



Knight Templar

VOLUME XI

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NUMBER 5



Arlington Easter Sunrise Service

Ceremony At Tomb Of Unknown Soldier Following Religious Service

A Message From the Grand Master - -

ASCENSION SUNDAY

A TIME FOR TEMPLARY TO SHOW ITS COLORS



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

The Bible tells us that Forty days after His Resurrection, Christ ascended into Heaven with transcendent majesty.

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"And He led them out as far as to Bethany, and He lifted up His hands, and blessed them.

"And it came to pass, while He blessed them, He was parted from them, and carried up into Heaven."
[Luke 24:50-51]

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As important as is Easter, there is still a magnificent climax to Christ's sojourn on earth—His glorious ascension into Heaven.

Templars are the kind of sturdy Christians who don't stop at the Resurrection, but follow all the way through to the end. We celebrate the final act of Christ's ministry on earth—the Ascension.

While Ascension Day this year falls on Thursday, May 27th, Ascension Sunday may be celebrated on either May 23 or May 30, 1965. Here is an opportunity for each Constituent Commandery in every city, town and hamlet in America to celebrate Ascension Sunday as its special project—to go to church as a group and "show its colors." No finer example of devotion to the Christian Religion could be displayed than for each Commandery to arrange right now to attend church services as a body, and show the community that Templary goes all the way in following the Great Captain of our Salvation to His Ascension. All that is necessary to accomplish this is for the Eminent Commander to give the command and to see that a large and loyal band of Templars gather and attend Ascension Day church services.

I feel that Ascension Sunday has been losing its significance in many of our churches, and needs the added uplift which the Commandery can bring. The Minister of a local church would be immediately receptive if the Commander would call him and arrange to be present with his Commandery on Ascension Sunday.

I hope no local Commander will overlook my urgent request to turn out for church on Ascension Sunday. Here is something that takes very little effort, but yields great reward in service and satisfaction to all who participate. After all is said and done, our allegiance to Christ includes allegiance to His Church. Let's not be half-hearted about this business. Let's go all the way—and not be merely "Easter Christians" who attend church only once a year!

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Easter Services 1965

Easter is the one day in the year that is most meaningful for Templary; the annual Easter services the most inspirational.

EASTER AT WASHINGTON

Easter at Washington is a magic phrase to Knights Templar. It denotes a weekend atmosphere in which are mingled the zest of friendships made and renewed, the happiness of festive pre-holiday gatherings, the realization again that Knights Templar and their families are Christian gentlefolk united in bonds of faith and zeal. And towering over all other impressions is the indescribable spiritual experience which is shared with fellow Sir Knights in the Amphitheater worship and memorial service at Arlington early Easter mornings.

Easter 1965 epitomized this atmosphere of pleasure and reverence perfectly. Representations were large, arrangements were thorough and effective, the ceremonies impressive and the weather delightful. The appeal of the Grand Encampment Easter Sunrise and Memorial Service is truly understood only by those who attend and participate. May even more gain this understanding and appreciation in 1966.

EASTER ENCHANTMENT BRINGS ETERNAL LIFE

A Sermon by DR. HOWARD R. TOWNE, Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment of K.T. of the U.S.A. Given at the Arlington Easter Sunrise Service—1965.

"Ye seek Jesus who was crucified, He is not here, He is risen, as He said."

MATTHEW 28:5

Once again we have come to the sunlit summit of the four seasons—Easter. This is God's glory day that we celebrate, the pivotal point of all human history. Bright and beautiful, once a year it comes, as heaven's springtime greeting, bringing

its message of eternal meaning. And what is that message? "Christ is risen!" What words those are. Those three words form the cornerstone of our Christian faith and the basis of all Templary. No other words have meant so much to human history as those three simple words. They are the heart of the Easter story—the world's greatest miracle story. Everything, birds, bells, choirs and congregations seem to sound them forth today like a trumpet blast. Even the white throats of the Easter lilies seem like wax trumpets heralding forth the enchanting message.

"Christ is risen!" Everything about Christianity depends upon that fact. For what we celebrate in Easter is not the Resurrection of Christ alone, but the whole Christian philosophy of life that comes out of it. Easter means that nothing in human life is completely hopeless because nothing is finally beyond God's ability to bring triumph. Easter is not a day for arguments. It is a day for Alleluias. It is the day that death died, a new day for the world. He, whose cold and lifeless body was laid in the grave, on that first Good Friday, rose again in glory and majesty on that first Easter morn. No wonder we feel that the calen-



DR. HOWARD R. TOWNE

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dar of the ages turns on this historic event.

I doubt if any of us, separated as we are by the centuries from the Resurrection, can begin to comprehend the utter tragedy that prefaced that unforgettable dawn. For that faithful group of disciples who had followed Jesus, the world had come to an end. Jesus was dead. Dead, of all places on a Cross. His body had been buried in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea. The Pharisees had smacked their lips and dusted their hands as if to say, "Well, that's that. We have finally gotten rid of this man who caused us so much trouble."

Jesus was dead. Those hands, so gentle, would never bless again. Those pale lips that had said: "Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted," would never speak again. Time had ceased for him. His heartbroken friends slipped away into hiding, utterly crushed at their Master's ignominious end.

Then, on the third day, something wonderful happened. The empty tomb took its place in history. Women disciples, arriving early at the rock-hewn sepulcher, found the ponderous stone rolled away. The vivified body of Christ had moved out of his wrapping and left them, like a chrysalis abandoned by a butterfly. He had passed through the rocky walls of the tomb, alive forevermore.

The silent lips now spoke again. The torn hands were lifted once more in blessing. And today, after all these centuries, we his followers, declare Jesus Christ is alive. The glorious fact of it, the grand truth of it, flares like sunrise in the hearts of his disciples everywhere. It is Easter, in the world, in the heart, everywhere.

In a certain novel, sometime ago, a character remarked: "History is just news from a graveyard." Well, that is exactly what Easter is, "good news from a graveyard," after 2,000 years still history's best news. We are assembled here at Arlington today, the most renowned of our National graveyards. We are here at Arlington because this shrine holds the remains of thousands of men who gave their lives serving their country, and it captures for us something of the greatness and the glory of their lives and the country for which they were given.

Today we, also, pay our tribute at the tomb of the unknown soldier. I wonder who he really was? It matters little, for he is known to God and has now become the honored symbol of all American youth, who without any thought of glory, laid down their lives for the sake of freedom.

Why is this National cemetery such a place of pilgrimage? Is it not because of the bodies buried here, the great as well as the heroic? If the world, by the millions come here each year, is it not because of what is here? There is only one cemetery in all the world that is famous for its empty grave. And we are, also, gathered here today as Sir Knights and others, to make in our minds a christian pilgrimage, like the crusaders of old, to that empty garden grave in far-off Palestine.

What happened at that garden grave the first Easter has been beautifully depicted by Gutzon Borglum, the noted sculptor, in his famous creation here in this historic city. He has carved Mary Magdalene, graceful and lifelike, standing outside the empty tomb, having just experienced earth's most enchanting moment. Her face indicates that she has just recognized her Risen Lord, and you can almost hear her glad and incredulous cry—"Rabboni," "Master. Christ had just spoken her name, and all of heaven was in it. She had answered only one word, "Master," and all of earth was in it. That stupendous scene depicted here in the capital of our land has changed all the cemeteries of the world into gardens, and has planted the white lilies of immortality around the barrenness and bleakness of the grave.

Dating from Easter, life took on a newness, which made it a different kind of life, not known before. This strange transformation came first among the immediate followers of the Living Lord. Defeated and fearful they suddenly were transformed into men of wondrous joy, abounding hope and high courage.

The miracle the resurrection produced in the lives of the disciples was almost as amazing as the resurrection itself. Out from the rooms where they had hidden themselves for fear, out from fishing boats where they had fled to forget, they

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swarmed into the world to tell the good news—"He is Risen."

In the power of His Resurrection they went out to turn the world upside-down, defying their persecutors, facing all ridicule and hatred, welcoming stripes and imprisonment, enduring the Roman rack and the lion's hungry roar. They rejoiced that they were thought worthy to give up their lives for their risen Lord, and within 300 years the red rugged Cross was lifted higher than the Roman eagle. So, the truth of the living Lord has marched across the centuries and burned its way out of the hearts of his followers.

* * * * *

However, today so many millions are still living on the wrong side of Easter. This is the basic fact behind much of our troubles. So many are still back where the disciples were on that awful Saturday between Good Friday and the Resurrection. As we look across the landscape of the world we are stricken with bewilderment. Why, after so many Easters, do we still find men bent on immorality and evil, building walls of prejudice and hatred, and manufacturing weapons of frightfulness, able to obliterate mankind from the shores of time? Has Easter no power in this year of our Lord? Yes, thank God.

The power of Easter lies in the fact that Jesus Christ, not just any man, has been raised from the dead—the One who promised forgiveness of sins and eternal life, the One who declared he was the Son of God. It is He, who is risen and His truth and His dreams miraculously restored. It is He who arose, above sin and sickness, falsehood and fear, temptation and doubt; yes, even above man's greatest enemy—death. For Christ's resurrection is the guarantee of our own resurrection from the dead, and our future glorification in heaven. No wonder his resurrection is breath-taking in all its meaning and blessing. This then, Sir Knights—friends, this is the transcendent truth for us today. What Christ was to his disciples, on the first Easter long ago, he can be to us now.

A Chaplain, in one of our wars, tells of a soldier who knew this truth. The chaplain was officiating, one day, at a mass burial of eleven men, all from one com-

pany. The day was heavy with rain and gloom. As he stood at the burial pit for the service he was sick at heart. As he finished, and the men were about to wheel and leave, a little red-haired soldier from Arkansas began to sing. What he sang struck deep into the souls of those men, sore with grief and loss. He sang, "There's a land that is fairer than day, and by faith we can see it afar." That old song brought the soldier's heads up and awakened a faith, long buried in the mud of those slogging days. It broke through the overhanging gloom. Faith in the Risen Christ knocked a hole in the dark sky that day and let the enchanting Easter Sun of hope shine through.

Oh Christians, no longer do we walk in the dark, on the wrong side of Easter, in the flickering light of a faint hope. We are now Sons of the sunrise, and disciples of the dawn. We follow a risen, ascended, Saviour. In Him, we can die. And in Him, we shall live, all the ages to come; for He is Emmanuel. He said, "I am the Resurrection, and the Life; He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Never! Oh my soul be lifted today! This is our Easter faith!

The weather at Arlington was excellent. Sundays high was 66 with a pleasant 53 about the time of the service. (Twenty-four hours later it was ten degrees colder and a steady rain was falling.)

The audience filled the amphitheater to capacity with many standing. The procession of Sir Knights in uniform was one of the largest, numbering 800. Chief Justice Earl Warren of the U. S. Supreme Court was in attendance (as he usually is) as well as many other government and military leaders. Large delegations of Sir Knights and ladies represented the Grand Jurisdictions near Washington and accounted for the majority in attendance.

Abner C. Sager, G.C. of Michigan and some 150 Sir Knights and their ladies were present to support their most illustrious Knight Templar, Grand Master Wilber M. Brucker. David J. Miller, G.C.

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and 30 Knights and ladies represented Indiana, most of them having made the trip on a chartered bus. Harold William Given, G.C. of Oregon probably came the farthest to attend the service.

Among those present:

Grand Encampment Officers: Wilber M. Brucker, G.M.; John Lawton Crofts, Sr., D.G.M.; George Wilbur Bell, G.G.; Roy Wilford Riegle, G.C.G.; Rev. Howard R. Towne, D.D., G.P.

Past Grand Masters: Walter A. DeLamater, Exec. Dir., K.T. Eye Foundation, Inc.

Department Commanders: William Melvin White, S.E. Dept.; Virgil Fletcher Kent, E.C. Dept.; John Beddington Cottrell, Jr., N.A. Dept.

Chairman Grand Encampment Committees: Edward Holloway, P.G.C., Templar Jurisprudence; Paul C. Rodenhauer, P.G.C., Public Relations; Harry O. Schroeder, P.G.C., George Washington Memorial Chapel; J. Howard Haring, P.G.C., Knight Templar Cross of Honor

Award; Harry L. Beach, P.G.C., Arlington Easter Sunrise Memorial Service.

Members of Grand Encampment Committee: Charles B. Wolfertz, P.D.C., Religious Activities; A. D. Leon Gray, G.C., Religious Activities; D. Peter Laguens, Jr., P.G.C., Templar History; Willard M. Avery, P.D.C., Triennial Conclave and Editor of the K.T. Magazine.

K.T. Eye Foundation, Inc.: Howard T. Joslyn, P.G.C., Asst. Exec. Dir., and Trustee.

17 members of the Arlington Easter Sunrise Memorial Service Committee.

Grand Commanders: Howard L. Adams, N. Y.; Walter H. Stanford, Va.; Lester W. Holt, N. H.; Philip J. Jones, Conn.; Joseph E. Martin, Ky.; F. Parson Kepler, Sr., Pa.; Louis Hengen, Miss.; A. C. Sager, Mich.; Harold A. Peterson, N. J.; G. W. Chamberlain, Jr., Md.; Edward J. Laas, W. Va.; A. D. Leon Gray, N. C.; Harold W. Given, Ore.; Garland Nowlan, D. of C.; David J. Miller, Ind.; Blenus Williams, Fla.

Most Commanderies observe Easter. TEMPLAR MAGAZINE:

The following reported to the KNIGHT

RENO—DeWITT CLINTON COMMANDERY NO. 1

The Sir Knights of DeWitt Clinton Commandery No. 1 of Reno, Nevada, attended divine services on Easter Sunday morning at the First Baptist Church, where Sir Knight Blake M. Franklin is the Pastor. Some fifty Sir Knights in full Templar uniform assembled and marched in formation to the church for the services.

Following the church service nearly one hundred Sir Knights and their ladies met in the Sky Room of the Mapes Hotel for the 98th observance of DeWitt Clinton's Traditional Easter Banquet. The tables were beautifully decorated in an Easter Theme, with a huge floral white cross forming the central theme. Especially honored were the widows of departed Sir Knights. Responding to toasts to the various bodies were Clarence K. Jones, Grand High Priest; Laurence U. Metcalf, Most Illustrious Grand Master; Lester Conklin, Illustrious Potentate of Kerak Temple; and Silas E. Ross, Sovereign Grand Inspector General. Mr. Ross' wife, a past Grand Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star, gave the response for the

Grand Matron of that order. All of the men are members of DeWitt Clinton Commandery.

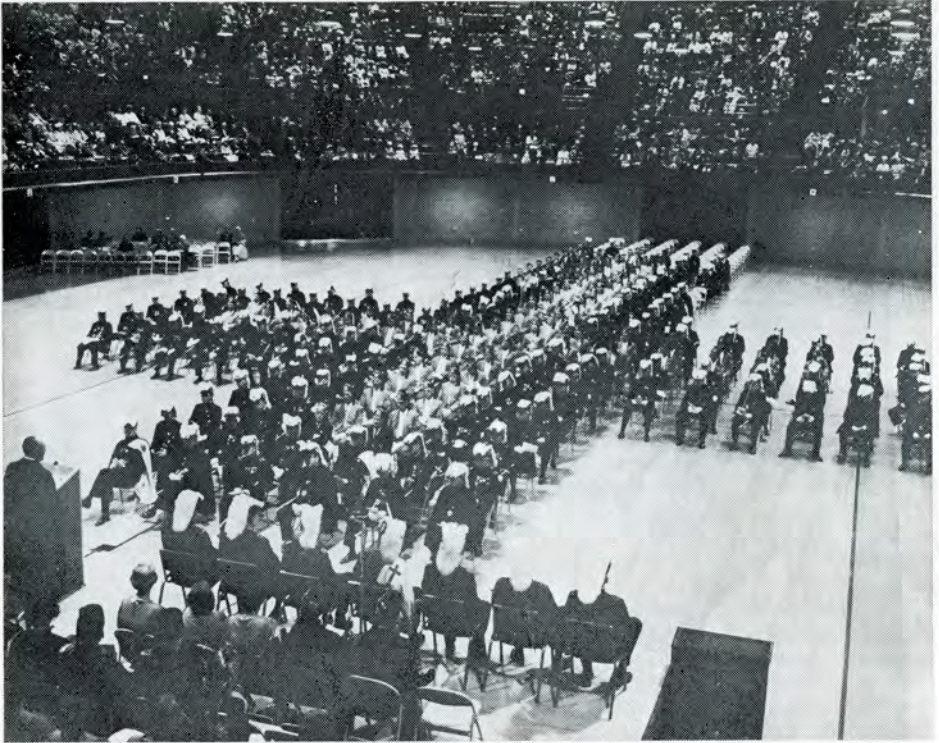
It was also interesting to note that there were five Past Grand Commanders of the Grand Commandery, State of Nevada, present at the banquet. It was a joyous time of renewing friendships with many members whom we see only once each year at this occasion.

(Clarence K. Jones, Correspondent)

SALT LAKE CITY— UTAH COMMANDERY NO. 1

Utah Commandery No. 1 at Salt Lake City held the 30th consecutive annual Easter Observance in the Masonic Temple. More than 800 persons filled the auditorium and were inspired by the 75 voice special Easter Choir and the message delivered by Rev. John G. Berris, minister of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church. The address of welcome was given by George A. Georgeson, E.C. The service was radiocast over Station KSL at 6:30 a.m.

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DENVER EASTER SERVICE

In a state boasting an unusual number of stimulating Sunrise Services for Easter, the annual service sponsored by the Denver area Knights Templar continued to attract its high proportion of attendance.

For the 41st year, making this the longest in continuous existence in Colorado, the Knights provided an opportunity for all who desired to participate without charge or collection. The 1965 observance again this year took place in the Denver City Auditorium Annex which was opened at 4:00 a.m. to receive the worshippers.

Organ music set the mood for meditation.

Promptly at the hour of sunrise, 5:19 a.m., the Knights with uniformed marching units of El Jebel Shrine and DeMolay Boys arrived from their march through downtown from the Masonic Temple.

Also participating in the service were Job's Daughters and Rainbow Girls units.

Co-Chairmen of the 41st observance were Paul L. Garvin and J. Ralph Walker and all seven Denver area Commanderies and the Grand Commandery line participated.

(Dick Ayers)

TUCSON—ARIZONA COMMANDERY

Arizona Commandery attended Easter Services at the First Christian Church.

This service was attended by about thirty-five Sir Knights in uniform and many more who were not in uniform; among them was one of our oldest P.G.C.s Nelson C. Bledsoe who presently is S.G.I.G. of Scottish Rite of Arizona and

Herald of the Supreme Council.

The Easter Service followed a very fine breakfast sponsored and served by the good Brethren of the Consistory and to which the Sir Knights were all invited. This is an annual breakfast served at the Scottish Rite Temple after the relighting of the candles on Easter morning. About two hundred fifty were in attendance.

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A few of the Sir Knights attending the service are shown above: In the center, (no hat) Nelson C. Bledsoe. R. to L.: R. E. Mobraay, P.C.; W. S. Dunipace, P.C.; W. L. Kirk, E.C.; R. F. Pagel, P.C.; E. K. Pitkin, Gen.; J. B. Prater, P.C.; H. S. Moulthrop, Rec.; J. E. Whitaker, C.G.; and others not identified.

The fine fellowship and brotherly love exemplified by the brothers of both Rites was thoroughly enjoyed by all those present. We feel that this was a very fine gesture on the part of the Consistory and a great step in bringing the two Rites closer together. We greatly appreciate and sincerely thank our Scottish Rite Brethren.

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

WINSLOW, ARIZONA— CALVARY COMMANDERY

"We had a beautiful service with about 25 Masons and 50 towns people out. We started at 5:47 a.m., just as the sun was coming up over the Painted Desert." The Ministerial Association and their families as well as the widows of deceased Sir Knights were invited guests at the breakfast following the service.

(John C. Walson, G.S.B.)

BIRMINGHAM

East Lake Commandery No. 43, K.T., held their annual Easter Breakfast jointly with East Lake Lodge No. 480, F. & A. M.

Over two hundred were served breakfast, after which a short service was held, with all being out in time to participate in services in their own church.

(Rodney W. Martin, Recorder)

A SPRINGTIME PRAYER

Father in Heaven, we lift our hearts in praise to Thee for the many signs thou hast given us of the eternal victory of life over death. Every springtime by miracles we can only dimly understand thou dost renew the earth. We thank Thee that thou dost fill the air with the scent of flowers and call the songbirds from their nests in the morning to wake us with their carols. We thank Thee for the wonder of Thy creation. We are grateful to Thee for Thy gift of springtime.

Come now into our lives with Thy power and give our hearts their spring cleaning. The closets of our souls are often cluttered with petty and trivial things; take them out, O Lord, and replace them with high and noble desires. As Thy Beloved Son hath ascended into the heavens, so may we also in heart and mind seek to follow Him. May we seek to dwell with Christ in heavenly places, and be glorified with the glory of His obedience and charity. Help us to live now before Thee as true Christian Knights, clean and free and eager to be Thy temples that thou mayest have a dwelling place in the world of humankind. Raise up in this great and challenging day, we pray, stalwart soldiers of the Cross whose stature is equal to its needs. Help us to spend our lives with abandon in the service of our Great Captain, who poured out his life for us. This we pray in Jesus' holy name.

AMEN.

IN MEMORIAM

California

John Randle Moore, G.C., 1953—March 28, 1965

Connecticut

David Hendrick Treadwell, G.C., 1935 —March 1, 1965

Frank Lester Wilder, G.C., 1936 — March 24, 1965

New York

Jackson Richardson Shoemaker, G.C., 1938—March 16, 1965

Ohio

Homer Cotterman Helser, G.C., 1958— March 23, 1965

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Sesquicentennial of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U. S. A.

By SIR KNIGHT C. BYRON LEAR, P.G.G.

The date of June 20, 1816, looms large in the history of Templary in the United States, for it was on that date, nearly 150 years ago, that Knights Templar, interested in forming a Supreme Governing Body for the conferring as well as the governing of the Chivalric Orders, met in Masons Hall in New York City and formed the "General Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America."

The "Founding Fathers" were few in number but stout of heart. They were completely dedicated to their task and determined that in the new and growing Nation, Templary should be organized and conducted upon a National basis. Thus, Templary, with its sovereign organization, has been handed down to us through all the intervening years!

From a humble beginning, under the original leadership of Governor DeWitt Clinton of New York as Grand Master, the Grand Encampment has continued to function, gain strength and fraternal influence, until one hundred fifty years later, under the guidance of our devoted Grand Master, Sir Knight Wilber M. Brucker, we point with pride to the fact that Templary alone, among all the organizations predicated upon Masonic membership, remains firmly organized on a National basis, with an enrollment of nearly 400,000 Sir Knights, located in each of the fifty States and many foreign lands.

Such an important birthday in the life of any organization cannot be permitted to pass by unnoticed—nor will it be! A Sesquicentennial Anniversary will be officially recognized throughout the entire Templar world in 1966.

It is, of course, appropriate that the focal point of such an important anniversary should be at its place of origin. To that end, a gala sesquicentennial banquet of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar will be held in the Main Ballroom of the Waldorf Astoria in New York City, N. Y., in June of 1966, at which time our 150th Birthday will be celebrat-

ed with suitable festivities and a historic program.

To arrange for the details of our 150th Anniversary, the following Committee has been appointed:

C. Byron Lear, P.G.G., Chairman; John B. Cottrell, Dept. Com., North Atlantic Dept., Co-Chairman; William White, Dept. Com., Southeastern Dept., Co-Chairman; Theodore F. Voelter, Chm., Committee on Drill Regulations, Liaison; George D. Barclay, P.G.C., N. Y., Secretary; Raymond H. Wesner, P.G.C., N. J., Treasurer. The following are Vice-Chairmen and the States they represent: George A. Weeks, P.G.C., Massachusetts and Rhode Island; Frederick H. Staal, P.G.C., New York; Carl Frank Wood, P.G.C., Virginia; J. Wesley Murdock, P.G.C., Vermont; Henry T. Spear, P.G.C., New Hampshire; Phillip J. Jones, P.G.C., Connecticut; Albert W. Hoffses, P.G.C., Maine; Paul C. Rodenhauser, P.G.C., Pennsylvania; Gordon J. Brenner, P.G.C., New Jersey; Lonzo Pope, P.G.C., Georgia; Etrebil A. T. Schaub, P.G.C., Maryland; Alan D. Gray, P.G.C., North Carolina; Garland L. Nowlan, P.G.C., District of Columbia; Thomas B. Clark, P.G.C., South Carolina; William H. Cantwell, P.G.C., Delaware.

The Sesquicentennial Committee contemplates that this important milestone in Templary will provide an excellent vehicle for the holding of 150th birthday celebrations throughout the entire Templar world. It is logical to assume that every Grand Commandery as well as each Subordinate Commandery will plan for an outstanding observance of this important event, through the holding of banquets, sesquicentennial conclaves and the knighting of anniversary class of candidates.

Sesquicentennial classes should be started early in 1966 and be concluded as close to the 150th birthday as possible. Many jurisdictions will see the advantage of having a dinner in conjunction with the knighting of a class of candidates, and at the same time as the main

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celebration in New York City.

As we observe a century and a half of our great Christian Order of Templary we pause to reflect upon the progress as well as the problems of the years behind us. We are proud of our record of achieve-

ment in the past, but we look forward, confident that the sesquicentennial year of 1966 will bring a new surge of interest in modern Templary that will result in even greater development and growth in the years to come.

Father And His Four Sons Become Knights Templar



Left to right—seated: Harry L., Walter R., Warren P., Ray and Warren T. Page. Standing: G. Wilbur Bell, G.G. of Grand Encampment; Haldane Wesley Bean, G.C.; Charles E. Bostick, D.G.C.; and Robert L. Conn, Commander of Elwood Commandery.

By CHARLES E. BOSTICK, D.G.C.

At the annual inspection of Elwood Commandery No. 6, K.T., Springfield, Illinois, on Friday, April 9, the Order of the Temple was conferred upon a father and his four sons, very likely a circumstance unique in Templar history, at least in Illinois.

Grand Commander Haldane Wesley Bean participated in the work and this was much appreciated by the new Sir Knights. G. Wilbur Bell, R.E.G.G. of the Grand Encampment, was present, representing our Grand Master, who had expressed his regrets due to a previous commitment. Many visitors from throughout Illinois, including 23 Grand Commandery Officers, were on the sidelines.

Prior to the Commandery orders, the officers of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter

of Illinois had participated in conferring the Chapter degrees on the Page family in Springfield Chapter No. 1; Comp. and SK Oscar W. Ankarberg, M.E.G.H.P. of Illinois (Who is also E.C. of Chicago Heights Commandery No. 78, K.T.) conferred the Royal Arch Degree on the group on March 24.

Mr. Page, Sr., is 73 years of age, and his sons are all in their forties, excepting Harry, the youngest, who is 35. One of the sons, Ray Page, 43, holds the responsible position of Supt. of Public Instruction for the State of Illinois, to which important office he was elected in 1962; prior to that he was athletic coach of Springfield High School, leading that school's basketball team to the state championship in 1959.

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Remember The Knights Templar Eye Foundation When You Write Your Will

Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.
January 4, 1965

Gentlemen:

"After many months of other illness I was informed that I had eight remaining months of vision—cataracts in both eyes. Needless to say, I was not in financial circumstances to afford the necessary surgery which was urgent. Your remarkably humanitarian Foundation accepted all expenses for my eyes and this was like the arm of God around the shoulders of man assuring him there is a way when there was no way.



MRS. MAXINE HOOVER HALL

"The wonders of restored vision made possible by your generous work cannot be creditably described with mere words but this gesture has been the most outstanding in my life. May God's blessings be most abundant to each of you individually and to the wonderful group you represent."

Eternally grateful,
Mrs. Maxine Hoover Hall
Muskogee, Oklahoma

Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.
February 24, 1965

Gentlemen:

"I am sorry of my long delay in riteng you. I am so thankful to you fore maken it posable that I could gain my sight after having this operation by Dr. Lucious who I can say that he is a good Dr. since he operatied on my eyes.

"It seem as I had my eyes close now it seam as they are wide open with my glasses he perscribe fore me I can say that god is with to be able to do such good job.

"I pray that he live long and do the will of god and again to you all I thank each of you.

"Also the asistent that has made meny visits as to see how I was I thank him so yery much fore being so inerest I trust that you all live long.

"Excuse me of my long delay I has bin very sick and nervis also knock down by a bicicle my head hit on the pailmnt one the back so I went to Dr. Lucus to see if it afect my sight but he said not.

"So many thanks to you all."

From Mattie Townsend
(Mrs. Townsend is a Negro, 68, of Winter Haven, Fla. Sir Knight H. J. Guy, recorder of Winter Haven Commandery No. 37, is "the asistent that has nade meny visits.")

—:—

If these two responses to the great humanitarian work of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., move you as they have us at the Foundation's Rhinebeck headquarters, you'll want to do something about it.

Why not follow the example of an increasing number of Sir Knights and name the foundation as a beneficiary in your will?

What a privilege and oppportunity to know that when you cross the bar you leave a memorial—not of stone but of love for humanity—enabling you to help restore those living in "dead and leaden

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dark" and follow the Lord's footsteps when He healed the blind man!

And your gift will go to an organization administered at an irreducible minimum of expense. Our headquarters are rented in a small town—no lavish offices and no contributions frozen in marble and mortar. Our small staff serve with the objective of conserving every possi-

ble gift dollar for saving the sight of people who cannot pay for this themselves.

As you draw your will to include a bequest to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., consult with your lawyer on taking full advantage of any tax deductible features. Gifts to the Foundation are of course deductible from income tax.

Thoughts on Festivals

(Part 2)

By "X. EBOR"

In the last issue we covered the background of Festivals in North-Central Georgia; the timing, responsibility, and financing of them.

Are Festivals worth while? We believe so. A claim is often put forward by opponents that a candidate does not "get his money's worth;" he cannot absorb all the lessons; will never come back; and it hurts the work in the individual bodies. Let us look at these claims.

On the subject of "money's worth," what are we talking about? Material or spiritual value? If the former, the claim is almost beneath consideration. Any man who takes degrees merely to see a theatrical production, is presumably not the man we want. Nevertheless, these Festivals do give a candidate (and others) the opportunity of seeing degree work performed by the best available ritualists. And this is proved by the number of visitors who attend the Festivals just for this pleasure.

On the other hand, spiritual value is there for all who care to look for it. The lessons themselves are unchanging; whether they are taught in one day or several is immaterial.

The next objection does have some validity. To absorb all one hears, in a single day, is beyond the capability of most men. To this we agree; but think of the large number of Brethren who have attended their bodies regularly for years, perhaps have been through all the chairs and know the rituals by heart, but who have no more idea of the inner teachings of these lessons than they did when they were first initiated. If a man wants to understand these lessons, his desire will see that he does so.

Who says "one-day-candidates" will never come back? Our experience does not support this contention. It is true of some of them but there is not a reader of this article who is not aware that the greatest problem facing Masonic bodies today is to get their members to attend regularly. We believe this applies as much, if not more, to those who have dragged through poor and weary degree work, as it does to Festival candidates. To give the lie to this contention, let us quote actual experiences from the one-day Festival held last November. We know of five Chapters where candidates from that Festival are working; two Councils; and in one Commandery half of their Candidates formed the escort at Inspection less than 2 months later.

The biggest objection seems to be on the question of affecting work in individual bodies. Our answer is that we have not yet found this to be correct.

This particular item breaks down into several categories. Firstly, the proposition that bodies will no longer do their own work. We get a lot of candidates from bodies who already are doing virtually no work, so there is no change here, except that perhaps some new blood may persuade them to start conferring their own degrees!

Secondly, where bodies are already doing work, we have not found that it is detrimental to them. It is these bodies which are conferring degrees at the Festivals and they keep themselves sharp by regular work.

Thirdly, these Festivals enable many prospective candidates to further their Masonic education, who otherwise could not attend. These days we have large

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numbers of Brethren who are not available during the week, for several weeks at a time, to obtain their degrees that way.

Fourthly, we know of at least two bodies where our Festivals have actually encouraged them to do more work (getting up Super-Excellent Master and Order of Malta full-form teams), through a desire to participate. There are probably more.

One aspect of these Festivals has been that they have helped to minimise the slow general loss in numbers, and in fact in Georgia this year it is believed our York Rite Bodies will show a net increase. That they are popular with Candidates is born out by the steadily increasing numbers who specifically ask to go through on these occasions.

The views expressed in these two articles are basically those of the writer.

Nevertheless, the great support and increasing interest in Festivals throughout the State of Georgia show that there must be many, many others who agree with him. Additionally, when so many highly experienced Grand and General Grand Officers are actively promoting these occasions, then presumably there must be a lot of solid merit in them.

As we said in the opening paragraph of this article in the last issue, Festivals are one of our most controversial Masonic subjects today. To read the opinions and experiences of others should be most beneficial to all of us who have at heart the best interests of York Rite Masonry. Therefore we hope the Editor will open his correspondence columns for the publication of letters both pro and con on this subject. It seems a fine occasion on which to look for "MORE LIGHT."

(Editor's Note: Comments are solicited.)

From Our Readers

Indiana York Rite Association Sponsors Festival At South Bend



Class of 69 Candidates and Heads of York Rite Bodies.
Seventh from left—standing: Donald R. Kemble, III, G. Master; David J. Miller, G.C.; Raleigh R. Cagle, G. High Priest.

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The York Rite Association of Indiana is engaged, among other things, in sponsoring York Rite Festivals. A Commandery Festival was so sponsored at South Bend on March 27 at which time South Bend Commandery exemplified the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross in a most dramatic and elaborate manner. An inspirational Order of Malta was conferred by Raper Commandery No. 1 of Indianapolis.

One of the extras at the banquet following the conferral of the Red Cross was roast suckling pig (compliments of Russell R. Aulm, G. C. Gd. of Ind.) served by costumed "slaves" bearing through the banquet hall a number of whole roast pigs on large trays. This meat was merely supplementary to the largest baked pork chops that Indiana could produce. The members of the Jewish Council were seen to eat most heartily. Approximately four hundred Sir Knights enjoyed the banquet.

In addressing those at the banquet David J. Miller, G.C. said:

"'Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.' When Thomas Jefferson founded the University of Virginia, he chose that quotation from St. John 8:32 to be its motto. Jefferson who wrote the Declaration of Independence, knew there was no other source of freedom. He sought to hold aloft the light of truth as a guide to their feet. Masonry can not hope to change the course of the world, but it can do much in that direction by setting a good example. The truths which we have found in our brotherhood are universal and immortal. They are sure guides to thinking, acting and living. Let us as Masons so live that our own lives are above reproach and then let us teach this way of living to our children. These truths we have will not be absorbed from the air nor are they likely to be learned from environment. They must be taught and that is one of the most important duties we have as Masons."

The York Rite Association is now planning meetings for the coming year for the Chapter, Council and Commandery.

CONGRATULATIONS to Hugh de Paynes Commandery No. 20, of Melrose, Mass. on its 100th birthday. Particular commendation is due the officers, centennial committee, and Ralph L. Connolly, Commander, for the fine anniversary program, and the most attractive 36-page 100th Anniversary booklet including the "History of Templary."

**ST. GEORGE COMMANDERY (N. Y.)
HONORS ITS CROSS OF HONOR
MEMBERS**



Those honored at a meeting of the Commandery on March 1st were L. to R.: Ernest B. Wardell, C.; Lowell H. Bryce, P.G.C., (Honorary Member of the Commandery); Wesley J. Meng, P.C.; Raymond W. Houghton, P.C.; and Warren H. Deck, D.G.C., and speaker of the evening who made the presentations. Edwin C. Vedder, also a recipient of the honor was not present due to illness.

**NEWS LETTER AND BULLETIN—
KANSAS**

Atwood Commandery No. 54 under the leadership of Sir Knight Harold Easterday reports 44 knighted and a net gain of 39. Last year they reported an even 200 members, so this is just one shy of a 20 percent gain. Wonderful!

Junction City Commandery No. 43 comes in second to Atwood and reports a total of 43 knights dubbed and a net gain in membership of 37. This comes on top of a net gain of 20 the year previous and since Junction City started the year with only 183, it represents a percentage gain of 20 percent plus for the year. They too, have another fine year ahead of them.

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THREE PENNSYLVANIA COMMANDERIES HOLD JOINT INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

At a very dignified and colorful installation service Walter L. Hartz was installed as Commander of Dieu le Veut Commandery of Wilkes-Barre; Lewis G. Bedford, Commander of Wyoming Valley Commandery of Pittston; and Arthur Place, Commander of Temple Commandery of Tunkhannock. Excellent newspaper publicity featuring large pictures was given to this affair.

A meeting of unusual interest took place on Saturday, March 27, 1965 when Malta Commandery No. 31, Ottumwa, Iowa was host for an Order of the Temple conferred by Instructors of the Grand Commandery of Iowa, on two candidates.

Every station was filled by an Instructor from the 4th (Southeastern) District of the Grand Commandery. The purpose of this event was two-fold, namely, that the Instructors would have the opportunity of conferring the work instead of remaining on the side lines to instruct other Sir Knights; and, to exemplify our 'Ten Man Opening' and the Order of the Temple, in its proper form, under the supervision of the Chairman of the Board of Instructions of the Grand Commandery of Iowa, Charles L. Sparks. In order to test the proficiency of the Instructors none were given their specific assignments until just before filling their stations.

The work was beautifully exemplified, with finest decorum, before a group of 55 Sir Knights in attendance, representing 10 Commanderies of Iowa and one Commandery from St. Joseph, Missouri. Two Grand Officers and three Past Grand Commanders were represented. The affair was received with much enthusiasm and many expressed a desire for more such meetings.

Congratulations and commendations are due to the Chairman of the Board of Instructions, Charles L. Sparks for instituting this meeting and to Donald E. Wolfe, G.G. and Max E. Ellis, P.G. Junior Warden, Inspector in Charge, of the 4th District for their fine organizational work in promoting and arranging all details.

Paul Swartz, P.G.C.

GIVES KNIGHT TEMPLAR MAGAZINE

By Jerry Margengill

At its regular meeting on December 11, 1964, Temple Commandery No. 4 of Des Moines voted to give a year's subscription to the Knight Templar magazine to all candidates knighted during the centennial year (1964) as well as to all future newly made knights.



James F. Milligan, correspondent K.T. magazine; Frank N. Parr, commander and William C. Albright, recorder, Temple Commandery No. 4.

The proposal was made by James F. Milligan, Iowa correspondent for the magazine, and was unanimously accepted.

Claude K. Bradley, deputy grand commander, expressed the hope that more commanderies will follow this example so in the future all Knights will receive both The Royal Arch Mason and the Knight Templar. Each one carries important news of the Rite which no York Rite Mason should be without.

I am proud to say that Iowa is doing excellent in the subscription battle. Our September report showed 232 subscriptions, the March report showed 1,077 or 23 under our quota. Since then I have sent in eleven more subscriptions so we are just an even dozen under our quota. We will be over the top in May. Due to this idea because Temple Commandery will knight 30 candidates in the May class. They will all receive a years subscription to the Knight Templar magazine.

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1,000,000 VISITORS EXPECTED

Masonic Center At World's Fair Reopened April 21st

The chairman of the Masonic World's Fair Commission, Charles W. Froessel, Past Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York, invites all Masons, their ladies and their friends, to visit the Masonic Center at the New York World's Fair. There is no admission charge. This beautiful building, in an exquisite setting, houses much of interest of the past six hundred years of Masonic history.

Some of the Masonic memorabilia which every Mason will wish to see will be the Bible on which George Washington rested his hand when he took the oath of office as President of the United States, April 30, 1789, 176 years ago, and the original square and compasses he used as a surveyor in laying out the lands of Fairfax County, Virginia.

The Masons of New York State are hoping that more than a million guests will be present during 1965 to learn more about what Masonry is doing in the Twentieth Century. In this revolutionary period they are trying to establish the proper image in the mind of all, the world over, of the place Masonry occupies today.

HEAR THIS! The Sir Knights of Kansas are subscribing to the KNIGHT TEMPLAR. On April 21 Roy Wilford Riegle, G.C.G. of the Grand Encampment sent in 309 subscriptions.

Maurice C. Stallsmith Apr 66
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Lancaster, Pa. 17601

Return Requested
Box 477
Greenfield, Indiana