



# Knight Templar

VOLUME VIII

MARCH, 1962

NUMBER



"ONWARD CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS"



## **Knight Templar**



**Official Publication of The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of  
the United States of America—Issued Monthly**

**PAUL M. MOORE, Grand Master**

**JOHN TEMPLE RICE, Grand Recorder**

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**OFFICE OF PUBLICATION OF "KNIGHT TEMPLAR"—SUBSCRIPTIONS**

Send All Subscriptions, New and Renewals (\$1.00 per year) to—Address

"KNIGHT TEMPLAR" Magazine—20 West South Street, Greenfield, Indiana.

(Notice to Subscribers—The date on the wrapper indicates when your Subscription Expires.)

The "Knight Templar" entered as Second Class Matter at the United States Post Office, Greenfield, Indiana, under the Act of August 24, 1912.

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WILLARD M. AVERY, P.G.C., Editor

P. O. Box 56, KNIGHTSTOWN, INDIANA

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## **Grand Master's Appraisal of George Wilbur Bell**

Prior to the election of Sir Knight George Wilbur Bell as Right Eminent Grand Captain General of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the United States of America, I had known him only casually. I had met him on occasions at various Grand Commandery Conclaves, and knew him to be a person deeply interested in the cause of Templary and one who was willing to back up his interest by action. I knew that there was no one his age who had traveled more in the cause of Templary than had Sir Knight Bell.

Since Sir Knight Bell's election, we have had many pleasant and worthwhile associations. My earlier ideas about Wilbur have been confirmed and strengthened. He is a man who truly in his activities exemplifies the Christian sincerity so necessary as a leader in our Order, by words, by actions, and by daily application. He is one who has devoted practically all of his adult life to Masonry and its associated orders, a man of wonderful personality, and one who has always exemplified a standard of character, citizenship, and morality as set forth in the ritual of our Order. He is one who believes that no greater cause can challenge our time and attention than the Christian religion in the defense of which we are all engaged. Sir Knight Bell is a man who has had much experience in Masonry and particularly in Templary. His counsel is timely and good, and he is one who not only has a broad basis of Templary experience, but is also a vigorous, dynamic, personable young man who can and will advance our cause for many years to come. The Grand Encampment is most fortunate in having Sir Knight Bell to serve as Right Eminent Grand Captain General.

**PAUL M. MOORE,**  
Grand Master.



# Sir Knight G. Wilbur Bell

## Right Eminent Grand Captain General

By V. Y. DALLMAN, SR., of the Grand Encampment K. T. of the U. S. A.

*Editor Emeritus Illinois State Register, Springfield, Ill.,  
Honorary 33rd Degree Mason,  
Past Potentate and Poet Laureate of Ansar Temple.*



*Knighthood is his constant pride;  
Righteousness his rule and guide.  
In him the rarest virtues blend—  
Philanthropist, crusader, friend.*

(next page)

There was a warm glow in my heart when announcement came from Cleveland, Ohio, August 16, 1961, that George Wilbur Bell had been elected Right Emminent Grand Captain General of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar at the 48th Triennial Conclave.

For many years Wilbur Bell has been an inspiration to me. His family environment, his colorful career, his magnetic personality and his creative genius, with Templar Masonry the impelling force in his service for God and man, have quickened my admiration for him as a leader crusading to promote Christianity.

Always cheerful, with a smile which reflects wholesome humor and lofty purpose, Wilbur Bell attracts the intense friendship and fellowship of his associates. Being a "First Flighter" myself, I have admired Wilbur Bell's skill as an aviator with his own plane. His record as pilot exceeds 5,000 hours. I have admired Mrs. Bell whose parents, brothers and sisters all belong to Masonic bodies or the Eastern Star. The glow of comradeship which Wilbur Bell creates in any social, fraternal or business realm always fascinates me. Countless others bear the same impression. He accepts with joy the challenge of the future to crusade for "peace on Earth, good will to men."

The little City of Chandlerville, in Lincoln Land, rich with tradition, proudly boasts that Wilbur Bell was born there, September 2, 1912, and that he and his wife, Alma, fondly call that "Home." Wilbur graduated from Bath-Lynchburg High School in 1930, attended Bradley University, Peoria, and the University of Illinois where he became an expert Electrical and Mechanical Engineer. Associated with his father in the C. R. Bell & Son Grain Co., he is a cattle raiser and "Flying Farmer."

Friend Bell's "Wings" include member of International Flying Farmers, the Air-

plane Owners and Pilots Association, and Chicago Air Club. He is active with the Union League Club, Chicago; Sangamo Club, Springfield; Citizens Committee, U. of I., and the Havana National Bank, Havana, Ill.

In his early youth, Sir Knight Bell became a devout member of the Fairview Methodist Church, serving through the years in various capacities. Christianity and Masonry became synonymous with him. Membership in Creve Coeur Chapter, Order of DeMolay, in which he became Bugler, was his first approach to Masonry. He received the DeMolay "Legion of Honor" from the International Supreme Council. His close friend, the late Brother Frank Land, founder of DeMolay, appointed him an Active Member of the Supreme Council. He is presently serving as Executive Officer for Southern Illinois and member of the Executive Committee of the Supreme Council, Kansas City, Mo.

For his Symbolic Masonry, Brother Bell was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in Chandlerville Lodge No. 724, F. & A. M. Chandlerville, Ill., on April 9, 1938. He served as Worshipful Master in 1943, 1944 and 1945.

Wilbur received his Capitular Degrees and was exalted a Royal Arch Mason in Havana Chapter No. 86, R. A. M. in 1941, served as Excellent High Priest in 1947 and was admitted into the Order of High Priesthood of Illinois. He was elected Excellent Grand Master of the Third Veil of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, state of Illinois on April 12, 1958 and is the present Grand Captain of the Host.

For his Cryptic Degrees, he was greeted a Royal and Select Master in Canton Council No. 23 on October 23, 1947 and received the Super Excellent Degree in Decatur Council No. 16 at Decatur, Ill., in 1951. He demitted from Canton Coun-



cil and became affiliated with Beardstown Council No. 88 and served as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1955-'56.

In Chivalric Masonry, Wilbur received the Order of the Red Cross and the Order of Malta at a Pilgrimage held by Humboldt Park Commandery No. 79, K. T., Chicago, Ill., in 1942 and was dubbed a Knight Templar in Damascus Commandery No. 42, K. T., Havana, Ill., on May 26, 1942. He served as Eminent Commander of Damascus Commandery in 1948-49. He was elected Grand Warder of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the state of Illinois in 1950 and advanced until he was elected Right Eminent Grand Commander at the 100th Annual Conclave in 1956. Wilbur was elected Grand Treasurer of the Grand Commandery in 1958 and has since served in that office.

He was ordained and anointed a Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priest in 1952 and served as Very Eminent Preceptor of Simon Peter Tabernacle No. XXII, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priest, Chicago, Ill., 1958-59. He is an officer of Illinois Priory No. II, K.Y.C.H. and has earned the distinction of being a "Knight York Grand Cross of Honour."

Wilbur was made a "Prophet-at-Sight" at Danville, Ill., May 10, 1958, and is a member of Zingabad Grotto, M.O.V.P.E.R., Jacksonville, Ill., and is a permanent contributing member of the "Enchanted Lantern."

Wilbur became a member of the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America, Valley of Springfield in November, 1940. He became an officer of the Sangamo Lodge of Perfection in 1956 and is now serving as Junior Warden.

G. Wilbur Bell became a Noble of Ansar Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S. in December, 1940 and is currently serving as Assistant Rabban of the Divan. He is a permanent

contributing supporter of the Shrine Hospitals for Crippled Children.

He is a member of the Ceremonial Cast of Springfield Court No. 20, Royal Order of Jesters; Officer of Saxa Rubra Conclave, Red Cross of Sonstantine, Campaign, Ill.; member of the Royal Order of Scotland, receiving the degrees in Washington, D. C., in 1955; member of Paumanok Council No. 32 of the Grand Council of Knights Masons, Dublin, Ireland; member of the Grand College of Rites of the United States of America; officer of the Grand Master's Council No. A. of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the U. S. A.; member of The Red Branch of Erie, Washington, D. C.; member of the Philalthes Society, the Missouri Lodge of Research and Re Cha Ram Chapter No. 117, R. A. M., Milwaukee, Wis.

Sir Knight Bell is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star of Chandlerville and served as Worthy Patron in 1951; also member of the "Grand Cross of Color" of the Supreme Assembly, Order of Rainbow for Girls, International Rainbow Temple.

Wilbur has served 23 of his 49 years in the "vineyards of Masonry" since becoming a Master Mason. His dynamic energy is equaled only by his consecration to the Crafts. He knows that prayer strengthens his active faith in God. He knows that to be an active follower is basic to successful leadership in a great crusade to promote righteousness. He is an optimist—a firm believer in the philosophy which fell from the lips of The Master of Men: "And whomsoever shall be chief among you, let him be your servant." Sir Knight Bell believes that the inspiring Order of Knighthood is the brilliant light which leads the way to a Christian World of Love, free from communism, atheism and hate.



## “Templary With a Mission”

By Sir Knight G. WILBUR BELL, Right Eminent Grand Captain General  
of the Grand Encampment K. T. of the U. S. A.

During the years since its establishment the Grand Encampment has gathered increasing favor and influence. The Grand Encampment has had the effect of nationalizing Templary, and of imparting to it a prestige and an influence which would not have been attached to the Order had its life been expressed only in separate Grand Bodies.

Templary has made advances in numbers and resources during the last quarter of a century. Its membership includes men of intelligence, character, and prominent citizenship in every jurisdiction. It has strength and influence for good by reason of such a membership, not less than by the prestige which comes from the past, the principles for which it stands, and the fraternal service which it renders. Hospitality is one of its distinguishing characteristics. In the ancient days a portion of the Order of St. John was designated as “Hospitallers,” being set apart to reside in hospitals and in buildings erected for the accommodation of strangers, and to dispense a generous liberality to any who might be their guests in these temporary homes. The time has gone by for this special practice of hospitality, but not for the exercise of that knightly grace which welcomes the stranger guest and frater. Knights Templar, however, are only faithful to the old-time traditions and lessons of their Order when they evince a cordial fellowship and show forth a hospitality, not of the hand and the purse alone, but of the heart as well. Courtesy and hospitality are still enjoined in the impressive lessons of Templary. But there is a higher realm of thought and purpose, of faith and duty; for the Order of Knights Templar is essentially a Christian institution; it requires faith in the Son of God, whose sufferings, death, and resurrection are impressively commemorated in the ceremonies prescribed by its ritual, and it

enjoins practical obedience to the precepts of Him who is “the Way, the Truth, and the Life.”

It represents more than morality; it stands for religion itself; the religion established upon “the foundation of the Apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner-stone.” Other organizations of a fraternal character may deal with the general principles which find expression in all systems of religion; but Templary plants itself squarely upon the affirmations of Christianity, and binds its followers in the most solemn manner to accept and support the essential teachings of the Gospel. In regard to this point there can be no question. Every Knight Templar rests under a solemn obligation to stand by the Christian religion to the very end, and to be a loyal follower of the Great Captain of our salvation. No church has a more impressive ritual in its order of service for the reception of members than the Templar ceremony, which belongs to the conferring of the Order upon candidates. Nor is it in word and ceremony alone that the Christian features of the Templar Order are set forth; for its symbols, banners, legends, and tokens are all significant of the position which it holds as an institution permeated by faith in a crucified and ascended Savior.

The first mission of Templary is to point its members to the Cross as the glorified sign of moral beauty and significance. It emphasizes the great central idea of Christian revelation that, “for the redemption of sinful humanity, the eternal Son of God bowed Himself down on the Cross and gave His life for the world.” Thus does it present a supreme motive to highest living; thus does it seek to make the lives of men better and more productive in works of good, while their souls are drawn toward God and heaven. (Continued on Page 11)



# History of Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

By **WALTER A. DeLAMATER**, Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, K.T. of U.S.A., and Executive Director of Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

Following is the first of a historical and informative series of articles on the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., for the information of those unacquainted with the details and back ground of our great humanitarian project.

## Its Origin and Formation

One could not be interested and active in Templary for any period of time without fully realizing that our Great Christian Order being bound around the life of Christ made the Order of Knights Templar (outside of the Church) an outstanding Christian Organization.

With a further thought and realization as to its major objectives which are to "Bind up the wounds of the afflicted, practice Universal Benevolence, and the Christian Virtues, are vital and powerful objectives, and no doubt many an individual Sir Knight has followed them, but not as an organization or on a national basis did we publicly and acutally practice them. We are now putting into practice that which we obligated to do.

The Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the United States of America has had for years its Educational Loan Foundation. It has rendered fine service over many years, in assisting many students to a higher education. Its work and results are commendable. It is a service and financial project and not a charity.

With all of the above in mind it was felt that in the whole Masonic Structure, if any branch or body of Masonry should have a charitable project it was the Knights Templar.

Therefore at the 46th Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment Knights

Templar of the United States of America in 1955, a resolution was presented and after full and frank discussions, was adopted, authorizing the establishing of a Knights Templar Eye Foundation with the following objectives:

"For the research, treatment and hospitalization of those who suffer from diseases of or injury to the eye, which if untreated might result in blindness. That admission for treatment of such persons shall be without regard to race, color, creed, age, sex or national origin. That the treatment of patients for this purpose shall be free and limited to persons unable to pay. That all matters in connection with the launching, including the establishing and maintaining of hospitalization, research and treatment of these persons shall be in existing facilities" (no money thus tied up in bricks and mortar or expensive maintenance overhead).

This was the authority to start our Great Humanitarian Project, establishing a charitable work which many predict is destined to rank among the great philanthropies of the world. At the same time it is carrying out in every angle, and putting into practice what we were obligated to do as Knights Templar. Thus, the Grand Encampment and Templary started on the road to take its rightful and long overlooked place as an organization sponsoring great humanitarian and charitable projects in the world, that could and would be of great service to those, who otherwise might be led into a life of darkness, and at the same time bringing most favorable results to our great Christian Order of Templary.

(Continued on Page 15)



# Ten Rules for Achieving Good Public Relations in Obtaining Publicity for Templary

By Sir Knight PAUL C. RODENHAUSER, Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Pennsylvania, 1134 Manor Street, Columbia, Pennsylvania

One of the essentials of any enterprise dealing with the public, wholly or in part, is a good brand of public relations. Fear of violating tradition, or a lack of understanding of what constitutes good public relations or publicity, chiefly seems to be responsible for the failure to profitably utilize public relations in Masonry generally and Templary in particular.

Literally, volumes could be written (and have been) on the subject. In essence, these are the basic points we should remember and observe in our Knight Templar publicity:

1. Examine any Templar activity carefully before you try to publicize it. Ask yourself whether it is important, worthwhile and newsworthy—and, if so, whether it reflects creditably upon the Order.
2. When you ask for news or related coverage, don't tell the editor, news director or program director that you have something which will "help" the newspaper, or the radio or television station. You're not going to them to "help" them with a news item; you're approaching them for the major purpose of asking them to help you and your Commandery or Grand Commandery. These individuals know this, and such an approach doesn't always get things off to a good start.
3. Don't beg or apologize, however, for requesting coverage or publicity. State or write the main points of the event; who, what, where, when and why. Let your contact know that it is important to your group, but don't wear out your welcome by becoming over-insistent on one event. After all, public relations is a longterm process. Remember, you'll want to go back for other news and publicity assistance.
4. Don't expect 100 percent cooperation just because it's a Masonic event. Any medium of public communication, supposedly, is for the public as a whole—not just one segment. Obviously, we all know of many deviations in this "broadminded" attitude, but—in the majority of the cases—a newspaper, radio or television station does try to be fair and impartial, and helpful to all. It depends upon the public for its existence; therefore, it tries to serve the public.
5. Be reliable and accurate when you relay information. If you set a time for a picture or an interview, for example, make absolutely sure that you have the principals and the facilities available at the time and place promised.
6. If you are the one to be written about or pictured, don't become coy when the time comes for the execution of the picture or story. A press photographer or reporter is working for a salary; other things, perhaps more important events in the view of the editor or broadcaster, are on the schedule. Therefore, a photographer or reporter normally does not have



- the time or inclination to try to cajole you into posing or speaking. He is there because YOU—or someone in your behalf—has ASKED him to be there. Don't act "surprised" or try to give the impression that all this publicity is distasteful to you.
7. If the photographer wants additional shots, be thankful for the consideration and for his desire to get the best pictures possible. Don't assume the attitude that he is transgressing and that you are bored, annoyed or irked by the necessity for facing the camera. The newspaper or broadcasting representative — always remember—is present by invitation or request!
  8. Get your ideas across to the representative. After all, you should know more about Templary than he does. But, when it comes to HIS business (newspaper, radio or TV), let HIM make the decision. It might not suit you; in fact, maybe you could have used better judgement. However, running his operations is not your responsibility.
  9. Be cooperative. It is important that Templar public relations be GOOD—not just frequent. Don't feud with the press with the thought that it will get you better representation. Fight with them if you must, but be prepared for a one-sided battle. (Obviously, this has no reference to needed reforms, or attacks against indecency, poor taste, libel, and similar offenses on the part of a publisher or broadcaster. These suggested "do's and don't's" merely are oversimplified ideas to help Knight Templary get favorable and worthwhile publicity. They bear no relation to individual community or area problems.)
  10. If you are going to be justifiably angry about some dealing with the press, get good and mad! Express your objections succinctly (always remembering your Templary standards) and expressively. But—above all (and in all seriousness) make sure you are justified and do your objecting objectively.
- In summary, it is suggested that you try to understand the value of public relations; that you learn to appraise activities for their possible promotional use; that you be accurate, factual, reliable and cooperative; that you express appreciation for good coverage when received. Remember (when you consider ways, means and reasons), that a "story" can be important for a variety of reasons. Examples: because of the importance or prominence of the individual or individuals involved—or the large number of persons taking part—or the significance of the issues—or because of something unusual or novel in the program.
- There are others. Individuals and circumstances vary. Each community or area has its special handicaps and its special benefits as far as publicity is concerned, and these must be worked out on the scene. In general, our public relations can be improved by the use of courtesy, commonsense and efficiency—and Knight Templary (as well as any other organization) can benefit from the results.

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## Proposed Knight Templar Cross of Honor

By Sir Knight HAROLD G. PRICE, SR., P.G.C., 1270 East Crystal Avenue,  
Salt Lake City 6, Utah

(EDITORIAL NOTE: The Knight Templar welcomes articles advocating change in our Order and action that the writer considers advantageous to the cause of Templary. This is such an article and we sincerely thank Sir Knight Price therefor. The opinion expressed in this article as well as similar articles hereafter published will not necessarily be the opinion of the Editors of the Knight Templar.)

Knights Templary finds itself today in the midst of change. We are revising our objectives and thanks to dynamic leadership in the fraternity that has asserted itself we are well along in our transition period.

The vitality of an organization is directly affected by the percentage of its membership who sincerely concern themselves with the business of promoting its objectives. These goals must be spiritually rewarding to command the zeal and application of the main body. Without such life sustaining approval there is a withering away and the spiritual sinews that hold an organization together lose their power. Knights Templary has much to provide its immediate members as well as the outside world. We are all aware of our philanthropies and the approval is asserting itself. We do need a greater development of our organization and it was to accomplish this that the sponsors of the second amendment as shown on Page 4 of the Notice of Conclave dated May 12, 1961 had the proposed legislation presented. The proposals were as follows:

"I (We) propose to amend the Statutes of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar by the adoption of a new statute, as follows:

The Knight Templar Cross of Honor. Section 237½. There is hereby created and established a meritorious award to be known as "The Knights Templar Cross of Honor" which may be rewarded by the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment to Sir Knights of Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies, on the following conditions and stipulations:

1. The award shall consist of a bronze or gold medal in the form of a cross, selected by the Grand Master. The cross shall be suspended by a black and white ribbon from a bar bearing the inscription, "Knights Templar Cross of Honor." On the reverse side of the jewel shall be inscribed the name of the recipient. A suitable certificate of award issued by the Grand Encampment and signed by the Grand Master, shall accompany the jewel and shall set forth the citation in full.

2. A nomination for the award shall be made by the Commandery of which the nominee is a member, by motion adopted by the Commandery, and must be submitted in writing through the Grand Commander, as to Constituent Commanderies, and must give his name and address, Masonic rank, name of Commandery, and full particulars of the meritorious services on which the nomination is based.

3. The award shall be made only for exception and meritorious service rendered to the Order, far beyond the call of duty, and beyond the service usually expected of an officer or member.

4. This award shall not be made to an active line Officer or a Past Grand Commander.



5. Only three nominations may be made by a Grand Commandery jurisdiction, and only three awards shall be made to the Subordinate Commanderies as a group during one Triennium.

6. Only under exceptional circumstances shall an award be made if at the time there is another living member of the Commandery having received the award of nomination of that Commandery.

7. In deciding the award, precedents shall be entirely ignored, and each case shall be decided entirely on its own merits.

8. No posthumous awards shall be made.

9. The Commandery making the nomination shall bear the expense of the jewel for its nominee."

**This proposed legislation did not receive the necessary two thirds majority to pass.** Undoubtedly it is well that it did not as constructive amendments were offered but in the confusion of debate it was realized the legislation needed more seasoning but that the main theme was definitely in the right direction. The objective was to gather together a hard core of dedicated workers through out the entire world of Templary. This we hold to be good and when we can get this legislation in shape to accomplish this it will receive the appreciative acceptance of the Order.

Therefore: we wish for the readers to review this and give to us the constructive effort that will aid us in developing this selection and recognition. We would like to have you address your thoughts to the writer for review and possible correspondence to each of you. We have the time before our next Triennial to really whip this matter into shape and thus launch a development that will prove fruitful and dynamic in its nature.

Templarism is a dynamic force and is on the march.

## TEMPLARY WITH A MISSION

(Continued from Page 6)

**It declares its purpose to the Christian service.** It pledges those who enter its asylum as members to be faithful followers of Him who said, "I am among you as one that serveth." It exists not for ornament, or merely to cultivate and express the goodly fellowship which may be expected to characterize brethren and friends. There are great principles to be maintained, and a practical service of love and helpfulness to be rendered. The men who instituted the modern Order, and gave it masonic affiliation were wise to discern the moral power belonging to the ancient system, and they sought to utilize such an influence by recalling olden rites and symbols, and by giving foremost place to the Cross of Calvary. It is that Cross, with all that it signifies of faith and duty, which appeals most powerfully to every earnest and thoughtful member of the Order, and impels to noble work in the Master's name; such a service as is represented by the ritual in its exhortation "to distribute alms to poor and weary pilgrims travelling from afar; to feed the hungry; to clothe the naked, and to bind up the wounds of the afflicted." The members of the Knights Templar, thus incited, can but realize the mission which they are called to fulfill in faithful service for love's sake, for truth's sake and for Christ's sake.

**Who can doubt** that there is a place of honor and usefulness for the modern Order of Christian Knighthood? It stands for gentleness, hospitality, courtesy, magnanimity, and divine charity; for the expression of a blessed fellowship, and a benign service such as the world most needs. As in the past, so now it represents the most sacred sentiment which appeal to the heart of humanity, and which prompt men to the fulfilment of the duties of related life; and thus it justifies its existence, and thus it claims the loving, loyal support of all true Knights Templar.



## *News from Grand and Constituent Commanderies*

### **Knights Templar Join With Masons to Honor Grand Master, F. & A. M. of Illinois**



An outstanding event in Illinois Masonic history, said to be the largest of its kind ever held, took place in Chicago on Sunday morning, January 7th, 1962.

Nearly 14,000 Masons and their families assembled at McCormick Place for a Rededication Breakfast honoring Brother Harold D. Ross, Most Worshipful Grand Master, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Illinois.

Chicago streets and highways were blocked with a twelve inch snow fall but this in no way prevented the enthusiastic gathering; even though many bus loads from down state and outlying areas could not get through the drifts.

Senator Everett M. Dirksen presided as Master of Ceremonies. John W. Bricker, former United States Senator and former Governor of Ohio, the principal speaker, reminded those present that the breakfast was held that they might rededicate themselves to the principles of Free Masonry and thereby become attuned to the Great Spiritual Power which created the Universe.

General Chairman for the event was

Brother and Sir Knight Lester B. Ohlsen—District Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois and a member of Englewood Commandery No. 59 Knights Templar. Masonic Lodge Committees and groups from many appendant bodies cooperated in development of the program. Uniformed units of Medinah Shrine served as ushers and guides. Rev. Wesley E. McKelvey of the Embury Methodist Church in Freeport delivered the religious message.

Probably the most striking example of Masonic cooperation was an Escort of ninety Knights Templar, including Grand Officers of Illinois and Sir Knights from Chicago area Commanderies. Under direction of Sir Knight William O. C. Thompson, Commander of the Illinois Templar Brigade, this group served as an Honor Escort on the speaker's platform for the opening ceremonies, the invocation and the singing of the National Anthem. Seth Webster Flanders, Right Eminent Grand Commander of Illinois and his wife were seated on the speakers' platform and accorded a courteous recognition by the Grand Master.



## Triangle Commandery No. 38, Lake County, Florida Boasts Unusual K. T. Parade Flag



The Sir Knights in the picture (left to right), Warren Barry, donor of the flag; Jason Smith, Warder; Victor B. Shaner, P. C.; E. John Marley, Prelate; Joe B. Kennedy, E. C.  
(Submitted by Blenus Williams, Orlando, Florida, Grand Captain General, Florida).

In the lake section of Central Florida, to be more specific in Lake County, is located the very delightful city of Eustis. Eustis has many attractions that make it well and favorably known, and one of these attractions is that it is the home of Triangle Commandery No. 38, Knights Templar. Triangle is a good York Rite term; however in this case, it alludes to the three cities of Eustis, Mt. Dora and Tavares. It would be safe to state that a large percentage of the population of Ohio have some friends or relatives living in this section. The purpose of this article is not to laud the attractive features of Eustis from a Chamber of Commerce viewpoint; however a little geographical background might be helpful.

Triangle Commandery's membership is composed of Knights Templar from every

section of the Eastern part of the United States. With this situation in mind many interesting items come to light. The accompanying picture is a classic example of this cross section of the membership of Triangle Commandery.

Fifteen years ago Sir Knight Warren Barry moved to Eustis from Boston, Massachusetts. He was a member of DeMolay Commandery of that city. Upon taking up his residence in Eustis, he became actively identified with the Masonic Community, especially with the Templar Masons. He assisted in conferring the Orders, and was very helpful in organizing Triangle Commandery, with the result that he transferred his membership to this Commandery. At the present time he is Eighty-one and continues to be active in the work.

In 1925 Sir Knight Barry's uncle, Sir Knight Mill Whittle died. He was Past



Commander of Beauceant Commandery of Malden, Massachusetts. His wife died in 1927. Sir Knight Barry took possession of the personal effects of his uncle which represented an accumulation of fifty-seven years. When he moved to Eustis he brought his uncle's belongings with him.

Last year it became necessary for Sir Knight Barry to have his chimney repair-

ed and in making room for this operation he found among other items the Knight Templar flag which is shown in the picture.

As you will see it is in excellent condition, and it is the first K. T. parade flag the writer has ever seen, and I am sure that few present day Knights have ever seen one.

## Senior Knights Templar Honored



SHERMAN D. PARSONS

Known throughout New Hampshire as "Mr. Mason," Sherman D. Parsons was recently honored at a testimonial dinner in recognition of his 100th birthday.

Congratulatory telegrams were read from former President Eisenhower, N. H. Senator Norris E. Cotton and Governor Wesley Powell.

Among the speakers were Carl A. Buswell, Claremont, Grand Commander of the Knights Templar.



Van R. Edington, left, Commander, and Guy Porter, Jr., Past Commander.

At the regular installation of officers of Jerusalem Commandery, No. 17, New York, an event probably unique in the annals of fraternal organizations occurred.

Van R. Edington was installed as commander for the second time, the first being fifty years ago in 1912.

The installation of Van Edington as commander for the year of 1962, occurred on the 50th anniversary of his status as a past commander.

Present at installation were 17 past commanders of the Jerusalem Commandery. Four other past commanders have served two terms.



**EYE FOUNDATION**

(Continued from Page 7)

The Grand Encampment having authorized the establishing of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, the next most important step was to be assured that the foundation of the organization would be built on solid ground, upon which a structure of great strength could be erected. With this in mind we purposely moved slowly and carefully building for the future and for permanency.

The late Sir Knight Robert P. Smith, who was for many years the General Counsel of both the Shriners Hospitals for Crippled Children and the Imperial Council and who formed the Foundation for the Scottish Rite of the Southern Jurisdiction and also for the MeMolay, graciously agreed to undertake the task

of performing all the legal work incident thereto and to form a tax exempt corporation, draw the articles of incorporation, by-laws, etc., etc. Upon completion of this year long task Sir Knight Smith declined any compensation or even reimbursement for out of pocket expenses.

Sir Knight Wilber M. Brucker, at that time Chairman of the Committee on Templar Jurisprudence, and who was serving in Washington as Secretary of the Army, was able to assist Sir Knight Smith to tie in the matters relating to Templary. Our first organization meeting was held July 21, 1956, in Chicago.

Thus the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., became a reality and on its way to serve Humanity and Templary.

(To be continued)

**District of Columbia Commander Installed**

Sir Knight Harry L. Beach was installed Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the District of Columbia, on February 12, 1962, succeeding Roland Richards, who died January 16, 1962. Sir Knight Richards was plagued by illness during his entire term of office. Mrs. Richards passed away four weeks after the death of her illustrious husband.

The new Grand Commander is a retired General Electric Company executive, an Episcopalian, and is active in community and church work. His Masonic affiliations include membership in St. John's Lodge, No. 11, F.A.A.M.; Eureka-Naval Chapter, No. 4, R.A.M.; Adoniram Council No. 2, R. & S. M.; Washington Command-

ery, No. 1, KT; Almas Temple Shrine, Royal Order of Scotland, Past Perceptor, INRI Tabernacle, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, Past Grand Patron, O. E. S.

He is vice chairman, Grand Encampment Committee on Arlington Memorial Easter Sunrise Service, and D. C. Chairman of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. He is truly a dedicated and devoted Knight Templar, and is Prelate of Washington Commandery. He is particularly interested in the Knight Templar Eye Foundation, and has visited schools, clubs, churches, explaining the purpose of this great Knight Templar charity—which is to provide treatment for ailing eyesight which, if allowed to go untreated, might result in blindness.



# EDITORIAL

The Knight Templar suffered a distinct loss in the death of Darold T. Fleming, Editor, as a result of an automobile accident on the 29th day of January, 1962. Although Darold had served as editor for only a few months, he was vitally interested in the work and his ability as an experienced newspaperman and publisher will be greatly missed.

The Knight Templar has embarked upon an ambitious course in publishing the magazine monthly rather than quarterly. We sincerely hope to make it the official news media of the Grand Encampment and Grand Subordinate, and Constituent Commanderies throughout the Jurisdictions. Articles of general interest to Templary are solicited. This cannot be made a successful publication by the efforts of the Grand Encampment Officers and committee members alone.

Mail feature articles, news articles of general interest, and pictures for publication in the Knight Templar to

WILLARD M. AVERY, P.G.C., Editor  
P. O. Box 56  
Knightstown, Indiana

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## Grand Master Announces Conference Washington, Day Before Easter

The District Room, on the mezzanine floor of the Washington Hotel, Washington, D. C., will be the place; Saturday, April 21, from 1:00 p. m. will be the time; guided discussion from 1:00 until about 3:00, followed by informal discussion and fellowship will be the format. The Grand Master desires to make maximum use of the presence in Washington for the Easter Sunrise Service at Arlington of the assembled Templar leaders, for the communication of ideas.

Attendance of the following is urged, if they find that they can be in Washington for the important Easter Service: all Grand Encampment officers,

chairmen or members of Grand Encampment committees, especially in the program activity areas, as Membership, Religious Observance, Eye Foundation, Educational Foundation, Patriotic Activities, and Public Relations. All Grand Commanders and Deputy Grand Commanders present are asked to attend, and also other dais officers, Grand Recorders, and chairmen or members of the above named committees for a Grand Commandery.

It is known at this time that the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Generalissimo, and Grand Captain General of Grand Encampment plan to attend the conference.

Return Requested  
Box 477  
Greenfield, Indiana