



Knight Templar Easter Edition

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A Message From the Grand Master - -

EASTER, 1965



Sir Knight Wilber M. Brucker
The Most Eminent Grand Master
Knights Templar, U.S.A.

There is something about Easter that brings immeasurable joy and quickens the soul of every Christian. Easter brings the glorious message of victory over the grave by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Good Friday, with its record of hideous injustice, and its cruel crucifixion of our Lord, gives way to unspeakable joy over Christ's ultimate triumph over all the forces of evil. Will we ever forget that thrilling morning when the stone was rolled away from the tomb and Jesus arose from the dead to become the first fruits of those who slept!

Easter is the very heart of our Christian Faith. It proclaims that Christ lives—and that we, too, shall live beyond the grave. Easter assures mankind that in spite of all the dark processes of earth, we shall meet our loved ones in the hereafter, and that we shall inherit everlasting life.

At this season of the year, even Nature begins to live anew in the quickened life of Spring. Winter with its storms is past, and

Spring begins to beckon nature to robe itself in resplendent new garb.

All over America at Easter, Knights Templar, nearly 400,000 strong, will join in attending the Christian churches of their choice to celebrate this greatest event in the calendar of 1965. In some cities and towns, Commanderies are sponsoring Easter Services, encouraging the general public to attend.

The 35th Annual Easter Sunrise Service, sponsored by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, will be held at the Arlington Amphitheatre at 7:30 A.M. Easter morning. It will be broadcast by radio. Hundreds of Knights Templar in full Templar uniform will march from the West Gate of Arlington Cemetery at promptly 7:00 A.M. to the hymn "Onward Christian Soldiers," led by the Marine Band. The Easter Sermon will be given by Sir Knight Howard R. Towne, Right Eminent Grand Prelate, and the Army Chorus will render sacred music. After the service, the large Cross of Lilies will be carried through the "Arch of Steel," formed by Commandery swords, to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier—where it will be deposited with appropriate ceremonies, ending with "Taps." Thus, we will signify our devout belief in immortality—and at the same time will salute all of the Honored Dead who sacrificed their lives for their country and who sleep in Arlington Cemetery. May our great Christian Order of Knighthood ever keep up this annual pilgrimage as we renew our pledge of allegiance to Jesus Christ, the Great Captain of our Salvation.

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“Will We Follow The Lead Of The Church?”

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

Almost any careful observer of the events of our times would agree that we are living in an age of vast, sweeping changes, but probably in few other areas are such changes as dramatic and marked as those occurring within the various branches of Christendom. This period has been called, and not without reason, “The Ecumenical Century” so far as the Christian faith is concerned. We have seen unparalleled developments toward Christian Unity and even toward Christian Union occurring with an increasing rapidity beyond what anyone thought really possible even a decade ago.

Who would dare to say that the Masonic Fraternity has not played a vital and significant role, although perhaps in a subtle manner, in the coming together of Christian denominations to mend what was once the seamless robe of Christ? For decades we have championed the cause of universality, espousing the basic principle of “who best can work and best agree,” and forbidding sectarian discussion within our Lodge Rooms and Asylums. We have found a basic unity in the Fraternity which has been able to transcend the sectarian differences which have divided us in terms of theological persuasions. Who is to say that this continuing emphasis by the Masonic Fraternity, grounded in its basic landmarks, has not cast abroad a beneficent influence which has had its effect within the Church? If this be so, then indeed perhaps it is not without justification to suggest that the Fraternity itself may, consciously or otherwise, have led the way by precept and example.

But the question now raises itself, inevitably and inexorably, as to whether the Christian Churches have not advanced well beyond our beloved Fraternity? We think of Masonry as “the handmaiden of the Church,” and particularly is this true of Templary. Some say, and again quite correctly, that the Fraternity can never be a substitute for the Church but ought to be the finest possible supplement to the Church. But I suggest that in some way the churches are doing

a better job than the Masonic Fraternity is doing at the present time, and I refer specifically to the trend toward unity and union.

It seems to me that it is perfectly legitimate to draw a parallel to the movement toward unity and union between the various branches of Christendom and similar attempts now current within our beloved York Rite. Recent articles in the *Knight Templar* by our Most Eminent Grand Master and others have extolled the cause of closer unity and union. Therefore, if our Most Eminent Grand Master be likened to the beloved John XXIII in his call for unity and union, where shall Athenagoras I be found to answer him? On Pope Paul VI's trip to the Holy Land, the head of one major branch of the Christian faith met for the first time in over nine hundred years with the head of another major branch. At that time the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, the head of all the Eastern Orthodox Churches of the world, greeted the Roman Catholic Pope, and the words of Athenagoras I to Paul VI were these: “There was a man who was sent from God and his name was John.” This quotation from Holy writ was applied with a telling significance. It may well be that John XXIII came “in the fullness of time” when his appeals could be heard and men's hearts would respond.

Now the Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment is sounding for the York Rite, as John XXIII did from the Papal throne for Christian churches, the clarion call to greater unity and union. If Most Eminent Sir Knight Wilber M. Brucker's call has also come “in the fullness of time,” and if he has, like the words of Mordecai to Queen Esther of old, “come to the Kingdom for such a time as this,” where in the York Rite shall the counterpart of Athenagoras appear? Or where, again, within the ranks of our beloved Masonic Fraternity, shall come the counterparts to The Right Reverend James Pike, Episcopal Bishop of California, and The Reverend Dr. Eugene Carson Blake, Stated Clerk of the

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Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, who with their renowned recent Blake-Pike proposal have caused to be formed the Consultation on Church Union among the Episcopalians, Methodists, Presbyterians, United Church of Christ, Disciples of Christ, and the Brethren?

If we are the "handmaiden of the Church," shall we not follow among ourselves in the York Rite the giant strides the Church itself is making today toward a united witness in a weary and very sin-sick world? The Church is leading the way and setting the example. Perhaps we in the Masonic Fraternity indirectly helped to start the movement. Shall we not now do for ourselves in the

York Rite what John XXIII suggested not long ago—"reflect more on the things which we share in common and think less of the things which for too long have divided us?"

This is the season when we approach Easter, a symbol of home, of renewal, of recrudescence, of resurrection? Here in York Rite unity we have a hope for renewed life, for greater vitality, for increased impact on our society. If our Most Eminent Grand Master be likened unto John XXIII in the call to greater unity and union, then the question persists: where shall our own Athenagoras I be found? Where among us shall arise to lead us our own Bishop Pikes and our own Doctor Blakes?

AN EASTERTIDE PRAYER

Father in Heaven, we praise thy name for the glory that is Eastertide. As the spring sun melts the snow and draws the green out of the brown earth, so may the warmth of this season renew our lives as well. Let not the message of this season be lost on us, but may we receive the answer to our deepest longings and our greatest problems in the gospel of the risen Christ. Together with a mighty company we are Christ; help us as Sir Knights to lay bare our dying and failing lives to the ever-living Spirit of Him who burst the bonds of death.

O Father, we have tried to receive forgiveness without faith. We have sought year after year to enjoy the triumph of Christ's resurrection without being willing to share his cross; show us the folly of our way. As thou art one with Christ thy Son so may we be one in our allegiance to Him. As thou dost grant us grace to stand upon the mountain top of Eastertide, suffer us not in days to come to forget the glow of our eternal hope, but grant that the faith of this time may go with us into every tomorrow, that all our battles may be fought by thy sustaining strength, under the banner of Christ, our Captain, in whose name we pray. AMEN

Dr. Howard R. Towne, G.P. of G. Enc.

IN MEMORIAM

Alabama

George Graham Rees, G.C., 1955 —
February 6, 1965.

Colorado

Clarence Palm Watson, D.G.C., 1965—
February 25, 1965.

Idaho

Edward Delos Sanman, G.C., 1955 —
February 12, 1965.

North Carolina

Frank Cleveland Abernethy, G.C., 1941
—July 6, 1964.

Ohio

John William Rutschow, G.C., 1964—
February 17, 1965.

Pennsylvania

Harry Franklin Hostetler, G.C., 1959—
February 12, 1965.

Texas

Henry James Hefner, G.C., 1962 —
February 27, 1965.

CHARTING THE COURSE, an official communication from the Grand Encampment, is a most inspiring publication just recently released. If you have not had the privilege of reading and enjoying this very attractive and helpful brochure ask your Recorder for a copy.

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A Time For Rebuilding And Reconsecrating

By BURT D. PEARSON, P.G.C., Minnesota,
and Chairman, Committee on Religious Activities of the Grand Encampment

It is assumed that Masonry as an institution tried these centuries in the cross currents of mankind's aspirations to build a finer society has not been found wanting—on the contrary, it is, indeed, an indispensable entity which has consistently promoted the common good when given the opportunity, and this through the instrumentality of votaries dedicated to its philosophy and tenets.

It was tried in the crucible of this nation's first struggle for freedom, the Revolutionary War, and the events which preceded the conflict. Boston, Philadelphia, New York, Lexington, Concord, Brandywine, Yorktown, these were the three, five and seven steps to victory in the Battle for Freedom. Patriots of staunchest devotion, because they were Masons and church leaders, never failed General (and Brother) George Washington. Masons were a privy council to be trusted during dark days.

All of this nation's history—indeed, the brighter pages—is a chronicle of an Order's transcendent contributions to making America great. Brethren of the craft were the trusted statesmen of generation on generation. Knights Templar, as exemplars of the Creed of the Nazarene, were a significantly large total in the Masonic Councils which shaped the future of the United States to this present day.

It was only yesterday that the Mason, and in particular the Knight Templar, was preferred above others—all other qualifications being equal—in the selection of officials, high and low, for public office. Many a President, beginning with the immortal Washington, was a Mason and of tall stature as a Christian.

These particulars here recited would encourage a belief that Masons—again with emphasis on Knights Templar—were the consecrated political, industrial, civic and business leadership of America! But leadership alone is impotent unless there are those to follow it. The record

of this nation reveals that the general body of Masons—again with accent on Knights Templar—did provide a solid phalanx of informed followers. There was unanimity in opinion, not division.

However, this is 1965. The glory of the past, the gift in citizenship expression which Masons (including Knights Templar) did make to rear America a beacon light to a distraught world, belongs to yesterday.

If vanished glories, the heritage of another day, are to be recaptured to spur new generations to consecrated duty and challenge, then the contemporary populace must be roused from lethargy, from sloth, from avarice, greed and a gamut of delinquencies. Of a surety, the call is to those dedicated Americans* who have not yet succumbed to the blandishments of something for nothing, for free!

It seems to me that the challenge is one which Templary must embrace, not in isolated and feeble attempts to stem the utter selfishness of the present and the emphasis on material things, but in full strength and in a mood so united that we shall draw recruits. The prize is an America preserved into perpetuity, if we acquit ourselves in total effort.

We seek numbers, greatly increased numbers—members—for Templary, for the York Rite. We seek them not for the sake of numbers in themselves but as a vital requirement and ingredient in girding Templary for its finest hour in this country's history. To make the task and challenge a successful one, we must exalt ourselves and the Order as the handmaiden of the Christian Church. Every Christian Mason a Knight Templar! Yes, but more important, every Knight Templar a member of an established church, a professing member, militant in his espousal of Jesus Christ as the saviour of the world.

In its report to the 49th Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States

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of America. The Committee on Religious Activities revealed in brief how in the Grand Jurisdiction of Missouri Knights Templar are purposing an intimate collaboration with the Christian Church in establishing a common front against the enemies of mankind. They aim to make this union the ultimate in a grand design to promote Christ's Kingdom.

The Committee on Religious Activities of the Grand Encampment commends this togetherness in Christ to Templary-at-large. Here lies the future for the Order. The committee hopes that the Missouri plan will be emulated by every segment of the Order from Grand Encampment to Grand Commandery and to Commandery.

But, we shall make little headway in this mission unless as individual Sir Knights—and in the personnel of our families—we rededicate ourselves to our calling as ambassadors of Christ. We shall have to raise our individual and collective standards and stature as American citizens avouched to the highest in moral, spiritual and economic deportment. America is losing moral and spiritual posture in the world. Too long has this country been living off its past accumulated morality and spirituality.

As Knights Templar who are met for a singular and exalted purpose, these lines from Thomas Carlyle may be apropos: "Our main business is not to see what lies dimly at a distance, but to do what lies clearly at hand."

Of a truth, we are torch-bearers as well as salesmen for Christ. Never should our emphasis be less than the highest in our every role, within or without asylum. This Order may spread itself over the entire world, yet the average person—not a member—will form his judgment of it through his contact with one individual Sir Knight. This could be a devastating judgment. Every Sir Knight, no matter his capacity, becomes a good or a bad salesman for Templary. When we raise individual statures and motivations, we lift the whole body of Templary, giving it its deserved estate among men.

Disturbed authorities say that the fearful lack in today's America is spiritual and moral rectitude. Parents are failing,

the general citizen is failing and the bold, brave dream of the Founding Fathers, isn't even a copy-book maxim today. The wassail cup is seemingly a stronger magnet than is the communion cup.

It is a good portent for America that the officers of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America are convinced that this nation's future cannot be taken for granted. The ideals and the noble impulses of antecedents must once again be given the right-of-way in this country. They recognize that a nation which spends "up to \$750 on pleasure, sins and amusements to every dollar given to church work" is in grave danger.

If we are in earnest in the belief that we must as an Order make rapport with established religion—the Christian Church—we shall have to move quickly. Time is of the essence. The sand runs low in the hour glass. We must begin at once in implementing plans to join and progress the church militant. If every Sir Knight will make it a habit to attend the worship service of his church regularly and becomes active in its ministry in living the creed of the Christian Mason, a start will have been made to rewin the United States.

Let lanterns be hung in the symbolic belfries of the Order's asylums, even to the outposts, these signaling the direction to the "strait gate" Knights Templar would take in revitalizing the finer attributes of their heritage, and we shall be on the way to the nation's appointment with destiny. Let the drum beats of the high call be sounded in every Commandery and may bonfires confirming individual consecration be lighted in the hearts and minds of Sir Knights everywhere.

This is a climactic hour for Templary. Those who are authorized to lead in Templary's cause—Christ's mission—must be tall men, sun-crowned. Indeed, every Sir Knight proclaiming the dimensions of this Order's sublime charge must be sure he looks up to Christ in personal and public life. Such a Sir Knight will so exhort his fellow Fraters that his every utterance becomes precursor to asking for recruits.

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It is no longer enough to spell out the particulars and set forth the tenets by which redemptive efforts for the Order and its mission shall be accomplished. Evangelists from time immemorial have not been content only to preach the Word. They enlisted recruits, sometimes but one at a time, by open invitations to come forward and be enrolled. When men and women respond, when they walk the sawdust trail or, when under the exhortation of a Billy Graham, they come forward to make identity with a cause, then the pledge becomes meaningful.

The Most Eminent Grand Master addressed the closing hour of the Philadelphia Triennial as an inspired and consecrated Templar. No seer of Holy Writ ever made a more forceful plea for heroic action, for complete commitment to the Great Captain of our Salvation, than did Sir Knight Wilber M. Brucker. He sounded a prophetic summons in using the opportunity to reflect upon the Order's past and present in projecting its role for the future, a dynamic and purposeful role. Had he asked his hearers to join with him in Templary's crusade, confirming their intent by rising to their feet, not a Sir Knight, not a lady, could have, or would have, remained seated.

In every Templary gathering, no matter where held, let there be a showing of hands, of willingness confirmed by solemn pledge, to accept responsibility in the name and for the Order.

Let it be the Order of the Day that every prime speaker addressing a Knights Templar assembly put the first things of the Order first. More, let it also be the Order of the Day that such a speaker's peroration be a call to definite action, to spelled out duty, in seeking new recruits among Christian Masons. The link with the Church should not be overlooked. Every Sir Knight should be called to his feet and then and there given such an assignment in building the Order as will comport with his willingness to accept meaningful responsibility.

This is a fateful time in the annals of the human race. Only if right prevails is there a chance for this nation to keep its rendezvous with high destiny. Right can

only prevail if the Creed of Templary and that of the Christian Church motivates a majority of America's population. Only if this creed prevails can the moral and spiritual fibre of the nation be shored up. Knights Templar who take their calling and duty seriously will disavow the indulgences of ill habits, of bad example. They will not be afraid to walk the sawdust trail.

Consecrated manhood is the great need of this time, if we are to rebuild and to reconsecrate Templary and the Church to challenge and opportunity.

From Henri Frederic Amiel, Swiss philosopher and poet (1821-1881), writing in his Amiel's Journal, comes this admonition to men and nations:

"Civilization is first and foremost a moral thing. Without honesty, without respect for law, without the worship of duty, without the love of one's neighbor—in a word, without virtue—the whole is menaced and falls into decay, and neither letters nor art, neither luxury nor industry, nor rhetoric, nor the policeman, nor the customhouse officer, can maintain erect and whole an edifice of which the foundations are unsound."

THE AVAILABLE BOOK

The Bible is the most readily available book in all the world, having been printed in more languages and dialects than any other book, and millions of copies have been available for the asking. Yet it has been the most costly of all books to preserve its freedom, entailing untold sufferings and persecutions and life itself to many of God's faithful servants.—Emergency Post.

HAVE YOU NOTICED OUR "NEW LOOK?"

Knight Templar is now printed on a top grade of paper. Compare this issue to the magazine for February, and you will see the difference—quality appearance, better printing, and easier reading. It costs more. The increasing number of subscribers has made this improvement possible.

—Editor

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Life Sponsors — Knights Templar Eye Foundation

How would you like to have your gift to our great humanitarian charity—the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.—go right on helping people long after you have finished life's journey?

It can, you know, by your becoming a Life Sponsor of the Foundation.

A Life Sponsor is any Sir Knight who contributes \$30 to the Foundation. The interest from such gifts help finance its program—research, and eye surgery and hospital costs for applicants who have lost or would otherwise lose their sight but cannot afford a sight-restoring operation.

While only Knights Templar may become Life Sponsors, their benefactions bring light from darkness to anyone, regardless of race, color, creed, age, sex or national origin. A recent amendment includes children with hopelessly-crossed eyes in the Foundation's benefice.

Since investigating and approving its first applicant in 1957 the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., has as of February 15 aided more than 8,650 individuals in everyone of our 50 states. Life Sponsorship was established in August, 1961, and we now have 3,650. A growing number of Commanderies are making a determined effort to recruit 10 percent of their membership as Life Sponsors.

What are some of the advantages of Life Sponsorship?

1. His gift exempts a Sir Knight from any assessment of the Knight Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

2. His contribution is deductible from income tax.

3. His gift permanently increases in value. The Foundation invests Life Sponsor gifts in its General Endowment Fund at 4½ percent interest.

4. Few gifts can return such satisfaction, in the gratitude of those brought literally "from darkness into light."

To assure expanding participation in this rewarding work, two Commanderies have already launched cooperative installment plans—for those who wish

to become Life Sponsors but find a single \$30 payment more than they can afford.

Dudley E. Cruise, G.C.G., this January founded Knights Templar Eye Foundation Club No. 1 in Bluefield, W. Va., Commandery No. 19, as a challenge to the Commandery's 434 Sir Knights.

Membership in the Club encourages contributions in any amount until the \$30 for a Life Sponsorship is reached. Should a Sir Knight forfeit his Commandery membership or die before completing his Life Sponsor contributions, whatever he has given goes to the Foundation.

Kingsport, Tenn., Commandery No. 33 has a similar installment agreement. It provides for \$5 minimum payments to reach the \$30 Life Sponsorship within six months, for forwarding then to the Foundation.

Through agreements like these many more Sir Knights across the country may share in the Foundation's humanitarian work.

But in each case this essential support depends on the enthusiasm of you Sir Knights. A February 15 breakdown of the Foundation's Life Sponsor list by states (and five countries where Knights Templar are residents) illustrates this fact.

The small District of Columbia jurisdiction boasts the highest percentage—(8 percent) 157 Life Sponsors. Texas, with the largest Templar membership, counts nearly one-third of the total—1178 Life Sponsors.

Of those states recording more than 100 Life Sponsors New York places second, 285; Tennessee third, 200; Maryland fourth, 168; California fifth, 157; Alabama sixth, 139; Missouri seventh, 130; Florida eighth, 113; Michigan ninth, 105.

Life Sponsor Certificates have been presented to Sir Knights as more than usually significant birthday and Christmas presents and tokens of appreciation.

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Retirement, A Time For Dreams

From The Tampa Times, Saturday, January 9, 1965

"He retired, in order to begin work. . . ."

The strange "turnabout" description applies to the new career, just entered by Howard F. Christner, of Sun City's retirement village. His new work is in the service of the Lord, a call that was sounded through most of his life, but only recently was fully heeded.



Howard F. Christner, P.G.C. of Ind.

Howard F. Christner is 67 years old. He has behind him years of building a successful business career, not unlike a Horatio Alger story, but he was not quite content. Retirement, a time of memories and musings to most, was the signal for Christner to start anew, as a minister.

Tomorrow, Mr. Christner will be in the pulpit of the Wimauma Methodist Church, a charge that has been his since just before Christmas.

"It is the most satisfying development in my life," he says.

"With this new life ahead of me, there is a brightness to the future as glowing as when I was a young man."

Since coming to this Del E. Webb retirement community in 1962, Christner has continued his efforts in behalf

of the Methodist Church. He was the lay leader of the Ruskin Methodist Church, its lay member of the Florida conference, vice chairman of the official board, chairman of the pastoral relations committee and co-teacher with Ruskin Pastor Robert Barber.

"Many people," relates Christner, "have asked me why, at the age of retirement, I should turn to study for the ministry."

"I can only answer that throughout my life I have tried to always listen to God's call and to follow the leading of His spirit. I now believe that He has called me to preach His gospel and to witness for Him in a world which needs Him very much."

In 1941 Christner took a position with Miles Laboratories, Inc., of Elkhart, Indiana, where he rose through the ranks to corporate secretary of five subsidiary corporations and general office manager of Miles' pharmaceutical division.

"In my remaining years, God clearly has set my path. I can only follow His direction."

THE THANKFUL HEART

If anyone should give me a dish of sand, and tell me there were particles of iron in it, I might look for them with my eyes and search for them with my clumsy fingers, and be unable to detect them; but let me take a magnet and sweep through it, and how it would draw to itself the almost invisible particles by the mere power of attraction! The unthankful heart, like my fingers in the sand, discovers no mercies; but let the thankful heart sweep through the day, and as the magnet finds the iron, so it will find in every hour some heavenly blessings—only the iron in God's sand is gold.

—*Oliver Wendell Holmes*

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CIVIC ACTIVITY

By JOHN W. RUTSCHOW, G.C. of Ohio

(EDITOR'S NOTE: *Sir Knight Rutschow unexpectedly died on February 17. He had submitted this article less than two weeks before his passing. He was vitally interested in Templary and the Christian image of service that it should portray in the local community as illustrated by this article. His own words here published is a tribute to the good work he was doing.*)

The primary objective of a discussion of Civic Activity is an absolute meeting of minds of what we are trying to accomplish. A uniform definition of "terms." Napoleon once said that he first gave his battle-orders to a person of feeble mind and if he could understand the orders then Napoleon felt his Generals would. We MUST understand each other and then communicate to our fellow Sir Knights.

The Grand Master has set—"A Project For EVERY Commandery In 1965"—as a goal. Every Service Club in your area has a "Project" with which you are all familiar. "By their 'DEEDS' you shall know them." Here again "DEEDS" and projects are basically similar.

CIVIC ACTIVITIES are "PROJECTS" or "DEEDS" planned or selected to create the "IMAGE" the people of our local communities will feel presents the true CHARACTER and type person the Knights Templar is and what he stands for and represents.

Templars have a TWO-FOLD responsibility—one, inside their Temples to their Rituals, and basic Masonic principles—and second, outside the Temples to their local communities where they apply their teachings in their everyday living by action and deed toward their fellow man.

CIVIC ACTIVITY is NOT one or two meetings a year; but is a continuing program that eventually develops into a way of life for every Templar. It must be a continually changing, expanding, activity that keeps pace with a continu-

ally changing community. A program MUST embrace ACTIVITIES including "ISSUES" or "THINGS" and activities revolving about "PEOPLE." The more the program is kept on the "local level" the more those participating in it will feel it is "theirs" and the more local interest can be created. Sir Knights interested, personally, in advancement of "projects" close to their hearts are excellent committee chairmen to carry on the supervision of work necessary in promoting "projects." CIVIC ACTIVITIES are the answer to the question: "WHAT do Masons do for others than Masons?" The program MUST be well balanced between ACTIVITIES regarding ISSUES and ACTIVITIES concerning PEOPLE.

The raising of monies to support the projects should be of as much importance as the actual activities themselves. Here again this can cover a wide area involving many people. The more people you get interested in your activity the more successful the project will be.

Perhaps a few ideas and a "full blown" example of a "TRULY SUCCESSFUL" project would be in order.

1—ISSUES—Speakers, Forums, Debates, Films of national and local interest are excellent—subjects of HIGHLY controversial nature should be avoided—but the Templar should never hesitate to hear and/or present both sides of the story. The Chamber of Commerce, Bar Association, Welfare Department, Juvenile Authorities, Fire and Crime Prevention Bureaus all have excellent suggestions for programs. Issues of local interest, urban renewal plans, bond issues, tax levies, Medicare, health and welfare, industrial expansion, recreation departments, government officials, travelers returned from controversial countries, defense and space operations all have a myriad number of speakers and ideas for programs.

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2—PEOPLE—Activities involving people are much easier come by and are much closer to the humanitarian image of the Templar which we would like to promote. Scholarships to prospective clergy, athletes less likely to be recognized than football or basketball players (track, tennis, swimmers, etc.), donation of equipment for schools, churches, hospitals, camps, etc., sponsorship of camps, school bands, ball teams (little league), DeMolays, scout troops, helping the handicapped and retarded, all are most worthy Civic Activities towards people that Commanderies should consider. CIVIC ACTIVITIES is the getting to the "Grass Roots" in the local communities so the Templar becomes a real living image of humanitarian, forceful, up-rite citizen, with the welfare of his fellow man always uppermost in his actions. I think this "Bound To Win" story illustrates Civic Activity excellently.

Valley Commandery No. 80, K. T., membership 270, stationed at Miamisburg, Ohio, population 9,893, Eminent Commander Kenneth Early, decided to do something about Civic Activity. Commander Early, a Legionnaire, remembered the "adopt-a-family" plan of his Legion Post and decided to apply it to Valley Commandery. Contacting the Welfare Chairman from the public schools in Miamisburg, the Commandery secured the names of ten families, six of whom they decided they could help — including 27 children three months to sixteen years of age. The first problem was MONEY. Going to the Ladies Auxiliary of the Commandery, Commander Early asked their help. A dinner and date was selected for the money raising project. This required the co-operation of the Temple Association Board, the Blue Lodge, and the Eastern Star, all of whom had to approve the use of the kitchen and dining room facilities. The ticket sale in the community began. Donations among members were solicited, pies, "makings for

salads," and all the necessary items for a "first class" dinner. Finally the great day arrived and 244 delicious dinners were served with the resultant profit of \$212.21. Half the battle was won and by this time the entire community had heard Valley Commandery was doing something. To make certain the money was spent for what it was intended, the Commandery secured gift certificates from the local grocers, department stores and a toy shop gave generous discounts on toys for the kiddies—just so he could be a part of the show—Alas—the Commandery ran out of money—by this time the merchants in the community were so taken with the idea of Valley Commandery that they too wanted a part in the show and they generously made up the shortage of money—the grocers had specials for the certificate shoppers—department stores assigned special clerks to help the shoppers get the "best buys" for their certificates and thus a whole community was brought under the influence of this Christian Order. To top the whole thing off, Valley Commandery took their Christmas offering to aid two more families, one with a cerebral palsy 11 year old, the other an elderly widow with a disabled daughter 40 years old. In the words of Commander Early, "The newspapers gave us excellent coverage—the public has found out there is a Valley Commandery—but it was the expression on the children's faces when we gave them their toys that made the whole "PROJECT" worth while. He concludes, "I hope this will meet with your approval; if it does not will you please let us know." Commander Early, Sir Knights and Ladies of Valley Commandery No. 80, K.T., and the wonderful people of Miamisburg, all 9,893 of you; I want the entire Knight Templar organization to know "HOW MUCH" this meets with TEMPLAR approval and I say "Chapeaus off to a Commandery with a head and a community with a heart."

"Each Commandery With A Project For 1965"

Thoughts On Festivals

(PART I)

By "X. EBOR"

Probably the most controversial issue in York Rite Masonry today is whether or not to hold Festivals, and if so, who shall run them and what form shall they take.

Where, or when, these Festivals originated is not known but some experiences in Georgia may be worth examining.

Georgia has the problem of large size and comparatively small population. It is the largest State East of the Mississippi, but with a total population of under 4 million as at the 1960 Census. The white male population over 21 is less than 1 million; our Blue Lodge figures show around 100,000 Master Masons.

The general Atlanta area accounts for approximately 40 percent of the Master Masons in the State, and it is here that most of the Festival activity has been concentrated. However, other centers have also held their own Festivals quite frequently and successfully.

Beginning in 1956, one Festival a year was held until 1960, when this was changed to two a year. They are held in May and November, in time for candidates to submit their applications for the Shrine Summer or Winter class. This is valuable; many of our candidates come through persuasion of their Shrine friends.

Originally, the Festival had a DeMolay class on Tuesday; Master Mason on Wednesday; Royal Arch on Thursday; Council on Friday; and Commandery on Saturday. This was too much and in 1963 was finally cut back to Royal Arch, Council and Commandery, on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, respectively.

In the Spring of 1964, the days were altered to three consecutive Saturdays, as it proved almost impossible to open a Chapter at 2:00 p.m., on a Thursday, or a Council at 4:00 on a Friday. This was a popular change.

Last November, to celebrate the "Unity" Meeting in Atlanta with the presence of the General Grand Officers,

a one-day Festival was held. This was treated as a State-wide affair and was a great success, but the organization required would preclude it from becoming an annual occurrence. This Spring a two-day Festival is scheduled, starting about 1:00 p.m. each day, with the Royal Arch and Council Degrees on one Saturday and the Commandery Degrees on the following Saturday. If this proves as successful as we hope, we will probably standardise on it.

It has been our policy always to confer all Degrees in full form. Good Council attendances are assured due to the Super-Excellent Master being voluntary in Georgia and not many Councils being able to confer it, and frequently this is the only opportunity for Candidates to receive the Degree. The Council is not a pre-requisite as yet for the Commandery in this State. There is no doubt also that the recent liberalization by the Grand Encampment of allowing two portions of the Order of the Temple ritual to be carried out "en masse" will help Festival work considerably.

Responsibility for these Festivals has been from a loosely organized Committee, with an annually elected President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer. Invitations have been issued to individual bodies to confer the degrees and response has been good. We are now getting competition for this honour. A York Rite Club was formed in 1964, and this is trying to put together skilled composite teams.

The operation of these Festivals has been almost entirely at "grass roots" level. It has always been the feeling that the Grand Officers had enough work of their own. Support from the Grand Bodies has been very fine, and an occasional member will assist in degree work, but this is purely on a personal, and not an official, basis. We intend to keep it this way; with all due respect Grand Officers are not necessarily good organizers, and proper organiza-

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tion can be the key to success or failure. The more "lower echelon" people who participate, the wider the interest and the better for all concerned.

How about financing? Through 1964 we have never made any charges for registration nor meals, all costs being equally divided among the participating bodies. Starting this year we are pro-

posing to charge Candidates Registration Fees of \$2.00 for the Royal Arch; \$1.50 for the Council; and \$5.00 for the Commandery (Atlanta Commanderies charge \$100.00 for the Degrees). These are payable by the individual Chapters, etc., and include the Candidates' dinner; all others will in the future pay for their own dinner.

(To Be Continued)

What Masonry Means To Me

I take great pride in my Masonry. I was received into the Craft almost a quarter of a century ago and am sure today I have not exhausted even the smallest vein of its richly laden ore.

It is a source of help and comfort and pleasure I can absolutely rely upon. When I have wearied of other labors I can turn confidently to my lodge room and find companionship and courage. There is something indefinable in Masonry I can find nowhere else in the world. Familiar as I am with Masonic ritual it continues ever fresh and ever new. Always it seems to me, as I hear it repeated, I catch a new thought or a new inspiration and a new grip on the eternal truths of life.

Masonry has greatly enriched my life; it has given me friendship that I cherish dearly. It has, I think, whispered subconsciously to me in silent hours words

of caution and encouragement.

I like going back to my Lodge. I have found it refreshing and good to step aside out of the path of my busy life and sit again with the Masons who have carried on in my absence. To this experience I come gladly and joyfully, as a boy returns again to his old home which he left to seek his fortune. Still some of the older brothers await to welcome me. Grown a little older I find them, but still strong and eager for the duties of a Mason! With them I can be what I so often long to be—just one of the Craft. Their aprons and mine are made of the same cloth; their dreams and mine are similar; their pulses beat the same inspiration, and we are all at peace.

Rich and poor, high and low make no difference there. The pomp of life is thrown aside. Only that which is important counts.

Masonry has taught me the follies of petty distinctions and the shame of pride and place. I am grateful to it for this.

—EDGAR A. GUEST.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION

*God said, "Let there be light." And there was light!
Behold the virgin beauty of the sight!
Behold the splendor of the radiant skies!
Behold the glory of earth's paradise!*

*Some eyes must lose this brilliant gift of God;
Some eyes must lose sight's precious staff and rod;
Some eyes must lose their scintillating spark;
Some eyes must wait in dead and leaden dark.*

*With love's donation and increasing lift
Let us prepare here to renew God's gift;
Let us re-echo His, "Let there be light:"
Restore these eyes to glory that is sight!*

By MILFORD E. SHIELDS, Poet Laureate, Grand Commandery, K. T., of Colorado

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From Our Readers

THE BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN FESTIVAL OF YORK RITE MASONRY



CLASS OF CANDIDATES

The Baltimore Metropolitan Festival of York Rite Masonry was held recently in the Masonic Temple in Baltimore, Maryland. It is so called because it is conducted by the Chapters, Councils, and Commanderies that meet in the Masonic Temple in Baltimore.

Monumental Commandery No. 3 conferred the Red Cross and Order of Malta in full form and the Order of the Temple was conferred by Beauseant Commandery No. 8 upon forty-two Knights of Malta. Of this number, nine were from Maryland Commandery No. 1; nine from Monumental Commandery No. 3; six from Crusade Commandery No. 5; and eighteen from Beauseant Commandery No. 8.

This work was done in a very impressive and dignified manner. A good number of the class have attended the various bodies since this time, in order to see work done, and to have a better understanding of what they have received.

A similar festival is planned for the Fall of 1965.

Walter G. Finch, Maryland Correspondent

OKLAHOMA GRAND MASTER STRESSES MASONIC UNITY

Grand Master Aubrey R. Erhart recently met with the elected heads of all Allied Bodies in the State, which included the ranking three officers in the Commandery, Chapter, Council, Eastern Star, DeMolay and Scottish Rite.

"The Grand Master and his committee have devised a system of participation whereby the above mentioned groups will have a part in the program of the Area Institutes which have been held in Oklahoma for the past several years. These meetings have grown in popularity and will be an ideal level for promoting unity in our state."

From Oklahoma Mason, March, 1965.

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LINWOOD E. TEMPLE, G.H.P., MAINE, RECEIVES ORDERS OF RED CROSS AND MALTA AT SPECIAL CONCLAVE

On Saturday, January 30, more than 200 Sir Knights gathered in the Masonic Temple, Portland, **Maine**, to witness the conferring of the Order of the Red Cross and the Order of Malta on a class of 30 candidates, among them being Linwood E. Temple, Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine.

Portland Commandery No. 2 conferred the Order of the Red Cross at 4:30 p.m. followed by a banquet at 6:30 p.m.

At 7:30 p.m. St. Albans Commandery No. 8, of Portland, conferred the Order of Malta.

Dispensation had previously been granted for all Commanderies in the State to bring their candidates to Portland to witness the conferring of these Orders in full ceremonial form.

It is hoped that more of these special occasions will be planned in various parts of the State to further the interest in Templar Masonry.

Willard A. Vincent, Correspondent.

SOMETHING NEW IN KENTUCKY

Two new procedures are beginning to take place now within the Grand Commandery of **Kentucky**. First, the Grand Commander, in order to have a closer personal contact with the newly installed constituent commander, has caused a package of informational material to be accumulated and mailed to him. This kit will be enclosed in a nice plastic convention carrying case and will contain a personal letter from both the Grand Commander and the Deputy Grand Commander, along with another letter from the Grand Recorder which will explain the reason for and the contents of the case.

Some of the various items in the case will be informational and promotional material for both the Educational Foundation and the Eye Foundation, along with miscellaneous materials, all for the instruction and guidance of the new commander.

One of the items of special interest

will be one complete set of Educational Foundation application forms with the name and number of the commandery written across the top. By doing this, we will be able to have an actual count of the applications turned in through the use of the kit.

The second procedure which began as of January 1st will be that of a personal letter to each newly created Knight Templar as reported by the constituent recorder on his monthly report form.

We feel sure that the effort made by both the Grand Commander and the Deputy Grand Commander to see that the newly installed constituent commander gets all of the help they can give him will more than pay off in new creations during the coming year.

Joseph E. Martin is the Grand Commander of Kentucky.

Ky. G.C. News Bulletin, Feb.

PROMOTION FILM FOR TEMPLARY

At the 94th Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Michigan, the Starr Commonwealth for Boys at Albion, Michigan, was recognized as a worthy objective for the Hospitaler Activities of the Knights Templar.

Shortly after, while Sir Knight Wilber M. Brucker was Grand Commander of Michigan, a project was proposed whereby the Sir Knights of Michigan would raise one hundred thousand dollars for a physical education building at the school. The building was completed and dedicated in 1960 with suitable pageantry as a project of the Knights Templar of Michigan.

A new color film has been recently completed entitled "Build A Better Boy." A highlight of the film shows the many Sir Knights in an exhibition drill during the 50th anniversary year. The beautiful building is shown in the background.

The film is well done and very beautiful. It has been shown in many parts of the United States and Templary is sharing in the publicity.

The film is available for showing by request to Ruth Ariss, Director of Public Relations, Starr Commonwealth for Boys, Albion, Michigan.

The School was founded by Sir Knight

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Floyd Starr on the premise that "There is no such thing as a bad boy." Boys who are not able to adapt themselves to society or have been in trouble with the law have been taken into the school. Sir Knight Floyd can be proud of the fact that the boys from his school have become upright citizens of our great country.

Templary in Michigan is proud of being associated with the Starr Commonwealth for Boys.

A. C. Sager, G.C.



Sir Galahad Commandery No. 52, Waltham, Massachusetts, is proud to be among the few Commanderies with three active generations. Duncan G. Chapman, Sr., Past Commander 1939-1940, and present Prelate. Duncan G. Chapman, Jr., Past Commander 1960-1961, and present Assistant Prelate and Captain of the Guard. Philip D. Chapman is presently Junior Warden.

Duncan Jr. and Philip were both Knighted by Duncan Sr.

Frederick J. Smith, G.C.G. of Oklahoma and correspondent to the magazine is soliciting subscriptions from his Grand Jurisdiction in a most business like manner. He sent forms to all of the Grand Line Officers asking them to pass these forms around the room during each Inspection and thereby requesting each Sir Knight present to subscribe to the Knight Templar Magazine. The forms were to be returned to Sir Knight Smith with the subscriptions.

MARYLAND COMMANDERY NO. 1, BALTIMORE, HOLDS ITS 175th ANNIVERSARY CONCLAVE

Maryland Commandery under the leadership of Henry E. Carmine, Commander, celebrated its 175th birthday with gala activities on February 25, 26, and 27.

Among the distinguished guests present were: Edward R. Saunders, Grand Master of Masons in Maryland.

Wilber M. Brucker, G.M., G. Wilbur Bell, G.G., John B. Cottrell, Jr., Dept. Com., and Theodore F. Voelter, P.D.C., all of the Grand Encampment.

Howard L. Adams, G.C. of New York, Walter H. Stanford, G.C. of Virginia, F. Parson Kepler, Sr., G.C. of Pa., Harold A. Peterson, D.G.C. of N. J., Alan D. Leon Gray, G.C. of N. C., Garland L. Nowlan, G.C. of Dist. of Col., Marvin E. Fowler, Grand Master General, K.Y.C.H., Alvin L. Crump, D.G.M. Gen. of K.Y.C.H., and many others.

A most interesting and inspiring anniversary address "Templary Yesterday and Today" was delivered by Sir Knight G. Wilbur Bell.

One of the features of the observance was a lovely program and brochure in which a scholarly paper that was read before Maryland Commandery No. 1 on November 22, 1889, entitled "Which is the Oldest Commandery of Knights Templar in the United States?" The article concluded as follows: "I trust I have conclusively shown Maryland Commandery No. 1 is the oldest existing Body of Knights Templar in this country."

Boulder Council No. 17, R. & S. M., (Colorado) recently had the unique experience of conferring the Degree work on three generations of one family. Those receiving the work were Gus Martin, his son-in-law, Alfred Lazare, and his grandson, Gary Martin.

J. E. Berg who furnished this information states that they have York Rite Night in Boulder about four times a year; that these are dinner meetings with the ladies invited. Master Masons and their wives are generally invited and they all enjoy a fine program.

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Weema Family and G.C. Rutschow, left.

On January 26, 1965, Forest City Commandery No. 40, Cleveland, Ohio was highly honored when its Commander, Henry Weema knighted his two sons.

One son, Fred, is the Jr. Past Master of Halcyon Lodge No. 498 and the other son, Henry, is at present the Junior Warden of Halcyon Lodge.

Their mother is active in Masonic activities, having served as Royal Matron of the Order of the Amaranth and President of the Social Order of the Beauceant, and this makes quite a Masonic Family.

The occasion was honored by the presence of John W. Rutschow, G.C., and P.G.C.'s Warren H. Smith, Earl T. Armesy, Vernon C. Maxwell and Walter E. Drake, G.W.

There were approximately 225 Sir Knights and their ladies present at the affair and approximately 100 Sir Knights in uniform.

Walter W. Forschner, P.C., Chairman

MICHIGAN LADIES

The wives of the Officers, Past Grand Commanders and deceased Past Grand Commanders of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Michigan have an informal organization. The wife of the Grand Commander acts as secretary-treasurer for the year. All members keep the secretary-treasurer advised regarding any illness or other news. It is her duty to send remembrances or memorials when necessary and to keep all members advised regarding any important news.

The members look forward to a break-

fast on Saturday morning at the Annual Conclave. It has been the opinion that this annual gathering of the ladies creates more interest in Commandery activities locally and state wide among the Sir Knights as well as the ladies.

The secretary-treasurer collects five (\$5.00) dollars dues from each one present at the breakfast and a letter is sent to all others to give them an opportunity to contribute.

A discussion usually takes place regarding worthy Masonic Charities in the State. Although no definite plan has been followed it is customary to make an annual donation to the Masonic Home. Greeting cards are signed by those present and sent to all ladies not in attendance.

It is customary for the chairman to give a token gift to each lady present. The wife of the Grand Commander is usually presented with a gift of appreciation from the ladies. The meeting is then adjourned so that all ladies may attend the Annual Public Installation of the Grand Commandery Officers.

This little organization has created a great deal of enthusiasm in Michigan and additional reason for attendance at the Annual Conclave. We are sure that other Grand Commanderies can benefit by forming similar groups.

By Evelyn F. Sager (wife of the Grand Commander of Michigan).

We appreciate receiving from Harry M. House, P.G.C. of Oklahoma, a recent letter which in part reads as follows:

I am enclosing the card which we use in lieu of flowers when one of our Fraters passes away. We have had a very fine reception by the families and we feel that the money ordinarily spent for flowers will survive and fill a more useful purpose. We chose the Educational Loan Foundation as the designated fund since it is not dissipated but is a continuing fund. It might be possible to work out something similar for the Eye Foundation.

"NON NOBIS DOMINI, NON NOBIS SED NOMINI TUO DA GLORIAM."

The Sir Knights of Bethlehem Commandery No. 45 K.T. extend their deep and sincere sympathy to you in this

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hour of sorrow.

As a perpetual memorial to our beloved Frater, a contribution has been made to the Knights Templar Educational Loan Foundation in his name.

Thru this fund which assists worthy students to complete their education, the influence of this Valiant Knight lives on.

Courteously and Sincerely yours,

Attest:

Recorder

Commander



FRED P. MISAK

Grand Commander Misak of Arizona has for his number one project the promotion and publicizing the work of The Knight Templar Eye Foundation and is carrying this message into the Symbolic Lodges and Eastern Star Chapters throughout the State.

We are hoping that much good will be derived and much accomplished through his devotion to this project. He has a very active committee whose members are also attending the various bodies in the promotion of this very great humanitarian work.

His other great work is that of promoting the Knight Templar Magazine. He and his committee chairman feels that this magazine can be a great help in the promotion of Templary in Arizona

both from an informative and educational standpoint and I assure you we will not be happy until every Knight Templar in our State is a subscriber.

F. I. Manker, P.G.C.

SOMETHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY

An unusual event occurred in the asylum of Covington Commandery No. 7, K.T., Covington, Kentucky, on October 31, 1964, when Sir Knight Charles Heron Sherick conferred the Order of the Temple, the occasion being the annual inspection of this Commandery.

What makes this event unusual is that Sir Knight Sherick was ninety years, nine months of age at that time, and it was sixty years after he served as Commander of this Commandery in 1904.

A comment of the inspector on the report was "It was remarkable how well this Sir Knight performed."

Sir Knight Sherick was knighted in Covington Commandery March 12, 1896, which indicates sixty-nine years as a Knight Templar.

He is also a Past High Priest of his Chapter and a Past Master of his Council.

Wylie B. Wendt, P.C., Ky. Correspondent

George W. Nillson, a member of Los Angeles Commandery No. 9, was again honored by receiving a fourth award from the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, for an address delivered in San Francisco on July 11, 1964. The address was delivered at the time the Educational Committee of the Grand Lodge of Masons in California held a forum under the general title "Let Freedom Ring."

From the Kansas News Letter which is monthly submitted by Charles S. McGinnis, Grand Sec.-Rec., it would appear that the Grand Chapter of Kansas went all out in celebrating its Centennial year with a Grand Chapter Festival held in the Scottish Rite Auditorium at Wichita on Saturday before Grand Lodge Week (March 6). Garner E. Shriver, U. S. Congressman from Wichita and Maj. Gen. Carl C. Turner, the Provost Marshal General of the U. S. Army were two of the distinguished candidates in the class.

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ROCK HILL COMMANDERY (S. C.) CREATES 110 KNIGHTS IN 1964

Records of forty-five years standing fell when the last class in 1964 of Rock Hill Commandery was one-by-one created Knights Templar. One hundred and ten Companions were accorded the honor in this Commandery during the last calendar year and, despite deaths and other losses, a net gain in membership of 102 was realized.

In 1919 a boom which had made itself felt in all the Masonic world, and particularly in the York Rite, reached its peak in **South Carolina**, and Greenville Commandery No. 4 created 112 Knights. Florence Commandery No. 10 outstripped this amazing record by one. From this point in history gains became less and less as one Chivalric year succeeded another until in 1925 the turning tide became a veritable flood and the first lean year was ushered in.

Only losses in membership were experienced in the Grand Jurisdiction until 1942 when a slight gain in membership took place. From that period until the present each year has shown a gain over the one preceding it. Today the membership in South Carolina is at its highest peak ever—5,694.

It speaks well for the activities of William M. White, present Department Commander of the South Eastern Department of the Grand Encampment and a past Commander of Rock Hill Commandery, that this remarkable record followed immediately the year he served as Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery in this state. It likewise speaks well for the devotion and loyalty of Talmadge Scott Godfrey, Recorder, and Fred S. McFadden, P.G.C. who have given so freely of their time and talents to assure success in this splendid endeavor. Many other Knights have given unsparingly of themselves and should share the limelight in all recognition accorded this astounding achievement.

Apparently the word of the work being done by Rock Hill spread throughout the state and a spirit of fine competition in Commanderies of South Carolina has been the result: 493 were

olina and a net gain of 331 was scored in 1964. This reflects a greater gain than in any year since 1945 and a larger number created in the state than since the flourishing days immediately following World War I.

Hugh N. Layne, G.R., Correspondent

CANADIAN KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AND OFFICERS OF KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ATTEND PUBLIC INSTALLATION OF TONAWANDA COMMANDERY N.Y.

Albert E. Edwards, Jr., P.C. (New York) reports that ten officers and/or workers in the K. of C. were in attendance.

"Believing that the aims and objectives of Knights Templar and Knights of Columbus, both being Christian organizations, are similar in many respects, and being persuaded that a better understanding, each of the other, would be beneficial to both, the invitation was tendered with the sincere hope that an interchange of visitations could be initiated, and result in improved relations between the two organizations."

"To our knowledge, this is the first time in the Western New York area, that an invitation has been extended to, and accepted by, officers of the Knights of Columbus to attend a public function of the Knights Templar, and Tonawanda Commandery K.T. consider it to be a distinct honor to have participated in this visitation, and hope for its continuation and expansion in the future.

Also, attending as visitors were Eminent Knight Clifford Naylor, Presiding Preceptor of Plantagenett Priory No. 8, St. Catherines, Ontario, accompanied by nine other Sir Knights. Interchange of visitations between Plantagenett Priory and Tonawanda Commandery are time honored and very frequent, and we are quite sure afford much pleasure to both organizations.

Total public attendance at the installation of officers for 1965, as it was in 1964, was approximately 200, constituting the largest public participation on record in this area."

A letter of thanks and commendation was received from Patrick Carroll, District Deputy of the K. of C.'s thanking the Commandery for the invitation.

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“Thank You”

By JOHN L. CROFTS, SR., Deputy Grand Master

As liaison officer between Grand Master Wilber M. Brucker and Editor Willard M. Avery, P.D.C., I would express their appreciation with my own for the fine rise in the circulation of **Knight Templar Magazine** which has been firmly established and is continuing, to those whose efforts have made it possible. Paid subscribers in September 1964, 13,634; in November, 14,148; in January 1965, 16,499; in March, 20,229. Thank you.

It is not a matter of simply selling magazines: the project is the distribution of Templar information for the general good of the Order. By holding costs to a minimum, we are able to deliver twelve monthly issues of **Knight Templar**, containing a minimum of 192 pages of copy, for One Dollar. Many have told us that the monthly messages of the Grand Master are worth much more than a dollar to anyone even casually interested in Templary. We offer much more—the official directives of Templary, inspiration, opinions, and local news which seems to have the most idea value.

At the 49th Triennial Conclave of Templary in Philadelphia, the delegates accepted, without argument and without dissent, a resolution calling for acceptance of a minimum distribution of **Knight Templar** within every jurisdiction of not less than ten percent of the membership, by whatever means necessary and for the good of the Order. Those jurisdictions which are over this minimum quota or near it are listed below. The list will grow—it must grow! Templary must prosper everywhere.

1. Arizona	160%	9. District of Columbia	**
2. Nevada	145%	10. Iowa	98%
3. Philippines	110%	11. Indiana	97%
4. Maryland	104%	12. Utah	97%
5. Connecticut	103%	13. Kentucky	91%
6. South Carolina	103%	14. Michigan	91%
7. New Jersey	102%	15. Virginia	84%
8. Wisconsin	101%	16. New York	82%

** Over quota, but many addressed outside District.

Maurice C. Stallsmith Apr 66
642 McGinn Blvd.
Lancaster, Pa. 17601

Return Requested
Box 477
Greenfield, Indiana