

Knights



Templar

VOLUME XIII

SEPTEMBER, 1967

NUMBER 9

Detroit's Magnificent
Masonic Temple
provided the setting
as Wilber M. Brucker
installed his
successor . . .

John Lawton Crofts, Sr.

—The 42ND man in
history to lead

**The Grand Encampment
Of Knights Templar
Of The U.S.A.**

August 24, 1967 A.D.
849 A.O.



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



A NEW BEGINNING—ON THE SAME COURSE

By John L. Crofts, Sr., Grand Master

It is, of course, a high privilege to serve the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar as its presiding officer, and I am most appreciative of the expressed confidence in me which has made such service possible. At the same time, I am conscious of the responsibilities that accompany the privilege, and all that I can do for Templary will be done. With divine guidance and with the devoted effort of all who feel the need, we will advance.

Direction is not a problem to us as we face the future. Through the extraordinary efforts of Grand Master Wilber M. Brucker and of Grand Master Paul M. Moore, we think all Templars must understand our mission. To be identified as Christian Warriors is our privilege. To carry a Christian witness into our communities, both as individuals and as an organization, is our duty.

Performance, as individuals and as an organization, is our immediate concern. As Grand Master Brucker spoke in the language of the *mariner*, let me now speak in the language of *flight*.

One of the facts of flying is *headwinds*. We know that certain factors of our day are adverse to Templar progress, as headwinds are to an aircraft. These same forces oppose the progress of the churches and of all other organizations that seek to extend the Master's work. The answer to headwinds is improved *performance*, so that they will have less effect.

Design is a primary concern of aircraft manufacturers, and likewise of those Templars who feel the urgent need for high performance. At the Triennial Conclave just concluded, such need was clearly felt by an overwhelming majority of the delegates, and a more efficient Templar craft at the national level was authorized. In such an atmosphere, the same sort of progress in every Grand Commandery should follow naturally.

Aircraft designers seek to eliminate all *drag factors*, those things which work against forward progress, and so must we. Indolence, unconcern, devotion to the status quo and selfish desires must be eliminated if we are to excel in performance as our purposes demand.

Finally, performance depends upon effective *thrust*, or power. Regardless of a beauty of design which may delight the eye, forward progress depends mainly upon a driving force. It is time to *check all engines*. Grand Commanderies, district organizations and local Commanderies all must produce *full thrust*, if we are to *get up on the wing* and *fly right*!

Today's society needs a strong Templary creating a forceful good wherever it resides. It is our Christian duty to be responsive and to realize our full potential. Templary is our vehicle. Our purpose? *Virgil* said "The noblest motive is the public good." Our immediate instruction? *Paul* said "Quit ye like men. Be strong." *So mote it be.*

From The Golden Triennial Conclave John L. Crofts, Sr., Heads Grand Encampment Elective Line Officers



John L. Crofts, Sr.



G. Wilbur Bell

Members of Grand Encampment Elect Sir Knight Crofts Most Eminent Grand Master for Current Triennium. New Deputy Grand Master is G. Wilbur Bell; Roy W. Riegle Becomes Grand Generalissimo; Willard M. Avery is Elected Grand Captain General. Edmund F. Ball and Paul C. Rodenhauser Elected Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder.

Sir Knight John L. Crofts, Sr., Past Grand Commander of Iowa, now living in Nokomis, Florida, became the 42nd man in Templar history to be elected Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U. S. A. Sir Knight Crofts succeeds the Honorable Wilber M. Brucker, who completed his term as Grand Master when he presided over the Golden Triennial Conclave at Detroit, August 19-24. The first in the illustrious line of Grand Masters was DeWitt Clinton of New York, who was elected to head the General Grand Encampment when it was formed more than 151 years ago.

Installation of the new Grand

Master, and of the other officers elected to serve Grand Commandery for the 1967-70 Triennial period, took place in the Detroit Commandery Asylum Thursday morning, August 24, with the retiring Grand Master, Sir Knight Brucker, as installing officer. He was assisted by Past Grand Generalissimo C. Byron Lear and Sir Knight Fred England, Jr., Chairman of the Grand Encampment Committee on the Triennial Conclave. Dr. Howard R. Towne, Grand Prelate, continued in that office for the installation ceremony.

Selected unanimously by the members present for the August 23 election at the Masonic Temple,



Roy W. Riegle

Detroit, was G. Wilbur Bell to serve as Deputy Grand Master. Unanimous elections also resulted in the choosing of Roy W. Riegle for the office of Grand Generalissimo, Edmund F. Ball for another term as Grand Treasurer, and Paul C. Rodenhauer for the post of Grand Recorder of Grand Encampment.

Sir Knight Bell, Illinois, had previously served elected terms as Grand Captain-General and Grand Generalissimo. Sir Knight Riegle, Kansas, served as Grand Captain-General from 1964 to 1967. Sir Knight Ball, Indiana, is now in his fourth three-year term as Grand Treasurer, and Sir Knight Rodenhauer, Pennsylvania, after appointment for the current year—was elected to his first term as Grand Recorder.

Four candidates vied for the position of R. E. Grand Captain-



Willard M. Avery

General at the Golden Triennial Conclave. Selected for the post by the voting members of Grand Encampment was Willard M. Avery, P. G. C., Indiana, Past Department Commander, former Editor of the Knight Templar Magazine, and long active in the affairs of Templary. Sir Knight Avery's biographical resume is included elsewhere in the current issue of the Knight Templar Magazine.

Grand Master Crofts named Dr. Curtis W. V. Junker, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment for the 1967-1970 Triennial period. Dr. Junker, who is Rector of Trinity Episcopal Parish, Tulsa, is particularly identified with campus, hospital and institution ministry, youth work, civic activities, the televising of religious programming, music and church expansion. His biography also is included in this issue.

Grand Encampment Installation—August 24**By J. Healon Baker**

As a fitting climax to one of the most colorful Triennials in the history of Templary, the newly elected and appointed officers for 1967-70 were installed on Thursday, Aug. 24, 1967. In the presence of some 600 Sir Knights and their ladies, in the beautiful Commandery Asylum of the Detroit Masonic Temple and under the inspirational illuminated Cross, an escort of Past Grand Commanders presented the officers for installation.

With the pulse quickening pageantry and ceremony that is fraternalism tempered by the Christian reverence that is Templarism, retiring Grand Master Wilber M.

Brucker installed John L. Crofts, Sr. as the new Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, and the other Grand Encampment officers. He was ably assisted in the installation ceremony by Past Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Encampment C. Byron Lear, Fred England, Jr., P.G.C. of Michigan and Dr. Howard R. Towne, retiring Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment.

Wives and families of the newly installed officers were introduced. A bouquet of roses was presented to Mrs. Crofts by an Iowa delegation and a Salem Cross lapel pin was presented to the new Grand Master.

ENACTMENTS OF THE FIFTIETH TRIENNIAL—DETROIT**By G. Wilbur Bell, Deputy Grand Master**

This is an unofficial report, made for the information of Templars generally, of actions taken at the 50th Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment which are of particular interest to members of Grand Commanderies and of Constituent or Subordinate Commanderies. The full official report will follow, in the form of printed amendments to the Constitution and Statutes of Grand Encampment, the General Orders of the Most Eminent Grand Master, and the printed Proceedings of the Grand Encampment. However, as all enactments are effective at once, we feel that there should be such general understanding of their effect as can be communicated by this brief and unofficial report and by means of our quickest official medium, *KNIGHT TEMPLAR*.

Installation of Officers

All Officers of the Grand Encampment, the Grand, Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies must be installed into office in a formal ceremony. Such installation

may be conducted at a Public Ceremony. The incoming presiding officer, as soon as he is elected, is charged with the responsibility of making suitable arrangements therefor and for the appointment of the Installing Officer, Marshal and Prelate for such ceremony.

Suspensions

The Eminent Commander shall supervise and determine whether it is advisable to remit the dues of a delinquent member because of illness, infirmity or financial inability, and shall recommend to his Commandery the remission of dues whenever he deems the same justified. If the Eminent Commander does not see fit to recommend the remission of dues of a delinquent member, if possible he shall appoint a Committee of at least two members to make a personal call upon such delinquent member with reference thereto. The report of such Committee shall be reviewed by the Eminent Commander, and shall be reported to the Commandery. The process of suspension shall be undertaken only

after the foregoing preliminary requirements have been met. Thereupon, the Eminent Commander shall see to it that the Recorder send either a certified or registered letter to the delinquent member at his last known address, giving official notice of intention to suspend such member, including the date and hour when the suspension proceedings will be brought before the Commandery for action; at the time when such suspension proceedings are brought before the Commandery, the Eminent Commander shall first inform the Commandery of all pertinent facts and circumstances regarding such delinquent member and shall exhibit the return receipt or the unclaimed certified or registered letter to the delinquent member before any action shall be taken by the Commandery.

Arresting the Charter of a Commandery

A Commandery that fails to hold a Conclave for twelve consecutive months, or to knight a single candidate within such period, shall be placed on probation for the period of one year, and if thereafter it fails to hold a conclave for the next twelve consecutive months or to knight a single candidate within such period, its charter may be arrested.

Consolidations

The Grand Commander or the Grand Commandery may investigate and may determine to initiate proceedings to consolidate two or more Commanderies if in their judgment it should be undertaken. He shall cause a conference to be held by him with the Eminent Commanders of the Commanderies involved. Two or more Commanderies having concurrent jurisdiction or stationed in adjoining jurisdictions may be consolidated into one Commandery, provided, that the proposition for such consolida-

tion shall be presented at a Stated Conclave of each Commandery, which proposition shall be acted upon at a subsequent Stated Conclave. Notice thereof shall be mailed to all Members of each Commandery involved at least ten days prior to such Conclave. A consolidation shall not be effected unless at least two-thirds of the Members present at each Commandery vote in favor of the proposition. Two or more Commanderies having thus decided to consolidate may unite under the Charter of one of said Commanderies, retaining the Officers thereof, or they may elect new Officers by a proper Dispensation. The Charter or Charters surrendered must be deposited with the Grand Recorder.

Knights Templar Cross of Honor

The Statutes were amended to read as follows: Only one nomination may be made from a Grand Commandery membership of 10,000, or less, during one year, and only one nomination shall be made from the total of the Subordinate Commanderies during one year, provided that one additional nomination may be made by a Grand Commandery for each additional 10,000 of its members, or major fraction thereof, during any one year.

Jewel of Office of Grand Commander

The jewel of office of Grand Commanders may be worn suspended from a heavy, red, silk cord with swivel; the cord to have a tassel at the ends to be held together by sliding holders with rosette; the cord to have a total length of sixty-four inches.

Death of an Officer

An officer who is installed and thereafter dies during his term of office shall be entitled to be considered as having filled his term of office.

Honorary Titles

Provisions were made for conferring the Honorary Title of Captain General Emeritus upon Captains General who have retired after six full years of service in good standing of a recognized office and who have not attained a higher office.

Visitors

If he is not otherwise properly vouched for, a Visitor must be examined by a committee of one or more members and the committee must report that it is convinced that the Visitor is a member in Commandery or Priory of Knights Templar, before the Visitor may be admitted to the Asylum.

Duty of the Grand Commander

An addition to the duties of the Grand Commander has been added.—That of conducting Official Visitations for the purpose of Inspection or evaluation of each Constituent Commandery in his jurisdiction, either personally or by his Personal Representative, and to report the same, together with any recommendations he may have, at the next Conclave of the Grand Commandery.

Attendance at Grand Encampment and Grand Commandery Conclaves

It is the duty of the Commander, the Generalissimo and the Captain General of Subordinate Commanderies, within the Continental limits of the United States, to attend the Conclaves of the Grand Encampment and the duty of such Officers of Constituent Commanderies to attend Conclaves of their respective Grand Commanderies. The Grand Master in case of Subordinate Commanderies and the Grand Commander in case of Constituent Commanderies, shall have power and authority to take such action as they may deem appropriate to enforce the provisions of this Section and shall report their ac-

tion to the next Conclave of their respective jurisdictions.

Units of Commanderies

Each Constituent or Subordinate Commandery shall maintain a unit, or units, equipped with full Templar uniforms as prescribed in Chapter XIX of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment, or that prescribed by the several Grand Commanderies, to be worn at full form openings, and the conferring of the Order of the Temple. Such unit or units shall at all times be composed of at least six active members who shall be available for Asylum Escort and Triangle Guard duty, and Commandery Drill Team and such additional requirements as the Commandery may from time to time determine.

Grand Commanderies Shall Consider Masonic Membership Changes

Each Grand Commandery is charged with the responsibility of considering at each Annual Conclave the condition as to proper and adequate location of Constituent Commanderies as related to residential and Masonic membership changes.

Ritualistic Options

An optional short ceremony for the conferring of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross on classes, when the Order of Malta is conferred in Full Form was adopted. Other ritualistic changes were made and these will be printed and distributed.

Distribution of Magazine

A resolution was adopted whereby the KNIGHT TEMPLAR MAGAZINE will be distributed to each Sir Knight under the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment beginning with the July 1969 issue. (It should hereby be noted that all Sir Knights are encouraged and urged to secure subscriptions until the above date.)

NEW EDITOR FOR KNIGHT TEMPLAR MAGAZINE

Grand Master Crofts Names Paul C. Rodenhauser, R.E. Grand Recorder As Editor Effective with October Issue of the Knight Templar Magazine

With his election to the office of Grand Captain General of Grand Encampment, Willard M. Avery will discontinue his editorial connection with the monthly issues of the Knight Templar Magazine. *Effective immediately, all news and correspondence regarding the content of the magazine should be directed to the Grand Recorder of Grand Encampment, Paul C. Rodenhauser, at 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1733, Chicago, Illinois 60604.*

Over the period of the next several months, a number of changes will be incorporated in the magazine format. Special columns will be initiated to incorporate a variety of subjects on kindred themes. Grand Officers, including Department Commanders, and correspondents and readers are asked to forward written material for expected use in any one issue not later than the 15th of the preceding month. All are reminded that material received, because of space limitation, editorial judgment and repetition of topical matter, is subject to revision or omission.

By July 1, 1969, all Sir Knights within the Grand Encampment jurisdiction will be receiving the Knight Templar Magazine.

The action taken at Detroit makes that date the latest possible time for the conversion to 100% distribution of the official publication of Grand Encampment. Some Grand Commanderies have expressed interest in financially arrang-



PAUL C. RODENHAUSER

ing for full distribution within their individual jurisdictions before the 1969 deadline, but all will be included automatically by July 1, 1969.

By that time, data processing equipment and an augmented staff will make it possible for the Grand Recorder's office to compile the names and addresses of the some 385,000 Sir Knights under Grand Encampment jurisdiction and to process the labels for the monthly magazine mailings. *In the interim, subscriptions and mailing information should continue to be directed to Knight Templar, P.O. Box 477, Greenfield, Indiana 46140.*

The Knight Templar Magazine, in addition to the planned features and departments, will continue to serve as the official vehicle for the distribution of the Grand Master's directives and information from the various officers and committees of Grand Encampment.

Willard M. Avery Becomes Grand Captain General Of The Grand Encampment

By Paul C. Rodenhauer, Grand Recorder

After a distinguished tour of service in a wide variety of Grand Encampment activities, Sir Knight Willard M. Avery, Knightstown, Indiana, was elected Grand Captain General of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U. S. A., at Detroit during the 50th Triennial Conclave. He succeeds Roy W. Riegle, Kansas, who was elected Grand Generalissimo.

Sir Knight Avery was born February 2, 1907 at Palmyra, Indiana. He was a Rector Scholar at DePauw University from which he graduated with highest honours in 1929. After graduation he taught social studies and speech for two years at Portland, Indiana. He then attended the University of Michigan Law School where he was the winner of the Henry M. Campell case club award and served as senior judge in case club competition. While attending Law School, he was elected Student President of the Lawyers Club and received his Doctor of Jurisprudence Degree in 1934.

Since his graduation, he has been successfully engaged in the general practice of law at Knightstown, Indiana. He and his wife, Margaret, have two sons, Max, age 28, and Jack, age 26.

He has been continuously active in the civic affairs of his community. A Methodist, he has served in numerous lay capacities in the church and served with distinction as local President and Lieutenant Governor of Kiwanis International. He is a member of Knightstown Commandery, having approximately 160 members in a town of

3,000, with three Commanderies within a radius of 15 miles. His Commandery has sent a Drill Team to the last five Triennials. He served as Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Indiana in 1956-57. During his Grand Commander tenure, an invitation was issued for the holding of the 47th Triennial Conclave at Indianapolis, Indiana. Sir Knight Avery acted as legal advisor to the Triennial Conclave Corporation, and served as Vice President of the local Triennial Committee. He was the first President of the Indiana Foundation of DeMolay, Inc., a model for other DeMolay Foundations throughout the United States, and he holds the DeMolay Honorary Legion of Honor. He is Past Grand Patron of the Indiana Grand Chapter O. E. S., Past Sovereign of the Red Cross of Constantine, member of K. Y. C. H., member of the Knight Templar Priests, the Murat Temple of the Shrine, the Scottish Rite Valley of Indianapolis, and has been nominated to receive the Honorary 33° Scottish Rite at Pittsburgh this month. He has served as Department Commander of the East Central Department of the Grand Encampment, as the Special Representative of the Indiana Grand Commandery on the York Rite Unity movement in Indiana, and the instrumental figure in formulating a membership program for York Rite, resulting in an overall Indiana Commandery net gain in 1966 of 174.

Sir Knight Avery's experience and zeal for Templary will make him a distinct asset to the Grand Encampment.

Department Commanders for Triennium

Frank Lamont Bourke, P.G.C.

North Atlantic Department

Sir Knight Bourke was born in Portland, Maine, November 20, 1904. He attended Portland High School, Perkiomen (Preparatory) School, Pennsylvania, and the University of Maine.

His business career, which began in the Woodlands Division of the International Paper Company, shifted in 1930 to the Army & Air Force Exchange Service. He has continued in the service since 1930 and is presently an Executive currently assigned to Dow Air Force Base as Civilian Exchange Officer.

His civic activities include United Fund and the Lions Club in which he has held most of the offices in the club and district levels. He is a member and past director in the Chamber of Commerce and has served on numerous committees.

He is an ardent outdoorsman and has been a Registered Maine Guide for many years. His hobbies,

when he finds time, are fly fishing, fly tying and rifle marksmanship.

His masonic career extends over thirty years during which he has presided over the four York Rite Bodies, the Past Officers Association, the Red Cross of Constantine, the Grand Council, R. & S.M. of Maine and the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Maine. He is a member of Put Stevens Court No. 107, Royal Order of Jesters, Shrewsbury Priory No. 4, K. Y. C. H., the Past Officers Association, Scottish Rite Bodies, Shrine and numerous honorary bodies. He is a member of the Officers Club and the Tarratine Club in Bangor and the Woodfords Club in Portland.

He is a member of the Methodist Church. He is married to the former Elizabeth P. Rolfe and resides in the North Deering Section of Portland. (Home address: 27 Alpine Road, Portland, Maine 04103)

C. Wallace Jackson, P.G.C.

Southeastern Department

Sir Knight Jackson was born in Brooklyn, New York, January 21, 1901, the family moved a year later to Denver, Colorado, where he spent much of his boyhood. His father's work carried the family to various parts of the country, especially the Southern and Eastern States, where Wallace spent his later years of boyhood and early years of manhood. Attended the University of Pittsburgh, the University of Louisville, and graduated from Purdue University,

with B. S. in Chemical Engineering, 1924.

From 1928 to 1961, he was with the sales force of National Lead Co., retiring to accept appointment as U. S. Commissioner, United States District Court. Married Garnett Tonkin, Portsmouth, Virginia, 1927. "Pinkie promptly undertook to make a 'reconstructed Yankee' out of me, with highly beneficial results considering the material she had to use." One daughter—Hope Jackson Vernon;

one grandson—Knighted by the Grand Commander of Texas. Past Master Phoenix Lodge No. 8, Fayetteville, N. C.; helped organize John Huske Anderson Lodge No. 731, present Secretary. Served various Grand Lodge committee appointments. Past High Priest of Phoenix Chapter No. 2, member Order of High Priesthood; member Board of Lectureship of Grand Chapter, present Secretary; elected Grand High Priest 1953.

His absorbing interest and leadership in Masonry have brought him many rewarding memberships and high distinctions. He is a P. T. I. M. of Fayetteville Council No. 17, a past Commander of Palestine

Commandery No. 20, elected Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of North Carolina 1966. Other memberships: Sudan Temple, Royal Order of Jesters, New Bern Consistory, was invested as Knight Commander of the Court of Honor 1959. He is Past Sovereign of Patmos Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; North Carolina College Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis; K. Y. C. H. Past Prior; H. R. A. K. T. P, serving as Grand Preceptor in 1963. Member Allied Masonic Degrees, Sovereign Grand Master in 1965. He is one of the 100 Fellows of the American College of Rites and a Knight Mason of Ireland.

Abner Converse Sager, P.G.C.

East Central Department

Abner C. Sager, eldest of five children, was born in Saginaw, Michigan, November 17, 1907. After Graduation from Saginaw High School, studied accounting and joined Reichle Supply Company, wholesaler of plumbing-heat-ing-industrial supplies. Now Executive Vice President and General Manager. Married Evelyn Frances Coger, 1928. One son—member of St. Bernard Commandery; one daughter—Shirley Ann Kraatz, who has a family of three daughters.

Active Methodist, now a Trustee of Jefferson Avenue Methodist Church. Hobbies include fly fishing for trout—usually at the Sager cottage on the Au Sable River; also bird hunting, training English Setters, and “letting off steam in the yard.”

His long and distinguished Masonic record includes: Active Legion of Honor, DeMolay; member

Saline Lodge No. 155 since 1940; Saginaw Valley Chapter No. 31, R. A. M.; P. T. I. M. Saginaw Council No. 20, R. & S. M.; Michigan Council Thrice Illustrious Masters; Commander St. Bernard Commandery No. 16, 1950; Elf Khurafeh Shrine Temple—Arab Patrol Life Member, Ambassador 1963-67—1948 President Saginaw Shrine Caravan Club. Bay City Consistory, Board of Trustees since 1961, Chancellor at present, received Honorary 33° at Boston 1966. Saginaw Court No. 74 Royal Order of Jesters, elected Director in 1962, Impresario 1963-67. Junior General (1967) St. Martin Conclave Red Cross of Constantine.

Elected Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Michigan June 6, 1964. Served as appointed officer of Grand Encampment at Golden Triennial Conclave, Detroit, August 19-24, 1967.

Alvin Louis Crump, P.G.C.

North Central Department

Alvin L. Crump, born in Winemac, Indiana, February 17, 1904, was eldest of a family of ten children; educated in Culver, Indiana, and completed his Engineering education in Ohio.

After retiring in 1946 as Manager of Construction and sales for Powers Regulator Company, he established the A. L. Crump Company in Chicago and conducts a business of national and international scope primarily with Atomic Energy Commission, Ordinance Department, Utilities, Chemical Plants, Refineries and Packing Industries.

Married Mildred Louise Heilman of Tiffin, Ohio, 1929. Two Daughters—Carol Lynn and Constance M. Rammer.

He has an outstanding record of Masonic leadership. A recipient of the DeMolay Honorary Legion of Honor, he is a Past Master of Evans Lodge No. 524, Evanston; a Past High Priest of Evanston Chapter No. 144; Order of High Priesthood 1955; a P.T.I.M., R. & S. M.; Illinois Council of Past Thrice Illustrious Masters; Commander Evanston Commandery

No. 58 1954-55; Past Commanders Association of Iowa; Grand Commander, Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Illinois, September 7, 1962; Honorary Member of numerous Grand Commanderies; Officer Simon Peter Tabernacle No. XXII, H.R.A.K.T.P. Eminent Prior Illinois Priory No. 11, K.Y.C.H.; M.E. Grand Master Covent General 1965-66.

Other affiliations are both numerous and impressive. They include: Grand Council Knight Masons, Grand College of Rites, Officer of Grand Masters Council No. A of the Allied Masonic Degrees, Royal Order of Cork, Philaethes Society, Irin Grotto, Life membership in Scottish Rite Bodies of the Valley of Chicago, Life Member of Medinah Temple, Life Member Royal Order of Scotland, Chicago Court No. 48 of Royal Order of Jesters; Past Sovereign of Red Cross of Constantine and member of Grand College of Sovereigns; Eastern Star, White Shrine and Board Member Old Masonic and New Masonic Association—Chairman of Building Committee since 1941.

William R. Robbins, P.G.C.

South Central Department

Sir Knight Robbins was born May 30, 1916, on a farm near Spickard, Missouri. Graduate of Trenton High School and Trenton Junior College. Bachelor of Science degree from University of Missouri. Owns family farm originally owned by grandfather, and raises Angus cattle. Manages insurance company in Trenton.

Members of board of directors, Trenton National Bank and board of directors of Trenton Chamber

of Commerce. Serving second term as chairman, official board of First Christian Church, Trenton, and as trustee. On board of Grundy County University of Missouri Alumni Association and of the Missouri School of Religion. Member advisory board for Missouri College of Agriculture Northwest Missouri Experimental Farm. Serving third term as chairman of Grundy County Republican Central Committee. Member of Missouri State

Republican Committee.

Married to Marilyn Henderson of Monroe City, Missouri, a graduate of Christian College, Columbia, Mo., University of Arizona and at Union Theological Seminary of New York. Two daughters, Meredith and Marsha, both in Trenton High School.

Served in U. S. Marine Corps, 1942 to 1946. Discharged as captain. Duty at Parris Island, N. C., Quantico, Va., San Diego and North Island, Calif., Pearl Harbor, Peleliu, Okinawa and 12 other Pacific Islands. Member American Legion and VFW.

MASONIC RECORD: Trenton Lodge No. 111, Master in 1962-63; Trenton Chapter No. 66, High Priest in 1955; Trenton Council

No. 37, Ill. Master in 1958; Godfrey de Bouillon Commandery No. 24, Commander in 1955; Moila Temple, AAONMS, St. Joseph Mo.; Missouri Priory No. 17, KYCH, White Quadrant, Grand Cross; St. Joseph Conclave No. 9, Red Cross of Constantine (presently viceroy); Lord of Lords Tabernacle, HRAKTP; Orcomot Club, Ararat Shrine, Kansas City; Moila Greeters, Moila Temple, St. Joseph; Chairman, committee on public relations, Missouri York Rite, 1952 to 1956; First editor of Missouri Section, Royal Arch Mason Magazine; elected, Grand Commandery of Missouri, Grand Commander in 1964-65; and Member, public relations committee, Grand Encampment, 1964-67.

Carl John Baesemann, P.G.C.

North Pacific Department

Sir Knight Carl J. Baesemann, born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, May 11, 1913, attended public schools and the American Technical School in Wisconsin, later the Army Technical School; moved to Colorado where he met Ruth Elizabeth Turner, whom he married in 1943. One daughter. His background includes a stint as Justice of the Peace, U.S. Army 1941-45, U.S. Army Reserves 1945-51. He is a recognized participant in civic affairs.

In Masonry he has had a wide and intensive career. He is a Past Master of Denver Lodge No. 5, Past High Priest of Denver Chapter R. A. M., also appointed member of the Grand Chapter of Germany. He is President of the Colorado Council of the Order of High Priesthood. Active in Council degree work, he became T. I. M. of Denver Council in 1956, and—in 1962—was elected M.I. Grand Ma-

ster of Grand Council.

A Past Commander of Colorado Commandery No. 1, he was appointed Grand Captain of the Guard in 1956 and elected Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Colorado in 1964.

Sir Knight Baesemann is noted for his degree participations in the Rocky Mountain Consistory No. 2, where he holds the 32°. He is a member of Unity Chapter, O. E. S. (Patron in 1961-62); of El Jebel Shrine, and the Colorado College, Society of Rosicrucians, serving as Celebrant in 1963-64.

He is an officer of Pikes Peak Priory No. 21, K.Y.C.H., a member of the Crown of Thorns Tabernacle No. XXVIII, H.R.A.K.T.P., and of the Royal Order of Scotland. He has many honorary memberships, including those in the Grand Councils of Wyoming, Kansas, New Mexico and Azriona.

Harold S. Gorman, P.G.C.**South Pacific Department**

Sir Knight Gorman was born in Carlin, Nevada, May 9, 1903, married Marguerite Hinds, December 22, 1924. Two sons—Richard H. Gorman, Vice President, Le Tourneau-Westinghouse Co. and Robert H. Gorman, Industrial Sales Representative, General Electric Co.

Has been in the banking profession since May 1922 and is Chairman of the Board of First National Bank of Nevada, a statewide bank with 31 branches and total resources of \$446,000,000.

Member, Trinity Episcopal Church and has served as Junior Warden, Senior Warden and Member of Finance Committee.

Member: American Bankers Association (Nominating Committee 1967); Nevada Bankers Association (President 1949); American Institute of Banking, Sierra Nevada Chapter; Robert Morris Associates; Reno Chamber of Commerce (President 1952); Rotary Club of Reno (President 1944-45);

Prospectors Club (President 1966); Regional Export Expansion Council, U.S. Dept. of Commerce; Navy League; U. S. Chamber of Commerce (Membership Committee); National Industrial Conference Board; Small Business Administration (Advisory Board).

Member: Boy Scouts of America (Member, Executive Board); United Fund of Washoe County (Director); Reno Lodge No. 13 F. & A. M. (Trustee); Reno Chapter No. 7 R.A.M. (P.H.P.); Reno Council No. 4 R. & S.M.; DeWitt Clinton Commandery No. 1 (Treasurer); Grand Commandery of Nevada (P.G.C. & Treasurer); Chairman, Knights Templar Educational Foundation, Division of Nevada; Grand Encampment (Member, Finance Committee); Royal Order of Jesters Reno Court No. 33; Kerak Temple A.A.O.N.M.S.; Red Cross of Constantine Joan of Arc Conclave (Past Intendant General); and Order of De Molay (Legion of Honor).

Astronaut Gordon Cooper Honored By DeMolay

Leading an unusual class of candidates for the Honorary DeMolay Degree of Legion of Honor on August 6 in Jacksonville, Florida, were Sir Knight L. Gordon Cooper, famed space pilot; M. W. John T. Rouse, Jr., Grand Master of Masons in Florida; R. W. Carvie E. Webb, Sr., Senior Grand Warden, and N. W. Perry Marsh, Past Grand Master. Commander in the East was Sir Knight Stephen B. Dimond, Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Commandery of Florida, and Deputy Grand Master John L. Crofts, Sr. served as Commander in the West.

Following the investiture, Astronaut Cooper spoke for the class, said that today is probably the greatest time of opportunity for young people and suggested that to meet these opportunities demands unusual dedication and application of all God-given abilities.

Rousing standing ovations both before and after Astronaut Cooper's remarks by some 1,000 DeMolays and Advisors present, attending the annual State Conclave, testified to their appreciation of the accomplishments of Sir Knight Cooper.

PENNSYLVANIA SUPPLEMENT

THE CRUSADER



Serving Templary in Pennsylvania

“INVITE THAT MASONIC FRIEND. DON'T KEEP HIM OUT!”

As a meaningful expression of respect and appreciation for our retiring Most Eminent Grand Master, it was my honor to present him with more than 140 Knights Templar Eye Foundation Life Sponsor checks at Detroit. Sir Knight Cottrell, then Department Commander, wrote to ask us for a large final effort. Thanks to your response to my call for action, Pennsylvania came through!

We now enter upon the serious duty of causing our Grand Commandery to grow. Few divisions were “at rest” for the summer. Most were busy arranging and planning. Extreme activity regarding membership, schools of instruction and festivals were reported. The Sir Knights of Lewistown Commandery called a special conclave in August to read petitions. At that time they had 21.

A special “hats off” to Sir Knight Snyder—35 sponsors—to Sir Knights Mills, Roberts, Johnston. These men really answered the call.

And now, I submit that Templary is fortunate in Pennsylvania to possess at the moment the finest possible roster of Sir Knights in official capacities—Sir Knights who “care.” As your Grand Commander for one short year, I ask that EVERY Sir Knight join with them in one grand and glorious advance for CHRISTIAN MASONRY, FOR TEMPLARY! The time is now!

Invite that Masonic friend. Don't keep him out.

Courteously and Sincerely,

HAROLD E. STOKELY
Grand Commander

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Designating Next Place of Meeting

Walter E. Tompkins, Jr., **Chm.**
(92), 11032 Ferndale St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19116
Harry A. Evangelides (4)
Harry M. Symons (36)
John K. Law (54)
Caryl Brewster (82)

**York Rite Education and
Coordination**

John A. Roth, **Chm.** (49), 418
Boyer Road, Cheltenham, Pa.
19012
All Division Commanders
All Grand Officers

**Knight Templar Magazine
Promotion**

Ewart Roberts, E.G.S.W., **Chm.**,
1535 Luzerne St. Ext., Johnstown, Pa. 15905
Fred K. Frank (61)
Lawrence L. Gardner (69)
Lewis G. Bedford (57)
Jacob G. Vance (7)
Almar C. Hemans, Sr. (1)
William H. Karr (35)
Harry A. MacConnell (91)
Loren G. Vosburg (69)
H. Walter Hersker (47)
A. Raymond Mullin (55)
Enos F. Lowrey (84)

Public Relations

Russell R. Robison, E.G.J.W.,
Chm., 105 W. State St., Albion,
Pa. 16401
Robert W. Castner (29)
C. Leroy Sibre (95)
John C. Decker (22)
Ronald M. Sands (48)
George H. Evans (72)

Triennial Conclave

George A. Williams, P.G.C., **Chm.**,
1274 Wakeling St., Philadelphia,
Pa. 19124
John B. Cottrell, Jr., R.E.D.C.,
Vice Chm.
Charles B. Wolfertz, P.G.C.
Perry L. LaBarr, P.G.C.
John W. Laird, E.G.R.
All Elected Grand Officers

Knight Templar Eye Foundation

Charles B. Wolfertz, P.G.C., **Chm.**,
2718 Hamilton St., Allentown,
Pa. 18014
Allan C. Williams, P.G.C.
Dallas F. Bullock, P.G.C.
J. Harvey Moore, P.G.C.
Dale E. Almendinger (63)
Eugene A. Yeater (75)
John McCartney (59)
Mack E. Murphy (1)

Constitutional Revision

Harrison C. Hartline, P.G.C., **Chm.**,
426 Lincoln Ave., Erie, Pa. 16505
Perry L. LaBarr, P.G.C.
F. Parson Kepler, Sr., P.G.C.
Paul C. Rodenhauser, P.G.C.
J. Harvey Moore, P.G.C.
G. Calvin Dyson, V.E.D.G.C.
Charles R. Eurich, E.G.G.

Survey for New Commanderies

Virgil L. Wynn, **Chm.** (54), 805
Frosty Hollow Road, Levittown,
Pa. 19056
Robert M. Magee (88)
Joseph A. Dunlap (54)
William L. Cross (87)

Rituals

Horace W. Paul, **Chm.** (82), 3255
N. Park Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.
19140
Samuel B. Black (82)
Frederick W. Gross (82)

Knight Templar Cross of Honor

Harold E. Stokely, R.E.G.C., **Chm.**,
409 E. Ohio St., Pittsburgh, Pa.
15212

Harrison C. Hartline, P.G.C.,
Northwest Section

J. Harvey Moore, P.G.C., **North-**
west Section

Channing M. Galbreath, P. G. C.,
Southwest Section

Perry L. LaBarr, P.G.C., **South-**
west Section

George A. Williams, P.G.C., **South-**
east Section

G. Calvin Dyson, V.E.D.G.C.,
Southeast Section

Paul C. Rodenhauser, P.G.C., **Central**
Section

Charles R. Eurich, E.G.G., **Central**
Section

Allan C. Williams, P.G.C., **North-**
east Section

William D. Geesey, E.G.C.G.,
Northeast Section

DeMolay

William C. Graham, **Chm.** (87),
223 Cecelia St., Butler, Pa. 16001

James N. Deeter, P.G.C.

William J. McCulley (13)

S. Blair Sponeybarger, P.G.C.

Ritual and Tactics Coordination

William D. Geesey, E.G.C.G., **Chm.**,
10 Birkett St., Carbondale, Pa.
18407

All Division Commanders

This Committee to be expanded by
the Chairman

Drill Corps

Fred H. Bartolomay, **Chm.** (14),
417 Main St., Vandling, Pa.
18421

Joseph Bomenblit (92)

Homer M. Stalker (44)

Curtis Z. Keim (90)

Robert L. Crum (78)

Knight Templar Magazine—
Pennsylvania Supplement

Nelsen Sears, **Chm.** (34), 1718
Hemlock Road, Lancaster, Pa.
17603

Paul C. Rodenhauser, P.G.C., **Vice**
Chm., 14 E. Jackson St., (Suite
1733), Chicago, Ill. 60604

Rev. and Sir Knight Phillip R.
Jones (85), 645 Walnut St., Mil-
ton, Pa. 17847

Easter Sunrise Service

S. Blair Sponeybarger, Jr., P.G.C.,
Chm., 616 Ruskin Ave., Altoona,
Pa. 16602

Charles R. Frasch (34)

Emory C. Gardner (21)

Samuel H. Verner (1)

Reuben H. Learn (12)

Harry W. Wagner (61)

Harry M. Palmer (36)

Ralph H. Ott (97)

Earl Edwards (36)

James S. Ruffner (84)

George C. Meck (22)

Earl H. Supplee (55)

Patriotic Activities

Charles R. Eurich, E.G.G., **Chm.**,
40 Oak Lane, Shippensburg, Pa.
17257

S. Guy Dreese (85)

Ellis L. Yoder (71)

Thomas B. Brown (33)

Wilbur F. Swartzell (30)

Harry D. Fenstermacher (9)

Joseph P. Dechert (24)

Wayne G. McFarland (13)

Norman E. Duff (18)

Elmer R. Wivagg (86)

Mack H. Updike (91)

Stanley F. Graham (58)



PICK YOUR OWN CAPTION

You're right! While the Grand Commander's wife enjoys the situation, Sir Knight Harold E. Stokely shows more than a little startled concern at being stuck with the dinner check. Eminent Commander Kileen, Tancred No. 48, snapped the picture when Sir Knights Arturo and Zimmer were suddenly "called to the phone."

95 YEAR OLD KNIGHT BECOMES LIFE SPONSOR

Sir Knight William C. Ilwine, a member of Gettysburg Commandery No. 79 for 57 years, is one of Gettysburg's newest Life Sponsors of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, writes Guyon E. Buehler, P.C., Recorder.

Now a resident of Vencor City, New Jersey, Sir Knight Ilwine was knighted in Gettysburg Commandery in 1910 at the age of 38. His purchase of a life sponsorship further emphasizes the merit and value of the Eye Foundation work and serves as a special example for every Knight Templar, not only in Pennsylvania, but throughout the world.

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GRAND COMMANDER

"It is now certain that our Grand Master, Sir Knight Wilber M. Brucker, will be the official dedication speaker at Valley Forge this month. Imagine what Sir Knight Brucker, plus 100 Sir Knights with flags, will do for the image. This dedication will receive national publicity. Let's really go after every available Sir Knight with a clean plume—and build this up. There are 53 on this committee, and I hope YOU will all be there."

"Pete George has sent 10 petitions to the Grand Recorder."

"Reports of very successful membership meetings from Vern Stambaugh, Division No. 4. Also from Willard Heiny in No. 5. In answer to the Master Mason who thinks he should thoroughly digest everything in Blue Lodge for a few years before going further, Heiny quotes Sir Knight Miller: 'If you read and re-read the first three chapters of a five chapter book, you won't understand them as well as if you read the whole book.' I say 'Bravo, Sir Knight Miller. I'd like you to represent me in court—if I ever land there!'"

"Willard Heiny is mad at me. He's so busy with Commandery, he can't get in any fishing!"

"Of the first 24 Knights Templar Eye Foundation Life Sponsors received this term, 8 came from Sir Knight Dyson, 7 from Sir Knight Mills."

"Don't ever go to a picnic at Franklin with Floyd Jones—if you don't want to pick up 10 pounds."

"Keep punching for petitions. I'm counting on you!"

"Really Expecting Great Cooperation" — Harold E. Stokely, R.E.G.C.

The Reverend Curtis William Valentine Junker, D.D.

Right Eminent Grand Prelate of
the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar
of the United States of America

Sir Knight and Doctor Curtis William Valentine Junker, 501 South Cincinnati, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103, was appointed Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar August 24, 1967 by Sir Knight John L. Crofts, Sr., Most Eminent Grand Master.

Born June 30, 1913 in Emery, South Dakota, son of the Reverend Valentine and Elfrieda Braun Junker, he attended Watertown High School, Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut (B.A., 1935), General Theological Seminary, New York City (STB., 1938), was ordained Deacon in 1938 and Priest in 1939. His Doctorate in Divinity, 1952, is from Daniel Baker, The Episcopal College of the Southwest, Brownwood, Texas. Dr. Junker has had graduate work at the Graduate School for Junior Clergy, Cincinnati; Columbia University, New York City; the General Theological Seminary, Southern Methodist University, Dallas and at St. Augustine's College, Canterbury, England.

His Episcopal parochial ministry includes: Seminarian, St. Thomas Church and St. Thomas Chapel, New York City; Seminarian Pastor to Youth Congregation, St. Stephen's, Port Washington, Long Island; Headmaster, Woodhull Private Day School, and Assistant, St. Gabriel's, Hollis, Long Island; Superintending Presbyter, Sisseton, South Dakota; National Field Secretary, Youth Division of the Executive Council, New York; Chaplain, United States Navy, 1944-46; Armed Forces Chaplains' Representative to Geneva in 1946 to plan first Ecumenical Youth



Gatherings after the war; all Dominion Anglican Young Peoples Association conferences in Oxford; World Federation Christian Youth Movement meetings in Cambridge, England, and Paris, France.

As Canon to the Ordinary in the Diocese of Dallas he had been especially identified with campus, hospital and institution chaplaincies and centers, youth work, civic activities, Civil Air Patrol, television services, the Lively Arts and Church and School expansion.

As the Rector of Trinity Parish, Tulsa, since 1958 he ministers to 2,500 baptized members. Dr. Junker has attended all General Conventions of the Church since 1941 as a Delegate, Alternate, or with special responsibility for College

Work or Chaplains' Booth. He is Ecumenical Officer for the Diocese and Province and Chairman of Liturgical Art and Architecture. A bachelor, the Right Eminent Grand Prelate is an author of "The Bond of Honor," a manual on marriage; "Eucharistic Worship," and numerous pamphlets and other publications.

He was made a Mason at 21 in Kapeska Lodge No. 13, Watertown, South Dakota, demitted to Delta Lodge No. 425, Tulsa, in 1961, his Chapter membership is now in Tulsa Chapter No. 52; he is a member of Tulsa Council No. 22, Trinity Commanders No. 20, Tulsa, and was Grand Prelate, of

the Grand Commandery of Oklahoma in 1964. He is a Scottish Rite Mason and received the KCCH in 1963. He is a member of Akdar Shrine of Tulsa. A charter member of Ademar Chapter, Order of DeMolay, he has served as Junior, Senior and Master Counselor and is now a Life Member of the Legion of Honor and a Counselor of Tulsa Chapter. Active in interfaith and ecumenical dialogue, he is mindful of the behavioral sciences and of the "Silent Language" which communicates through that which christians build and joyfully represent as well as through new patterns of commitment and cooperative effort.

THE REAL ESSENCE OF TEMPLARY WAS EXEMPLIFIED AT GRAND ENCAMPMENT

By John Black Vrooman, P.C., Missouri

Those of us privileged to attend the Golden Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment, at Detroit, August 19-24, 1967, were thrilled by the pageantry and brilliant fanfare of the activities surrounding this most extraordinary event. No one could fail to appreciate the variety and perfection of the parade, the splendid Religious Service, participated in by thousands of Sir Knights in uniform, and exemplifying Christian Knighthood at its best.

What many *did not* realize, however, was that the pomp, public display and the *for the public* manifestations, were not the true picture of Templary, for behind it all, behind the things seen by the outside world, is something more vital, more needed and more important than all the most emphatically-eye-filling window dressing, was the actual inside activity of Templary in its philanthropic, hu-

manitarian and Christian exemplification of the practice of the tenets and teachings of caring for the needy, tending the sick, and assuring the widow and orphans assurance that they will never be forgotten.

It is these principles, put to daily action through the Knight Templar Eye Foundation, the Knight Templar Educational Structure, together with charity, in all its forms practiced in every part of the habitable world where Templars meet, that stamp the Order of Knights Templar as the exemplars of Masonic good will and integrity. Without these things, the pageantry would be but worthless forms and useless ceremonies and procedures.

Most of us are inclined to pay too much attention to the outside activities, the parades, the display and the attraction of the public eye. To be sure, it is good to create

a favorable public image and to have the respect of the people of the world, but more important is to so display the treasures of Templary, and the good deeds of the Order, that "what we do will speak louder than what we say."

To bring Light from Darkness by research, skill and care; to make possible visual contact with the world, and by practising the virtue of helpfulness through the devoted ministration of our members, is the best way to make the name of Templary coincide with the practice of the Golden Rule. When we put into practice those Christian virtues, the outside world will know, by precept, that Templary is sincere in its endeavor to participate in Christian action.

By encouraging a worthy student to gain a college education, the Knight Templar Educational Foundation is making sure that

our Youth will dedicate itself to honor in human relations, and that by the helping hand and understanding heart, that the young man and young woman will grow to useful, responsible maturity, ready to take part in the affairs of the world in an intelligent, dedicated manner.

The Order of Knights Templar was founded to protect the weak, to labor for the good of the oppressed, and to care for the poor. That great objective has not changed from its original objective—only the means of attaining those objectives.

We have celebrated a hundred and fifty-one years of glorious existence, we have attuned ourselves to modern tempos, and we are starting another half century of activity for the benefit of humanity. How can we fail if we persist in our Christian endeavors?

Pennsylvania Presents Grand Master Brucker With 144 Eye Foundation Life Sponsors To Go Over The Top In The 1964-1967 Goal

Harold E. Stokely, G. C., Pennsylvania, issued an emergency call to action exactly 42 days before the convening of the Golden Triennial Conclave, urging the Sir Knights of Pennsylvania to help the Grand Master reach his goal of 20,000 Eye Foundation Life Sponsors during the fast closing Triennial period.

On Wednesday morning, August 23, Sir Knight Brucker announced the Grand Encampment was just 91 sponsorships beneath its goal. Writes Sir Knight Stokely: "Can you imagine how happy we all were to approach the East and hand the Grand Master 144 more?"

Before another two days had passed, Pennsylvania's Grand Commander had forwarded letters to his official family, and to the many other Sir Knights involved in the crash campaign, thanking them for their special effort and their results, and urging them next to go over the top in petitions.

Sir Knight Arthur Snyder, originally designated by Grand Commander Stokely to make the Triennial presentation to Grand Master Brucker, was unable to be present because of family illness. The honor went to Russell R. Robison, Grand Junior Warden.

"The Word," Three Act Synoptic York Rite Play, Presented for 142 Candidates In The Governor Otto Kerner Class

M. W. Brother Myron K. Lingle's drama, "The Word," based on York Rite Masonry, was a dramatic and Masonic success Saturday, August 5, when it was the vehicle for the communication of the degrees and orders of York Rite Masonry upon a class of 142 candidates in the Masonic Temple, Springfield, Illinois.

First completed in 1955, "The Word" was presented on a number of occasions only to men who were members of the Chapter and Council. In 1966, with the approval of the three Grand York Rite bodies, a large class of Master Masons took binding obligations and thus became members of the Myron K. Lingle Class. The 1967 class at Springfield was named in honor of the active Masonic Governor of Illinois, Sir Knight Otto Kerner, who was present August 5 to receive the degrees of the Council.

Brother Lingle, Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, compiled and wrote "The Word" as a labor of Masonic love. He conceived the idea when he served as presiding officer of Tyrian Lodge No. 333 and the three York Rite bodies in Springfield. Following extensive research into Masonic history, and months of writing and re-writing, the play, requiring a cast of more than 50, was completed and produced. As the Worshipful Master's play unfolds, the impressive lessons preceding the completion of the second Temple are dramatically portrayed in chronological order. This logical and comprehensive sequence is climaxed by the incomparable Order of the Temple,



Gov. Otto Kerner

the ultimate of all degrees or orders in Masonry. Publicity for the August 5 production of "The Word" was imaginatively and efficiently handled by Sir Knight Clarence Evans, Publicity Chairman for the York Rite bodies of Springfield. Through his efforts, the Illinois State Journal carried a full page of rehearsal photographs and copy Monday, July 31. The State Journal-Register of Sunday, August 6, featured a front page picture and caption on the Knighting of the exemplar, Roy H. Neisewander, Sr.

Neisewander, the exemplary candidate, is a leading citizen of Illinois. He is president of Raynor Manufacturing Company, Dixon, Illinois; designer and manufacturer of Kwik-Wall, a portable partition wall handled by Capitol Wood-



Grand Commander Wennerstrand Knights Exemplar Neisewander

works, Springfield; the franchised owner and operator of both Holiday Inns of Springfield, in addition to the Holiday Inns in Rock-

ford and Aurora, Illinois, and Lawrence and Lowell, Massachusetts. Sir Knight Neisewander is a member of Central Lodge No. 71, Springfield Valley of the Scottish Rite and Ansar Temple.

Many York Rite Leaders in Illinois hail "The Word" as the finest festival presentation ever offered. A. L. Crump, P. G. C., Member Of The Grand Encampment Membership Committee 1964-67, and now R. E. Department Commander, was one of the pleased and enthusiastic observers of "The Word." His Commandery, Evanston No. 85, has had 22 years of uninterrupted membership gains, with the roster increasing from 193 in 1945 to 789 in 1967. Sir Knight Crump credits festivals as probably the greatest factor in this consistent gain.



Myron K. Lingle

The Early Days of Freemasonry

THE EARLY DAYS

The following is Part One of a highly condensed version of a Paper presented to Lodge of Research No. 104, Atlanta, Ga. by Wor. Bro. R. S. Sagar, P.C. (Georgia). It will be in three installments.

"GRAND LODGE IS FORMED"

Abraham Lincoln made the statement: "They could not escape History." He was not referring to Freemasons, but this comment could have applied to a small group of men who met, we believe, on St. John The Baptist's Day, June 24, 1717, and formed what was to become the world's first Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted, or Speculative, Masons.

In June we celebrated the 250th Anniversary of that occasion. For a quarter of a thousand years, the greatest non-religious organization in history for the betterment of mankind's morals, has exerted its influence. It has brought men closer to their God; it has made good men better; and in at least one instance, it has been at the very root of the founding of the greatest nation the world has ever known—THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

It is an unfortunate fact that the first account we have of the forming of Grand Lodge was not written until twenty-two years after the event. Even then, it was published by a man who was not present at the time, although the description is believed to be reasonably accurate.

In January 1723 were printed and published "The CONSTITUTIONS of the FREEMASONS, containing the History, Charges, Regulations, etc. of that Most Ancient and Right Worshipful

FRATERNITY For the Use of the Lodges." (I have modernized the wording—R.S.S.). This book was put together by a Dr. James Anderson, believed to have been a Presbyterian Minister from Aberdeen, Scotland.

This first edition contains no reference to the founding of Grand Lodge, though it was published only six years after that event. For the next seven years, Dr. Anderson appears to have stayed away from Grand Lodge, but in 1738, a year before his death, he published his "Second Edition".

With the exception of the Bible, no other book has had such a deep effect on Freemasonry. This is all the more remarkable when we realize that both these editions were the private property and personal activity of Dr. Anderson, and not an official publication of Grand Lodge.

In this Second Edition, he gives a short account of the formation of Grand Lodge; the following is a summary:

In 1716, four Lodges meeting in London, namely "The Goose and Gridiron," the "Crown," the "Apple Tree," and the "Rummer and Grapes" (the names being taken from the taverns where they met) gathered at the "Apple Tree". For the sake of Union and Harmony, they called themselves a Grand Lodge pro-tem, and agreed to revive Quarterly Communications, hold an Annual Assembly and Feast, and elect a Grand Master.

On St. John The Baptist's Day, 1717, they again met at the "Goose and Gridiron" (the oldest Lodge) and there elected a Grand Master and Grand Wardens. The Grand Master was invested with the Badge of Office and Power, and installed; received homage from

the Brethren; and then commanded the Masters and Wardens to meet with the Grand Officers every quarter.

As simply as that, the first, or Premier, Grand Lodge came into existence.

Before leaving the subject, it may be interesting to consider two small items; what happened to the four Lodges, and how many Brethren were involved?

The "Goose and Gridiron" became the Lodge of Antiquity No. 2; The "Rummer and Grapes" is now No. 4; The "Apple Tree" is now No. 12; The "Crown" ceased to exist in 1736.

Nobody knows how many Brethren assisted in the founding of Grand Lodge. However, the "Goose and Gridiron" Tavern was only pulled down in modern times, and the largest available room was but 22 feet by 15 feet. This would not accommodate many people; it is the writer's personal guess that probably no more than 30 Brethren were present, and possibly even less.

In this connection, it should be remembered that English Lodges are small; even today, with some 7,400 Lodges on roll, the average membership per Lodge is less than 80 (eighty) members.

"BEFORE GRAND LODGE"

We have discussed the formation of Grand Lodge, but what came before that date? Did Freemasonry start in 1716; was it in existence in the Middle Ages; did it in fact arise at the building of King Solomon's Temple; or does it go back to Adam? Let us examine.

Adam as First Grand Master. To the writer, this seems beyond reason, and there is no basis for this claim other than the fanciful and long-winded history written by Dr. Anderson.

King Solomon's Temple. Again, I find it hard to accept that our Freemasonry has come down direct to us from the building of the Temple 3000 years ago. The details and circumstances surrounding the erection, completion, and destruction of this magnificent building, form a wonderful basis for the lessons which have been woven around them.

However, nowhere in the Bible, which completely documented everything to do with the Temple, or in such other historical writings or legends which have come down through the ages, are there any references to an organization which could possibly be considered as Masonic, either Speculative or Operative.

The Middle Ages. Here we do approach the probable beginnings of our Craft, but care must be taken to avoid confusing fact with fiction; taking documents from their proper place and using them to try to prove a personal point of view; and repeating old stories that modern research has proved false.

Arose in 1716. We have enough documentary evidence to show that Speculative Freemasonry was formed well before this date, and that Operative Freemasonry had been in existence for several hundred years.

It therefore seems that we have to look to the Middle Ages for our origins. This we shall do, but we must define the "Middle Ages". For the purposes of this document, I will take the period approximately from 1200 to 1600 A.D.

It is generally accepted today that our Speculative or Symbolic Freemasonry is descended from the medieval Guilds and the Livery Companies. Who and what were these organizations?

Owing to lack of space, unfortunately, it is not possible to go into full details here on this most interesting question. It is treated at some length in the original Paper. However there are *no* records of an actual Mason's Guild, surprisingly enough. There *Was* a Livery Company called "The Company of Freemasons of the City of London," founded some time prior to 1376; it still legally exists.

For the same reason we cannot here refer in detail to the early Operative Masons, other than to mention that we have documents going back to 1243, on the "King's Master Masons." Again, interesting information on this can be found in the original Paper.

"EARLY SPECULATIVE FREE-MASONS"

On October 16, 1646, occurred the Initiation of the first known Speculative Freemason, one Elias Ashmole. To put this date into perspective, Shakespeare had only been dead 30 years, and it was not yet 26 years from the arrival of "The Mayflower".

Ashmole lived when England was leaving the Dark Ages and substituting intelligent inquiry for blind superstition. He was a man of obvious high intelligence, and it seems that he would not have allowed himself to be initiated into Freemasonry if it were not already known to him. He lists seven other names of members; at least one is known to have been an Operative Mason.

Other well-known personalities and organizations who refer to Freemasonry between 1646 and 1710 are:

Randle Holme-A contemporary of Ashmole, he is believed to have been made a Mason about 1665.

Dr. Robert Plot-Not himself a Mason, in 1686 he published a

book in which he referred to the use of signs, minimum number to open a Lodge, the title "Accepted Mason", and others. He also claims that eminent men were Masons and that Freemasonry was widespread.

Sir Christopher Wren-It has never been definitely decided whether the world's greatest architect ever actually was a Freemason. He died six years after Grand Lodge was formed, age 91. The possible answer is that he was a Freemason, but not a prominent one.

John Aubrey-In 1686 he also mentions "Adopted Free Masons"; the use of signs and words; the pledge of secrecy; and that there are several Lodges in various counties.

Edward Hall-In 1732 he claimed he had been made a Mason in 1695 or 1696, which was probably true. He was petitioning Grand Lodge and would need to substantiate his request.

Other Sources-It would appear from miscellaneous writings that there was a Lodge at York in 1705. In 1709 and 1710, a London magazine, refers to Freemasons, as does a 1710 pamphlet. In 1676, a scandal-sheet published a mock-notice of a meeting of "Accepted Masons"; it seems this name must have already been generally known and understood. And in 1698 the "Freed Masons", as it was spelled, were accused of being all sorts of evil doers; the first of many attacks on us, by the uninitiated and ignorant.

We have now laid our background for the forming of Grand Lodge. Non-operative Masons were being initiated before the turn of the century. The name Free or Accepted Masons was evidently recognized in the limited public press of those days, and presumably the movement had slowly been gather-

ing strength for at least 50 years, all round England as well as in London.

Who the Brethren were of the four founding Lodges, we do not know, but they must have come from somewhere. It is unlikely that they were all newly "made", as they were sufficiently concerned about the strength of the Craft, in London anyway, to agree to a governing body for its improvement.

"AFTER THE FORMING"

June 24th, 1717 has passed, but what happened then? Did everybody go to work, and immediately start up new Lodges, or bring many of the country Lodges into Grand Lodge? What exactly was the first Grand Lodge, and what powers did it have?

Actually, it was quite limited and local, for the first three years. As far as we can find out, until 1720 nothing much happened at all. The Grand Lodge was small; just the original four Lodges. If only the Master and Wardens were technically members, by 1720 it could only have had 16 members at the most!

The jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge was just London itself, less than three square miles, equivalent to a circle with a diameter of about a mile. Many Lodges outside this area actively resented the formation of Grand Lodge, and must have fought bitterly every effort it made to extend its authority. But after it started chartering new Lodges, it gradually became self-perpetuating. By 1725 there were 64 Lodges on the "Engraved List", of which fifty were in London and the rest scattered round the South and West of the country.

We might now ask how the big increase came about, and the answer appears to be "Because of a

book." In Chapter One we refer to Dr. Anderson's first "Constitutions," published in January 1723.

In these "Constitutions" are given instructions for warranting a new Lodge, and this could have been the touch-stone which started off the chartering of a whole lot of Lodges. They could at last feel secure and legal by accepting a Warrant from Grand Lodge, and doubtless the Brethren already supporting Grand Lodge would extend their enthusiasm in this direction.

To be continued.

Copies of the full Paper, some 40 pages, can be obtained from the Secretary, W. W. Daniel, Lodge of Research No. 104, Suite 1501, Fulton National Bank Building, Atlanta, Ga. 30303; price—\$1.00 including postage.

NORTH ATLANTIC DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE

Oct. 20-21

New York City

The newly appointed Right Eminent Department Commander for the North Atlantic Department, Frank L. Bourke, is in the midst of arrangements for a Department Conference of officers and Past Grand Commanders of the Department's ten jurisdictions in New York City, October 20 and 21. He asks that those involved will clear those two dates. The Most Eminent Grand Master, Sir Knight John L. Crofts, Sr., and other Grand Encampment officers will participate. Full details will be mailed in the near future.

From Our Readers

Jacksonville, Florida Summer York Rite Class



Pictured are officers of the York Rite Bodies and members who received all of the degrees and orders in full form during the special summer class held in Jacksonville, Florida, during July, 1967.

York Rite Masons in this area are very pleased with the outstanding ritualistic work being exemplified by cast members from the Pa-

latka, Lake City, St. Augustine, Fernandina, Live Oak, as well as the Jacksonville, York Rite Bodies. Co-operation and unity prevail in this York Rite Area!

All hands are soliciting petitions for the Virgil I. (Gus) Grissom Memorial Class on October 14th and we plan to be in Orlando in full force for this historic event.

By J. Frank Nettles, Corr.

Twenty-Five Per Cent of Columbia Commandery's Members Are Now Life Sponsors of the K.T. Eye Foundation

Twenty-five per cent of the 512 membership of Columbia Commandery No. 2, K.T., of the District of Columbia, have now become Life Sponsors to the K. T. Eye Foundation. Sir Knight F. Ralph Negus recently became Columbia's 128th Life Sponsor to make this 25% participation.

The three Commanderies of the District of Columbia, Washington No. 1, Columbia No. 2, and Potomac No. 3, have a combined mem-

bership participation of 18.97% as Life Sponsors. The Jurisdiction hoped to reach an even 20% by the time of the Golden Triennial in Detroit.

Ernest C. Barker, Correspondent

Clarksville Commandery No. 8, Clarksville, Tennessee will observe its 100th Anniversary on October 12, 13, and 14. Work will be conferred on a class of candidates as a part of this celebration.

Grand Master Brucker Introduced by Verse

Edward S. Piggins, P. G. C. of Michigan served most ably as toastmaster at the Grand Masters Banquet in Cobo Hall on Wednesday night at the Golden Triennial. 2800 Sir Knights and ladies were served at this banquet at which time Wilber Marion Brucker made his last official appearance as Grand Master of the Grand Encampment. He was introduced in part by the following verse by Judge Piggins:

The Spotlight now turns toward the great one

As the sands of his hour glass run

For he's wielded the mace—with a dignified grace

And he's earned his true place in the sun.

But no mortal man is eternal

And an end comes to all worldly things

And besides there's John Crofts—with his sword held aloft

Pacing breathlessly back in the wings.

Sir Wilber—your service was yeoman

We regret—that it's come to an end

Tho' a loss we've sustained—Clara Brucker has gained

The return of an old life long friend.

Wilber M. Brucker Trophy Won Permanently By Niles Commandery



Left to Right: Fred Roberts, Com.; Wilber H. Meldrim, P.C.; Floyd E. Barnes; George R. Caselman; Edgar H. Adams; and William A. White.

The beautiful trophy pictured above was first presented by Past Grand Master Brucker in 1965 to be awarded to the Commandery in Michigan having the largest an-

nual percentage gain in membership with the stipulation that the trophy would be the permanent property of the Commandery to win it three times. Niles Commandery took no chances—it won it in 1965, 1966 and 1967.

At what age should a Sir Knight no longer be active in Templary?

Sir Knight Robert A. Trimble, age 92, has been active in Masonic circles all his life, having served as secretary of his lodge for 37 years and is now serving as Grand Guard of the Grand Chapter R. A.M., State of Nevada.

Sir Knight William C. Alwine, 5603 Atlantic Avenue, Ventnor City, N.J., age 95, recently became a Life Sponsor in the Knight Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

James J. Kirby, age 87, was knighted in Trinity Commandery of Malvern, Arkansas on August 8, 1967.

**Past Masters of Caldwell Lodge
(Florida)—Members of K.Y.C.H.**



From L. to R.: Joseph Jackson Johnson, Arthur Sylvester Stewart, John Wesley Stewart, Jr., William Calhoun Bate and Lester Stanton, W.M., 1966.

Pictured above are the first five Masters of Stafford Caldwell Lodge No. 324 F. & A.M. who have the unusual distinction of all being designated Knights York Cross of Honor.

In addition to the above, Caldwell Lodge has another very distinguished member, Orville Ambrose Clark, who is Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Florida as well as having been designated a Knight York Cross of Honor in Florida Priory No. 60 K.Y.C.H.

By J. Frank Nettles, Corr.

Burlington Commandery No. 50, Wisconsin, is the most recent commandery to go over the top with 100% of its members becoming life sponsors to the Knight Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. George Edward Petrie of St. Lucie Commandery of Florida is the founder of the YORK EYE SPONSORSHIP Club and was instrumental in assisting in this most successful promotion.

In Memoriam

Connecticut

William F. Olson, G.G., 1967—
August 24, 1967.

Maryland

Charles W. Zimmerman, G.C.,
1925—August 24, 1967.

Vistas of Templary, a series of historical articles on Templary by John Black Vrooman, is just off the press in pamphlet form. These articles appeared in twelve issues of the *Knight Templar* in 1966. Contact Mitchell - Fleming Press, P.O. Box 477, Greenfield, Indiana 46140. Price \$1.00.

KNIGHT TEMPLAR is the Official Publication of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America. JOHN L. CROFTS, SR., Grand Master, P.O. Box 718, Nokomis, Florida 33555; PAUL C. RODENHAUSER, Grand Recorder, 14 East Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Illinois 60604.

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POSTMASTERS SEND NOTICES AND RETURN MAGAZINES TO KNIGHT TEMPLAR, P.O. BOX 477, GREENFIELD, INDIANA 46140. RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT GREENFIELD, INDIANA 46140

THIS EDITOR'S SWAN SONG

The Knight Templar as a monthly publication had its inception six years ago and I have been privileged to be associated with it during the entire period.

At that time the paid subscriptions to the Magazine which were honored by the new monthly Knight Templar was approximately 9,000. At the end of the first Triennium of its existence this was increased to more than 14,000 paid subscribers. A vigorous campaign for subscriptions was initiated at the beginning of the last Triennium which resulted in a peak paid subscription of 35,358 in April of 1967.

For the most part these subscriptions were the result of many Sir Knights in all Grand Jurisdictions and the subordinate commanderies personally contacting Sir Knights and asking them to subscribe; two or three constituent commanderies have on occasions subscribed for their entire membership; at least one Grand Commandery subscribes for the Knight Templar for all of the officers of its constituent commanderies; a number of commanderies purchase a one year's subscription for each of their newly made Sir Knights. You can well see that the subscription list was an ever changing one and one that required constant work to maintain.

The statistics relative to subscriptions during the last Triennium speak for themselves in that subscriptions were increased practically $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the number that we had at the beginning of the Triennium. This is the result of the work and effort of many dedicated Sir Knights.

Grand Master Brucker gave his inspiration and planning to the project throughout the entire Triennium. John L. Crofts, Sr., then Deputy Grand Master, did most of the detail work in keeping statistics on subscriptions and finances,

and making suggestions as to how the program could become more effective; he monthly sent reports to the Grand Encampment Officers, Correspondents to the Magazine, Grand Commanders, and others involved in the project. This voluntary effort of the last Triennium, which in my opinion, was the maximum that could reasonably be expected, had gotten us about 9% of our membership as subscribers to the Knight Templar.

I would certainly be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to thank the Correspondents, contributors, and particularly Paul C. Rodenhauer, Grand Recorder, for their assistance in the publication of the Magazine during the preceding Triennium. Paul was largely responsible for the attractive color covers for the last couple of years and for many of the feature articles. It is difficult to have a poor magazine when you start out with an inspirational article such as "A Message from the Grand Master" by Past Grand Master Brucker, and monthly have a moving and beautiful prayer from Dr. Howard R. Towne, then serving as Grand Prelate. The other articles and news stories that many have contributed from time to time have constituted the Knight Templar.

As retiring Editor I have considerable satisfaction in reflecting upon the progress that has been made with the Knight Templar during the preceding two Trienniums; knowing that this has all come about because of many dedicated Sir Knights putting their effort to the project; and being able to look forward to a professional and much more meaningful and helpful publication for Templary, with the next and following issues being edited by our new and most able Editor, Paul C. Rodenhauer, Grand Recorder.

Willard M. Avery, Editor



The
Right Eminent
Department
COMMANDERS

1967—1970

Clockwise from top: Frank L. Bourke, North Atlantic; C. Wallace Jackson, Southeastern; Abner C. Sager, East Central; Alvin L. Crump, North Central; William R. Robbins, South Central; Carl J. Baesemann, North Pacific; Harold S. Gorman, South Pacific.

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