

The Discoverer

The Monthly Newsletter of The Lodge of Discovery

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Greetings Brethren,

The lead article this month is aimed at those who aspire to the Chair of King Solomon.

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Membership e-mail address list

A list of current members and their e-mail addresses is available on request.

THE ROAD TO THE EAST

How often have we heard it said that a Masonic Lodge is not a "Benefit Society". Undoubtedly the statement is correct from the point of view that for certain set subscriptions it does not undertake to cover funeral expenses, nor does it offer specified sickness benefits. From those brethren, however, who have really experienced masonry, I fear no contradiction to the statement that the Masonic Fraternity is the GREATEST BENEFIT SOCIETY the world has even known. Masonry has innumerable gifts in store for us - invaluable gifts which can never be measured in terms of money.

It is not my intention in this short address to deal fully with all Masonry has to offer us, but it is good to occasionally reflect upon and give thanks to our G.A. for some of those benefits - for the trust reposed in us by our Sponsors and the members of our "Mother Lodge" - for the honour conferred on us on our becoming members of the Great Fraternity.

Even an experienced mason finds it difficult to explain the great friendship and companionship to be found in the Craft, sensed. as it is, even in our very early days of masonry until it fully envelops us in its folds - the "cement that spreads and binds". Masonry leads us to knowledge of ourselves and an appreciation of our fellow men, through a Spirit of Tolerance, that most lovable quality any human being can possess - the vision that enables us to see things from another's viewpoint - the generosity that concedes to others the right to their own opinions and their own peculiarities - the bigness that enables us to let people be happy in their own way instead of our way.

By the aid of beautiful symbolism, masonry gives us a fuller spiritual outlook, a greater faith, and a more complete conception of the full intent and purpose of our earthly existence, and a stronger conviction of the immortality of the Soul.

We are provided with a well-equipped workshop and W.T.'s wherewith to mould our characters so that they may become worthy of our Creator. We are provided with patterns and text books, and an excellent system of disciplinary training found irksome by no one.

Probably the greatest benefit masonry bestows upon us is the opportunity for Service to our Fellowmen - the opportunity to make something real of our lives in a chaotic world - the opportunity to leave something really useful and lasting behind us, when we come to lay aside our W.T.'s.

Masonry leads us to realise that it will be of use to us only as we use it, first in our own hearts, and next in our relations with our brethren, that they may be better, happier, more contented and wiser men, because of us. Not by any means the least of the many privileges masonry offers to its votaries is Educational Training, which brings me to my subject - THE ROAD TO THE EAST or "Our Masters of the Future".

The Disciplinary and Educational Training of Ritual Work

Such is the nature of the Institution that it is difficult to explain how the disciplinary and educational training of Ritual Work over a period of years gradually develops sometimes very unpromising material - how in others it unfolds quite unsuspected talents, made useful thereby not only to the lodge, but also in the wider field of citizenship and much needed leadership.

There must be many masons like myself, who had first of all to overcome considerable nervousness and stage-fright. I well remember as I.G. how my knees used to fairly tremble under me when I gave the very small charges expected of me, and how very soon I got used to my own voice and lost my stage fright, though never entirely my nervousness. However, authorities tell us that a reasonable amount of nervous tension in public performance is required for best results.

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Anything Worth While Doing Is Worth Doing Well

I remember well one of the sayings of a school teacher who taught me English grammar and literature: "Anything worthwhile doing is worth doing well". When he gave us poems or prose to memorise, he made very sure that we fully comprehended the meaning the author intended to convey.

If we are to take full advantage of the educational training offered us by Masonry-above all, if we are to truly do our part in the real work intended by the rendition of the Ritual-the impressing of the candidate and the giving to him something to carry away with him-then it is indeed necessary that we put our WHOLE HEARTS AND MINDS into a WORTH WHILE JOB.

Not infrequently, we listen to word perfect renditions of charges, which, however, seem to lack something, because it is apparent from phrasings and inflections of the voice that the brother has not himself fully grasped the meaning the charge is intended to convey. The method of study I have always found beneficial may be of interest, particularly to younger members.

1. Read the charge through several times in order to fully comprehend its general import.
2. Make a note of the various points in the charge, and get these well fixed in the mind, in the order in which they appear.
3. Look up the meanings and correct pronunciations of any words with which you are not familiar.
4. Carefully mark off the charge in suitable phrases, in order to see that pauses for breath and effect will come in the right places. These markings will also be useful in memorising.
5. Underline words or phrases you wish to emphasise.
6. Proceed to memorise in phrases or sentences. These should be in short sections only. After memorising the first and second sections, join them together, and so on right through the charge. I have always found repetition aloud in a standing position the best method of memorising.

Because a brother is elected or appointed as an officer of a lodge and thus takes his place on the "Ladder" it does not necessarily follow that he should eventually be elected as Master.

Nevertheless, it is most important in choosing our Junior Officers that we look for the very best material available, having in mind all the various qualifications of a Master - material which careful moulding and training will, we feel assured, eventually prove worthy to grace the Highest Office of the lodge.

If, after due trial, it is found that an error has been made in the selection of a brother, it is wise that a change be made before he rises too far on the "ladder". The good of the lodge comes first. Though a brother may be disappointed at not being able to make the grade, he should not in any way feel aggrieved.

Being an officer of a lodge means more - much more - than merely sitting in the chair, and learning and doing the "work". What limply is that it means more for the brother who is of Master's timber. For many, alas, it means just that and nothing else! Thus the lodge suffers, as also our beloved Craft.

The Importance of the Office of Master

The importance of the office of Master could scarcely be overstated. It could surely very definitely be said that in precisely the ratio in which Masters are competent, so will their lodges, and through them the Craft, not fail in the great purpose of the Institution.

The word "Competent" in this connection should be considered in its fullest sense. Not only should a Master be capable of impressive ritual work, but he should fully comply with the "qualifications necessary in a Master of a Lodge."

"It is requisite in a Master of a lodge that he be true and trusty of good report, and held in high estimation among the brethren. He ought to be of exemplary character, courteous in demeanour, easy of address, steady and firm in principle." "Well skilled in this our noble science, and a lover of the Craft." "Ask if you can conscientiously accept the office of Master under these conditions and requirements?"

Probably several times a year each one of us has heard these words spoken and the question addressed to the W.M. Elect by the I. Master. Having given his assent to nomination, and having been duly elected by the members of his Lodge, the W.M. Elect cannot very well do anything else than to reply in the affirmative. It is expected of him, but if some were honest with themselves and were given time to fully consider the question not a few would have to qualify their replies.

I remember well as J.D. in my Lodge listening to the opening of the First Degree, and realising for the first time the import of the reply of the I.P.M. "to open his Lodge, and to employ and instruct the brethren in Freemasonry."

"Someday you hope to attain to the position of Master of this Lodge", I thought. "Going along the way you are now, you will have memorised most of the Ritual, and be able to render it reasonably well - you will be reasonably familiar with the work of the various officers, but what will you really know of the meaning of the various charges and symbols? Will you be capable of really instructing the brethren?" Shortly afterwards I attended an Installation Ceremony and really woke up. The qualifications necessary in a Master of a Lodge as recited by the Installing, Master, seemed to stand out and challenge me. Whilst I would be able to conscientiously, claim some of the qualifications, two at least were lamentably absent, namely:

1. Easy of address;
2. Well skilled in this our noble science, implying the ability to communicate light and instruction to the brethren of the Lodge, forcibly to impress upon them the dignity and high value of Freemasonry, and zealously to admonish them to act up fully to its precepts.

My knowledge and experience of Public Speaking was nil. After some inquiry I managed to obtain a most excellent set of volumes "Effective Speech", comprising a complete course of Public Speaking and Mental Training. I made a systematic study of these books, so that, although not naturally gifted in this direction, I could reasonably say that I was "easy of address" by the time I reached the Chair of K.S. In order to have some qualifications under the heading of "Well skilled in this our noble science", and in order to acquire the knowledge "to communicate light and instruction to the brethren of my Lodge", I started to study Masonry from all angles.

Though many years have passed, I find myself so engrossed that it is likely to be a life time study.

Masters in the Making

Excellent as the gradual educational training in our Craft may be, sufficient has already been said to show that something more is required in the training of our Masters, so that not only can they conscientiously affirm that they are qualified in all respects, but that our Craft through the members of

their lodges will progress to higher and nobler heights.

For many years I have held the view that the Institution should undertake something in the nature of educational courses (preferably by correspondence) preparing brethren for the most important office of Master. This idea I have loosely thought of as Warden Preparation, but due consideration makes me think that such a name might be taken as implying too much. Because a brother is a warden, it does not necessarily follow that he will be acceptable to the brethren as Master.

Such courses could surely be made available to any brother, whether he be an officer or not. Even if he never reaches the highest office, this education would be invaluable to him in other walks of life.

Courses such as the following could perhaps be included:-

1. Public Speaking.
2. Chairmanship.
3. Lodge Administration and Organisation.
4. Masonic Jurisprudence, including particularly the right of the Lodge and the prerogatives of the Master, etc.
5. The work and duties of the Master.
6. A reasonably planned course of Masonic Study, including particularly history and symbolism of the Craft.

In this connection may I say to those brethren who have neither the time nor the inclination for lengthy study that you can dig as lightly or as deeply as you like. It is not essential to start a course of the reading of hundreds of volumes. A very few will give you food for thought for a great many happy hours. The Librarian of the United Masters Lodge will be only too pleased to suggest a suitable course for your Masonic Studies. Having dealt briefly with the more practical side of the qualifications necessary in the Master of a Lodge, let us turn for a few moments to the more abstract side.

True and Trusty -Steady and Firm in Principle

What a sense of security, strength, and beauty lies in these words- "a stone of true die, fit only to be tried and proved by the S. and C." Dependable, stable, reliable, steadfast of purpose, immediately come to our minds, those qualities so necessary for Leadership, and in one who is to use his best endeavours to instruct his brethren in true masonry, and to lead them to make their masonry a "Life to Live." "Thou must be trite thyself.

"Of Good Report"- "Of Exemplary Character"

When a mason becomes Master of his Lodge, he becomes the Representative of that Lodge, and THEREBY OF MASONRY, to the world. No finger of scorn must be pointed at his character or actions, past or present. All the skill he may possess or exhibit, unaccompanied with a duly moral life, can never acquit him of the cardinal necessity of BEING to the world, as well as to his Lodge, the representation and incarnation of the principles, of which he, by his position, is the elected exponent.

Placed in the high and dignified position of Master of his Lodge and a Ruler in the Craft his "life should be distinguished by the practice of all the moral virtues, Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, Justice, Virtue, Honour and Mercy, which constitute the character of a good man and a true Freemason."

"Held in high estimation among his brethren - Courteous in demeanour." Quite apart from moral character beyond reproach, a Master of a Lodge should be one to whom the brethren can very truly say with heart as well as with lips: "W.M., I love, honour and obey you." Such is the nature of our

Institution that a Master finds himself "an autocratic Dictator of an amiable Democracy" whose only ambition should be to increase knowledge, foster intelligence, advance education, relieve distress, and promote all good and patriotic works, without reference to political opinion, personal motives, or religious creed. It is quite true that during the term of his office, his power is autocratic and almost unlimited, but if he himself is a wise man, and a good, honest and true Mason, it will never enter his mind to abuse the great trust reposed in him.

A weak, incompetent, tyrannical, or obstinate Master can prejudice the work of a Lodge and Masonry generally very considerably. Fortunately cases of tyrannical and obstinate Masters are exceedingly rare, and time, the great healer, together with the good offices of the many earnest masons in a lodge, and the more vigorous, courteous and just rule of those who follow, will prove the cure. Nevertheless, the stain is there, and may take many years for it to be fully eradicated.

A "Good Year" for a Lodge

What constitutes a "good year" for a lodge? Is it:-

1. The number of "visits" to other lodges made by the Master?
2. The number of Candidates "put through"? or
3. The difference between the Bank Balance at the end of the year and that at the beginning?

Be honest and candid - own up that far too often one or more of these three tests cause the brethren to proclaim a Lodge Year as having been "good". More often still it is the negative result of a Master avoiding trouble - watching to see that the "Working" machinery of the lodge runs along on oiled wheels, though perhaps in a somewhat monotonous manner-and avoiding particularly "treading on the toes" of his Past Masters. To my mind the gauge we should use to measure a "Good Year" should be;-

1. The increase in the "spiritual life" of the Lodge.
2. The impressive dignity that has been lent to the working of the degrees.
3. The advancement made by the brethren in Masonic knowledge - the additional understanding they have gained of the "Why" of Freemasonry.
4. The trouble taken to really instruct candidates concerning the Society they have joined and the Ritual they have heard - of really "making" masons instead of just Initiating, Passing and Raising.
5. The personal contact which the Master has maintained with the members of his lodge, particularly those who are old, sick, or have fallen upon hard times.
6. The good work and influence of its members "outside" the lodge in contact with their fellowmen.

A little reflection will cause you to realise that undue importance is most definitely given to the first group - Visiting, number of candidates, bank balance. Yet, if a lodge's rating were only poor in these three, would it not be entitled to congratulate itself more heartily on a "good year" if its Master's rating was high in the other six - The "Spiritual" life of the lodge; impressive dignity of working; advancement in Masonic knowledge of its brethren; care of candidate during and after initiating, passing and raising; personal contact of the Master with his brethren; and influence of members "outside" the lodge?

Lodge Visiting

There are many points I would have liked to have developed such as the Ancient Charges and the

importance of the offices and special duties of the Wardens, but time will not permit. There is one matter, however, upon which I would like to touch briefly before concluding. It is Lodge Visiting as it affects the Master. The very onerous custom which has gradually developed - in this country, especially in the metropolitan areas, of "expecting" a Master to make a very large number of visits to other lodges during his term of office, has been the subject of considerable criticism over recent years by brethren actuated by the best of motives - the making of the work of a Master more useful, not only to his own brethren, but also to the Craft in general, by giving him more time to devote to more important duties in his own Lodge, and amongst his own members.

Do not think that for one moment I am trying to deprecate Visiting. I consider that contacts made both by individual members of the Craft and by Lodges to be of inestimable value - to be one of the greatest privileges we enjoy.

I would appeal to "Masters in the Making" to realise that "Temperance in all things" should be one of the mottoes of every freemason. Be fair to your family - do not unduly jeopardise your health - and above all remember that the members of your own lodge are your particular charge - that your own lodge has first call.

Within reason the contacts with other lodges built up over the years should not be lost, but a wise master will organise his year's visits with the help of his Past Masters, so that, not only can he himself continue to enjoy them, because they no longer become after a time onerous "duty calls", but he also finds that he has the time to devote to more important duties.

Past Masters like to be taken off the shelf and dusted frequently and would appreciate the privilege of assisting the Master by representing him.

Conclusion

And so I would humbly give to every Master in the Making Emerson's advice to "hitch your wagon to a star." It is the advice of a great moral philosopher. Make the effort, but if you fail or reach not the heights to which you would like to attain, be not discouraged. Are there not still beauties in the rainbow?

OPERATIVE MASONRY

Operative masonry relates to the construction of buildings and other edifices using material substances, particularly stone and marble. In this, it differs from speculative masonry which is concerned with the erection of spiritual temples in the hearts of Masonic brethren.

The activities and processes of the operative masons by our forebears to provide the basis for the creation and development of the philosophy of speculative Masonry as a way of life.

The establishment and development of the speculative art must be described as a most significant and historical achievement and it is of little consequence that the actual link or bridge between the operative system and our philosophical order cannot be clearly determined.

STAMP OF APPROVAL

The Isle of Man Post Office is marking the Tercentenary with a set of six stamps hiding a surprise that can only be revealed under a special light



As English Freemasonry celebrates 300 years of Grand Lodge, a collection of six stamps has been issued, with illustrative designs that feature badges of office for senior lodge members, as well as architectural elements inspired by the lodges of England and the Isle of Man.

Filled with masonic references, the stamps were designed by Freemason Ben Glazier of Barbican Lodge, No. 8494, which meets in London. Paying respect to the Grand Master, HRH The Duke of Kent, now in his 50th year in office, was key: a subtle ribbon of the repeating letters 'HRHDOKGM50' runs around the edge of each stamp, commemorating the milestone.

The designs also include GPS references to places that are important to Freemasonry, and the official logo of the Tercentenary – only visible under ultraviolet light. Officially approved for use, the logo becomes visible during the postal system process, as items are scanned.

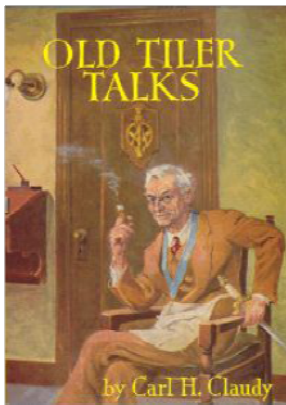
Commenting on the collection, UGLE Grand Secretary Willie Shackell said: 'The United Grand Lodge

of England is delighted to be celebrating its Tercentenary by working with the Isle of Man Post Office and the Province of the Isle of Man to present this very special set of stamps.'

While proud of its 300 years of history, Shackell explained that UGLE is now looking forward to the next three centuries, which is symbolically reflected in this innovative stamp issue. 'Freemasonry is rightly proud of its contribution to family and in the community over the centuries. It is this very same contribution to the community which United Grand Lodge of England shares with Isle of Man Post Office.'

Isle of Man Stamps and Coins general manager Maxine Cannon saluted the efforts of the United Grand Lodge of England, in particular Mike Baker, Director of Communications, and on the Isle of Man, Keith Dalrymple and Alex Downie, who provided a wealth of material: 'We thank them for their time, knowledge and assistance in making this such an interesting project.'

View the Freemasonry stamp issue at www.lompost.com



Old Tiler Talks— SHOOTING THE MASONIC GUN

Going so soon?" asked the Old Tiler, as the New Brother reached for his hat and coat. "I have a most important Masonic mission to perform," answered the New Brother, importantly.

"That's interesting," answered the Old Tiler. "I like to see new brethren so interested they are trusted with important Masonic missions. Care to tell me about it?"

"It can wait a few minutes," answered the New Brother. "It's a family matter. The young son of one of the members of our sister lodge came to me today to explain that his father wasn't doing right. He doesn't give the mother any money and the children need shoes, and this mistaken brother is spending his money on horse racing -- when he ought to be spending it on his family. The boy knew me and knew his father belonged to the fraternity. So he asked me to use the influence of Masonry to make him behave. That's what I am going to do."

"You grow more interesting every minute." The Old Tiler hitched his chair against the wall and leaned back. "Tell me what you are going to do in the performance of this important Masonic mission."

"I am going to explain to Brother Smith that his conduct is unbecoming that of a Mason, and get him to reform."

"And if he refuses?"

"I shall then threaten him with proceedings against him."

"Such as?" inquired the Old Tiler.

"Why, one prefers charges, doesn't one? The lodge tries him and inflicts what punishment is necessary. In this case the punishment would be to Support his family!"

"And while you are thus engaging in conduct unbecoming a Mason, explaining to him how unbecoming his conduct is, who will come and explain your unbecoming conduct to you?"

"My unbecoming conduct! Why, I am going to do nothing unbecoming a Mason!"

"Oh, yes, you are!" answered the Old Tiler, emphatically. "In fact, you are trying to do several un-Masonic things all at once. Even with the best of intentions, for which I give you credit, you can't succeed in getting any results but being shown the door, and, maybe, having charges preferred against you!"

"Why, you amaze me!" countered the New Brother. "I thought that one of the things Masonry was for was to make men act as they should!"

"You thought wrong!" answered the Old Tiler. "Masonry exists to *teach* men to act as they should, *persuade* them to do right, *encourage* them to be honest and upright, and thoughtful and kindly. But Masonry *makes* man do as he should. Masonry does not attempt to usurp the law's work. A man who will not support his family can be reached through the law. Masonry can reach him only through his heart. Charges can be preferred against him in his lodge, but with small prospects of results unless the law has first found him guilty. Masons try Masons for un-Masonic conduct. If the un-Masonic conduct is a legal matter, the law usually must first have taken its course. It is not for us to judge the legal aspects of his conduct, only the Masonic angles. And if he can say, 'I have done nothing; I am free before the law; my record is clear;' on what will you convict him?"

"Again, my friend, if this mission of yours is to be performed at all, it must be accomplished by the lodge, not the individual. If the brother were a member of this lodge, and son or wife complained to the Master about a brother's conduct, the Master could appoint a committee to investigate and report to the lodge. But for you, an individual, to go butting into the family affairs of a man not even a brother of your own lodge, would be to subject you to insult. Personally, I think lie would be justified in adding to his insults a swift kick which would land you in the middle of the pavement. He could well say he had kicked you in defence of his family!"

"The way to reach this brother, supposing he is doing the wrong thing, is through Masons he knows and respects. Let the son or wife go to the Master of his own lodge and say that the man is neglecting them. Let the Master of that lodge reason with him. Perhaps he needs help. The lodge will give it. Perhaps he is slipping for want of a friendly hand and sympathetic understanding. His own brethren will give it. It is not for you, any more than it is for them, to judge this man on one complaint until an investigation has shown what the fact is.

"You have no moral, legal, or fraternal right to 'whisper good counsel in his ear' until you know it is needed. By arrogating to yourself the powers of a Master and appointing yourself a committee of one to investigate, try, convict, admonish, and threaten with punishment a brother Master Mason, however good your intentions, you show yourself guilty of un-Masonic conduct and a decidedly un-Masonic ignorance. Where are you going now?"

"Back into lodge!" The New Brother hung up his hat. "To see if I can learn something about this Masonic gun before I attempt to fire it!"



OBEDIENCE

Obedience is one of the excellences of character drawn to the attention of initiates in the charge after initiation.

In the charge, it is indicated that, in the Masonic area, the initiate will be required in an obedient manner to -

- Comply with all Masonic laws and regulations;
- Pay prompt attention to all lodge communications;
- Observe a proper demeanour; abstain from political and religious discussion in the lodge room;
- Accept all resolutions agreed to by the brethren;
- Submit to the will of the Master and his Wardens acting in the discharge of their Masonic duties.

A number of 'obedience' requirements in relation to Masters are set out in the 'Antient Charges and Regulations' which are read to each Master-Elect prior to his installation and which he is required to promise to abide by without reservation.

In a society of the nature of Freemasonry it is vital that a spirit of obedience runs through the whole fabric. Although this necessarily involves a system of subordination, it is subordination in an agreeable and co-operative sense and provides a great safeguard to the continuing health and prosperity of the institution.

Lodge Birthdays

Tony Owen	29
David Blackwell	16
John Warmington	12
Mark Raffles	8
Garry Jordan	6
Brenton Terry	5(J)
Scott Manley	4
John Patterson (Re-joiner)	5

News from the South

The Lodge held a splendid Gala Dinner on Saturday 24th June at the Holiday Inn (ex-Radisson, ex-Intercontinental etc.) to celebrate the tercentenary of UGLE and 40 years of Freemasonry in Vanuatu. There were 77 diners including lots of guests and potential candidates? Time will tell.

In keeping with the more open policy of UGLE the Lodge issued 2 press releases in the Vanuatu Independent which is now an online only media outlet, please visit [https://vanuatuindependent.com/2017/06/21/freemasonry-in-](https://vanuatuindependent.com/2017/06/21/freemasonry-in-vanuatu/)

vanuatu/

300 Years of Freemasonry + 40 years of Lodge of Discovery





Photographs courtesy of W. Bro. Russell Chilton

Humour

MARKETING

One buzz word in today's business world is MARKETING. However, people often ask for a simple explanation of "Marketing." Well, here it is:

You're a woman and you see a handsome guy at a party. You go up to him and say, "I'm fantastic in bed." [That's Direct Marketing.](#)

You're at a party with a bunch of friends and see a handsome guy. One of your friends goes up to him and, pointing at you, says, "She's fantastic in bed." [That's Advertising.](#)

You see a handsome guy at a party. You go up to him and get his telephone number. The next day you call and say, "Hi, I'm fantastic in bed" [That's Telemarketing.](#)

You see a guy at a party; you straighten your dress. You walk up to him and pour him a drink. You say, "May I?" and reach up to straighten his tie, brushing your breast lightly against his arm, and then say, "By the way, I'm fantastic in bed." [That's Public Relations.](#)

You're at a party and see a handsome guy. He walks up to you and says, "I hear you're fantastic in bed." [That's Brand Recognition.](#)

You're at a party and see a handsome guy. He fancies you, but you talk him into going home with your friend. [That's a Sales Rep.](#)

Your friend can't satisfy him so he calls you. [That's Tech Support.](#)

You're on your way to a party when you realize that there could be handsome men in all these houses you're passing, so you climb onto the roof of one situated towards the center and shout at the top of your lungs, "I'm fantastic in bed!" [That's Facebook.](#)

You are at a party; this attractive older man walks up to you and grabs your ass.
[That's Donald Trump.](#)

You didn't mind it, but twenty years later your attorney decides you were offended, sues on your behalf and you are awarded a settlement. [That's America !](#)
