



Knight Templar

VOLUME X

OCTOBER, 1964

NUMBER 10



Divine Service -- 49th Triennial -- Philadelphia

A Message From the Grand Master - -



WILBER M. BRUCKER, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment

"LET'S PUT CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES TO WORK"

We live in a day when it is popular to seek easy solutions for difficult problems. We yearn for shallow short-cuts. We search for quick remedies for every ill of the flesh, and we grope for superficial answers for business, government, and even our beloved fraternity.

During the past few years, problems of Masonry have arisen that go to the fundamentals—and require more than surface treatment. Take for example, "resignations," which we call "demits." We are confronted by defections from our ranks that might better be called "Masonic drop-outs." We are surprised by the careless indifference with which some men treat the solemnity of their precious fraternal compact. We are stunned by the steady flow of demits. We need a solution and not a mere poultice.

Of course, we must immediately grapple with each "demit" as it arises and use every practical and reasonable means to handle it promptly. No one knows better than the Eminent Commander and the Recorder that a personal contact must be made forthwith by the most effective Sir Knight in each instance, to save the demit from becoming final, and to bring the seriousness of the situation to the consciousness of the specific individual.

However, we must get started on the long-range solution, which is even harder, because it involves the unpleasant task of self-examination. We must go deeper and look below the surface. Why are we constantly being bedeviled by defections in our ranks? Why can't we devote our full time to the constructive process of Templary?

The answer lies in ourselves. We must put Templary's house in order. Perhaps our selection of officers needs an agonizing re-appraisal. Our whole structure is no stronger than those whom we choose to lead us. Let us elect officers who really care enough about our great Christian Cause to serve it with all they have. Let the rest of us get back to fundamentals and function in tune with the faith we profess. Let's demonstrate by precept and example that Templary is, in truth, Christian, and that it is worth fighting for. When we do, our petty administrative problems will vanish like the morning dew. Let's put Christian principles to work!!

WILBER M. BRUCKER, Grand Master

KNIGHT TEMPLAR: Official Publication of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America.

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Postmasters: Send notices and return magazines to **KNIGHT TEMPLAR**, P. O. Box 477, Greenfield, Indiana. Return Postage Guaranteed. This magazine is entered as Second Class Mail at the United States Post Office, Greenfield, Indiana, under the Act of August 24, 1912.

Divine Service Highlights

By BURT D. PEARSON, P.G.C., Minn., Chairman Committee on Religious Observance of G. E. of K. T. of U. S. A.



Sir Knights at Divine Service

"The Oldest and Newest Challenge" was the title of the sermon delivered at the divine service of the 49th Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America on Sunday afternoon, August 23, 1964, at 4 o'clock, by Sir Knight (and Reverend) G. Mason Cochran, D.D., Grand Prelate and pastor of the Glenshaw Presbyterian Church, Glenshaw, Pennsylvania. The service was held in the Philadelphia Convention Hall.

With the public-at-large well represented in balconies of Convention Hall, Sir Knights marched into the spacious structure, Grand Encampment officers leading, the lines moving in precision and order to the strains of "Onward,

Christian Soldiers." It was an impressive sight, the witnessing of the Sir Knights to their Christ as the body of Templary took appointed seats to form a Passion Cross.

Paul Miller Moore, Most Eminent Grand Master, and his official family, Wilber M. Brucker, Deputy Grand Master; John L. Crofts, Grand Generalissimo; G. Wilbur Bell, Grand Captain General; and G. Mason Cochran, D.D., Grand Prelate, occupied stations in the proscenium area of Convention Hall's stage.

Included in the official group were Philip R. Jones, Grand Prelate, the Grand Commandery of K. T. of Pennsylvania; Henry S. Paynter, D.D.; and Harold A. Dunkelberger, B.D., Ph.D.,

former Grand Prelates of the Grand Commandery of K. T. of Pennsylvania. All were active participants in the services.

The full Philadelphia Oratorio Choir, Mr. Earl Ness, director, filled the large stage sector back of the proscenium. To the front and to the left of the audience was the organ, and Mr. Lewis Wright, the organist.

The Stars and Stripes, Templary banners and emblems and red, white and blue bunting adorned both stage and hall, a cathedral setting for the stage background giving emphasis to the deep religious character of the occasion which had brought the host of Knights Templar to an exalted worship service in testimony to absolute faith in the Saviour.

White chrysanthemums and white sword lilies (gladioli) placed before the stage in a field of ferns and other greenery added beauty and dignity to the religious motif, as did the drapes of black, brown, blue, white, red and orange colors which hung in the "chancel" area of the stage.

Not to be overlooked were the pulpit stand (or lectern) and the Holy Bible on it placed, and the massive chairs (or station pieces) in which were seated the Grand Encampment officers. It was learned that these are over 100 years old and were on loan for the occasion from the Commandery Asylum of the Philadelphia Masonic Temple, Broad and Filbert Streets.

Excerpts from Sir Knight (and Reverend) Cochran's sermon follow:

"The words of our Lord to his disciples on the occasion when they were starting on their first mission as his emissaries have relevance for every Christian. They have a special significance for those who are enrolled under the banner of Templary, and are dedicated to service to Christ and his Kingdom. . . .

"We are to be humble, cordial, gracious, understanding. We are to be filled with the sense of the importance of Christ's task. We are to be related closely with those who are willing to hear about the Kingdom. But, we are to proclaim the glad tidings of Christ's

coming into the world, and the results of that coming into history of the saviour of mankind. Our task is to make sure that no man is ignorant of Christ's love, and to insure that every man shall know that that love is for him.

". . . Each of us is just one—but each one has a destiny and a prospect. Whatever our situation, we are facing over and over again the oldest and the newest challenge: the challenge to be the best we can be as servants of Jesus Christ. . . . Again and again, therefore, we have to set ourselves to the task of making this day count for something good.

"The opportunities facing us are as great as those presented to the disciples. Our background in some senses is as broad as theirs. The task is certainly as far-reaching as that committed to their charge. . . .

"We have heard it said that no one any longer does things for the general good, but only for his personal advantage, and the words are hardly out of our mouths before we remember Dr. Albert Schweitzer, the 'first citizen of the world,' as someone has called him. . . .

"No matter where we live or what we do, there will always be those who will urge you to accept . . . erroneous ideas, or would force them upon you. Jesus said, 'Don't be deceived. By their fruits ye shall know them.' It is required of his servants that they shall live by his ideals and purposes only.

"Our Lord said, 'Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.' We believe that, and most times, act in accordance with it. But, having lived in a free country all our lives, we find the idea that there are people who are not free in our world today a difficult one. . . .

"All over the world there are people who are crying out for the very freedoms we have long enjoyed. Among the noblest and most exciting opportunities offered to any American today is the chance to fight for freedom from illiteracy, ignorance, and oppression for every person who is in need.

"For some of us, the giving of time or substance for this cause will be the greatest privilege we shall ever have. It is equal to the challenge that comes to the soldier to defend his country, or to the teacher to thrust back the darkness of ignorance.

"Above everything else, we are to remember that it is obedience to our Lord's command that drives us to these exertions. His example stands supreme. . . . His work was the granting of freedom. . . .

"The farther we go in learning, and the more we are exposed to the great thinkers of the world, the surer we are that the best of men are those who turn away from the tawdry advantages offered by sharp dealing, for the tribute the world pays to those who have served worthily and well. We remind ourselves that we have no permanent abode here. Our dwelling place is the city whose builder and maker is God. . .

"Perhaps you are saying to yourself as you listen, 'This is all very well. But, I am only one person, and I have to live in a world of many persons.' . . . Just remember that each person is important to the Kingdom of our Lord. . . . And every great advance in history has depended ultimately on one man.

". . . Then I remembered that Shakespeare had once put into the mouth of one of his characters the words, 'Behold, how far that candle throws its beams. So shines a good deed in an evil world.' And then I remembered that one far greater than Shakespeare had once said, 'Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.'

"What greater challenge does anyone need? What better word could there be for Knights Templar gathered for their Triennial Conclave? What more worthy goal could any of us have at any moment of his life? This is the oldest and the newest challenge—as old as man, and as new as tomorrow. 'Go your way,' says our Lord, 'Behold, I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves.'"

Flash!

The first Regional York Rite Conference will be held at the Henry Grady Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia, on November 28, 1964. All present Dais Officers and the Grand Secretaries and Grand Recorders of the Grand Chapters, Grand Councils and Grand Commanderies in the Southeastern Region are EXPECTED to attend, and all Past Grand High Priests, Past Grand Masters and Past Grand Commanders are invited and urged to attend.

The Southeastern Region includes the same area as is included in the Southeastern Department of Grand Encampment, being the states of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and Florida.

The Most Eminent Grand Master, Sir Knight Wilber M. Brucker, is calling a Department Conference to be held at the same place during the morning of November 28, and will be present in person. Simultaneously, a Sectional Conference of General Grand Chapter will be held, with General Grand High Priest William F. Clark attending, and a Regional Conference of General Grand Council held at the same time will be attended by General Grand Master Donald D. Boudeman. All three will take an active part in the combined conference which will then follow, as well as their regional proxies, L. Earl Curry, G.G.M. 3rd Veil, Stephen B. Dimond, and William M. White, Dept. Commander.

More information will be available for the next issue of KNIGHT TEMPLAR. This notice is for the purpose of protecting this important date: Southeastern Regional York Rite Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, November 28, 1964.

A GOOD MOTTO

The M. E. Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter, in the Philippines, gave the following as his Motto: "Push, Pull or keep out of the way."

(From The York Writer, N. Mexico).

Entertainment at 49th Triennial Conclave

By CHARLES B. WOLFERTZ, P.G.C., Pa. & Dept. Com.

Entertainment at the Triennial was varied and, from whatever part of the country they hailed, the Sir Knights and ladies soon learned that functions had been planned for their special interest and enjoyment. In the envelope which was given to all who registered was a 128-page booklet, "Philadelphia—most historic city in America . . . a great modern metropolis—Official Handbook for Visitors," an informative listing of the many attractions of this Quaker City.

Even though it is not possible to enumerate everything that happened during the week of the Conclave to assure a welcome to all Sir Knights and their ladies, some of the features are noted herewith.

Early risings were among the activities including the Traditional Breakfast of the Southern group, at which time the Quartette from Worth Commandery No. 19, Fort Worth, Texas, (the largest commandery in the world) received a standing ovation for their rendition of the negro spiritual "The Creation," the Michigan Breakfast, the jurisdiction of the Grand Master-elect, Wilber M. Brucker, and the occasion when the presiding officer, Edward S. Piggin, stated that "we come to this breakfast, not for scrambled eggs and bacon but rather for the fellowship incident to these gatherings; the Ohio-Pennsylvania Breakfast, the latter the jurisdiction of the Grand Master, Paul Miller Moore, Paul S. Rodenhauser, presiding stating that this was the sixth breakfast given by these two jurisdictions, the first having been at the 44th Triennial in San Francisco in 1949. The Red Cross of Constantine and the Knight York Cross of Honor also scheduled breakfasts for their respective groups on succeeding mornings.

Sunday evening featured a Buffet Dinner tendered to the Most Eminent Grand Master, officers, distinguished guests and members of Committees of the Grand Encampment, by the Grand

Commandery of Pennsylvania, giving to our guests an opportunity to greet and mingle with our Most Eminent Grand Master before the more important business of the Triennial. A string orchestra entertained with dinner music and a beautiful bouquet of 84 American Beauty roses presented to Sir Knight Moore by the members of his own commandery, Beaver Valley No. 84, adorned the serving table.

During Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday tours were conducted through Fairmount Park and its Colonial Mansions; Valley Forge Historic Battlefield; Showboat on the Delaware River and through Historical Philadelphia. Tickets were also provided to visit such interesting buildings as the Franklin Institute and Fels Planetarium; the Philadelphia Museum of Art; the Academy of Natural Sciences; the Masonic Temple Museum and Library; the United States Mint; Rodin Museum; the Atwater Kent Museum and the Bulletin Newspaper Printing Plant.

From 3:00 to 5:00 on Wednesday afternoon, the Ladies Auxiliary of Mary Commandery, No. 36, Pennsylvania, entertained at Tea in the Clover Room of the Bellevue-Stratford, followed by Mary Commandery, No. 36 in the evening with a delightful reception, dancing and refreshments, for all attending the Triennial.

Another Wednesday afternoon feature was the Theatre Party in the Air-Conditioned "Playhouse In The Park" featuring the Pre-Broadway Production of "Catch Me If You Can" a new comedy-mystery (adapted from the French) starring Julia Mead and Tom Bosley. The delights, the suspense and the totally unexpected ending of the play were a topic of conversation among the visitors for the remainder of the conclave.

One of the finest events of the entire Triennial was the Ladies Luncheon honoring Mrs. J. Harvey Moore, the Grand Master's lady, with Mrs. John

"Special Reports—49th Triennial—Philadelphia"

B. Cottrell, Jr., Chairman of the Ladies Committee, presiding most graciously. More than 1,080 ladies were in attendance. As the ladies to be seated at the "head table" entered the stage of the Main Ballroom of the Bellevue-Stratford, the "Les" Flounders Trio played that grand marching hymn, "Onward Christian Soldiers," and later entertained with luncheon music.

After the invocation by Mrs. G. Mason Cochran, wife of the Grand Prelate, all joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by the National Anthem. As the Star Spangled Banner was sung, the ballroom was darkened, a "spot" pierced the darkness to illuminate the "waving" flag of our country and simulated "rockets red glare" and "bombs bursting in air" made a most dramatic and ever-to-be-remembered opening for this delightful luncheon. With the patriotic theme predominant, there was placed at each plate a 24-page booklet entitled "Our Flag" the story of the Stars and Stripes. When presented to the ladies, George A. Williams, P.G.C., and General Chairman of the local Triennial Committee, as he welcomed all of those present and voiced the greetings of the Most Eminent Grand Master, Paul Miller Moore and the Grand Commander of Pennsylvania, F. Parson Kepler, Sr., called this "the most beautiful picture of the Triennial."

On Monday evening the Sir Knights and Ladies were entertained in Convention Hall with a most inspiring program beginning with an exhibition drill by 16 platoons of Detroit Commandery, No. 1, nationally famous for their excellence and precision, featuring the several types of crosses prevalent in Templary together with numerous intricate maneuvers familiar to drill enthusiasts. Under the direction of Robert J. Brooks, C.G. of No. 1, the drilling Sir Knights were reviewed by Wilber M. Brucker, Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master, acting for the Most Eminent Grand Master; Abner C. Sager, Grand Commander of Michigan; and LeRoy McInally, Commander of Detroit Commandery, No. 1.

Congratulating the Sir Knights of this, his own Commandery, Sir Knight Brucker called attention to the fact, that for this special occasion he was wearing the jewel of Detroit Commandery, No. 1, stating that he was proud to be a member of a commandery with such an excellent drill corps. Nearing the conclusion of his remarks, he was challenged to take charge of his former command, Platoon No. 2, which he did with credit to himself and applause from the 7,500 assembled Sir Knights and ladies.

Following this was a short concert by the 40 piece Lu Lu Temple String Band (First in Shrinedom) which had been organized during the term of office of George A. Williams as Potentate of this temple. After this came the Delco Chapter, a 75-voice unit of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartette Singing in America, Champions of the Eastern Seaboard, who entertained with quartette and group singing. Concluding their appearance with the singing of Nearer My God To Thee, they disappeared from view on a descending portion of the stage with the theme of America, The Beautiful.

Next came the Quaker City String Band of 50-pieces, one of the prize winning clubs (having won top honors) from the annual Mummies New Year's Day Parade clothed in brilliantly-colored, gold-trimmed, blue, red, green, and yellow jesters costumes, and whose entertainment took the audience "by storm."

Concluding this evening's entertainment was the Grand March led by Wilber M. Brucker and his lady, officers of the Grand Encampment, distinguished guests, ladies and Sir Knights, forming a stunningly beautiful picture as they marched down Convention Hall floor and ending as the members of Delco Chapter, again appeared on a rising stage to lead in the singing of "God Bless America," as the curtain on the stage slowly opened displaying a huge American Flag. Then as the Hall darkened a second curtain opened bringing into view a replica of The Liberty Bell,

KNIGHT TEMPLAR



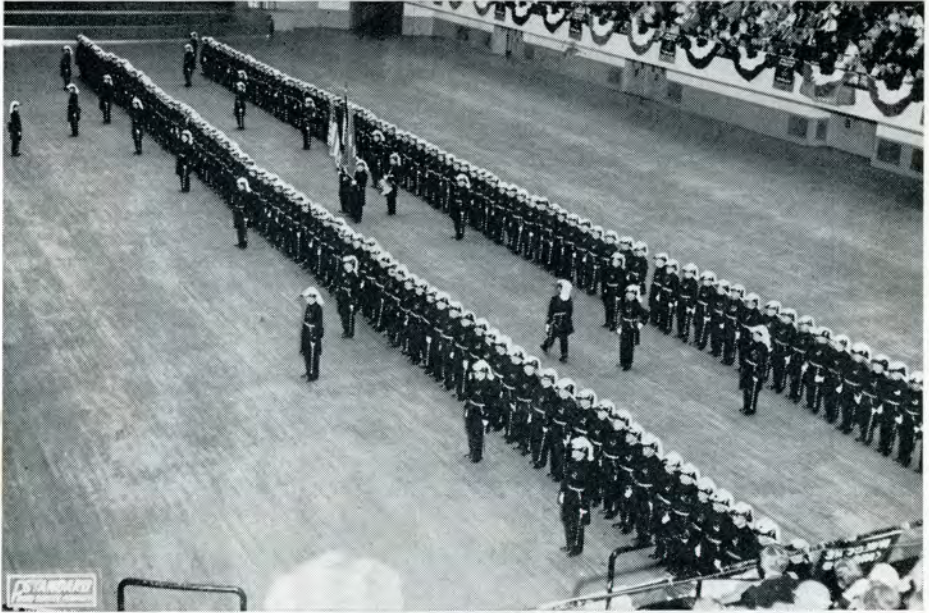
Formal Banquet Tendered to Most Eminent Grand Master Paul Miller Moore



LADIES LUNCHEON HONORING MRS. J. HARVEY MOORE
GIVEN BY THE FRIENDS OF THE KNIGHTS OF THE TEMPLE
AND ENCOURAGED BY THE KNIGHTS OF THE TEMPLE
AUGUST 24, 1938
BELLEVUE STRATFORD HOTEL
PHILADELPHIA

STANDARD PHOTO SERVICE
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PHILADELPHIA

Ladies Luncheon Honoring Mrs. J. Harvey Moore



Detroit Commandery No. 1 at Convention Hall

brilliantly lighted with small white lamps, with the yoke supporting the bell illuminated by glittering red and blue small lamps, a strikingly beautiful picture which remained during the dancing which followed.

Again on Tuesday night, more than 8,000 Sir Knights and ladies were entertained in Convention Hall with a high class variety group featuring dance numbers by a Ziegfeld Girl Chorus; Pierce Knox, a blind, yet brilliant Marimbist; Herb and Betty Warner, a comedy song team; the Martin Bros., expert jugglers from the Argentine; Thelma Lee, comedienne par excellent; and Morse Naily, an exceptionally talented performer with the violin.

In the opinion of many, the most brilliant and beautifully decored event of the entire Triennial was the Formal Banquet, tendered to the Most Eminent Grand Master, Paul Miller Moore, in the main Ballroom of the Bellevue-Stratford, with John B. Cottrell, Jr., Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Encampment and the hard-working Vice Chairman of the local Triennial Committee ably presiding.

The two tables on the stage were decorated with candelabras and bowls of American Beauty roses, pink carnations and daisies and green trimmings. Garlands of simlax adorned the front with large ferns at each end. The more than 900 Sir Knights and ladies rose in tribute to our Most Eminent Grand Master as he entered the ballroom to the strains of "Hail To The Chief" by the string orchestra under the direction of Sir Knight Joe Farina, also furnish dinner music for the occasion.

The Showmen, a delightfully, pleasing male quartette, entertained and led in group singing. The featured speaker was Dr. Robert Lamont, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh, Pa. With marked sincerity combined with a deep consecration he used "loyalty to God and country" as a theme for his remarks. He stated that "as Christians it is our duty not only to believe in Him but to suffer for Him. If I cannot feel the cross I cannot play the part of being a Christian. We are living in a world that takes the welfare state for granted. We must put

character above circumstance. Democracy cannot long endure if Christianity is not implemented in its people. We are building a great country and we cannot go back now. We had better be prepared in the day of opportunity to put the cause above conflict."

Following this brilliant message, Brother Earl F. Herold, Grand Master of Masons of Pennsylvania, felicitated the Grand Master and told of years of association with him, expressing his great pleasure at having been a friend of his for so many years.

Sir Knight Cottrell, then called upon Walter A. DeLamater, Past Grand Master, who introduced Mrs. Frank Talbot, Supreme President of the Supreme Assembly of the Social Order of the Beauceant who presented to the Knight Templar Eye Foundation a check for \$5,000. As she concluded, Sir Knight DeLamater added that with this check the S. O. O. B. has given almost \$106,000 to our great Foundation.

In concluding the evening, Sir Knight

Cottrell expressed the appreciation of all Pennsylvania Templars to the many Sir Knights and ladies who had come to the 49th Triennial Conclave ending his remarks with a tribute to our Grand Master stating that "his friends are like the stars in the heavens—numberless." Bringing this never-to-be-forgotten banquet to an end, Dr. Robert Lamont pronounced the benediction.

And thus came to a conclusion a work of many months by numerous Sir Knights and their ladies whose duty it had been to plan and prepare for the entertainment features of "The Philadelphia Conclave." It is their prayer that, having come to the 49th Triennial with anticipation, your fondest hopes were realized, that you had a most enjoyable and delightful sojourn among Pennsylvania Templars and their ladies and returned home feeling that it was good to have been in The Quaker City for this greatest of all Templar activities which comes but once in every three years.

WORTH COMMANDERY NO. 19 QUARTET, FORT WORTH, TEXAS



From left to right: Sir Knights Dick Gifford, Harold Collins, Bob Roberts and Joe Meadows.

Also known as "The Potentate's Quartet" of Moslah Shrine Temple, Fort Worth, Texas.

The quartet is also active in the S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc. (Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America.) They won the Southwestern District

(Texas, New Mexico, Louisiana and Oklahoma) Championship in 1959-60.

The quartet regularly appears before Masonic groups of all types—Lodges, Shrine Clubs, Eastern Star, Commandery, as well as barbershop quartet shows over the district.

Besides the six official functions at which the quartet appeared during the recent Grand Encampment, they also put on many impromptu concerts in hotel lobbies and hospitality rooms.

DeMOLAY WELL REPRESENTED IN MASONIC LEADERSHIP IN MICHIGAN

All Sr. DeMolay of Mich. are C. Fuller Dorr, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge; Russell A. Chrest, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter; Abner C. Sager, Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery; and Donald D. Boude- man, Grand Master of the General Grand Council.

Dorr and Sager have been awarded the DeMolay Legion of Honor. Wilber M. Brucker, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of K. T. is an Active Member of the Supreme Council of DeMolay.

Grand Encampment Prelate



DR. HOWARD TOWNE

Dr. Howard Towne has been Pastor of The First Congregational Church of Traverse City for more than thirty-five years, going there immediately after graduating from the Seminary. His Church has a membership of more than 1,600 members, having grown under his leadership from a membership of 300. Four years ago the Congregation moved to the suburbs and built a new Contemporary Style Church at a cost of nearly \$600,000.

Sir Knight Towne was born in Ohio, graduating from the Bellvue High School in 1920 and from Oberlin College, Ohio, in 1924, and from the Chicago Theological Seminary, Cum Laude, in 1927. Olivet College, in 1946 awarded him an honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree.

He and his wife, Neva, have two children, both are married. His son, Norman, is a mortician and lives with his wife, Betty, in LaCross, Wisconsin. His daughter, Noreen, is a school teacher and lives with her husband, Richard Crowe, in Holt, Michigan. Her husband is a Senior in Olivet College.

For many years Dr. Towne has been active in both Church and Civic affairs.

He is a Past President of the Traverse City Ministerial Association. He has also served as Moderator of his Association and the Michigan State Conference. On the National level, he has served as a member of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, also on The National Board of Home Missions. He is presently serving as Chairman of the Commission on The Ministry in his local Association, Director of the Michigan Conference of The United Church of Christ and a member of the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries of the United Church of Christ; he is also a member of the Advisory Committee of the Chicago Theological Seminary.

He has devoted much time to Masonry through the years. He is a Past Commander of Traverse City Commandery No. 41 and has served as local Prelate of the Commandery for more than thirty years. In addition, he has served as Grand Prelate of the Grand Commandery K. T. of Michigan since 1947. He is a member of Saladin Temple A.A.N.O.M.S. of Grand Rapids, Michigan; and Cadillac Council No. 70, Cadillac, Michigan.

Dr. Towne has been a member of the Traverse City Rotary Club for thirty-six years and has served as its Chaplain for much of the time. Dr. Towne's favorite hobby is Nature Study, of which the lovely region of Northern Michigan provides abundant opportunity.

A PRAYER FOR TODAY

O Father, Thou who hearest prayer, and to whom all flesh shall come sooner or later, breathe upon us now, in this quiet moment, the benediction of Thy holy calm.

Help us to think clearly; lift the burdens from our hearts; strengthen our faith; heal the scars of dissension; guard our lips from uttering words that hurt, and guide our thoughts and deeds into righteous channels. Amen.

From Our Readers

TEMPLE COMMANDERY (IOWA) DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS— Iowa's 100th Anniversary Parade



By James F. Milligan

At the Grand Commandery Conclave of 1963, Sir Knight Dallas T. Alvord, Grand Commander, expressed his wishes for a Templar Band in the State of Iowa and urged the officers of Temple Commandery's drill team to found a drum and bugle corp. Sir Knight Marion Wilson was appointed chairman of the committee to investigate the feasibility of the plan. Sir Knight Wilson did his job well and by the time the report of the committee was made the band had been practicing for almost a month.

Meetings were held each Sunday night and separate classes for percussion and brass each Tuesday evening from December until June.

It is a tribute to the knights of Des Moines that they had the patience and perseverance to field an impressive organization in such a short time. The corps is outfitted in green jackets and red trousers, the basic colors of the Order of the Red Cross, with a red passion cross on the left breast. A small red passion cross is also used as a cap badge on the black combat berets which complete the uniform. The uniforms were donated to the unit by Za-Ga-Zig Shrine through the efforts of Past Commander James F. Milligan.

This unit is the first of its kind in

the State of Iowa but judging from the enthusiastic comments of a number of the other commanderies in the general area it will definitely not be the last.

FIRST CONFERAL OF ORDER OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR IN N. AMERICA

Was Alex A. Macdonald, P.C., of Detroit Commandery No. 1 Knighted in a Commandery almost twice as old as the one in which he served as Commander?

Sir Knight Macdonald was knighted in Antiquity Preceptory, Canada. In proof of his contention that his former Commandery is almost twice as old as Detroit No. 1, he submits the following recent letter from Reginald V. Harris, Past Grand Master of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada:

"Knight Templar activity in Halifax dates back to 1766 when there were present in Halifax three military Lodges which arrived here with the 14th, 29th and 59th Regiments.

All these Lodges had Irish warrants which enabled them to confer any Masonic degree known to them. In May, 1765, the 29th and 59th were transferred from Ireland to Halifax and in June, 1766, the 14th Regiment was transferred from England to Halifax, where the three Lodges worked together for the next two years or more.

Owing to anticipated trouble in Boston, the 14th and 29th and two companies of the 59th were transferred from Halifax to Boston in October, 1768, where they were joined by the 64th Regiment, also with an Irish Lodge.

About a year later, August 28, 1769, the Minutes of St. Andrew's Lodge, Boston, record that Wm. Davis, a P.M. of Lodge No. 58 (Irish) in the 14th Regiment received "the four steps, that of an Excell't, Sup. Excell't, Roy'l Arch and Kt. Templar" at the hands of members of the three Lodges in the 14th, 29th and 59th Regiments. The inference is irresistible that during the three years of their sojourn in Halifax they had maintained their knowledge

and proficiency in these ceremonies, acquired during their sojourn in Ireland.

At this time 1765-69 there were living in Halifax six brethren who later in 1782 conferred the R.A. and K.T. degrees upon several candidates in an encampment working under the authority of the warrant of St. John's Lodge No. 211 (now No. 2 G.R.N.S.). From the Minutes of 1782-1806 and other evidence it is clear that the encampment was in existence prior to 1782, and from still other evidence was the predecessor of the present day Antiquity Preceptory No. 5.

The claim of Antiquity Preceptory was recognized by Sovereign Great Priory and the right to wear a seven-pointed gold star bearing the date 1782, by a resolution passed August 8th, 1923.

Since that date, the evidence of an earlier existence of the encampment has been found and when Sov. Great Priory meets in Halifax in 1966, a petition that the date 1766 be recognized as the correct date will be presented and we believe we can readily establish our case."

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR HONOR GUARD AT GRAND COUNCIL SESSION (N. Y.)



From left to right: Edward Claydon, Commander, Ralph Thompson, James Schermerhorn, Raymond Wilkie, Charles Fuller Sr., Past Commander, LeRoy Pickering, Albert Lamb, the honored Sir Knight and Grand Master Raymon

H. Houst, William Wesel, Ernest Wardell, Theodore Hidding, Leslie Harris, Robert Thomas, and Carlton A. Newton.

Raymond H. Houst, Grand Master of the Grand Council, was honored by having members of St. George Commandery No. 37 Schenectady (N. Y.) form an honor guard at the 141st Annual Grand Assembly of the Grand Council at its meeting on August 31st.

Bethlehem Commandery No. 27 of Ridgewood, in conjunction with the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of New Jersey, honored its distinguished Sir Knight, C. Byron Lear, P.G.Generalissimo of the Grand Encampment on August 29, at a testimonial dinner.



Sir Knight and Mrs. Lear

Theo. F. Voelter, P.G.C. was master of ceremonies. The honored guests and speaker of the evening was Wilber M. Brucker, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Walter A. DeLamater, P.G.M. of the Grand Encampment, Gordon J. Brenner, Grand Commander, and many of the Grand Commandery officers were in attendance.

—By Harold V. B. Voorhis

HONORED RETIRED SOLDIER ACTIVE IN MASONRY

A recent letter to Wilber M. Brucker, Grand Master from J. Carl Zimmerman, Inspector of Department 6, Division C. of California, expresses just pride in having two distinguished Sir Knights in his Department, Ralph H. Slocum, G.C. of K.T. of California and Robert T. Veach, who served in the U. S. Army for 27 years with distinction, having received the Silver Star, Bronze Star, and Purple Heart, and who retired in 1957 as a Captain. The letter of Sir Knight Zimmerman continued in part as follows:

"Then (1957) is when he (Sir Knight Veach) became active in Masonry and is the Eminent Commander of San Luis Obispo Commandery No. 27, K.T.; Scribe, in San Luis Obispo Chapter No. 62 R.A.M.; Deputy Master of San Luis Obispo Council No. 38, R. & S. M.; Associate Watchman of Shepard of Madonna Shrine No. 36 and was last year (1963) Worthy Patron of Miguelito Chapter No. 176 Order of the Eastern Star. This I feel is worth writing about, since you (Uncle Sam) lost a good, honored soldier and Masonry gained a real good, sincere Mason."

GRAND COMMANDERY OF TENNESSEE CONTINUES TO SHOW GAIN IN MEMBERSHIP

(From Grand Commandery Proceeding 1964)

1940—23 Commanderies, 2,058 Members
1964—28 Commanderies, 9,173 Members
Net Gain in 1964—193

"Our gains have been due to the work and leadership of our interested Officers in the Grand Bodies as well as the local level. Our Spring and Fall Festivals have helped but there is no substitute for WORK. In the Holy Bible the word LOVE is mentioned more times than any other word and next to that is WORK. If we have love for our Fraternity in our hearts and if we work we can continue to make progress."

OUTSTANDING YORK RITE MASON ACTIVE IN SECURING NEW MEMBERS



Wesley Meng

Sir Knight Meng was Commander of St. George Commandery (N.Y.) in 1952 and knighted 30 Sir Knights; was High Priest of his Chapter in 1963, and had 64 new members; is now serving as Illustrious Master of St. George Council, and has initiated 64 and has 25 candidates in waiting.

SWORDS LOST AT TRIENNIAL

In the aftermath of the 49th Triennial Conclave in Philadelphia, two swords were found and the Committee would like to find the owners.

One bears the name "Lawrence P. Stevens" and apparently had been left in an Independent Taxicab and is being held by the driver of that cab.

The other was recovered from a pawn broker and bears the name "W. Clegg Bordeaux."

Further information regarding the return of these swords may be obtained from Sir Knight Charles Baker, Masonic Temple, 1 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107.

SAYS THE "SENIOR CITIZEN"

Lord, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will some day be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every occasion. Release me from craving to try to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful but not moody, helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all—but Thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details . . . give me wings to get to the point. Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing and love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by. . . . I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of others' pains but help me to endure them with patience.

I dare not ask for improved memory, but for a growing humility and a lessening cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a saint—some of them are so hard to live with—but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil. Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places and talents in unexpected people. Above all, give me the grace to tell them so.

AMEN.

The Macon News—Templar Tidings
—Plainview Commandery, Texas.

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DEC.

EDWARD J. WARWICK
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BALTIMORE 6, MARYLAND

Return Requested
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