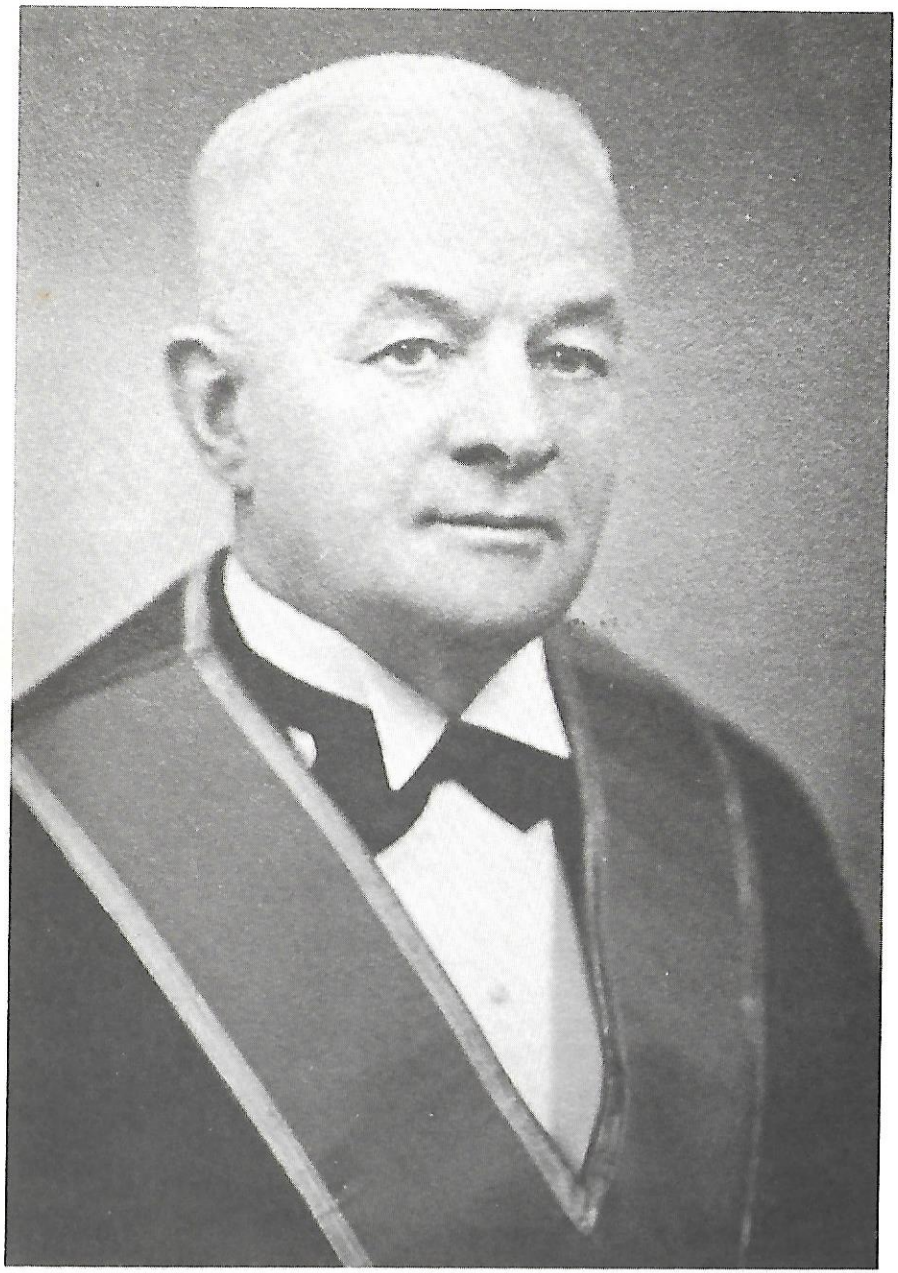


Arthur Lavis

The Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602, A.F. & A.M. G. R. C. held the first meeting on February 21st, 1922.

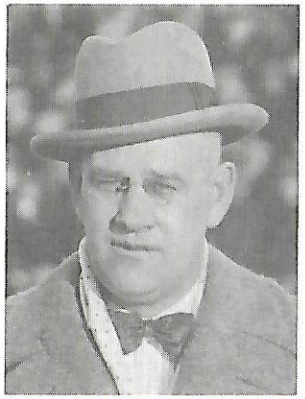
At that time, it was the expressed desire that the lodge should be named after one of the native sons of Hamilton who had disguished himself by exemplary service to the craft of Freemasonry. Accordingly, the M. Wor. Bro. Hugh Murray, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario was chosen for this honour. M. Wor. Bro. Hugh Murray had served as Grand Master in 1884 to 1886. During his tenure of office, much progress was made in the standardization of ritual used in the Ontario jurisdiction. At this period of history, in the thirtieth year since the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario, total membership was 18,000. After the one hundredth anniversary of the formation of the Grand Lodge in 1955, membership in Ontario has increased to 150,000, keeping pace with the growth of the country.

It is interesting to note that the son of M. Wor. Bro. Hugh Murray also named Hugh Murray, and a past master of Acacia Lodge No. 61, Hamilton, affiliated in 1925 with the lodge bearing his father's name. The grandson and third generation, Bro. Hugh Murray is also a member of the lodge today.

On the threshhold of the fiftieth aniversary of the Hugh Murray Lodge, the members can look back with some justification and pride at the decision in 1922 to form a new lodge. The bretheren in 1922 had the foresight and vision to realize that there must be an expansion and inclusion of an additional lodge in Hamilton, as membership was increasing in the older established lodges.

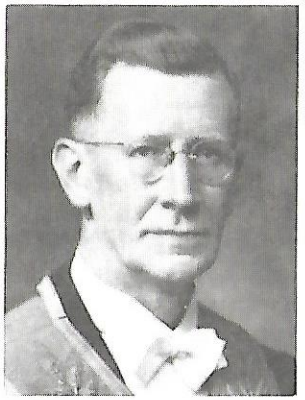
In the ensuing years, The Hugh Murray Lodge held the regular monthly meetings on the third Tuesday at the Masonic Hall, 90 James Street North at Gore Street, Hamilton Ontario. The meetings were held continuously except for the summer months of July and August until the destruction of the James Street Hall by fire in September, 1968.

Charles Peebles



Walter G. Marriott

Harry R. Hall



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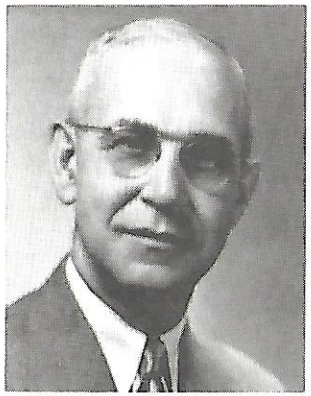

John Eaglesham

Maurice E. Baseman