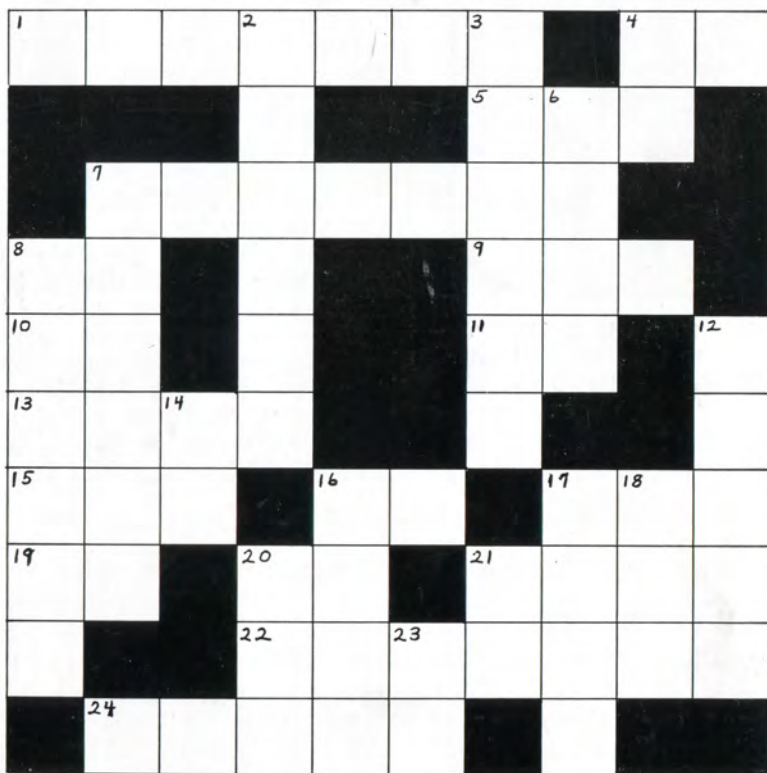




A TEMPLAR TEASER—



See Back Cover for Puzzle Definitions



A MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND MASTER - -



Sir Knight John L. Crofts, Sr.
The Most Eminent Grand Master
Knights Templar, U.S.A.

photos if available. *Don't* worry about proper style if you are not a trained writer. *Do* give him prompt and full information.

Willard M. Avery, R. E. Grand Captain General, is now the Grand Master's liaison officer in business matters related to publishing and for subscription promotion. He will report progress and answer your questions, and will be expected to stimulate those Templar officers who may be less responsive.

New subscription forms have been broadcast with the intention that each local Recorder shall have a supply available, and to replace all other subscription forms. Simple to use, they will guarantee that the subscriber will receive *Knight Templar* continuously, without the inconvenience of periodic renewal. While it is still important that at least 10% of all members receive *Knight Templar*, the immediate concern of Grand Commandery and Commandery Officers should be that all state officers and committeemen and all local officers and all new members will receive it. A copy of the new subscription form appears in this issue—you who are new subscribers, please see that it is used by another Templar.

Now is the time. If all who are concerned with Templar progress will lend a hand for a few days, all necessary will be accomplished.

"I will wield my sword . . ."

Interim Subscriptions—Now!

We may be justly proud of Knight Templar Magazine— of the excellent Templar voice and Masonic journal of current events it has become under the editorship of Sir Knight Willard M. Avery. We may be equally proud of the strong spirit of the voting members of Grand Encampment, who decided at Detroit by a 4½ to 1 margin that Templary *will* advance and that all Templars *will* be informed each month by every-member distribution of *Knight Templar Magazine* at the earliest possible date, July 1969. *Now hear this!*

Paul C. Rodenhauser, R. E. Grand Recorder, will edit *Knight Templar*. Professionally qualified and deeply dedicated, he may be expected to prepare the best national monthly Masonic journal ever made available, *if you* inform him very promptly as to interesting Templar or Masonic events—give him ideas worthy of note—report individuals worthy of attention. *If it interests you, tell him*, supplying good

Grand Masters of Grand Encampment

Sir Knight Wylie B. Wendt, in the Kentucky news bulletin distributed just before the Golden Triennial Conclave sessions at Detroit, summarizes the background facts about Grand Masters. Updated to include Grand Encampment's newest Grand Master, Sir Knight Wendt's article follows.

Forty-one (now forty-two) Knights have held the office of Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America from the following states at the time of their election: New York, 7; Pennsylvania, 4; three from Ohio, Massachusetts, Illinois, California and Michigan; two each from Wisconsin and Texas; and one each from New Hampshire, District of Columbia, Louisiana, Virginia, Kentucky, Rhode Island, Indiana, Colorado, Minnesota, Missouri and Florida.

The professions and business connections of these forty-two Sir Knights were as follows: lawyers, 20; manufacturers, 5; physicians, 3; ministers, 2; engineers, 2; bankers, 2; business, 2; and one each from the following: insurance, broker, publisher, dentist, R.R. executive and soldier.

Two Grand Masters died in office. The 29th Grand Master, Sir Knight Perry W. Weidner, California, was elected Grand Master in 1931 and died August 16, 1932.

The 30th Grand Master, Sir Knight Harry C. Walker, New York, was elected Deputy Grand Master in 1931, and became Grand Master upon the death of Sir Knight Weidner, August 16, 1932. He died in office November 2, 1932, 78 days later.

The 31st Grand Master, Sir Knight Andrew D. Agnew, Wisconsin, was elected Grand Generalissimo in 1931. He became Acting Grand Master November 2, 1932, upon the death of Sir Knight Walker. Sir Knight Agnew was elected Grand Master in 1934 and served three years.

TEMPLAR MASONRY IN ACTION

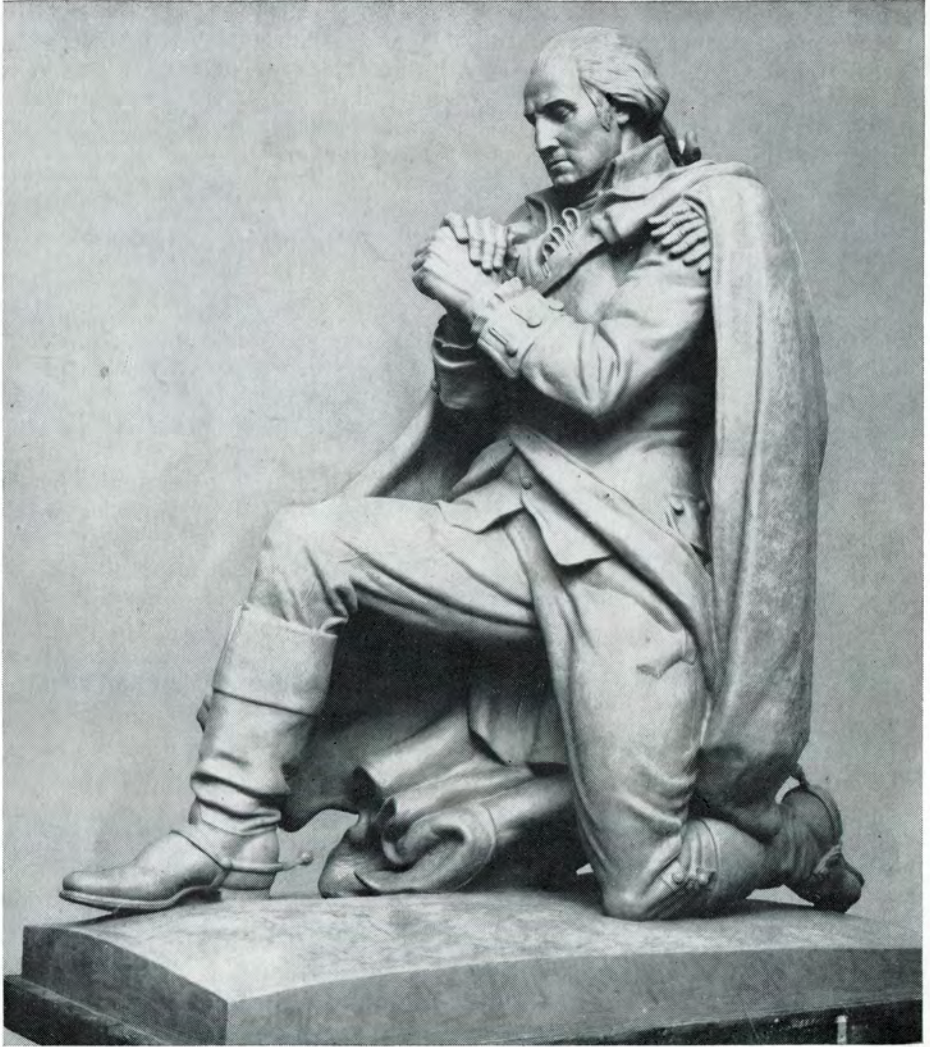
One of the Grand Commandery of Illinois projects most characteristic of Templar principles is the Illinois Knights Templar Home for the Aged Infirm, Inc., at Paxton, Illinois. Supported by voluntary contributions and payments by residents, the Knight Templar Home is an inspiring example of Templary's humanitarian service "to relieve the distressed, a duty incumbent upon all men, but particularly Masons who profess to be linked together by an indissoluble chain of sincere affection."

In addition to the contributions of Illinois Commanderies, the home receives support from Masonic Lodges, Scottish Rite and Shrine bodies, Job's Daughters, Red Cross of Constantine, Councils, Chapters and other affiliates.

The executive board includes Edmund V. Johnson, president; William G. Mateer, vice president; Howard M. Snapp and Harold H. Lundberg, co-chairmen, and John Levett, chairman emeritus.

One of the distinguished residents of the home is John Temple Rice, Past Grand Master and former Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S.A.

Donald De Lue Statue of George Washington at Valley Forge



View of the Nine-Foot Bronze Statue of Brother George Washington at Prayer presented by the Masons of Pennsylvania to Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge September 9, 1967 in elaborate ceremony attracting more than 22,000 Masons and Friends.

A special bronze medallion was struck in commemoration of the dedication. Three inches in diameter, it was designed by Sculptor David De Lue for Masons interested in a durable and significant symbol of the event. There have been more than 2,500 orders for the medallions at this date at \$5.00 each.

Sir Knight Brucker Speaks and 22,000 Listen As Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania Dedicates Washington-At-Prayer Statue

By Sir Knight William A. Carpenter
Librarian and Curator
Grand Lodge F. & A.M., Pennsylvania

One of the most colorful and inspiring sights in the processional of the Masonic ceremonies dedicating the nine-foot bronze statue of Brother George Washington at Prayer by the Grand Lodge F. & A.M. of Pennsylvania at Freedoms Foundation, Valley Forge, on Saturday, September 9, 1967, was the double column of 140 Sir Knights of Pennsylvania in full uniform and each carrying an American Flag.

Another unforgettable sight in the dedication ceremony was the vast number of Elected and Appointed Grand Lodge Officers, the several hundred Symbolic Lodge Officers, and presiding Officers and their staffs of other Grand Bodies and various Masonic organizations, all in their respective Masonic dress.

It is estimated that more than 22,000 Masons, their families and friends were on hand to witness the unveiling and dedication of this unusual statue, a gift of the Masons of Pennsylvania to Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge. The statue has been erected on a hill overlooking the rustic woodlands of the vast track of land forming The Congressional Medal of Honor Grove.

In due ceremony, Sir Knight Robert E. Deyoe, Right Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Pennsylvania, was joined by Mr. Donald De Lue, sculptor commissioned to create the statue, in the

unveiling of the statue, while thousands looked on. Following the unveiling, the Grand Master, assisted by his Grand Lodge Officers, officially dedicated the statue using a Masonic Ritual featuring the pouring of the corn, wine and oil.

Thirteen young men of the Chester Chapter, Order of DeMolay, Chester, Pa., dressed in their colorful and long-flowing robes, each carried a replica of the flags of the original Thirteen Colonies.

A most inspiring and often applauded dedication address was delivered by Sir Knight Wilber M. Brucker, M. E. Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, of the United States of America. An interesting and most impressive side light was the greeting and reception afforded Sir Knight Wilber M. Brucker and Mrs. Brucker when they arrived by plane at the Philadelphia International Airport on Friday, September 8, 1967. Accompanying Sir Knight John B. Cottrell, Jr., Past Department Commander, and Mrs. Cottrell, were twenty members of the Chester Chapter, Order of DeMolay, who formed quite a reception committee and presented Mrs. Brucker with a bouquet of long-stem American Beauty Roses, including a kiss on the cheek from the Master Councilor.

Adding more color and harmony to the memorable occasion, were the Lu Lu Temple Shrine Concert Band that provided band music

prior to the ceremonies and also provided the martial music during the ceremony, and the Scottish Rite Choir of the Valley of Harrisburg that provided several choral selections during the ceremony.

The Sir Knights led the vast number of Masonic Officers and guests of the Grand Lodge in the recessional, closing the impressive program of dedication.

At an early evening hour over 1900 attended a Dedication Banquet catered in a large tent erected on the grounds of Freedoms Foundation.

Before nightfall, the more than 500 buses and the 3,000 private automobiles departed for points throughout Pennsylvania, carrying Pennsylvania Masons, their families and friends home with fond memories of one of the most impressive and memorable days in the history of Pennsylvania Masonry.

Herewith is Sir Knight Brucker's dedicatory address:

"We gather today at Freedoms Foundation Valley Forge under the auspices of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, F & A M of Pennsylvania to dedicate this beautiful, heroic statue of George Washington. Significantly, it was here that General Washington knelt in the snow in the terrible winter of 1777 in supplication to Almighty God for his Country. Never was prayer more devoutly offered. Never was prayer more completely answered by Divine Providence. We are a free nation today because Washington had the faith in God that moves mountains.

"The 1770's were years of burgeoning efforts by men seeking freedom. In those years, there was a veritable galaxy of stars among students of government—Frank-



Wilber M. Brucker

lin, Adams, Jefferson, Hamilton, Madison and a host of other luminaries. However, their acknowledged leader was George Washington, who stood out like a mountain peak—tallest among them all. Men instinctively turned to him for leadership. Washington was the one man around whom all could rally. Others had their part and were needed, but it was George Washington who held them together. Lafayette once exclaimed: 'Never did I behold such a superb man!' Washington was the embodiment of stability. When others might waver, he stood steadfast. When others might despair, he stood like a rock. When others might equivocate, he was firmness itself. He was the quintessence of fairness. Thomas Jefferson said: 'His integrity was most pure. No motive of friendship or hatred biased his decisions. He was in every sense of the word a good man and a great man.'

"Daniel Webster once said: 'America has furnished to the world the character of Washington, and if our American institutions had

done nothing else, that alone would have entitled them to the respect of mankind.' Edward Everett said: 'Washington was the greatest of good men and the best of great men. Gladstone declared that 'Washington was the purest figure in history.' Such were the views of his contemporaries!

"Destiny seems to have prepared him for the great role he was to play. Born in Virginia in 1732, he was reared in Old Dominion tradition and early formed strict habits of honesty, integrity and morality. His youthful experience as a surveyor taught him to endure the hardships of the frontier and opened his eyes to the limitless opportunities for national growth. At 19, he joined the Virginia Militia where he learned the rudiments of strategy and tactics in the hard school of French and Indian warfare. At 21, he was sent on a military mission into the wilderness of western Pennsylvania by the Governor. At 22, he became a Colonel in a Virginia Regiment and at 23, an Aide to General Braddock in his attack on Ft. Duquesne. At 27, he married and settled down as a planter at Mt. Vernon. He was Master of his Masonic Lodge in Alexandria, Virginia. The opportunity to live a life of ease did not induce him to neglect his civic obligations. He answered the call of his neighbors to represent them in the Virginia House of Burgesses, and for 15 years applied himself with his customary zeal to the problems and responsibilities of Statecraft. He had convictions and lifted his voice in support of justice for the Colonial Cause in the rising controversy with the Mother Country and was elected to the first Continental Congress.

"When the hour struck for his entrance upon the great stage of

history, George Washington was ready. In 1775, he was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Colonial Army and took command under the elms at Cambridge, Massachusetts. He stipulated that he was to receive no pay for his military service. He was a man on fire for his beliefs, and kindled the flame in the heart of others. For 8 long years, he led the small Revolutionary Army of raw volunteers, hungry to the point of famine, ragged almost to nakedness, and lacking adequate weapons and sufficient ammunition. He shared every danger and hardship with his men. He was tried by adversity and defeat. His army was decimated by desertions. Cheap politicians in the Continental Congress entered into venal intrigue against him. He was undercut by Colonists, safe around their firesides and far from the battlefield, who were ready to abandon the American Cause. He was plagued by conspirators and even traitors. Washington's leadership alone kept the loose confederation of the 13 States from breaking into pieces. There was no Chief Executive. The Continental Congress was weak and ineffective.

"From the depths of military depression, he rallied his men to cross the Delaware one black December night, amidst howling winds and great upheaving blocks of ice, and captured Trenton—striking consternation into the ranks of the enemy. At Monmouth, he turned back his retreating lines and snatched victory from the jaws of defeat. At Princeton, he charged into the center of the enemy line and by his own personal example rallied his troops and won the day. In 1781, Cornwallis played his trump card, believing that he could end the Revolution by one bold battle. Washington had waited for that moment. He maneuver-

ed Cornwallis into the Virginia Peninsula, with which Washington was so familiar, outfought Cornwallis's picked troops, gave him no way to escape, and forced his surrender at Yorktown.

"It may be truly said that the American Revolution succeeded because Washington lived!

"After final victory in 1782, almost any dazzling reward was within his reach, but he modestly turned his Army commission back to the Continental Congress and retired to Mt. Vernon—wanting no honor other than 'the affection and esteem of his countrymen.' However, by overwhelming public demand, in 1787, he was recalled to serve as Presiding Officer of the Constitutional Convention. The imprint of his personality is clear upon every page of that momentous document. At the Constitutional Convention, Washington said:

'If to please the people we offer what we ourselves disapprove, how can we afterwards defend our work? Let us raise a standard to which the wise and honest can repair. The event is in the hand of God.'

"George Washington, more than any other man, gave solid, lasting substance to the new nation. He practiced the profound diplomacy of truthful speech. It was no coincidence that he was unanimously elected the first President of the United States. Upon taking the oath of office, he sealed his covenant by adding to his oath of acceptance these historic words: 'So help me God.' He unflinchingly supported the civil authorities because he was determined that America should not fall into that awful pitfall of revolution—the creation of a dictatorial, military State. He left nothing undone to build firm foundations for the new Re-

public—a sound administrative system, financial stability, domestic respect for the United States as a responsible member of the Society of Nations. Out of disconnected fragments, he molded a noble and united country. He achieved his country's independence by war, but he maintained its independence by resolute peace. He finally established both his country and its freedom in an enduring frame of constitutional government, fashioned to make liberty and union one and inseparable.

"A century and three quarters have rolled along since those stirring days, and we face new problems of tremendous importance. America cannot afford to lose the value of lessons taught by the Father of our Country:

First: This statue of George Washington kneeling in prayer will be a perpetual reminder that Almighty God is the Ruler of the Universe. Uncle Sam will do well to approach modern problems on bended knee. Religion and morality are still the cornerstone of our Republic.

Second: Washington was the soul of integrity. He abhorred lying, cheating, stealing and all other forms of immorality. It's time America's national conscience was aroused by leaders of impeccable character and integrity to redeem our generation from the curse of sunken morality.

Third: Some impatient people are urging America to abandon its heroic role against Communist aggression in Vietnam and toss in the sponge. It takes time and patience to win wars. Washington didn't

cringe during eight long years of warfare. Instead of listening to impatient counsel of defeat, America should tighten its belt and resolutely turn again to the grim task of destroying Communist aggression.

Fourth: Our sturdy forefathers pledged 'their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor.' America still believes in 'honor.' America is the hope of the Free World. We dare not shrink from commitments made to protect our allies from Communist aggressions, if 'honor' still counts in the world.

Fifth: The essence of Washington's final success lay in his ability to bring discipline to his ragged army. He had a passion for discipline because he realized the vast difference between an army and a mob. America needs a rebirth of discipline that will outlaw mob rule and provide law and order on the streets of our cities, all across the land. Politics is no excuse for mobs. The choice is simple—either law and order, or anarchy—there is no middle ground.

Sixth: George Washington was intensely patriotic. He had the will to lose his own life for the life of a larger cause. He held his personal sufferings of no account. America is at the crossroad. We need to revive the true spirit of patriotism as the basis of weathering the storm. The time for decision has arrived. Either we will embrace unselfish, sacrificial patriotism, or we will go the low road to crass materialism. We despa-

rately need to catch the spirit of George Washington. We need a new philosophy that believes in this Country and her future."

"America's strong,
America's young,
And her greatest songs
Are still unsung."

CHANGE OF DATES FOR NORTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE

Department Commander Frank L. Bourke, to avoid date conflicts, announces that the North Atlantic Conference, previously announced for October 20-21 in New York City, will now be held October 27-28. Packets of information regarding the Conference have been mailed to the officers of the Ten Jurisdictions who will be attending.

M. W. Grand Master Honored By DeMolay

M. W. Brother John T. Rouse, Jr., Grand Master of Masons in Florida, received the honorary Legion of Honor at the DeMolay State Conclave Sunday evening, August 6th.

Joining with M. W. Brother Rouse to receive the Degree was R. W. Brother Carvie Webb, Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Florida.

Information Sought on Old Souvenir Spoon



P.C. Joseph C. Anderson, Stockton Springs, Maine, has a souvenir spoon in his possession that thus far has eluded identification. He writes: "Twenty five years ago I came in possession of a souvenir or memento spoon which I think was made for some kind of Masonic George Washington celebration in Virginia. . . Now that I am retired and have the time

I would like to find out what I can of its origin."

For Templar collectors and researchers who might shed some light on the subject, Sir Knight Anderson describes the spoon in this manner: "Handle in form of Knight Templar sword in scabbard. On top of hilt is a Knight helmet. In the center of hilt is a Greek cross within a Pattee cross; in the center of the guard a Hermit tent, below it a Passion cross with rays or halo. Scabbard terminates in the George Washington coat-of-arms. In the bowl is picture of Mt. Vernon.

"On the reverse in the center of the guard in a Passion cross. On the scabbard the incscription, 'Sterling. Pat. applied For. F. A. Whelan.' Terminating in a spray of holly. On the bowl, the emblem of the Mystic Shrine, the Scimitar and Crescent."

Any Sir Knight with information on the spoon can write to Joseph C. Anderson, Church Street, Stockton Springs, Maine 04981. Let the *KNIGHT TEMPLAR MAGAZINE* know about it, too; we're interested.

South Pacific Department Conference
November 3-4
Las Vegas

DETROIT NO. 1 DRILL CORPS RECEIVES HONOR FROM GRAND ENCAMPMENT

Detroit Commandery No. 1. Captain General, Louis J. Asmus, P.C., accepted a special plaque given to Detroit Commandery's Drill Corps in recognition of their excellence in Exhibition Drill. It was presented at the Drill Corps Luncheon, Tuesday, at Cobo Hall.

Sir Knight Robert Brooks was honored by the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U.S.A., as Captain General Emeritue. This great tribute to former Captain General of Detroit Commandery No. 1, was for his ten years of leadership and performance. Sir Knight Brooks led 22 platoons of Templars in the Inaugural Parade of President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

ATOMIC CITY CEREMONY

IN MEMORIAM

**“There is no Death!
 What seems so is transition;
 This life of mortal breath
 Is but a suburb of the life elysian,
 Whose portal we call Death.”**

Harry Nicholas Reimuller, R.E. Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Maryland, died Friday, September 15, 1967 at Baltimore, Maryland. A Grand Commandery Memorial Service was held Monday, September 18, with church services Tuesday, September 19, at the Cathedral Church of Incarnation, Baltimore.

The late Grand Commander was born in Dayton, Ohio, February 17, 1899. He was employed successively by the National Cash Register Company, the Toledo Scale Company and the Howe-Richardson Scale Company, part of this period in Europe. He retired in 1964.

He was elected Grand Commander May 10 of this year. Among his Masonic affiliations and memberships were: Chesapeake Consistory, A.A.S.R.; Eoumi Temple, A.A.N.M.S.; Past Masters' Association, Baltimore City; Past Commanders' Association of Maryland; Baldrick Club; Masonic Veteran Association of Maryland, of which he was President; Maryland Council No. 73, Knights Masons of Ireland; Gleaner Chapter No. 94, Order of the Eastern Star.

Charles Gordon Mahana, *Michigan*—Grand Commander 1927
 Born August 18, 1880—Died September 5, 1967



Chevalier Commandery No. 21, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, celebrated its 60th birthday with a dinner and the conferral of the Order of the Temple on thirteen candidates. The conferral was handled by the Commandery officers and the candidates were dubbed by E. Leslie Webb, Jr., Grand Commander. Commander of Chevalier is Cecil Stanifer, Clinton; The Recorder is Ray Eldridge, Spring City. Ernest Edwards, Junior Past Commander of Chevalier and Grand Captain of the Guard of Grand Commandery, was acting Commander.

After the ceremony a large birthday cake with Templar emblems was cut by Grand Commander Webb and Sir Knight Edwards, using the Grand Commander's sword. About 100 Sir Knights were present.

Chevalier Commandery, chartered June 6, 1907 at Harriman in Roane County, Tennessee, worked continuously in that location until the present year when it was re-located at the Atomic City of Oak Ridge. Thirty-eight candidates were Knighted last year. Present membership—315.

Competitive Drills At The Golden Triennial Conclave At Detroit August 21, 1967

By Howard F. Christner, Sr., P.G.C., Indiana

"Commandery, Halt. Sir Knights, Return, SWORDS. DISMISSED.!" These final commands were welcome words to the twenty-two teams as they completed their performance of the competitive drill schedule in the Arena of Cobo Hall at Detroit on Monday, August 21, 1967.

The schedule evoked high praise of Captains and others of drilling experience as "the best schedule we have ever had." For this we are deeply indebted to the Triennial Committee on Drill Regulations, Theodore F. Voelter, John H. Loree and William U. Remensperger, men of experience who have given much time and effort to this aspect of Templar activity at this and previous Conclaves.

The rules, movements and formations of Templar Drills are old yet ever new for those whose interests they command. The ever-increasing proficiency of teams and judges in the execution of these drills is due to study and practice as they prepare for their participation in consecutive Triennial and State competitions.

At this conclave, only the closest cooperation of all the teams and the excellent work of the Committee on Transportation in providing bus and automobile transportation for teams from their hotels to the Arena made it possible to maintain the very rigid time schedule set up by the Triennial Drill Committee. Every minute detail was so well planned that there were no delays or interruptions.

Inspection of the first team began at 7:00 A.M., and the last

of the twenty-two participating teams completed the drill before 4:30 P.M., a total elapsed time of nine hours and thirty minutes. This was an average of 26 minutes for each team including the time required for inspection and for entering and leaving the Arena. The actual drilling time from the report of the Captain to and the acknowledgement of completion of the drill by the Third Judge was an average of 25 minutes for "A" Teams and 21 minutes for "B" Teams.

The following Judges, all experienced in Templar Drill, showed by their serious attention to every position, movement and formation, that they had given very careful study to the schedule and were well prepared for their critical task.

"A" Teams

1. W. T. Buckner
2. R. B. Tandy
3. W. A. Perry
4. H. E. Friedrich
5. R. B. Mitchell
6. E. A. Schaub
7. S. C. Blackburn

"B" Teams

1. J. H. Smith
2. W. P. Matschke
3. R. J. Brooks
4. F. A. Palmer
5. S. L. Smith
6. C. H. Edwards
7. A. L. Crump

Alternate Judges and Accountants
 W. E. Barkman K. A. Crane
 L. C. Dimmer C. D. Browder
 G. E. Schutes L. G. Schallehn

The net scores, ranging from a high of 97.8, to a low of 89.3, are a good indication of the high degree of the proficiency of all of the participating teams.

Scores of the eight prize-winning teams, to whom awards were made at a complimentary luncheon served to Drill Teams, Judges, Committee Members and their ladies on Tuesday, August 22nd, in Cobo Hall, were as follows:

Class "A"

- | | |
|----------------------------|------|
| 1. Knightstown No. 9..... | 95.8 |
| 2. Golden West No. 43..... | 95.1 |
| 3. Worth No. 19..... | 94.9 |
| 4. Lansing No. 25..... | 94.4 |

Class "B"

- | | |
|---------------------------|------|
| 1. Ivanhoe No. 54..... | 97.8 |
| 2. Knightstown No. 9..... | 97.7 |
| 3. Palestine No. 33..... | 96.5 |
| 4. Greenfield No. 39..... | 96.1 |

THEY DID IT AGAIN! Ivanhoe No. 54 of Van Wert, Ohio, for the third consecutive time, took first place in the "B" Class. It is interesting to note that their home is in Ohio just about ten miles from the Indiana state line and they frequently participate in Indiana competitions with Knightstown and other Indiana Teams.

Indiana has reason to be proud of its record at this Triennial Conclave. Of the five teams entered from Indiana, three were prize-winners. Knightstown Commandery No. 9, won first place in the "A" Class and a very close second place in the "B" Class, and Greenfield Commandery No. 39, won fourth place in the "B" Class. Added to these honors was the election of Sir Knight Willard M. Avery, a member of Knightstown Commandery, to the office of Grand Captain General of the Grand Encampment and the reelection of

Sir Knight Edmund F. Ball to the office of Grand Treasurer of the Grand Encampment.

A comment most frequently heard among those who attended the Detroit meeting was, "This is the greatest conclave in Templar History."

BUT—before you get carried away too far on the relaxed wings of those happy memories, here is a friendly warning to all Drill Teams. Take another look at those net scores and realize that if you expect to win next time you've got to be just a little better than you were this time. There is always the possibility of a perfect score, like 300 in bowling or a hole-in-one in golf. Keep working at the job and we'll see you-all at Denver

M.E.G.M. Crofts Is Supreme Council Guest

Grand Master Crofts was a special guest of the Supreme Council, A.A.S.R., N.M.J., at its 155th Annual Meeting held at Pittsburgh September 21-28, with Illustrious George A. Newbury, Sovereign Grand Commander, presiding.

Sir Knight Crofts headed Grand Encampment representatives including Past Grand Master Brucker, Deputy Grand Master, G. Wilbur Bell, Grand Generalissimo Willard M. Avery and Paul C. Rodenhauser, Grand Recorder. The Grand Master addressed the Grand Inspectors General at the Wednesday morning session of the Council.

Both he and Sir Knight Brucker were strongly commended by the Sovereign Grand Commander for their leadership and for the resurgence of Templary.

Department Commanders— Their Function And Authority

Section 29 (a) of the Constitution of Grand Encampment says “. . . Department Commander, whose duties shall include the status of Proxy of the Grand Master within such Department on all occasions when the Grand Master or other Special Proxy is not present. Such Department Commanders shall be under the immediate direction of the Grand Master, and shall perform such duties as he may direct.”

For full understanding by all concerned, it is hereby directed that my Department Commanders are to share fully within their Departments and at all times the authority of the Grand Master as stated in the first paragraph of Section 23 of the Constitution and in paragraphs (a) and (e) thereof. I will be in close communication with them, and will look to them for information and recommendations. In the performance of their duties they will be concerned that all actions are for the good of the Order, as is the Grand Master.

Any possible disciplinary action will issue only from the Grand Master, as will any interpretation of Templary Laws. However, the Department Commanders may be consulted for information as to the Constitution, Statutes, and Regulations of Grand Encampment.

It is requested that copies of the proceedings of Grand Commanderies be mailed to the Department Commanders, and that they receive copies of all general orders, bulletins and information mailed generally by the Grand Commanderies.

John L. Crofts, Grand Master

R.E.D.C. Gleanings

The Right Eminent Department Commanders Say:

C. Wallace Jackson, Southeastern-

“Our Southeastern Conference convened at the Wade Hampton Hotel in Columbia, South Carolina, with registration at 8 a.m., September 30. Program—Keynote address, M. W. Brother R. Lewis Smith, Grand Master of Masons in South Carolina; separate Chapter, Council and Commandery seminars; Joint session of all delegates for address by our own M.E. Grand Master, Sir Knight John L. Crofts, Sr.; Inspirational Dinner address by Dr. Gerald Bisbee.”

Alvin L. Crump, North Central-

“Never tell a candidate how much it costs for the York Rite Bodies. Cost is not his primary concern as a Mason; besides, you know whether or not he can afford to advance before you approach him.”

Frank L. Bourke, North Atlantic-

“One man with dedicated effort and determination and with a plan can turn the tide. It’s time for a unified effort and this effort must be concentrated on the areas of greatest decay within the Department.”

PENNSYLVANIA SUPPLEMENT

THE CRUSADER



Serving Templary in Pennsylvania

THE GOLDEN TRIENNIAL AND THE HARVEST

The Golden Triennial of the Grand Encampment, now history was well attended by the Sir Knights of Pennsylvania. Our contingent in the first division of the hours long parade numbered over 50. Our Past Grand Commanders were very much involved in the operational aspects of the parade. You may be proud of your Grand Commandery for the fine showing. The candidacy of our own Sir Knight John B. Cottrell, Jr., was not successful, but Jack made such a strong run that we should all encourage him to run again, three years hence, at Denver. Let's all plan now—to be at Denver.

The Grand Lodge ceremonies at Valley Forge on September 9, were most heavily attended by you Sir Knights. The Marshall reported that 140 Sir Knights carried the Flag of Our Country. This adds up to a king sized job well done and as Grand Commander, I take this opportunity to say thanks for this dedication to our precepts. Templary can be proud of you.

Now for harvest time. We have all been busy through the summer months, working for our beloved Templary. Shall we now harvest and re-vitalize our Commanderies? It is the hope of your Grand officers that your support of their programs will show the

Masonic world that Templary, with its superior brand of Masonic Light, its famous charity, the Eye Foundation and its forward-looking patriotism with strong emphasis on the education of America's youth, both scholastically through the Educational Foundation and civically with its solid sponsorship of the young men of DeMolay, is, indeed, a successful and powerful instrument for the good of the Craft and Our Country.

May health and pleasure attend you in these Christian Endeavors.

Harold E. Stokely
Grand Commander

Cyrene Commandery No. 34, Columbia—John L. Grab, Commander, is spearheading plans for a York Rite Centennial Observance in the spring of 1969. The officers and members of Corinthian Chapter No. 224, R.A.M., are combining their efforts with those of the Commandery to mark this York Rite milestone. Both bodies were constituted in 1869. The Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S.A., Sir Knight John L. Crofts, Sr., Florida, will be the speaker; the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania will participate in the person of Sir Knight G. Calvin Dyson.

A CHECK FOR RONNIE

Augusta Chapter, Order of DeMolay, sponsored by Mt. Hermon Commandery No. 85, Sunbury, was honored by having a member, Ronnie Brown, Chevalier Degree, selected as Representative De Molay and to receive a \$250.00 scholarship from the Grand Commandery.

Pictured from left to right: Paul H. Derk, Commander, Mt. Hermon Commandery; Paul R. Seidel, Division Commander, No. 14; Clark E. Bastress, Captain-General, and Charles M. Dale, Generalissimo.

**95 YEARS OLD KNIGHT
BECOMES LIFE SPONSOR**

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

Now a resident of Ventnor City, New Jersey, Sir Knight Alwine 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.

**NELSON SEARS NAMED
EDITOR OF CRUSADER**

Grand Commander Stokely reminds Grand Officers, Division Commanders, Constituent Officers, and other Sir Knights with Templar news and information for "The Crusader" supplement to the Knight Templar Magazine, to forward their material for consideration to Nelson Sears, 1718 Hemlock Road, Lancaster 17603.

Sir Knight Sears is Editor of the four-page Pennsylvania insert which is placed by the printer in each copy of the Knight Templar Magazine mailed to a Pennsylvania subscriber. Deadline for the receipt of copy is the 10th of each month for the following month's issue. Those submitting material are urged to be brief and factual, and to bear in mind that space and editorial considerations may make it necessary to rewrite, combine or omit items from time to time.

**D.C. GENNARIA LISTS
VISTATION SCHEDULE**

Division No. 3 vistations by Sir Knight C. Kenneth Gennaria have been scheduled as follows:

- October 3—Jerusalem No. 15, Phoenixville.
- October 5—Damascus No. 95, Lansdale.
- October 19—Mizpah No. 96, Dolestown.
- October 23—Hutchinson No. 32, Norristown.
- October 25—Ascension No. 97, Ardmore.
- November 16—Nativity No. 71, Pottstown.

TRI-COUNTY SALUTE TO GRAND COMMANDER AT UNIONTOWN

Division No. 4, comprising Commanderies from Greensburg, McKeesport, Washington, Charleroi, Brownsville and Uniontown, hosted Grand Commander Harold E. Stokely at a Master Masons Night in the Masonic Temple, Uniontown, in early September with more than 300 Masons and ladies attending including members of the Grand Commander's staff, Past Grand Commanders, Division Commanders, Grand Officers of Royal Arch Masons, Royal and Select Masters, and officers of the subordinate Commanderies, Chapters and Councils of the tri-county area.

Division Commander Vernon M. Stambaugh planned and presided over the meeting. Mrs. Stambaugh was in charge of arrangements for the ladies. Uniontown Commandery No. 49 is headed by Louis E. Bishop.



Pictured are (left to right): Row 1, I. Burdette Coldren, D.D.G.M.; J. Searight Marshall, dean of Past Commanders of Commandery No. 49; Rev. Norman C. Young, Eminent Grand Prelate; Vernon M. Stambaugh, Division Commander; Harold E. Stokely, Grand Commander, James D. Smith, Grand King of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania; Herbert Smith, Most Puissant Past Grand Master, Royal and Select Masons of Pennsylvania; Harry E. Killen III, Eminent Grand Standard Bearer.

Row 2, F. Broman, D.D.G.M.; John Vanderbilt, Commander of St. Omer Commandery; Maurice A. Hammer, Past Grand Commander; Lawrence R. Breletie, Commander of McKeesport Comandery; Robert F. Orr, Commander of Kedron Commandery; Paul L. Davis, Puissant District Deputy, and A. Kendall Johnson, Puissant District Deputy.

Back row, Charles W. Phillips, Generalissimo of Uniontown Commandery; Richard Pemperton, T.I.M.; Channing M. Galbreath, Past Grand Commander; George A. Chapmen, District Deputy Grand High Priest; John Phillips, Commander of Jacques DeMolay Commandery, and William Fisher, High Priest of Washington Chapter.

GRAND COMMANDER'S ITINERARY
(revised Sept. 9, 1967)

Oct. 4	Division 2 School of Instruction	
Oct. 7	Division 11 Reception	Tunkhannock, Pa.
	Temple Commandery #60 Host	
Oct. 8	Sunrise Service Irem C.C. 6:30 A.M.	
Oct. 8-9	Grand Commandery of Ohio	Akron, Ohio
Oct. 14	100th Anniversary	
	Lewistown Commandery	Lewistown, Pa.
	Order of Temple in afternoon	
Oct. 15	Church Service	Lewistown, Pa.
Oct. 20	Division 8 Reception	Sharon, Pa.
Oct. 21	Division 2 Reception	Pittsburgh, Pa.
Oct. 27	Allegheny Commandery Visitation	Pittsburgh, Pa.
Oct. 28	Kadosh Commandery	
	100th Anniversary	Philadelphia, Pa.
	Special Conclave in Afternoon	
	Order of the Temple	
	Ladies Entertainment in Afternoon	
Nov. 1	Division 2 School of Instruction	Pittsburgh, Pa.
Nov. 4	Division 17 Reception	Location not specified
Nov. 11	Division 3 Reception	
	Also York Rite Festival	Philadelphia, Pa.
Nov. 12	Veteran's Day Service	Valley Forge, Pa.
Nov. 18	Division 13 Reception	Location not specified
Nov. 25	Division 5 Reception	Location not specified
Dec. 2	Division 9 Reception	Easton, Pa.
Dec. 7	Grand Chapter	Philadelphia, Pa.
Dec. 9	Division 15-16	Tentative
Dec. 21	McKeesport Commandery #84	Xmas Observance
Dec. 25	Pittsburgh Commandery	Xmas Observance

PLAN AH

EAD



115th Annual Conclave
Grand Commandery of Knights Templar
of Pennsylvania
May 26 - 29, 1968
Hilton Hotel
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Guest Speaker:
Dr. Norman Vincent Peale

Ab Cross—



A Templar's Story You'll Never Forget

Albert W. Cross, P.G.C., Wyoming, Tells What
It's Like to be Crushed by Four Tons of Farm
Machinery and Survive!

Few of us have had an experience to match the story of Ab Cross. Here is a vivid account, mostly in his own words, of Albert W. Cross, his brush with death and his innermost feelings about Masonry and Templary. It's direct, hard-hitting and revealing. We think it will make a lasting and beneficial impression upon every Christian Mason. (Editor)

First of all, this story is not Ab's idea. He was invited, prodded and reminded that his experience and his views were important not only to those who know him well, but to his fellow Templars everywhere.

It was July 24, a month before the Golden Triennial Conclave. Ab was deep in arrangements to bring Wyoming's famed black horse Troop to Detroit. Deciding to get his haying completed early to avoid conflict with the Triennial trip, he pulled his windrower from the shed, serviced it and started cutting hay.

"This piece of equipment, weighing four tons, is a wonderful machine" writes Ab, "but the battery was down and I had to stop and work on it for minor reasons. I failed to shut it off. This, in itself, is not necessarily asking for an accident—but, about 2:30 p.m., I got off the machine to pull some hay from the crimper and neglected to kick the master drive out. This is carelessness and darned foolishness. Others have done this and nothing happened. All I can say is that I did it once and didn't get away with it!

"I was on my back under the front of the machine when it started to move forward. My left leg was only an inch or so from the front wheel, and it caught me before I knew it was moving. With four tons of machine on my leg there was nothing I could do but think.

"Clearance under the machine runs from six to eight inches. As it moved over me, it turned by body over and pushed my face into the sod. Everything was in slow motion. I could count my ribs breaking as they snapped. The first two or three did not hurt so bad, but I guess it was when they started through my lung that they began to hurt. I think I did some hollering, but I don't remember.

"I do know I was sure this was one I was not going to come out of. I have often said that regardless of when the Great Shepherd decided to gather his sheep in, I was ready—feeling that I have for a long time received more from this life than most men can expect. However, I think that we are all bothered at times as to whether we can die like men; because of this, I am grateful for the experi-

ence. I didn't worry about my sins. For some reason I knew He understood and had forgiven my many transgressions.

"I felt no fear and, at this point, hardly any pain—just a curiosity about how it would feel when a rib finally hit my heart, and what the next step or degree would be like. I know this sounds far-fetched, but it's surprising how much thinking one can do when he has just a short time to do it in. Twice before I have had this experience, where in a matter of seconds there was time to a lifetime of thinking, although this was the first one giving me discomfort."

The "discomfort" Past Grand Commander Cross mentions was found later to have been caused by: collapsed lung, heart "blown out of place," (Ab says, "Didn't seem too serious as it kept right on working as usual"), almost all the ribs broken on his left side in one or more places, four on the right broken, a chip out of the left shoulder blade, right collarbone crushed, a badly damaged leg, and four serve cuts on the back "which still look like the old tiger claw brand from down in Texas."

Before we resume the narration of Monday, July 24, let's jump ahead four weeks. When the Golden Triennial Conclave was convened at Detroit, Sir Knight Albert W. Cross, of the Cross Ranch, Dubois, Wyoming, was among those present. He was there, and not as a spectator, but as a very active participant! He not only participated, he led his Black Horse Troop in the Triennial Parade! Ab recalls that "they said there was no chance of my going to Detroit; then they said there was no chance of my riding, but I knew all the time I was going to ride with my Troopers and did. And a lot of people even said the

Troop, itself, wouldn't be there when I got hurt, but they just didn't know the calibre of my Troopers. They never missed a practice and when Dad showed up to help they had everything arranged by the time I got out of the hospital."

Now, back to July 24th: "The last bone I heard break sounded like a piece of heavy paper being crushed together. I remember wondering if it was my skull. In another second I was behind the machine and it had stopped in a ditch. I was the most surprised man in the world when I sat up and realized I was still in this world, with only my hat missing, and that close at hand.

"I put my hat back on and started to take stock, but suddenly realized there was nothing to stop the bloomin' thing from dropping into reverse and backing over me. I jumped up, ran several steps and stood looking at it much as I would a rattlesnake. I found I was not getting as much air as I wanted, also found that the last crunch was nothing more than my collarbone breaking.

"At first I thought about waiting until someone came after me, but being quite a way from the house and having had experience with breaks before, I thought I'd best get closer to home before the sense of feeling came back. So I got on the 'beast', as I then considered it, and drove it about a mile back to the road into the ranch."

Then followed a rush of assistance from Ab's wife, Grace, his two younger sons and his older son, Jock—an eighty mile trip in the car to a hospital. Jock stopped at his service station en route to alert the hospital and to have Ab's daughter-in-law call the Highway

Patrol to clear the road as much as possible.

"I wished we had thought to throw in a bottle of oxygen before we left," says Ab. "However, we made it in good time and, after an x-ray I was finally put to bed and given oxygen, which was the greatest relief I have ever known. The rest is like any other trip to the hospital—needles, pills, oxygen masks, etc., except that I immediately started having calls come from people all over the country asking about my welfare.

"I have no idea how the word spread so fast. The first doctor I had let me receive these calls. Of course, my wife intercepted as many as she could. It was hard for me to talk for a couple of days, but I really enjoyed it. However, on the second day my regular doctor arrived and he cut off all my visitors and all my phone calls. I was sorry I didn't get to talk to Grand Master Brucker when he called, but the doctor had stopped it about thirty minutes earlier.

"When my lung exploded it forced the air up into my neck under the skin and gave me a bull neck and felt rather odd for several days. All in all, I guess I wasn't very pretty, but I have never won any beauty prizes!

"Many funny things happened in the hospital. My dad arrived posthaste. He came into the hospital and asked to see me. A nurse at the desk informed him he couldn't. You have to know my Dad to imagine how this went over but, in essence, he did inform her he had traveled 3,000 miles to see me and, being my Dad, by all that was holy he was going to make that last 50 yards—and he did!

"Next day, a different nurse stopped him and asked whether he was one of my sons. This is why I called him 'son' when we

were in Detroit. We have often been taken for brothers, but this is the first time I have been accused of being his father."

Ab took a semi-private room from the start because he has always enjoyed company. His roommate was an elderly gentleman, a good friend and a Mason. It didn't take long for the word to get around that anyone could come to see him, and thus see Sir Knight Cross. Ab says, "This is the way that my Lieutenants in the Black Horse Troop got in to see me while I was off limits and managed to get my blessing to keep our proposed trip to Detroit going. Many times we could have opened a Blue Lodge in that room."

The cards, letters, calls and offers of help were unbelievable to Ab and his family. Four neighbors offered to put up the hay for them; one man in Florida wanted to come to Wyoming to help, as did the Bishop of Ab's church. "This may have been a shock to some of the Sir Knights," Ab feels, "because my faith is Latter Day Saints or Mormon, and I guess I am not a real good churchman, and I know I am the despair of the young Elders."

Ab had faced death, he had had "time to think," he had experienced an outpouring of friendship, love, concern and proffers of assistance. What was his feeling now that all this was over? Here is what Albert W. Cross has to say in response to that question: "The first thing I realized was that I certainly had more than my share of friends, and I am still so humble when I think of it I want to cry. With friends and family like I have pulling for me, one just cannot give up the ghost.

"Then, as I lay there, I began to worry about why anyone who should have been killed was still

around taking up time and space. About this time I remembered a speech that our Past Grand Master DeLamater gave in Casper while he was Grand Master.

"I remember his saying that he had been at death's door and made a miraculous recovery, and had pledged the rest of his life to a worthy Christian cause. He has that in his work with the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

"Let something like this get fixed in your mind when you're averaging two hours sleep a night, and have to keep your mind off your old sore back the rest of the night, and it finally gets through to you. I had finally become eligible for the Order of York this year. After driving 100 miles one way to all the York Orders to do this, and having served five years as secretary of my Blue Lodge—after being Master and helping to build a Masonic Temple in Dubois when it was said it couldn't be done—I had planned to pretty well fade out of my Masonic work and take it easy for awhile. Now I realized I had been spared for some reason, and I knew the reason would be revealed to me.

"Sometime during those long nights I came to the decision that

I would continue as best I could in the way I think is best, that is, continue my Masonic work—especially the Knights Templar, my first love. Perhaps, because I am just a bit of a hell-raiser and certainly no angel, I can reach people that better and more informed Christians cannot reach. Perhaps I can sow the seed and let the Chaplain cultivate it—and perhaps between us we can harvest a better crop in these days when civil disobedience is running rampant, when atheism seems to be the order of the day.

"Right or wrong, this is the job I have assumed until further revelation. I don't expect to change the world, but I hope to add my weight to that of others—and who knows what might happen!"

It is almost anti-climactic to report that Ab feels there is nothing remarkable about his part in this whole series of occurrences, but it is a true inspiration to all of us when he says: "But I cannot ever get over the wonderful things that have happened, perhaps because of it. It has been a wonderful experience, really, and one that only a favored few have experienced, I'm sure."



BLACK HORSE TROOP FROM WYOMING



Hugh DePayne Commandary Knight Templar presented Black Horse Troop in the public parade August 19 in Detroit. There were sixteen riders and a team of black mules drawing a chariot, in the tradition of the Crusaders.

Albert Cross, Past Grand Commander of Wyoming, is the leader of the troop. Troop captains who ride white horses are Leon Cook and Frank Titterington. Other riders are George Cross, Albert Cross Jr., Albert Kelsey, Paul Griffith, Dean Metzger, George and Vic Fontenelle all of Dubois; W. L. Duncan, E. C. of the Commandery, Lander; Burton Stockhouse, Riverton; Frank Hartung, Casper; Ora Helms, Sheridan; Henry Ackerson, Merle Ackerson, Cheyenne; and G. S. Burkhart, E. C. Bozeman, Montana.

This splendid effort of Wyoming Sir Knights is indicative of the extreme interest held by these men for Templary. Many hours have been spent training and practicing the different drill formations. Sir Knights of Wyoming are justly proud to have presented the Black Horse Troop at the Golden Triennial.

New or renewal subscribers to the Knight Templar Magazine are urged to use the subscription form printed in this issue, or one secured from the respective Grand Recorders, in order to receive all issues between the present and July, 1969. At that time every - member distribution will begin. In the interim, to assist in the progress of the magazine and to share in the constantly increasing variety of its content, subscribers can insure delivery by sending their checks, at the rate of 10¢ per month through June, 1969 to:

The Knight Templar Magazine
 Box 477
 Greenfield, Indiana 46140

What Is The "Condition Of The Order"? Templar Masonry in Action

Dr. Oliver S. Willham Provides Some Answers In His Report At The Golden Triennial Conclave In Detroit.

A keen and thorough analysis that offers helpful information and formulae to every Knight Templar

The fiftieth triennial conclave of The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of The United States of America is now in session. We are in position to evaluate our efforts of the past three years. Has our great Order lived up to its heritage? It is necessary to look backwards for a brief period to establish our landmarks and really see how much progress has been made. A good look must be taken at our Order as it is today to determine those things which should be changed. Much thought and meditation should be given to where we are headed. The future is where we are headed. The future is where our hopes and aspirations lie.

During the last triennial we have been extremely fortunate to have Grand Encampment Officers who are dynamic. They have furnished us excellent leadership. The triennial was started by establishing some clear and simple objectives for the period 1964 to 1967. These objectives were published in the brochure, "Charting the Course." It was the fond hope of our Grand Officers that every Sir Knight would read and re-read this brochure and that we would all be headed in the same direction. It is realized that the Grand Encampment Officers cannot do the job alone. It takes the wholehearted support of all Grand Commanderies and Subordinate Commanderies within its jurisdiction. The

committee feels that we owe a special vote of thanks to The Most Eminent Grand Master and his staff for their dynamic leadership.

Every organization should be evaluated to determine the state of its health. There are many criteria which can be used in such an evaluation, but we will only use a few of the most important ones. We should use as criteria some of the questions that prospective members ask when they are contemplating signing a petition.

Is our great Order growing? Any healthy organization must grow unless it happens to be one that limits its membership. During the last six triennials this question of membership has been discussed. Apparently from our records, we reached our peak in membership on July 1, 1927, when we had 451,500 members. We reached our recent low on July 1, 1943, when we had 219,368 members. Our present membership is near the 400,000 mark. Is this a good record?

In 1927 when we reached our peak, our national population was about 117 million people. Our population is now very near the 200 million mark. Really we have not done a very good job. What might be the reason? It looks as if we have not done a very good job selling—or do we really have something to sell? The answer to this last question is a definite *Yes*. We do have something good to sell,

but we are going to have to use new methods of selling. The principles and policies of Free Masonry and all of its branches are just as sound today as they were when our Grand Encampment was established 151 years ago. The world is just as much in need of those Christian lessons today as it was 151 years ago.

Much thought has been given to suspensions and demits during recent years. The membership of any organization must be serviced regularly. It must always be kept in mind that all branches of Masonry are voluntary. People do not have to belong. It is our task to make them want to join and also retain their membership. The annual loss of membership through deaths is alarming. This loss has been nearly double that of suspensions. This loss can only be combated by attempting to recruit more younger candidates. This will take time to have very much effect. This much is certainly true: When our membership decreases, our means of disseminating the wonderful lessons of Masonry also decrease, and our financial resources soon dwindle away.

Is our organization doing something worthwhile for mankind in the community where it is located? Our first answer would be a quick "yes", because we have the student loan fund and also the Eye Foundation with all its services. How many constituent commanderies, out of our more than 1600 commanderies, have actually had a live connection with these services? In far too many cases they only knew about the assessment for the services. Every Sir Knight should be reminded of these two great services so often that they become synonymous with Templary.

Any organization like our great

Order must cooperate with other organizations of like kind in order to approach the level of service they should be rendering. There has been a strong tendency even among our branches of Masonry to want to work as lone wolves. Let's try cooperating with other organizations to hasten the results of our efforts.

Any organization must have prestige. The only way prestige can be had is through the prestige of the members. Are we recruiting people with prestige for our great Order? Are we helping our members to attain prestige? It is nice to have among our membership a cross section of our entire population.

Organizations, as well as individuals, must keep modern. They must keep in tune with the era in which they are serving. It must be kept in mind that our nation is going through a great social revolution. This kind of a revolution is much more difficult than an agricultural or industrial revolution. Most social revolutions end up in bloodshed, and we must not let this happen. Our nation badly needs the practice of Christian virtues today. We have a great responsibility to furnish the kind of leadership that will safely guide our young people through this social revolution. Templary can furnish this leadership if we so desire. We need dedicated crusaders to do this.

As the average age of any organization increases, that organization invariably becomes more conservative. It tends to resist change. In dynamic times like these, we cannot afford to become too conservative. Remember the members of our great Order are supposed to be leaders. You cannot lead a group—you merely have to the group. This does not mean you

have to become an ultra-liberal to lead a group—you merely have to understand the liberal's viewpoints and then set out to change them. This does not mean you have to become an ultra-conservative organization.

Modern leadership in a free society like ours is one of love, persuasion, and respect. Leadership by force has passed out of existence in many places in the world. Christ, our Savior, has given us a perfect example of this modern leadership. Let's remember this as we attempt to rule our Commandery with moderation.

People will flock to join organizations that have the respect of the people of the community. This respect can only be had when the general public respects your members and when the organization really renders a useful service to mankind and God.

Our great Christian Order is still in good condition, but it has a few symptoms of decay which must receive attention very soon lest they develop into real problems.

Every organization must have built-in provisions for self-criticism. It must be operated in such a way that it will attract all age groups. Unless it has some definite objectives for performing some services, it should be disbanded. Nothing is more dangerous for a nation than to have some large organizations without any definite goals. The wrong people can take over.

Our great Order must keep fluidity in its internal structure so that it can change to solve the new problems of our time. Change is so common in our country. It is much more rapid than it was 151 years ago. Let's examine closely our internal structure. Your Grand Officers have been doing that, and

will have some proposed changes to submit at this conclave.

We must not become prisoners of our own procedures. This so often happens, and when it does, we find the rule book becoming fatter as the ideals become fewer. It takes judgment to lead any organization. If your whole procedure is in a series of ironbound resolutions, amendments, and laws, a good clerk can do just as good a job administering as a high-paid executive. Rules, regulations, and laws are only for guidelines. They should not be made so specific that they eliminate the judgment of the leader.

Vested interests grow up in every human institution. It is a continual struggle to combat them. Many people favor change until they find that the change affects their own interests. They then oppose it vigorously, regardless of whether it would be best for the majority.

If an organization wants to interest young people, it must be interested in what it is going to become and not what it has been. Too often we live or try to live on our former glory. This does not last long. The late Dr. Charles Kettering so aptly said: "The past is gone and static; nothing we can do will change it, but the future is before us and dynamic; everything we do will affect it."

Our great Order is still in good condition, but let's immunize it against a few impending dangers. Suppose we spend more of our time at our Grand Conclaves planning for the upcoming year or triennial and less in the review of our year or triennial that is gone.

Suppose we give serious thought to the typical young man today whom we need in our ranks. He has married early and started his

family while he was still in school. He and his wife have struggled hard not only to get him through undergraduate work but also graduate work. He is nearing 30 years of age and gets a job where his boss wants to advance him rapidly by having him assume more responsibilities for the company. He needs to spend some time with his children in the evenings if he is to have any influence on them. How do you sell him on our great Order? In the first place, I believe we can come much nearer getting him if he can take his work at a York Rite Festival. Next, if we expect to have him attend meetings, they are going to have to be made much more interesting and worthwhile. Why couldn't we provide a program for every meeting that would bring more Masonic light to our brethren? Our degree work could be livened up so much. People do not want to hear words. They want a dramatic lesson.

The wife should also be considered as we think about recruiting young men for our Order. She has been working close by his side during this struggle to get an education in the hopes that they will have more time together when he secures a job and starts his career. Serious thought should be given to a ladies auxiliary such as The Social Order of Beauceant. It generally helps to secure the wife's interest in Templary, and such auxiliaries generally make great contributions to the Order. Look what S.O.O.B.

has done for the Eye Foundation. In many cases they have been a great help with equipment and also with fund-raising projects.

It is realized that the following things are considered controversial, but the questions will be raised anyway. Can we any longer justify our age-old policy or rule that one black ball will reject an individual for membership? It is doubtful that this policy is in keeping with the basic policies that have made our nation great. Should we really insist upon every Sir Knight buying a uniform? It is true that our Order is a uniformed organization, but pause to think what this requirement will do to that young man we are trying to enlist. Too often we think only about the cost. The cost will not stand in the way as much as a place to keep the uniform. What are the services a community can rightly expect to be coming from a local Commandery? What can our local Commanderies do for religion and also patriotism? Please give serious thought to those questions.

Our great Order can be made to become much more dynamic than it is today. We have just as many things we are doing as we have in the Shrine or other branches. Let's pledge our support to our new Most Eminent Grand Master and his staff and go forward to increase our membership and thereby increase our service to our fellow man and God.

Address Mislaidd

If you've forgotten the address, here's a reminder to send your inquiries and Knights Templar Eye Foundation contributions to: Walter A. DeLamater, Executive Director, P.O. Box 191, Rhinebeck, New York 12572

All Systems—Go

The York Rite Light, published by the York Rite bodies of Florida, uses this slogan in its issues: "All Systems Are Go—York Rite."

Editor Stephen B. Dimond may have been inspired by the relationship with Sir Knight and Astronaut L. Gordon Cooper.

Detroit Commandery No. 1 Field 32 Platoons in Uniform

Sir Knight Louis J. Asmus, P.C., and celebrated Captain General of Detroit Commandery No. 1, Knights Templar, had 32 platoons of Sir Knights in full Templar uniform for the parade down Woodward Avenue Saturday, August 19, in spite of a rain-swept city. They filled the ranks for the escort for the Grand Master, the escort for Detroit Commandery, the No. 1 Drill Corps, as drivers of the 40 special 1967 Oldsmobile Convertibles provided by General Motors, and as officers; those who were unable to parade rode on a special Float. From ages 32 to 93, they kept their promise to have 32 platoons for the Triennial.

But it wasn't just a one day display of talent. Detroit Commandery had a four-platoon escort leading a 12-platoon Corps in full Templar uniform for the Sunday Cobo Arena on August 20.

On Monday evening, they came back to top everyone's dream of Templar dedication with a superb 4-platoon escort and a 26-platoon drill. Sir Knight Alfred W. Wilke, Eminent Commander, had his proudest moment when he intro-

duced his Commandery and following the drill, accepted the congratulations from the Grand Master Grand Encampment officers.

However, one of the real stories of dedication and spirit was yet to be written. When the Eminent Commander and Captain General left the floor to the Assembly area in Cobo Hall, the Escort gave them an honored Sword Salute for a truly great performance. The Eminent Commander was at a loss for words to express his fullest joy and appreciation to his men. It was his proudest moment, and every man in that room shared his happiness. The spirit of Detroit Commandery was never more evident than that evening when the public eye was not present.

Grand Master Wilber M. Brucker has been talking coast-to-coast about the merits of Detroit Commandery No. 1 and their famed drill corps. He spoke from first-hand knowledge. He drilled with these men for years and it is likely he will be back in line, in the second platoon, once again. No one who is once a real part of Detroit Commandery ever leaves.

GRAND ENCAMPMENT OFFICERS—1967-70

John Lawton Crofts, Sr., Most Eminent Grand Master.

George Wilbur Bell, Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master.

Roy Wilford Riegle, Right Eminent Grand Generalissimo.

Willard Meridith Avery, Right Eminent Grand Captain General.

The Rev. Curtis William Valentine Junker, D. D., Right Eminent Grand Prelate.

Edmund F. Ball, Right Eminent Grand Treasurer.

Paul Charles Rodenhauser, Right Eminent Grand Recorder.



VROOMAN'S VIEWS

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

An Assignment is Made by the Editor

When the Editor of the Knight Templar magazine asked me to write a monthly column in the magazine, under the title, *Vrooman's Views*, I spent some time in consideration of the matter. First, who am I to try to tell 400,000 Knights Templar about our Order? What right do I have to speak for any group, segment or organization? The idea was awesome.

Thinking the matter through, however, I came to the conclusion that it might be a golden opportunity by which to speak for the *common man* at the grassroots; to put into words something by which the hard working members of the ordinary, small town Com-

mandery could be heard, and it struck me that nowhere is there a greater need for *togetherness* than with our dedicated average members.

Templary has a pattern of activity that is stressed by the attitude of its members. When there is co-operation there is progress, but let an individual dominate the organization and there is chaos.

Leadership must lead in knowledge, and the organization must follow this leadership with pride, and build up a solid accomplishment to the benefit of the organization, the community, the state and the nation. Unified, dedicated action does the job.

NORTH ATLANTIC

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SOUTH PACIFIC

Department Commander: Harold Sumner Gorman, P.G.C.

111th Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery Of Knights Templar State of Illinois

By W. G. Mateer—Chairman Public Relations

Knights Templar of Illinois leave an Annual Conclave with two experiences, PRIDE and REGRET. We feel proud at the conclusion of another successful year of strength and renewed enthusiasm, regret because of the loss during the year of many valiant Knights who have gone to their reward, but who have left a memory of kindly fellowships and generous deeds that have increased the wealth of human treasures of our wonderful Christian Order.

This 111th Conclave in Peoria, Sept. 1, 2 and 3, 1967, was opened at 8:30 A.M. Saturday Sept. 3. There followed the usual routine of committee reports and then the Grand Commander's Address by David Edward Wennerstand. This address was typical of the modesty of the man. It expressed appreciation of the successes, hope for the future, disappointments he had experienced, his faith and trust in Templar principles and confidence our Christian Order will forever endure. The report of the committee on the Grand Commander's Address was resplendent with logic and Templar responsibility. Louis L. Williams, Deputy for Illinois Scottish Rite, was the Chairman.

Among the highlights of the business session was the clear and concise coverage Sir Knight G. Wilbur Bell, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, gave of the conclusions reached at the Triennial regarding involvement of Grand Commanderies, and the cooperative response of our Jurisprudence and Finance Committees offering amendments which would

meet the requirements of Grand Encampment. The amendments were unanimously carried.

Other highlights were addresses by Most Worshipful Brother Myron K. Lingle, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, and John L. Crofts, Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, United States of America.

Brother Lingle talked upon the subject so close to our hearts and that is Unity in York Rite, which was clearly and effectively demonstrated in the drama, "The Word," in Springfield August 5. He spoke of his experiences among Masons worldwide, also made a plea to accept change. He stressed forward-thinking and new thoughts.

Grand Master Crofts expressed his deep appreciation of the message by our Grand Master and also the courtesies extended by our Grand Commandery. He spoke with enthusiasm about our Home for the Aged, our Knight Templar Eye Foundation and Education Foundation. He mentioned feelingly his personal high regard for Past Grand Master Wilber M. Brucker and retired Grand Recorder John Temple Rice, as well as his great appreciation of the fact that Sir Knight Paul C. Rodenhauser had accepted with dedication the office of Grand Recorder.

Sir Knight Crofts presented the Knights Templar Cross of Honor to Sir Knight Robert Herman Kloss of Englewood Commandery No. 59. This award was more than enthusiastically approved by the Knights present.

The presence of Sir Knight Crofts at the Grand Commander's Banquet, and of many other distinguished Knights, enhanced our pride in being members of the great order of Templary, the respect in which we are held by the public and the beneficial influence that we can exert in society and affairs of our land.

Sir Andrew E. Barton was installed R. E. Grand Commander. His address is 311 E. Fourth Street, Metropolis, Illinois 62960. Carl Eli Anderson is Grand Recorder.

His address is 53 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Ill. 60604. The Officers of the Grand Commandery were thrilled with the large attendance of interested Knights and their ladies.

There were receptions for both our retiring and incoming Grand Commanders. Grand Commander Wennerstrand was warmly congratulated upon his accomplishments and six hundred Sir Knights and ladies offered thanks and well wishes to this most deserving Knight.

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DEFINITIONS FOR COVER PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 — Former Secretary of Army & distinguished P.G.M.
- 4 — Initials of Grand Treasurer (first and last names).
- 5 — In — — — Signo Vinces.
- 7 — P.G.M. DeLamater wants more like this.
- 8 — Initials of first Order in Commandery.
- 9 — A — — — Advisor, DeMolay.
- 10 — "That is," Latin.
- 11 — "The," Spanish.
- 13 — Concludes.
- 15 — A "combining form" from the Greek.
- 16 — Degree of our Grand Prelate.
- 17 — "In the sweet — — — and — — —."
- 19 — Television and photographic term for long shot.
- 20 — Initials of first inhabitants of Garden of Eden.
- 21 — R.E. Past Grand Generalissimo.
- 22 — One of Templary's greatest projects.
- 24 — An instrument for dubbing.

DOWN

- 2 — The 42nd Sir Knight to lead us.
- 3 — The Island of — — — — —.
- 4 — Initials of honorary title of Sir Knight who heads a Commandery.
- 6 — By word of mouth.
- 7 — What you see when you view.
- 8 — A Kansan who moved up.
- 12 — Hoosier elected to Grand Encampment line August 23.
- 14 — Perform.
- 16 — "Ruminant mammal distinguished by type of horns".
- 17 — Second in Command.
- 18 — Derisive agreement.
- 20 — Shakespeare's "Much — — —."
- 21 — "— — — and Behold!"
- 23 — Grand Master's son is training for this degree.

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