



Knight Templar

VOLUME XXII

SEPTEMBER 1976

NUMBER 9



BROTHER "HAP" ARNOLD, 5-STAR GENERAL

KNIGHT TEMPLAR

Templary Salutes



the Bicentennial

SEPTEMBER 1976: General "Hap" Arnold, another Mason of distinction from our Grand Master's home state of Kansas, who gave patriotic service to our nation, is featured on the September cover. The late General's review has been prepared for the *Knight Templar Magazine* by a member of the Grand Encampment Committee on Public Relations, Sir Knight and LTC H. Edward May, Past Grand Commander of Florida, now living in Alabama. The story of the School of Nursing at the Illinois Masonic Medical Center is told by J. E. Behrens, assistant to the Editor. In next month's issue, we will bring you a review of legislation, elections and appointments from the 53rd Triennial Conclave in Kansas City.

Paul C. Rodenhauer, Editor

SEPTEMBER 1976

VOLUME XXII NUMBER 9

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

ROY W. RIEGLE

Grand Master
Palace Building, Suite One
P.O. Box 383
Emporia, Kansas 66801

PAUL C. RODENHAUSER

Grand Recorder
14 East Jackson Blvd., Suite 1700
Chicago, Illinois 60604.

Editor

Paul C. Rodenhauer

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THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD

Wednesday, September 2, marks the changing of the Templar Guard. A new Grand Master assumes leadership of the nearly 365,000 Sir Knights who serve under the banner of the Grand Encampment.

I wish my successor in office well. May his term be as richly rewarding in friendships and happy associations as mine. I can assure you they will be treasured always.

After terms in a range of other assignments, including Department Commander, it was a solemn moment for me when the late Sir Knight Wilber M. Brucker administered the vow of office to me as Grand Captain General in 1964 at Philadelphia.

That installation was 12 years ago. I am not going to say to you that I am happy to terminate my duties as Grand Master. That would not be true. My wife and I have enjoyed every moment of service in Templary, although it may have been arduous at times. I turn over the reigns to a new Grand Master with the satisfaction of knowing I have done my best to serve faithfully and that he will do the same.

Backed by a wonderfully proficient corps of Grand Officers, reinforced in depth by a strong central office executive organization, I know my successor will have a fruitful, productive term and that he will continue to advance Templary — as well as other York Rite bodies of Freemasonry.

It is "farewell" for me as Grand Master, but not from Templary. My whole life has been and will continue to be devoted to our Order. I hope you, too, will give the Knights of the Temple your personal and dedicated involvement.

Proudly, yet humbly, I thank you each for the honor of serving you.



Grand Master



Grand Master Riegle



Deputy Grand Master Avery



EDITOR'S JOURNAL

K.T.E.F.: One major project for 1976-77 is the Voluntary Campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. As Executive Director G. Wilbur Bell, P.G.M., puts it: "There is no 'ending' to the needs of the Foundation. We are committed to assisting those who need help to correct or restore vision; that need will not diminish." To assist the ever-continuing demands upon the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, a fund-raising campaign is conducted annually. Next campaign begins December 1, ends April 30, 1977.

No "credit" accrues to Commanderies for wills and bequests, nor for membership in the Grand Master's Club and Grand Commander's Club, but Commandery certificates otherwise will go to those which achieve \$5.00 or more in per capita productivity.

The Grand Master's Club and the Grand Commander's Club are completely separate from the Voluntary Fund-Raising Campaign. The former calls for a benefactor contribution of \$1,000, with no Commandery credit or benefit except personal satisfaction. The latter offers the opportunity to make an initial contribution of \$100 in increments amounting to \$1,000, when personalized desk plaques are presented. Neither Club excuses Knights Templar Eye Foundation assessments nor grants any Commandery benefit of any kind. Its sole purpose is to assist the Foundation without fanfare or credit.

The 9th Voluntary Campaign, on the other hand, is a public relations activity as well as a fund-raiser. The total in 1976 exceeded \$421,000. Trustees hope this year's total will reach \$500,000.

September Thought: Those who do not read have no advantage over those who cannot.

Communications: Handcuffs are being placed, not at all slowly, upon the ability to disseminate information in every class of publication, including the *Knight Templar Magazine*, fraternal newssheets and general mailing as well.

Three years ago at the start of this triennium, the average cost of mailing the *Knight Templar Magazine* was in the \$750 vicinity each month. Three years later, the mailing rate had gone above \$3,200 monthly. In July, retroactive notice was received that the new rate would average near or above \$4,150 per month.

Three years ago, as they had been for many years, the Post Office Notices or Returns — relaying changes of address, changes of status and deaths — were 10 cents each. In mid-July we were informed the rate for returns was increased to 13 cents. Before the end of July, notification was received that the new rate, effective immediately, was 25 cents per return.

The Postal service appears to be doing its best to tax itself and the Communication-Publication industry out of business.

Currently, the Post Office Notices are considered to be vital for the notification of changes of address, deaths and related membership information compiled and relayed for the benefit of the Recorders for their Commandery records.

The free press is a misnomer and certainly is no longer "free."

Clarksburg: Clarksburg Commandery No. 13, West Virginia, has become a member of \$5.00 and over Voluntary Campaign Club. Grand Commander Allen located a discrepancy in tabulations. The new total for Clarksburg voluntary per capita is \$5.71 — a level that qualifies for special plaque recognition in the 8th Voluntary Campaign. New campaign begins December 1.

YOU CAN'T AFFORD IT

by

The Reverend H. Dwight McAlister
Newly Appointed Grand Prelate
of the Grand Encampment

Did you ever buy something that you wanted, knowing that at the time you couldn't afford it? Did you ever give up something, when at the time you felt that you could not afford to give it up? Have you ever lost something and felt that you could not afford to lose it?



One of our troubles today is that we buy things which we can't really afford. We give up things which we can't afford to give up. We lose things which we cannot afford to lose.

One of the things a lot of people have given up or lost is their faith or belief in God. That is one of the things, above all things, which we cannot afford to lose. Before you could be made a Mason you had to profess your belief in God. Have you kept that faith in God or have you lost it?

A little girl was riding a bus on her way to Sunday School. She carried a placard with the words "Faith In God" on it. She had made the placard as her assignment for Sunday School. As the bus went along, the wind blew the placard out of her hands and on to the street. She began to cry. The bus driver stopped the bus and asked her why she was crying. She answered, "I've lost my faith in God." That story illustrates what has happened to many people. They have lost their faith in God.

A little boy who lived on a farm, and whose parents were ready to move to the big city, decided before leaving the farm he had to say goodbye to all he knew. He said goodbye to his friends at school, to

his neighbors and to all the farm animals. That night he knelt down by his bed to pray. He closed his prayer by saying "Goodbye God, I'm moving to the big city."

These are only the actions and sayings of children, but many grown-ups really practice and act the things mentioned. Many men have lost their faith in God; they have said goodbye to God, in their actions and lives.

God through Moses brought the children of Israel out of bondage and slavery, led them across the Red Sea and blessed them wonderfully. But when Moses went up on the mountain to receive the law and was delayed, the children of Israel made the golden calf and began to worship it, and said, "Goodbye to God."

Solomon in his youth was close to God and prayed to Him for wisdom and it was granted. God blessed him and made him a great ruler, great wealth was his; but he began to mix in marriage with the heathen, and he plunged into sin and for a time said goodbye to God.

There are many other instances in the Bible of men saying goodbye to God by their words and actions. None have been able to say goodbye to God without dire consequence.

You can't afford to say goodbye to God. To say goodbye to God will cost you your influence for good. It will cost you your happiness and peace of mind here. It will cost you your future happiness. Don't say goodbye to God. **YOU CAN'T AFFORD IT.**

The Rev. McAlister is a retired Pastor of the First Baptist Church, Cheraw, South Carolina. He resides at 6440 Kemberly Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29209.



*Sunshine or shadows, what'ere betide,
Omnipotent God, be at our side:*

*Make us to feel thy spirit divine,
Oh Lord we pray, our will be thine,
Teach us the way to live by the square,
Encompass our thoughts in Holy care;*

*Inspire us daily to nobler deeds
That fit us to fill the Master's needs.*

*Blessed are they whose trust is in thee,
Ever, in all ways... SO MOTE IT BE!*



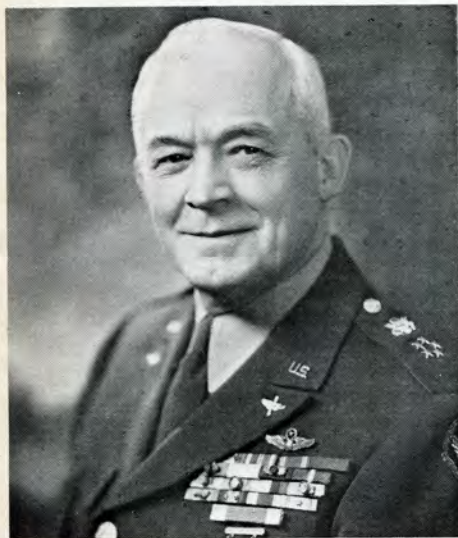
ERVIN H. STRUB
DUPAGE NO. 88
Lombard, Illinois

"HAP" ARNOLD

by
LTC H. Edward May

One hundred years ago, as this nation began to celebrate its Centennial birthday, men dreamed of the future. Some even had visions of the future which included ideas relating to men traveling from place to place in powered vehicles which would sail through the air far above the pastures and cities of Mother Earth. No doubt, even then, there were those who envisioned man walking on the moon!

Today, Just one hundred years later, these dreams have been realized and surpassed. One of the individuals who played an integral part in the process of the fulfillment of these wild dreams was Henry Harley Arnold.



This rugged individual was born on June 25, 1886, in Gladwyne, Pennsylvania, and died near Sonoma, California, on January 15, 1950. During his 63 years he proved himself as indeed worthy of the title "Ish Sodi" - Select Man.

He entered the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, graduating with the class of 1907. While there, he was nicknamed "Hap" by his classmates because of his infectious grin. This nickname followed him throughout his lifetime.

Arnold's first military assignment was as second lieutenant to an infantry unit stationed in the Philippines. He returned to the mainland in October, 1909, and was selected for pilot training in 1910. In April, 1911, he was detailed to the Signal Corps, and proceeded to Dayton, Ohio. There, he became one of the pioneers of early aviation as evidenced by the fact that he was taught to fly by both Wilbur and Orville Wright and was given instruction in piloting the Wright biplane.

Two months later, his training completed, he was assigned duty as an instructor at the Signal Corps Aviation School, first in College Park, Maryland, and later in Augusta, Georgia.

Arnold was a daring yet careful pilot. Recipient of many awards and decorations, his first action of note which resulted in national recognition was accomplished in June of 1912 when, piloting a Burgess-Wright airplane, he set a new world altitude record of 6,540 feet. Later that year he made a record non-stop flight which earned him his first Mackay Trophy, the first awarded. The flight covered a distance of 30 miles, following a triangular route from College Park, Maryland, to Washington Barracks, D.C., Fort Myer, Virginia, and return to College Park. He used the early type of Wright biplane powered with a 40-horsepower engine revolving two propellers.

Toward the end of 1912, his duty took him to Fort Riley, Kansas, where he was an early observer of Field → → →

Artillery Firing. He was the first military aviator to make use of radio to report his observations.

When the U.S. entered World War I, Arnold was stationed in the Panama Canal Zone, there organizing the Air Defense. He returned to the West Coast a year later and eventually became Assistant Director, Office of Military Aeronautics in command of 30 training schools, 15,000 officers, and 125,000 men. Although he never reached Europe for combat in the war, he did sail for France in November, 1918, on an inspection tour of aviation activities. He became convinced that Air Power would be a decisive factor in future wars and became its strong advocate.

Arnold transferred to the Air Service after the war, in August of 1920. He was inspired by General Billy Mitchell's themes on Air Power and supported him from "within the system" — never losing sight of his own belief that a separate Air Force, to rank equally with both the Army and Navy, was absolutely essential to a well-balanced military posture.

Brother Arnold progressed ever-upward as a career officer. He graduated from the Army Industrial College in 1925, and from the Command and General Staff School in 1929. Following his graduation he was assigned as Commanding Officer of the Fairfield, Ohio, Air Depot.

In 1934 he received his second Mackay Trophy in recognition of his work as commanding officer of the U.S. Army Alaska Flight of that year.

He was appointed Assistant Chief of the Army Air Corps in 1936, soon after which he received the Distinguished Flying Cross. A portion of the citation which accompanied the medal reads:

"For extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight as pilot and commanding officer of a bombardment squadron of ten airplanes . . . By his untiring energy, fearless leadership and extraordinary professional skill, . . . Arnold organized, directed and completed over 1,800 miles of

exceptionally dangerous flying, including a non-stop flight from Juneau, Alaska, to Seattle, Washington, a distance of 950 miles over water under extremely adverse weather conditions, without the loss of personnel or equipment, to successfully demonstrate the mobility of the Air Force and to establish new records for the Army Air Corps in aerial photography and long distance mass formation flying."

In September, 1938, Arnold, as a Major General, became Chief of the Army Air Corps.

In 1940, too old for combat assignment at age 54, he became acting Deputy Chief of Staff charged with coordination of all matters pertaining to the Air Corps. On June 30, 1941, he was appointed Chief of the Army Air Forces; with the reorganization of the War Department General Staff in 1942, this title was changed to Commanding General of the Army Air Forces.

One year later he was promoted to 4-star rank, thus becoming the first full Aviation General in this nation's history. At the height of World War II Arnold commanded a force of over 2,500,000 men and more than 75,000 aircraft. He successfully fought for acceptance of precision daylight bombing raids against Germany as an alternative to safer night bombing because the precision enabled a quicker end of Germany's ability to wage war, and thus saved thousands of lives on both sides.

General Arnold was elevated to 5-star rank in December, 1944, along with Generals Marshall, Eisenhower and MacArthur . . . another first in his long brilliant career. He retired from active service in 1946, but as a 5-star General remained subject to recall!

Arnold received praise and recognition over the years as a pioneer aviator. He helped start air mail flights and worked on developing air refueling techniques. He also flew air forest fire patrols. Arnold participated in the first mass (formation) flight of B-10 bombers. He →→→

was first to observe artillery fire from a wireless equipped aircraft. His second Mackay Trophy was won as a result of his leading a flight from Washington, D.C., to Fairbanks, Alaska, and returning — a distance of 1,800 miles. A Distinguished Service Medal was received in October, 1942, for his leadership of a 77-hour flight from Brisbane to San Francisco. A Distinguished Flying Cross was awarded when Arnold established the record of having the longest continuous flying time in the Army Air Corps.

He also found time to author a number of books, including a series of childrens' books known as the Bill Bruce Stories. He published *Air Men and Aircraft* in 1926, and *Global Mission*. He also co-authored *This Flying Game* (1936), *Winged Warfare* (1941), and *Army Flyer* (1942), with General Ira C. Eaker.

Arnold was a Master Mason, being raised to that sublime degree in Union Lodge No. 7, Junction City, Kansas, on November 3, 1927. He became a 32° Scottish Rite Mason on April 11, 1927, at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. On October 19, 1945, he was coronetted a 33° Scottish Rite Mason.

On August 8, 1950, Brother Arnold was honored by action of the members of Langley Chapter No. 310, National Sojourners Inc., of Langley Air Force Base, Virginia, naming their Heroes of '76 Camp after Arnold. This camp is still in existence today, keeping alive the name (and memory) of a truly distinguished military Mason . . . one who did indeed do his part to maintain the precious American Heritage for which his brethren of long ago had sacrificed so much to obtain. Surely brethren such as Henry "Hap" Arnold have set the proper and ideal standard for those of us to follow to ensure that those who are destined to come behind us have the same heritage to enjoy.

Cover and internal photos courtesy U.S. Army A.A.F.

Lieutenant Colonel May is P.G.C., Florida, and a member of the Committee on Public Relations of the Grand Encampment. He resides at Route 1, Box 158 C, Mobile, Alabama 36605.

Templar Elected Grand Monarch

Sir Knight Jerry Walker, Woodlawn Commandery No. 31, Birmingham, Alabama, was installed Grand Monarch of all Grottoes of North America in Fort Worth, Texas, at the 86th Annual Session June 26, 1976.



A native of Shelby, North Carolina, Sir Knight Walker attends the Berea Friendship United Methodist Church. He is a member of American Legion Posts No. 1 in Birmingham and No. 3 in Greenville, South Carolina. He was initiated, passed and raised in Woodlawn Lodge No. 525 F. & A.M., and is a member of Woodlawn Chapter No. 146 Royal Arch Masons, and Woodlawn Council No. 71 Royal and Select Masters.

During 1965 and 1966, Walker served as Membership Chairman for the Southeastern Grotto Association; and on July 1, 1967, he was elected to the Supreme Council line. At 43 years of age, Sir Knight Walker becomes one of the youngest Grand Monarchs in the history of the Supreme Council.

The Grottoes of North America are involved in many philanthropic humanitarian endeavors including dentistry for the physically-handicapped. Grand Monarch Walker will serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the United Cerebral Palsy Research and Educational Foundation.

BOY'S HOME COUNSELOR

St. Michael's Home and School for Boys in Picayune, Mississippi, was founded in 1954 by the Rev. Victor A. Menard. He saw in its creation the opportunity to help young boys in the sometimes arduous task of growing up; he saw in it a means of giving boys a second chance to view their world and find a comfortable place in it.

Today, Rev. Menard is gone, but there is a man who has continued since the inception of this non-profit Home. Ray Murrell Stewart, a Knight Templar and Attorney-at-Law, became the Home's counsel soon after its founding. This in itself is commendable, but not quite so amazing as the fact that Sir Knight Stewart has never read a word since age 12, and has been totally blind since age 16.

Yet in January of 1942 he graduated from Ole Miss Law School, and on April 1 of that year he opened his first law office with Monroe Tate Thigpen. Subsequently, he served as judge of the Circuit Court and has been a founder and partner of several Mississippi law firms with R. I. Prichard and later D. H. Burks.

At age 22, still a student at Ole Miss, he was a member of the State Legislature. He served as City Judge in Picayune for 10 years and has a nationally-known law office with clients throughout the U.S.

Sir Knight Stewart's civic activities include: 25 years on the Board of Directors, Picayune YMCA; State and local President of the Junior Chamber of Commerce and National Director twice. He was voted Outstanding Jaycee of 1947-48, and Picayune Citizen of the Year in 1952.

In addition to being a Knight Templar and member of Hattiesburg Commandery No. 21, Stewart is a 32° Scottish Rite Mason. His hobbies include fishing — he once caught a 750 pound shark off the coast of Peru; and shooting — in 1974 he shot the first turkey of the season in Pearl River County.

Sir Knight Stewart has not succumbed to the weakness which physically-handicapped people often feel is their due. His work at St. Michael's is an example to the boys of the Home of how any handicap — physical or emotional — can be conquered.

St. John No. 1 Medal

Norris G. Abbott III, Recorder, St. John's Commandery No. 1, Providence, Rhode Island, announces the continued availability of medals commemorating the 175th anniversary of the Commandery.

The bronze medal is topped by a bar depicting the forthcoming 175th Anniversary of St. John's, and is attached to a red, white and blue ribbon for the Bicentennial. Shown on the obverse is St. John's 1802-1977; the reverse is dedicated to the Bicentennial. Either the medal and ribbon (\$8.50) or the coin without ribbon (\$5.00) is available. The cost includes boxing, wrapping and postage and can be secured from Norris G. Abbott, 195 Chestnut Drive, East Greenwich, Rhode Island 02818.

Planning Time Is Now

The 9th Voluntary Campaign for the continuing work of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation begins December 1. The purpose is to plan Commandery projects to raise funds for what has been described as "one of the world's greatest philanthropic foundations."

An Arabian Horse Show at Waco, Texas, provides one example of the possible scope of fund-raising projects. Others may be concerts, testimonial dinners, celebrity attractions, theatre parties — providing not only productive fund-raising activities but interesting Commandery programs as well.

“DEDICATED TO THE SERVICE OF MANKIND”

by
J. E. Behrens

In 1921, the Illinois Masonic Medical Center School of Nursing opened the doors of its single building to admit young women interested in the study of nursing health services. Fifty-four years and some 1,650 graduates later, the IMMC School of Nursing, now expanded to three buildings, and now a co-educational facility, continues to provide education and experience to hundreds of nursing students.

According to Gerald W. Mungerson, Executive Director of IMMC, and a Mason, the hospital spends about \$45 million dollars annually — \$44 million coming from patient revenue and \$1 million from gifts. It is situated amid the most practical schoolroom imaginable — the near north side of Chicago. Student nurses come from throughout the U.S., many from Masonic families, and many are assisted by scholarships and loans from Masonic organizations.

Enrollment in the School of Nursing averages about 150 students with some 20 IMMC faculty members. The newest division in the School of Nursing complex is the Thomas O. Wallace Nurses Residence, which includes the student lounge, library, classrooms, auditorium and residence. The remainder of the complex houses offices and the Nursing Arts Laboratory.

Mungerson and Penelope Mavrelis, Director of Nursing Education, described the School of Nursing and the 27-month diploma program which is undertaken at both IMMC and The Loop College of the Chicago City College System. The



Entrance to IMMC: W. Clement Stone Pavilion for the Health Sciences.

program consists of two parts: classroom studies, and practical experience in the hospital environment.

Science courses (biological, social and physical) are taken at The Loop College in downtown Chicago. Utilizing the facilities of the 555-bed Medical Center, students then receive intensive correlated theory and clinical practice in medical-surgical nursing, operating and recovery rooms, intensive care, maternal and child nursing, mental health nursing, emergency room, and out-patient clinics and community services.

The School of Nursing accepts applications from qualified individuals, regardless of race, creed, sex, or age. Basic qualifications for admission are standard: Applicants must be graduated from an accredited high school and should rank in the upper half of their class. They must submit American College Test (ACT) scores, and must take the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI), administered at IMMC. In addition, applicants must be →→→

U.S. citizens or permanent residents, and must be in good physical and mental health. Transfer students are accepted subject to the above requirements, but must also submit a transcript of all previous college or nursing school records. Finally, applicants are personally interviewed by two members of the Admissions and Promotions Committee.



Thomas O. Wallace Nurses Residence of the School of Nursing.

The costs of the 27-month program vary depending on whether students reside at IMMC. The total educational cost at the Medical Center is \$3,200, excluding application and testing fees. Tuition at the Loop College is presently \$11 per credit hour (about \$300 total). Residence room costs are \$20 to \$40 per month, and housing is available for both male and female students. (Students must provide for their own meals and transportation to The Loop College.)

Financial assistance in the form of scholarships and loans is available from a number of Masonic sources: Illinois Scottish Rite Fund; International Order of the Rainbow for Girls; the Illinois Masonic Nurses Foundation of the Grand Council; Royal and Select Masters of the State of Illinois; Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star of Illinois; the Grand Guardian Council of Illinois, Order of Job's Daughters; and the Knights Templar Educational Foundation, which offers loans up to \$3,000. The Executive Director encourages students to make inquiries about additional scholarships

available through local Masonic organizations.

A minimum grade point average of C must be maintained each term. Graduation is held yearly, and the diploma and pin of the School are granted to students who successfully complete the curriculum.

Graduates of the nursing program are prepared to provide individualized patient care through the use of current theories, are able to interpret health measures to patients and families, and contribute to the enforcement of safety and legal practices within their nursing responsibility. And as affiliates of the IMMC School of Nursing, that main responsibility is "to promote the welfare, dignity and rights of the individual."

According to Miss Mavrelis, the IMMC School of Nursing has a large percentage of graduates who score very high on the State Board Examinations to become licensed Registered Nurses. In addition, IMMC has received excellent reports on the performance of its graduates after placement.

The Illinois Masonic Medical Center ranks proudly among the Masonic monuments which are evidence to the generosity and beneficence of the members of the craft. One assurance that IMMC will continue in its dedication to the service of mankind is the existence of the School of Nursing.

Interested friends and relatives of Masonic brethren are encouraged to contact IMMC for further information about the School of Nursing. Applications for admission may be obtained by writing.

Admissions and Finance Counselor
Illinois Masonic Medical Center
School of Nursing
836 West Wellington
Chicago, Illinois 60657

Applicants or their parents need not belong to a Masonic organization.

‡

THE ERA OF BENJAMIN B. FRENCH

by
Paul C. Rodenhauer

During his life of three score years and ten, Sir Knight Benjamin B. French served his fraternity with "justice and moderation" to a degree that earns him a permanent role in Masonry's hall of fame.

He was presiding officer of the General Grand Chapter, R.A.M.; he was Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Grand Master of Masons in the District of Columbia on two separate occasions and an outstanding leader during a period when Masonry was far from popular.

Knighted in DeWitt Clinton Encampment, Brooklyn, New York, Commander of Washington Commandery No. 1 for 12 years in the District of Columbia, the R.E. Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment for three terms and M.E. Grand Master from 1859 to 1862 and 1862 to 1865, he served during the difficult war years with courage and compassion. At the time of his death in 1870 he also was Lieutenant Grand Commander of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction.

Sir Knight French, as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Masons, laid the cornerstone of the Washington National Monument society (not to be confused with the present George Washington Masonic Memorial Association) July 4, 1848, although the dedication of the monument, so long in building, did not occur until 15 years after his death.

Born in Chester, New Hampshire, in 1800, he moved to Washington in 1833, where he became President of the Board of Aldermen, also Commissioner of Public Buildings and Grounds. In New Hampshire, his father was a distinguished lawyer of Rockingham County, later Attorney General for New Hampshire.

The younger French attended

Yarmouth Academy, Maine, then left to enter the United States Army as a private. He became Sergeant in the 8th Infantry at Fort Warren, Boston, before his discharge, then reentered his father's law practice. After five diligent years he was admitted to the bar.

He moved to Hookset, New Hampshire, in 1825, married Elizabeth S. Richardson, moved on to Suttan and next to Newport, New Hampshire. He became quite influential as an editorial writer at Newport, served as Representative to the State Legislature, which resulted in his appointment as Assistant Clerk in the United States House of Representatives and the move to Washington, D.C. There he made his home until his death.

In Washington, he was Chief Clerk for seven years. He was appointed Commissioner of Public Buildings, resigned because of political differences in the Democratic party, and was reappointed in 1861 by President Lincoln. He returned to the practice of law, after the office of Commissioner was abolished in 1867, and continued in that capacity until his death, August 12, 1870.

As Grand Master of the District, Sir Knight French laid the cornerstone of the Smithsonian Institution, the 1848 Washington Monument, the Capitol extension and numerous other public buildings and institutions.

Before leaving New Hampshire for Washington, he had served as Master of Corinthian Lodge No. 28, also as Grand Marshal of the New Hampshire Grand Lodge as well as District Deputy Grand Master. In Washington he affiliated with National Lodge No. 12 in 1846 and was elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge the same year — and again in 1867. He was C o m m a n d e r o f → → →

Washington Commandery for a period of 12 years.

His activity in Masonry is especially noteworthy because it covered the period of Anti-Masonic agitation — a period when Masons of lesser dedication and stature many times were fearful of being identified as Freemasons.

The fraternal record of Sir Knight Benjamin B. French is remarkable in every respect. He was exalted in Columbia Chapter No. 1, Washington, November 6, 1846. Elected High Priest in 1847, he was chosen in the same year to be Grand King of the Grand Chapter of Maryland and the District of Columbia, which were combined at the time. His election to Grand High Priest occurred in 1855 when he became active in the formation of a separate Chapter and was elected Grand High Priest of the District of Columbia a few years before his death. He became General Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter in 1850, serving for nine years until he was elected Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, when he declined reelection as General Grand Secretary.

He also devoted much of his time to Cryptic Masonry, but in the words of the late Sir Knight Francis J. Scully, M.D.: "To the Order of Knighthood he devoted the best years of his life." He was elected Grand Recorder and served for three successive terms in that capacity, then was elected M.E. Grand Master of the Grand Encampment from 1859 to '62 and from 1862 to '65.

During the Civil War, he tried in every "utterance and act to avoid the destruction of brotherly love existing between the Sir Knights of the North and the South."

It has been said by many — and it bears repeating: "Templary owes him a debt of gratitude as it was through his sincerity, earnestness and courtesy that the Grand Encampment came through the ordeal without permanent division or destruction."

‡

Re-Living Many Masonic Memories

Custom has molded a new group of gathering Masons into a unique habit of happy repetition. It began five years ago when retired Masons Edgar Lawrence, a former city councilman, J. L. Jollif, retired collector of taxes, L. R. Hackman and Leon Rodman began meeting over their morning coffee every Wednesday in the back room of Douglas Wood's restaurant (Shoney's) in Churchland, Virginia.

The only qualifications for "members" are that they are retired and are Masons. There is no president and no officers. Each member, however, is treated to ice-cream, cake and a song fest on his birthday. Some well-known regulars in the group include retired Portsmouth Mayor R. Levine Smith, long-time Commissioner of the Revenue L. E. Turlington, Police Chief Lou Warren, Westhaven school teacher and principal J. H. Hardin, banker Maurice Gompf, and railroader L. T. Corell.

A recent communication from Sir Knight Thomas England, one of the original members, states "our coffee club is going strong and growing each week. The manager has promised to enlarge his dining room." England says that those who qualify are welcome to join them any Wednesday morning at Shoney's in Churchland, in the Portsmouth, Virginia area.

Learning

The ideal condition
Would be, I admit, that
men should be right
by instinct;
But since we are all
likely to go astray,
The reasonable thing is
to learn from those
who can teach.

— Sophocles

NATION'S BICENTENNIAL, COLORADO'S CENTENNIAL

The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Colorado climaxed their first one hundred years with a June banquet at Rocky Mountain Consistory in Denver, one of four regional banquets held throughout the state to enable more than a thousand Sir Knights and their ladies to participate.

Keynote speaker for the Denver celebration was Illustrious Richard H. Simon, 33°, Deputy of the Supreme Council in Colorado, A.A.S.R., S.J., who delivered an address on Masonry in Colorado and the United States. 1976 is not only the centennial of the Grand Commandery of Colorado, but the centennial of Colorado Statehood, as well as the Bicentennial of our nation.



(L-r) Sir Knight George D. Temple, P.C., Chairman of the Central Colorado Centennial Banquet and Secretary of the Rocky Mountain Consistory Bodies; Illustrious Richard H. Simon, 33°, Deputy of the Supreme Council in Colorado; Sir Knight William H. Thornley, Jr., Deputy Grand Commander.

Each banquet was attended by the presiding officers of the York Rite; Sir Knight Ray H. Slaybaugh, Grand Commander; P.C. Royal W. Trivett, Grand Master, R. & S.M.; P.C. Harry A. Peterson, Grand High Priest, R.A.M., and representatives of the Grand Lodge, Scottish Rite, Shrine and other appendant bodies.

"We were honored to have Companion Gordon R. Merrick, General Grand High Priest, Royal Arch Masons-International, present at the Denver banquet," writes Deputy Grand Commander William H. Thornley, Jr. "A message from our Most Eminent Grand Master, Sir Knight Roy Wilford Riegle was read at each of the dinners."

Sir Knight Thornley says: "It was not unusual that two of the banquets were held in Scottish Rite Cathedrals - the 1st Grand Commander in 1876, Sir Knight Henry Moore Teller, was also the first Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Colorado. Sir Knight Teller was also the 1st United States Senator from Colorado and later became Secretary of the Interior."

Regional Chairmen for the Centennial Anniversary included: Henry R. McCoy, Pueblo; James D. Hartman, Fort Collins; George D. Temple, Denver; and Warren E. Bush, Grand Junction. Sir Knight Thornley, Jr., was General Chairman for the Centennial Committee.

Thornley is slated to become Grand Master of Colorado this month in Colorado Springs.



HIGHLIGHTS AND SIDELIGHTS

Easter in the Offing

Although Easter Sunday is more than seven months removed at this release, Sir Knights of Illinois are firming advance arrangements for an April, 1977, excursion to Arlington National Cemetery for the Grand Encampment Easter Sunrise Service next April 10. Invitations are extended to adjoining states.

According to P.G.C. Forest C. McDaniel, reservations can be made for a 10-day tour by chartered bus or a five-day trip by chartered United Airlines, each \$225.00 per person including transportation, housing and some admission fees. Optional tours, dinners and similar arrangements are available. Checks for reservations, payable to the Grand Commandery Promotional Fund, can be made, among others, to the following Grand Commandery of Illinois representatives: (Bus from Lincoln) Robert E. McAllister, 314 South Sheridan Street, Lincoln, 62656, 217-732-7363; (Chicago bus) Forest M. McDaniel, 3110 Belwood Lane, Glenview 60225, 312-729-2958; (Air charter) William R. Dawkins, 436 Illinois Avenue, Glenwood 60425, 312-798-5722.

New Jersey Masonic Map

Masons of New Jersey were honored by a display of a Bicentennial map of Masonic New Jersey in the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia. The map commemorates the 200th Birthday of the nation and over 100 years of Masonry in New Jersey. It is printed on parchment-like paper and contains a complete list of Masonic lodges and their locations in New Jersey. The map is unique in that the design will be revised in 1977.

The Bicentennial map is available at \$3.50 each (includes postage), through The Past Masters and Wardens Association, Box 98, Marmora, New Jersey 08223.

San Gabriel Valley Salute

The San Gabriel Valley York Rite bodies of California joined to honor their four Grand Officers at a testimonial dinner and pageant June 12 at the Scottish Rite Cathedral in Pasadena, California. Distinguished guests included Sir Knight Robert J. Miller, Grand Commander, Knights Templar of California; Sir Knight Paul O. Gooder, Grand Master, Royal and Select Masters of California; Sir Knight John R. Nocas, Grand High Priest, Royal Arch Masons of California; and Most Worshipful John F. Roberts, Jr., Grand Master of Masons in California and Hawaii.



(l-r) Sir Knight Robert J. Miller, Sir Knight Paul O. Gooder, Most Worthy John F. Roberts, Jr., and Sir Knight John R. Nocas.

The 15 York Rite bodies joined forces to salute the Grand Officers in a unique Bicentennial setting. Following the dinner, a "Patriotic Flag Pageant" was presented to the gathering by a volunteer group of young Marines from the United States Marine Corps Air Station El Toro in Santa Ana, California. Corporal Evelyn Hummel narrated and appropriate background music played as the men and women of the Marine Corps, dressed in the uniform and carrying a weapon of the period represented, accompanied each historic flag presentation.

York Cross of Honour

The Forty-First Annual Conclave of Convent General, Knights of the York Cross of Honour will be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia, September 11. Eastern Canada Priory No. 19 will open the Conclave, to be held at the Chateau Halifax, and will receive the officers of Convent General beginning Saturday morning, September 11. Election and installation of officers will take place on Saturday afternoon, followed by a banquet for the officers, Knights, and their ladies and guests.

Registration will begin from Friday afternoon, September 10, and on Friday evening there will be a general dinner and business meeting. Attendees are urgently requested to make advance reservations.

Harold F. Sipprell, Grand Master-General, suggests "each Priory should make an effort to have at least one voting member in attendance," and adds, "Proxies for the Prior, Deputy Prior, and Warder may be obtained from your Registrar."

Virginia Bicentennial Coin

A limited number of Bicentennial coins have been issued by the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Virginia. The seal of the Grand Chapter is on the face with the words "Grand Royal Arch Chapter Virginia" as a border. The reverse bears the words American Bicentennial, the keystone, a '76 flag, and the dates 1776-1976.

Coins can be obtained at \$3 each (postpaid) by writing William E. Copenhaver, Rt. No. 4, Box 361, Winchester, Virginia 22601. This is Virginia's only Bicentennial coin; neither the Grand Lodge nor Grand Commandery plans to issue one. Sir Knight Copenhaver says: "Order now, there will be no second minting."

Ft. Collins Festival

The Order of the Temple was conferred on 31 candidates who took part in a two-day May festival at Ft. Collins, Colorado.

Virgil V. Viers, P.G.C., Colorado, had the honor of conferring the Degree on all 31 candidates, including his son, DeLance, whom he had raised as a Master Mason in Northglenn Lodge in 1974. Sir Knight Viers says, "Only a father can know the satisfaction that was mine on an occasion such as this." He hopes to be able to repeat the honor when his second son becomes a Mason.

The festival was a first for Ft. Collins and was undertaken by Ft. Morgan No. 28 and five other Commanderies.

South Central Regional Conference

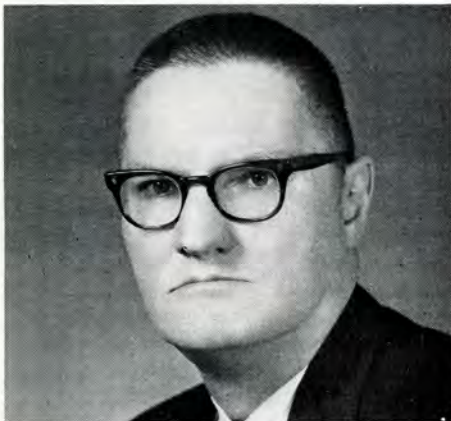
Olin S. McDaniel, District Deputy Grand High Priest, South Central Region, has announced that 100 rooms have been reserved at the Sheraton Inn, Waco, Texas, for a combined "Southwestern - South Central Conference" September 17, 18 and 19. According to Sir Knight and Companion McDaniel, Past Grand Commander Ed Bloomquist has made arrangements which have been approved by the Representatives of the General Grand Council and Grand Encampment - Dr. Maynard Curts and J. Shubel Robbins.

Current information indicates that Sir Knight Bloomquist has made arrangements through the three South Central Bodies and with Clyde V. May, Chairman of the 1976 Southwestern Conference.

Brochures and reservation cards have been distributed, says McDaniel, to Grand Recorders and Grand Secretaries, in addition to individual mailings.

Future Regional Conferences will be announced as soon as information is received.

Harold H. Geissenheimer, a Pittsburgh transit executive with more than 25 years experience, is now serving as Manager of the General Operations Division of the Chicago Transit Authority. Sir Knight Geissenheimer is a member of Pittsburgh Commandery No. 1 in Pennsylvania. His appointment has been announced as a "further step in the formation of a new management team of the CTA."



As Manager of the General Operations Division, Sir Knight Geissenheimer heads the largest single segment of the CTA's organizational structure — a division embracing the Transportation, Maintenance, Operations Planning and Engineering Departments.

Prior to his appointment as Director of Transit Operations with PATransit in 1972, he had served for two years as Acting Operating Manager and for six years as Director of Planning. In the latter position, he was responsible for consolidating the routes of 33 acquired companies and developing the unified PATransit system.

For more than 10 years, he was active in the planning of a proposed rapid transit system for Pittsburgh and for a new "busway" system to provide exclusive roadways for bus operations.

Geissenheimer graduated in 1949 from New York University with a degree in transportation and economics.

The Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite, Northern Jurisdiction, will hold its annual meeting September 23-30 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Highlighting the meeting will be the conferral of the Thirty-third Degree on 206 Scottish Rite Masons. This 164th yearly meeting is expected to be attended by some 1,300 Thirty-third Degree Masons and their ladies.

Presiding over the executive and general sessions will be Sovereign Grand Commander Stanley F. Maxwell of Reading, Massachusetts.

The executive business sessions will take place September 23 and 24. The Supreme Council Vesper Service is scheduled Sunday, September 26, at the Uihlein Hall of the Milwaukee Performing Arts Center, with the Reverend David J. Griffith delivering the Vesper sermon.

The Thirty-third Degree, awarded for outstanding achievement in the Fraternity or for significant contributions to others reflecting credit on Freemasonry, will be conferred September 29 on the 206 nominees selected from the 15 northeastern and midwestern states comprising the Northern Jurisdiction.

Assisting Sovereign Grand Commander Maxwell will be Lieutenant Grand Commander Wayne E. Stichter, Ohio, and Grand Minister of State Floyd W. McBurney, Wisconsin.

Testimonial Dinner

Knights Templar of Michigan attended a testimonial dinner honoring Sir Knight Richard M. Strauss, Right Eminent Grand Commander of Michigan, Saturday, August 21. The dinner, hosted by Damascus Commandery No. 42, Detroit, home Commandery of the new Grand Commander, was held at the Grand Ballroom of the Northfield Hilton Inn in Troy, Michigan.

The Grand Commandery of Michigan met for their 120th Annual Conclave earlier this year in Howell, Michigan.

THE CONSTITUTION IS RATIFIED

by

David R. Perry, P.C.

Pilgrim Commandery No. 11, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

WE THE PEOPLE of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Having gained independence, and a place among the nations, the war-weary Colonists faced the task of establishing a government that would secure and protect those self-evident truths: "That all men are created equal – endowed by their Creator with the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

Seven years of war had disorganized society, thrown economic functions into confusion approaching anarchy. Politically, the United States of America consisted of 13 sovereign Colonies, each highly jealous of its respective rights, and in some cases, dominated by ambitious political leaders.

A Continental Congress had managed the war, but lacked the power and authority to levy taxes or to enforce its own mandates. The various states had adopted local constitutions and forms of government.

In 1777, the Colonists entered into the Articles of Confederation, "pledging a firm league of friendship," a perpetual Union, and defining therein the powers of federal authority and those of the respective states, to become effective only when

"approved by all of the States." Within two years, 12 states had ratified. Maryland withheld her approval until March 1, 1781. The years that followed proved the "crucial period" in American history. The spirit of patriotism flagged and state pride waxed strong. By 1787 the states "acted as Independent Republics, ruled by majorities in State Legislatures . . . warmly attached to their own liberty, indifferent to the future of the Union."

Rhode Island recalled her Congressional delegates and refused to appoint new ones. Stronger states were harassing weaker ones through tariffs and imposts. In defiance of the "Articles," a few states were raising troops to serve their own purposes. In North Carolina, a portion of the state seceded and formed themselves into an independent state and elected a governor. Creditors were concerned over "paper money" schemes – merchants and shippers grumbled over lack of protection against "foreign merchants" in America and foreign ports. Holders of public securities were disgruntled at the irregularity of interest payment. The market value of their securities was →→→

reduced to 90%. Former officers and soldiers in the Continental Army had been paid off in "script" so reduced in value as to be worthless.

In 1786 it reached its climax in Massachusetts. "Debt burdened farmers" descended as a mob upon Boston, demanding repeal of all taxes upon the poor and the debtors.

America was fast drifting into anarchy. Many patriots were advocating a "Military Dictator or Dictatorship" — "students at law and youth of fortune" clamored for a return to monarchy — certain powerful "merchants and military men" were reported as planning a "coup" to establish a government of "privilege." Many of the critics feared either an attempt by England to re-conquer the now "unstable nation," or the possibility that it might fall victim to the territorial ambitions of France and Spain.

In 1873, Washington had written Lafayette: "We stand now an independent people and have yet to learn Political Tactics... We are placed among the nations and have a character to establish... the honor, power and true interest **MUST BE MEASURED** by a continental scale... every departure thereon weakens the Union... may eventually break the bands which hold us together — How we shall acquit ourselves — only time must discover."

Fortunately, history records many great and patriotic leaders who not only knew "political tactics," but when and how to use them in a worthy cause.

In 1785, Virginia and Maryland, ignoring the provision of the Articles of Confederation, entered into a mutual compact for the improvement and control of traffic over the Potomac River. They invited Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey to a convention to be held in Annapolis, in order to settle their water disputes.

Again, ignoring the provision of the Articles, Virginia wrote to all the states inviting them to join the convention "to consider and recommend a federal plan for regulating commerce." On September 5, 1786, five States — New York, New

Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Virginia — only were represented. The convention deemed it "inadvisable to proceed on the business of their mission."

However, Alexander Hamilton, a delegate from New York, persuaded the convention to permit him to draft the report to Congress. The report set forth the precarious position of the Colonies and urged Congress "to use their endeavors in procuring the concurrence of other States in the appointment of Commissioners to meet at Philadelphia, there to advise such further provisions as shall appear to them necessary to rewrite the constitution of the Federal Government, adequate to the 'Exigencies of the Union.'"

In Congress, assembled February 21, 1787, despite an attempt by New York and Massachusetts to postpone action, the majority of the delegates resolved that a convention of delegates appointed by the several states be held in Philadelphia "for the sole and express purpose of revising the Articles of Confederation... so as to render the constitution adequate to the exigencies of government and the preservation of the Union."

Each state, except Rhode Island, approved a State Convention. Rhode Island ignored the whole proceedings. Seventy-four delegates were elected or appointed, 19 declined or failed to attend the meetings.

The Convention was called for May 14, 1787. Only seven of the states were present. There was no quorum. By the end of the month, three more appeared and were voting. Maryland participated June 2, and New Hampshire July 25. New York ceased voting after July 10. Voting was "one-vote to a State — and complete secrecy ordered under the 'Oath of Secrecy' prescribed in the Articles of Confederation."

By June 19 the convention by a "vote of 7 to 3 and one State divided," agreed "to draft a new Constitution rather than attempt to revise the Articles of Confederation."

September 17, 1787, the →→→

Constitution was signed and adopted. Only 41 of the 55 deputies who had attended the meeting had remained to the end. Of these, three refused to sign.

The signers were aware their proposed plan of federal government, sometimes described as a "bundle of compromises" a mosaic of second choices accepted in the interest of the Union," would be bitter medicine to a large part of the public. They "resolved" to submit a copy thereby to Congress, and by so doing, deal directly with the voters of the various states.

The Articles of Confederation required unanimous approval. The Constitution required "ratification by nine States."

September 28, 1787, Congress unanimously resolved so to do, and through a "circular letter" transmitted copies of the Constitution to the several state Governors "to lay the same before their Legislatures."

With the "secrecy of the convention broken, and the proposed plan published," critics fell upon the constitution and triggered the first formation of political parties on a truly national issue.

In 1787 all these factions were segregated into two parties. Those who supported ratification were called Federalists; those who opposed were called Anti-Federalists, their policy being one of negation and obstruction.

Despite the widespread excitement and controversy, many of the "we the people" voters were quite apathetic.

Woodrow Wilson in his book *The States*, described it as "astonishing to us of this generation to learn how much both of hostility and of indifference was felt for the new government which we see to have been the salvation of the country." To the average citizen, the Constitution "was at first an object of quite unexciting contemplation. It was for his state, each man felt, that his blood and treasure had been poured out; it was that Massachusetts and Virginia might be free that the war had been fought — not that the Colonies might have a new central government over them. Patriotism was an arrangement — possibly it would

prove to be only a temporary arrangement."

The first real challenge to ratification arose in Pennsylvania. The Constitution of this state provided for one single legislative body. The Federal Constitution provided for two such bodies and required the President to be elected "by an Electoral College." Many Pennsylvanians believed "this virtually condemned their own State Government."

Both the Constitutional Convention and the State Assembly met in the old "State House." The morning following the adoption of the Constitution, the venerable Ben Franklin, radiant with delight, together with several colleagues, delivered to the Assembly a copy of the Constitution, and begged of them favorable consideration.

The Anti-Federalists who were counting on making a stirring campaign at the November election, thereby securing a majority in the new Legislature, pledged to oppose ratification. For more than three weeks they fought a losing battle against the Federalists.

Finally, news came that on December 6, 1787, Delaware State had ratified the Constitution by "unanimous vote," thereby becoming the first state to be "admitted to the Union."

Six days later, on December 12, the Pennsylvania State Convention, by a vote of 46 to 23, ratified the Constitution and became the second state admitted.

Of course, there were still men who were against the Constitution. It is interesting to note in this regard that "an ancestor of President Lincoln, also named Abraham Lincoln, a delegate from Berks County, had refused to ratify . . . an ancestor of President Lincoln's wife, by the name of William Todd, had likewise refused to ratify. . . ."

The New Jersey State Convention assembled December 11, 1787. One-week later, without a dissenting vote, the Convention ratified the Constitution. New Jersey became the third state, followed by Georgia and Connecticut.

The hopes of the Anti-Federalists now rested on Massachusetts. →→→

In this state the chances for ratification seemed especially slim. The embers of "Shay's" Rebellion still smouldered in its mountain counties. Its hard-pressed farmers desired laws "impairing obligations of contracts." The Constitution specifically prohibited such laws.

Three hundred and fifty-five delegates attended the Massachusetts Convention, Governor Hancock presiding. They met January 9, 1788. In the Convention, practically every word, clause and article of the Constitution was attacked and debated at length. The chief objection was "that the Constitution contained no Bill of Rights." Wisely, friends of the Constitution now proposed that in ratifying the Constitution they suggest a list of proposed amendments to be offered and acted upon as soon as the new government went into operation, and thereby set an example for Virginia and the other states to follow.

Hancock proposed this plan to the delegates. Adams voiced his "satisfaction." On February 6, the Convention, by a vote of 187 to 168, ratified the Constitution. Massachusetts was the sixth state to enter.

Incidentally, the amendments suggested by Massachusetts and several states to follow, were considered by the new Congress. Out of these came the first ten amendments or the "Bill of Rights," acted upon by Congress in 1790 and becoming part of the Constitution in 1791.

Maryland was the next to ratify, and South Carolina followed.

The New Hampshire State Convention reassembled June 21 – the anniversary of Bunker Hill. At an earlier meeting, a majority of the delegates were under "instruction" to vote against ratification, waiting "to see how other States would act." The delegates at the reassembled meeting met for four days, and on June 25, by a vote of 57 to 14, ratified the Constitution. Not only did New Hampshire by its ratification become the ninth state to be admitted to the Union – more importantly, this State's ratification permitted "the Constitution to take effect."

Yet, it was apparent to all that the "Union" could not succeed if Virginia and New York decided to remain out and become independent states. The former was a populous state of great influence. The latter, though only fifth in population by reason of its geographical location, was needed as a "central state," both commercially and militarily. In both states opposition to the Constitution was very strong.

In Virginia the fiery Patrick Henry had declined his election as delegate to use his eloquence against the Constitution as he had in the past employed it against the usurpation of Great Britain. After three weeks of arguing, the Virginia Convention ratified the Constitution on June 26, 1788, thus becoming the tenth state admitted.

The State Convention of New York assembled at Poughkeepsie, June 17. Two-thirds of its delegates were avowed Anti-Federalists. Governor Clinton, often referred to as "hard-headed and resolute – the bitterest hater of the Constitution in the 13 Colonies," presided. But for the talent of Alexander Hamilton and his plan to explain to the delegates, "in simple understandable language" the various parts of the Constitution, the Convention probably would have refused ratification.

July 26, 1788, New York ratified the Constitution by a vote of 30 to 27, and became the eleventh state in the new Union.

The new government was now in a safe position to begin operations. It no longer needed to wait "until Rhode Island and North Carolina made up their minds."

The Constitutional Congress fixed January 1, 1789, as the date for "choosing Presidential Electors" and the "first Wednesday of February as their first meeting." It prescribed the "first Wednesday in March" for the opening of the new Congress, a date later postponed by absence of a quorum in Congress. George Washington was inaugurated President April 30, 1789.

North Carolina and Rhode Island still remained outside.

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The State Convention of North Carolina had adjourned on August 4, 1788, "resolving by a vote of 184 to 83, to make its ratification conditional upon their many suggested amendments and rights being laid before Congress at another Constitutional Convention."

Rhode Island had not called a State Convention.

However, now that government was "in operation" each state realized the penalty of "being treated as a foreign country." So each changed its mind. North Carolina became the twelfth state to ratify; Rhode Island became the thirteenth.

Ten months later on March 4, 1791, Vermont, as the first of the non-original Colonies, would be admitted into that Union.

"Thus without drawing the sword in a civil war — without shedding a drop of blood — a new plan of government was proposed, planned, discussed and adopted . . . confirming the faith of Americans in the power of 'we the people' to govern ourselves on a continental scale, by peaceful constitutional processes."

In the lengthy research for facts stated in this article, this author has reached the same conclusion as did Bancroft: "It is when the hour of conflict is over — that history comes to a right understanding of the strife — and is ready to exclaim Lo God is here, and we knew it not."

Sir Knight Perry is an Attorney-at-Law and resides at 2219 Page Street, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania 17011.

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Mason's Fortune to Masonic Home

Glenn W. McIninch, Omaha businessman, has left an estimated \$5 million to the Nebraska Masonic Home in Plattsmouth, plus \$20,000 to various religious and historical associations, including Fontenelle Chapter No. 249, Order of the Eastern Star in Omaha. He also left about \$1.6 million each to the Omaha Home for Boys and the Omaha Home for Girls.

Born in Brownville, Nebraska, McIninch was a poor farmboy who eventually dropped out of high school to go to work. He rose from mechanic to car and tractor distributor. Described as a perfectionist, a quiet man, McIninch disliked paying taxes more than anything else, and thought the government was not using the money properly. McIninch had no children, and thus his charitable bequests will prevent "Uncle Sam" from acquiring much of his wealth, a fact which his friends feel would be especially pleasing to him.

McIninch's secretary said the philanthropist was proud to be a Mason, though inactive. When presented with a 50-year pin, he wore it constantly and it was buried with him. She said, "Because of the Masonic ties and [his] feeling that it is difficult to raise money for elderly people, the home in Plattsmouth was a natural to receive the money."

On the back of the business card of Virgil T. Guthrie, Watauga No. 25, Johnson City, Tennessee:

THE WAY TO HAPPINESS

Keep your heart free from hate, your mind from worry. Live simply, expect little, do much. Fill your life with love, scatter sunshine, forget self, think of others and do as you would be done by. Try it for a week. You will be surprised.

IN HALLOWED MEMORY

Edward Thatcher, Jr.
Maryland
Grand Commander — 1960
Born September 7, 1898
Died April 16, 1976

Cecil J. Pierce
Ohio
Grand Commander — 1962
Born June 30, 1901
Died June 19, 1976

Thomas John Jones
Georgia
Grand Commander — 1969
Born November 26, 1903
Died August 6, 1976

J. Harvey Moore
Pennsylvania
Grand Commander — 1966
Born December 9, 1907
Died August 10, 1976

Templar Earle Combs Dies

Sir Knight Earle B. Combs, New York Yankee's leadoff hitter and centerfielder in the 20's and 30's, and a member of the Murderer's Row Yankees of 1927, died July 21, in Richmond, Virginia. Combs, a member of Richmond Commandery No. 19, was named to Baseball's Hall of Fame in 1970, in recognition of such achievements as a .325 lifetime batting average which helped New York win four pennants and three World Series titles.

A student of Eastern Kentucky University, after retiring from Baseball Combs became a member of Eastern's Board of Regents; he was the first elected Chairman of the board in 1972. Sir Knight Combs was a member and elder, First Christian Church; member, Richmond Lodge 25, F. & A.M.; 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason, and a member of the Oleika Shrine Temple.

Virginia Blood Bank Program

Grand Master L. Douglas Delano, of the M.W. Grand Lodge, Commonwealth of Virginia, has announced a Statewide Masonic Blood Bank Program for the "nearly two-thirds of Virginia Freemasons and their families" which have no assurance that "blood and blood products will be readily available to them when needed to combat illness or for emergency treatment following accidents."

Grand Master Delano, a Knight Templar from Richmond Commandery No. 2, has named Charles E. Wallace, Alexandria, Chairman of the Virginia State Masonic Blood Committee, and urges all Lodges in the Grand Jurisdiction of Virginia to give "their fullest cooperation . . . Suitable awards and appropriate recognition will be given Lodges and individuals who join hands to make this life-saving program a compassionate success."

Leaflets have been distributed to explain the benefits and methods of assisting in "The Gift of Life."

DREAMS

May each boy fill his nightly dreams
With many stirring Knightly themes
And may he fill his day dreams, too,
With the young Christ's dreams and
follow through.

May each Knight's dreams be pure and
new
As any boy's and just as true,
The dreams of Christ's his holy themes,
For each Sir Knight is as his dreams.

Milford E. Shields
Poet Laureate, State of Colorado

THINGS WE HONOR

by
Dr. Harold Blake Walker

The Madison Avenue portrait of comfort and ease the world supposedly will enjoy in the scientific millenium of the future leaves me wishing for the quiet of Henry Thoreau's Walden Pond. In the future, so the Madison Avenue ads suggest, microwaves will cook our food; laser beams will disintegrate the household garbage, ultrasonic waves will do the dish-washing, and house curtains will be self-cleaning.

One might go on listing the labor-saving gadgets designed to make our lives easier. The assumption is that we will have enough energy available to keep our gadgets functioning. Be that as it may, the intent is to make life all-comfortable with scientific silk cushions.

If comfort and ease are our goals, life is more superficial than it ought to be. As Plato observed, "What is honored in a country will be cultivated there." Like it or not, we are creatures of our values. We regard some things in life as desirable, to be sought, cultivated, and strengthened. Others we are inclined to avoid, downgrade, or even destroy. In a culture that values comfort and ease above all else, few would be willing to struggle and strive.

A free society, however, depends on men and women who are willing to exert themselves on behalf of something more significant than personal ease and comfort. It was Andre Gide who wrote, "He who has only himself for his goal has a void." The great benefactors of humanity have been those who found inner satisfaction in contributing to the common good. When Arnold Toynbee listed the ten most significant contributors to our common life he omitted the great egotists and the great conquerors and included the Prophets of Israel and Judah, Jesus and Buddha.

The values implicit in the thinking of the great benefactors of society have inspired our democratic faith. The Rockefeller Panel reports, entitled *Prospect for America*, suggest the nature of goals worthy of a free society. "The conviction is," the Panel wrote, "that the value of all human arrangements must be measured by what they do to enhance the life of the individual — to help him grow in knowledge, sensitivity, and the mastery of himself and his destiny. The faith is that the individual has the capacity to meet this challenge."

The thrust of the reports is to impose on the individual the obligation to grow in knowledge, sensitivity, and self-mastery, and on society the obligation to make such growth possible within the context of its institutions. It is by no means an invitation to be comfortable; it is rather a challenge to grow.

The assumption of a free society is that the best people, those who are knowledgeable, sensitive, self-controlled, and ethically rooted, are the best citizens. They infuse the institutions of society with the ideals and values they cherish and so make possible the development of other men and women who can qualify as the best citizens. They are what Jesus called "the salt of the earth."

Our times are in need of men and women who are seeking, not to be comfortable, but to grow in mind and spirit so that they may be adequate to serve the common good. Thomas Jefferson gave utterance to the need in a letter to John Adams. He wrote, "I agree with you that there is a natural aristocracy among men. The grounds for this are virtue and talents." Jefferson then went on to suggest that such men of "virtue and talents" should be elected to the offices of government. He → → →

Sue DeVore, Junior Past Grand Worthy Advisor, International Order of the Rainbow for Girls in Washington and Idaho, presented a check for \$18,419.21 to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, which was raised after only one year of projects and activities sponsored by the Rainbow Girls of the two states. The girls conducted bake-sales, car-washes, rummage sales, bazaars and various "A-Thons" planned by the individual districts.

The cashier's check was sent to Sir Knight Frank M. Thomas, Grand Commander of Washington, and transmitted to G. Wilbur Bell, Executive Director of the Eye Foundation. Upon receiving the check from Miss DeVore, Past Grand Master Bell said: "I wish to express great appreciation to the young ladies of your Order on behalf of all those who will benefit from your enthusiasm and dedication."

A plaque will be presented to the Grand Assembly of Rainbow Girls in Washington and Idaho by Sir Knight Thomas.



... THINGS WE HONOR

believed fervently in democracy, but he was aware of the need for the best people to infuse their ideals into government affairs.

Plato's observation, therefore, is of the utmost importance: "What is honored in a country will be cultivated there." If we honor men and women of "virtue and talents," we will cultivate such men and women. If we honor persons of knowledge, sensitivity, and self-mastery, we will cultivate a generation of men and women worthy to be free.

The Rev. Harold Blake Walker is a member of Evanston Commandery No. 58 and a 33° Scottish Rite Mason. He lives at 425 Grove Street, Evanston, Illinois 60201.



Springfield was the setting for the Third Annual York Rite Sessions of Illinois, August 5, 6 and 7. General Chairman was Milton Dirst, assisted by William Dean Jarret. The new Grand Commander, succeeding Charles R. Neumann, is Volney Edward Storey; new Grand High Priest is Norman E. Miller, who succeeds Lloyd D. Miller; the new Grand Master of Grand Council, succeeding Fred B. Treece, is Richard R. Salsbury.



In the foreground are Sir Knight Willard M. Avery, Deputy Grand Master of Grand Encampment, and Mrs. Avery. Above are the retiring Grand Commander, Sir Knight Charles R. Neumann, and his wife. Sir Knight Avery was the Personal Representative of the Grand Master at Springfield.

Job's Daughters Installation

Carl Schou, Vice Associate Supreme Guardian, and Bertha E. Brown, Vice Supreme Guardian, presided over the Installation of Supreme Officers, Supreme Deputies and Assisting Supreme Deputies of the Supreme Guardian Council, International Order of Job's Daughters, August 7 at the Stouffer's Riverfront Towers, St. Louis, Missouri.

Brother Schou, a Master Mason and charter member of Nebraska York Rite Temple Commandery No. 30 in Sidney, is a native of Fremont, Nebraska. He has been associated with Job's Daughters since 1956, was Associate Grand Guardian of Nebraska in 1969-70, and was elected to the Supreme Line in 1973.

Grand Master's, Commander's Clubs

Two additional members, each contributing \$1,000, have been enrolled in the Grand Master's Club:

No. 33 – Andrew E. Barton, Illinois

No. 34 – Charles F. Chapman, California

Membership in the Grand Master's Club – or in the Grand Commander's Club, requiring an initial amount of \$100 – is a contribution that carries no Commandery credit of any kind, merely "benefactor satisfaction, the knowledge that someone is being aided through the Knights Templar Eye Foundation."

Among new members of the Grand Commander's Club are:

No. 4, California – Carl E. Tegner

No. 2, Texas – Fred W. Shumacher

Those enrolling in the *Grand Master's Club* receive a metal wallet card and a personalized desk plaque in acknowledgment of their \$1,000 contribution. Those in the *Grand Commander's Club*, upon payment of \$100 or more yearly, will become members of the *Grand Master's Club* when \$1,000 has been presented to the Foundation. These contributions are separate from Voluntary Campaigns, assessments and other forms of Commandery credit.

Red Cross of Constantine

Several problems associated with the June 1977 excursion of the United Grand Imperial Council, Red Cross of Constantine, have prevented at this point the full distribution of information.

Definite plans were to be announced in the current issue but until all arrangements regarding costs, mailings, registrations, and other details have been clarified fully, release of information is not possible.

Arrangements are in the final stages and it is anticipated that distribution in the *Knight Templar Magazine* and to Records and Officers of the Order will be made within the next month.

Eye Foundation Float

Members of the Drill Corps from Kedron Commandery No. 18, Knights Templar of Greensburg, Pennsylvania, joined the Bicentennial Masonic Parade held in Ligonier, Pennsylvania, on June 26, with a float depicting the seal of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. The float, which was prepared for the parade sponsored by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, was planned by Past Commander George Kunkle and Sir Knight Edward Macauley to illustrate the Eye Foundation theme – "From Darkness to Light."



Shown above with the float are (from left to right): P.C. Robert Datz; Sir Knight Edward Macauley; P.C. George Kunkle; and Sir Knight Norman Landsperger, Guard.

Warren R. Williams, Jr., Grand Commander of Pennsylvania, said, "The Float was most impressive and did much to advertise our wonderful charity."

Sovereign Great Priory

Sir Knight Roy Wilford Riegle, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, attended the Annual meeting of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada August 7-11 at Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, with Sovereign Grand Master R. V. Wier, presiding. The Sovereign Great Priory of Canada meets annually and normally re-elects the Sovereign Grand Master after one year. Several Canadian Templars are in attendance at the 53rd Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment, where Grand Master Wier is to receive Honorary Past Grand Master Membership.



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

July 21, 1976

Dear Mr. Loayza:

The Vice President has asked me to thank you for the hand woven Masonic Scroll which you so thoughtfully sent to him. Because of the scroll's origins, it will have special meaning in the years ahead. It is most unfortunate that so many of the other scrolls were destroyed by the tragic Guatemalan earthquake.

Please convey the Vice President's thanks to the other members of the Masonic Fraternity and York Rite Bodies of Guatemala and also to Mr. Eduardo Moises Ola and Mr. Concepcion Rukuj de Toj for their excellent craftsmanship.

Sincerely,

Ralph E. Martin
Ralph E. Martín
Special Assistant

Mr. John Carlos Loayza-K.T., 32^o
U.S. Representative-Guatemala York Rite
1128 Washington Boulevard
Oak Park, Illinois 60302





KNIGHT VOICES

COMMENTS FROM READERS



✠ The Convention Committee of the York Rite Masons in Florida has joined the ranks of the organizations that have had a Bicentennial Coin struck. Add a Florida bronze "coin" to your collection for \$3.00, plus 25 cents mailing costs. If you desire a trade, we will mail you a Florida medal for one from your State. For those that desire silver the cost is \$10.00. *Albert G. Rodgers, P.G.C., 8035 Broughton Street, Sarasota, Florida 33580*

✠ Carlisle Chapter No. 130, National Sojourners, is organizing their Fortieth Anniversary for early 1977. Please contact for information. *Major Joseph H. Breitenbach, Secretary, 917 Hamilton Street, Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17013*

✠ Found: Gold Commandery Pin. Engraved C. G. Whipple From his insurance friends. Dated: 3/24/1913. *Ed McCue P.C. Hudson River Commandery No. 35 of Newburgh, New York, 73-820 Larrea Street, Palm Desert, California 92260*

✠ I know of all the magazines I subscribe to I enjoy reading the *Knight Templar Magazine* much the best. It is so interesting and helps keep me well-informed in Masonry. At the end of each year I have that year's supply bound all together. I find myself referring back to them all during the year.

The *Masonic Americana* is the best reading I have ever had. A lot of hard work has gone into that book.

Thanks again for all the favors and good and quick service. I will always be grateful. *Virgil T. Guthrie, 2007 Sherwood UT-C, Johnson City, Tennessee 37601*

✠ I am retired and confined to the house most of the time. I would like to exchange R.A.M. pennies and postcards, or would like to purchase same.

I am a member of Malta Commandery No. 4, Ashland, Oregon. *Elmer B. Heckart, 2618 San Fernando Way, Sacramento, California 95818*

✠ Just a note to let you know that I have received over 330 different Trestle Boards and related material from all parts of U.S.A. and Canada from my article in the *Knight Templar Magazine* some months ago. I tried to answer all of the letters I received, however, I did miss a few. Even received a number of special events ribbons from different Masonic Bodies which was greatly appreciated. *Charles Pattison, 9335 Raymond Avenue, Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453*

✠ We have published a 110 page History of Bethlehem and Crusader Commanderies through the first one hundred years. We would recommend it as interesting history and reading for many of our Sir Knights. Copies are available by writing and enclosing \$3.00 to *Bethlehem Crusader Commandery No. 53, Masonic Temple, 262 Martine Avenue, White Plains, New York 10601*

✠ I have located 23 Knights Templar on U.S. Stamps. If any Knight Templar stamp collectors are interested in the list, I will be happy to send it together with the Scott number of each stamp. Please send stamped addressed envelope.

P.S. Anyone having located more than 23 Knights Templar on U.S. stamps please advise. *Allen E. Wolf, 522 2nd Avenue, N.E., Waseca, Minnesota 56093*

□ I thoroughly enjoy reading the *Knight Templar Magazine* and find it informative as well as interesting. My sincere congratulations to you and your staff for assembling and maintaining such a fine publication. *Harry G. Dull, Atlantic Commandery No. 20, 110 Roosevelt Boulevard, Marmora, New Jersey 08223*

□ I am a member of Monumental Commandery No. 3 in Maryland, a member of the Shrine and Tall Cedars. I am working on a project to raise money for the new Tall Cedar Temple in Baltimore by placing in a plastic box three Lincoln head pennies — one with the Blue Lodge emblem, one with the Tall Cedar Pyramid and one with the Shrine emblem. The cost for the package is \$5.00 plus 15 cents postage.

These pennies make a very fine Christmas present for a Mason. They can be obtained by writing to me at Baltimore Forest No. 45, 2501 Putty Hill Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21234. *Ad Lieder, 3006 Glendale Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21234*

□ We have a very attractive Centennial Coin in Ascalon Commandery. They are \$3.00 postpaid. We have a limited amount of them. *Leroy Watson, Recorder of Ascalon Commandery No. 25, K.T., 303 West Orange Road, Waterloo, Iowa 50701*

□ I am a relatively new Knight and have started a collection of any bumper stickers and key chains connected with Masonry, York Rite or Shrinedom (Circus, Football games, etc.). Will pay a reasonable price for some items. *Del Hartung, 1820 East 19th Street, Fremont, Nebraska 68025*

□ I am an avid collector of any Masonic memorabilia such as plates, mugs, glasses, pitchers, etc. as long as they have Masonic marking. If any of the Sir Knights have any items such as these for sale, please contact me. *Robert M. Monroe, 1001 Willetts Avenue, Fairmont, West Virginia 26554*

□ As the host of the July, 1977 Biennial Reunion of the 17th Field Artillery, I would like to invite any Sir Knights who were members of this outfit to join us for future reunions. For several years, men of Battery C, 17th Field Artillery have been holding the reunions. Now some of us who were not in that Battery but who were members of the 17th have joined the group. If any Sir Knight would like to be added to the mailing list for more information, please write. *Carl A. Newman, P.O. Box 627, Palmetto, Florida 33561*

□ I have in my possession a medal that my son-in-law found with a metal detector. It is bronze, 1 9/16 in diameter and 1/8 thick, with a slightly raised bust of George Washington on the face, facing left. Near the chin in raised print is "Washington Monument Assoc." and underneath the bust is printed "Alexandria, Va." Around the perimeter is printed "Struck by order of Congress to commemorate the centenary of Washington's death."

On the reverse side is a Masonic apron with a square and compasses. Over the apron is printed "Washington" and underneath the apron "Master." Around the apron is printed "Alexandria Lodge No. 22 A.F. & A.M. 1783."

I would appreciate any information regarding this piece. It is in excellent condition and only needs to be cleaned. *James A. St. Clair, S.W., St. Alban Commandery No. 8, 18 Candlewycck Road, Portland, Maine 04102*

□ Metal sculpture is my hobby. I began making Past Masters' sculpture for the Past Masters of our Lodge several years ago. It is impressive, and appropriate for the home or office and creates an interest in Masonry among the younger people.

The sculpture is a complete model of the Past Master in the East and stands about 14 inches high. I am sure this would be of interest to some of your readers. Pictures and prices are available upon request. *I. W. Ferguson, P.M., Route 1, Box 213, Pineland, Texas 75968*

9TH VOLUNTARY CAMPAIGN



December 1, 1976 – April 30, 1977
A TIME FOR FUND-RAISING PROJECTS
BY ALL COMMANDERIES