



Knight Templar

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The Christmas Story From the Gospel According to St. Luke

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. . . .

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, called Bethlehem.

To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

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

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

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 this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

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.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

A Message From the Grand Master - -

Christmas Message



PAUL MILLER MOORE, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment

Shepherds and wise men—the meek, the lowly and the high—were the first among earth's dwellers to whom was revealed the miracle and drama of Christ's birth in the stable of a Bethlehem inn these many years ago. It was Old Testament prophecy fulfilled. Redemption for fallen man was pronounced from Heaven, explicit and unconditional. In the selfsame tidings were born the tenets which are cardinal to Templary.

It was a strange Star which the Magi and the herdsmen saw and followed in that long ago. That Star still shines, still guides. Now, even as before, it signifies God's eternal love—and deliverance from sin for all of us. All is not black, nor gloom, on earth. In faraway lands, the gospel message is bringing hope to peoples not heretofore reached. In America, in this hemisphere, there is increasing belief that only Christ can save, in Him only is there hope for brotherhood and peace. Knights Templar are pilgrims avouched to Him, but only as our dedication to Christ is earnest, and complete, will the crown be ours to receive.

My hope, my prayer, is that Knights Templar will truly live Christ. Let us more zealously witness for our Lord and Saviour this Christmastide, and every day. This is the role I would enjoin upon every Sir Knight and his immediate circle. Moreover, I plead with you to participate in the 1963 Christmas services—in Commandery, church and home—in these giving full and vibrant testimony of an irrevocable loyalty to Him who is the Emmanuel of our creed.

If we expand the fervor of our devotion to Him who is the "Prince of Peace," we shall give aid and comfort to groping men, women and children in all lands. Likewise, we shall by good example attract Christian Masons—not now Sir Knights—to our ranks. Our mission is to preserve the nation for its nobler destiny through Christ and Christianity, God's catalyst for saving the world from catastrophic annihilation.

To Sir Knights—and their households—who will be thus committed, I extend warm Christmas greetings and the transcendent charge to keep Christ in Christmas. Let us raise higher and higher the banner of Templary through walking with God.

PAUL M. MOORE.

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PAUL M. MOORE, Grand Master
112 Station St., Aliquippa, Pa.

JOHN TEMPLE RICE, Grand Recorder
14 E. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Ill.

Willard M. Avery, P. G. C., **EDITOR**, P. O. Box 56, Knightstown, Indiana. Mail all news and feature articles of general interest, all pictures for publication, and all correspondence regarding copy to the Editor.

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CHRISTMAS 1963

Holy Writ, official registers of the Roman Empire, manuscripts, scrolls and tablets—as well as mouth-to-ear recitals by human beings through countless generations and in many lands—confirm the immaculate birth of Jesus Christ some 20 centuries ago. He was born in Bethlehem, in the manger of an inn, as was foretold by the Prophets of the Old Testament.

Humble were the appointments of the Creche. It was in God's plan that His Son was to be born lowly. Nevertheless, on the night of Christ's birth the skies were opened in majestic splendor to do Him honor, shining before the hallowed precincts of Paradise in a brilliance never before and never since witnessed by men nor angels.

While His Star was transfixed in magnificence above the inn, the message of the angelic chorus and the proclamation of the Heavenly Host gave to the world the tidings of a great promise fulfilled, that at long last the Messiah had come.

Shepherds abiding with their flocks in the fields heard the sweet strains and the climactic words from on High. Even the magi, their abode in a country far off, divined the news that a King whose dominion was not of the mundane world was coming, to be born of a woman. They followed the Star to Bethlehem, bringing precious gifts to Him who was new-born. They kneeled before Him in worship and adoration as they offered themselves for His Kingdom.

Knights Templar freely acknowledge themselves to be followers of Christ, Soldiers of the Cross. If they be earnest, they have a role to play, a part to take, in building in this hemisphere a citadel for His Kingdom, a Fortress America. This rampart's strength against the evils and the isms of this day is in the Christian religion joined to an affirmative citizenry patriotism.

Only these elements—the Christian religion and an unshamed patriotism—cemented in the alchemy of consecrated men, women and children will enable the nation to keep her appointment with the destiny visioned by the Founding Fathers.

Templary, if it be in truth an order vital to a resurgence in America—and the world—of the eternal verities, must increase in numbers, in membership. Only then can it achieve a stature comporting with the challenge, opportunity and stress of the present day. Grave tomorrows loom on the horizon. There is a conspiracy against God abroad.

This Christmas, let us so acclaim the Great Captain of Our Salvation that we shall as a matter of course be dedicated to the holy mission of inviting all eligible Christian Masons within our several orbits to join with us in Templary. This, let us do for God and country.

We have a commitment to attend at least two religious services this Christmas—one in the church of our choice, the other in Commandery asylum. This, we are charged to do in His name, and with loved ones. If we follow the Emmanuel of our order, the tomorrows will be rewarding—and Heaven and America secure.

Burt D. Pearson
Virginia, Minnesota

WHO — ME? ? ?

By D. E. Cheville, Editor of Camp Springs, Chillum and Hyattsville (Maryland)
York Rite Bulletin (Nov. 1963)

Following several sparsely attended Convocations, Assemblies and Conclaves, I recently asked some of the Companions and Sir Knight's why they did not attend the meetings of their York Rite Affiliations more regularly. In the majority of cases, after hearing the expressed answers and considering only the implied thoughts, I believe the answer lies in the age old human want of feeling needed and the general experience of having attended too many poorly planned meetings in the past. In essence, their loyalty to the fraternity and innate curiosity brings them back from time to time to see for themselves if conditions have changed.

Too often our Brethren are exposed to unplanned and poorly conducted meetings, many of which offer nothing more than the simple parroting of ritual. Even an experienced presiding officer of an organization will find it impossible to hold the interest and support of his members without adequate planning and detailed organization. Ritual in itself is not enough to justify interest and consequently good attendance. Ritual to be effective must be well done. If it is poorly executed it will in time destroy itself. Ritual, well done, can add much to any meeting, but even then it is only a part of the work. It must be only the frosting on the cake. The cake itself must be properly prepared or the frosting is of little value.

The "cake" in this case must consist of ingredients called organization, dignity, friendliness and proficiency, all of which must be mixed thoroughly with generous portions of fellowship.

I feel safe in assuming that all of us have, at some time or another, criticized a meeting we have attended. Perhaps, we were unfair in our fault finding. It is an accepted fact that everyone has 20/20 hind-sight, but only a gifted few have 20/20 fore-sight. Perhaps we demand too much of our presiding officers. We expect them to

organize our meetings, make the necessary arrangements for special gatherings, be a greeting committee, represent us at meetings elsewhere, write our bulletins and at the same time be proficient in the presentation of the various degrees and orders of the fraternity.

Has it ever occurred to you that we might all benefit if our presiding officers were released from the burden of conferring degrees and orders the year they sit in the East? Wouldn't it be a pleasure for a presiding officer to be able, with the full support and cooperation of his official line and the members, to devote his full attention to the office to which he was elected—that of presiding and organizing?

This "freedom to preside" could easily be achieved with just a little effort on the part of each of us. No man who is a member of our Beloved Institution is without special talents or God-given gifts. If you would like to chair or participate on a committee on education, history, welfare, finance, or whatever—let your desires be known to any officer! If you enjoy working with young adults such as Job's Daughters or the DeMolay—come forward! If you would take pleasure in assisting in the conferring of the various degrees and orders—step up! If you are gifted at writing articles or the difficult art of setting down by-laws and constitutions—let us have your assistance! If you would enjoy helping with the refreshments following our meetings and would enjoy the fellowship that emanates from the "Festive Table"—we welcome you! If unable to attend our regular meetings and would like to aid in the all important duty of guarding the West Gate—it would be a pleasure to serve with you.

Briefly, Companions and Sir Knight's, no matter what your capabilities or limitations, be your likes and dislikes what they may, this Beloved Institution of OURS has a place for each of us. Won't you take your place among your brethren?

"Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar"

Four State Conclave and Department Conference Held at Texarkana

By Norman S. D'Olive, Chairman, Public Relations Committee,
Texas Grand Commandery



DISTINGUISHED SIR KNIGHTS ATTENDING FOUR STATE CONCLAVE

Knight Templarly and the fraternal bonds of Knighthood were greatly strengthened in the second annual Four State Conclave held in Texarkana, Texas, October 12, 1963. This unusual and highly inspirational all-day event brought together the Right Eminent Grand Commanders, their Grand Officers and Sir Knights of Arkansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Texas.

Noble B. Jones, Grand Commander of Arkansas, his officers and Sir Knights opened the host commandery, Texarkana No. 64. Robert W. Rogers, Grand Commander of Oklahoma and his officers Assisted Ascension Commandery No. 25 of Tyler, Texas in conferring the Illustrious Order of Red Cross. Guy B. Gannaway, Grand Commander of Louisiana and his officers assisted Ascension Commandery No. 6 of

Shreveport, in conferring the Order of Malta in full form.

Following a luncheon, Kaplan H. Andrew, Grand Commander of Texas and his complete staff of Grand Officers conferred the Order of the Temple. All Grand Commanders and their officers assisted in knighting the 25 candidates.

Among the 250 Sir Knights who attended this outstanding Masonic event were Sam Ferrell, Department Commander of the South Central Department of Knights Templar of the United States; and K. N. Johnson, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Commandery of Kentucky. The international touch was added to the conclave by the presence of Edward Spearman of Canal Zone Commandery No. 1.

The conclave was concluded with a banquet, and speeches by all the Grand Commanders and Sir Knight Ferrell.

"WE NOTE IN REVIEW"—

J. E. Abbott Commandery of Englewood, newest Commandery in Colorado, was chartered in 1962. Located in a growth area near Denver, this Commandery while under dispensation

knighted 46 new members, about 30% of the total for Colorado. This is not a story without parallel, but it suggests the question "Do you live in a place where a new Commandery could be located for the good of the Order?"

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"Throwing Our Vipers Off!"

By SIR KNIGHT AND REV. E. ROBERT CHABLE, Ph. D.

The story of St. Paul and the viper is familiar to all Knights Templar. We may not realize it, but it is far more than a story. It may well be a symbol of the condition of the Masonic Fraternity in general and Templary in particular! There are indeed poisonous vipers crawling out of the pits of our own day. They attack us constantly, and if we need to do anything it is to emulate the apostle of old and throw these vipers off.

I

The first viper which has attacked many of us is the Viper of Complacency. Its venom lulls us into a paralyzing inertia. We brag about how our per capita income in this country exceeds that of any other nation and is higher also than any people in all of human history have ever known. We take pride in statistics about the number of our television sets, radios, automobiles, telephones, appliances, and many other things which we enjoy. Our standard of living is the envy of people around the globe, and someone has already characterized American homes as places in which "everything is controlled with the flick of a switch except the children."

Yet it is paradoxical that while we are surrounded with all the symbols of luxury, we are not a truly happy people. On the one hand we want more and more security at the price of less and less freedom, and on the other hand we are on a materialistic drive which denies the Biblical truth that "a man's life does not consist in the abundance of things which he possesses."

It is now so easy for the typical American family to sit for hours by the television set to be entertained. Or, if the programming does not appeal to us, there is still the radio, or we have the record player which permits us to hear what we wish by whom we wish it played whenever we wish to hear it. Our sense of well-being is augmented by the knowledge of so much food stored in the freezer or on the pantry shelf for

future use. We are quite confident of employment because of such things as the closed shop, collective bargaining, and other techniques. We are able to forego worry about occupational injury because of Workmen's Compensation, unemployment benefits for long periods if our work is terminated, and we can dispense with some of the anxiety for sunset years because of Social Security benefits. If we wish to do so, we need only to pull the cords, and traverse drapes in many of our homes slide across the windows to shut out the rest of the world—its problems, its cares, its calls to us as the Macedonians called of old: "come over and help us!" When we pull the drapes, literally or figuratively, much of what needs to be done becomes a case of "out of sight, out of mind." We have almost achieved, because of our national and individual prosperity, a situation giving us all the necessary conditions to be complacent about the problems of our time.

Imperial Rome was prosperous, as we are. It too was surrounded by luxury and organized efficiency. But it was lulled into lethargy and anesthetized into apathy. The people in their soporific stupor cried only for "bread and Circuses." The cry is not unfamiliar in our society today. All many are concerned about is a full stomach and a good show. They have been attacked by the Viper of Complacency. The poison spreads through the culture as many escape their civic, religious, social, educational, and political responsibilities.

It is to be expected that the Masonic Fraternity would reflect within itself some of the ills of contemporary society, because it itself is part of that society. Some would have the Fraternity become increasingly secretive and esoteric, repeating its time-worn shibboleths in anachronistic rituals behind closed and carefully-tiled doors. Others have long since ceased to care, as evidenced by the average per cent of the membership present for a meeting of

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any typical Masonic body. Too many of our members are either in front of their television sets or participating in other and even more hedonistic pursuits instead of being in their proper stations and places in our lodge rooms or asylums. The Viper of Complacency has indeed taken its toll. It remains for us to throw that viper off!

Recently the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in a large mid-western state wrote in a well-known Masonic periodical, stating that as he looked in the newspapers at the lists of candidates for school boards and other community offices all too seldom did he find the name of a Mason listed. But Masons in general and Templars in particular ought to be a veritable phalanx in the vanguard of constructive civic endeavors, be they holding public office, or working for Community Chests, Cancer Drives, the Heart Fund, March of Dimes, Scouting, Cerebral Palsy or Muscular Dystrophy campaigns. The very fact that so many Commanderies and so few individual Templars do so little in patriotic, educational, or civic service is in itself a symbol of the extent to which we too have been bitten by the Viper of Complacency.

Strange as it may seem, we are complacent even about the future welfare of our own fraternity. Our Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, in the pages of this very magazine, said quite rightly recently, "we have work to do" as he gave the distressing statistics of progressively decreasing membership gains. Indeed, the Viper of Complacency crawls out of the pit and sinks its venomous fangs into us. Would that we, like Paul, would throw that viper off!

II

But another viper has come out of the pit to attack us. It has grasped many of us by the hands. This is the Viper of Conformity. Its bite robs us of any adherence to a high scale of values or allegiance to any worthy hierarchy of loyalties. Advertising in all kinds of clever schemes attempts to fashion us into a common mold. Any departure from the latest accepted fashion brands one as "eccentric," "reactionary," or

"strange." It was only a few years ago we were being told that to be a Man of Distinction one had only to be sufficiently affluent and be addicted to a particular brand of a singularly-potent beverage!

One of the most incisive indictments of our contemporary American culture was made recently by Vance Packard in his book entitled, "The Status Seekers." We seem to have a society which is determined to possess one way or another every conceivable symbol which is thought to indicate desirable social status. There are those who would rather be dead than to be caught wearing anything other than the latest fashion, driving anything but the latest model of a particular car, or going to vacations in places which are suddenly "out" rather than being very much "in." Even our vocabulary indicates the prevailing mood for conformity, for the word "square" is hurled at one who chooses not to conform. Thus we go to the "right" places, we are seen with the "right" people, we do the "right" (though maybe the wrong) things, we are careful to dress just the "right" way. Not to do so is to be a "square"! The Viper of Conformity has crawled from the pit, and we suffer from its bite.

History is full of the heroic feats of non-conformists. There was Jacques DeMolay at the stake, refusing to conform to the wishes of an avaricious King and a corrupt Pope. There was Joan of Arc, refusing to conform to the approved mores of her day which would have betrayed the inner voices speaking to her. There was Luther, standing at the cathedral, nailing his thesis to the door, and declaring: "I stand here. I can do no other." And towering above them all is the Saviour of the World, paying on the cross the supreme penalty for his own non-conformity. All one has to do is to begin reading the Sermon on the Mount in the fifth Chapter of the Gospel according to St. Matthew and one finds paragraph after paragraph beginning with the words, "Ye have heard it said of old time . . . but I say unto you . . ." language which indicates the mind of the Divine Non-

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Conformist. St. Paul gives his readers the injunction, "Be ye not conformed to the world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your minds." Only as we take Paul seriously, only as we seek to become transforming men and Masons instead of conforming ones, can we throw off the insidious Viper of Conformity.

It is preposterous to assume that more than four millions Masons and approximately four hundred thousand Templars are either unable or unwilling to be transforming, creative individuals in their communities, instead of being stultifying conformists to much in our culture to which we ought never to conform.

III

Finally, a third viper crawls from the pit, and it is the tragic and terrible viper of Compromise. Its bite causes us to reduce much of our lives and thoughts to least common denominators. College deans often see a young man, reared in a Christian home, abandon one by one the principles by which he was taught to live. His parents may have taught him that his body is nothing less than a Temple of the Living God. But the temptation comes in one or more ways to no longer "subdue his passions and keep them within due bound." He compromises his convictions and becomes either one more statistic in a latter-day Kinsey Report, or he starts down the ruinous road of alcoholism. Eventually, he may join others who are figures in the annals of delinquency. He has been attacked and succumbed to the Viper of Compromise.

Here again our vocabulary witnesses to the extent of the attack of this viper among us. One of the words which has been given an entirely new and different meaning in our day and age, is the way people are beginning to employ the word "accommodation" as it is used in modern political parlance. Now we seek to have an "accommodation" with political forces which are dialectically opposed to us. We need to be reminded that the beauseants of the ancient Templars were white and black, signifying good and evil. They were dark and terrible to their enemies. There is no

large middle band of grey on their ancient beauseant! Yet there are those who talk about "the large grey area" between right and wrong, between good and bad, between truth and error.

A little more than a century ago our entire nation succumbed to this particular viper, and history recorded an unfortunate Missouri Compromise. But when we compromise justice with injustice, freedom with tyranny, truth with falsehood, good with evil, we inevitably pay the inexorable penalty for our folly.

There is, to be sure, a place for him who would be a peacemaker, but peace at the price of compromising one's scale of values, one's basic loyalties, one's deepest convictions is no peace at all. It is the compromise of surrender. Those in our own generation who mistakenly believe they would rather be Red than dead are classic examples of the toll which the Viper of Compromise has taken.

Let us all take another long, slow, careful look at ourselves, not at our neighbor. We shall have all we can do to consider to what extent we ourselves as Templars have been bitten by these pit vipers which are yet active in our day. Has the Viper of Complacency attacked us? Has the Viper of Conformity struck us with its venomous fangs? Has the Viper of Compromise injected its poison into our corporate body? If so, can we dare to be like St. Paul and throw these vipers off? We cannot dare to be anything less nor can we dare to do anything less. As Masons and Templars we must replace Complacency with Consecration, Conformity with Courage, Compromise with Conviction. Have we the strength and the will to throw these vipers off? We can say in our day as St. Paul said in his, "I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me." This being so, then let us throw these vipers off!

"WE NOTE IN REVIEW"—

The Presiding Officers' Council in Massachusetts has established a Foundation which gives grants to student ministers.

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The United States is a Religious Nation

Excerpts taken from an address delivered September 5, 1963, by Sir Knight George W. Nilsson 33°, a member of Los Angeles Commandery No. 9, at a Constitution Observance sponsored by his Commandery.

The Supreme Court of the United States, in its decision in the Church of the Holy Trinity v. U. S., decided in 1892, and reported in 143 U. S. 457, said:

"But, beyond all these matters, no purpose of action against religion can be imputed to any legislation, state or national, because this is a religious people. This is historically true. From the discovery of this continent to the present hour, there is a single voice making this affirmation."

In the Mayflower Compact, signed November, 1620, we read:

"In the Name of God, Amen. We *** having undertaken for the Glory of God, and Advancement of Christian Faith, the Honour of our King and Country, a Voyage to plant the first colony in the northern parts of Virginia; Do by these Presents, solemnly and mutually in the Presence of God and one another, covenant and combine ourselves together into a civil Body Politick ***."

The Declaration of Independence summarizes Natural Law in these words:

"We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.***"

"*** And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our Sacred Honor."

The principle that ours is a religious nation has been repeated by the Supreme Court in various later decisions. Here is what the Supreme Court said in its 1963 Schempp-Murray decision:

"In *Zorach v. Clauson*, 343 U. S.

306, 313, 72 S. Ct. 679, 684, 96 L. Ed. 954 (1952), we gave specific recognition to the proposition that '(We) are a religious people whose institutions pre-suppose a Supreme Being.' The fact that the Founding Fathers believed devotedly that there was a God and that the unalienable rights of man were rooted in Him is clearly evidenced in their writings, from the Mayflower Compact to the Constitution itself."

In every State Constitution its preamble begins with a statement similar to the following which is the Preamble to the Constitution of the State of California:

"We, the people of the State of California, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom, in order to secure and perpetuate its blessings, do establish this Constitution."

This is not an old-fashioned idea.

When Alaska became a state in 1956, it used the phrase "*** grateful to God ***," and in 1959 Hawaii used the words "*** grateful to Divine guidance ***."

It is interesting to read the preambles to the Constitutions of the three states in which the cases arose which lead to the Supreme Court decisions of June 1962 and June 1963:—

New York's reads—"We, the people of the State of New York, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom, in order to secure its blessings, do establish this Constitution."

Pennsylvania—"We, the people of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, grateful to Almighty God for the blessings of civil and religious liberty, and humbly invoking His guidance, do ordain and establish this Constitution."

Maryland—"We, the people of the State of Maryland, grateful to Almighty God for our civil and religious liberty ***."

We are a religious nation.

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Publicity Suggestions

As Outlined By Grand Commandery Publicity Committee of Michigan

(Second of a Series)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Annual Meeting and the Election of Officers of (Name, Commandery, Number), Knights Templar of (_____), was held (Tuesday, December 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the Masonic Temple).

Retiring Eminent Commander (_____) announced that his successor in office is (_____).

Other new officers elected are as follows: (give name of each officer, office held, and town in which he resides.)

(Saturday, April 20) has been set for a Public Installation which will be conducted by Past Grand Commander (_____) who will be assisted by the Past Commanders of (_____) Commandery. Special entertainment has been announced and will be as follows: (List information available concerning the program.)

PUBLIC INSTALLATIONS

According to Eminent Commander Elect (_____), the new officers of (_____) Commandery No. (_____), Knights Templar, will be publicly installed at the Masonic Temple (Saturday, April 20), with several Officers of the Grand Commandery officiating under the direction of Grand Commander (_____) and the following Past Commanders of this Commandery: (List)

Following the installation ceremonies, special entertainment will be presented and dancing will be enjoyed from 9:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight. All Masons, their Ladies, and friends, are invited to attend.

The retiring Commander is (_____) _____).

SPECIAL EVENTS

Eminent Commander (_____) announces that (Tuesday, November 16) has been designated as the (des-

ignate the event to be celebrated). The function will begin with a dinner at 6:30 p.m. and reservations must be made.

The Committee Chairman (Past Commander _____) states that a very special program has been arranged which will include a prominent speaker (preferably, give name of speaker) and sparkling entertainment. The Eastern Star Ladies will prepare the dinner under the direction of Worthy Matron (Mrs. _____).

Grand Commander (_____) together with a number of Grand Commandery Officers and their Ladies will be in attendance.

(If night is designated for Life Members; 50-Year Award Night; Past Commanders' Night; or Generalissimo's Night, we suggest that names of those involved be included in the news release. By doing so, the release will be much more valuable and of considerable added interest to the readers of the local newspaper.)

(If the Generalissimo's Night brings an influx of visiting Commanderies, both the names of the Generalissimos and the Commanderies should be listed.)

YORK RITE REUNION

A large group of Knights Templar from the surrounding territory will be present at the (designate event planned) which is being held (Saturday, October 4).

The Orders (and Degrees if Reunion is involved) have been apportioned amongst the various Bodies (or Commanderies) participating and the first work is scheduled to begin at (9:00 a.m.). A break will be called at noon for luncheon and the work will reconvene at 1:30 p.m. Following the completion of the ritualistic activities of the day, dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. and the keynote address will be made by (Circuit Judge _____), who is one of the most

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prominent Knights Templar in this section of Michigan. A short, entertaining program will complete the day's program.

(If the event is for Advanced Officers, or to honor the Officers of the Grand Commandery, a rephrasing of the second paragraph will be necessary.)

Eminent Commander (—————), in an interview with the press, mentioned "..... the function planned is the highlight of the first half of the Templar year" All Knights Templar are invited to attend. Deputy Instructor General (—————) and Grand Officer in charge (—————) will also be present.

OBSERVANCES

Two important events of the Templar year are the observance of Hospitaller's Sunday and Ascension Day. The following release will serve to

publicize either or both.

Hospitaller's Sunday (or the Ascension Day observance) will be observed by (Genesee Valley Commandery No. 15 K.T.) Sunday, October (or May) (—————). The Sir Knights will present themselves in full Templar uniform for the purpose of attending divine services at the (First Presbyterian Church.)

The minister of the church, Sir Knight (—————), will preach the sermon and it will have considerable import for Chivalric Masonry.

The ladies and friends are of course invited to attend the special services, and several of the surrounding Commanderies will also participate.

Captain General Sir Knight (—————) announces that the Sir Knights will fall in just outside the church house, where the lines will be formed, and then march in proper fashion into the church.

Cyrene Commandery, (Pa.) Christmas Service to be Televised

By Harold S. Christman, Correspondent

Whereas the early Templars carried on their crusades through their lands on foot and prancing steed, the Sir Knights of Cyrene Commandery No. 34, Columbia, Pa., utilize the most modern means of communication to carry the message of Templary in their area, namely television.

The annual Breakfast and Christmas Service of Cyrene Commandery will be held Sunday, December 15 at 7:30 a.m. in the Masonic Temple, at Columbia. The service will again be filmed for television and will be aired over WGAL-TV, Channel 8, Lancaster, Pa., on Christmas Eve as a feature of the station's Christmas program.

The service is an annual event of Cyrene Commandery, with the Sir Knights of the other area commanderies joining with them for this service. This year the service will have a special significance as Cyrene Commandery is the home commandery of

the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Paul C. Rodenhauser.

The Christmas message of the Right Eminent Grand Commander is the highlight of the service which this year will be conducted by Walter E. Yohe, Eminent Commander of Cyrene Commandery.

IN MEMORIAM

Idaho

Charles Elmer Wierman, G.C., 1918
—October 9, 1963

Maine

Cony Alexander Duncan, G.C., 1949
—November 4, 1963
Edward Warren Wheeler, G.C., 1920
November 1, 1963

Virginia

Charles Vernon Eddy, G.C., 1925
—October 17, 1963. Past Grand Captain General of The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of U. S. A.

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DeMolay Sell K. T. Magazine At New York Conclave



DeMolay members sitting at the table are from left to right: John Powles III, Past Master Councilor; Harry Potter and David Grube. Standing from left to right are: Carlton A. Newton, P. C. of St. Georges Commandery No. 37 and chairman of Knight Templar promotion; Theodore Schwärmer, chairman of the Advisory Committee of St. Andrews Chapter Order of DeMolay; Vincent D'Anza and Norman Gould, who are shown ordering subscriptions.

The recently held New York State Conclave was one of the largest in point of numbers in many years. Seven hundred eighteen were present at the main dinner served during the session. As shown in the above picture, the Knight Templar Magazine was sold during the Conclave by the boys of St. Andrews Chapter Order of DeMolay of Schenectady. Frederick E. Stall is anticipating an upsurge in Templary during his year as Grand Commander.

"WE NOTE IN REVIEW"—

Massachusetts and Rhode Island reports excellent results from the work of an Exemplification Team, an all-star cast of 17 Past Commanders from 15 different Commanderies. These Knights demonstrate the Work and Tactics at selected places throughout the Jurisdiction, for the instruction of Commandery officers and others interested.

"WE NOTE IN REVIEW"—

The several Commanderies in Memphis combine to present larger and more outstanding Templar observances; also those of Chattanooga and Knoxville, Tennessee. Paris Commandery takes an active part in the community Interdenominational Service, and we note that the offering is given to the Ministerial Association of Paris.

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From Our Readers

On Saturday, October 5, 1963, thirty-one companions of Capital Chapter No. 9 Royal Arch Masons left Lansing, Michigan at 6:00 A. M. by bus and traveled 400 miles to Marquette, Michigan. In the evening they exemplified the Most Excellent Master degree for which Capital Chapter is most famous.

Marquette Chapter invited all the Chapters in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan to bring their candidates to Marquette to witness the degree. There was a fine class of candidates. They came from Sault Ste. Marie on the east to Ironwood on the west, which were distances over 150 miles.

This was wonderful cooperation on the part of all the Chapters in promoting York Rite Masonry in Michigan.

"We would like for the Knight Templar Magazine to carry more news from Tennessee, and Sir Knight Coy H. Duke, P. O. Box 216, Nashville, Tennessee 37202, has been appointed reporter and correspondent for our State. Be sure and send to him accounts of meetings and events of general interest to Templary. Pictures may also be used from time to time."—(Bulletin of November 26, of Robert Lee Raney, G. C. of Tennessee.)

This admonition should apply to the Sir Knights of each Grand Commandery.

John Everett Rollins, Battle Creek, Michigan, was knighted on October 30th by his father, Everett C. Rollins, Commander of Marshall Commandery.

Max G. Cogill of the Committee on Public Relations of the Grand Commandery of Oregon is most active in giving his Commandery in Eugene, Oregon a publicity program. He has an announcement in the paper at least once each week with the words in large print "Eugene York Rite Masons." Under this heading he designates the activities of either the Chapter, Council or Commandery that is being publicized.

Sir Knight John Neff was stricken with a heart attack and died while participating in the parade at the recent Grand Commandery Conclave of Ohio. Mrs. Neff wrote a letter of thanks to the members of Chillicothe Commandery "for doing their utmost for helping in any way humanly possible. I consider it a privilege and honor to have been the wife of a Sir Knight."



Grand Commander and Mrs. Stall.

Damascus Commandery of Brookline, New York, tendered a reception for its most distinguished member, Frederick E. Stall, G. C. of the Grand Commandery, on September 21, at which time there were 425 Sir Knights and ladies in attendance. Among the distinguished guests present were Walter A. DeLamater, P. G. M. of the Grand Encampment, the entire Grand Commandery Line, G. C.'s of Maine, Massachusetts and Rhode Island, Maryland, New Jersey, and Connecticut. A seven-piece set of silver service was presented to the Grand Commander by the Sir Knights of Damascus Commandery.

New Castle Commandery (Indiana) recently conferred the Order of the Temple on Carrol Eskew Smith and Carrol Eugene Smith, father and son.

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Robert P. Monroe, G. C. of **Washington**, invited the Grand Officers of Oregon and other Sir Knights of that jurisdiction to attend a meeting at Walla Walla on November 30 for assisting him in conferring the Order of the Temple on Albert N. Brandford, Grand Master of Masons in Washington.

Sir Knight Monroe also recently visited Central City, Colorado, where he had the pleasure of Knighting his brother in the same asylum where he received the Order of the Temple.—(November issue of the Oregon York Rite News.)

Andrew E. Barton a Sir Knight of Metropolis, **Illinois** recently sent subscriptions to the Knight Templar Magazine, and requested "about 100 or 150 subscription blanks." Last year he submitted more than 200 subscriptions to the Knight Templar. This is the kind of support the magazine needs and greatly appreciates.

Samuel L. Jewitt, G. C. of **Missouri** (from Gooch's Mill) made a detailed mimeographed report of the proceedings of the recent East Central Department Conference and sent copies of the same to the Grand Commandery Officers and other Templar workers in his Grand Jurisdiction.

A REPORT FROM THE CONNERSVILLE YORK RITE MASON, INDIANA

It was reported to your Eminent Commander that the Connersville Commandery is being run by a clique. A committee was appointed to investigate this charge and here follows their report:

"It is the opinion of this committee that Connersville Commandery is run by a clique. This clique is composed of faithful members who are present at every meeting. These members stop talking when the Commander calls the meeting to order and listen to the business being transacted. These members never leave the meetings early. They accept ritualistic parts and work on

the drill team. They do not criticize the officers except when they have some suitable suggestion for improvement. These members accept committee appointments and are always on hand to do their share. These members make every effort to meet our new members and to make them feel at home at the meetings. These members ask their Masonic friends to become members of York Rite. These members believe that the more one puts into his lodge, the more he gets out of it. These members enjoy their participation."

Commander's Summary: I would therefore suggest that each member of Connersville Commandery join this clique. Think of the fun we'll all have!

OKLAHOMA JOINS WITH ARKANSAS IN FIELD DAY AT HOT SPRINGS

On Saturday, November 9th, the members of Hot Springs Commandery knighted a very fine memorial class in remembrance of Weldon "Ike" Rasberry, Past Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of Arkansas. Cleo Walter, P. C. of Norman Commandery, Norman, Oklahoma, was privileged to participate in the ritualistic work and to knight his son, Cleo Walton, Jr. on this occasion.

Among the distinguished guests present were Ormand B. Shaw, G. G., Walter C. Hinchmon, P. G. C. and G. T., Charles D. Hill, P. G. C. and G. R., Axel L. Larson, P. G. C., Kenneth C. Johnson, P. G. C., Jean L. DeCamp, P. G. C. and Jacob L. King, G. W. of the Grand Commandery of Arkansas, and Frederick J. Smith, G. S. W. and Clyde S. Heckrodt, G. S. B. of Oklahoma.

JERUSALEM COMMANDERY (MASS.) ORGANIZES BAND

In the fall of 1961, as a result of the recommendations of three of its members, Jerusalem Commandery, No. 19, of Fitchburg, Mass., voted to form a Commandery, or Masonic Band, and they allotted a sum of money to cover necessary expenses. Membership in this band would be open to any Mason, and

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also to members of the DeMolay. Some members brought our instruments which had not been used for several years, and worked up their lips, while others were active members of existing bands.

Sixteen members presented themselves at our first rehearsal, in January, 1962. At that time, Robert A. Schreiner was elected President and Manager; Raymond H. Handfield, Vice President; U. John Pera, Director and Librarian; and Harvey H. Goodwin, Secretary-Treasurer. The band uniform, at present, consists of black trousers, white shirt with black four-in-hand tie; and a black fez which bears a gold square and compasses, with "K T 19" in gold, and a gold tassel.

During the Commandery's annual Inspection, that spring (April 26), this band, now about 25 members, made its first appearance when it played for about 15 minutes between supper and the reception of the Inspecting Officer and Suite. Those present spoke very favorably.

Jerusalem Commandery serves two principal cities, Fitchburg and Leominster, and, therefore, participates in two St. John's Day services. At the invitation of Charles W. Moore and Aurora Lodges, of Fitchburg, and Wilder Lodge, of Leominster, this new band, now 30 to 35 members, furnishes the music as the groups march from their lodge rooms to the respective churches. The response, from the Masons and from the people along the street, watching the parades, have all been very favorable, and pleasing to hear.

We have also played concerts for the Orders of the Eastern Star in both Leominster and Fitchburg, as entertainment following a business meeting. And one Sunday, we drove about 40 miles to Charlton, Mass., and gave a concert in the Masonic Home, there.

HARVEY H. GOODWIN,
Secretary Jerusalem
Commandery Band

Akron Sir Knight Receives Recognition

Robert E. Shuff, Senior Warden of Akron Commandery No. 25, K.T., Akron, Ohio, has been appointed to the National Committee on Leadership Training, Boy Scouts of America. Shuff joins twelve men from across the nation who will advise and counsel the development of trained leaders for the Scout Movement in the United States.



Robert E. Shuff

Akron Commandery has for many years encouraged its officers to participate in Civic and Religious affairs. Members of No. 25 are active on numerous City and County civic organizations. The Patriotic and Religious Observance Committee of Akron Commandery insure active and ardent membership in various church groups, civic groups and governmental commissions. Shuff is an example of their work in our Christian Order dedicated to Faith, Hope and Charity. He is a past President of the Summit County United Fund and the Summit County Rehabilitation Hospital; a member of Faith Lutheran Church Council and the Akron-Canton Airport Agency.

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The Sword of Division

By W. Jene Miller, G.P. of G.C. of Oklahoma

The sword which every Knight carries is a sword of division. With it, the Knights of the past severed the bodies of evil doers. With it, the martyrs of our great heritage, such as Jacque de Molay, were silenced.

Today we still remember that we must use our sword to divide the false from the good. We must make decisions that express our loyalty to Christ, as opposed to any other loyalty.

There are many ways which promise salvation, and many kinds of salvation which are promised.

The Knight of the Temple remembers that our Supreme Commander has said, "I am THE way." There are no alternatives which the Christian takes seriously on his pilgrimage to the meaning and fulfillment of human existence.

Neither the promise of pleasure, nor the threat of pain can deter a true Knight from obedience to the love of God in Christ Jesus. Even our enemies must receive our compassion if we would follow Christ. All our obligations must find expression in devotion, sacrificial giving and regular attendance upon the work, witness, and worship by the Church of Jesus Christ.

Any military organization has many different kinds of units which carry out the separate expressions of their commander's will. He is not Knight of the Temple who is not a faithful servant of the Church. "There are diversities of gifts" and differences of denominational organizations, and any of them may serve their commander well.

But if Jesus Christ is Lord of our lives, we will be an active and effective part of His Church. For the Knights of the Temple, He is not one possibility among many, He is THE way for us.

EDWARD J. WARWICK
DEC. 63
4111 OVERLEA AVENUE
BALTIMORE 6, MARYLAND

Return Requested
Box 477
Greentield, Indiana