"THE ANGELUS" by Jean Francois Millet
COUNTING TEMPLAR BLESSINGS

Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, in his Address at the Sesquicentennial Banquet at the Waldorf Astoria in New York City on June 18, 1966, said Templars should never expect to be free from “Problems.” Only the dead have no problems. He stressed “the power of positive thinking” and our duty to meet every problem head-on and unafraid. He said we should thank God for our great Templar heritage—with its many blessings—and should continue “to fight the good fight, to run the course, and to keep the faith.”

What are some of Templary’s inherited blessings?

Here are a few:

1. TEMPLARY IS A WHOLESOME BAND OF NEARLY 400,000 CHRISTIAN GENTLEMEN—with deep Masonic roots, plus a common belief in the cause of the Great Captain of our Salvation. What greater purpose could call men from all walks of life and hold them together than the Christian cause we espouse?

2. TEMPLARY GIVES PUBLIC EXPRESSION OF ITS FAITH. It does not believe in “hiding its light under a bushel.” It clothes its men in uniform, chapeau and sword in response to the admonition: “Put on the whole armor of God.” Tens of thousands of Knights Templar march to the music of “Onward Christian Soldiers” to demonstrate their allegiance. Its Triennial Parades and Grand Commandery Parades have become our “Trademark” throughout America.

3. TEMPLARY EXPRESSES ITS FAITH BY ATTENDING DIVINE SERVICES. No one can witness the sea of white plumes at Arlington Amphitheater on Easter morning without recognizing that Templary is the Christian body that keeps the annual vigil in Arlington National Cemetery at our Nation’s Capitol. All over this country Commanderies are in charge of local Easter Observances. Ascension Day and the annual Christmas Observance are also a part of our regular religious program.

4. TEMPLARY PRACTICES WHAT IT PREACHES. The Knights Templar Eye Foundation is doing the work of our Lord and Master—having ministered to over 10,000 men, women and children afflicted with eye diseases or injuries and who might have lived in darkness but for the surgery and hospitalization afforded by the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. 12,000 Knights Templar have become Life Sponsors, thereby assuring continuance of this healing agency for decades to come. Also, the Knights Templar Educational Foundation, in the highest tradition of brotherhood, has assisted over 58,000 young men and women to complete their college education.

5. TEMPLARY SEeks TO HONOR CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE BY ITS DEEDS. Templary is not content to indulge in mere pious words. Our aim is to serve the community by creating a moral climate that will combat crime and violence, and clean up the cesspools of immorality.

No wonder the Grand Encampment in 1966 is proud of its heritage and counts its blessings as it prepares for the decades to come.
Keeping Our Nation Under God

By Dr. Howard R. Towne, Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment, K.T.

Psalms 33:12 "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord!"

While I was at a national meeting, some months ago, I had the opportunity to visit the Eisenhower Chapel in downtown Denver. It is a beautiful place of quiet retreat, on the second floor of the new Denver Club building. The architect took his color scheme from the Bible, where it describes the Tabernacle in the book of Exodus. And the sanctuary is a creation of dignity and splendor.

In the narthex is a large hand-lettered parchment setting forth Dwight Eisenhower’s religious philosophy. I want to use his statement as a starting point for this article. He wrote: “You can’t explain free government in any other terms than religious. The Founding Fathers had to refer to the Creator in order to make their revolutionary experiment make sense. It was because ‘all men are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights’ that men could dare to be free. They wrote their religious faith into our founding documents and put it boldly at the base of our institutions. And when they drew up their bold Bill of Rights—where did they put Freedom of Worship? First, in the cornerstone position. That was no accident.” Here is a glorious expression of faith by our former president and one that the people of our nation need to contemplate just now with dead seriousness.

Some time ago the Supreme Court announced a decision against a one hundred fifty year old American tradition of prayer and Bible reading in the public schoolroom. Religious devotions in our schools had existed since the days of the Pilgrims. In 1963 the Supreme Court said our people had been wrong in doing this all these years. In the light of this new interpretation perhaps it is time to remind ourselves anew of the spiritual heritage which is ours; of its profound effect upon the development of the life of our nation.

Let us realize at the start that the vital issue in this far-reaching court opinion is what the first amendment means. It reads, “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof?” After all these years two positions have now emerged over the meaning of the first amendment—the historic conception, which has long been recognized, and the modern induction which has evoked much controversy. The historic conception is that our government recognizes God as a Sovereign Ruler whom its citizens need to acknowledge and worship and guarantees freedom to all religions. The modern induction is that our government is indifferent to religion, that it is neither for nor against it.

Suppose we try to discover for a moment what meaning the first amendment had for those who composed it and for the government that adopted it. George Washington, our first president, who was at the helm during the momentous days of the development of the Bill of Rights, believed strongly that the underpinnings of this land should rest solidly on religion, as being fundamental to our future prosperity. This he expressed in his farewell address. He stated, “Religion and morality are
the indispensable supports of political prosperity. Let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion. Reason and experience both forbid me to expect that national morality can prevail in the exclusion of religious principle. Morality is a necessary spring of popular government. Who that is sincere friend to it can look with indifference upon attempts to shake the foundation of the fabric?” That is a very clear statement on the subject.

We would now recall the words of Benjamin Franklin when our Founding Fathers were framing the Constitution. Franklin, then eighty-one years of age, arose in the convention and addressed the chairman, saying: “I have lived, Sir, a long time, and the longer I live the more convincing proofs I see of this truth, that God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without his aid? We have been assured, Sir, in the Sacred Writings, that ‘except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it!’ I firmly believe this.”

What was the thinking of Thomas Jefferson who is usually considered responsible for introducing the concept of separation of Church and State into this amendment. Jefferson also had the vision to see God’s hand guiding in government. He was vigorously opposed to any church securing a religious monopoly. However, from his writings we are certain he never dreamed of a completely secular government. He said: “The God who gave us life also gave us liberty. Liberty is not to be taken lightly, however, as our inalienable right, but as a sacred trust, for which we must answer to God, himself.” In the Declaration of Independence Jefferson declared that God is the Creator of all men, the Author of our lives and liberties and would have us pursue happiness. He closed this document which declared us a new nation with these words: “With a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor.” Does our government acknowledge God today? It certainly did in the hour of its inception.

We need to remember that ours is a covenant nation. A covenant nation is one that recognizes its dependence upon God, and that His providence and purposes stand over and above the nation; that its people are endowed with certain inalienable rights and the inviolability of the individual conscience is observed. This was something different to appear among the latter nations of men. It is about three hundred fifty years since our Pilgrim Fathers, as persecuted refugees, began to cross a stormy ocean, preferring to seek homes in an unknown wilderness rather than give up their desire to worship God, according to the dictates of conscience. They dared the rigors of a rocky land rather than conform their religious life to commands which they considered contrary to God’s Word. They had decided to found a covenant nation.

This was what William Bradford and George Carver certainly had in mind, when beneath the swinging lanterns in the cabin of the Mayflower, they affixed their signatures to a solemn Compact which established the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. It read: “We, whose names are underwritten, have undertaken for the glory of God, to establish the first Colony for the advancement of the Chris-
tian Faith.”

This also is what Roger Williams sought when he set up his settlement in Providence, Rhode Island. This was what William Penn implanted in Pennsylvania. He said: “Men must choose to be governed by God or they condemn themselves to be ruled by tyrants.”

From such humble beginnings as these the mightiest nation on earth has developed. We have become an industrial and economic giant among the nations of the earth, the wealthiest country of all, whose resources, production, standard of living, and national income far exceed and excel any other. We eat better, we live better, we are housed better than any nationality of the globe. Always, when such prosperity floods a country there is danger of moral and spiritual decay. This is America’s danger in this 20th century, that we lose sight of the spiritual foundations upon which this land was built.

Through the years our government by various actions has shown itself to be favorable to religion generally. The Supreme Court declared in 1953, “We are a religious people whose institutions presuppose a supreme being.” Chaplains, therefore, have been regularly appointed to open the business of both houses of Congress with prayer. Chaplains have served for years in the armed forces of our country. The Bible is used in our courtrooms to administer the oath. Most of our public gatherings are opened with prayer. In 1865 our government caused the motto, “In God We Trust,” to be engraven on our currency. In one of the circles on the back of a dollar bill you will find a pyramid, a pyramid that has not been completed at the top. Above and below the pyramid are Latin phrases meaning, “He has smiled on our undertaking” and “A New Order of the ages.” What this indicates is, that under God’s smile we shall have a new order of life. The reason why the pyramid is uncompleted is that the new order is still being built. Above the pyramid is an eye. Whose eye? The eye of God! Our founded father resolved in the beginning, that they would build a new order of life UNDER GOD.

Today I feel it is imperative that Americans be called back to a realization of the strong faith of our fathers. For years we have been running on the momentum of a godly ancestry, and that momentum is now far spent. A fatal disease has already begun to destroy the moral and spiritual values that have made America the best place on earth. Our increased crime rate is far out of proportion to the birth rate. The post-war curve of religious enthusiasm has flattened out. We have a lagging seminary enrollment. A weak and irrelevant contemporary theology has evolved into a “God is dead” sickness. No longer is there recognition among many of our people of the biblical affirmation, “that righteousness exalteth a nation but sin is a reproach to any people.” The time has come for re-affirmation.

If when our nation was young we declared a firm reliance on Divine Providence, can we not do so now? More of our people belong to religious organizations now than they did then. Religious polls indicated that over 95% of our people profess some sort of belief in God. Less than 5% assert that they do not. Does not the great majority of our people have a greater right to guide the spiritual course of our Republic than the tiny minority? Should not minorities recog-
nize the fact that majorities also have rights? Should the haughty convictions of a tiny vocal minority of our citizens be allowed to coerce our government into a hollow and harmful neutrality. I say no! What we need in this time of moral decadence is more religion, not less.

We are aware, today, that communist aggression needs to be feared but so also, does widespread secularism and inner moral and spiritual decay. Arnold Toynbee, the world-renowned historian, says that of the twenty-one notable civilizations that have collapsed only two of them have been conquered by enemies from without. The other nineteen perished, not from external conquest but from the evaporation of moral beliefs within. Now, our country still has a choice, but the hour is late. What will our people do? In one of his great writings, Dr. Clarence MacCartney tells of an old Saxon King who set out with his army to put down a rebellion in a distant province of his kingdom. When the insurrection had been quelled and the army of rebels defeated he placed a candle in the archway of the castle in which he had his headquarters. Then, lighting the candle, he sent his herald to announce to those who had been in rebellion that all who surrendered and took the oath of allegiance while the candle still burned would be saved. The king offered to them his clemency and mercy, but the offer was limited to the life of that candle.

Sir Knights, we are all living on candle time today. While the candle still burns, let us by our lives and our living witness declare our Christian faith and seek allegiance to the King of Kings — Jesus Christ. Let us, under God, make our country and this world a better and a finer place in which our children and our children's children may live and work and find the fulfillment of their years.

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**Working Hours Are Long — And There's No Vacation**

A challenge to all Knights Templar everywhere is offered in the August message to Pennsylvania Templars by Grand Commander J. Harvey Moore. He writes:

SUMMER RECESSION + PERSONAL CONTACTS = PETITIONS.

Now while we are in summer recess, we need to be alert to the challenge of the hour. Summer presents many opportunities to secure petitions.

We take tremendous pride in our Grand Commandery and its many accomplishments. We belong to a "winning team." Therefore, we can never be satisfied to be a "stand still" Commandery when we can be a "go ahead" concern. We are here to serve faithfully and unstintingly. The working hours are long — there is no vacation. The competition is of gigantic proportion. In short — it's a real challenge.

In order to provide an incentive to all members of our Grand Commandery, I have asked that each Throne Officer and the ten Appointed Officers of each Constituent Commandery bring in one petition for the September conclave.

I hope that each Officer will respond to the challenge as we assume the obligation of preparing for the work of the present. Let's get off to a good start so that the year will be one of action and progress.
WHAT'S NEW IN THE SOUTH CENTRAL DEPARTMENT

A Knight Templar visit with the Grand Commanderies of Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas for a first hand glimpse of their activities, projects, and progress.

First, the statistics on Life Sponsorships for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation in the South Central Department:

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Harvey C. Byrd, Department Commander, points out some of the highlight activities of the South Central Department: Workshop Conference at Tulsa—January 25, 1965, and January 14-15, 1966, both well attended with effectively presented subjects resulting in beneficial information for the Department's Constituent Commanderies; York Rite Festivals, a continuing project, were held at Guthrie, Oklahoma, with a class of 84 candidates, and at Jefferson City, Missouri, with a great Sesquicentennial Class of 963.

"Templary," says Sir Knight Byrd, "must gain strength that comes through new manpower, and this Department is working on enlisting every Christian Mason to become a Knight Templar."
ARKANSAS

Sir Knight Donham, Little Rock, born in Pine Bluff, November 17, 1911, married to the former Vivian DeBusk Swaffer, employed as Assistant to the Grand Secretary, Grand Rite Bodies, is Past Grand Master of Grand Lodge of Arkansas. Has headed all four York Lodge, Past Grand High Priest of Grand Chapter, presently Grand Principal Conductor of Work, Grand Council. Received many Masonic recognitions and honors.

Arkansas projects include: One Way Petition (York Rite Masonry or none); Grand Commander’s Traveling Sword, which goes from one Commandery to next to promote closer relationship and which, after it has made the rounds, will bear engraved names of all 17 Commanderies, and will be presented to Library-Museum of Grand Lodge of Arkansas; monthly Grand Commander’s letter to all Commanders and Grand Commandery officers; personal letter of welcome from Grand Commander to each newly knighted Sir Knight. Grand Commander Donham says: “We have two slogans this year—‘For More Light Go York Rite,’ and ‘Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar.’”

KANSAS

Ralph B. Mitchell, born in Victoria County, Texas, October 15, 1900, moved with his family to Marshall, Missouri, shortly thereafter, then to Emporia, Kansas, where he graduated from high school and college. National Guardsman five years during and after World War I. Member, official board, Methodist Church of Emporia; owns and operates Merchants Delivery. Recognized leader in all branches of York Rite Masonry.

“There is a great deal of increased activity in the Grand Commandery of Kansas,” says Sir Knight Mitchell. Activities include two recent area Festivals—one in Fort Scott and, more recently, in Salina, under leadership of Grand Generalissimo Carrol Dean, resulting in 46 Knightings. Another Festival is planned for Dodge City, September 30-October 1, with more to come in Lawrence and Wichita. The confidence of the Grand Commander in Kansas’ progress is expressed in his statement, “Without a doubt there will be a gain in membership this year.”
LOUISIANA

Frank Toadvin Norman, born November 21, 1914, in Homer, Louisiana, to Dr. and Mrs. Bertram Allen Norman, attended public schools in Minden and Louisiana Tech. Married Mildred Bryant August 1, 1937. One daughter, Frankie, and two grandchildren, Norman and Janet. Member Minden’s First Baptist Church, served several times on official board. Mayor of Minden since 1958. Past President, Louisiana Municipal Association.

Sir Knight Norman heads an alert and progressive Grand Commandery. The Grand Commander’s Masonic record includes: Past Master, Minden Lodge No. 51; Past High Priest, Minden Chapter; P.T.I.M., Minden Council; Past Commander, Crusader Commandery No. 21; member, K.Y.C.H. Priory No. 43; Scottish Rite Bodies, Shreveport; El Karubah Temple, Shreveport; St. Matthew Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; John of Patmos Tabernacle, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests. As of June 1, Louisiana Grand Commandery was in Department’s 3rd place in Knight Templar Magazine subscriptions, 4th in Eye Foundation Life Sponsors.

MISSOURI

William J. Tobler, native son of Kansas City, started his fraternal career as a member of Westport Chapter, DeMolay, in 1924, at the age of 16. Became active member, DeMolay Legion of Honor in 1930, served as Dean of Mother Preceptory in 1963, made a member of Supreme Council of Order of DeMolay and Executive Officer, Western District of Missouri in 1963. Past Potentate Ararat Shrine, active in all Masonic branches.

Sir Knight Tobler writes: “The program for Templary in Missouri is simple but all important. It is to improve that which we already have.” The Grand Commander says that special effort is concentrated upon Improved Ritual, larger participation in competitive Asylum Drills, Regional Festivals, Religious Observance Activities and promoting DeMolay. “I hope this year to further close working conditions,” continues Grand Commander Tobler, “with all other Masonic Bodies of Missouri. By this statement, I mean not only the other York Rite Bodies, but the Grand Lodge, the four Scottish Rite Bodies, and the four Shrine Temples.”
OKLAHOMA

Frederick J. Smith, born at Princeton, New Jersey, September 24, 1912, graduated from University of Cincinnati as Geological Engineer, employed as Senior Geologist by Sinclair Oil & Gas Company. The Smiths are members of the First Presbyterian Church of Shawnee, where they reside. Member of K.Y.C.H., Oklahoma Priory No. 9. Many Masonic honors. Personal goal: net gain in Templar membership this year.

Grand Commander Smith writes, in part: "This administration is dedicated to fulfilling, as far as possible, the overall program of the Grand Encampment. Our primary objectives are to maintain our over 100% rating of Knight Templar Magazine subscriptions and obtaining a minimum of 10% of our membership in the Eye Foundation. All Commanderies are urged to hold Sesquicentennial Classes, with the request that all candidates Knighted prior to June 18, 1966, be designated as Sesquicentennial Candidates. We also request that each such candidate be presented both the Sesquicentennial Lapel Pin and Tyling Card."

TEXAS

Elmer E. Watkins, born in Oklahoma, graduated from college and immediately enlisted in the U. S. Army. After war, served as manager, later division manager, with S. H. Kress & Company, then with The National Cash Register Co., presently Real Estate Broker in Wichita Falls, Texas. Married, no children. Proud that Texas Grand Commandery is largest Grand Jurisdiction in the world.

"The Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Texas, is the largest—and we want to keep it that way," says Sir Knight Watkins. "Our program is more Creations than ever before in the history of Knight Templary in Texas. We have started this campaign rolling by creating more Knights during the first quarter than last year, and we expect that the tabulation of the second quarter will show an enormous number of Creations." The Grand Commander emphasizes that the Sesquicentennial of the Grand Encampment helped Texas considerably and that the Grand Commandery continues to use this theme to the fullest extent.
Ancient Orders of Knighthood

Resurrection Abroad
(Eighth of a Series)

The late Ray V. Denslow, writing in his article—The Chivalric Orders (1943), says—"We should accept our Masonic knighthood for what it is—a modern day recognition of a one-time military-religious organization whose deeds of hospitality and beneficence brought lustre to the banner of Christendom, and which said organization also brought into being some other forces not quite so commendable."

**VISTAS OF TEMPLARY**

by

John Black Vrooman
(P.C., Missouri)

We do not know definitely when the Order of Knight Templar was conferred in or by the members of a Masonic body, but from about the middle of the 18th Century, references are found to High Knights Templar.

Further reference is found in Irish Masonic and profane records and one very reasonable theory, as yet little-explored, is the possible connection between the Order of Christ and the Irish Freemasons of the 17th Century.

The advocates of Irish liberty were admirers of the Portuguese, and these peoples were each very friendly towards one another. Since the majority of Freemasons in Portugal were Catholic, they were on better terms with the Catholics of Ireland than with the Protestants of England.

Prominently mentioned are—High Knights Templar, organized in 1770, claiming a warrant from Mother Kilwinning Lodge of Scotland; Craft Lodges of Ireland, which not only permitted but encouraged other additional degrees and orders; and especially, many Scotch and Irish Military Lodges, which fostered and promulgated these additional degrees, all seem to have been a factor in the early days in establishing Templar in the British Isles.

Bringing order out of apparent confusion, let us state that the Early Grand Encampment of Ireland, formed in the latter part of the 18th Century, and the Early Encampment of High Knights Templar of Scotland, formed by warrant from the Irish group in 1806, as well as the several English Preceptories, eleven of which have warrants dating prior to 1800, seem to be the nucleus of early Templary in the British Isles.

Just in passing we must note that the many irregular and variously-formed so-called Templar bodies in France and elsewhere on the Continent, are, of course, not to be considered as a part of the forerunner of legitimate Templary, and may be discounted accordingly.

Focussing our attention particularly on Irish, Scotch and English origins, we may safely state that the two above-mentioned Irish and Scotch Templar bodies are the foundation of Templary there—with deviation and local conditions leading to consolidation and the final establishment of present day Templary.

In England, Baldwyn Preceptory,
at Bristol, proved to be in existence in 1780, documents in its archives so declaring, and is thus the oldest individual Templar body now existing.

In February, 1791, Thomas Dunckerley, a famous Masonic character of his day, became Grand Master of the English Templars, and organized the several Encampments into a Grand Body, called the Grand Conclave. Baldwyn Encampment, however, remained independent until 1862. The Grand Conclave continued until 1872, when it became the National Grand Priory of England.

Through the activities of these Templar bodies, their shuffling of personnel and activity, and their final reorganization and consolidation, the Order became established in the British Isles, and the foundation of Templary—of Modern Templary—as we now know it, became firmly entrenched.

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The Vow Of Office—Installation Of Officers

(GENERAL ORDER NO. 17)

One of life's most solemn vows is the Vow of Office taken by a Knight Templar—as he grasps the sword and vows to be faithful to the duties of the Templar office he is about to assume.

Webster's Dictionary has defined a Vow as follows:

"An act by which one consecrates or devotes himself to some act, service or condition; a devotion of oneself."

To Assume the Vow of Office is tremendously important. It is not a mere mumbling of words, nor is it an idle gesture. The Vow of Office is intended to impress upon the mind and conscience of a Templar Officer the seriousness of his undertaking. He is consecrating himself. He is agreeing to set aside the coming year for the work of our great Order of Christian Knighthood. He is telling his fellow Templars and the world that his devotion to duty is going to be upper-most in his mind and heart.

The Vow of Office of a Templar Officer in the Grand, Constituent, or Subordinate Commandery includes the following characteristics:

1. That he will dedicate himself to the success of the Templar program.
2. That he will redouble his efforts to strengthen his Commandery.
3. That he will set an example to his Fraters by his individual conduct.
4. That he will not allow any other interest to "crowd out" Templary.
5. That he will not choose the easy path—nor be content to just "get by."
6. That he will not withhold his best efforts until he reaches "the top."

My 27 years in "the line" of my own Commandery, my own Grand Commandery, and the Grand Encampment have given me an opportunity that rarely comes to any individual—and I can say with candor and frankness that it is high time that Templary should get back to the days when the Vow of Office really means what Webster says: "A devotion of oneself." We need to revive, restore and revitalize the Vow of Office so it means something.

There is, of course, no sure way of knowing in advance how an
officer will perform after he has been elected. His conduct in office soon tells, louder than words, whether he is treating his Vow of Office with respect. Templary does not expect every officer to be a "ball of fire." But it does have a right to expect that every Templar officer will put forth his best efforts and actively employ those talents with which God has endowed him.

The great majority of Templar Officers discharge their duties and responsibilities with fidelity to their Vow of Office. Most officers are loyal and devoted at all levels of Templary. However, there are some who seem solely interested in getting the "shoulder straps" and the "honors," but who treat their Vow of Office very lightly. Among these are some who have doubts as to whether they should "stay in line" as an officer. They have started out with good intentions but they have lost their incentive on the way. When a Templar officer has lost his incentive, he should withdraw. He should not ride the "Masonic escalator" to the top. Any officer who has lost his incentive cannot possibly give the kind of service which Templary has the right to expect from an officer. Such a man is a mere "time server." He is not doing justice to himself nor to his Commandery if he stays in office. Both will suffer if he remains in office and he should have the courage to withdraw—or his fellow officers should have the courage to advise him to withdraw.

Templary must not only do all it can to have the Vow of Office become more meaningful, but we should have the Vow of Office assumed under the most favorable circumstances. In a few instances, the Installation of Officers and communicating the Vow of Office has been almost meaningless. No ceremony has been arranged in advance. In some cases, words have been mumbled and the whole thing is gotten over within a few minutes. This breeds disrespect for the Vow of Office and destroys the entire purpose of an Installation of Officers. It would be better to have no Installation than one which give the impression that the Vow of Office is a "necessary evil."

An Installation of Officers—properly conducted—is one of the most beautiful and important ceremonies in all Templary. It is like "Changing the Guard" of a military unit, and should be accompanied with all the impressive dignity that can be attached to such a significant event. The Vow of Office should be assumed in the most solemn and impressive manner and the Installation Ceremony should be given all the importance that can be attached to it.

At every level of Templary, we should try constantly to make the Installation Ceremony more impressive. A large crowd of interested Templars, families, and friends should be assembled for the occasion and the new officers should be given a good send-off. They should be accorded the kind of an Installation of Officers that gives them confidence and assurance that their Commandery is solidly behind them, and intends to support them.

In my opinion, a Public Installation (sometimes called an Open Installation) is much more effective than a private one. A Public Installation permits the wives and families and friends of the officers and Sir Knights to be present and witness this colorful ceremony. Assuming the Vow of Office under such favorable auspices is bound to
impress not only the officer but also his family and friends, with the seriousness of his undertaking. The wife is usually “an important part of the team” and we must never forget her presence at a Public Installation.

Accordingly, by virtue of the power and authority in me vested, I hereby urge the cooperation of every Grand, Constituent, and Subordinate Commandery to assist in carrying out the following program with reference to Installation of Officers and the administering of the Vow of Office to all Templar Officers:

1. That in the future every Grand, Constituent, and Subordinate Commandery shall hold a formal, well-arranged and well attended ceremony for the Installation of Officers, wherein Templar Officers shall assume the Vow of Office and be installed in accordance with the Grand Encampment Ritual for Installation of Officers.

2. That the requirements of Sections 140-146, inclusive, of the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment shall be observed in connection therewith.

3. That the incoming Grand Commander and the incoming Eminent Commander, respectively, as soon as they are elected, shall be charged with the responsibility of seeing that suitable arrangements are made for their installation and that of their officers, and shall designate and announce in advance the Installing Officer, Marshal, and Prelate whom they have selected to conduct the Installation.

4. That there shall be a Public, or Open Installation of Officers at all levels of Templary whenever the same can be held, to which the Sir Knights, as well as the wives and members of the family of the Officers to be installed, and their friends, may be invited to attend and witness the same. That such Public Installation, being a Ceremon, may be held on a Sunday afternoon or evening, provided the same shall not be held at a time that will prevent attendance at church service.

5. That a copy of this General Order shall be distributed to all Officers of each Grand Commandery, and the same shall be read at its next Annual Conclave; also that a copy thereof shall be distributed by each Grand Commandery to each of the respective Constituent Commanderies in its jurisdiction with the direction that it be read at the next Stated Conclave after its receipt; also that a copy thereof shall be distributed to each Subordinate Commandery and shall be read at the next Stated Conclave after its receipt.

Given under my hand and seal of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, at Detroit, Michigan, this 30th day of June, A.D. 1966, A.O. 848.

Courteously,
WILBER M. BRUCKER,
Grand Master
JOHN TEMPLE RICE,
Grand Recorder
Templary was wrought out of a Holy Crusade by self-sacrificing, self-disciplined, and dedicated people. It was nurtured by stalwart giants with love and dedication and is one of the most unique institutions in our world. It stands as a mighty bulwark against the erosion of principle. Diverse points of view in our age are challenging each other on every turn. Today, Templary lies in the hands of the modern Sir Knight and possesses a great potential for God, our Country, for Mankind.

Our chief concern for Templary while it is in our care is for its activities and its achievements, that we may insure its future strength and stature. It is our pledged obligation to stand first in line in support of the heritage entrusted to us by dedicated citizens of the past.

Here in Pennsylvania, “the cradle of American liberty,” the foundation of the American way of life was built. . . . In June of 1787, a small band of American patriots in Philadelphia were laboring over the formation of a Government for a newly created nation. After four or five weeks of fruitless discussion and being unable to agree, Benjamin Franklin arose and addressed those present as follows: “The small progress we have made after continual searching for weeks, our different sentiments on almost every question producing as many Noes as Ayes, it is, me thinks, proof of the imperfection of the human understanding. In this situation of this Assembly groping as it were in the dark to find political truth, and scarce able to distinguish it when presented, HOW HAS IT HAPPENED, that we have not hitherto once thought of humbly applying to the Father of Lights to illuminate our understandings.

‘Except The Lord Build the House, They Labor In Vain That Build It.’

“And, I firmly believe this; I also believe that without his concurring aid we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel and what is worse, mankind may hereafter from this unfortunate instance, despair of establishing government by human wisdom and leave it to chance, war, or conquest. I therefore beg leave to move that henceforth, prayers imploing the assistance of Heaven and its Blessings on our deliberations be held in this Assembly every morning before we proceed to business.”

Thus on September 17, 1787, in Independence Hall, the same build-

(See Next Page)
(From Preceding Page)

ing in which the Declaration of Independence had been adopted, the Constitution of the United States of America was signed.

Today, as Sir Knights, we must hold fast to that which has been proven good. We are the handmaidens of the Christian Church and the true advocate of the American way. We must be energetic, aggressive, and imaginative in taking part in civic affairs. It is our duty to foster Patriotic and Good Citizenship Activities in our Commanderies, whether in peace or war, individually and collectively.

Our Nation will always need what this Great Order has offered in the Ages past—a way of life, forever holding fast to the fundamental principles of Templar.

J. HARVEY MOORE,
Grand Commander

NOTICES OF NOTE

Eminent Commander Gust S. Diaman-toni, Lancaster No. 13, writes: “I recognize that in our present day society, most of us are exceptionally busy and it is difficult to attend all of our meetings. However, I would like to pose this question to you. There are 8,760 hours per year—as an active member of our Commandery, could you not attend only one night a year (about 2 hours) to further the cause of our work?”

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The June notice of Chartiers No. 78, Carnegie, included a “summer” message from Robert L. Crum, Jr., Eminent Commander, from which we quote: “Our activities halt for the months of July and August. Let this be the rule that although we have no stated conclaves we should keep our Templar activities alive. This we should do as members of a Christian Order, more especially when it is announced that one of our local schools has banned the singing of a hymn at commencement exercises. (The hymn is sung both in Christian and Jewish Services.) Let us not slip by the wayside this summer, but keep our banner flying high.”

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In the opening of his June message to Sir Knights of Northwestern No. 25, Meadville, Eminent Commander Robert A. Sweigard noted: “He that fancies himself very enlightened, because he sees the deficiencies of others, may be very ignorant, because he has studied his own.”

Julius Henry, Eminent Commander of Palestine No. 14, Carbondale, tells the Sir Knights of his Commandery: “The vow I took at Installation to serve this Commandery for the ensuing Templar Year can only be fulfilled with
your help. Our Commandery needs candidates, but it also needs the concern and the dedication of all Sir Knights. We have a busy program ahead of us for the remainder of the year. While it has been the practice of this Commandery to call off the months of July and August, we can make a lot of hay while the sun shines.

Savona Commandery No. 89, Honesdale, issued a June notice which contained these words from Eminent Commander Olney W. Smith: “We pray that all Knights and their families will have a happy and fruitful summer. May they return in September filled with vigor and enthusiasm to build Savona Commandery No. 89 to a new high.”

**PRECEDENCE**

For the benefit of officers assuming new duties and for the information of all Sir Knights, here are a few words on Templar Precedence. Pennsylvania is 10th in order of Precedence of Grand Commanderies. Pennsylvania takes rank in the Grand Encampment from the date of 1854, when organized under authority of the General Grand Encampment—rather than from the formation in 1797.

Other Precedence points of information include the Precedence of Rank of the officers of Grand Commandery and of Constituent Commanderies. Knowledge of this phase of our “Constitution and Laws” is especially helpful in introductions, seating arrangements and other protocol activities. Grand Commandery rank of officers is as follows:

The Grand Recorder
The Trustees of Grand Commandery
The Grand Standard Bearer *
The Grand Sword Bearer *
The Grand Warder *
The Grand Captain of the Guard *
The Marshal of the Grand Commandery *
The Herald of the Grand Commandery *
The Division Commanders *

In the Constituent Commandery, the Precedence of Rank follows similar lines. The first three officers and the Past Commanders are members of Grand Commandery, just as the first four officers (there’s a “Deputy” added) of Grand Commandery, and Past Grand Commanders, are members of Grand Encampment.

The Commander
The Generalissimo
The Captain General
The Past Commanders
The Senior Warden
The Junior Warden
The Prelate
The Treasurer
The Recorder
The Trustees
The Standard Bearer
The Sword Bearer
The Warder
The Sentinel
The Guards

* Appointive Office.
GRAND COMMANDER SALUTES SUCCESSFUL COMMANDERIES FOR MEMBERSHIP GAINS DURING THE 1965-66 TEMPLAR YEAR

Sir Knight J. Harvey Moore, in forwarding statistics to the Knight Templar Magazine on membership productivity during the year ending in May, makes a particular point of extending “my sincere congratulations to the following Pennsylvania Commanderies which have ended the 1965-66 Templar year with a gain in membership:"

Division No. 1
No. 54—Kensington
No. 82—Germantown

Division No. 2
No. 59—Ascalon

Division No. 3
No. 71—Nativity
No. 95—Damascus
No. 97—Ascension

Division No. 4
No. 3—Jacques De Molay
No. 7—St. Omer’s
No. 18—Kedron
No. 49—Uniontown

Division No. 5
No. 88—Brandywine
No. 93—Cyprus

Division No. 6
No. 61—Oriental
No. 74—Moshannon

Division No. 7
No. 39—Prince of Peace

Division No. 8
No. 50—Rebecca

Division No. 9
No. 9—DeMolay
No. 23—Packer
No. 81—Samuel S. Yohe
No. 90—Bethlehem

Division No. 10
No. 69—Potter
No. 83—Bethany

Division No. 11
No. 60—Temple

Division No. 12
No. 25—Northwestern
No. 38—Rose Croix
No. 51—Clarence

Division No. 13
No. 27—St. Andrew’s
No. 89—Savona
No. 99—Nazarene

Division No. 14
No. 37—Calvary
No. 85—Mt. Herman

Division No. 15
No. 8—St. John’s
No. 11—Pilgrim
No. 13—Lancaster
No. 24—Hermit

Division No. 16
No. 21—York
No. 34—Cyrene
No. 79—Gettysburg
No. 98—Bethel

Division No. 17
No. 46—Hospitaller
Sesquicentennial Observances

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA, OBSERVES SESQUICENTENNIAL
By J. Frank Nettles

Pictured above are members of the Sesquicentennial Celebration Class held in Jacksonville on June 18, 1966.

The climax of this celebration was a banquet held in Morocco Temple at the same time as the one held in New York City by the Grand Encampment.

In attendance at this banquet were Most Worshipful William Mercer Hollis, Grand Master of Masons in Florida; Leo Albert Bowles, G.M. of the Grand Council, R. & S.M. of Florida; Arthur Sylvester Stewart, P.G.C., and Goebel B. Buchanan, P.G.C., of Florida; James E. Moseley, G.C. of Georgia; all of the Grand Lodge of Florida’s elective grand officers; as well as many of the appointive Grand Lodge officers, district deputy grand masters and many other dignitaries, including the Supreme Deputy for Rainbow in Florida, Mrs. Lita McMinn.

This banquet was opened with a pledge of allegiance to the flag of our country, followed by an address which was taped especially for this banquet by the Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Wilber M. Brucker. After introduction of our guests by Past Commander J. Frank Nettles who acted as toastmaster, the audience was entertained by speciality acts put on by members of Jacksonville’s Rainbow - DeMolay Talent Group.

The York Rite Bodies of Area 5 of Florida are planning a Fall Festival to honor Arthur Sylvester Stewart, P.G.C.

All of the degrees and orders will be conferred in full form at the York Rite Temple, 1237 South McDuff Avenue, followed by a banquet at Morocco Temple, all in Jacksonville.

Tentative dates for the degrees, orders, and banquet extends from October 27 to November 5.
TWO NEW ORLEANS COMMANDERIES CELEBRATE SESQUICENTENNIAL
By W. H. Garrison


Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1 and Jacques deMolay Commandery No. 2 of the Grand Commandery of Louisiana, united their efforts in having a Sesquicentennial Celebration of the Grand Encampment. The celebration consisted of a banquet given at the Vista Shores Club in New Orleans, Saturday evening, June 18, 1966. The banquet table was in the shape of the Salem Cross with seating ar-
rangement for eighty-six guests. There was no head table but those on the program were seated as close to the rostrum as possible. Each lady's place was marked by a passion cross fashioned from styrafoam, made by Mrs. Arthur A. Chidsey, wife of the local chairman of the celebration.

A letter extending greetings from the Most Eminent Grand Master was read by the Master of Ceremonies. This was indeed one of the highlights of the evening.

The State Chairman could not attend, but sent as his personal representative the Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, Sir Knight A. J. Lewis, who responded with greetings from the Chairman, Sir Knight Herbert Jennings.

The acme or pinnacle of the festivities was listening to the speaker of the evening, Most Worshipful Grand Master, Sir Knight Peter L. Bernard, Jr., whose words of wisdom were timely and inspiring.

It was indeed a gala occasion, immensely enjoyed, and truly one that will long be remembered.

MD. COMMANDERY NO. 1 CELEBRATES SESQUICENTENNIAL
By John S. Mitchell, G.W.

At the Stated Conclave held on Friday, May 27, 1966, thirty-eight Pilgrims were created Knights Templar; nineteen were made members of Maryland Commandery No. 1, seven of Monumental Commandery No. 3, nine of Beausant Commandery No. 8, and three of Jacques deMolay Commandery No. 4 who travelled all the way from Frederick to be in this class.

Edward J. Warwick, G.C., brought the best wishes and felicitations of the Grand Commandery of Maryland and also participated in the conferring of the Order of the Temple.

After closing, the thirty-eight new Knights Templar, with nearly one hundred other Knights present, adjourned to the Banquet Hall where all enjoyed a delightful repast.
Officers, Candidates, and Grand Commander Schoedingar (center, front row).

Robert S. Schoedingar, G.C. of Ohio, was the principal speaker at the Sesquicentennial Festival recently held at Niles. The Festival class was known as the Dallas H. Crawford Class, a long time worker in the York Rite Bodies of Niles, Ohio.

IOWA GRAND COMMANDERY OBSERVES SESQUICENTENNIAL

By James F. Milligan, Correspondent

In connection with their 102nd conclave, the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Iowa held a Sesquicentennial observance of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States.

The Order of the Temple was conferred on Monday, June 20, on a class of candidates especially selected from the 5 districts of Iowa. The work ceased at 6:00 p.m. when the Knights and their ladies adjourned to the dining room for the sesquicentennial banquet.

Willard M. Avery, P.D.C., and Editor of the Knight Templar, was the speaker and spoke on the sesquicentennial banquet held at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City and problems facing Knights Templar. Sir Knight Her-
S. C. COMMANDERY NO. 1 CELEBRATES SESQUICENTENNIAL

By Hugh N. Layne, Correspondent

On the evening of June 10, 1966, the Sumter Dining Room, Fort Sumter Hotel, Charleston, S. C., was comfortably filled by a large number of Sir Knights and their ladies at a dinner celebrating the Sesquicentennial birthday of the Grand Encampment and the 186th year since the establishment of South Carolina Encampment No. 1, now chartered as South Carolina Commandery No. 1 of the Grand Commandery, K.T. of South Carolina.

A brief history of South Carolina Commandery had been prepared and was read by Leonard C. Ripley, Past Commander, and P.G.M. of the Grand Council, R. & S.M. of South Carolina. In 1855 in a lecture by Theodore S. Gourdin, Commander of South Carolina Commandery, it was stated that South Carolina Encampment No. 1 was established in 1780 as is evidenced by an old seal now in the archives of the Grand Encampment. (A splendid cut of this old seal appeared on the front cover of the program of the Sesquicentennial Dinner.) Other highlights of the South Carolina Commandery include affiliation of South Carolina Encampment No. 1 under the Jurisdiction of the General Grand Encampment of the U.S.A. on September 3, 1825. This anti-dated the founding of the Grand Commandery of South Carolina by eighty-four years. The minutes of March 25, 1921, show that Warren G. Harding, President of the United States, was made an honorary member of South Carolina Commandery.

The principal address was given by Mr. Ernest A. Cutts, Managing Editor of a Charleston daily newspaper, who entertained and inspired those present with his sparkling wit and his keen analysis of men and events.

KANSAS SESQUICENTENNIAL OBSERVANCE

By C. W. Reese, Correspondent for Oklahoma

A Tri-city observance of the Sesquicentennial of the Grand Encampment, consisting of Arkansas City, Winfield, and Wellington, Kansas, was held in the Crescent Lodge Temple at Arkansas City, on June 18, 1966. A very nice banquet preceded the meeting with about 150 Sir Knights and ladies in attendance.

The events of the evening were in charge of Joe Atkins, Commander of Arkansas City Commandery No. 30. Several distinguished Sir Knights were received and introduced, as follows: Ralph B. Mitchell, G.C. of Kansas; Frederick J. Smith, G.C. of Oklahoma; Lester McConnel, G.C.G. of Kansas; Neal Gerdeman, G.S.B. of Kansas; C. W. Reese, G.W. of Oklahoma; and N. Alfred Shephard, Grand R.A.C. of the Grand Chapter of R.A.M. of Oklahoma, also three P.G.C.s of the State of Kansas, Don Rayburn, S. Lewis Smith, and Floyd Palmer.

Sir Knight Palmer gave the address for the evening on the humanitarian projects of the Knights Templar of the Grand Encampment of the United States.
CALIFORNIA (Department No. 1) OBSERVES SESQUICENTENNIAL

The Sesquicentennial Observance of Department No. 1 of the Grand Commandery of California was held on Saturday evening, June 4, 1966, at the Sheraton Thunderboldt Hotel in Millbrae, Calif., near San Francisco. Dinner was served to 260 guests and the address of the evening was given by Henry J. Weisser, Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of California. Entertainment followed the dinner.

Henry J. Weisser, G.C., and Evelyn.

WACO COMMANDERY, TEXAS, SESQUICENTENNIAL PLANS

Waco Commandery, Texas, is planning to continue its observance of the Sesquicentennial with a Festival Class designated as the Harry C. Byrd Class. Sir Knight Byrd is the Department Commander of the South Central Department of the Grand Encampment, and is the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, F. & A.M. of Texas. The conferral of the Degrees and Order will start on Friday evening, September 30, and conclude on Saturday, October 1st. It is particularly noteworthy to learn that Sir Knight Byrd will be acting as Prior in the Order of Malta which will be conferred in long form and will also confer the Order of the Temple on the class named in his honor.

A prior Sesquicentennial Class was Knighted by Waco Commandery this Spring.

NORWALK, CONNECTICUT, SESQUICENTENNIAL PUBLICITY

Congratulations are certainly in order for the very fine Sesquicentennial write up which appeared in the Norwalk Hour, Norwalk, Connecticut, newspaper on Saturday, June 11. This publicity covered the formation of Clinton Commandery which was formed for the Norwalk area in 1826 and included a copy of the dispensation given by Grand Master DeWitt Clinton under date of February, 1827. More than 3/4 of a page of the paper was devoted to the Commandery, its activities and the Grand Encampment during the last century and a half. (W. F. Olson submitted the newspaper clipping.)

In Memoriam

Alabama

William Cole Davis, G.C., 1929 —September 21, 1965
Edgar McCavitt Gober, G.C., 1952 —September 13, 1965

Georgia

Montana
Alonzo Edmond Crumley, G.C., 1949—May 7, 1966

Wyoming
Homer Everett Lorn, G.C., 1943 —June 9, 1966
Address By Wilber M. Brucker, Grand Master Honoring Thomas Smith Webb At Providence, R. I.

Grand Master Brucker joins with other Masonic dignitaries to honor the memory of Sir Knight Thomas Smith Webb, prime organizer of the General Grand Encampment in graveside ceremonies Sunday, June 19, at Providence, Rhode Island.

We come today to pay the homage and respect of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America to Sir Knight Thomas Smith Webb, one of the principal Founding Fathers of the Grand Encampment. He became Deputy Grand Master at the time of the formation of the Grand Encampment in 1816. Historians say that he stepped aside for the election of our first Grand Master, Governor DeWitt Clinton of New York. Sir Knight Webb deemed it wise to have a man at the head of our new national organization who was widely known; would lend the prestige of his civilian office of Governor of New York, and could obtain support and recognition which Templary would need in its early years.

After all of his hard work in organizing and perfecting the plan to form the Grand Encampment at a convention called at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, early in June, 1816, Thomas Smith Webb was frustrated by dissent and it looked as if failure was going to be the verdict. However, undaunted, Sir Knight Webb reorganized the project; saw to it that an Official Call was issued for representatives of 8 independent Encampments to meet in New York City later in the same month of June, and was finally able to persuade all of them to merge into the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar on June 20, 1816. In this way the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar was born—and we, today, are the beneficiaries of this great Templar leader and his close associates who would not give up until victory crowned their efforts with success.

It is significant that St. Johns Commandery No. 1 of Providence, R. I., held the Sesquicentennial of its Commandery in 1952, at which time the Fraters of this historic Commandery, of which Thomas Smith Webb was Commander in 1805, showed forth their gratitude to this Great Templar leader, and published an Anniversary Book that extols Sir Knight Webb’s part in the formation of the Grand Encampment in June, 1816.

In every great and successful institution there is always one man who stands out for his contribution. Others may help on the stage or in the wings, but it is the per-
istent, hard-working and knowledgeable leader—sometimes even self-effacing—who gets things done and is really responsible for success. So it was with Sir Knight Thomas Smith Webb. It is in recognition of this fact that we, on behalf of the Grand Encampment, come to Providence, Rhode Island, this day—150 years later—to give Thomas Smith Webb the credit that is his due.

Audio Tapes of 150th Anniversary Festivities Available For Free Use

Audio taped highlights of the Grand Encampment’s 150th Anniversary activities at the Waldorf Astoria on June 18 are now available for bookings by Grand, Subordinate and Constituent Commanderies on a first-come, first-served basis. The proceedings were recorded on monophonic one-track tape at 7 1/2 inches per second.

The Committee on Public Relations recommends the use of the tapes as program features for stated conclaves, for special occasions, or for any gathering of Templars and friends of Templary. Three different tapes are available, ranging in length from 26 to 31 minutes. It is suggested that only one of the three be featured for any one occasion.

Tape No. 1 contains remarks and responses made by Grand Master Brucker during the course of the anniversary evening at the Waldorf Astoria. The length—26 minutes. Tape No. 2 is an audio account of Grand Encampment’s history, prepared by the Committee on Public Relations and narrated at the celebration by the Public Relations Chairman, Paul C. Rodenhauser; the Sesquicentennial Chairman, C. Byron Lear, and G. Burton Long, Massachusetts-Rhode Island. The length—28 minutes.

Tape No. 3 features Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, the noted speaker for the June 18th anniversary celebration. The length—31 minutes.

Each tape is appropriate as a single program presentation. It is important that the tape be played by someone who has a knowledge of sound-tape, and that the proper equipment be used.

A limited library of the three tapes has been established by the Committee on Public Relations. To arrange for one or more of the taped programs, requests—specifying the date desired—should be addressed to Paul C. Rodenhauser, 1134 Manor Street, Columbia, Pennsylvania 17512. Tapes will be mailed by Insured Prepaid Parcel Post. They must be returned by the same method after use.

FILM “CHRISTIANS AWAKE” ON OKLAHOMA TV

The film, “Christians Awake,” was recently requested by Lee E. Cleveland, Recorder of Lawton Commandery (Oklahoma), and was shown on June 18 to 97 Templars and their families in connection with a buffet supper. Sir Knight Cleveland further reports:

“The following week I contacted the manager, Mr. Tom Reddell, of our KSWO-TV. They were happy to show it Sunday, June 25, 1966, 2:45 p.m.

We had planned to show the film to the ministerial alliance, but they had adjourned until September—So I called many of the ministers by phone, most of whom stated they would announce the showing time from the pulpit, at least 25 did.”
Detroit Masonic Temple, the largest in the world, will be the scene of the 50th Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment which will be held on August 19-24, 1967.

"A PRAYER FOR COMMUNION AND CHRISTIAN ADVANCE"

O God, Our Father, we turn to Thee, away from the preoccupations of our fast-moving days, to rest our lives in the great calm of Thy Presence. We are grateful for Thy great undeserved goodness to us, for the beauty and splendor of the summer season that speaks to us of release and quieter days. As a cool hand to a troubled forehead so may Thy Spirit be to our spirits, O Heavenly Father.

We are thankful at this time for the blessings of Knighthood, for the noble achievements of one hundred fifty years of Christian service in our country. We earnestly desire to be worthy of this splendid heritage. Strengthen us to serve more valiantly as followers of Thy Son. May we see the way of the Cross as He saw it, the "Flaming Will of God." Give us the spirit of High Adventure, that, faltering not before the future, we may, in confidence press on in the high calling of God. May our present God-given mission transcend in importance any which challenged tempral in the glorious high tide of a purposeful yesterday. Open our eyes to see the world's needs. Sensitize our hearts with a compassionate spirit for the crushed, the helpless, and the destitute. Discipline us that we may become strong and sacrificial. Give us, as Sir Knights, the twin graces of persistence and courage that whatever we begin that is good we may finish. May our armor be faith and holy zeal and our feet shod with the Gospel of peace. We ask it in the name of our Captain and Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

—Dr. Howard R. Towne, G.P.
From Our Readers

HUNTINGTON COMMANDERY, WEST VIRGINIA, MALTA TEAM

This is the 10th Anniversary of the forming of the Huntington Commandery Malta Team consisting of 40 members including an 18-man Drill Team. The picture was taken at its recently held Anniversary Dinner Meeting. It is a practice of the team to make at least one trip each year to confer the Order of Malta in a Commandery in the State other than Huntington. In addition to the annual anniversary dinner meeting, the team sponsors a family dinner each Fall.

We recently received a copy of a letter from Rev. Henry L. Reinewald, P.C., to the Knight Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., in which he reported that more than 350 persons attended the Second Annual Ascension Day Service in St. Mark's United Church of Christ, 1953 Military Avenue, Detroit, Michigan: that the offering received at said service in the amount of $310.00 was divided equally between the Knight Templar Eye Foundation Inc., and the Christian World Mission of the United Church of Christ.

Rev. Reinewald further reports: "St. Mark's Church is most pleased that the Masons and Knights Templar of Michigan, and of Detroit in particular are sharing with St. Mark's Church the endeavor to restore to its proper place in the life of the church and community the celebration of the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ to the right hand of God."

Branson C. "Bill" Barton, Captain of the Knightstown, Indiana, Drill Team and recipient of the first Indiana York Cross of Honor Award, and his son, Steve, a member of the Drill Team, went to Nashville, Tennessee, on June 25 to attend an All-Order-Day given by Nashville Commandery. Bill was honored by being permitted to Knight his brother, James Leroy Barton, a member of the class. Sir Knight James Leroy Barton is pastor of the First Christian Church, Nashville, and is the 7th brother of the Barton family to be Knighted.
STATEWIDE KNIGHTHOOD CLASS—
CENTRAL FLORIDA PRIORY

On Saturday, May 28, 1966, Central Florida Priory, Order of Knighthood, held a Statewide Knighthood Class in honor of James Dawson Yeager, Grand Commander of Knights Templar of Florida.

Stephen B. Dimond, P.I.G.M. and active member of Int. S. C., presented the Grand Commander with his Senior DeMolay certificate and card.

NEW MEXICO G.C. INSTALLS SON AS MASTER COUNCILOR


On June 1, 1966, Phil Witherspoon, Grand Commander of K.T. of New Mexico, installed his son, Phil Witherspoon, III, as Master Councilor of Las Cruces Chapter Order of DeMolay, Las Cruces, New Mexico.


Cyrene Commandery of Birmingham, Alabama, held a combined patriotic and Sesquicentennial Banquet on June 18 at which time there were present 234 Sir Knights and Ladies. Distinguished guests included Fred Vaughn, Grand Master, F. & A.M. of Alabama; Gus Gadd, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Alabama; and Bruce Phelps, Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Alabama.
ATTENDANCE AND MEMBERSHIP CONTEST SPONSORED BY WESTCHESTER COMMANDERY

The entire membership was divided into four teams.
Scoring was as follows:

1. 10 points for each conclave attended. (Westchester.)
2. 5 points for each Ladies Auxiliary meeting attended by your Mrs. (Westchester.)
3. 5 points each for Sir Knight and his Lady who visit another Commandery or attend a Commandery sponsored activity.
4. 10 points each for Sir Knight and his Lady who attend the Grand Commandery and Grand Encampment sessions.
5. 5 points for each sick call made.
6. 25 points for each Petition for Membership by Initiation or Affiliation, presented and accepted.
7. 25 points to be awarded to each Sir Knight who, at the end of the year, can be considered “ACTIVE” on the Committee or Committees to which he has been appointed.

The winning team was honored guests at a dinner, with the members of the three other teams acting as hosts.

(Frank G. Farnham, Recorder, reports that this contest worked as evidenced by the fact that their Commandery recently received the award at the Grand Commandery Conclave for the highest percentage gain in membership from June, 1965, to June, 1966.)

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A HIGHLIGHT OF LIFE


One of the most important events in the life of the present Eminent Commander of Kansas Commandery No. 35, Dodge City, Henri Robbins was his installation to this office just after he had celebrated his 80th birthday.

Eminent Commander Robbins has been active in the Dodge City Drill Team and has not missed a Kansas Grand Commandery Drill Team Competition in the past 9 years.

What an inspiration for the future for those who think it might be too late to be active.

Commander Robbins is an instructor of piano and a number of his pupils furnished the music at his installation. This is a blessing to have such an alert and active mind and the will to do a good job.

By J. D. Beye, P.C.

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CONFERRAL

The Masonic Temple at Glasgow, Montana, was the scene of the conferral of the Chevalier Degree on Steve Bell, age 17, by Wilford Bell, grandfather; Cecil Bill Bell, father; and Dale Smith, uncle, giving the major part of the work. Knight Templars in uniform also assisted in the conferral of the Degree.
"YES CLUB" FORMED IN BURLINGTON COMMANDERY, WISCONSIN

Russell B. Cosner, Commander of Burlington Commandery No. 50, Wisconsin, reports that George E. Petri, Commander of St. Lucie Commandery of Ft. Pierce, Florida, originator of the "YES CLUB" is spending his summer in Wisconsin and is assisting them in forming the club. Work on the club was started on June 10 and at the stated conclave on June 20th, twenty-four Life Sponsors to the Knight Templar Eye Foundation had been obtained out of a total membership of 64 in the Commandery.

Frederick J. Smith, G.C. of Oklahoma, is presenting to each newly made Sir Knight in Oklahoma, a certificate of membership, a booklet "Highlights of Templar History," and an informative letter on Templary, particularly the work of the Knight Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., and Knight Templar Educational Foundation.

Recently two girls, 5 and 4½ years of age, received assistance from the Knight Templar Eye Foundation for congenital glaucoma of both eyes. Robert L. Doney, Recorder of Beaconsfield Commandery No. 41, Massachusetts, reports as follows:

"Ever since the aid and assistance of our great Foundation, afforded the two little girls in our own home city, interest has arisen in this great project by leaps and bounds, and from the lay people of the city, when humanitarian programs are referred to the Eye Foundation is uppermost in the minds of peoples of various races and creeds, which is creating a greater Image of Templary in our community."


Viron F. Schumaker, G.C. of South Dakota, made an official visit to Lead, where Dakota Commandery No. 1 was host and was joined by Black Hills Commandery and Rapid City Commandery in the program. Other Grand Line Officers also joined the Grand Commander in this visitation.

—John G. West, Correspondent

St. Omer Commandery of Toledo, Ohio, recently made Edgar Clark, Grand Commander of Michigan, and Harold Hoolihan, Grand Commander of Indiana, honorary members when they attended the Inspection of St. Omer Commandery.

John Krings of Trinity Commandery No. 68, Elmhurst, L. L., New York City, is giving a year's gift subscription to the Knight Templar Magazine to each newly made Sir Knight in his Commandery.

Godfrey Commandery No. 37, Jacksboro, Texas, recently sent to the Knight Templar Eye Foundation Life Sponsorship applications from a father and two sons, Buster B. Davis, George F. Davis, and Don S. Davis.
WANTED!—Several hundred active, interested, knowledgable Templars to renew their Knight Templar Magazine subscriptions each month on or before expiration dates.

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“It’s unique!” says Department Commander Robert M. Rewick. And passersby in Albuquerque, New Mexico, agree. Pictured is a window display at 5th and Central, Albuquerque, arranged and designed by Eldon M. Fratt, professional artist and an active and productive member of Pilgrim Commandery No. 3. The anniversary exhibit was displayed April 1 through April 15.

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Images — Collective and Individual

"Today, we think and talk quite a bit about 'images.' It has given rise to the term 'public relations.'

"Templary has a collective image and the Sir Knights who make up this great Christian fraternal society, or Order, have likewise a collective image and an individual image.

"Of a surety, the improvement of our images, collective and individual, is a matter of grave concern to every Sir Knight presently occupying a position of leadership, whether it be in the Grand Encampment, the Grand Commandery or in a Constituent Commandery.

"However, a good image, public or otherwise, does not come about automatically. It involves planning and work and commitment. We must publicize our good purposes and our good deeds. We must maximize the contributions which we make as an Order and as individual Sir Knights to the never-changing verities of the Christian Church and to the goals of an exalted American citizenship. If we do less, we fail God and country.

"If we hide our light under a bushel, we neglect both challenge and opportunity. A dim beacon is not seen by the outside world, nor by our membership. If the world-at-large sees not Templary's beacon light because it is indistinct, what about the potential candidate? Since he is in the dark, he is not constrained to join our ranks. But, a functioning and wide-awake Order, its membership aglow with dedication, will create a good image and quicken desire to be joined with us. We need but in our every action to avow discipleship with Christ to win favorable notice."

—SIR KNIGHT BURT D. PEARSON, reporting on Public Relations to the Grand Commandery of Minnesota