Surveys Past Glories and Templar Gains of the Future

Official Publication for the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America
1967—The Year of Templary’s “Golden Triennial”

In the life of men and of nations, nothing is more ennobling and stimulating than to dream and to plan for the year ahead. Such a year is 1967—the year of Templary’s “Golden Triennial.” It’s all right to glorify 150 years of Templary’s past... but the future is rushing upon us, and we need to look ahead.

Of one thing we may be certain—1967 will witness one of the largest assemblages of Knights Templar and their families in all the proud history of Triennial Conclaves of the Grand Encampment. They are coming from as far away as Saudi Arabia and the Philippines, as well as from all 50 States of the Union. They will converge on Detroit, Michigan, for the 50th Triennial Conclave August 19-24, 1967. There will be a tremendous Triennial Parade with bands, floats, and enthusiasm. Preparations are being made for adequate housing for all who make the Pilgrimage to Michigan. There will be plenty of entertainment and sightseeing trips to interesting places in the Metropolitan area of Detroit, with its mass-production automobile plants—as well as to Canada, across the Detroit River. The Divine Service at Cobo Arena will be the scene of the central religious observance. The Grand Master’s Banquet at Cobo Hall will be the central social event. All in all, we will be making Templar history in 1967—and no Knight Templar can afford to miss this great Golden Triennial Conclave.

In the meantime, there are eight precious months. During this interval I urge Commanderies all over America to step-up their numerous programs and projects to put the “House of Templary” in order when the roll of States is called at the 50th Triennial Conclave’s Business Session. 1966 has been a good year for the Grand Encampment—but 1967 will be even better if we accept the challenge of the months that lie ahead.

Let’s adopt the slogan for 1967—“The Year of the Second Effort.” At the expense of repetition, let me define that term “Second Effort.” It has been 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 Knights Templar who will give the “Second Effort” for our beloved Christian 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 gain the extra yardage. Let’s make “The Second Effort” our theme for 1967, as we lead our Christian Warriors into 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.”

With knightly greetings and best wishes for a glorious New Year in 1967!

Courteously and fraternally,

WILBER M. BRUCKER, Grand Master
The Subordinate Commanderies

St. John’s of Wilmington is the oldest; Al Hasa of Dhahran is the youngest; and Honolulu No. 1 is the largest. Between and among are 14 other Commanderies known as “Subordinate” Commanderies under the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S.A.

During the course of Grand Encampment history, there have been 210 Subordinate Commanderies. At present there are 17. The number has been reduced in the majority of instances by Templar growth and subsequent formation of Grand Commanderies.

The Subordinate Commanderies exist only in a state or country where there is no Grand Commandery. Presently they are located in the states of Delaware, Alaska, and Hawaii, in U. S. Territories, and in foreign countries. They have played a vital role in the steady growth of Templar influence; their history, young or old, is replete with Knight Templar dedication and progress.

The Knight Templar Magazine salutes the Subordinate Commanderies, wheresoever located, and directs the attention of all Templar readers to the honor roll of this important segment in the Grand Encampment structure.

The present Subordinate Commanderies are:

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Chartered</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. John’s No. 1</td>
<td>Wilmington, Delaware</td>
<td>1868</td>
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<td>Honolulu No. 1</td>
<td>Honolulu, Hawaii</td>
<td>1871</td>
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<td>Alaska No. 1</td>
<td>Fairbanks, Alaska</td>
<td>1913</td>
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<td>Balboa, Canal Zone</td>
<td>1913</td>
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<td>Porto Rico No. 1</td>
<td>San Juan, Puerto Rico</td>
<td>1916</td>
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<td>Tampico No. 1</td>
<td>Monterrey, Mexico</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anchorage No. 2</td>
<td>Anchorage, Alaska</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ivanhoe No. 2</td>
<td>Mexico City, Mexico</td>
<td>1928</td>
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<td>Ketchikan No. 4</td>
<td>Ketchikan, Alaska</td>
<td>1952</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tokyo No. 1</td>
<td>Tokyo, Japan</td>
<td>1958</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bavaria No. 3</td>
<td>Munich, Germany</td>
<td>1959</td>
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<tr>
<td>Herman Von Salza No. 1</td>
<td>Frankfurt, Germany</td>
<td>1961</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heidelberg No. 2</td>
<td>Heidelberg, Germany</td>
<td>1961</td>
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<td>St. Andrew’s No. 2</td>
<td>Dover, Delaware</td>
<td>1964</td>
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<tr>
<td>Al Hasa No. 1</td>
<td>Dhahran, Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>1964</td>
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<tr>
<td>Havana No. 1</td>
<td>Havana, Cuba</td>
<td>Inactive</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Milan, Italy</td>
<td>Dispensation 1965</td>
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The following are reports from a number of Subordinate Commanderies:
Contrary to the belief of many that York Rite Masonry made its debut in Japan subsequent to World War II, there were however prior to 1945, three York Rite Chapters Consecrated, either under the English or Scottish Constitutions: Rising Sun, Kobe in 1902; Otentosama, Yokohama, in 1912; and Tokyo Chapter, attached to Tokyo Lodge No. 2015, in 1924.

Subsequent to 1945, three Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, two Councils of Royal and Select Masters, one Commandery of Knights Templar, and one Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine were Chartered in Japan by the General Grand York Rite Bodies of the United States. The Chapters, Councils, Commandery, and Conclave are as follows:


Tokyo Commandery began its existence with a charter membership of 27. It has continued to grow each year to the present membership. At its Spring Conferal on June 10-11, 1966, eighteen candidates were knighted. At its Fall Conferal in October, 1966, an additional five candidates were knighted, making a total of twenty-three knighted for the sesquicentennial year.

During 1966 there was a very energetic program for participation in the Knight Templar Eye Foundation. At the present time (Nov. 29) there are thirty-two Life Sponsors and more are expected as the drive continues.

Approximately seventy-five percent of membership are subscrib-
ers to the *Knight Templar* magazine.

The York Rite Bodies in Tokyo has a singular distinction during its 1966-67 Masonic year, in that its Eminent Commander, Floyd J. Robertson, is also serving concurrently as High Priest of Tokyo Chapter No. 1, and as Illustrious Master of Tokyo Council No. 1, an honor of which we know of no recorded equal.

**Al Hasa Commandery No. 1, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia**

*By JAMES E. WALTER, Commander*

While in the United States during the summer of 1963, Sir Knight James E. Walter hand carried from Saudi Arabia to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment a petition from 30 Sir Knights requesting a dispensation to form and open a Commandery of Knights Templar in Al Hasa Province at Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

The late Grand Master Paul Miller Moore granted dispensation on February 28, 1964. Immediately thereafter, all necessary equipment, paraphernalia, uniforms, etc., were ordered and this newly created Commandery commenced a vigorous program of rehearsals and Knights Templar work. On June 18, 1964, membership was nearly doubled by conferring the Orders of Knighthood on 24 worthy candidates. The conferral was most impressive with every detail of the ritualistic ceremony faithfully carried out. The Commandery worked under dispensation until the 49th Triennial Conclave, when a Charter was granted on August 24, 1964.

On the 29th day of December, 1964, Al Hasa Commandery No. 1 was constituted using proxy ap-

![Image of commandery members](image-url)

pointments by Wilber M. Brucker, Grand Master.

Al Hasa No. 1 has continued to make rapid progress in every field of Templar activity and at regular conferrals throughout each year membership has increased to 117.

Under the vigorous drive of Werner F. Ehrhardt, local committee chairman for the Knight Templar Eye Foundation, Al Hasa has achieved the admirable record of having EVERY MEMBER A LIFE SPONSOR. From its own funds and the assistance of the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council, Shrine Club, and individuals, another $1,150 has been sent to this great humanitarian charity. In addition, there are presently 11 Patrons for the K. T. Eye Foundation in Saudi Arabia.

The Grand Encampment’s Sesquicentennial was befittingly celebrated on June 16, 1966, by a gala program and banquet at which time historical booklets, Knights Templar pins, goblets, and plaques were presented as mementos.

The Commandery is now in its third year with Miles A. Lupien, P.C., 1964-65; LaVergne L. DeWeese, P.C., 1965-66; and James E. Walter, Commander, 1966-67. During the ensuing year, many and various activities are planned to promote Knights Templarism, such as group attendance in church, open installation ceremonies, parades in uniform at religious and community functions, etc. Let it never be said that Templary is not on the march in Saudi Arabia!

Honolulu Commandery No. 1, Honolulu, Hawaii

By LESLIE M. WRIGHT, Commander

Honolulu Commandery No. 1 held the first of three Sesquicentennial Classes on June 2, 1966, conferring the Orders of Knighthood upon fourteen candidates. On November 3, a second class of twelve candidates were dubbed Knights Templar, and on December 3, the Orders were conferred upon two more candidates, making a total of 28. Each of the newly dubbed Sir Knights were presented the Salem Cross lapel buttons and metal identification cards designating their knighting during the Sesquicentennial Anniversary.

On June 16, approximately 150 Sir Knights, their ladies, and guests assembled to observe the 150th Anniversary of the Grand Encampment. David R. Owens, P.C., and his committee prepared a most interesting evening fitting to this historic occasion. A fellowship hour preceded dinner which was served in an Hawaiian atmo-
L. to R.: 1st row: Frederick C. Butler, P.C., Prelate; James Kashiwada, Treas.; Charles A. Battige, Gen.; Frank S. H. Wong, Com.; Gordon E. Smith, P.C., Installing Officer; John B. Connell, C.G.; Kenneth L. Look, Rec.; Nils A. A. Godick, Sent. 2nd row: Daniel Y. S. Pang, S.W.; Henry M. H. Leong, J.W.; Roger S. Toguchi, Std.B. 3rd row: Stanley H. Neser, Organist; Limin Kung, Guard; Vernon Sprott, Guard; Mortimer Heinrich, Guard; Olden Kulick, Guard; George N. Kahapea, Sr., Warder; and Clifford H. Schwartzman, Swd.B.

clave and election of officers for 1967. Approximately 100 were in attendance.

Frank S. H. Wong was unanimously elected Commander to serve Honolulu Commandery for 1967.

Honolulu Commandery has participated in the Grand Encampment's Eye Foundation (36 Life Sponsors as of Dec. 1) and its educational project, and to innumerable other charitable and community causes. Membership roll now shows a roster of 545 Sir Knights, including the 28 candidates dubbed in 1966, the sesqui-

centennial year.

Today, the Commandery has joined the Chapter and Council in a joint effort to create a building fund against that time when it will be planning and constructing its own facilities. With almost a century of living Masonry to its credit, it possesses a record in which all York Rite Masons take understandable pride. This venerable and lively institution of Masonry not only survives the tragic effects of war and depression and political chaos, it enlarges and extends its power and influence as it searches for Light and Truth.

St. Andrew's Commandery No. 2, Dover, Delaware

By JOHN J. MCCLEARNEN, Commander

St. Andrew's Commandery has had a busy and productive year. We were again well represented at the Annual Easter Sunrise Service at Arlington, Va., and had a full table at the 150th Anniversary Banquet in New York. We had the pleasure of entertaining the Eminent Commander of Al Hasa Commandery No. 1, Saudi Arabia, in our rooms following the banquet.

Al Hasa received its Charter at the Triennial Conclave in Philadelphia in 1964, at the same time as St. Andrew's.

St. Andrew's had a local celebration in the form of a dinner on Saturday, May 21st, and held a Vesper Service on Sunday afternoon, May 22. This service was held in historic Garrison's Chapel, built in 1780, and known as the
BARRATT'S CHAPEL

"Cradle of Methodism." Park W. Huntington, Prelate of our "Mother" Commandery, St. John's No. 1, of Wilmington, gave an inspiring message. Our Sesquicentennial Class of candidates consisted of eight knighted and two who were unable to be present to receive the Orders.

We have signed ten percent of our members to the K. T. Eye Foundation Life Sponsor program (Nov. 28) and are now aiming for twenty percent.

St. Andrews has continued to assist the Order of DeMolay and has become quite proficient at conferring the Chevalier Degree which is done in uniform.

The Ladies Auxiliary has greatly aided the Commandery in keeping the attendance high and making the summer picnic, Christmas observance, and other special events most successful.

Heidelberg Commandery No. 2, Heidelberg, Germany

By ELMER C. GEORGE, Commander

Like most of the York Rite Bodies in Europe, Heidelberg Commandery No. 2, is made up predominantly of members of the United States Armed Forces. Those members who are stationed in the Heidelberg-Mannheim area form the backbone of Heidelberg Commandery. However, they are supplemented by civilian members who live in the area also.

During its almost ten years of history, Heidelberg Commandery has earned a reputation throughout the continent for its ritualistic work, its hospitality, and its friendliness. Among its membership can be found natives of Germany, Italy, Greece, Luxemburg, and the Netherlands, as well as those from the United States and Canada. For example, in its class of October 22, 1966, the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Heinz Ruggberg, United Grand Lodge of Germany, and Worshipful Master Hermann Dorner, Carl Zur Eintracht Lodge of Mannheim, became members of the Heidelberg Commandery.

The meeting place (a German lodge room) is exceedingly small; the membership is transient; but the warm feeling of Christian fellowship is one of the main prides of Heidelberg Commandery, where the members frequently gather round the festive board at the Hotel Ritter ("Knights Hotel") in the shadow of the famous Heidelberg Castle. Frequently German, English, Italian, and Danish can be heard around the table.
Anchorage Commandery No. 2, Anchorage, Alaska

By JAMES A. MCULLIN, Commander

On June 15, 1919, the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S.A. was petitioned for a dispensation to start a Commandery of Knights Templar in Anchorage, Territory of Alaska. The dispensation for work was granted on July 1, 1920, and the first meeting was held on August 21, 1920. A charter was granted August 23, 1922.

A holding company was formed in 1963 for the purpose of financing and constructing a York Rite Temple. The following year on Good Friday of March, 1964, an earthquake of considerable force resulted in extensive damage to the Temple. A detailed account of the damage and rebuilding appeared in the January, 1966, issue of the Knight Templar magazine.

With the increase in international air travel around the world, Anchorage was destined to become an integral and important hub for international airlines between Europe and Asia, hence the city is now known and recognized as “Anchorage, Air Crossroads of the World.” Two military installations are located adjacent to Anchorage and we of Anchorage Commandery No. 2 like to feel that we have been an important hub in furthering the cause of Templary in creating a large number of Sir Knights within those military organizations, most of whom are now serving in our Armed Forces throughout the world. Due to the shifting trends of population approximately 75% of our civilian Sir Knights reside in many areas of the lower 48 states.

In addition to our usual assistance to local charities, it is especially gratifying to note the splendid response of our members when a distressed brother Mason needs assistance. Recently one of our less fortunate Sir Knights, suffering a terminal case of cancer, appealed to the Commandery to find a home for his three children, ages 9-12. Members of the York Rite bodies including the Royal Arch Wives Club went to work. Within six months a contact materialized making it possible to adopt the children, prior to the death of our Sir Knight. In this case the children knew the seriousness of their fathers illness long before action was initiated for their adoption and were well aware of what we were trying to do for them. After the adoption, one of our Companions arranged to have our distressed Sir Knight admitted into a Veterans Hospital near where the children were living with their adopting parents and they were able to visit with their father several times before his final passing.

Here in Anchorage, York Rite unity is in actual practice insofar as their separate constitutions permit. The respective lodges meet in one local York Rite Temple. One secretary records the minutes of
the meetings and keeps the membership records for all the York Rite bodies. Our charitable and civic activities are the concern of the Chapter and Council as well as the Commandery, including our Royal Arch Wives Club. Most of us identify ourselves as York Rite Masons in public rather than as individual Sir Knights or Companions and still retain the dignity, protocol, and due respect for titles and honors within each body. Many of our members feel that York Rite unity will be a definite, constructive, and progressive fraternal association of Freemasons resulting in a strong unified York Rite Body.

The wives of Royal Arch Masons have formed a Royal Arch Wives Club for the purpose of raising money to aid poor and helpless orphans. Companions and Sir Knights joined in conferring the Royal Arch Widows “degree” on all the ladies. Money is raised by serving dinners at the Temple to Companions on lodge nights.

It is indeed inspiring to know that amid the great work load and time consuming details, of all the Grand Commanderies of all the United States that our Grand Encampment officers can give attention to the Subordinate Commanderies. It makes us feel that we really are a part of the great organization of the Order of Knight Templars, rather than an orphan or step child.

We had a wonderful visit from our Grand Captain General, Roy Riegle, who gave us a lot of help and encouragement.

St. John’s Commandery No. 1, Wilmington, Delaware

By Lawrence B. Jones, Senior Warden

Any subordinate organization in Freemasonry is only as successful as the caliber of its officers and members. The organization can only be continued so long as the same high caliber of officers is elected, by a membership that is aware of its immediate needs, and selects the appropriate men to elective offices, that will fill those needs.

This awareness is demonstrated in St. John’s Commandery No. 1 of Delaware, with the recent election and appointment of its officers. The Eminent Commander and Captain General, John S. Proud and Richard H. Thomas, are Grand King and Grand Scribe, respectively, of the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Delaware. Claude P. Davidson, Gen., is a P.G.H.P., 1958, of the Grand Chapter of Delaware.

Each of the subordinate line officers, from Senior Warden to the three Guards, has presided over another body, and two at present, are progressing through the chairs in the fourth body.

For the first time in some forty years, a new Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was instituted in Delaware and granted a Charter at the Grand Convocation in January, 1966. It is interesting to note that four of the original committee of six that were instrumental in this are officers of St. John’s Commandery: John S. Proud, Com.; Lawrence B. Jones, S.W.; James E. Peo, Warder; and Clifton A. Lutz, Guard.

It is the desire of every Sir Knight that these small endeavors can be continued and York Rite Masonry strengthened in all its phases, which in turn, will lead those men and Masons, to the Christian way of life.
Porto Rico Commandery No. 1, San Juan, Puerto Rico

By Howard C. Wheeler, Commander

Whereas the Porto Rico Commandery No. 1 has a membership of well over 150, the majority of the members do not live on the Island of Puerto Rico, but are located in various places throughout the world. This is due mostly because those persons who enter the Commandery here are usually transferred to some other city or country within a few years. This is particularly true of those in the armed forces who join while here, as well as others who come here in civilian life as managers or operators of various stateside organizations.

While Puerto Rico is an island 100 miles long by 35 miles wide, our members are located throughout the island and it is sometimes difficult to get enough members out to hold a conclave.

The native language here is Spanish, although English is also used in many places, and except for the indigent, most Puerto Ricans are bilingual. Our conclaves are held in English. There is no other Commandery on the island as most of the Puerto Ricans prefer the Scottish Rite which is done in Spanish throughout.

A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations, and we who are pilgrims would learn by faith to walk with Thee. We know that Thou wilt guide us in the future as Thou hast in the past. We do not know what the New Year will bring, for we cannot see our way. But Thou canst see the end from the beginning and we can trust our lives to Thee. As we set our course in the New Year, we know full well that it will bring many changes. The old must give place to the new.

Help us to live every hour of every day of it with unwearied zeal and devotion that we may continue the works of goodness and justice and mercy. Enable us as Sir Knights to be thy partners in determining the shape of things to come. School us to heroism in daily living. Make us high-minded disciples. Grant unto us a broad vision, to better chart our course in Thy service. In things little and large may we cultivate the inner eye which dwells upon the strong Son of God, until we become in ourselves shrines of spiritual strength.

Send us forth into the New Year to our several tasks and battles with the courage and fortitude that belongs to Knights of the Cross. This we pray in the name of Him, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever, even Christ our great Captain.

Amen

—Dr. Howard R. Towne, D.D., G.P.
Newly Appointed Grand Encampment Officers

The Grand Encampment is most fortunate in obtaining the services of Paul C. Rodenhauser, P.G.C. of Penn., as Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment for the remainder of this Triennium.

Paul C. Rodenhauser

Sir Knight Rodenhauser has resigned his position as program and production manager of WGAL, T.V., Lancaster, Penn. a position which he has held since 1949. From 1935 to 1949 he was engaged in radio writing and production for WGAL—Lancaster; WBAL, Baltimore; and WINS, New York City.

He has his B.S. Degree in education from Millersville State College. Sir Knight Rodenhauser has for many years been actively engaged in church work being a member of St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church of Columbia. He is at the present time serving on the National Press, Radio and Television Commission, Lutheran Church in America.

He has been most actively engaged in civic activities of the community having recently served as chairman of the Lancaster County Chapter American National Red Cross, is a Past President of the Exchange Club of Lancaster, member of the Hospital Board, and is presently serving as President of the Columbia Little Theater, and of the Historical Association. He is a member of the American Legion, was general chairman in 1965 for the YMCA Enrollment Campaign and has filled many other civic positions of responsibility. He is listed in Marquis “Who’s Who in the East” (1965) (1966).

Sir Knight Rodenhauser has presided over his Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council and Commandery and the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania and during this Triennium is serving as chairman of the Public Relations Committee of the Grand Encampment. He was a guiding force in the Sesquicentennial Celebration at the Waldorf in New York City and has given valuable services in the publication of the Knight Templar Magazine. He is a member of the Red Cross of Constantine, Holy Royal Arch, Knight Templar Priests, Royal Order of Scotland. Shrine, Scottish Rite, in which he has been awarded the honorary 33rd, and at the present time is a member of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania Committee of Masonic Culture.

Sir Knight Rodenhauser and his wife, Hazel have one son, Paul C. Rodenhauser, Jr., M.D.

Sir Knight Rodenhauser was installed in the office of Grand Recorder by Grand Master Brucker on December 10 in Detroit in the presence of the Grand Encampment Dias Officers and the members of the Special Study Committee of the Grand Encampment.

The appointment of Sir Knight Rodenhauser followed the resignation of John Temple Rice, who has
rendered long and faithful service to the Grand Encampment. In accepting his resignation Grand Master Brucker made the following statement:

"It is a matter of great regret that the Right Eminent Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U.S.A., Sir Knight John Temple Rice, was stricken with serious illness and was hospitalized in the Illinois Masonic Hospital, where he has been under treatment for the past two months. Because of his increasingly serious condition, he has been moved to the Hines Veterans Hospital at Hines, Illinois, upon the recommendation of his closest relatives. In view of his condition, Sir Knight Rice has decided to resign from his office as of January 1, 1967, and seek rest after many years of loyal and faithful service to the Grand Encampment."

Ralph H. Slocum

Dr. Ralph H. Slocum, P.G.C. of California was on December 7 appointed by Grand Master Brucker as Department Commander of the South Pacific Department of the Grand Encampment, to succeed Robert M. Rewick, who died unexpectedly on November 13.

The South Pacific Department is composed of the States of California, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, and Nevada.

Dr. Slocum is actively engaged in the practice of dentistry in the city of Ventura, where he and his wife, Dorothy, maintain their residence. He is a member of the First Methodist Church and has served on the Finance Committee of the Church for several years.

Sir Knight Slocum has been engaged in Masonic work for many years, having been made a Master Mason at Fortville Lodge No. 207, Indiana, prior to his moving to California in 1931. He served as Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of California in 1956-57 and is presently serving as Chairman of its Finance Committee. He was Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of California in 1964-1965, and is the present Grand Treasurer of the Grand Commandery of California. He was appointed by Grand Master Brucker to serve as chairman of the Committee on Dispensations and Charters for the Grand Encampment during the present Triennium. He is a member of the Scottish Rite Bodies of Santa Barbara, the Shrine in Los Angeles, the Red Cross of Constantine, Honorary Legion of Honor of DeMolay, Western Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees and the Royal Order of Scotland.

Dr. Slocum’s Masonic background and experience has ably fitted him for assuming the duties of Department Commander.
Autumn, 1966, Class—Maryland
By Albion A. Bailey, P.C., Maryland Commandery No. 1

The autumn York Rite Festival was held in four sections of Maryland in 1966. The southern area comprising the York Rite bodies in the Washington area, the Baltimore Metropolitan area, western Maryland, and the eastern shore areas. Over two hundred candidates had the degrees of the Royal Arch Chapter and the Council conferred upon them. The ceremonies were completed by their knighting in the various Commanderies of Knights Templar.

This class was designated as the Wilber M. Brucker Class of 1966. As a climax to this Festival, a banquet was held on Friday, November 18, in the Adult Educational Center of the University of Maryland at College Park, honoring Sir Knight Brucker, who gave the address for the occasion.

St. Elmo Commandery of Hyattsville, Maryland, was the host Commandery and the Commanderies of Maryland, District of Columbia, and Virginia participated. About five hundred were present.

After the entertainment, the following distinguished guests and their ladies were introduced: John B. Cottrell, Jr., Dept. Com.; William E. Barkman, G.C. of the District of Columbia; Thomas S. Ely, G.C. of Virginia; Edward J. Warwick, G.C. of Maryland; Guy J. Myers, Commander of St. Elmo Commandery; and other Past Grand Commanders, Grand Commandery Officers, and committee members.

A color photograph of Sir Knight Brucker was presented to him in honor of the occasion; a plate bearing his picture was presented to each lady present.

Edward J. Warwick, G.C. of Maryland, introduced his Grand Officers, Adjutant, and Aides. He then exhibited the trophy donated by him and his wife, in honor of his father and father-in-law, which will be presented to the Maryland Commandery that attains the highest rating in their inspection this year, with certificates to those placing second and third.

In Memoriam

Idaho
John Phillip Halliwell, Sr., G.C., 1939—November 28, 1966

Kentucky
William Julian Blake, G.C., 1963—September 17, 1966

Mississippi
Oscar Hartness Johnson, G.C., 1959—December 5, 1966

New York
Edwin Stanley Pier, G.C., 1942—November 22, 1966
THREE MONTHS FOR INVENTORY!

There are only three months left in the 1966-67 Templar year and it is time to determine if what we are doing will be adequate to meet our goals. Our assets are the many dedicated Sir Knights who are wholeheartedly engaged in the pursuit of excellence.

It is the first business of your Grand Commander and your Grand Officers to promote cooperation in the local bodies to the fullest extent to achieve our goals and go forward.

We must LEAD—not command.
We must DEMONSTRATE—not demand.

We must teach the fundamentals of our spiritual search for light through exemplification.

As Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, we do not need to be persuaded of its worth, nor do we need to be convinced that our Order is among those institutions that should be kept vigorous in service to our own generation and to the generations to come.

Sometimes, however, in the course of our busy lives, we need to remind ourselves of the significance of our Templar Vows and the part we have in assuring the Order’s permanence and progress. In the FINAL ANALYSIS, it is what EACH Sir Knight DOES that counts.

In June, 1966, I asked all Eminent Commanders to strive for a 10% increase in membership. Your Grand Commandery Membership Committee is endeavoring to give all possible assistance to those Commanderies seeking help. If you have a problem, do not hesitate to call or write to your Area Membership Chairman or your Division Commander.

The responsibility for the well being of Templary rests upon the individual Sir Knight. We have all attended many meetings, conferences, work shops, and none of us have ever seen a Petitioner signed up at any of these gatherings. Actually what happens is that we have been told to go home and get petitions. It is the Sir Knight in the local body who must go out and secure petitions. The future of Templary rests squarely on the contribution made by each Sir Knight to the “ONGOING MEMBERSHIP” of our Christian Order.

Will the image we project win them to our Order?
If not, let us stop and consider the direction we are going.
Come, Labor on. Beaumceant Forward.

J. HARVEY MOORE,
Grand Commander
CONGRATULATIONS TO DIVISION NO. 1. Pictured with the members of the November York Rite Assembly Class at Philadelphia are, seated: Charles W. McDermott, Division Commander; G. Calvin Dyson, Grand Generalissimo; J. Harvey Moore, Grand Commander; William D. Geesey, Grand Senior Warden; and John W. Laird, Grand Recorder.

"ABC'S" IN DIVISION 8

Division Commander William L. Cross (No. 8) has prepared a new and effective mailing method to urge Commanderies "to be active and a strong Masonic force." To each of the five elective officers in each of the five Commanderies of Division No. 8, he sends special cards at regular intervals. Each card features one letter of the alphabet and lists applicable words starting with that letter.

For example, the following is the copy on his "E" card: "E equals —Eager, Early, Easily, Ebb, Educational, Eliminate, End, Endurance, Energetically, Enforce, Engrossed, Enlist, Enter, Enthusiasms, Entire, Excuses, Explain, Extend, Extol, and Eye."

The "E" card message reads: "You can easily end the ebb tide in your Commandery if you energetically enforce your vow of office. It is not too early to enlist Master Masons into the entire York Rite. Build up enthusiasm the easy way by becoming engrossed in and eager for York Rite."

A TEMPLAR SERVES

Sir Knight F. Parson Kepler, Sr., Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania, continues to demonstrate the leadership of Knights Templar in civic and charitable activities. Sir Knight Kepler is now serving as the General Chairman of the Evangelical Community Hospital campaign to raise $1,800,000 for the long-range development program of the hospital. In addition, he serves on the Board of Directors of the hospital and is vice-president of the board.

In recent months, Sir Knight Kepler has participated in a variety of civic and church concerns. Serving as chairman of the Northumberland Presbytery, he organized a successful campaign to raise $385,000 for the United Presbyterian Church's Fifty-Million Fund. This past year Sir Knight Kepler was asked to serve in a similar capacity for the YMCA Community Action Program. He responded to the challenge and directed a community campaign that raised $150,000.
PETITION PROGRESS

The Special Membership Committee of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania at a meeting on June 25 set as its goal for this Templar year a 10% increase in membership. To correlate the work of the Divisions and the Commanderies the Membership Committee was assigned to the Sections of our Grand Commandery.

Their first Progress Report was made on November 5 at a Grand Commandery Membership Conference, with the Grand Officers in attendance.

The purpose was to analyze the number of Petitions in each Division and pinpoint the areas which need immediate attention. Activities of the Commanderies were reviewed stressing adequate programs and Knights Templar objectives.

The announcement that Petitions were 110 ahead of the same time last year was met with sincere enthusiasm and renewed hope of achieving our 10% membership increase.

The Membership Committee meets again February 11, 1967, at the Holiday Motor Hotel West, Harrisburg, at 12:00 noon.

Special Membership Committee
Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania

Southwest Section
Division No. 2—Cameron A. Whan, Division Commander
Area Membership Chairman: Earl A. Zimber (35)
Division No. 4—Vernon M. Stambaugh, G.W., Acting Division Commander, and also Area Membership Chairman

Southeast Section
Division No. 1—Charles W. McDermott, Division Commander
Division No. 3—C. Kenneth Gennaria, Division Commander
Division No. 5—Warren R. Gray, Division Commander
Area Membership Chairman: Howard T. Scull, G.C.G. (29)

Central Section
Division No. 6—Charles T. Snook, Division Commander
Area Membership Chairman: Dwight R. Helsel (61)
Division No. 15—Leroy C. May, Division Commander
Area Membership Chairman: Robert W. Fahnstock, G.H. (56)
Division No. 16—Julius A. Houser, Division Commander
Area Membership Chairman: Raymond H. Barrett (11)

Northeast Section
Division No. 7—Harry D. Houser, Division Commander
Area Membership Chairman: John H. Johnston (39)
Division No. 9—Earle H. Baer, Division Commander
Area Membership Chairman: Wade L. Ellis (77)
Division No. 11—Benjamin A. Franklin, Division Commander
Division No. 15—Warren R. Williams, Jr., Division Commander
Area Membership Chairman: Peter G. George (45)

Northwest Section
Division No. 8—William L. Cross, Division Commander
Division No. 12—Lloyd R. Bashaw, Division Commander
Area Membership Chairman: J. Arthur Snyder, G.S.B. (50)
Division No. 10—Harry P. Cox, Jr., Division Commander
Area Membership Chairman: Frank E. McConnell
THE "C.C.C. CLUB" FESTIVAL CLASS

Twenty-two newly created Sir Knights are now enthusiastic members of Jacques DeMolay Commandery No. 3 (Harry E. Killen, III, Commander), St. Omer's Commandery No. 7 (John S. Edwards, Commander), Uniontown Commandery No. 49 (Charles L. Lewellyn, Jr., Commander), and McKean Commandery No. 80 (Thomas E. Sims, Commander). The class of 22 was the result of the October York Rite Festival conducted by the "C.C.C. Club," symbolizing the unity of Chapter, Council, and Commandery.

Harold E. Stokely, Deputy Grand Commander, played an active role in the festival. It was headed by Sir Knight Harry Killen, III. A busy contributor to the success of the festival was "J. D." Smith, Chapter's Grand Scribe. Festival meals were prepared and served by Washington Assembly No. 85, Social Order of the Beauceant.

GRAND CHAPTER, GRAND COUNCIL, AND GRAND COMMANDERY OFFICERS PARTICIPATE IN NORTH PENN YORK RITE ASSEMBLY

The three Grand Bodies of York Rite Masonry were well represented at the October 8 and 22 conferrals of degrees and orders of the North Penn York Rite Assembly at the Masonic Temple, Lansdale. Present for Grand Chapter were: W. Irvine Wiest, Grand High Priest; Arthur R. Diamond, Grand King; and Frank M. Stever, District Deputy Grand High Priest. Grand Council's distinguished representatives were: Past Grand Master Sydney Southby and District Deputy Grand Master John A. Roth. Present for the Grand Commandery were: G. Calvin Dyson, Grand Generalissimo, the banquet speaker on October 22; David J. Godschall, Trustee for the Grand Commandery; and C. Kenneth Gennaria, Commander of Division No. 3.
MISSION TO ALASKA

By Roy W. Riegle, Grand Captain General of the Grand Encampment

The Grand Master appointed me as his Personal Representative to visit the subordinate commanderies in Alaska. Having served 26 months in the Army during World War II, at Juneau and Anchorage, I knew that Alaska was a vast, beautiful country, unmolested in many places by the hand of man. I also knew of the warm hearted friendliness, kindness, and hospitality of its people. A jet flight from Kansas City, Missouri, landed me at Annette Island, near the southern tip of Alaska. I found myself crossing the bay on a little aquaplane to Ketchikan, a modern city at the foot of Deer Mountain, in the heart of a wonderland of green forests. I was met at the coastal airport by Sir Knight Ray Chamberlain, Eminent Commander, and his party. During the next two days I was taken over the improved roads surrounding Ketchikan, visited Saxman Park where is found the largest collection of authentic Indian totem poles in the world, and toured the flourishing pulp mills. I sat in conference with Knights Templar, singly and in groups, conferred the Order of the Temple, and attended Blue Lodge where candidates were given the degrees by brothers from Seattle in a letter perfect and highly dramatic manner.

On Friday, September 30th, I again crossed the channel to Annette Island and boarded a jet airplane for Juneau. The plane winged its way alternately through clear, blue air, over the mountains, valleys and waters, and then through a sea of dense fog drifting above the timberline. As we approached Juneau, my heart quickened, because I would soon be landing at the airfield adjacent to my old Army Post, which I commanded for eighteen months, and I would soon be greeting friends whom I had not seen for twenty-three years. Rain was falling heavily, and the fog rolling down the mountain sides, enveloped much of the area. Juneau, the Capitol of Alaska, is situated at the foot of two towering mountains and on the edge of Gastineau Channel. The people live in houses on steep streets that cling to the sides of the mountains. During the four following days, I was given the key to the city by Mayor L. S. Parker and attended the monthly meeting of the Pioneers' Club. I visited the little city of Douglas, across the channel, where Masonry in regular form was introduced into Alaska late in 1904, under a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Washington. I attended services at the Lutheran Church and went to see the little Chapel by the Lake which faces the combined majesty of the lake, glacier, and mountains in front of it. I toured the State Capitol, which stands in the heart of the city, saw the white-pillared Governor's Mansion, visited the State Museum which is temporarily housed in the Masonic Temple, and drove up Gold Creek Canyon where gold was first discovered by two men, Joe Juneau and Dick Harris. I stood and gazed with awe at the renowned Mendenhall Glacier, which is thought to be the largest and most rugged glacier accessible by road. I visited many old and new friends in their homes, in their places of business, and on the streets. I had numerous confer-
ences with the Sir Knights and attended the Scottish Rite Reunion and banquet held in the Masonic Temple, where I told of my mission to Alaska. I conferred with the Adjutant General of the State, spoke to the Lions Club, attended the weekly luncheon of the Rotary Club, and roamed over the site of my old Army Post with two sergeants, now residents of Juneau, who served with me there.

Heavy fog and a low ceiling did not interfere with the air flight to Anchorage, Tuesday, October 5th. After a half hour in the air, we emerged into the sunshine over the Gulf of Alaska. Unsurpassed mountain peaks, tapering down to the sea, stretched out to the right of us. Indeed, I had a ringside seat to view some of the most magnificent mountain and glacier scenery in the world. Sir Knight James A. McMullin, Eminent Commander, and his large party, were waiting to welcome me at the International Airport with traditional Alaskan leis. From my hotel room, I could look northward across Cook Inlet, and approximately 125 miles to the north I could see snow-covered Mt. McKinley, the highest mountain in North America, and looking to the south I could see the devastation wrought by the great earthquake of 1964. Within a few hours I was in conference with a group of Sir Knights, discussing Templary and its programs, and ways and means of reaching its goals. The next day’s program consisted of an early morning flight over the city, a drive to Matanuska Valley where I visited in the homes and country stores of Sir Knights, and attended a commandery banquet in Palmer in the evening. The next day, I appeared on television for a half hour and informally discussed Templary, and answered questions concerning my mission to Alaska. I called on General J. T. Folda, Commanding General of nearby Fort Richardson. I was driven around old Fort Richardson, now Elmendorf Field, where I served on the staff of General Simon Bolivar Buckner, Jr., during World War II. That evening, I spoke at the regular meeting of the American Legion. The next morning the Eminent Commander and I enjoyed an early morning over Anchorage. I called on numerous Sir Knights, and was the speaker at the banquet that night at the Masonic Temple, after which the commandery was opened, a school of instruction was held, questions asked and answered, and various points explained.

On Saturday, October 8th, I had the thrill of discovering Alaska by rail, on my way from Anchorage to Fairbanks. I rode along the Susitna and Tanana Rivers for miles, along the edge of canyons, past the front door of Mt. McKinley National Park, through valleys sparsely wooded with clumped birch and gleaming with bark and golden leaves. Sir Knight John Contesto, and wife, met me at the railroad station, and took me to my quarters at Fort Wainwright. The next morning, I attended divine services in the little army chapel. Sir Knight Contesto took me on two excursions over the territory around Fairbanks, and to the University of Alaska, where we toured the campus and visited the library and the museum, with its rare combination of wild life exhibits, Eskimo and Indian artifacts. From the University campus, a most spectacular setting, the students can gaze upon white peaks in the distance, and on clear days they can see Mt. McKinley itself,
looking like a giant among the neighboring mountains.

I was given a preview of the grounds and buildings, now under construction, of the Centennial Exposition which will be held during 1967 in Fairbanks. This Exposition will highlight a full year of exciting events marking the anniversary of the Alaska Purchase.

I reported to the headquarters of the Commanding General of Fort Wainwright, General George M. Jones, addressed Sir Knights and their ladies together at a banquet, and conducted a school of instructions at the Masonic Temple.

From Fairbanks, I started home by bus on the Alaskan Highway to Whitehorse in Canada, passing thousands of scraggy growth of small, stunted and gnarled bushes, and great rocky peaks on both sides of the road. At Whitehorse, I slept in a hotel which surely must have been occupied by the gold seekers of 1898. The roar of the mighty Yukon River, several hundred feet away, could be heard from my hotel room. I traveled south on the narrow gauged White Pass and Yukon Railroad, to Skagway, Alaska. This railroad travels through spectacular and historic White Pass, where hundreds of men and animals died because of the extreme cold and impassable obstacles as they fought their way to the Klondike, seeking gold. Skagway still retains some of the atmosphere of the old Gold Rush days. It once boasted a population of 20,000 people. I attended a regular meeting of the Blue Lodge and was received warmly by the brothers. Their friendliness, and the manner in which they conducted the program and business of the lodge cast a glow above and around Skagway even though it was raining and the mountains and valleys were enshrouded by a heavy fog. From Skagway, I proceeded southward on the Ferry to Juneau, sailing through the Inside Passage, a beautiful waterway sheltered from the Pacific Ocean by hundreds of mountainous evergreen islands.

After traveling in Alaska, visiting with many men and women, and listening to their conversations, I learned that the people who live there think it is the greatest state in the Union. The friendly manner and wholesome attitude of the people was evident everywhere and I was shown the utmost kindness and hospitality on every hand.

The Sir Knights in Alaska have the same zeal and love for Templar, and the same hopes and aspirations for advancing and strengthening the Christian Order of Knighthood, as do the Sir Knights in other sections of the United States. They are confronted with the same problems, which impede and delay the progress of the great objectives of Templary, as exist elsewhere. In addition, the commanderies of Alaska are separated by great distances, and communication between them is difficult and expensive.

Early on Sunday, October 23rd, as I flew homeward from Seattle, I saw that the great mountain ranges were gone and below us were the green fields and rolling land of the "Lower 48." The sun was shining warm and brightly. Many pleasant memories of my trip to the 49th state were riding with me, memories which I will treasure for all the days to come.
A REPORT FROM VIRGINIA

EDITOR'S NOTE: Through a misunderstanding, a report on the progress, activities, and Templar work in the Grand Commandery of Virginia was not included in the November issue of the Knight Templar at the time the South-eastern Department of which Virginia is a part, was featured. The Grand Commandery of Virginia has been for many years one of the leading Grand Jurisdictions of the Grand Encampment and continues its active work in Templary under the able leadership of its Grand Commander, Sir Knight Thomas S. Ely, M.D. The Grand Commandery of Virginia has for several years made approximately 100% quota of subscriptions to the Knight Templar magazine. As of December 23 it showed 666 subscriptions with its quota being 661. As of November 15, Virginia had 352 Life Sponsors to the Knight Templar Eye Foundation and has been actively engaged in obtaining sponsors since that time.

No Grand Jurisdiction can boast a more active Grand Commander in civic and fraternal affairs than can the Grand Commandery of Virginia. Dr. Ely is a native of Virginia, was married in 1940 to Barbara Ellen Dixon, R.N., of Roanoke, and they have 2 children, Thomas Harrison, who is now a graduate student at the University of Alabama, and a daughter, Maria Jane, age 13.

During his college days, Dr. Ely was very active in debating and journalistic work. He graduated with highest scholastic honors, and was an editor of student publications in medical school.

He served as a Major in the Medical Corps in World War II, serving in the United States, England, North Africa, Sicily, and Italy.

Dr. Ely has been active in the private practice of medicine in Jonesville since 1940, and has devoted much time to medical societies, both on the local and national level.

He served in 1961-62 as District Governor of Lions International.

He is presently a member of the Executive Committee and a trustee of Emory and Henry College, of which he is an alumnus.

Dr. Ely is president of the Jonesville Drug Company and director of the local bank.

He has been actively engaged in church and civic affairs as well as all branches of Masonry within his community. He is a member of the Scottish Rite, Shrine, K.Y.C.H., Holy Royal Arch K.T. Priests, and many other Masonic organizations.

He is giving active service to Templary in Virginia during the current year.
In reporting on the activities of the Grand Commandery of Virginia, Dr. Ely says:

“Virginia has been quite active this year. I think that we will again show a membership gain. Late last spring we had a 150th Anniversary Class festival at Lynchburg and knighted over 150 candidates, including Grand Master Kidd of the Grand Lodge of Va., Congressman Dick Poff, and Congressman and Past Governor Bill Tuck. Recently our Northern Virginia area had a festival and knighted 30 candidates in a ‘Wilber Brucker Class.’ My own little Commandery in October had a ‘Dr. Tom Ely Class’ of 16. Lynchburg, also in October, had a ‘Dr. Tom Ely Class’ of 12. A Southwest Virginia festival was held on December 3rd. We are endeavoring to stress—and push—the Knight Templar magazine and the Eye Foundation. I think we are doing some good.”

From Our Readers

GRAND COMMANDERY OFFICERS OF MICHIGAN CONFER ORDER OF THE TEMPLE AT HIGHLAND PARK COMMANDERY GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Highland Park Commandery No. 53, K.T., celebrated its Golden Anniversary on September 24, 1966, at the Highland Park Masonic Temple. After the 6 o’clock dinner in the Temple dining room, the participants were welcomed by Arthur H. Fries, Eminent Commander. Sir Knight Howell Reed, P.C., Prelate Emeritus, and Com-

GRAND COMMANDERY OFFICERS

mandery Historian, was introduced and gave some historical remarks regarding establishment and growth of the Commandery. The visiting Commanderies were then recognized and introduced after which the Eminent Commander introduced the Grand Commandery Officers. Edgar H. Clark, G.C. of Michigan, the last of the Grand Commandery Officers to be introduced, greeted the members and guests with appropriate remarks for the occasion.

The Sir Knights then retired to the Commandery Asylum where the Grand Commandery Officers were received in due form, after which, they conferred the Order of the Temple on a class of nine candidates.

Incidentally, this is the same Asylum in which the Charter was granted to Highland Park Commandery on September 28, 1916. In addition to the Grand Commandery Officers and the members of Highland Park Commandery No. 53, K.T., visitors from six other Commanderies attended the celebration.

While the work was proceeding in the Asylum, the ladies were being entertained in the Temple dining room by Mr. T. E. Chevako of Lansing, Michigan, who had spent considerable time traveling in the Holy Land and put on a presentation entitled, “A Portrayal of the Life of Christ,” as related to pictures of the Holy Land.

FIRST YORK RITE TEMPLE IN NORTH CAROLINA DEDICATED

By A. Oden Latham, Correspondent

CEREMONY DEDICATING TEMPLE AT NEW BERN

An emergent communication of the Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M. of North Carolina was held in the York Rite Temple at New Bern, on Tuesday, November 8, 1966, with Arnold J. Koonce, Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina, presiding, for the purpose of dedicating this newest York Rite facility, valued at more than one hundred thousand dollars.

Following the opening of the Grand Lodge, the public was admitted to witness the ceremony.
Dr. Nathaniel M. Baxter, G.H.P. of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, welcomed visitors and recognized distinguished guests. He expressed the heartfelt thanks of the York Rite Masons of New Bern to Nelson B. Banks, Recorder of Sudan Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., who had served so faithfully as chairman of the Building Committee. Charles C. Ricker, Grand Sec.-Rec., and G.G.K. of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter, delivered the most impressive dedicatory address. Organ and vocal selections, "Bless This House" and "The Lord's Prayer," added to the beauty and solemnity of the program.

The following officers of the Grand York Rite bodies of North Carolina attended and were recognized:

GRAND COMMANDERY, K.T.


GRAND COUNCIL, R. & S.M.

Robert L. Grubb, G.M.; William I. Gause, P.G.M.; Alva L. Williams, G.C.G.; Hiram J. Casebolt, G.Cond. of Council; B. Ralph Cato, G.S.; and Thomas G. Slate, P.G.M.

GRAND CHAPTER, R.A.M.


PAST GRAND MASTERS OF MASONS IN N. C.

Harvey W. Smith, James W. Brewer, Charles A. Harris, and Charles C. Ricker.

The program was closed with a benediction by the Rev. Richard D. Shinkle. The Grand Lodge was closed following the retirement of the visitors. Refreshments were served in the banquet room by the York Rite ladies.

Mrs. Wright, Sir Knight Wright, and Commander Church.

Ashland Commandery No. 28, Kentucky, sponsors the Owen R. Meadows Chapter, Order of DeMolay in that city. Its Commander, Beachal R. Church, recently was privileged to present Sir Knight E. R. Wright the "Freemason White Honor Key," an honor which is bestowed upon Master Masons for exceptional service in building the Order of DeMolay. Among other services, Sir Knight Wright obtained 20 petitions for a class named in his honor which was recently initiated in the Order of DeMolay.

Wilbur Chapter, Order of DeMolay, of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, was recently awarded the Gold Ribbon Award by the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay, for having achieved 200% of its membership quota. This Chapter is sponsored by Bethlehem Commandery No. 90, K.T.
Report of the Committee on York Rite Unity

TO THE MOST EMINENT GRAND MASTER, MEMBERS OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT, AND ALL KNIGHTS TEMPLAR HOLDING ALLEGIANCE THERETO, FRATERNAL GREETINGS:

The record of the work of your Committee on York Rite Unity may be divided naturally into three periods: that which was done before August 24, 1964, which was reported fully in the 1964 Proceedings of Grand Encampment (pages 72-75, 205-215); things done from August 24, 1964, to October 12, 1966, which are the principal subject of this report; and, activities of the Committee after the triennial sessions of General Grand Chapter and General Grand Council in Boston, to be prepared and presented with this report to the 50th Triennial Conclave of Grand Encampment at Detroit.

Before August 24, 1964

Though the record has been received and printed in the Proceedings, as well as in the September, 1964, issue of Knight Templar, we think it useful to provide a brief summary here of those activities.

Following several conferences on the State of the Rite, held in 1962 and 1963, between the then presiding officers of the three national York Rite bodies—Sir Knights Moore, Martini, and Verbyrk—and others of their official staffs, it was concluded that it would serve the general prosperity of the York Rite if positive steps could be taken to unify the activities and organizations of the several bodies. Accordingly, since at the time of the decision he was approaching the end of his term of office and wished to provide for continuity in the effort, Sir Knight Moore authorized then Deputy Grand Master Brucker to act for him, together with Sir Knights Martini and Verbyrk, to plan and draft a proposal by which the members of the national bodies might authorize a definite approach to the recognized needs. The work of these three was then prompt and positive, resulting in the similar resolutions adopted at Minneapolis in 1963 and in Philadelphia in 1964.


Under Chairman Martini the first sessions discussed a wide range of subjects and identified and divided objectives as “short range” and “long range,” the basic difference being whether any legislation or organizational change would be required to implement them. A list of short term recommendations was adopted and forwarded to the national presiding officers, and a news report was sent to all known Masonic
media by Secretary Hunt (Knight Templar, March, 1964). These initial recommendations called for (1) Establishment of a Council of the three presiding national officers, to meet at least annually in the interest of York Rite unity, (2) Division of the 48 states into seven York Rite Regions, within each of which at least one Joint York Rite Conference would be held during each triennium, to involve not less than the three principal officers of each grand body in each state jurisdiction, including those not affiliated with the national bodies, for the discussion of eleven listed subjects and other matters of mutual interest, (3) Establishment of state York Rite Councils composed of at least the three principal officers of each grand body, (4) Division of individual states into identical districts for each body, within which there would be established some council or organization for the coordinated planning and execution of York Rite programs, (5) Establishment of shorter progressive lineups, providing for not more than four years of progressive offices in all York Rite bodies, and (6) Planning and holding of York Rite Festivals for the conferring of all York Rite work, within subordinate localities in each state, at least once each year.

August, 1964, to October, 1966

During the time of the 49th Triennial Conclave, the Commission met again with all members and Sir Knights Brucker, Boudeman, and Clark present. Those three by agreement established seven identical York Rite regions and planned the first Regional Conference, to be held in Atlanta, Georgia. Also, the Commission asked Secretary Hunt to prepare a report to the Masonic media (Knight Templar, September, 1964) and to conduct a state-to-state survey of joint York Rite activities.

Within the period August, 1964, to January, 1965, Knight Templar published (September, 1964) this Committee’s report to the Triennial and reports of the Southeastern York Rite Conference and of York Rite sponsored activities in a number of states. All members of the Commission sought opinions by continued contacts and correspondence, and Secretary Hunt completed his survey.

Meeting again in Chicago on January 15-16, 1965, with all members present except Secretary Hunt (Doctor’s orders), and with Grand Master Brucker also attending, the Commission carefully reviewed the Hunt report and discussed the reactions and opinions and York Rite activities noted by each member. Two important actions followed:

1. Interim Secretary Behle was instructed to put in final form a suggested joint statement of recommendations for voluntary York Rite coordination, as had been prepared by Secretary Hunt and as amended in detail by action of the Commission. This statement contemplated its approval by Sir Knights Brucker, Boudeman, and Clark and its publication by them. After preparation by Sir Knight Behle and final approval by the Commission members, those recommendations were approved by Sir Knights Brucker, Boudeman, and Clark and published over their signatures, being sent to all dais officers of all grand bodies and then released to the Masonic media (Knight Templar, June, 1965). This was the “Ten Point Program” which has been so generally well-received, and which has been implemented in so many jurisdictions.
2. At the same meeting, there was formulated at the request of the Commission by Sir Knights Martini and Behle the following communication from the York Rite Commission on Unity to Sir Knights Brucker, Boudeman, and Clark, which after careful discussion was adopted unanimously:

"Brethren:

"Since the York Rite Unity Commission was established by joint action of the General Grand Chapter, General Grand Council, and Grand Encampment, we have found widespread support and implementation of our recommendations for York Rite unity on a voluntary, cooperative basis, along the lines heretofore approved by you. But, it has also become obvious that there is, in our studied opinion, a definite, urgent need for extending this voluntary York Rite unity into organizational integration, for the benefit of Masonry in general and the York Rite in particular. Therefore, by unanimous action, the York Rite Unity Commission today respectfully proposes the following basic, fundamental, and most important organizational change for the York Rite, by adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLUTION

"We recommend the reorganization of the York Rite, as it presently exists, by the establishment of one new sovereign York Rite organization, into which shall be merged the Chapter, Council, and Commandery, together with all Degrees and Orders presently conferred by them, and whose jurisdiction shall not be less than the United States of America.

"We believe that we should state our thinking as to how this might be accomplished, and in the past two days of this meeting have considered some form of workable organization, and believe that the new body may well be comparable in form to the present General Grand York Rite bodies. The original members shall be:

1. All Past Grand High Priests, Past Grand Masters, and Past Grand Commanders of all Grand Chapters, Grand Councils, and Grand Commanderies.

2. The Dais Officers of all affiliating Grand Chapters and Grand Councils, and of all Grand Commanderies.

3. The Dais Officers of all new Grand York Rite bodies to be established within the new Supreme York Rite organization.

4. The Presiding Officers of all subordinate Chapters, Councils, and Commanderies where no Grand Jurisdiction exists.

"The suggested or contemplated reorganization anticipates the establishment of a similar reorganization on a state or
Grand Jurisdiction level, in lieu of the present Grand Chapters, Grand Councils, and Grand Commanderies, and the retention of the respective bodies on a local level.

"It was further our opinion that our Commission should study and prepare a suggested plan, after we have received the approval of the presiding officers of the present General Grand York Rite bodies, and then formulate some more detailed plans of organization for presentation to the respective General Grand York Rite bodies at their next triennial meetings, for their approval, which would include a time schedule for acceptance thereof by the Grand Jurisdictions where necessary, a plan for interim government, and a desired effective date."

Subsequently, the three national presiding officers met in Washington, D.C., on February 21, 1965, and failed to agree to instruct the Commission to proceed in accordance with the above resolution. However, they did not instruct their committees to oppose the resolution. A letter to then chairman Crofts, from Grand Master Brucker, dated March 2, 1965, reported that he had contacted the present and past elective dais officers of Grand Encampment, and "... found that we are in favor of the Resolution and the recommendation to 'study and prepare a detailed plan' to carry out the purpose thereof." A letter from G.G.H.P. Clark, also dated March 2, 1965, indicated sympathy with the objectives stated by the Commission and apprehension as to the effect upon General Grand Chapter of bringing the matter to a test or even of giving it publicity.

The Commission then referred to its instructions in the Minneapolis and Philadelphia resolutions, which directed it "... to take steps to unify York Rite Masonry with power to recommend any necessary action to bring about a unification of these three General Grand York Rite bodies under such terms and upon such conditions as shall be approved by each respective sovereign York Rite body..." Accepting this language as being a positive instruction, the Commission proceeded, through a draft prepared by Sir Knights Behle and White and distributed to members of the Commission and the three national presiding officers on May 21, 1965, to a full discussion of that draft at the meeting of the Commission held on June 18-19, 1965.

All members of the Commission were present at the meeting, except Sir Knight Martini, who was delayed by the continuation of a trial but kept in touch by telephone. Also, Sir Knights Brucker, Clark, and Boudeman attended. It developed, significantly, that the failure of the three presiding officers to endorse the resolution of January 16, 1965, was because of a lack of communication and understanding of proposed procedures. After consideration of the Preamble and each paragraph of the Concordat seriatim to a point of unanimity as to the proposed changes, general provisions for the "Protocol" as to the time and method of adoption were discussed and agreed upon. It was agreed that a second draft would be distributed to the Commission members and to the three presiding officers by Sir Knight Behle, to include all revisions
adopted at the meeting, for correction of any obvious errors and approval of the draft. Sir Knight Behle was instructed to then prepare as many copies of the resulting third draft as might be desired by Sir Knights Brucker, Clark, and Boudeman for distribution to their officers and others. Also, a news release as to the progress of the Commission was carefully discussed, to be written by Secretary Hunt for the media (Knight Templar, August, 1965).

The third draft of the Concordat, together with the Protocol and the proposed Resolution, was sent under date of August 31, 1965, to all members of the Commission, and sixty additional copies were divided between the three national presiding officers, twenty to each, for their distribution for critical comment as desired.

At its final meeting before the Boston triennials, held January 21-22, 1966, at Chicago, all members of the Commission were present except Sir Knight Dimond. Sir Knights Brucker, Clark, and Boudeman were also present. A detailed discussion led to a fourth and final draft of the Concordat, Protocol, and Resolution, and the Commission adopted by unanimous action the following resolution to be conveyed to the titular heads of the Rite:

"BE IT RESOLVED, That this York Rite Commission on Unity adopts as a part of its official report the Concordat for the Establishment of The York Rite of Freemasonry, as this day revised, together with the attached Protocol for Adoption and Implementation of the Concordat of York Rite Unity."

It was agreed that the final draft of the Concordat, etc. would be sent by Secretary Hunt to Sir Knights Brucker, Boudeman, and Clark prior to their intended meeting during the Grand Masters' Conferences in Washington, and that their final consideration and approval would be given at that time and distribution would be authorized. Accordingly, the Concordat, Protocol, and Resolution were mailed on April 1, 1966, with a covering letter signed by Sir Knights Clark, Boudeman, and Brucker and the covering letter of Sir Knight Hunt, simultaneously, to all voting members of the General Grand Chapter, General Grand Council, and Grand Encampment. Also, distribution to the Masonic media was authorized, and Knight Templar carried the proposal in full detail in the April, 1966, issue.

Actions at the Boston Triennials

As reported in the November, 1966, issue of Knight Templar, the General Grand Council and General Grand Chapter refused to accomplish step No. 3 of the Protocol, which called for reference of the Concordat to their constituent grand bodies for a referendum vote. Instead, they adopted a "substitute motion" offered by Sir Knight Jordan of Louisiana, which provided in effect (1) That action on the Concordat, Protocol, and Resolution be deferred until a future triennial session, (2) That the report of the committee be referred to all constituent grand bodies for discussion and suggestions, and (3) That the incoming presiding officer be authorized to appoint a committee of three or more, to report at a future time.
We think it should be noted that the Jordan substitute motion did not instruct the committees which it permitted the presiding officers to appoint, and neither did it authorize any activity in cooperation with the Grand Encampment. It can not be assumed that this lack of direction was accidental.

October, 1966, to August, 1967

The record is not yet written. We are forced to accept the conclusion that the York Rite Commission on Unity, as authorized and instructed by the General Grand Council, General Grand Chapter, and Grand Master Moore in 1963 and by the Grand Encampment in 1964, and as organized January 10, 1964, has completed its assignment and has been discharged by the actions taken at Boston. We still have the Grand Encampment Committee on York Rite Unity, which will continue until it reports to the 50th Triennial at Detroit. We now have a committee of nine appointed by the General Grand High Priest, but so far as is known to this Committee it is not instructed to do more than consider the suggestions which may come from the member Grand Chapters. We have the prospect of a General Grand Council committee, but no information as to the number of its members or its instructions.

We still have the same needs for organizational unity of the York Rite on a national basis, the same need to do something about the triplification of expense in terms of both time and money at all levels, the same division of loyalty at the local level, and the same handicaps to growth of Templar membership. We have also the knowledge that any proposal for organic merger of the sovereign York Rite bodies which might be proposed to the Grand Encampment at Detroit must necessarily be unilateral in nature.

Your Committee was naturally limited as to its expressions while actions were pending at Boston, as were individual Templars generally. We are now informed by Grand Master Brucker that wide-open discussion of the subject is now in order, and that the pages of Knight Templar are now open to any knightly comment.

Courteously and fraternally submitted,

COMMITTEE ON YORK RITE UNITY
John L. Crofts, Sr., D.G.M.
Glennie R. McArthur, P.D.C.
Fred England, Jr., P.D.C.
Many are the fascinating myths from ancient Rome. Pictured on the cover of the current issue is a likeness of Janus, King of the Latins, who was granted the gift of seeing into the past and into the future. Because of this mythical power he is always represented as having two faces. On his head is a crown. In one hand he holds a key to open the new year whose first month, January, comes from his name.

In the sense of foresight and historical perspective, Knights Templar enjoy the same power as Janus. They, too, can look back—to a past of Templar glory and Christian accomplishment. And they can look forward to a new year of individual dedication and effort, to a year that marks the 50th Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U.S.A., and to the promise of the Triennial deliberations and decisions.

The progress of Templary and the benefits Christian Masonry offers to our fellowmen depend upon each individual Sir Knight. Templary will move forward, buttressed by the past, only through your efforts and mine—not upon those of someone else. It depends upon you and upon me.