

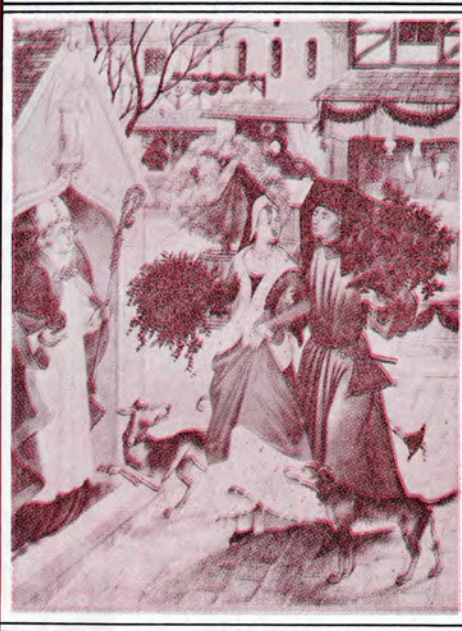
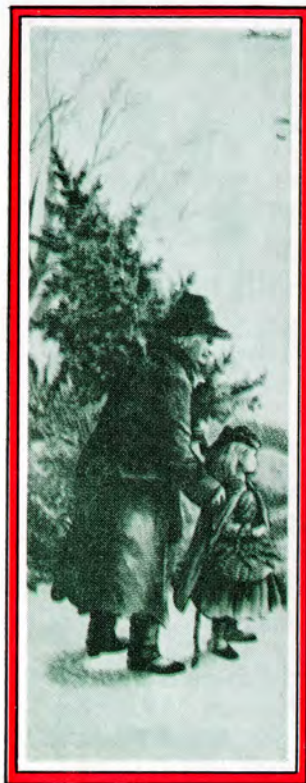
# Knight Templar



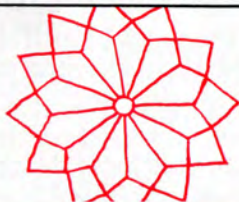
VOLUME XII

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NUMBER 12



Peace and joy this  
Christmas tide



Official Publication for the Grand Encampment of  
Knights Templar of the United States of America



# The Special Significance Of Christmas In 1966



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

December brings Christmas — with the birthday of the Greatest Man who ever lived—our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

What a marvelous time for Knights Templar to renew their annual pledge of allegiance at each Commandery Christmas Observance. Christmas is a glorious day for rejoicing throughout the entire Templar World. Those who are physically able to attend their Commandery Observance should count it a rare privilege to participate. Others, unable to attend because of illness or inability, may still be a part of the vast, unnumbered throng of Templars who are present in spirit—joining in silent acclaim and signaling their recognition of the greatest day in Christendom.

In 1966 the Christmas Observance takes on added significance for Knights Templar. This year we are in the midst of our big campaign for Life Sponsors for the Knights Templar Eye Founda-

tion to assist those poor unfortunate men, women and little children who need our help so desperately to stave off blindness. What better time to make a real, tangible and lasting present to the Christ Child! We can offer our “gold, incense and myrrh” in the form of Life Sponsorships that become an everlasting investment in the spirit of Christmas.

To be specific, it isn't too late for each Commandery to concentrate on collecting Life Sponsorships and presenting them at the Triangle at the time we drink the Annual Christmas Toast. Each Commandery can make this a special project and accomplish two objectives at one time—a gift for our great humanitarian cause and a thrill for ourselves! It will assure us a more soul-satisfying Christmas than ever before!

It is one of the most beautiful compensations of life, that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself.

I ask every Knight Templar to support this most worthy Life Sponsor campaign at Christmastime. He will be able to feel—down deep in his heart—that he is doing his part for Christ and Humanity!

To Knights Templar throughout the World—accept my sincere Christmas Greetings—you are doing the work of Christ on Earth! May you and your family have a blessed Christmas!

Courteously and fraternally,  
**WILBER M. BRUCKER**  
*Grand Master*

# Crusading For The Cross In Christmas

By Dr. Howard R. Towne, Grand Prelate of the G.E., K.T. of U.S.A.

*"She shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name  
JESUS; for he shall SAVE his people from their sins."*

—MATTHEW 1:21

Once again the earth turns and the seasons change, and we lift our eyes toward a great religious festival—Christmas. The season of splendor returns each year with ringing bells and beloved carols, hurry and hustle, shimmering stars and jam-packed stores. The joyous festival possesses overtones of revelry and undertones of reverence that warm the heart, but multitudes some time miss the essence. A gifted psychologist once worked out a number of word-tests. For instance, he would say the word "Christmas" to someone. Then he would ask that person to repeat the first word that came to his mind. Invariably, he would get such replies as, "Santa Claus, decorations, toys, trees, tinsel or greeting cards." Rarely would the name "JESUS" be mentioned. He concluded that we had commercialized the most incredible incident in human history so much, that its central figure had been obscured.

Recently, concerned people have launched a crusade to "Put Christ back into Christmas." But even this effort falls short of meeting the real problem. For the basic issue is not, "putting Christ back into Christmas," it is taking Christmas itself to the Cross. Christmas should reach to the Cross, for that symbol is at the heart of the nativity story. The celestial messenger said to Joseph, "Thou shalt call his name Jesus, for he shall SAVE his people from their sins."

The incarnation and salvation are inseparable. In carol after carol the birth of Christ is linked

with our redemption. Salvation is what Christmas is all about. The only serious explanation we have of what made it natural for Christ to come to earth in a miraculous way is that Jesus is the Son of God and the Saviour of men. With hearts enthralled every Christmas and all the year 'round we can sing:

*"Silent night! Holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth."*

In spite of the fact that *Time* magazine in its Christmas cover story, some years back, did not even mention the name of Jesus, this is the person about whom the greatest event of history is concerned. "Jesus" was a very common name in bible times, the same name as "Joshua" in the Old Testament. But while Jesus may have been a common name it meant something exceedingly important. It meant in Hebrew—"The Lord is Salvation." So, when Joseph was directed to call the child "Jesus," it was for a special reason—OUR SALVATION!

During the Christmas season we gather in adoration at the stable in Bethlehem. We are entranced by the Child and grow quite sentimental about him. However, to have that Child as our Saviour from sin and the Lord of our lives is quite another matter. And yet, all human life and all history revolves around that Divine-human being, about whom the celestial

messenger said, "Fear not, unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord."

How enchanting is the story of His life. He was born in a Bethlehem barn because there was no room in the Inn. When he was not quite two, his young life would have abruptly ended by Herod's sword, had not his parents escaped across the hot sands to Egypt. As a boy he was raised amid the odor of wood shavings in a carpenter shop in Nazareth. When he was 33 he was executed like a criminal on a Cross. But for 1900 years the name of Jesus, like some mighty "Mt. Everest," has been the greatest name among the generation of humanity. Every time we date a letter we are admitting that he is at the center of time, for the centuries are calculated on the basis of his birth. Dr. Fitchet once said, "One name alone is stamped on the brow of the hurrying centuries, and it is the name of Jesus Christ."

Surely, if the name of Jesus is left out of our Christmas commemoration, if the greatest name of all time and eternity is missing, then its genuine significance has been utterly lost. I hope that all Sir Knights will keep this in their minds, as they participate in the yule tide season. Surrounded as we are by all the superficial pagantry which has crept into the holy season, it is easy to lose the meaning of Christmas in its wrappings, to substitute the husk for the kernel and make the frame take the place of the picture.

Actually, it was what happened to Jesus after Christmas, that makes the day meaningful. It was not merely the birth of a child that changed the course of the world's history, it was what that baby became. Jesus, as a child, could

not have given us redemption. He could not have performed His mighty miracles. He could not have spoken the great Sermon on the Mount. He could not have taken His cross-beam to Calvary.

See what the man Christ Jesus can do for us, that the child Jesus, could never do. He can forgive our sins and grant us power for a new life. He can reveal eternal principles, which if followed by men, would end intolerance and injustice and strife. He can proclaim a Divine Way as man's only hope for peace, for well-being and for salvation. He can give us the Holy Spirit and eternal life. As Knights Templar we should urge others to let Jesus do for us as men, what he could never do as a child.

Sir Knights, it was never his birth in a barn that Jesus emphasized. Did He ever make reference to it? Our concern today should be that Christmas be more than a story about a unique child, it should contain the exaltation of the Son of Man into whom the child grew, who can redeem the world from its sins. Let us never forget that the Christ, who was born in an animal feeding trough in the stench of an Eastern stable, died in agony and dereliction on a Cross for our redemption.

When God sent his only begotten Son to this earth to save us from our sins, He "highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the NAME which is above every name, that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Once there was tremendous power in the words, "In Jesus' Name." Once this expression proclaimed Christ's authority over all life. Today, we still use

the phrase to close our prayers, but to many Christians it has become just a religious form, a magical charm, a meaningless embellishment. Sometimes we ask the question, "What's in a name?" The answer is—"everything." All that a person has and is, that distinguishes him from other persons, is wrapped up in his name. There is history and heredity, power and privilege, in a name. And the Name of our Saviour is no exception. "In Jesus' Name" is the gospel in a gem, a faith in a phrase, a commitment to a way of life. It proclaims His authority. It pronounces His power. It possesses His purpose. It demands His practice.

Our age tries constantly to relegate Jesus to a minor role. But Christians should supplant the gods of our secular society and enthrone once more the authority of our Living Lord. As Sir Knights we are pledged to carry His banner fearlessly into the mainstream

of modern life. Templary may well be the shock troops, the battle guard, to make decisive in our time a victory for the Captain of our Salvation. In our day when egotistic atheists are throwing their bragging boasts around the world about their power and the power of their governments to wipe out all that Christianity represents, let us keep our eyes and ears upon the King of Kings. When Jesus was born he was hailed as a King, by the great kings of the east. "Where is He that is born king of the Jews?" they cried! When he died, he was labelled a king, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Culture, religion and power united at that time to deride Him. But Jesus still lives! He who has ears can hear His footsteps as He marches down the corridors of time. Don't ever forget it, "The Lord God omnipotent liveth, and He shall reign forever and ever, King of Kings and Lord of Lords."

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## "The Second Effort"

I call your attention to the modern concept called "THE SECOND EFFORT." It's taken from the language of the gridiron. It means that when you have hit the line and are tackled, you still struggle for extra yardage. The "first effort" seems to be enough for most people—but the man who deserves the cheers is the fellow who doesn't quit when he meets resistance. He keeps right on struggling and gives the extra effort to gain more ground. In every football game, you see some fellow literally dragging his opponents along until there isn't an inch left to gain. What's good for football is good for Templary! We need men who will give "The Second

Effort" for our beloved Order of Knighthood. There's something about human nature that applauds men who won't take "no" for an answer. We need men who won't quit when they run into the first resistance—but keep on pushing and struggling until they get the extra yardage. Let's make "The Second Effort" our theme as we lead our hosts into the battle to strengthen Templary. Let every worker in Templary start tomorrow with every utterance—every letter—and every contact to show what it means to give "The Second Effort."

Wilber M. Brucker, *Grand Master*  
**Newsletter, Nov. 16, 1966**

# *A Christmas Gift For All Templars*

## *From Sir Knight John W. W. Cumming*

Reproduced on the following page is a prayer written by George Washington at Newburg, June 8, 1783, and sent at that time to all the Governors of the States.

We are indebted to Sir Knight John W. W. Cumming, Rear Admiral, U.S.N., retired, for directing the prayer to this magazine's attention. But that is nothing new for Sir Knight Cumming. He has circulated "Washington's Prayer for the Nation" at every opportunity and to many persons.

He first came across the prayer on a flyleaf of the "Song and Service Book for Ship and Field, Army and Navy" printed in 1942. Then in 1958 he was speaker for a D.A.R. celebration of Washington's birthday anniversary.

Sir Knight Cumming writes, "When I finished, I was presented with an envelope containing an attractive motto-card, as enclosed. Nothing could have pleased me more. I decided 'If George Washington thought so much of this prayer that he sent copies to all 13 Governors of his day, then I will follow his example and send cards to all the Governors of my day.'

"This I did. I mailed out 48 copies to the continental Governors, plus copies to Alaska and Hawaii, and to Guam, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, a total of 53 copies mailed. I received 50 acknowledgments, which I thought excellent."

Goodwin J. Knight, then Governor of California, used the prayer in its entirety in his Thanksgiving Proclamation of 1958. "I received a carbon copy," says Sir Knight Cumming, "with original signatures of Governor Knight and the Secretary of State of California, and below the signatures was the great seal of the State of California."

Sir Knight Cumming, now in his eighties, has also composed "A Tribute to Our Flag." Written between convoy trips in World War II, it, too, will be included in a later issue. Both the tribute and the prayer are Sir Knight Cumming's Christmas gift to his fraters. Both are appropriate, as he says, "for the month in which we, as Christian Masons, celebrate and commemorate the birth of our Master, our Lord and Saviour. It struck me as a fitting conclusion to our Sesquicentennial Year of 1966."



# George Washington's Prayer

Almighty God: We make our earnest prayer that thou wilt keep the United States in thy holy protection; that thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government; and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow citizens of the United States at large. And finally that thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the divine author of our blessed religion, and without a humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation. Grant our supplication, we beseech thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

*G. Washington*



Christ Church  
Alexandria, Virginia

# North Central Jurisdictions Aim For Templar Expansion In Four Major Categories

**GLENNE R. McARTHUR**  
Department Commander



Glenne R. McArthur, Department Commander of the North Central Department of Grand Encampment, talks about the aims and progress of the seven Grand Commanderies comprising the Department, with particular emphasis upon Knight Templar Magazine subscriptions, Educational Loans, Life Sponsors for the Eye Foundation, and Membership.

The statistics:

## KNIGHT TEMPLAR MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS

Grand Commandery	10% of Membership	Actual Number of Subscriptions	% of Quota
Wisconsin .....	688	840	122
Iowa .....	1,090	994	91
Illinois .....	1,638	1,229	75
South Dakota .....	314	211	67
North Dakota .....	215	141	66
Minnesota .....	1,022	571	56
Nebraska .....	545	201	37

## EDUCATIONAL LOANS

Grand Commandery	Number of Loans	Amount Loaned	Cash and Securities
Illinois .....	16	\$11,600.00	\$229,612.05
Iowa .....	11	5,800.00	16,028.31
Minnesota .....	6	4,550.00	54,047.23
Nebraska .....	4	3,055.00	11,186.27
North Dakota .....			19,577.61
South Dakota .....	4	2,100.00	25,408.56
Wisconsin .....	11	10,750.00	19,043.57
Totals .....	52	\$37,855.00	\$374,903.60

## LIFE SPONSORS

Illinois .....	280	Nebraska .....	32
Wisconsin .....	259	Minnesota .....	25
Iowa .....	122	North Dakota .....	16
South Dakota .....	56		

## TEMPLAR MEMBERSHIP

In the area of Templar Membership, the North Central Department has suffered disappointment for this past year. The North Dakota Grand Commandery showed a gain of 32 members while the other six Grand Commanderies reported a total loss of 730 members. "Templary deserves better than that," says Sir Knight McArthur.



**IOWA**

Donald E. Wolfe, a native of south-east Iowa and a former school teacher, lives in Mt. Pleasant with his wife, the former Eva A. Munson; one married daughter, Mrs. S. Thomas Scarff. Employed by the USDA, Soil Conservation Service. Member of the Methodist Church, York Rite Bodies of Masonry, Order Eastern Star, White Shrine of Jerusalem, KAABA Temple and Red Cross of Constantine. Past Master, Mt. Pleasant Lodge No. 8; P.H.P., Henry Chapter No. 8; I.M., Damascus Council No. 36; P.C., Jerusalem Commandery No. 7; and Treasurer, Masonic Temple Association in Mt. Pleasant.



**Donald E. Wolfe**  
**Grand Commander**

Renewed interest and membership in Templary are being stressed in Iowa this year through our York Rite Unity Organization, consisting of the four principal officers of Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery. They meet quarterly to plan York Rite Festivals, to act as a clearing house for area and district meetings and to assist in local affairs when needed.

Iowa's 102nd Conclave in June featured a special afternoon and evening Sesquicentennial program prior to convening of Grand Commandery.



**Arthur J. Peterson**  
**Grand Commander**

**MINNESOTA**

Arthur J. Peterson, born 1909. Married Marjorie Oster; one son, one daughter. Served as board member Mount Olivet Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, for many years. Presided over all York Rite bodies, served as Grand High Priest, R.A.M., 1962. Past Sovereign, Red Cross of Constantine, active in Scottish Rite, member A.A.O.N.M.S. and York Rite Crusaders. DeMolay Legion of Honor, 1954. Life member, Minneapolis Mounted Drill Troop and K.T. Eye Foundation.

Grand Commander Peterson advises: "Most important of all is MEMBERSHIP and while we have had losses the past year we are endeavoring this year to stress more and more the need for

new members and we hope that with the cooperation of all that we will show a net gain. We will do our best. Greater interest is being shown in York Rite Unity. It is also hoped that Minnesota will be well represented at Detroit next year with some new Units and a greater attendance of Sir Knights who have never attended a Triennial. We are all working as a Team and we trust our efforts will be fully rewarded."



**David E. Wennerstrand**  
Grand Commander

### ILLINOIS

David E. Wennerstrand, born in Chicago, 1904, attended Chicago and Westboro, Wisconsin, public schools, and Washington University. Bell Telephone Engineer, retiring 1966 after 40 years. Wife, Edna Blake, passed away in 1965. One daughter, Winifred, wife of Dr. Wm. L. Giles, Galesburg. Four grandsons. Active in Methodist Church; K.Y.C.H.; H.R.A.K.T.P.; Medinah Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S.; and Valley of Chicago, A.A.S.R.

Grand Commander Wennerstrand asks every Illinois Templar to be counted as a Soldier of the Cross by pledging a rededication to the vows assumed at their Knighting. "Every Masonic branch teaches that by right living we are

building a secret vault within ourselves which will be a fit depository for Divine Truth—that with Divine Truth guiding our conduct, we will perform our duties with the satisfaction that comes when we know our work is accepted—that in the end we may hope to hear those welcome words, "This is a beautiful piece of work, just such as is wanted for the building of the Temple of Humanity. Well done, good and faithful servant of the Grand Master of the Universe."

### NORTH DAKOTA

Robert J. Page, born and educated in Mohall area of North Dakota. B.S. in Business Administration, University of North Dakota, 1943, followed by Army service. Farm equipment retailer, now operates insurance and real estate business and small cattle ranch. Married Kathleen Law, five children—one girl, four boys. Grand Commander Page stresses a Grand Commandery program of efficiency as well as dedication.

He writes: "The Grand Commandery of North Dakota continues to show small gains in membership. Although the 1965 gain was modest, we are pleased that it is contrary to the general trend within the fraternity. The principle Templar activity in North Dakota continues to be an active and intensive searching for a more workable format and a greater degree of cooperation amongst the various York Rite bodies. It would seem that a better utilization of the time of dedicated Masons offers the greatest hope of reward in this fast moving society. We can no longer afford the luxury of poorly planned conclaves, unnecessary meetings and ill-conceived projects."



**Robert J. Page**  
Grand Commander



**Louis Vernon Sylvester**  
**Grand Commander**

## NEBRASKA

Louis Vernon Sylvester, born 1907 in Omaha, was newspaper reporter until 1939 when he formed a partnership to establish Creditors Collection Bureau, Inc., now largest in the midwest. Many business honors, a longtime leader in Covenant Presbyterian Church. Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Nebraska, 1965. Grand High Priest, 1957. Outstanding record in all branches of Masonry, recipient of many fraternal honors and recognitions.

Grand Commander Sylvester stresses membership, the Eye Foundation and the Knight Templar Magazine—with a planned program for increases in all three. He writes, "An energetic program of visitations to Constituent Commanderies is also being followed. Each will be visited by no fewer than three officers, including the Tactics Committee for certification in proficiency, a Grand Commandery officer to dwell upon programs advanced by Grand Encampment, as well as our Grand Commandery program; and the Grand Commander with an inspirational address." In Nebraska, the Great Order of Knighthood is on the March.

## WISCONSIN

Karl A. Crane, a Purdue graduate, was born in Milwaukee, 1911, moved to Racine in 1947. Business—insurance. Married Dorothy M. Crane, Past Grand Guardian, Wisconsin Job's Daughters. Two children, two grandchildren. Joined DeMolay, 1927, began Masonic career, 1934. Methodist. Active in all York and Scottish Rite bodies; Veteran of Arab Patrol, Tripoli Temple, Milwaukee.

Grand Commander Crane says no Grand Commander in Wisconsin has plans just for "his" year. To quote: "Our long time program emphasizes improved Membership programs for old as well as new members; we continue to lead the Department in KNIGHT TEMPLAR MAGAZINE subscriptions, and we have a sustained drive to bring our Life Sponsorships to the 10% requested by our Grand Master by August, 1967." Sir Knight Crane stresses the fine status of Masonic Unity in Wisconsin. "We have near total unification of districts in the Lodge, Chapter, Council and Commandery, and are driving for good representation in each Grand Body from each District to help our programs at the local level." Grand Commander Crane asks for at least one York Rite Festival in each of the eight State Districts.



**Karl A. Crane**  
**Grand Commander**

### SOUTH DAKOTA

C. Merrill Allen, born 1904, attended schools in McCook County, South Dakota, and Grant County, Minnesota; B.S. in Civil Engineering, South Dakota State College. Started present life insurance career in 1955. Married E. Lucile Hartman; two children, thirteen grandchildren. Active in Rotary, Chamber of Commerce, other business and civic groups, and in Congregational Church. His affiliations in Lodge, Chapter, Council and Commandery—and in Eastern Star—are in Watertown; his Shrine membership, Sioux Falls.

"In September," says Grand Commander Allen, "South Dakota Templary completed a good year under Sir Knight Viron Schumaker. Another good year is underway following the program started last year. Our goal is to end the year with a net of at least 100 more members. We will be working closely with the other Orders throughout the state toward York Rite Unity. Our state has been divided into eight York Rite Districts, with a program for the Grand Officers of Chapter-Council-Commandery to work closely with each other in a common effort."



**C. Merrill Allen  
Grand Commander**

## A LOOK TO THE FUTURE!

(Twelfth of a Series)

Having summarized the history, accomplishments and background of Templary, let us now look forward to what we can envision in the future for our great organization, and set forth what we must do to stabilize it. The past can but give us an insight into the future. Let us well consider it.

### VISTAS OF TEMPLARY

by  
**John Black Vrooman**  
(P.C., Missouri)

Templary has had its ups and downs, its triumphs and its disappointments, but in all, Templary has proved to be a stable satisfactory factor in human progress.

### EDITOR'S NOTE

"*Vistas of Templary*" by John Black Vrooman, P.C. of Mo., started with the January issue of the *Knight Templar* and has continued uninterrupted to this time. This is the last article in the series. Sir Knight Vrooman is a recognized Masonic scholar and has devoted much time to research and preparation of these fine articles. We certainly owe him a debt of gratitude for this series that has given us an authentic account of the historic background and development of Templary.

It is up to us, as Templars, to keep it so—to improve our Image.

Never has the Christian emphasis been needed more than it is today, especially through a daily

practice of the Christian virtues as Knights. Templary is not, nor should it be, *static*. Christianity, through Templary, must take its stand and be counted.

Templary has today the finest leadership and direction, but no organization can do its best work with all Generals and no Buck Privates to do the work needed to be done. Every member is responsible for a part of the burden, for his share of activity and work. From top to bottom it means co-operation, teamwork and mutual understanding and harmony. The lay membership is just as important as leadership if all pull together and carry on the programs outlined. Co-operation is not a one-way street, and united efforts bring results.

Every Sir Knight is a Unit. Every individual Commandery is a workshop of action, and in that workshop will be forged the working tools of national unity and completion. It is the starting point of every project, and the birthplace of every accomplishment.

What is our future? First, the promulgation of the tenets of Christian virtue by the exemplification in our daily lives of these tenets. We are known and judged by what we do and say, and Templary's reputation is based on ac-

tion, performance and example.

What are our practical projects by which the world knows us? First, the Educational Foundation, which educates and trains youth to take its place in a busy world. Education is the foundation of success, and without it no man can do all that he desires. The Educational Foundation gives youth the opportunity to serve well by serving intelligently. Let us not overlook this fine project.

Freemasonry emphasizes *Light*. Templary *brings men from Darkness to Light*, and is the means by which total blindness and hopeless chaos are done away. There is no substitute for light. The wonderful humanitarianism of Templary was never better exemplified than in its slogan *From Darkness Unto Light*, and the Light of Templary may thus shine brightly to the glory of the Order. Support the Eye Foundation to the utmost!

The time is *now*. One hundred and fifty years of service is good, but to rest on our laurels would defeat the very thing which we now need—greater activity, more individual effort and perfect harmony. What will the next one hundred and fifty years bring us? It is up to us to determine. Let us go forward with vigor and confidence.

## Who is the Oldest Knight Templar

1. IN YEARS?
2. IN TEMPLARY?

We solicit information on the above questions and will print the picture and an article about the oldest Sir Knight in his category.

Send your letters of nomination to Willard M. Avery, Editor, Knight Templar Magazine, P. O. Box 56, Knightstown, Indiana 46148.

[Editor's Note: We have received a number of nominations. Send others before December 18, 1966.]



**Cobo Hall, Detroit . . . a 55 million-dollar, magnificent edifice named for the late Sir Knight Albert E. Cobo.**

**Cobo Hall, located on the Detroit River—the busiest waterway in the world—has 2,220,490 square feet of usable floor space. Parking for over 8,000 vehicles is available in the surrounding area.**

**Several of the Golden Triennial events in August, 1967, will take place in Cobo Hall.**

**The 50th Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment will be held in Detroit, Michigan, August 19-24, 1967—only nine months away! The big Street Parade will be on Saturday evening, August 19th; the Divine Service on Sunday, August 20th; the Competitive Drills on Monday, August 21st; the Triennial Election and the Grand Master's Banquet on Wednesday, August 23rd; and the Installation on Thursday, August 24th, 1967. There are attractions galore for everyone who comes—especially the Ladies. The summer of 1967 is a good time to spend at least a part of your vacation in Detroit, and you can do it if you plan now and set aside these dates on your schedule. Many Grand Commanderies are making preparations to send large delegations, including Drill Teams. There is still time to organize a pilgrimage to Detroit to attend this historic "Golden" Triennial. Don't let this go until too late. See to it that your Commanderies are alerted to the biggest event on the Templar calendar.**

**—Grand Master Brucker's Nov. 16—News Letter**

PENNSYLVANIA SUPPLEMENT

# THE CRUSADER



Serving Templary in Pennsylvania

**“ON EARTH, PEACE TO MEN OF GOOD WILL”**

The miracle of Christmas is with us once more, bringing its everlasting message of “On Earth, Peace to Men of Good Will.” We observe our Saviour’s Birth at Bethlehem at a time when the world greatly needs to receive again this message.

Christmas carries a special significance for all Knights Templar. It is a glorious reminder of the Birth of the One under whose banner we are now enlisted and our thoughts naturally turn to the vows of our Knighthood. It is a time to rededicate ourselves to the attainment of those high ideals that His Life and Work gave to the world. A joyous Christmas is the joy of having Christ enthroned in heart, home, business, and in our Templar activity.

I urge all Constituent Commanderies to plan a Christmas Observance in the true Spirit of Christmas. It is my earnest wish that as many Constituent Commanderies as possible will assemble in full Templar Uniform at a convenient day and hour, in a place of public worship or another place proper for the occasion, and present a suitable program inviting all Sir Knights, Brothers and Companions and their families to participate. May this Christmas not pass without a fervent prayer from each Templar in this Grand Jurisdiction for “Peace on Earth to Men of Good Will.” That was, and is, the promise of Christmas.

The Grand Officers join with me in extending to you, your families and friends, to all of our Brothers and Companions, as well as their loved ones, sincere wishes for a Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with Health, Happiness, Peace and Love.

Courteously and Fraternaly,

J. HARVEY MOORE

*Grand Commander*



**PLAQUE PRESENTATION TO  
S.K. RICHARD J. WILCOX**

Pictured are Grand Commander J. Harvey Moore and Sir Knight Richard J. Wilcox during recent recognition ceremony commemorating 60 years of Templar activity for Sir Knight Wilcox. Plaque presentation was a feature of Past Commanders Night by Chartiers Commandery No. 98, Carnegie.

**COMMANDERIES IN TWO  
DIVISIONS SURPASS 10%  
MEMBERSHIP QUOTAS**

Grand Commander Moore has offered personal congratulations to the Commanderies achieving or surpassing the assigned 10% quota of membership as of October 31.

The 10% honor roll at the end of October was headed by Nativity Commandery No. 71, Pottstown, with 30 petitions. The quota was 29. The Eminent Commander is Ellis L. Yoder, Boyertown.

Damascus Commandery No. 95, Lansdale, had 23 petitions, surpassing its quota by 4. C. Leroy Sibre, Whitemarsh, is Eminent Commander. Both Nativity and Damascus are Division No. 3 Commanderies—G. Kenneth Gennaria, Division Commander.

Franklin Commandery No. 44, Franklin, had 20 petitions by October 31, exceeding its quota by 5. The Eminent Commander is Floyd C. Jones. Franklin Commandery is in Division No. 12, Lloyd R. Bashaw, Division Commander.

Division No. 3 Commanderies are under the area membership chairmanship of Howard T. Scull, Grand Captain of the Guard. The area membership chairman for Division No. 12 is J. Arthur Snyder, Grand Standard Bearer.

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**PETITION ACTIVITY AT PITTSBURGH COMMANDERY**

Eminent Commander Almer C. Hemans, Sr., forwards this item of membership interest from the November notice of Pittsburgh Commandery No. 1:

“The business of the Commandery was dispatched in the routine manner with the approval of 12 petitions and the reading of 7 new petitions. If all are approved and receive their Chapter Degrees we have a potential of 28 for the Fall Class to be conferred on December 10th.”



## THE BIRTHDAY OF THE KING

“Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea . . .” Mankind celebrates the birthday of Christ all too briefly. The exact date has never been determined. There was an observance in 98 A.D. Many dates were observed by early Christians—September 28, and varying dates in December and January. The date of December 25 was set in 337 A.D. That was also the sacred day of Mithras, the Persian god of light. The great Tertullian pleaded with his brethren not to observe the week of December 25, for it was the time of the pagan Saturnalia in Rome, a poor time, he thought, to celebrate the birth of Christ.

SINCE WE DO NOT KNOW THE EXACT TIME, THEN CHRISTMAS IS NOT A DAY OR A DATE. IT IS NOT A THING OF AN ALMANAC. CHRISTMAS IS AN EVENT. IT IS A TIME DEDICATED TO GOOD WILL. IT IS A SPIRIT THAT PERMEATES MANKIND IN CELEBRATION OF THE EVENT OF THE BIRTH OF THE BABE OF BETHLEHEM.

The manger is greater than the throne; the carpenter shop than the palace. Neither the pyramids of Egypt, nor the palace of the Caesars, nor the Roman Colosseum, is greater in the associations of the history of man than this cave in the limestone hillside at Bethlehem. This cradle without rockers is the birthplace of liberty and the hope of the race. Here is the light of the world.

The Babe of Bethlehem was high honor. Jesus Christ is the only human being having trod upon this earth who has the distinction of having His birthday honored by people everywhere.

His is a wondrous birthday party. People come from far and near. The invitations were sent out long ago, carried by a company of men called “prophets.” Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, and many others. They went everywhere, telling everyone about the Christ who was to be born in Bethlehem.

In the fullness of time, God crossed the borderland from the spirit to the flesh.

There were shepherds in the fields watching their flocks, who saw the light of divine glory and heard the choir of divine voices. Did every shepherd on the Judean hills see angels and hear the choir of divine voices that night? I think not. Not every midnight watcher thinks of the skies. The shepherd who is capable of bringing good tidings must be more than a shepherd. He must be a shepherd with an eye open to the heavens. A man who was a shepherd only would have seen nothing that night. Those shepherds were also seers. The shepherds whom God chooses to convey glad tidings must be able to see up as well as down.

Christmas is the season of giving, a custom started by the three Wise Men.

Back in the remote East, near the border of the great desert, these astrologers had been performing the rites of their fire temple, when the Star of Bethlehem flashed above the flame. Moses saw the burning bush; Hezekiah, the light and shadow on the dial of Ahaz; Paul, the dazzling light at noonday. There is always a star to him who looks up. There is always starlight to lead the seeker to the manger of Christ.

Each of these visitors brought his gift. Kaspar brought myrrh, a costly and fragrant gum—a property used often in preparation for death. Mighty significant—Christ was born that He might die. Balthaser gave gold—a tribute to a king. Gold indicates that which is costly. Christ is worth nothing if He is not costly to us—time, substance, self. Melchoir gave frankincense—a gift to God. His represented sacrifice. The greatest sacrifice is the giving of one's self. As Christ was born in Bethlehem of that day, may He be born in us today, to redeem us from our sin.

SIR KNIGHT GEORGE W. CARSON, D.D.

*Eminent Grand Prelate*

Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania

SUBSCRIPTION TO KNIGHT TEMPLAR MAGAZINE IS AN APPROPRIATE MASONIC CHRISTMAS GIFT. SEND LIST OF NAMES AND ADDRESSES WITH YOUR CHECK TO:

**KNIGHT TEMPLAR MAGAZINE**  
**P. O. BOX 477**  
**GREENFIELD, INDIANA 46140**

# Christmas Gift—Application For Life Sponsor

*Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;  
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to Heaven above.*

Does the Sir Knight on your Christmas list have everything? Why not make him a two-fold gift? Make him a Life Sponsor of our Great Humanitarian Charity, and, at the same time, you will be helping to save the sight of one less fortunate.

A Life Sponsor Membership Card will be sent to the Sir Knight of your choice in time for Christmas. What a wonderful gesture in the name of Christianity and Templary.

*Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc*  
P. O. BOX 191, RHINEBECK, NEW YORK

Date ..... 19...

## APPLICATION FOR LIFE SPONSOR

To the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.:

I hereby apply for Life Sponsor Certificate in the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., and attach hereto my check in the sum of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) in payment thereof.

I am a member in good standing in

..... Commandery, K. T., No. ....

Located at ..... (town) ..... (state)

I understand that this payment for Life Sponsor Certificate will exempt my Grand Commandery and thus myself from any further assessment to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., and that it is tax deductible as per ruling Collector Internal Revenue.

.....  
(signature)

.....  
(name printed)

.....  
(no. and street)

..... (town and state) ..... (zip code)

THIS SPACE FOR USE ONLY BY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION, Inc.

Received ..... Amount ..... Check Deposited .....

Receipt Mailed Applicant ..... Card Mailed .....

Receipts to Gnd. Rec. ..... Life Sponsor No. ....

## In Memoriam



**ROBERT M. REWICK**

On November 13, 1966, Templary lost one of its most able and faithful servants in the unexpected death of Robert M. Rewick, Department Commander of the South Pacific Department. Sir Knight Rewick served as Grand Commander of California in 1958-59. He attended every Grand Encampment Triennial since he served as Eminent Commander of San Diego Commandery No. 25 in 1949. He was a most dilligent worker as chairman of the Committee on Membership of the Grand Encampment during the latter part of the 1961-1964 Triennium and continued his enthusiastic service in Templary as Department Commander during this Triennium. At the time of his unexpected death he had been commissioned as a personal representative of the Grand Master to Honolulu Commandery No. 1, K.T. of Hawaii, and was looking forward to making this trip within the next few weeks.

C. Byron Lear, Past Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Encampment, represented the Grand En-

campment at the funeral services on November 17 at San Diego, California, Masonic Temple.

Sir Knight Rewick was indeed a dedicated and enthusiastic worker for the cause of Templary; his services will be greatly missed.

### *Arizona*

Carey Burleson Wilson, G.C.,  
1950—October 28, 1966

### *New Jersey*

Robert Platt Sherman, G.C.,  
1938—August 6, 1966  
Myron Wilbur West, G.C., 1944  
—June 19, 1966

### *Ohio*

Earl Thomas Armesy, G.C., 1955  
—October 21, 1966

### *Oregon*

Lot Lavermore Snodgrass, G.C.,  
1939—October 8, 1966

## NORTH DAKOTA

“OUR TASK IN 1966-67

“Secure 225 Life Sponsors for Eye Foundation, Inc.

“Have the North Dakota subscription list to the *Knight Templar Magazine* exceed the 212 quota.

“Knight 150 Companions.

“Inspection and full form openings in each of the church—Christmas, Easter, and Ascension Day.”

[*Editor's Note: The above is printed on the back of the 1966 Official Proceedings. Robert J. Page, G.C., and the Grand Officers of N. D. should be congratulated on this comprehensive, exact, and yet realistic goal that has been set for the year.*]

## Further Sesquicentennial Observance—South Carolina

By Hugh N. Layne, Correspondent



**Members of the Sesquicentennial Class in Spartanburg, South Carolina, October 5, 1966.**

Eighty-nine Knights were created Wednesday, October 5, 1966, at a Festival held in Spartanburg, S. C., at which all the Degrees and Orders of the York Rite were conferred. Sixty-one of these Sir Knights are of Spartanburg Commandery No. 3. The remaining twenty-eight received the Degrees and Orders as a courtesy to neighboring Chapters, Councils and Commanderies. This is one of the

several Sesquicentennial Classes held in the Jurisdiction of South Carolina during the One Hundred Fiftieth Year of the Grand Encampment.

The Order of the Temple was conferred by Grand Commander V. P. Patterson and officers of the Grand Commandery. The Grand Commander dubbed the entire group.



**Grand Officers of the York Rite Grand Bodies and participants in the work.**

## Robert H. Jelly Class—Guthrie, Oklahoma



A Sesquicentennial York Rite Festival was held in Guthrie, Oklahoma, on October 28-29, in the Scottish Rite Temple. It was the second annual festival to be held in the state and was designated the "Robert H. Jelly Festival" in memory of Sir Knight Jelly, who was the D.G.C. at the time of his death and a very esteemed Sir Knight in the state.

The degrees were coordinated by Frederick J. Smith, G.C. of Oklahoma, and conferred by the various Chapters, Councils, and Commanderies over the state. They were very impressively portrayed for about 300 Sir Knights that were present. The class was composed of 54 candidates.

Those Knighted in the class re-

ceived special sesquicentennial cards and lapel pins, a "History of Knights Templary" and a special festival penny.

Distinguished visitors present included Noble B. Jones, P.G.C. and G.C.C. of the Grand Council of Ark.; Will E. Johnson, P.G.M. of the Grand Council of Kans.; S. Lewis Smith, P.G.C. of Kans.; August Johnson, P.G.M. of the Grand Council of Kans.; Ormand Shaw, P.G.C. of Ark.; W. King Larrimore, G.M.G. of the Convent General of the K.Y.C.H.; and Ben F. Mandlebaum, General Grand Steward of the General Grand Council, R. & S. M., Int.

Mrs. Jelly gave a short message to the class.

*C. W. Rees, Correspondent*

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**The Knights Templar Eye Foundation continues to gain Life Sponsors. There were 13,342 as of November 15, 1966, a gain of 572 in the last 30 days. We must boost this to 15,000 by December 31, 1966. The Annual Christmas Observance is a time when you can organize a project to present Life Sponsorships at the Triangle as we drink the Christmas Toast. What better way to bring "gold, incense and myrrh" to the Christ Child than to bring Life Sponsorship—which will work every day for our great humanitarian project through all the years of the future! A little ingenuity, imagination and leadership will spell success for your Grand Commandery.**

—Grand Master Brucker's Nov. 16—News Letter

## Independence, Missouri, Festival A Success



Harry S. Truman York Rite Class

### HARRY S. TRUMAN CLASS

**Officers and Distinguished Guests—Second row 7th from right: William Tobler, G.C.; Arthur Sullard, P.G.C.; Julius L. Johnson P.G.C.; Leroy A. Yanloon, P.C.; Leslie R. Cox, Jr., G.S.B.; and Guy Manlove, Jr., Comm.**

The York Rite bodies of Independence, Missouri, named their recent festival in honor of M.W. Bro. Harry S. Truman. A class of 41 received the degrees and orders.

Unfortunately President and Mrs. Truman were both under the doctor's care and unable to be present. Truman sent his military aide, Col. Rufus Burrus (who is a member of Independence Chapter No. 12) to explain his absence and express his regrets for not being present. Col. Burrus gave a summary of President Truman's Masonic career and his interest in Missouri Freemasonry in particular.

Mrs. Truman's father, David W. Wallace, served as Commander of Palestine Commandery No. 17, K.T., Independence, in 1887 and was Grand Commander of the

Grand Commandery of Missouri in 1892.

U. S. Congressman William J. Randall of the 4th Congressional District was the exemplar candidate. The work began on Friday afternoon at 5:00 p.m. and was completed before the Saturday evening banquet at 6:00 p.m. All degrees and orders were conferred in full form. All candidates either received the York Rite in its entirety or completed their work. A special York Rite certificate, each signed by the Grand High Priest, Ill. Grand Master, and Grand Commander, was presented to the candidates, as well as the metal anniversary card issued through the Grand Encampment, K.T.

Other York Rite bodies represented were Westport, Eastgate, Ivanhoe, Orient, Liberty, Richmond, and Sedalia.

## Biloxi, Miss., Holds Second Sesquicentennial Class



Front Row: W. Neill Bogan, G.M. of G.C. of Miss., R. & S.M.; James F. Brownlee, G.C. of Miss.; Lawrence C. Corban, P.G.M., P.G.C. and present G.T. of Grand Council and Chapter of Miss.; Ernest C. Melvin, Gen. of Coast Commandery; Cecil A. Thorn, G. Sec.—Rec. of Grand York Rite Bodies of Miss. and G. Sec. of Grand Lodge of Miss., F. & A.M.

Second row: Charles A. Brindley, David D. Bates, Sr., Calvin L. O'Briant, Prentiss B. Smith, Don S. Williams. (Also W. J. Manuel not a member of class.)

Third row: J. L. Sullivan, Leonard B. McMurrian, Thomas O. Morgan, Delbert C. McGee, Willard H. Byrd, Norman Cruthirds.

Fourth Row: Bobby L. Williams, Herman R. Kyle, Lemuel W. Pitts, Woodrow W. Ryals.

Top Row: William R. Boone and Albert A. Holley.

The York Rite Bodies of Biloxi held their second Sesquicentennial Class on Sept. 15-17. The class was named in honor of Lawrence C. Corban, a dedicated Masonic and York Rite worker of many years. A fine program in the form of a booklet was printed setting forth the officers of the participating Chapter, Council, and Commandery, their ritualistic casts, committees, pictures, etc. as well as a great deal of Masonic information from the Blue Lodge through the York Rite Bodies.

By Joe N. Sullivan, Jr., Rec.



## Gulfport, Mississippi, Festival



The York Rite Masons of Gulfport, Miss., recently concluded a Festival with the Knighting of 11 candidates in Gulfport Commandery No. 38.

The Festival and Class were named the Thomas Philip Warren

Class, in honor of one of their oldest members.

Sir Knight Warren, a 50 year Mason, a K.Y.C.H., etc., dubbed and created the newly made Templars.

*D. L. Dansby, Rec.*

## Knights Templar Cross Of Honor Award

By J. Howard Harding, P.G.C.,

Chairman of Knight Templar Cross of Honor Award Committee

"At the 49th Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U.S.A., held at Philadelphia, Pa., August 22-27, 1964, a new section known as 237½ was added to the Statutes, whereby authority was given for the establishment of a special award to be known as the Knights Templar Cross of Honor."

The foregoing quotation is from the Grand Encampment General Order No. 5, issued by the Most Eminent Grand Master on December 31, 1964.

According to records of the Grand Encampment as set forth in the *Knight Templar*, 24 Knights Templar Cross of Honor Awards were authorized by Grand Master Brucker in 1965, and thus far in

1966, 44 awards were authorized, a total of 68 awards. These records indicate that many Grand Commanders do not avail themselves of this splendid opportunity; this is not as it should be.

In order to fully acquaint each Grand Commander with the facts concerning the Knights Templar Cross of Honor, and to urge all Constituent Commanderies to give consideration to making nominations for this coveted and outstanding award, an informative letter was dispatched in October, 1966, to each Grand Commander.

If additional information is required, it is suggested that you communicate with the Grand Recorder of your Grand Commandery.

## Consolidations Result in Formation Of New York Commandery No. 1



Front row, l. to r.: Albert T. Weir, Pre.; William T. Morree, Gen.; Raymond C. DuVall, G.C.; Ira Ether, Com.; B. T. R. Balch, Rec. Second row: Frank N. Miller, W.; Charles S. Kirk, J.W.; Victor G. Coutts, Gen.; Sidney Montgomery, Pre.; Christian H. Surge, P.G.R., Ass't Rec. Third row: Fred G. Coleman, P.G.R., Treas.; J. George Lang, P.G.C.; Henry A. Schnirring, S.W. Fourth row: Richard W. Seibert, Pre.; Joseph D. B. Green, Pre.; John A. Sutter, Trustee.

New York Commandery No. 1, K.T., was constituted on Friday, September 30, 1966, at the Masonic Hall in New York City. Raymond C. Duvall, G.C. of New York, presided over the ceremonies assisted by Neil R. Baker, D.G.C.; Sidney E. Friar, G.J.W.; and Nelson A. Strauch, G.St.B. Also present were Edward Holloway, P.D.C. and Stanley W. Wakefield, George D. Barclay, J. George Lang, and Howard L. Adams, P.G.C.s.

The formation of this new Commandery was the result of the consolidation of Ivanhoe Commandery, instituted September 27, 1865; York Commandery, instituted November 5, 1873; and Columbian Palestine Commandery, constituted September 15, 1964, itself the result of the merger of Colum-

bian Commandery, instituted December 10, 1810, and Palestine Commandery, instituted June 4, 1851. A new charter was issued to the new Commandery and the charters of the consolidating Commanderies were retired to the Archives of the Grand Commandery. With approximately 735 members, New York Commandery No. 1 is the largest in the Grand Commandery of the State of New York.

Following the constituting ceremonies, J. George Lang, P.G.C., presided over the election of officers. Ira Ether, P.C., was elected C.; William T. Moree, P.C., G.; Victor G. Coutts, C.G.; Fred G. Coleman, P.C. and P.G.R., T.; and Benjamin T. R. Balch, P.C. and G.R., R.

The installation ceremony was conducted in due form. Edward Holloway, P.D.C., installed the newly elected and appointed officers. The foundation of New York Commandery No. 1 climaxes eight years of planning.

The new Commandery will con-

tinue a policy of welcoming consolidation with other Commanderies in the metropolitan area. Its present goal is the creation of a strong well organized Commandery availing itself of the talents of its membership to strengthen Templary in New York City.

## Who Can Beat This Record?



The officers of Muncie Commandery, *Indiana*, pictured above, are justly proud of their accomplishments during this Sesquicentennial year of 1966. As of November 5, they had voted favorably upon 99 petitions for the Orders and will close the year having knighted in excess of 100. Of this number, 63 were knighted at the time of the Indiana Sesquicentennial Observance at Muncie in March. Even of more importance is the fact that the impetus instilled in the Sesquicentennial activities has continued and has resulted in the above enviable membership record. Muncie is the largest Commandery in Indiana with a membership in excess of 750 members.

Durward D. Carmichael, E.C., center, front row, attributes this

success to the work of the officers and others in the Commandery and "to individual work visiting in the Lodges, Chapters, and Councils in the community."

"I have been sitting here tonight thinking, about the first Eminent Grand Master, DeWitt Clinton—mayor, state senator, governor, and I understand only lost out by a few votes to James Madison for nomination to the Presidency of these United States—and 150 years later Wilber Brucker, distinguished war hero, lawyer, governor, Secretary of the Army—both men great Christians and great Americans—thank God the breed hasn't run out yet!"

*Dr. Norman Vincent Peale*  
—*Sesquicentennial Celebration*

## From Our Readers



Sir Knight Charles McCumber (L.) celebrated his 90th birthday at a special Conclave of Batavia Commandery, *New York*, with more than 100 relatives, friends, and Masons. Frederick McLaughlin, P.G.C. (R.) of the State of New York, participated in the activities honoring Sir Knight McCumber.

Waco, *Texas*, York Rite Masonic Bodies did it again: Celebrating the Sesquicentennial year of the Grand Encampment, the Waco Bodies held a "Harvey Byrd" Class Sept. 30th and Oct. 1st.

Sir Knight Byrd, P.G.C. of *Texas*, and now Dept. C. of the Grand Encampment, received the honor of the class by acting as Prior in the full form Order of Malta, and as Commander in the Order of the Temple. Grand Commander Elmer Watkins acted as Generalissimo, and Harry M. House, P.G.C. of *Oklahoma*, acted as Captain General. Other visitors included W. K. Larimore, P.C., Bethlehem Commandery No. 45, *Oklahoma City*, and Grand Master

General, K.Y.C.H., and John C. Barnard, P.C. and Grand Illustrious Master of Grand Council, R. & S. M. of *Oklahoma*.

Grand Commander Watkins presented to Doyle G. Carpenter and Rolla S. Greig their 50 year awards. Sir Knight Carpenter traveling from *Oklahoma City* to receive his award.

16 candidates were knighted on this occasion, making a total of 31 candidates so far, and another class is planned for November. Sir Knight R. L. Boren of *Mart, Texas*, and Commander of Waco Commandery No. 10 says the next class will be dedicated to all Past Commanders of Waco Commandery. Four newly made Sir Knights became Life Sponsors of the Eye Foundation.

*E. C. Robinson, Rec., Waco Com.*

### IT HAPPENED IN TEXAS!

We expect BIG things to take place in *Texas*. On March 14, 1959, a special Conclave was held in the Asylum of El Paso Commandery No. 18 at which time the Grand Commandery Officers of *Texas* conferred the Orders of the Commandery on Wayne Lewis Slaughter, Albert Edward Ponsford, Robert Martin Wiggs, Herbert Thomas Etheridge, Jr., and William Jarvis Hooten. *The unusual feature of this Conclave is that each of the candidates were 33° Scottish Rite Masons.* Sir Knight Wiggs is now deceased. Each of the other Sir Knights have recently become Life Sponsors to the Knight Templar Eye Foundation and a Life Sponsor Membership has been given in memory of Sir Knight Wiggs.

## Grand Commander Of Iowa Greeted



Donald E. Wolfe of Atlantic, G.C. of Grand Commandery, K.T. of Iowa (center), is greeted by P.G.III.M. of the Phillipines, Wallace H. Morris, now of Boston, at the Grand Assembly of the Grand Council, R. & S. M. of Iowa, held recently in Fort Dodge. Lyle R. Gordon (right), chairman of the Grand Council local committee, introduced the two Companions.

### ARIZONA YORK RITE CONCLAVE

Capably hosted by the Yuma bodies, October 23-26, the Grand Commandery, Grand Council, and Grand Chapter of Arizona not only moved nimbly through their business sessions, but also displayed initiative and attitudes worthy of note.

Feature of an inspiring religious service held on Sunday evening at a local church and presided over by the Grand Prelate, Grand Chaplain and the resident minister was the observance of Holy Communion by the tincture method. So far as we know, this is an innovation, and it certainly was effective.

Demonstrating close harmony between Chapter, Council, and Commandery, each of the bodies adopted a resolution of apprecia-

tion for the work of the York Rite Commission on Unity. Demonstrating again with real money, Arizona Priory No. 34, Knights York Cross of Honor at a breakfast session voted to contribute \$100 as a Patron of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, and later the Grand Chapter voted a contribution of \$500 as a Contributing Division of the Eye Foundation, which is about 25¢ for every one of their members.

Official visitor from the General Grand Council was the General Grand Master, C. Ellwood Smyrk, who also addressed the annual banquet. For Grand Encampment, John L. Crofts, D.G.M., and Robert M. Rewick, D.C. Grand Commanders Weisser of California, Witherpoon of New Mexico, and Wennerstrand of Illinois also attended.

Installed as Grand Commander—Sir Knight Earl A. Spittler of Prescott.

W. Lloyd Lyons, G.C. of the State of *Washington*, has called a special Conclave of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Washington to convene at Seattle on December 10, 1966, for the purpose of conducting a workshop and school of instruction for the officers of the Constituent Commanderies of Washington. *Congratulations on initiating this program.*

We are looking forward to a full report from Roy W. Riegle, Grand Captain General of the Grand Encampment on his recent OFFICIAL trip to Alaska. This report will appear in the January issue of the Knight Templar.

## Class Honoring Charles S. Mott



Friday evening, September 9, 1966, Genesee Valley Commandery No. 15, Knights Templar, Flint, Michigan, honored Sir Knight Charles Stewart Mott with an Order of the Red Cross Class of thirty-three candidates. Sir Knight Mott has been a member of Genesee Valley Commandery, and all other Flint York Rite Bodies, for fifty-eight years. He has been a member of the Valley of Syracuse, New York, Scottish Rite Bodies for sixty-one years, and was coroneted an Honorary Member of the Supreme Council 33°, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite in 1944.

At the dinner preceding the conferring of the Order of the Red Cross, John H. Loree, P.G.C., served as Master of Ceremonies. The dinner was attended by three hundred Sir Knights and their ladies. The Grand Commandery, K.T., of Michigan was represented by Stanley H. Raidle, G.G., and Maurice L. Johnson, G.St.B. Also attending were Frank G. Millard, P.G.C., and Abner C. Sager, P.G.C. The Grand Chapter, R.A.M. of Michigan, was represented by Dick C. Holihan, P.G.H.P.

Sir Knight Mott had a Masonic family background. His maternal

grandfather and great grandfather had both been Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge, F. & A. M., of New Jersey, and his maternal grandmother had been Grand Matron of the Grand Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star of New Jersey.

Sir Knight Mott is well known as a civic leader; he was Mayor of Flint for two terms; soldier; he served in the Spanish-American War and World War I; business executive; he was for many years a Vice President of General Motors, and has served continuously on the Board of Directors of General Motors Corporation since 1913; philanthropist; he established the Mott Foundation in 1926, and since that time has endowed it with numerous gifts. His most recent gift to the Foundation consisted of 1,826,421 shares of General Motors stock.

Truly, Sir Knight Charles Stewart Mott has held firm and faithful to his vows of knighthood; he has given alms to poor and weary pilgrims traveling from afar, fed the hungry, clothed the naked, and bound up the wounds of the afflicted.

*Richard G. Deane, Correspondent*

# A Christmas Prayer

Gracious Lord of all our years, we thank Thee for the return of the wondrous spell of the Christmas season that brings its sweet joy into our jaded and troubled hearts. We rejoice in the unspeakable gift of Thy love, Thy only begotten Son, who became the great Captain of our Salvation. We approach this holy season with great joy remembering the blessings which were poured out that first Christmas. Not even the bitter clouds of conflict that cover the warring parts of our earth can blot out the light of the Star of Bethlehem, nor the noise of hostility still the music of the Heavenly multitudes.

Forbid, oh Lord, that we should celebrate this year without understanding what we celebrate, or like the people of old, fail to see the Star or to hear the glorious song of promise. Give us, both the lowly faith of the shepherds and the wisdom of the Magi, that we

may be among those to whom is given the privilege of seeing the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

At this season when the thought of peace is in our carols and in our hearts, help us to get on with the job of creating a better world in which all men shall know freedom and peace. As we engage in our spiritual warfare, remind us daily that we belong to the Crusaders of old and motivate us by their heroic spirit. May all selfishness at this season be cast out and may a holy compassion move us to deeds of charity and beneficence that no little child or needy person may be cold or hungry because knighthood was unfaithful. Bless all our homes and our loved ones, and especially watch over those, who of necessity, must be far away from us in these festive days. This we pray in His Name who was child and a Man and Our Saviour.

AMEN

—Dr. Howard R. Towne, D.D., G.P.

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## KNIGHT TEMPLAR

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Pictured on the cover are Christmas Card illustrations designed almost a century ago. They expressed then, as now, Peace, Love and Christmas Good Will.

Washington Irving, traveling in England in 1819, captured the heart-warming joy and eternal magic of Christmas in this excerpt from "The Sketch Book:"

*Stranger and sojourner as I am in the land—though for me no social hearth may blaze, no hospitable roof throw open its doors, nor the warm grasp of friendship welcome me at the threshold—yet I feel the influence of the season beaming into my soul from the happy looks of those around me. Surely, happiness is reflective, like the light of heaven; and every countenance, bright with smiles, and glowing with innocent enjoyment, is a mirror transmitting to others the rays of a supreme and ever-shining benevolence. He who can turn churlishly away from contemplating the felicity of his fellow-beings, and can sit down darkling and repining in his loneliness when all around is joyful, may have his moments of strong excitement and selfish gratification, but he wants the genial and social sympathies which constitute the charm of a merry Christmas.*

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