

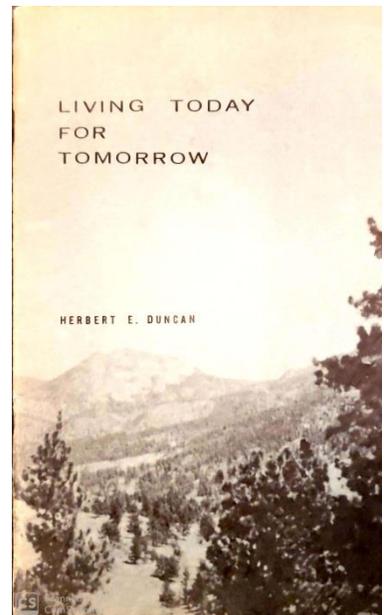
## Unwritten History

As we are winding down to the end of this series, we realize that there is a rich heritage of DeMolay history and experience still to be mined. It has been a great journey through DeMolay history that may have been foreign to most of today's members and advisors. Many long-time members of the Supreme Council have remarked that they, too, have learned much from these weekly essays. Many topics have been covered, and the last one, **"The Best Lesson of All,"** will be a two-parter.



For this week, let's talk about some of the topics that were NOT covered. Generally, if we didn't have original sources or verified sources for the material shared, it wasn't used. We tried not to rely too heavily on the Rev. Herbert E. Duncan's biography of Frank S. Land, "Hi, Dad!" because while filled with a lot of facts, it also

recounts long discussions to which the author could not have been a witness, and he doesn't attribute them to conversations he had with those who were there. So what are these conversations? His imagination? Legend? Stories told over and over again by those who WERE there? It is hard to say. We would like to believe them to be true, but we just don't know. "Dad" Duncan was a prolific and creative writer of sermons and booklets. Perhaps he was writing for a youthful audience and wasn't too worried about historical criticism in trying to tell the story of "Dad" Land. We will never really know, so, in general, we tried to cover topics where there were reliable, factual sources available.



There is so much left to research and write about. Plenty of source materials exist, but are only found in the Service and Leadership Center. Other sources of material MAY exist, for example, at the Truman Library or in the archives of the Scottish Rite in Kansas City or the Imperial Shrine of North America. New efforts are being made to digitize CORDON magazines and other publications, like the PROCEEDINGS of the Grand and Supreme Councils, which will allow others to do

remote research. These weekly Centennial Celebration Moments represent the best we could do with what was available.

Here are some topics that YOU might want to research, someday:

The Founder's Conferences

Origin and development of the DeMolay Leadership Training Conferences

Origin of The Landmarks of DeMolay

Dad Land's Election to the School Board of Kansas City

Dad Land's involvement with the origin of the Knights of Pythagoras

Dad Land's service as Imperial Potentate of the Shrine

The 60<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations

New Scholarship on the Trial of the Templars

The Importance of International Development

Prominent Supreme Council Members

Other Supreme Councils

DeMolay's Many Homes

Dad Land's Platinum (not gold) 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree Ring

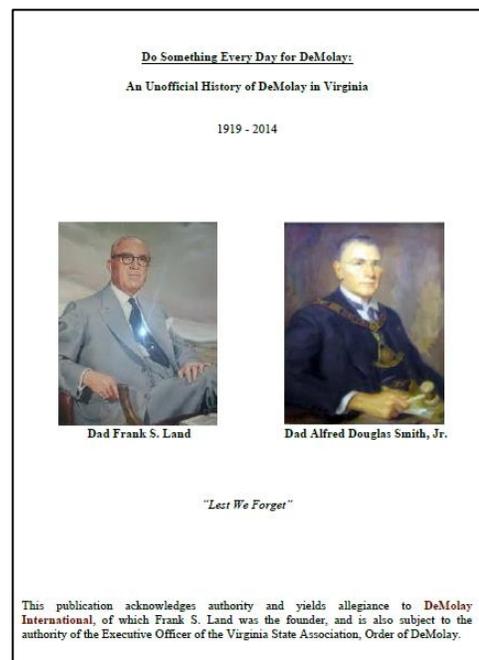
The Founder's Cross

The Origin of the Obligatory Days

The History of How DeMolay Came to EACH DeMolay Jurisdiction

And on that last topic, we want to acknowledge the incredible work of Bro. Thomas L. Varner, Jr. PSMC of Virginia, 1982-1983, who has written a marvelous well-researched and documented volume on the history of DeMolay in the Commonwealth of Virginia. It is 121 pages long, plus 15 appendices. It is a great model for other jurisdictions to follow.

We hope that some of you will further the cause of reviewing and writing the history of DeMolay, and even more importantly, **MAKING HISTORY FOR DeMOLAY!**



1. What other topics would you like to know about “Dad” Land and the history of the Order of DeMolay? Send your questions to DeMolay International!