Thomas Hamilton Simpson, KC

Grand Master (1947-48 and 1948-49) of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario



(1891-1969)

Thomas Hamilton Simpson was born in Hamilton on January 8, 1891. After attending local elementary and secondary schools he entered and graduated from Osgoode Hall and was called to the Bar at the age of 21. He joined Lee and Farmer, Hamilton, of which he became the senior partner and the name was changed to Simpson and Duncan. He was created a KC in 1928. He was active in local affairs and served as President of the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce and was a member of the Hamilton Club, Hamilton Golf and Country Club and Hamilton Thistle Curling Club.

On July 29, 1924 he married Georgina A. Clare of Preston and they had two sons, Joseph Benjamin and George Adam Clare. The family were active members of the Church of the Ascension (Anglican) of Hamilton and in 1943 he was appointed Chancellor of the Anglican Diocese of Niagara.

He died on November 4, 1969 at his home in Hamilton. His funeral was held on November 7, 1969 at the Church of the Ascension, Hamilton.

Masonic Career

In *Symbolic Masonry* he was initiated into Acacia Lodge, No. 61 GRC, Hamilton, in 1912. He was elected as WM (1926) and as DDGM of Hamilton District "B" (1933-34). After filling various Grand Lodge offices (beginning in 1936 when he was elected to the Board of General Purposes) he was elected as Deputy Grand Master (1945-46 and 1946-47) and as Grand Master (1947-48 and 1948-49) of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario. He was made an honorary member of Buchanan No. 550, Hamilton; Wentworth No. 166, Hamilton; and Harmony No. 57, Binbrook. M. W. Bro. Simpson and his two sons were present and enrolled as charter members of Thomas Hamilton Simpson Lodge, No. 692 GRC, Hamilton on October 3, 1957, when the Lodge was instituted.

He was a member of Hamilton Royal Arch Chapter.

He was a member of the Murton Lodge of Perfection, Rose Croix and Moore Sovereign Consistory and was coroneted as an Honorary 33° in 1950.

He was a member of the Royal Order of Scotland.

[Sources: (1) A History of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario 1855-1955, by Walter S. Herrington and Roy S. Foley, Published by the authority of Grand Lodge, McCallum Press Ltd., Toronto, 1955 (page 300). (2) Annual Proceedings of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario. (3) Hamilton Masonic District "B" website and Thomas Hamilton Simpson Lodge website, http://www.hamiltonmasons.com/no.692.htm]