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Comp. James H. Wroth presents the Report on Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of 41 Grand Chapters. Both Canada and Alberta come in for a share. The review contains many shrewd comments and reflections, with a strong infusion of humour, and is well worth reading. In his concluding remarks Comp. Wroth expresses what we must consider an unnatural preference, thus: "I am a great deal more interested in laws than I am in anything else. The amount of money that a Chapter possesses doesn't interest me at all; that's a family affair. The decisions and rulings do; and, while there is not very much on the legal side to criticise, I want to bring to the brethren of New Mexico the laws of other jurisdictions."

The rulings and decisions are upon the interpretation of written laws, whether made by the Grand Chapter or the subordinate bodies. It is necessary that they should be interpreted when doubt arises; and recorded interpretations are of importance as precedents; more than that we cannot concede. A Grand Chapter is not a Legislature nor a Court of Law. In a zeal for decisions there seems to us to lurk a danger of allowing what is strictly subsidiary to take the place of what is substantial and of first importance — namely, the welfare and progress of the Royal Craft.

Sources:

Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada at the annual convocation, 1917 report on Foreign Correspondence – NEW MEXICO