the Associate Matron, as the three officers should be in accord before the ballot is destroyed.

Ques. 2.—Would it be permissible for the Worthy Matron, when the ballot was declared clear in the West, to disarrange it without comment and order another ballot taken?

Ans.—No.

Ques. 3.—Should the letter "L" be placed on a button between the red and blue point?

Ans.—The letter should not be placed on any button, as it is part of our secret work.

Ques. 4.—When the Worthy Matron calls up the members to ballot, should they remain standing?

Ans.—Yes, until Worthy Matron raps one blow of gavel.

Ques. 5.—Is a legally adopted daughter eligible to receive the degrees if the son of her foster parents is a Mason?

Ans.—Yes (according to decision G. G. Chapter 1901, page 152).

Ques. 6.—Is decision rendered by a former Most Worthy Grand Matron binding to all the subordinate Chapters in the United States forbidding prizes at card parties where an admission fee is asked?

Ans.—No, only to subordinate Chapter under jurisdiction of the G. G. Chapter, but would be commendable if all Chapters of the O. E. S. would accept same decision.

Ques. 7.—Can the secret work be loaned to the Associate Matron of a subordinate Chapter?

Ans.—Secret work says it must be in charge of one of the three principal officers, and the Associate Matron is one of them.

Ques. 8.—Is it necessary for Chapters under jurisdiction of the G. G. Chapter to have consent of said Chapter before a waiver can be granted from one Chapter to another in the same district?

Ans.—Where there is no concurrent jurisdiction, waivers must be requested.

Ques. 9.—On page 37 of the Ritual, whom is the Conductress addressing when she says: "My friend, you will wait until—?"

Ans.—The Associate Conductress.

Ques. 10.—On page 14 of the Ritual, in the examination of a visitor, in giving the test oath, does the chairman say "I" (and repeat his name)?

Ans.—The chairman says "I" (and tells the visitor to repeat his name), as that is part of the test oath.

Ques. 11.—Should the entire examining committee, including the chairman, say "I" and (each repeat their name) in the presence and, etc.?

Ans.—No, the visitor repeats his name after the one giving the test oath.

Ques. 12.—If the ribbons are worn by the officers, how shall they be worn?

Ans.—According to Ritual (page 10) Worthy Matron wears ribbon from left to right, Associate Matron right to left, officers on the north side from right to left, officers on south side left to right.

Ques. 13.—If the Junior Past Matron presides in the absence of one of the first three officers, is she one of the seven to constitute a quorum?

Ans.—Yes.

Ques. 14.—If the prayer is offered by the Worthy Patron, where does he enter the labyrinth?

Ans.—Between Esther and Martha, according to Ritual.

Ques. 15.—If the Worthy Patron acts as Chaplain in the initiatory ceremony, would he also enter between Esther and Martha?

Ans.—Yes.

Ques. 16.—Do star points assemble and join hands around Chaplain at the Altar during prayer?

Ans.—No, only in the chain prayer during initiation.

Ques. 17.—Is the Associate Matron conducted to the West by the Associate Conductress.

Ans.—No.

Ques. 18.—Has any one the right to say we cannot advance to a station inside of the labyrinth to ballot, as long as we keep at least three paces from the ballot?

Ans.—No.

Ques. 19.—A Past Worthy Patron was elected to honorary membership after he dimitted from our Chapter. Can he visit our Chapter, his dimit being granted five years ago?

Ans.—No.

Ques. 20.—Was a member legally elected Associate Conductress receiving fourteen votes out of twenty-seven if twenty-nine members were present?

Ans. (MODIFIED).—Yes, she received a majority of votes cast. Our law does not compel all to vote for election of officers.

Ques. 21.—Can a petitioner, either for the degrees or affiliation, withdraw their petition after it has been read to the chapter, and a committee on investigation appointed?

Ans. (MODIFIED).—A petition may be withdrawn by unanimous consent of the Chapter, before the committee on investigation reports; after the committee reports, it goes to the ballot.

Ques. 22.—May members of the Phi Omega Pi Sorority substitute for the regular officers at a regular meeting to initiate candidates, the regular officers conducting all other business?

Ans.—Yes, Worthy Matron has the privilege of asking a visitor to serve as Worthy Matron if she is present. If Worthy Matron is absent, the Associate Matron fills her station according to her duties as prescribed in the Ritual.

Ques. 23.—Is it permissible for a Worthy Matron to declare a Chapter at ease with all officers in their stations, and Chapter prepared for degree work, and allow a man who is not a member of the O. E. S., although a Mason, to be escorted into the Chapter room to a position in the East, make an address, and then be escorted from the Chapter room, after which the business is to be resumed?

Ans.—No.

Ques. 24.—Has a Grand Chapter the power to grant subordinate Chapters the right to use a number of ballot boxes.

Ans.—No.

Ques. 25.—Why?

Ans.—Ritual says THE Associate Conductress shall have charge of THE ballot box.

Ques. 26.—Is a woman eligible to petition an O. E. S. Chapter on the good standing of her step-son in the Masonic Order?

Ans.—No.

Ques. 27.—As Tampico Chapter No. 1, Mexico, is the only Chapter in the state, can persons living in Monterey, Mexico, petition?

Ans.—Yes.

Ques. 29.—Do star points hold the signs until Chapter responds with the passes?

Ans.—No.

Ques. 31.—Is there a difference in the rank of a G. G. officer from an officer of a Grand Chapter?

Ans.—General Grand Officer would take precedence of a Grand Chapter.

Ques. 32.—Can one person object to the installation of an officer?

Ans.—Yes, one person can object, but according to Ritual (page 72) it would take a majority to keep them from being installed as the answer to the question is "We do."

Ques. 53.—The Charter of a Lodge is arrested. Can we receive petitions and allow members to visit Chapters whose Masonic affiliation is with said Lodge?

Ans. (CHANGED).—When the Charter of a Lodge is suspended the receipt of petitions from persons basing their claims to membership in the Order of the Eastern Star is contrary to well established Eastern Star Law.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS OF EMMA P. CHADWICK, ACTING MOST WORTHY GRAND MATRON.

Ques. 1.—What constitutes the membership of a Chapter upon return of a charter which had been suspended?

Ans.—The membership is made up of those who were in good standing at the time the charter was suspended.

Ques. 2.—Is it proper or lawful for a Worthy Matron to excuse any one from balloting? If it is, should they leave the Chapter room while balloting is on?

Ans.—See Decision #60, page 83. Members cannot be excused from balloting. None can be excused from the Chapter room during balloting. NOT APPROVED.

Ques. 3.—Does the General Grand Chapter discipline the Grand Officers of Grand Jurisdictions?

Ans.—No.

Ques. 4.—If a Grand Officer forgets her obligation and tramples the principles of our beautiful Order under foot is there no redress?

Ans.—Unless the Constitution, By-Laws and Penal Code of the Grand Jurisdiction provide for charges and trial, there is no redress.

Ques. 5.—Should the veil be worn by Adah during the opening ceremony?

Ans.—It should not be worn except during the lecture. Proceedings 1925, page 56.

Ques. 6.—During balloting, the Worthy Matron instructs the Warder to invite the Sentinel to enter the room and cast his ballot. Does the Warder give the Sign of Salutation before leaving, and should it be given by the Sentinel when he enters, and again repeated when they exchange positions after he has cast his ballot?

Ans.—The Warder never leaves the door unguarded, so she does not relieve the Sentinel. If it is necessary for some one to relieve the Sentinel, there being people in the anteroom, the Worthy Matron should ask a sister or brother to relieve him or her. The Sentinel does not give the Salutation Sign on being called in, as he is recorded in the minutes as being present. He only gives the sign when he ballots.

Ques. 7.—Should the American Flag be carried to the East through the labyrinth after the Chapter has been opened?

Ans.—The Flag Ceremony is not a part of the ritualistic work and if you have such a ceremony it should take place before the Chapter is opened. REFERRED TO RITUAL COMMITTEE.

\*Ques. 8.—How do we make an honorary life member?

Ans. (CHANGED).—Honorary Membership.—Any Chapter may elect to Honorary Membership a sister or brother of another Chapter by unanimous vote of the members present and voting, but it is not necessary to spread the ballot as for membership.

Life Membership.—A Chapter may elect to Life Membership a member who has been a member of the Order in good standing for twenty-five years. Life Members are exempt from dues, but their rights as members are not affected.

Ques. 9.—(a) Is an honorary Past Worthy Matron entitled to wear a Past Matron's jewel, and (b) may a Chapter make one of its members a Past Honorary Matron?

Ans.—(a) No. (b) In order to be a Past Worthy Matron, one must be elected and installed.

Ques. 10.—Is there such a thing as a collective ballot in the Order of the Eastern Star?

Ans.—No. REFERRED TO JURISPRUDENCE COMMITTEE.

Ques. 11.—Is the ruling in Decisions 54-370-394 the last made by the General Grand Chapter?

Ans.—Decisions Meier's Digest, 54-370-394 are still in effect.

Ques. 12.—Is it permissible for members to wear Chapter badges in public? As at a special service for the various Masonic bodies.

Ans.—Yes.

Ques. 13.—Is one holding a demit from a Blue Lodge, but having a receipt for dues paid to a Royal Arch Chapter, a Master Mason in good standing within the rule of our Order?

Ans.—No.

Ques. 14.—Can a Committee on "Work," appointed by the Grand Matron, have authority to add to, revise or change the ritualistic work?

Ans.—No.

Ques. 15.—(a) If a Past Grand Matron serves as an installing officer of a subordinate Chapter, what is her title? (b) If the installing officer is a Matron of a subordinate Chapter and her Marshal, Chaplain or Organist is a Past Grand Matron, by what title is the Past Grand Matron addressed during the ceremony?

Ans.—(a) Grand Matron. (b) See Ritual, page 69.

Ques. 16.—Does the General Grand Chapter recognize dual membership?

Ans.—No. THIS REFERRED TO JURISPRUDENCE COMMITTEE.

Ques. 17.—Is a belief in the Divinity of the Christ necessary to join the O. E. S.?

Ans.—No.

Ques. 18.—When by-laws say stated meeting twice a month, is it necessary to open and close?

Ans.—Yes.

Ques. 19.—Rules and Regulations provide that a demit must accompany a petition for affiliation. Two members desiring to join another Chapter presented a certificate of good standing. Upon acceptance the Chapter wrote asking Chapter for demits; Chapter asks, "What shall we do?"

Ans. (CHANGED).—When a petition for affiliation is received upon a certificate of good standing, it is the duty of the Secretary of the Chapter petitioned to notify the Chapter that issued the certificate, of the applicant's election for affiliation and request that a demit be forwarded at once.

Ques. 20.—Should the Bible be opened at any particular page or chapter?  
Ans.—The General Grand Chapter has adopted no rule or regulation governing the opening of the Bible.

Ques. 21.—In the installation ceremony does the side of the altar mean outside, or inside, Esther's chair?  
Ans.—Inside. Making a semi-circle from Adah's chair, around Electa's.

Ques. 22.—Can we elect our Grand Lecturer and Grand Sentinel?  
Ans.—No. The Ritual says they are appointed. NEW RITUAL SAYS REGARDING THE SENTINEL "BROTHER ..... **SELECTED** TO BE GRAND SENTINEL.

Ques. 23.—Colored veils were purchased for all our officers. Is it proper to wear them?  
Ans.—No.

Question 2, page 7, was not approved by the Ritual Committee but upon being referred to Jurisprudence Committee it was changed to read :

Ans.—" See Decision 460, page 83, Meier's Digest. Members cannot be excused from balloting. None can be excused from Chapter Room during balloting. The above was Approved."