



Knight Templar

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The Christmas Message

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

**GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, AND
ON EARTH PEACE, GOOD WILL TOWARD
MEN.**



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 EDITOR—NEWS

Mail feature articles, news articles of general interest, and pictures for publication

to the Editor "Knight Templar" Magazine

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

P. O. Box 56, KNIGHTSTOWN, INDIANA

IN RETROSPECT

The new Knight Templar Magazine came into existence with the September, 1961, issue. At that time it became a monthly rather than a quarterly publication. Since that time the general policy of being a media of expression for Templary on a national forum has always been the prime object of those working with it. From time to time we have been confronted with various problems and taken action thereon with a varying degree of success. Some of our problems and short comings are as follows:

1. Lack of space to print all the worthwhile news that comes to us. Some is discarded because it is no longer timely when we could find space for it, because it is not slanted toward a national rather than a local appeal, etc. We sincerely wish to thank all contributors and particularly those that have submitted articles that have not been published. We trust that you will not despair and will continue sending us material. We need many articles from which to draw in order to give you a worth while publication.

2. Lack of national coverage. Much of our material has come from a relative few Grand Jurisdictions. Plans are now under way to systematically rectify this over the next several months. We sincerely solicit reports, news stories, and pictures of general interest from those Grand Jurisdictions that have not heretofore received publicity through the Knight Templar.

3. Need for more subscriptions. We are gratified although not satisfied with our subscription efforts. During the past two weeks, E. Creighton Wilcoxon, Grand Commander of Kentucky has personally sent to us 119 subscriptions from four or five visits that he made in Kentucky. We sincerely appreciate the co-operation of Sir Knight Wilcoxon and many others that are assisting in obtaining new subscriptions for the Knight Templar. Any one wishing free copies of the magazine, subscription blanks, and promotional material for soliciting subscriptions write to **WILLARD M. AVERY, Editor, P. O. Box 56, Knightstown, Indiana.**

There are two different type settings in this issue of the Knight Templar. We are undecided as to which will be used in the future. Your comments will be appreciated.

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

A Christmas Message

Your Grand Master is sorely distressed by the disquieting signs of a harried day in the annals of man. Evil-doers have extinguished the lights of freedom in many parts of the world. They are daring the wrath of God in their ruthless designs to enthrone Satan in every land, in every precinct of man, including the United States. They ravish the Heavens and they despoil the earth.

It is not to be denied that humanity is in grave peril. Indeed, but for the Message of Christmas, our civilization would be in its eventide. Only Christ and those in fealty to Him can save it for its nobler estate. Beelzebub's curtains have plunged a third, or more, of the population of our planet into darkness. His minions are in America. Their gains are real among the cunning, the dissolute, the converts to ease and those who seek unmerited and unearned increment.

Your Grand Master has learned from life and the fullness of years that dedicated Christians, Knights Templar, if you please—if they be truly of the Family of Christ—have access to resources adequate to the seemingly insurmountable tasks which confront nation and world. These are freely released to the believers, to all who in truth and sincerity are pledged to the Great Captain of Our Salvation.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved."

There is in the Christianity of Jesus Christ the ultimate in power for good in the world. He came that His gospel and redemption should be established among men. It was proclaimed at His Birth by "a multitude of the Heavenly Host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

If it were within the authority of the Grand Master to make a decree for this day, it would enjoin all of mankind to enroll in the Army of the Lord. Moreover it would ask each Soldier of the



PAUL M. MOORE, Grand Master

Cross to witness in mind's eye the tortuous journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem, the newborn Babe, the Star, the shepherds, the Magi, the Angel presence and, with ears attuned, hear and heed the Heavenly Host in song and priceless promise.

I covet for every Sir Knight and his household a place in the worship services of his church this Christmas Day, and always—and I dare hope that our common allegiance to Christ and the Trinity, as one, will constrain all of us to participate in the Christmas Observance rites of Commandery Asylum.

To all in the Knights Templar family are extended my sincere Christmas greetings. May God bless and keep you.

Courteously and cordially,
 PAUL MILLER MOORE,
 Grand Master.
 112 Station Street
 Aliquippa, Penn.

"Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar"

CHRISTMAS

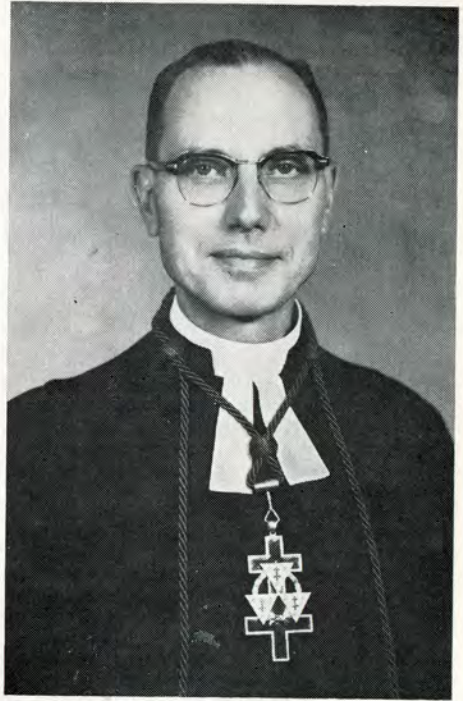
By G. MASON COCHRAN, D.D., Grand Prelate of Grand Encampment,
K. T. of U. S. A.

Christmas is not about a baby, it is about God and his love for men. It is not a festival in which we show affection and concern for each other; it is a time when we are reminded again of the obligation we owe to God because of his love for mankind.

For Christian Knights the celebration of the Incarnation, the coming to earth of God in the form of man, is one of the most significant of times. We gather in asylums all over the country to pledge anew our fealty to the great Head of the Order, whose we are and whom we serve. We are reminded by the solemnities of which we are partakers that we are his servants, and that our deepest loyalty, and finest devotion are reserved for him alone.

We are made aware in these same rites that we have opportunities to serve one another, and that words of love and dedication alone are not enough. We learn that if we are to be soldiers of the Cross, it is essential that we bear true faith and fealty in the dust and heat of the market place, as well as before the altars. This means that having realized God's care for us, we are given the obligation to express love and concern for all who are his children. It was said long ago that "as long as one is imprisoned, I am not free; so long as one is hungry, I cannot be satisfied; so long as one is denied opportunity, I can never be fully content" and Christian Knights are sure that these words apply particularly to them in every day's activities.

Whatever our personal benevolences, done in the name of Christ, we are also partakers of the more general benevolence of our Order: the ministry to the blind. This day, and every day, we can rejoice with those to whom recovery of sight has brought new joys and privileges, and to feel sympathy and understanding with those whose sight is beyond recovery. We are aware that we are but the instruments in the hands of the Most High when we accomplish any



DR. G. MASON COCHRAN

of his missions among our fellows, and we know ourselves most truly his when we are most deeply involved in the welfare of those less fortunate.

Let us, then, when we gather this year for the Christmas observance, be clearly aware of that life whose beginning we celebrate. Let us renew our vows of devotion to him. Let us pledge anew better service in his name. Let us resolve that our faithfulness to his word and his Church will be deeper than before. Let us promise that we will honor him, not only with our lips, but in our lives. With assurance of his love for us, let us promise obedience to him. Let us begin anew with sure trust in his ability and willingness to use the least efforts we make for the advancement of his kingdom.

"Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar"

Knights Templar Christmas Toast— 86th Anniversary in 1962

By CHALMERS LOWELL PANCOAST, P.G.C., New York, and former
Editor of Knight Templar Magazine.

Early historical records show that the First Knights Templar Toast was proposed for Christmas in the year of 1876. . . . This year of 1962 will be the Eighty-sixth Anniversary of the inauguration of the Templar Christmas Observance. . . . Back in the year 1876, Sir Knight Stephen Berry, E. Past Commander of Portland (Maine) Commandery No. 2, and Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery of Maine, from 1892-1917, started the custom of the Knights Templar Christmas Observance when he invited Templar Correspondents of Grand Commanderies to propose a toast at noon on Christmas Day, joining in the sentiment expressed in the words: "God Bless Us Everyone"—as expressed in the immortal words of "Tiny Tim" by Charles Dickens.

In 1885, Grand Master Robert Enoch Withers of Wytheville, Va., was serving in China as the United States Consul at Hong Kong, Sir Knight Berry proposed a Toast "To Him That's Away," and asked for a response, which was received from Grand Master Withers, as follows: "The Noble and Magnanimous Order of Knights Templar—though Continents expand and Oceans roll between us, heart responds to heart in loving greetings."

Sir Knight Berry thereupon enlarged the scope of the Toast, and in a circular letter widely distributed throughout the Jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment, requested all Sir Knights to join the Templar Correspondents at Noon on Christmas Day, in a Libation pledging loyalty and Obedience to the Grand Master. . . . The custom was unofficially continued each year; and in 1889, Grand Master Charles Roome, of New York, then appointed a "Committee on Christmas Toast" which reported in 1892, recommending the adoption of a Resolution expressing the approval and official sanction by the Grand Encampment to the observance of a Christmas

Program by the Knights Templar, either as individuals or as Commanderies.

The progressive enlargement of the annually prepared Christmas Toast was evidenced in the report of Grand Master Warren LaRue Thomas, Danville, Kentucky in his 1898 report, in which he said:

"I have done all I could do to encourage the Christmas Observance, and I trust that many more of our Commanderies will follow the example and make the occasion what it should be."

In connection with the Christmas Observance, Grand Master Reuben Hedley Lloyd, San Francisco, Cal., in his 1901 report, wrote, "From far-off Manila, six thousand miles beyond the sea, on Christmas Day, A.D. 1898, I received a telegram from Sir Knight Duboce, the gallant Colonel of the California Regiment of Volunteers, saying, "The sojourning Templars Toasted you on Christmas Morning." . . . I responded by wire: "Telegram received. California, Golden Gate, and the Grand Master have just proposed a Toast to yourself and Templars in Manila."

Grand Master William Bromwell Melish, Cincinnati, Ohio, in his address to the Grand Encampment in 1907, said that while the Christmas Observance had become an established custom, and dear to the hearts of Sir Knights and Commanderies, yet it was not recognized by the Statutes, and no provision was made for a regular Committee to prepare the Toasts. And he recommended that the subject be referred to a committee of five for consideration and report. . . . A Committee was duly appointed and reported in 1910, recommending that the action of the Grand Encampment in 1892, approving the custom of Christmas Observance be reaffirmed, and that it be considered one of the established customs of the Order; and that the Observance be continued and held on Christmas Day, preferably

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at Noon. That a regular Standing Committee of one be appointed by the Grand Master to prepare the sentiment, and that it be promulgated with the Grand Master's Response throughout the Jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States

of America, which report was unanimously adopted. The Christmas Observance and Toast has been continued year after year for the Advancement of Templar Masonry, the Order of Christian Knighthood.

THE "LOWELL PLAN"

By JOHN L. CROFTS, Grand Generalissimo

NOTE: We became interested in the "Lowell Plan" through reading the strong recommendation by the New York Committee on Masonic Cooperation, as reported in the 1961 Proceedings. Correspondence reveals that the Plan has been proved successful in the City of Lowell, Massachusetts (92,000, industrial and largely foreign). So Knight Templar reports for the information of all Commanderies, acknowledging the assistance of Grand Recorder George A. Weeks and Past Commander George H. Upton.

Faced in 1957-58 with a constant decline in membership for a period of thirty years and a net loss of \$1,400 (\$2,600 in four years), whereas the other Rite had changed its habits and converted similar losses into gains several years earlier, the leaders of Pilgrim Commandery No. 9 concluded that something had to be done. They did it: they have shown membership gains and financial stability since then. Among those local Past Commanders who designed the "Plan" were Sir Knights Harry Gilmore Pollard, M.E.Past Grand Master, and Andrew Gray Jenkins, then Grand Master of Masons. Others outside Lowell were useful, as Sir Knight James C. Bayley, then Grand Master of Grand Council.

We are informed that they are still enthusiastic about the "Plan" in Lowell, and believe it will work as well in other places where there are two or more bodies. Three other cities in Massachusetts and two in New Hampshire have instituted the "Plan," and all re-

ports are favorable. The heads of the York Rite bodies of Massachusetts are reported still very favorable to the "Plan," and feeling that the only trouble is too few places have adopted it.

We quote from a most unusual Bulletin signed by the Grand High Priest, Grand Ill. Master, and Grand Commander, under date of February 1, 1960, which recommends the "Plan" for trial in any city where there is one Chapter, one Council and one Commandery:

"Outline of the Lowell Plan"

"The three York Rite Bodies, the Chapter, the Council and the Commandery, meet once a month on the same night. Each body holds a short business meeting, reads its records and elects candidates, and the two bodies which are not conferring degrees close, while the other recesses. For example, the Chapter meets at 5:00 p. m., the Council at 5:15 p. m., and the Commandery at 5:30 p. m. with its formal opening, as it is to confer its Orders.

"The York Rite body which is to work, in the above case the Commandery, is in charge of the dinner, arranges for the entertainment, and is responsible for the expenses of the meeting. After dinner, it confers its Orders.

"The Chapter confers its Degrees in September and October, the Council its Degrees in November (they are short), and the Commandery its Orders in December and January. This cycle is re-

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peated, with the Chapter conferring Degrees in February and March, the Council in April, and the Commandery in May and June.

"In June or September a Joint Installation of Officers of the three bodies is held, with each being allotted approximately one half hour. . . . In early September a York Rite Night or Enlightenment Program is held under the sponsorship of the three bodies, who share the cost, with an outstanding speaker to talk about the York Rite. All eligible Blue Lodge Masons are urged to attend and card records are made of those who do."

"Advantages of the Plan"

"1—**Candidates.** The three bodies work in close unison to procure all available candidates. The first Chapter class numbered 24 candidates, many more than that Chapter had had for any previous year for a long time. These candidates signed up for all three bodies and took the Degrees and Orders in the Council and Commandery.

"2—**Attendance.** The attendance increased tremendously. Members who could not attend three meetings a month at three separate bodies came to the common night in large numbers.

"3—**Financial.** The cost of the meeting hall, dinners and entertainment is much less, inasmuch as there are only ten meetings a year instead of thirty.

"4—**Work.** Where there are officers who work in two or even three bodies, they can concentrate on their parts in the particular body doing the work that evening. There need be only one rehearsal a month instead of the three rehearsals formerly required each month when all three bodies were working.

"5—**General.** The three bodies continue to hold their identities, while pooling their resources for the common good of all."

COMMENT

In presenting the "Lowell Plan," we do not say that we consider it perfect for Lowell or for any other situation. For instance, we think the time from

Mark Master to Knight Templar is too long, and we know of no broadening of program in response to the opportunity created by the time saved. But, we do note several results which should be an advantage in almost any Commandery situation, as follows:

Less frequent meetings require less total time from the members and officers. In these busy times, we think less total time required will result in much better average attendance and participation, and in more leadership becoming available. And fewer meetings cost less money.

Broader interest of all meetings, through the combination on the same evening of business, dinner, entertainment and work, will also tend to improve average attendance. This is much closer to the traditional British custom, and their average attendance is known to be much better than ours.

York Rite is usually stronger as a unit program than where the several bodies go their separate ways without cooperation or coordination. Concentration of interest and coordination of program is appealing to candidates and members alike.

The "Lowell Plan" is a specific example of the success of local members studying local problems and coming up with a specific program. This approach is the "heart" of the initial program of the Membership Committee of Grand Encampment, which calls for a Membership Committee in every Commandery to study local conditions and practices objectively. They feel that those programs established by local members in response to local needs will tend to be more successful than a program which attempts to fit the wide variety of situations found across the land. The trick is to apply local talent and initiative to our problems with objectivity and zeal, keeping in mind the needs of both our candidates and our present members.

(Comments and suggestions will be welcomed by John L. Crofts, Sr., Nokomis, Florida).

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"DOWN THROUGH THE YEARS"

(Editor's Note—We wish to thank the committee on Templar History, Roy Dewey Stearns, P.G.C., of Michigan, Chairman, 2 Berger Road, Saginaw, Michigan, for agreeing to furnish the Knight Templar a series of articles in keeping with the work of the committee. C. Byron Lear, P.G.G. of the Grand Encampment, supplied the following article and has promised additional assistance. Sir Knight Stearns would appreciate other Sir Knights submitting articles relating to Templar History for his consideration.)

From the Proceedings of 1850 when the General Grand Encampment convened in Boston, we find that at the opening sesion on Tuesday September 10th, on motion of Sir William H. Ellis, it was:

Resolved, "That all Knights in good and regular standing in the Order be invited to take seats as visitors in this General Grand Encampment during its present session, and that the names of visitors be announced before they are admitted."

Sir N. F. Waring of New York, having sent his name for admission as a visitor, Sir William H. Ellis of Connecticut, offered the following resolution;

Resolved, "That N. F. Waring of New York who has applied for admission here as a visitor, be not admitted, he being a member of a clandestine Lodge in the City of Brooklyn."

"And pending the question on the adoption of the foregoing resolution the General Grand Encampment adjourned until four o'clock P. M."

Note: When they re-assembled at four o'clock, the Committee on Credentials did not include the name of N. F. Waring as entitled to a seat.

On Wednesday, September 11, 1850, Sir Willis Stewart for the Committee on

Dispensations recommended granting charters to Wisconsin Encampment No. 1, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Burlington of Vermont, St. John's No. 3, Bangor Maine, Saint Omer's No. 2 of Georgia, concluding as follows; "Also a petition from Daniel Thompson, Charles Richmond, E. Smith Lee and ten others, who represent themselves to be Knights Templar, praying for an Encampment to be held at Detroit, in the State of Michigan. Said petition is not recommended by any Encampment, as required by the 8th section of the Constitution, and cannot therefore be granted."

Note: But after sleeping on the rejected application for a Commandery in Detroit, the Committee had a change of heart and the same Sir Willis Stewart the next day, offered the following report and resolution.

"Notwithstanding the Committee on Encampments under Charters and Dispensations reported yesterday against the application of sundry Sir Knights at Detroit who have applied for a Dispensation to hold an Encampment of Knights Templar and the Appendant Orders at that place, circumstances have since come to light which induce the Committee to change their opinion, and they therefore offer the following resolution;

Resolved, That a Dispensation be granted to Sir Knight E. Lee Smith as Grand (Commander), Sir Knight John B. Grayson, Generalissimo and Sir Knight Charles Raymond as Captain General and the necessary number of other Sir Knights, to form, open and hold an Encampment of Knights Templar and the Appendant Orders at Detroit Michigan, to be called Detroit Encampment (Commandery) Number 1.

Note: Upon the adoption of this resolution, Detroit Commandery No. 1 came into being and the Templar Ban-

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ner was planted in the City of Detroit. From a modest beginning 112 years ago, this Commandery has grown and developed down through the intervening years and to-day holds a unique position among all other Commanderies in this country. In 1850 the Sir Knights of that era were truly "building better than they knew."

In the "old days," the Grand Encampment did not feel constrained to remain in continuous business sessions and the records indicate that they frequently adjourned to accept invitations to explore other fields. The following is found in the proceedings of the Hartford Triennial of 1856;

"Afternoon September 10, 1856.
Camp Mother Bailey, First Regiment,
First Brigade.
Honorable Henry C. Deming,

Wishing to show the distinguished gentlemen composing the Masonic Convention, now in this City, such little attention as lay in my power, I have taken the liberty of forwarding to them, through your hands, an invitation to visit the Camp of the First, if any or all of them feel disposed so to do.

Yours, very respectfully,

SAMUEL A. COOLEY,
Colonel First Regiment.

The invitation was accepted."

At this same session, on motion of Sir Knight Mackey of South Carolina, it was,

Ordered, That the word "Encampment" or "Encampments," wherever they are applied to State or Subordinate bodies in the Constitution, be stricken out and "Commandery or Commanderies, be inserted."

Note: Thus the use of the word "Encampment" was reserved for the use of the National Body.

After the Grand Encampment had authorized charters for eight Grand Commanderies at the 1856 Triennial. Sir Knight Mackey offered the following resolution;

"Resolved, That such of the officers

or their proxies of the Encampments now chartered, be installed the first thing after the (opening) of the General Grand Encampment to-morrow."

"But before the question was put thereon the General Grand Encampment adjourned until 3:00 o'clock P. M. to-morrow."

"The resolution offered by Sir Knight Mackey, and pending when the Grand Encampment adjourned, was taken up and read, when the Grand Master decided that the same was out of order.

Sir Knight Mackey then moved that the officers of the Encampments just chartered be admitted to seats in this Encampment and allowed to vote."

"Which motion the Grand Master decided to be out of order." Sir Knight Mackey then offered the following resolution;

Resolved that the General Grand Encampment being strictly a legislative body, the decisions of its members alone can be considered as a proper final adjudication of all questions, and therefore an appeal may always be taken to the Grand Encampment from the decision of the presiding officer when the body is in session."

"Which resolution was also decided to be out of order."

Sir Knight Mackey, not to be denied, "Proposed to appeal from this decision, but the General Grand Master decided that no appeal could be entertained."

Thus the authority of the Grand Master, thrice challenged, was maintained in spite of the fact that Sir Knight Henry Buist of South Carolina had the day previous moved that; "No appeal lies from the decision of the Grand Master" be stricken out from the Constitution. This motion was made on Thursday September 11th and no action was taken until the following Monday evening, "and the question being taken by ayes and noes, it was decided in the affirmative, Ayes 40, Noes, 25." "So the clause was stricken out."

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"Sir Knight Buist, at the suggestion of Sir Knight Tucker of Vermont, then amended his proposed substitute for the words stricken out, to read as follows;

"This Grand Encampment being a legislative body, acknowledging no superior, admits an appeal to be taken from the decision of the chair on any question under consideration; PROVIDED HOWEVER, That such appeal shall not be maintained unless two-thirds of all members present shall vote therefore. That right is adopted for the Grand Encampment alone and

is not to be construed as establishing a precedent for any other Masonic body."

"And the question being taken on inserting the foregoing, it was decided in the affirmative."

Note: Somewhere, sometime, someplace, the Constitutional change above referred to was reduced to what presently appears as SECTION 7 under CONDUCT OF CONCLAVES.

"SECTION 7—Any member may appeal from a decision of the presiding officer."

Whose Eligible for Eye Foundation Assistance

Recently, a Vermont pastor visited the office of a friend in Boston. Having taken training to be an institutional chaplain he wondered if this friend knew of any situation into which he might move. You see, for many years he had been blind in one eye and almost blind in the other, and he had been told that because of his condition and the way he bore up under it, he'd make a wonderful chaplain. He was told that no suitable openings were then available, and was asked how it was that he happened to be in Boston. He stated that he had come to enter the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary for his seventh eye operation. His friend asked him if he had heard about the Knight Templar Eye Foundation. He replied that he had not. His friend then proceeded to inform him concerning this, and stated that he believed that it was quite possible that an application for financial assistance would meet with a favorable response. The application was made, processed, and surgery and hospitalization up to the amount of \$550.00 was authorized. At this writing the patient is recovering from his operation and the outcome is not as yet fully known.

Now, members of the Commandery

in this pastor's home city knew about his condition. They did not realize, however, that if a man has a wife and children, and has undergone a number of previous operations, he can be receiving quite a bit of salary, and still be eligible for assistance. Perhaps quite a few deserving people are never told about this help because it is wrongly assumed that they could not receive it. Remember: it is not necessary that one be destitute to qualify for assistance. If the surgical and hospital expense would work a formidable hardship upon him and his family, he's eligible.

IN MEMORIAM

South Dakota

Nathaniel Ellis Mattox, G. C., 1936—
November 3, 1962

Texas

Thomas Mortimore Bethell, G. C.,
1950—November 2, 1962

We wish to give credit to the Committee on Membership and Publicity of the Grand Commandery of Texas for the slogan—"Every Christian Mason should be a Knight Templar." This is indeed a stirring challenge.

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Suggested Letter for Collection of Delinquent Dues

Dear Sir Knight:

I feel sure that you have enjoyed your membership in our Commandery. We are certainly pleased to count you one of the members and will always appreciate your support and active participation in the affairs of Commandery.

It has been called to my attention that you have not paid your dues for the year , amounting to Your check in the amount of will place you in good standing for the current year.

Our earliest teachings in Masonry point out our duty to pay our dues so that our great Order may live and progress. Your Commandery needs your regular support to carry on its program. Feeling sure that there is some very good reason why you have not been able to make payment, or that it is an oversight on your part, due to demands on your time, this is written to advise you of our concern for the status of your standing in our Commandery.

If there are any reasons, based on personal hardship or extenuating circumstances, which have prevented you from keeping your dues on a current basis, please do not hesitate to tell me so in order that proper steps may be taken to relieve you of this responsibility until you are in position to reassume your obligations.

Your Commandery is interested in your welfare, and of course would like to have you attend our meetings when it is possible for you to do so. If you are unable to attend your own Commandery, we hope that you will visit with the Sir Knights of the Commandery nearest to you.

I would greatly appreciate hearing from you at your earliest convenience, and look forward to seeing you in Commandery in the very near future.

Courteously yours,

(Signed)
Eminent Commander (or Recorder)

EDITORIAL NOTE: The above letter in our opinion, is a very fine approach to the question of delinquencies. It was formulated by George A. Weeks, P. G. C. and G. R. of Mass.-R. I. and Chairman of Committee on Public Relations of the Grand Encampment.

A PRAYER FOR TODAY

James S. Coles
President, Bowdoin College

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom, defend us, Thy humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies, that we, surely trusting in Thy defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord.—(Book of Common Prayer)

W. Tom Bateman, G. C. Of Georgia, Honored

On October 6, 1962, Ivanhoe Commandery No. 10 K. T. of Fort Valley, Georgia honored one of their own who is now serving as R. E. Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Georgia.

It was "TOM BATEMAN NIGHT" in Fort Valley and the banquet given in his honor was attended by the dignitaries representing every phase of Masonry in Georgia. Among those present were Thomas N. Morrison, P. G. C. of Florida; Ralph A. Perry, Dep. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, seven Grand Line Officers of Grand Commandery of Georgia, six P. G. C. and many other loyal friends.

W. Tom Bateman is known for his

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extraordinary contributions and devotions to Masonry in general with a special emphasis on Templarism. He is recognized as a proven leader, dedicated to promoting the principles of Christian Virtues.

The main speaker for the occasion was Rev. Robert L. Harris, Southern Baptist Missionary to Peru. In his address, Rev. Harris mentioned many very interesting facts concerning Masonic personalities and activities in Peru.

After a "Tribute to Tom Bateman," the guest of honor was presented an enlarged, color photograph mounted in a gold frame. The historic photograph

was snapped at the installation ceremony of the 101st Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Georgia meeting at Savannah last May. Of further significance, was the fact that all three of the subjects in the picture were members of Ivanhoe Commandery. Beside the Grand Commander, G. C. Poole was being installed as Grand Recorder and D. Warner Wells, P. G. C., was acting as Grand Marshal for that occasion.

The Knights of Ivanhoe Commandery feel confident that wherever his travels may take him, Tom Bateman will always represent the ideals and principles for which we all stand.

Distinguished Citizens Will Join D. C. Commandery No. 2 in Celebrating Its 100th Anniversary

Columbia Commandery No. 2, K. T., of Washington, D. C., instituted January 13, 1863, will observe in January 1963 the 100th anniversary of its organization. The celebration will embrace three principal events: a conclave on Friday evening, January 11, in the Masonic Temple; a banquet on Saturday evening, January 12, at a well-known hotel; and a church service on Sunday, January 13.

Prominent speakers and guests will include Hon. Wilber M. Brucker, Deputy Grand Master, of Detroit, Mich.; Senator Sam J. Ervin, of North Carolina; Hon. Tom C. Clark, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court; Harry L. Beach, Grand Commander; and Most Worshipful Grand Master, Charles B. Gilly, of the District of Columbia.

Columbia Commandery has in its possession the original minutes of each assembly and conclave, both stated and special, since its inception. A history of the Commandery's activities of one hundred years is in preparation.



—J. H. P.

WILLIAM A. HABICHT, Commander

"Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar"

Cecil J. Pierce, G. C. of Ohio, Honored



GRAND OFFICERS AND P. G. C.'s ATTENDING

First row (left to right): John W. Rutschow, G. C.; Warren H. Smith, D. G. C.; Cecil J. Pierce, G. C.; Robert S. Schoedinger, G. C. G.

Second row: Miles S. Kuhns, P. G. C.; Thomas P. Ranklin, G. S. B.; Herbert E. Rogler, G. S. W.; Cecil S. Blair, J. G. W.; Ned E. Dull, G. S. B.

Third row: Howard R. Malone, J. P. G. C.; F. J. Blose, P. G. C.; Robert J. Hackett, G. R. and P. G. C.; Homer C. Hesler, P. G. C., and G. T.; Earl T. Armesy, P. G. C.

Fourth row: George W. Davidson, G. W.; Robert H. Emmons, G. C. G.; and Virgil F. Kent, P. G. C.

More than 400 persons attended the reception and banquet honoring Sir Knight Pierce. The principle speaker for the occasion was William "Big Bill" Albert, Cincinnati, radio and television personality. Presiding officers of all Ohio York Rite Bodies as well as other distinguished Masons joined in the festivities. Sir Knight Pierce has stated the position of Templar Masonry as follows:

"In Templar Masonry a positive Spiritual Force exists, which is needed today, tomorrow, and always.

"Templar Masonry represents the seekers of the truth and when we think of the Prince of Peace as found in the Great Book, the Holy Bible, it teaches us that Christ was crucified upon the Cross, shed his blood for the remission of sin, died, was buried, and on the third day arose, ascended into Heaven,

where he now sits on the right hand of God to judge our words and actions while here on earth.

"Templar Masonry teaches that only in the thought of God and His laws of Brotherhood can men ever dwell together in unity.

"We are well aware that we are passing through this life only once, and on this journey and before the final door is closed in our face, we are taught to realize that it becomes our duty, as true Americans, to assist in furthering the principals of Templary Masonry and the Christian Religion, which will make our life here on earth worthwhile.

"If you will only give us the opportunity, I am sure you will be convinced that we are earnest and sincere in our conviction, and that you find many riches and blessings coming to you through Templar Masonry'."

"Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar"

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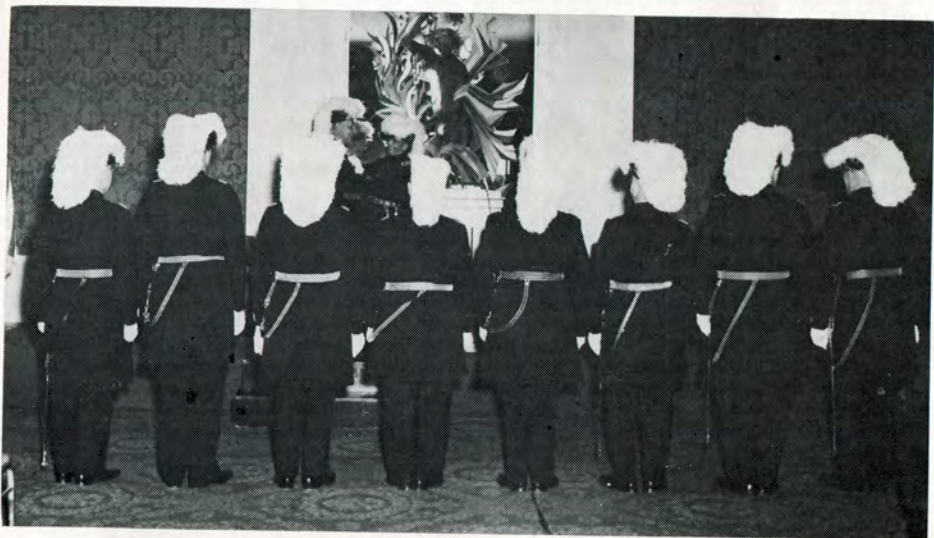
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Looking Backward or This is the End



We will have all Sir Knights looking forward in the next issue.

Happy Holiday Season

“What Kind of America?”

“I want an America which stands tall in the world, not by virtue of its military might nor its material achievements, but because it is the incarnation of human liberty, the rights and dignity of man.”

“I want an America whose light will shine toward the world, that will illumine the pathway of all the millions who seek to rise out of the valley of tyranny and adversity . . .”

“I want an America in which every man and woman measures up to the high marks of character, courage and dedication to the tenets of our American faith . . .”

**WILBER M. BRUCKER,
Deputy Grand Master of the Grand
Encampment of K. T., U. S. A.**

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