



Knight Templar

VOLUME XXVII

MAY 1981

NUMBER 5



MEMORIAL DAY FOUNDER, 1868

FOR AN OUTSTANDING COMPANY

Whether or not we plan to be, you and I are salesmen for the York Rite of Freemasonry, with special emphasis upon its capstone, the Order of the Temple. As such, we represent a distinctive and ongoing organization, a "company" which makes possible the dispensing of Masonic light and life to every "customer" in the Fraternity.

We are salesmen for Knights of a proud and ancient Order, we are salespersons for the Christian belief and for the political principles of liberty upon which this nation was founded, for our significant holy days and patriotic holidays, for civic participation and community involvement. As representatives of the parent organization, we have very definite and unusual responsibilities. In our personal lives we must reflect and



exemplify the whole fabric of Freemasonry as seen in eyes of others. It behooves us to act in accordance with the truths and teachings imparted to us as we trod the path of the many good and worthy men who have gone before us.

I think our personal commitment can be likened somewhat to the ancient oath of citizenship for the young men in Athens a few centuries B.C. That oath bound them: "To fight alone or with many for the ideals and the sacred things . . . never to desert comrades in battle . . . to bring no disgrace to the city by a dishonest act . . . to revere and obey the laws and support the magistracy . . . to strive to quicken the public sense of civic duty . . . so that in all these things (he) shall transmit this city, to those who follow after, not only not less, but greater, better, and more beautiful than it was transmitted" to him in his induction to citizenship.

As Knights Templar, it is incumbent upon us to strive always for the betterment of our Masonic image, to transmit our heritage, unweakened and unsullied, to those who follow after. As we strive, never forget that to those with whom you associate, you are the epitome of Masonry.

Never forget you are the top salesman for your company.

Raymond H. Johnson

Knight Templar

"The Magazine for York Rite Masons — and Others, too."

MAY: When Memorial Day was established in 1868 through the efforts of General "Black Jack" Logan, the official date was the 30th of the month. Today, it's the last Monday of the month or, in 1981, May 25. A Logan portrait is our cover illustration; a Logan Memorial Day article is included in the May issue, as are stories of timely interest by Theodore Summer, Dr. Ernst-Gunter Geppert, and Deputy Grand Master Ned E. Dull.

P.C.R.

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EDITOR'S JOURNAL

Pilgrimage Appointment: Grand Master Johnson has announced the newest member appointed to the Grand Encampment Committee on Holy Land Pilgrimage. Effective March 1981, Ohio Past Grand Commander Elwood L. Nelson will serve in place of the late Sir Knight William D. Coffman, also of Ohio, who died January 16, 1981. The Committee on Holy Land Pilgrimage is the youngest Grand Encampment special committee, chaired by K. Edwin Applegate, P.D.C. and P.G.C., Indiana.

Visitor from France: Most Worshipful Jean Mons, Grand Master, Grande Loge Nationale Francaise (National Grand Lodge of France), Neuilly, Paris, crossed the Atlantic to attend the 1981 Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America at Orlando, Florida, in February. News of the journey was forwarded by Sir Knight Jean O. Heineman, Norway (himself a member of the National Grand Lodge of France), who also writes that Most Eminent and Reverend Grand Master Jean Granger, Grand Prieure des Gaules (French Great Priory/Order of the Temple), traveled to Edinburgh for the March 17 Installation Meeting of the Great Priory of Scotland.

Grand Lodge of Alaska: On February 3 and 4, 1981, at a convention of Lodges called for the purpose, 12 of Alaska's 19 Lodges (all chartered by the M.W. Grand Lodge of F. & A.M. of Washington) voted to form a Grand Lodge of Alaska. James A. Williams was installed Grand Master of the new Grand Lodge, F. & A.M. of Alaska on February 6, installed by a team consisting of the Grand Master of Nebraska and Past Grand Masters of Washington, Montana and Michigan.

Easter Weekend Festival: Arlington Commandery No. 29 of Virginia held a Commandery Festival named in honor of M.E. Grand Master Kenneth C. Johnson on the morning of Easter Saturday, April 18, 1981, at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria. The Grand Master was in attendance along with other Grand Encampment and Grand Commandery of Virginia officers. Later that afternoon, Sir Knight Johnson returned for the Grand Master's Reception which was scheduled to begin at 4:00 p.m. at the Hotel Washington.

1982 Advisory Meeting: Dates have been established for the 1982 meeting of the Committee Advisory to the Grand Master. Arrangements will be made for arrival in Chicago, Thursday, January 28, with departure at noon Saturday, January 30. The Committee Advisory consists of Grand Encampment Officers, Past Grand Masters, Department Commanders and chairmen of Grand Encampment Standing Committees, or any others at the invitation of the Grand Master.

The agenda for the forthcoming 55th Triennial Conclave at Hot Springs, Arkansas, will be discussed. The visit to Chicago will include an inspection and description of the services offered in the office of the Grand Encampment. The full details for the visit will be relayed to the members of the Advisory Committee later this year.

Easter Recollection: Latest possible date for Easter Sunday is April 25. It occurred on that date in 1943. The next April 25 observance will be in 2038, 57 Easters from now!

BEYOND THE BLUE LODGE

by

Ed T. Bloomquist, P.G.C., Texas
Chairman, Grand Encampment Committee on Membership

A wise man will always have a quest for further light. Through each step along the Lodge degrees — Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, Master Mason — additional light is sought and expected. But once a frater is Raised a Master Mason, is this all the light he can receive? Masonry is so full of teachings and symbolism that it is impossible to receive and understand it all. Most of it is not found in the Blue Lodge degrees.

In some Grand Lodges we are told that “the Temple is not yet completed.” Later we learn the Master’s word is lost and a substitute is given. This is the foundation from which we learn that there must be further light and much more to learn of ancient Craft Masonry.

Some 200 years ago, most of our brethren were known as “Ancient York Masons.” When the two Grand Lodges of England united in 1813, a firm and solemn landmark was adopted and placed in the articles of union to guide all Masons: “Pure ancient Freemasonry consists of but three degrees, vis., that of Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason, including the supreme order of the Holy Royal Arch. But this article is not intended to prevent any Lodge or Chapter from holding a meeting in any of the degrees of the Orders of Chivalry, according to the constitutions of said Orders.”

At that time, only Past Masters of Symbolic Lodges were qualified to receive the Royal Arch Degree. But it was deemed that this degree was so important that those Master Masons having received the Mark Master Degree should be able to become Past Masters, thus making them eligible to witness the completion and dedication of King Solomon’s Temple — and the Royal Arch Degree — where the long lost Master’s word is found. These degrees were then taken from the Blue Lodges and established under separate bodies known as Chapters. Royal Arch Chapters confer the Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Degrees.

Royal Arch Chapters, together with Councils of Royal and Select Masters (Cryptic Masons), and Commanderies of Knights Templar, compose the York Rite.

The Royal Master and Select Master Degrees in the Council are two of the most beautiful degrees in Masonry and show why the “word” was lost and the secret of its preservation and recovery.

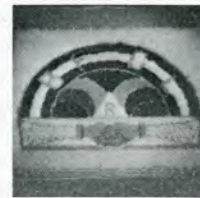
Templary is the Christian Body of Masonry comprised of the Order of the Red Cross, the Order of Malta and the Order of the Temple. These degrees or Orders as they are called, are beautiful and most impressive and explain the Christian interpretation of Freemasonry. Every Christian Mason should be a Knight Templar.

Further light by means of the most beautiful degrees and Orders in Masonry is found in the York Rite. After any necessary interval following your third degree, ask for a York Rite petition. (In case you are interested in the Shrine, being a Knight Templar automatically qualifies you.)



Latch-Hook Rug Patterns In Demand

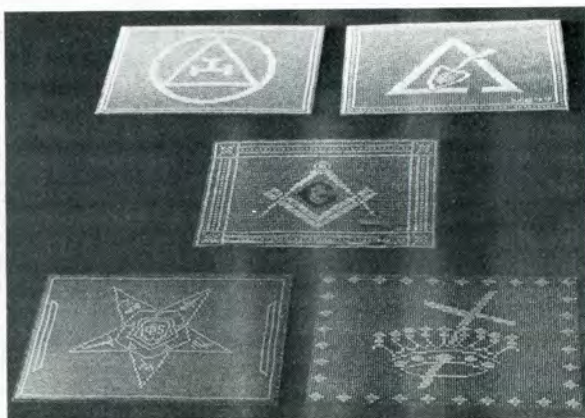
The December 1980 *Knight Templar Magazine* carried a news item announcing a project undertaken by Herbert G. Roach, Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Commandery of Indiana, to raise funds for the Indiana Holy Land Pilgrimage Committee. Sir Knight and Mrs. Roach designed rug patterns for various Masonic emblems and



offered patterns and instructions for sale at a cost of \$6.00 per emblem. On March 16, the Grand Recorder received news from Herbert and Loretta Roach that the response to the news item was "splendid." They write, "We have received orders from 31 states and donated (to date) \$635.00 to the Indiana Holy Land Pilgrimage project."

In addition to the cross and crown (Templar) pattern depicted on page 14 of the December issue, instructions are available for Lodge, Chapter, Council, DeMolay, Rainbow and Eastern Star logos. The basic emblem is 27 inches; finished rug is 30 inches square. Pattern and material list for each rug design may be ordered by sending \$6.00 and a self-addressed stamped envelope to Herbert G. Roach, R.R. 2, Box 94, Odon, Indiana 47562. He concludes, "We may opt to adopt another program in 1982, but all proceeds in 1981 will go to support the Holy Land program."

Masonic Emblems in Filet Crochet



Mrs. Virginia Conrad, wife of Past Commander Charles A. Conrad, Auburn Commandery No. 52, California, forwarded the accompanying photograph of Masonic mats done in filet crochet. The finished products, says Mrs. Conrad, are hung on boards (19" x 3 1/2") with "appropriate color cloth backgrounds."

Charts are available for five emblems — Lodge, Chapter, Council, Commandery and Eastern Star — at a cost

of \$2.00 each and may be ordered through Mrs. Virginia Conrad, 2635 Allen Drive, Auburn, California 95603.

LEGENDARY SPARK FOR MEMORIAL DAY

by

Paul C. Rodenhauer
Editor, Grand Recorder

The descriptive "Black Jack" appellation has been a nickname for more than one American military leader, generally in a complimentary sense. One who received the sobriquet was General John A. Logan, primary founder of Memorial Day in 1868 — who, in the period of the Civil War, was characterized as "adept at military maneuvers as in parliamentary tactics."

"Logan was an unusual soldier," wrote Bruce Catton in his Mainstream of America series, *This Hallowed Ground*. He is described as a swarthy man with a shock of black hair, long drooping mustachios — and a very special ability to lead his men on the battlefield, a strange contrast when his seeming lack of military background is considered. In combat his men chanted "Black Jack, Black Jack" in swelling volume as they charged the lines willingly and cheerfully on the orders of a "political appointee."

John Alexander Logan, eldest of 11 children of a peripatetic physician from Northern Ireland who came to the United States via Maryland, Missouri and Jackson County, Illinois, was born in 1826 and died in 1886 — two years after he had received a highly complimentary vote for president on the first ballot of the Republican National Convention in Chicago. Subsequently, James G. Blaine, a former Secretary of State under President and Sir Knight Garfield and President Arthur and scheduled to occupy the same secretarial post under Benjamin Harrison at a later date, was nominated for president. Logan accepted the post of Vice-President and "campaigning vigorously,"

even though he realized, correctly, it was in a lost cause.

Blaine, when he received the news of Logan's death in 1886, said: "General Logan was a man of immense force in a legislative body. His will was unbending, his courage, both moral and physical, was of the highest order. I never knew a more fearless man. He did not quail before public opinion when he had once made up his mind more than he did before the guns . . . when he headed a charge of his enthusiastic troops."

Masonically he was Raised in Mitchell Lodge No. 85, Illinois, in 1851, exalted in Washington Chapter No. 43, R.A.M., and Knighted in Chevalier Bayard Commandery No. 52, Chicago, after the war. He was nominated to receive the degree of Honorary Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, in September of 1886, but died December 26 before the honor could be conferred.

John Logan had what was described as a "broken education," including common schooling, some tutoring and brief attendance at Shiloh College. When he returned from service in the 1st Illinois Infantry as a lieutenant after the 1846-48 Mexican War, in which he received little or no combat experience, he was elected Clerk of the County Court and decided he would pursue a career as a lawyer. He resigned his post and began studies at Louisville University, then continued the study of law with his uncle, Lieutenant-Governor Alexander M. Jenkins, in Jackson County. He was admitted to the bar and became his uncle's partner. → → →

Reports of the era say that John Logan's "forcible style of oratory, pleasing address and fine voice" won his election to the state legislature in 1852 and again for three successive terms. His happy choice of a wife in 1853 was Mary Simerson Cunningham, a "gracious and charming" lady who aided her husband's career. He resumed his practice of law, this time in Benton, Franklin County, Illinois, and was a presidential-elect in 1856 on the Buchanan-Breckenridge ticket.

The Buchanan-Breckenridge ticket won and Logan was also elected to Congress from Illinois as a Douglas Democrat. In the 1860 election he wholeheartedly supported Stephen A. Douglas. It was the consensus of some that he strongly sympathized with the south but, when Abraham Lincoln was elected, he declared he would "shoulder his musket to have him inaugurated."

And he did exactly that. In July of 1861, he left his seat in Congress, joined the ranks of soldiers marching out of Washington and fought in the initial Battle of Bull Run. Reports say "Logan was the last to leave the field." He returned to Illinois, resigned from Congress, organized the 31st Illinois Infantry and was appointed Colonel. He was in action by November, led a successful bayonet charge and had his horse shot from under him. At Fort Henry he distinguished himself, then later at Fort Donelson, "while gallantly leading the assault," he was wounded and put out of action briefly.

In 1862 he reported to General Grant at Pittsburg Landing as Brigadier General of Volunteers. He saw continuous action, advanced to Major General and Commander of the Army of Tennessee and served as one of President Lincoln's successful "political generals." Illinois constituents urged him to be an 1862 candidate again for Congress and his response is quotable: "I have entered the

field to die, if need be, for the government, and never expect to return to peaceful pursuits until the object of this war of preservation has become a fact established."

After the war President and Sir Knight Andrew Johnson offered Logan appointment as Ambassador to Mexico but he declined. He was elected to the 40th, 41st and 42nd Congress but before the 42nd Congress was convened, Logan was elected in 1872 as Senator, then in 1869, after ousting R. J. Oglesby, became senator for the second time and was chosen for the third time in 1885.

Beyond and above his record as a military leader, politician and statesman, the General is remembered especially as a founder of Memorial Day. He conceived it and he inaugurated it on May 30, 1868. In one of his last public utterances his plea was for "remembrance" — especially for every disabled "Union soldier who served in the army and has an honorable discharge." He helped to organize the Grand Army of the Republic and served three times as president. He consistently associated himself with all matters related to veterans relief.

In 1875, while senator, he delivered a lengthy and impassioned address on self-government, under the Constitution, in Louisiana — the scene of recent racial upheavals. He was referring to the so-called "Penn Rebellion" in that state against officials duly recognized by President Grant. He was interrupted by "manifestations of applause in the galleries" frequently. Excerpts from that address, one of many indicative of Logan's human and political philosophy, are:

Does Liberty mean wholesale slaughter? Does republican government mean tyranny and oppression of its citizens? Does an intelligent and enlightened age of civilization mean murder and pillage, blood-

white Leagues or anyone else . . . I say then the happy days of this republic are gone . . . Liberty of the citizen means the right to exercise such rights as are prescribed within the limits of the law so that he does not in the exercise of these rights infringe the rights of other citizens.

I was told that the old Republican ship was gone; but when I steadied myself on the shores bounding the political ocean of strife and commotion, I looked afar off and there I could see a vessel bounding the boisterous billows with white sails unfurled, marked on her sides, "Freighted with the hopes of mankind," while the great Mariner above, as her helmsman, steered her, navigated her to a haven of rest . . .

Senator Logan then referred to President Grant who, said Logan, was "generous to a fault." Although he may have disagreed with him in the past, he has also "disagreed with me." Said Logan: "He is too magnanimous to permit anything of the past to influence his mind or his charity . . . no one ever appealed to him in vain, for in his composition the elements that mark the North and South are strongly blended . . ."

He (speaking of President Grant) attends to more wants of individuals than any man ever in Congress . . . From every section of the country, from Maine to Mississippi, from the shores of the Atlantic to those of the Pacific; from every state in a Union undivided come letters to him from those who wore the blue and those who wore the gray, and none was ever rejected!

In the past two and a half years, more than 1,000 Templar insignia needlepoint kits have been ordered through the Grand Recorder's office for personal projects or in quantity for fund-raising activities sponsored by Commanderies or youth and women's organizations. Kits include specially-printed canvas with the Knight Templar emblem (as illustrated above) in red, white, yellow and black, on a white background, plus needle, instructions, and ample 100% wool yarn. The canvas measures 11 x 13 inches; finished size is 8 x 10 inches.



Purchased individually, the cost per kit is \$6.75 (includes postage); in quantities of two or more, the cost is \$6.00 each. Checks may be made payable to Grand Encampment of Knights Templar and mailed to the Grand Recorder, 14 East Jackson Blvd., Suite 1700, Chicago, Illinois 60604. Please specify a street address rather than Post Office Box to facilitate delivery. Allow two weeks for receipt.



General John Alexander Logan, who began our tradition of honoring all Soldier Dead in 1868, died in Washington, D.C., in 1886, survived by his widow and two children. A dedication address at his Memorial in Grant Park, Chicago, saluted the founder of Memorial Day with these words: "He was a sincere, earnest friend, a faithful and loving husband and father. He was the idol of his party and demanded the respect and admiration of his political opponents." □

Indiana's Most Worshipful Grand Master Robert H. Miller welcomed 259 brethren as new York Rite members at the banquet following the degree work, Saturday, March 7, 1981, at Fort Wayne. The degrees and Orders were conferred by officers of Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery, by Knights of the York Cross of Honour, and by the three York Rite Colleges in Indiana.



Sir Knight Ned E. Dull, Deputy Grand Master of Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, was Festival Chairman and delivered the banquet address to the new Companions and Sir Knights and their wives.

Sir Knight James S. DeMond, Past Grand Commander and former Chairman of the Grand Encampment Committee on Ritualistic Matters, reported, "In a wonderful display of Masonic unity among all branches of our Craft, the presiding officers of Mizpah Shrine, DeMolay, Scottish and York Rites stressed the harmony and cooperation that exists among the fraternity in Indiana."



Sousa Series Nearing Completion

Volume IX in the "Sousa American Bicentennial Collection" of LP Stereo recordings performed by the Detroit Concert Band under the direction of Dr. and Sir Knight Leonard B. Smith, has been released. "A Sousa Kaleidoscope" contains 14 marches, including "The Chantyman's March," "The Volunteers," "Solid Men to the Front," and "The White Plume."

Each album in the collection has been recorded in the Main Auditorium of Detroit's Masonic Temple, with the tenth and final volume scheduled for completion later this spring. For information on individual recordings and ordering, please write: Detroit Concert Band, Inc., 20962 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan 48236.

Morgan Advanced to Grand Master

Sir Knight David J. Morgan, DeWitt Clinton Commandery No. 1, Reno, Nevada, was installed Grand Master of the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay, during the 61st Annual Session in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, April 5-8, 1981. Morgan succeeds Sir Knight William C. Chasey, Sr., who presided at Cherry Hill. Other officers elected include Reese L. Harrison, Texas, Deputy Grand Master; Larry Hunt, Florida, Grand Senior Councilor and Don Wright, Washington, Grand Junior Councilor.

In attendance on behalf of the Grand Encampment were Grand Master Kenneth C. Johnson and Past Grand Masters John L. Crofts, Sr. (also Past Grand Master of DeMolay International), and G. Wilbur Bell.

THE ORDER OF JOB'S DAUGHTERS

by

Roy D. Seifert

Guardian Director of Music, Bethel No. 3, Wichita, Kansas

The International Order of Job's Daughters is the ONLY organization for girls that requires of ALL OF ITS MEMBERS relationship to a Master Mason. Therefore, Master Masons, this is for you:

Many of you know that your Lodge sponsors a Bethel. Few Master Masons, however, are familiar with the inner workings of the organization. Where Masonry itself does not solicit membership, we who are associated with Job's Daughters would like to take this opportunity to explain the fundamentals of the Order that we may possibly solicit membership within our Masonic family. Many girls may be out there unaware of the organization and could be eligible for membership in the organization if they are the daughters, adopted daughters (by law), step daughters, granddaughters, great granddaughters, step granddaughters, sisters, half-sisters, step-sisters, sisters-in-law, nieces, grand nieces, or first or second cousins of a Master Mason in good standing at the time of his death, or so related to his wife or widow. A woman under the age of 20 years who has been married, divorced, or whose marriage has been annulled is not eligible for membership.

A young girl becomes eligible for membership when she reaches her 11th birthday. Experience has shown us that THEN is the time to join. THEN is the time to get involved in a worthwhile organization. As a girl approaches high school, many other organizations can attract the young mind. Some are good but many are questionable, either in purpose or profit. Acting before this

period in her life can insure a responsible social experience throughout her teenage development.

The Order is based on the Book of Job, a book of great significance to mankind. It is a real Masonic literary composition, expressing those virtues that are the fundamental principles of Masonry. The Job's Daughters ritual was written from ideas presented and taken from the Book of Job with particular reference to the 42nd Chapter, 15th Verse, which reads: "And in all the land were no women found so fair as the daughters of Job: and their father gave them inheritance among their brethren."

The object of the Order is to band together the Daughters for spiritual and moral upbuilding, to desire knowledge, to teach love of country and flag, love of home, respect for parents and elders, and reverence for the Holy Scriptures — the very principles for which Masonry stands.

Job's Daughters are prepared for domestic, civic, patriotic, business, religious, fraternal, and social activities. The Daughters are organized in groups, and each group is known as a "Bethel," meaning "Holy Place." Each Bethel is directed by a Bethel Guardian Council of adults who have the proper Masonic relationship.

There are *no* paid organizers.

The Order is engaged in many projects such as financial assistance for the Shrine hospitals, the Masonic Homes, Eastern Star Homes, polio victims, leukemia victims, cancer clinics, the blind, victims of Muscular Dystrophy, and the like.

I certainly wish that all of you who are Master Masons would visit a → → →

A group of Sir Knights in the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island have united into a traveling "Third Degree Team" under the direction of Grand Recorder and Past Grand Commander James C. Sirios. Upon invitation from the Master of a Blue Lodge (and authorization from the Grand Master of Masons — currently M.W. J. Philip Berquist, P.C., St. Bernard Commandery in Boston), the Templar Team journeys to a Lodge and confers the degree of Master Mason "in due and ancient form." While this practice might not be approved in some jurisdictions, P.G.C. Sirios sees it, in Massachusetts-Rhode Island, as an ideal way to "publicize" the York Rite and Templary to new Blue Lodge Masons.

Commenting on their past success, Sirios reports that two conferrals have taken place this year, and in both cases the Master of the Lodge has petitioned for the York Rite.

. . . JOB'S DAUGHTERS

Bethel and witness their initiations and meetings. I believe that you would be very pleased that you took the time to visit them.

It is in the interest of the upcoming generation who will take on the leadership of our communities and our adult fraternal Orders that we earnestly ask your consideration in our search for new members. Let us, as fathers of Job's Daughters, give them their inheritance among their brethren.

Please take the time to become acquainted with Job's Daughters. I am sure that you will be pleased with the organization.

Brother Seifert is Past Master of George Washington Lodge No. 24, Ogden, Utah. The above was submitted by Sir Knight Gerald R. Butcher, KNIGHT TEMPLAR MAGAZINE Supplement Editor in Kansas.

Myriad comments about actor Tom Mix arrived in Chicago following publication of a January feature item on the silent screen star. By far the most interesting came from The Reverend J. Whitcomb Brouger, Jr., who was a personal friend of the screen cowboy and who conducted the funeral service for Tom Mix back in October of 1940. The Reverend Brouger was then and is now Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Glendale, Grand Chaplain of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of California, and a member of Glendale Commandery No. 53, Los Angeles, where he holds a 50-year pin.

Sir Knight Brouger shares the following story of that day, more than 40 years ago, when Tom Mix was laid to rest: "Tom's horse was saddled and walked riderless as part of the funeral procession . . . up to the gravesite. One of the musical numbers played by the organist was 'Empty Saddles.'"

The accompanying photo of the "Riderless Horse" monument to Tom Mix near Florence, Arizona (where Tom died), was relayed by Sir Knight Veon Keyt, Mesa.

Another letter from Sir Knight David S. Forsyth, K.Y.C.H., Grand Historian of Cryptic Masons of California, and Past Commander of San Pedro Commandery No. 60, discloses that Tom received his Templar Orders in San Pedro Commandery — a fact not known at the time of the writing. Forsyth says, "His autographed picture has hung in the Lodge ever since he received his Orders."



PROUD OF OUR MASONRY?

by
Sir Knight Ned E. Dull
Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master, Grand Encampment

(Excerpts from an address presented at the 1981 Allied Masonic Degrees banquet.)

Just one year short of 50 years ago, the Grand Council of Allied Masonic Degrees of the U.S.A. was established under the Supreme Council, Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland. It has flourished during its less than a half century of existence, outdistancing, perhaps, the rate of growth in Symbolic Masonic membership. I like to think of our Grand Council as a most welcome opportunity for like-minded brethren to assemble annually in fraternal fellowship and accord. It's a type of reunion which those who are not members can scarcely appreciate.

A most interesting excerpt from Masonic history comes from a souvenir book of the Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment held in St. Louis, Missouri, 95 years ago. The session was elaborately covered by the *Globe Democrat* of that city with advance articles, and even more thoroughly covered during the sessions. One news item reads in part:

A CAUSE FOR PRIDE

This meeting of the members of that Ancient Order is an event of no slight importance to any city, but its presence here will enhance greatly the pleasure of the Knights, as well as add to the other affairs' great interest and additional attractions.

The selection of St. Louis, however, imposes upon the resident Sir Knights an amount of labor that

can scarcely be estimated, even when it is known that they must provide for some 30,000 or 35,000 Knights and their attendant wives, sons and daughters.

The next heading reads:

TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND MEN IN UNIFORM

Complete returns have not been received but enough is known to enable them to make an estimate, and this they fix at 25,000 men, about one-fourth of whom will be accompanied by their wives. A large amount of money will be required for the proper entertainment of the Conclave, and the committee has therefore been earnestly at work to secure it. At first it was thought that not less than \$75,000 would be needed, but since then the necessities for the occasion have been calculated by those having it in charge, and they find that they can accomplish their desires with \$50,000.

In 1886, \$50,000 was a considerable amount, as I'm sure you will agree. And the fact that 25,000 men would be in uniform makes today's Conclaves look just a bit puny. Later in the description they refer to "Ninety blocks of marching men," a most imposing number, especially in 1886 when the total Templar → → →

membership was under 50,000. Attendance at such a Triennial Conclave was not inexpensive to the Templar himself; many Sir Knights travelled thousands of miles to be present. It was a very special honor to take part, and expense was not their primary concern. Pride in membership was of prime importance.

Today, with some at least, that whole-hearted pride must have fallen by the wayside. I'm not talking about "numbers," but rather about the spirit and enthusiasm of today's Masons. What brought 25,000 men to St. Louis, with their wives and families, back in 1886? Very apparently, Masonic membership meant much more. Perhaps we need to give more evidence of our own pride, more display in our daily lives of the importance of all branches of the Masonic Order. Maybe we are making it too cheap, thereby lessening its value to the individual. Perhaps we have become so splintered and sub-divided that prospective members become confused.

In the February 1981 issue of the *Knight Templar Magazine* there is an account of an Order known as the Knights of the Golden Eagle. This Order, closely paralleling Templary — at least on the surface, was founded in 1873, reached a membership level of approximately 60,000, then slowly declined to the point where only a few have any association with it. Just a tiny remnant exists in Pennsylvania and in New Jersey. At its height, it was quite popular; it flourished for a period of 40 to 50 years, then gradually faded from the fraternal picture.

This could happen to Masonry and its related bodies if we do not take decisive action to halt declining membership in some parts of the country. The South-eastern area of the United States must be doing something extremely well, for Masonry in that section, in all its forms, does exceedingly well. I am not trying to shout "wolf," but I do believe very firmly that our Masonic heritage could lose its

impact and its influence unless we, as Masons, project a more positive attitude to the public and continue to attract like-minded men to our ranks.

We hear the message on all sides — at the Conference of Grand Masters, at individual Lodges, Chapters, Councils and Commanderies: We need to project a better image — and we need it now.

Our distinguished frater, Bruce Hunt, Past Grand Master of Masons in Missouri, issues, as many of you know, a *Masonic Review* each year. In looking over these, I came across several reports from Grand Masters echoing the same theme — concern about membership. Here's one quote from the 1971 Review. The Grand Master of California said:

An equally serious unsolved, and often unrecognized, problem exists after conferral of our three degrees. At this time, too many of our Lodges consider their responsibility of informing the candidate about Masonry to be at an end. The candidate applied for the degrees of Masonry because he wanted to be a complete Mason. Unfortunately, in most cases, he becomes only a member. There is a difference! It is my considered judgement that the ritual is but a foundation upon which one may build a personal Masonic edifice. . . . I cannot stress too strongly that most Masons want to know more about Masonry. Each of us has a responsibility to meet this need. . . . Let me remind you that it is not this organization that is a force for great good — it is the individual member — and we, as individual men, must exercise greater effort in teaching and exemplifying Freemasonry. . . . While we glory in the past, we live not for it. Throughout the ages we have been opportuned to search for greater light.

On the Way to a New Record

As of April 10, 1981, contributions in the 13th Annual Voluntary Campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation have reached \$482,456.00 – more than \$50,000 over last year's Campaign for the same period.

Alabama	\$ 1,644.20	Pennsylvania	22,743.98
Arizona	5,837.95	South Carolina	6,787.09
Arkansas	2,107.25	South Dakota	628.00
California	10,023.37	Tennessee	18,776.75
Colorado	32,835.21	Texas	118,248.67
Connecticut	1,414.40	Utah	2,879.65
District of Columbia	3,957.00	Vermont	2,024.95
Florida	13,884.75	Virginia	7,182.00
Georgia	17,326.66	Washington	2,057.10
Idaho	2,397.32	West Virginia	2,991.26
Illinois	11,946.35	Wisconsin	2,425.00
Indiana	2,077.65	Wyoming	702.00
Iowa	2,578.15	Hilo, U.D., Hilo, Hawaii	30.00
Kansas	1,470.00	St. John's No. 1,	
Kentucky	6,975.54	Wilmington, DE	126.00
Louisiana	3,134.00	Honolulu No. 1, Honolulu, HI.	40.00
Maine	3,454.16	Panama Canal No. 1, Balboa,	
Maryland	6,730.25	Republic of Panama	1,910.00
Massachusetts-Rhode Island	5,648.50	Alaska No. 1,	
Michigan	23,479.50	Fairbanks, AK	36.00
Minnesota	9,493.00	Porto Rico No. 1,	
Mississippi	1,625.42	San Juan, PR	715.00
Missouri	2,895.52	Bavaria No. 3,	
Montana	10,283.70	Munich, Germany	50.00
Nebraska	1,025.50	Hermann von Salza No. 1,	
Nevada	53,708.18	Frankfurt, Germany	560.00
New Hampshire	2,475.00	Heidelberg No. 2,	
New Jersey	5,090.85	Heidelberg, Germany	735.00
New Mexico	1,993.00	St. Andrew's No. 2,	
New York	5,732.10	Dover, DE	80.00
North Carolina	3,170.25	Harry J. Miller No. 5,	
North Dakota	1,043.05	Bitburg, Germany	280.00
Ohio	17,575.43	Dionysius Areopagites, U.D.,	
Oklahoma	3,242.80	Athens, Greece	50.00
Oregon	8,578.16	General Fund	3,543.38

. . . PROUD OF OUR MASONRY?

That greater light, brethren, is what we have to offer – and I submit that we need to offer it in better form than we have to this point. Of course, the greater need is to attract good and worthy men into the ranks of Masonry. That is step number one. From there on, it is up to us in the York and Scottish Rites, in the Allied Masonic Degrees and in the Appendant Orders to furnish that “greater light.”

One particular aspect distresses me. We hear about interested men *searching* for Masons in their community in order to learn how they can be admitted to a

Symbolic Lodge. I submit to you that we need to live in all our respective communities so that there is no mistake about who are Masons and who are not. We all need to *SHOW*, by our actions and by our judgements, that we are, indeed, members of the Masonic fraternity – and mighty proud of the opportunity. Let there be light – and let the light shine upon Masons – Masons who are *KNOWN* to be Masons. Our individual examples are the motivating force for others to wish to become members of our fraternity. □

HIGHLIGHTS AND SIDELIGHTS

\$1,000 From Florida Sir Knight



Sir Knight Scott Creviston (left), Past Commander of Ft. Myers Commandery No. 32, Florida, presents a \$1,000 check to Eugene Berato, Chairman for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation 13th Voluntary Campaign in Florida, to "kick-off" the Annual K.T.E.F. drive in that state. The contribution was made on behalf of Sir Knight Bob Whan of Ft. Myers Commandery who has contributed more than \$3,000 to the Eye Foundation in the past several years and who was unable to present the check himself.

Sir Knight Creviston, serving as Ft. Myers' local Eye Foundation Chairman, notes that the Commandery is "shooting for 100% membership this year" with 101 Life Sponsors already submitted.

In Demand

Popular objects which continue to be in demand include the sturdy cut-corner holder for *Knight Templar Magazine* filing and related materials, including General Orders and similar releases. Strong and durable, these plastic covers will hold up to three years (36 issues) of the *Knight Templar Magazine*. The cost, postpaid, is \$3.25 each or \$2.50 each for three or more. To order, send your check to the Grand Recorder, 14 East Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Illinois 60604.

109th Annual Red Cross Assembly

G. Wilbur Bell, K.G.C., Past Grand Master of Grand Encampment, will preside at the 109th Annual Assembly, United Grand Imperial Council of the Red Cross of Constantine, at the Holiday Inn East, Springfield, Illinois. The Assembly will open with a reception for Grand Sovereign Bell on June 11 and conclude with a Sunday morning church service under the direction of Dr. Beryl S. Kinser, Grand High Prelate, on June 14.

Kansas Chapter Marks Centennial

The centennial of McPherson Chapter No. 48, R.A.M., in McPherson, Kansas, was celebrated March 3, 1981, with a conferral of the Royal Arch Degree on five Companions. The degree work culminated a "travelling conferral" which began on February 4 with the Mark and Past Master Degrees conferred at Hutchinson Chapter No. 34 and continued February 16 with the Most Excellent Degree conferred at Ark Valley Chapter No. 27, Newton.

Candidates for the "travelling conferral" included Forest Jamison and James Chaffee of Ark Valley; Willard Crosson, Hutchinson; and Larry Summers and Lawrence Carlson, McPherson. Companion Summers is currently Worshipful Master of McPherson Lodge, A.F. & A.M.

Gerald R. Butcher, Kansas State Supplement Editor, says the cast for Royal Arch was comprised of members and Past High Priests from the three Chapters involved, with assistance from Kansas Past Grand Commander Robert Martindell. Also on hand for the degree work were A. H. McCulloch, High Priest of Ark Valley No. 27, and Eldon M. McCall, High Priest of McPherson No. 48.

East Liverpool Beauceant Celebrates

East Liverpool Assembly No. 71, Social Order of the Beauceant in Ohio, constituted 1931, celebrated its 50th anniversary on February 23. Mrs. John W. Hopper, Sr., Worthy President, acting on behalf of the Supreme Assembly and Mrs. W. J. Williams, Supreme Worthy President, awarded 50-year cards and pins to two women who have held continuous membership throughout the Assembly's existence.



Receiving 50-year awards from Mrs. Hopper are Mrs. Albert McLain (center), first President of East Liverpool Assembly, still active as Director of Music, and Mrs. C. Wm. Kress (right) first 1st Vice-President and currently Installing Recorder. Two other 50-year members, Mrs. Edward T. Martin and Mrs. Charles Zeder, were unable to be present.

Grand Secretary-Recorder of Arizona

Sir Knight Estel Brooks, Past Commander of Columbine Commandery No. 9, Safford, has, for reasons of health, resigned as Grand Secretary-Recorder of the Grand York Rite Bodies of Arizona, a position he has held since 1975. Effective this month, the new Grand Secretary-Recorder of Arizona is Amer R. Macumber, P.C., Crusade Commandery, 1549 N. Fern Circle, Mesa, Arizona 85201.

Honored for 50 Years in Templary



Sir Knight Louis A. Koepf was honored for his 50 years in Templary at the March 9 Inspection of Lake Erie Commandery No. 20, Buffalo, New York. Samuel Hall, Jr., Grand Captain General of New York and Inspecting Officer, was on hand to present a certificate to Sir Knight Koepf who was also celebrating his 91st birthday. Koepf is shown above (center) with Sir Knight Hall (left) and Joseph Bakowski, Eminent Commander of Lake Erie.

K.T.E.F. Trustees

Grand Master Kenneth C. Johnson has announced that the annual meeting of the Trustees for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation will take place August 1 and 2 at Springfield, Illinois. Executive Director G. Wilbur Bell, P.G.M., has notified the Trustees in his April monthly report.

Mt. Zion Nets \$200 for K.T.E.F.

Sir Knight Marion Reed, Recorder of Mt. Zion Commandery No. 5, Platts-mouth, forwarded a check for \$200 to Omar L. Gottula, Nebraska State Chairman for the 13th Annual Eye Foundation Voluntary Campaign. The money was raised from a recent pancake and sausage meal sponsored by members of Mt. Zion.

Past Grand Commander E. Guy Frizzell

E. Guy Frizzell, age 83, passed away in Knoxville, Tennessee, on April 5, 1981, 58 years to the day after being Raised a Master Mason in Crittendon Lodge No. 607, Earle, Arkansas. At the time of his death, he was serving as Second Vice-President and Trustee of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

Retired as Manager of General Services for the University of Tennessee, Sir Knight Frizzell was a member of Central Baptist Church of Fountain City for 54 years. He was past presiding officer of Spurgeon Bowling Chapter No. 207, Knoxville Council No. 75, and Couer de Lion Commandery No. 9, Knoxville. In 1949, he was elected M.I. Grand Master of the Grand Council of Tennessee, R. & S.M., and in 1955, Grand Commander of Tennessee Templars. He also held the honor of Knight Commander of Constantine and was a former Intendant General for the Division of Tennessee, United Grand Imperial Council, R.C.C. He was a 33rd Degree Scottish Rite Mason, a member of K.Y.C.H., Shrine, Eastern Star and Royal Order of Scotland.

Dr. Franklin Dies at Age 89

Dr. and Sir Knight Sam Franklin, Tuscaloosa Commandery No. 13, Alabama, passed away at his residence on March 4, 1981. Awarded a B.A. in 1912 and M.A. in 1914 from Princeton University, he later earned a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary and Ph.D. in ethics and psychology at New York University. Dr. Franklin was professor and head of the Psychology Department at Stillman College in Tuscaloosa from 1951 to 1966; earlier he was Chairman of the Department of Psychology at Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota. He was an ordained Presbyterian minister and active in Masonic bodies in both Minnesota and Alabama.

Grand Encampment
Roll Call of Honored Dead

IN HALLOWED MEMORY

Leland Norman Goetsch
Wisconsin
Grand Commander — 1976
Born December 8, 1915
Died March 17, 1981

Everett Redeem
Montana
Grand Commander — 1948
Born November 4, 1905
Died March 27, 1981

Harold Edward Stokely
Pennsylvania
Grand Commander — 1967
Born July 21, 1908
Died March 27, 1981

E. Guy Frizzell
Tennessee
Grand Commander — 1955
Born December 4, 1897
Died April 5, 1981



Robert F. Secrest, In Memoriam

Sir Knight Robert F. Secrest, Past Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons and Grand Secretary-Recorder of the York Rite in South Carolina, passed away April 11 following a recent illness. A Past Commander of Columbia Commandery No. 2 and Past Grand Principal Sojourner of Royal Arch Masons International, Secrest was elected an Honorary Past Grand Commander of Knights Templar and Honorary Past Grand Master of the Grand Council during the March 1981 Annual Meeting of the Grand York Rite Bodies of South Carolina. Sir Knight Secrest had served as State Editor for the *Knight Templar Magazine* since 1973.

RETURNING TO CHURCH

by
Brother Charles E. Martin

The following thesis, an unusual presentation with possible generic overlapping of the terms Mason, as known universally, and Christian, as believers in Christ, is a strong message which the Knight Templar Magazine believes could be, in many of its points, of value to all.

Going through my old *Knight Templar Magazines*, as I frequently do to pick up thoughts for my sermons, I ran into an Editor's Journal item printed in the September 1978 issue. This item gave the results of a Gallup poll on church attendance. The statistics showed that four out of ten people do not attend church, and this figure represented a decline over the past quarter century — between 1952 and 1978, church attendance dropped from 75% to 53%.

That may be startling news, but let me shock the brethren even more. In my survey of Brother Masons in the Denver, Colorado, area, I found that four out of 100 attend church; on Christmas and Easter, we jump to 25 out of 100, but, remember, that's only two days out of 365. To me as a teacher of God's precious Gospel, this is appalling!

We, as Masons, being also Christians, tend to look outward when we should be looking inwardly. This could be one reason why the Masonic Order is losing members so rapidly. We hear statements such as "we should extend an open door to the general public in the hopes a few stragglers will stay," instead of truly looking inward to solve the real problem.

The church was strong at one time; hence the Christian Masonic Order was also strong. As weak Christians join the Masonic Order, so goes Masonry's strength, and this is also true in the church relationship. Half truths in the

Christian faith, "false teachings," bring forth bad fruit or mixed feelings, and people do not know which way to turn.

Hearing that Masons are Christian, men turn to us looking for God's word and strength but find it not — so they become weak Masons as well as weak Christians.

The Masonic Order was founded on God's word, which is strength in all things; thus, if Masons drop away from their churches where His word is taught, one can readily see that Masonic disorder is a logical consequence.

I have even found Brother Masons cleaning the Temple on the sabbath: "Thou shalt keep my Sabbath holy as it is a sign between us." If we break His Commandments, so shall He break us, as a potter is unhappy with a pot he has made.

Certainly not everyone is to blame. The preachers must accept a big portion of the responsibility, but many are unwilling to do so. Paul the Apostle, Timothy and John told us that we would have false preachers and how to detect them, so once again it's back in our laps. We should keep seeking God's true servant with the truth, but too many brethren would prefer to stay home instead.

I would like to help my brethren understand what to look for from any preacher through God's word as we know it to be true: Start by reading Genesis very closely, pondering each → → →

subject, paying attention to genealogy, and writing down who begat whom. The first four books of the Bible also give us the Commandments, the Laws – how to dress; what to eat; how to treat one's wife or husband, children, neighbors; and how to carry out His laws (for the judiciary).

As an example of what theological research can do for any good preacher, we might look at the Commandment "Thou shalt not kill." Now, in the true King James and old Hebrew, it says, "Thou shall do no murder," and as God plainly says, there is a great deal of difference between "kill" and "murder," for as you diligently read, God explains the difference.

God explains . . . that there is one race of people to be His people and to carry the Christian light into the world. Remember, faith without works is dead, and a Mason without works is also dead.

I leave the reader with these thoughts: Return to church; carry the word of God to Lodge meetings; read God's Word every day.

Brother Martin is Pastor of Bethel Gospel Temple in Northglenn, Colorado, and a member of Northglenn Lodge No. 194, A.F. & A.M., Eastlake, Colorado. He lives at 244 Muriel Drive, Northglenn 80233.

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Danville Chapter Metal Plates



From Sir Knight Ralph McCracken, Secretary of Danville Royal Arch Chapter No. 239, comes word of the discovery of "forty six-inch metal plates that were cast for the Chapter's centennial celebration in 1972." The plates, in original covers, are now nine years and, Sir Knight McCracken feels, are Masonic collector's items.

Danville Chapter will sell the plates at the original 1972 price of \$5.00 each plus \$1.00 postage. Remittance may be sent to Ralph McCracken, Box 55, Riverside, Pennsylvania 17868.

Medal Commemorates New Temple

Callaway Lodge No. 369, F. & A.M., Florida, has issued an antiqued solid bronze souvenir medal commemorating the April 4, 1981, dedication of its new Masonic Temple. The historical event was attended by some 200 Masons who watched as M.W. Lynn Pierce Blich, Grand Master of Masons in Florida, laid the cornerstone for the new building.

The souvenir coin is 1 5/16 inches in diameter and is available to collectors at a cost of \$2.00 plus a self-addressed stamped envelope for each coin ordered. Correspondence may be addressed to Coin Chairman, Callaway Lodge No. 369, F. & A.M., P.O. Box 3907, Panama City, Florida 32401.

Coin Committee Chairman Sir Knight Warren R. Lee writes "the new temple has been a dream for about eight years, and members have sacrificed both time and money to see the new building to completion." Proceeds from the sale of the coin will assist in paying off the obligations incurred in the building of the new temple.

WHY THE HURRY?

by

Sir Knight Theodore Summers
Peninsular Commandery No. 8, Michigan

How much time should we try to save in conferring the Orders of the Commandery? At our Annual Inspections, the time required for the Full Form Opening is recorded, and the time elapsed in conferring the Order of the Temple is also noted and scored. Probably the time elapsing in the work gives some indication as to how well the degree has been organized and programmed, how well the lines are committed, or how smoothly and expeditiously one scene follows another.

If some time here and there must be cut to make a good score, just where ought the minutes be saved? Or, it might be more appropriate to ask, where should we NOT skimp on our lines and floor work in portraying the degrees?

Two occasions when time should not be cut short are in the conferring of the Order of the Red Cross and in the Order of Malta. Too often these beautiful Orders are just "communicated," or given in "short form," or even "farmed out" to some other Commandery which is promoting an "All-Degree Day" while we are forgetting that our own Commandery really needs the stimulation of a special conclave devoted to either of the beautiful and inspirational Orders.

Please pardon a personal reference, but consider the compliment intended for a Commandery I visited some years ago: In 1941 and 1942 many of us were eagerly or uneasily watching the daily mail delivery for that notice of our draft classification in World War II. Sometimes we were expecting the mail to bring a notice to report for induction into the Military

Service. With the Draft Board breathing down my neck and my number close to the top of the call list, I still hoped anxiously to become a full-fledged Knight of the Temple before going into service. To accommodate my schedule, I was hustled through the Orders, being given the Red Cross and the Malta in short-short form.

True, the signs and passwords were communicated to me, but they had little significance as I was instructed in nothing of the background and the derivations of the signs, or the history and reasons behind the passwords and grips. The Order of the Temple, however, was conferred mostly intact, except I was perplexed a bit when one member took the three Hermit parts, while to my confusion and bewilderment, the Captain General became the Senior Warden someplace during my pilgrimage.

But after going into Service, I was fortunate to be sent first to Northern Illinois. While at that station of duty, one of my Buddies heard that Ottawa Commandery was having its Annual Red Cross and Malta Day. The "Old Man" (as we referred to the Commanding Officer of the Base) had "seen the light," walked over the rubble," "descended into the crypt" and had "carried a taper and skull," so he was sympathetic when we asked for a 24-hour pass to go to Ottawa. He even permitted us to use a government car, and suggested we take with us any other Templars on the base who might be interested in the program.

After all these years, I still remember the good work that Ottawa → → →

Commandery did that day. The afternoon work was opened not in the Order of the Temple and dropped to the Red Cross, but was opened directly in the Red Cross degree. The work of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross was given in full form, and the afternoon session was closed on the Red Cross degree. Beautiful!

How many Sir Knights have ever beheld a full opening and a full closing in that Illustrious Order?

After a roast beef supper, doubly delectable in 1942 because of wartime rationing, we found the asylum had been prepared for the Order of Malta. Here the program for the evening was opened in the Malta degree, the Order was conferred in full form, and like the afternoon's work, was closed according to the appropriate ritual. I'm still excited when I recall that day nearly forty years ago.

The Malta work was embellished by the music of the Episcopal Church choir of thirty voices, supported by a pipe organ. (Introducing a mixed choir into the asylum when some of the male voices were not Masons may have been of some doubtful legality, to say nothing of the presence of women singers and a woman organist during parts of the work – but I have to admit the work and the music were thrilling!)

There were present approximately 200 Knights on that occasion, including about 30 Army and Navy servicemen who hailed from eleven different Commanderies, ranging from Virginia to Oregon.

Twelve candidates received the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross and the Order of Malta that day. Interestingly, each candidate for the Red Cross, in his turn "crossed the bridge unescorted" was taken for an intruder and a spy and found himself "bound in chains" – the candidate himself, and not a proxy.

The next morning, our Base Commander called us into his office for a full report on the work of Ottawa Commandery, and expressed his regrets that

he himself could not have gone. As I write of this memorable occasion, I can still feel the goose-bumps running up and down my spine. Never since have I seen any work even approaching the renditions of that day.

Question: Would it be so difficult in our own Commanderies to train a corps of officers, even pro tem officers, to open and close our assemblies for these two Orders according to ritual? Maybe if we would set up special degree teams for these two Orders we could find many men who not only would be anxious to learn their parts, but who might soon find themselves intimately involved again in the work to the advantage of the Commandery and to our membership.

Question: Why have our Annual Inspections always been on the Order of the Temple while these two beautiful degrees seem to have been neglected and brushed off to the fringes?

These questions in turn pose the original question: How much time should we try to save in conferring any part of our work? Somewhere between the time often grudgingly allotted to these "step-child" degrees and our seeming over-emphasis and rigidity of working mostly in the Order of the Temple will be found the judicious distribution of our efforts to the additional pleasure of many members and the education of our candidates.

So what about "farming out" our work to other Commanderies for their All-Degree Days? There are many advantages in taking part in these York Rite Festivals where different Commanderies can participate in the program, each Commandery having the opportunity to demonstrate its own interpretation of the ritual, showing how they have polished and refined the speaking lines, carefully arranged their regalia, and perfected their floor work.

But there are also some disadvantages to be aware of: There is the temptation to

save up the candidates for the Festivals at the expense of our own activities, and our need of special attractions to keep up attendance. Now and then, we fear, there is even a tendency toward "dumping" our duties on our neighboring Commanderies.

Sometimes it is too easy to take our Candidates to All-Degree Days in the nearby city, forgetting that real and lasting friendships and loyalty to the local Commandery are generated when a man is Knighted by his own neighbors and co-workers. We should not overlook the lesson that "a Busy Commandery is a growing Commandery" and dark nights can become the slow poison for membership petitions and sagging attendance.

The dinners at the York Rite Festival and All-Degree Days, too, can be real stimulators for the participating Commanderies when the table seating is carefully arranged so as to promote friendships between members of different Commanderies and where buzz-sessions spring up for discussions of common problems. But unless thought is given to dispersing the seating so every man sits next to a member from a different Commandery instead of permitting the segregation of groups from one's own city, we might be overlooking an opportunity to form friendships on a wider and wider basis.

The real profit then comes when we go back to our own asylums and utilize what we have seen in the work of other Commanderies, and also try to solve our own problems by applying the suggestions which come from those new friends we have met at the Festival dinner. (I'm still enthusiastic about that work I saw at Ottawa, Illinois, after nearly 38 years, and seldom pass an opportunity to suggest that my own and other Commanderies adopt some of the good points displayed there.)

So let's find that Golden Mean where we can confer all Orders in A-1 perfection, make our candidates "catch fire" with Templarism, instill loyalty to our own

local Commandery and our Grand Commanderies. Yet, let's be good neighbors with other Commanderies and the York Rite Bodies; let's cooperate with Scottish Rite programs wherever possible, for we are not "competitors" but co-workers in Masonry.

But never, never, Kind Father, permit us to look for that "easy way" in our work, for the "easy way" leads only to stagnation. And let's not rush past these two beautiful and instructive degrees — the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross, and the Order of Malta. Let's put more effort into polishing up our work and committing our lines, adhere to the practice of opening and closing the assemblies as provided in the Ritual, and make these two Orders again important points of our Trio of Masonic Steps.

Sir Knight Summers lives at 1514 West Lovell Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007.



Brother Franklin

A quarter-hour, color-sound film describing in unusual form the inventions of Brother Ben Franklin will be added to the Grand Encampment's "Americana" film library by the end of April. Others in the series include: *The American Flag*, *The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere*, *The Declaration of Independence*, *The American Revolution*, *The Battle of Yorktown*, and *Westward Movement*. Library material available for Templar showings also includes the quarter-hour color film *Soldiers of the Cross*, and the half-hour *Cavalcade of Templary*, plus the following audio-visual presentations: slide/script programs on "Easter Sunrise Service," "Symbols of Faith," "Masonic Presidents," and "Flags on Parade"; also "Our Flag," taped narration of the evolution of America's national banner. All are available on a free-loan basis. Prints are limited; advance booking required.

Monday, May 25, designated for Memorial Day observance in 1981, is also the date on which the Grand Lodge of New York, F. & A.M., will celebrate its 200th Anniversary with a parade and cornerstone-laying ceremony at the Government Plaza in Binghamton, New York. Most Worshipful Bruce Widger, Grand Master, and his staff of ritualists will perform the honors, following a Masonic parade which will be led by members of The American Legion and other Veterans groups. Also taking part in the parade will be members of Masonic youth groups, York and Scottish Rite Masons and members of Grotto and Shriners. A corridor of Master Masons will form at the cornerstone site to welcome the Grand Master and government and civic leaders as they pass to the speakers stand.

Sir Knight Walter B. Peyton of Otsego Commandery No. 76, who serves as Broome-Chenango District Community Services Chairman, invites all area Knights Templar to report in full regalia at 9:30 a.m. to the Masonic Temple.

Brother Allan Boudreau announces that the Masonic Stamp of New York is sponsoring three Masonic cachets (with descriptive inner liners) to commemorate New York's Grand Lodge Bicentennial. Each envelope will be cancelled from a temporary post office at Masonic Hall in New York City. One design shows the Grand Lodge seal; another features the first Masonic Hall in NYC; the third features the present Masonic Hall complex at 23rd Street and Sixth Avenue in NYC.

Complete set will be mailed upon receipt of \$5.00; a special price of \$25.00 for six sets is also available. Checks (no cash) may be made payable to "Bicentennial Cachets" and mailed, along with self-addressed, stamped, return envelope, to Masonic Stamp Club Committee, c/o Bicentennial Cachets, 327 West 42nd Street, New York, New York 10036. Net proceeds from the sale of the cachets will go to the Trustees of the Masonic Hall and Asylum fund to support the "Think Big and Build" program of the Grand Lodge of New York.

Fort Collins Annual Dinner

Friday, March 20, was a "red-letter" day for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation in Colorado, writes Northwestern Department Commander William H. Thornley, Jr. On that night, DeMolay Commandery No. 13 of Fort Collins welcomed G. Wilbur Bell, Past Grand Master and Eye Foundation Executive Director, as guest speaker at its Annual Eye Foundation Dinner.

Pictured from left are Carl Hofferber, Eminent Commander, DeMolay No. 13; Howard R. Caldwell, P.C., Colorado State Chairman, Knights Templar Eye Foundation; G. Wilbur Bell; Henry McCoy, Grand Commander of Colorado; and William H. Thornley, Jr.

Contributions totaling more than \$600 were accepted by Sir Knight Bell on behalf of the Templar charity.



SIMON VON UTRECHT

by

Sir Knight Dr. Ernst-Gunter Geppert, Eminent Captain General
Simon von Utrecht Commandery No. 6, Hamburg, West Germany

In 1977 a Dispensation was granted to Sir Knights in Hamburg, West Germany, to institute a new Commandery of Knights Templar. Two years later, at the 54th Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment held at Indianapolis, Indiana, a Charter was approved and issued designating Simon von Utrecht Commandery No. 6; and on January 31, 1981, installation ceremonies were held with Sir Knight Ryoji Beutner acting as Grand Master Johnson's representative. Sir Knight and Dr. Geppert prepared the following informative article on the man chosen as that Commandery's "Patron."

Simon von Utrecht was neither a nobleman nor a crusader, nor a hero of the time of the ancient Templars, nor a knight who fought on behalf of religious liberty. He was the 33rd Lord Mayor of Hamburg during the period 1433-1439, and everything he undertook was for the best interests of the citizens of the town of Hamburg.

The name of Simon von Utrecht is found for the first time in 1399, in the papers which contained the names of those vessels bound for Hamburg from other ports. Utrecht must have been between the ages of 25 and 30 at this time. A year later he was granted civic rights in this "Hansetown."

Born at Haarlem in The Netherlands, Utrecht was a seafarer who sailed for Hamburg where the citizens were either merchants or shipowners, but not seamen. It is unknown whether the name of "Simon" has any relation with the town where his ships were domiciled; it may be that his ancestors chose that name after the family had settled at Utrecht (a province in central Netherlands).

The heraldic figures Utrecht chose for his coat of arms were the swan, a golden chain and the bow of a ship, for Utrecht saw his duty as a sailor and as a fighter

for freedom on the seas. Under that sign, he fought against pirates to secure a safe water lifeline for Hamburg — along the river Elbe and the North Sea making the way clear to England and Denmark. However, Simon von Utrecht was not only a naval hero. He was also an outstanding townsman of Hamburg.

Utrecht was a member of the "Holy-Cross-Brotherhood" formed by merchants, sailors and shopkeepers of the town. He was also a member of the brotherhood of a "Calandsociety" named "The Holy Corps of Maria Magdalena." This "Holy Corps" provided money to bury people who were so poor they could not afford a funeral.

Our patron was also the guardian of the "Ilsabeenhouse," a hospital named in honor of St. Elisabeth. This hospital still exists today as the old-age asylum of the Maria-Magdalenen Nunnery in Heiligeweg-street.

Each society or brotherhood to which Utrecht belonged had a ritualistic base and, concurrently, permitted a happy social outlet for the citizens of Hamburg.

On October 14, 1437 — 544 years ago — Simon von Utrecht was recalled from this world to eternity. He left a widow but no children. His estate was → → →

so extensive and rich that it has continued to the present as a charity for the poor people of the town.

Often the patrons of modern-day Commanderies were members of some holy Order, or Knights of the Crusades or figures who made their reputation as defenders of the Holy Land. But since Hamburg was a free city, a "Hansetown," no knight as such was allowed to reside within the town walls. It was impossible to pass through the town gates as a "knight," but as a "sir" any man was welcomed. For this reason, the members of this Commandery are prohibited, by history, to choose a knight for the patron of their asylum.

Simon von Utrecht was a fighter, a preserver and patron of Hamburg. He was not only the guardian of a true public spirit; he also worked for the welfare of widows, orphans and invalids. This is the man whom the members of Commandery No. 6, Hamburg, West Germany, chose as their namesake, a man who lived a life of leadership and charity and whose memory recalls the best of Masonic principles.

Sir Knight Geppert's mailing address is Zahnarzt, Mohlenhofstrasse 1, 2000 Hamburg 1, West Germany.

Knights Templar Eye Foundation New Club Memberships

Grand Commander's Club:

Vermont No. 2 — Gilbert E. Bolsterle
West Virginia No. 4 — Mrs. Lillian D. Walker
Indiana No. 8 — Dennis L. Hannon

Grand Master's Club:

No. 283 — George R. Schenk (CT)
No. 284 — Alfred S. Bryan (OK)
No. 285 — R. G. Urbina (AK)
No. 286 — R. W. Boyle (AR)
No. 287 — Joseph M. Lusk (OH)

How to Join: Any individual may send a check in the amount of \$100 or more to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation to begin membership in the Grand Commander's Club. With the initial contribution, the member pledges to make additional annual contributions of \$100 or more. Once Grand Commander's Club contributions total \$1,000, the individual is enrolled in the Grand Master's Club. Membership is open to individuals only (no groups), and there is no Commandery credit for Club participation.

For information please contact: G. Wilbur Bell, P.G.M., Executive Director, Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 579, Springfield, Illinois 62705. (or call 217-523-3838)

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Connecticut Lodge Bicentennial

An anonymous source notes that a significant bicentennial observance in Connecticut during 1981 is that of Wooster Lodge No. 10, Colchester, named for David Wooster, a martyr in the war for American Independence. It was under the aegis of this Lodge that the first Knight Templar Commandery to have a charter from authority in London was formed in 1796. Sir Knight John R. Watrous, a stalwart in Masonic circles in Colchester, was the first Grand Commander of Knights Templar in Connecticut.

THE ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS

by

Sir Knight H. C. Arbuckle, III
Corpus Christi Commandery No. 57, Texas

During the past twenty years, several books have been published that conform to a "question-and-answer" format whereby seeking More Light can be more readily and easily done. 1964 saw the reprinting of Brother Herbert F. Inman's 1933 classic, *Masonic Problems and Queries*, wherein information from "Aaron" through "Zikr" was explained and expounded upon. Then Brother Harry Carr in 1976 published his excellent *The Freemason at Work*, answering questions directed to him as Secretary-Editor of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge. Another excellent Masonic scholar, H. V. B. Voorhis, recently updated (1979) his 1951 *Facts For Freemasons*, a compendium of information arranged according to subject. And the Masters' and Past Masters' Lodge No. 130, a research Lodge of New Zealand, also got into the act in 1978 with their book *Questions and Answers*.

The newest question-answer manual is entitled *Dear Brother Herman: Answers to Questions Relating to Freemasonry*, and is written by Brother Herman A. Sarachan of Rochester. It is available from the Masonic Association, 875 East Main Street, Rochester, New York 14605.

Brother Herman has for years written a Masonic "Advice to the Knowledge-Worn" column in *The Monroe Masonic News*, covering New York Grand Lodge Law, Masonic symbolism, plans for a Masonic year, ritual, customs, traditions, and Masonic history. In fact, Brother



Herman goes from "Acacia" to "Zizon" in 213 pages, and does an excellent job of it. The book is factual, meaty, well-written, and interesting.

The book is in the form of questions and answers, with 276 different entries in all. While impossible to give here an example of a long question with answer, there is one which ought to be given in its entirety, because at each Lodge meeting, we all hear it discussed:

17. Apron – Proper Method of Wearing

Q: Is there a new regulation about the wearing of the apron at a Masonic meeting?

A: The Grand Master has approved the recommendation of the Custodians of the work that, at a meeting of a Masonic Lodge, regardless whether the coat is single- or double-breasted, the apron shall be worn outside the coat.

The question is answered in a short, to-the-point, and factual manner, with an authority for reference. *Dear Brother Herman* does refer to New York Grand Lodge law quite often, and your own Grand Lodge's law might be a bit different, but the principles are the same.

The book may be ordered in hard-cover (\$8.50) or paperback (\$6.00) edition. And you just might ask if Brother Herman will autograph the book for you. Authors like that, and I am sure Brother Herman is no exception. □

THE SECOND CRUSADE

by

F. R. Hall, Staff Associate

The Papacy in 1145 did not have the political consolidation of Pope Urban's government 50 years earlier. Rome was presently under a revolutionary commune which left Pope Eugenius III exiled. Fortunately, the Pope established friendly ties with King Conrad of Germany and King Louis VII of France. Pope Eugenius desired Conrad's help in Italy so he could be restored to Rome. But it was King Louis of France that the Pope counted on most. After all, the First Crusade had been largely a French expedition and King Louis would therefore be an obvious choice.

King Louis eagerly responded, and he sent for his friend and advisor, Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux, to stir up popular enthusiasm for the expedition. By official sanction of the Pope, the Assembly at Vezelay met on March 31, 1146. Like Pope Urban, Saint Bernard's eloquence fired the imagination of the French, and shouts of "Crosses, give us Crosses!" could be heard everywhere.

The Germans were less inclined to join the new Crusade. Their interests lay in converting the pagan Slavs scattered along their eastern borders. Nevertheless, Saint Bernard persuaded King Conrad after repeated appeals, and by 1147 the Crusade became an international affair. The Pope gave this news a less than enthusiastic response. Wouldn't a divided Crusading movement destroy itself as the First Crusade had done?

In June 1147, the German faction passed through Hungary. Unfortunately, the cliché, "history repeats itself," was never more apropos than for the Germans. Once in Byzantine territory, pillaging and

slaughtering took place, and a riot occurred when a local juggler was labeled a sorcerer by the Germans. Perhaps the heavens took vengeance: As the Germans camped at Cheravas, in the lowlands, a storm-flood drowned most of the army.

On June 29, 1147, King Louis arrived at Ratisbon where he made a formal declaration of friendliness toward Byzantium. The diplomatic gesture was fruitless. As his army traveled through the Balkans which the Germans had so recently pillaged, food was in short supply. Furthermore, the Byzantine natives were hostile towards the French, remembering all too well the wantonness of the German Crusaders. In addition, a French faction, impatient with their slow progress, hurried forward to join the Germans, but the latter were unwilling to give the French much-needed food supplies. Thus, even before King Louis reached Constantinople, German-French relations were strained and both Crusading forces were hostile towards Byzantium.

Meanwhile, the Byzantine Emperor Manuel interrupted his attack on the Seldjuk Sultan of Konya, Mas'ud, when he heard news of the new Crusade. When Mas'ud offered Emperor Manuel a truce, the Emperor readily accepted. Though this alliance gave him the name of traitor by the French and Germans, Manuel was not about to endanger his Empire with both Turks and hostile Crusaders threatening Byzantium.

Upon their arrival in Constantinople on September 10, the Germans pillaged a palace in its suburbs. When Manuel asked Conrad for reparation, Conrad angrily threatened to attack Constantinople

itself. Although an outward show of peace was restored, Conrad refused to follow Manuel's advice to stay within imperial-controlled territory where the Germans would receive assistance from Byzantium. Instead, Conrad and his army foolishly headed deep into Turkish territory. Lacking water, they camped by the river Bathys near Dorylaeum on October 25 when they were taken by surprise by a large Turkish army. The Germans were massacred, and Conrad lost nine-tenths of his men and all his supplies.

The French reached Constantinople on October 4. From there they headed towards Nicaea where Conrad and Louis met. After consulting with each other, the two Kings marched towards Ephesus, where Conrad's health broke down. Conrad returned to Constantinople, and King Louis was left to brave the mountainous terrain to Attalia. Unprepared for the January storms and harrassed by the Turks, the French army arrived at the Byzantine town of Attalia physically and spiritually ravaged. To add further insult to injury, King Louis decided to travel the rest of the journey by sea to Saint Symeon, near Antioch. The reasons were obvious to King Louis — the small town of Attalia was ill-prepared to supply vast quantities of food and winter provisions were low. But to the majority of the Crusaders such reasons were not so apparent. There were few ships to be had, and Louis could fill them only with his choice cavalymen. The rest of the foot-soldiers were left deserted by their leaders. Lack of discipline and leadership contributed to the army's low morale as they made their way to Cicilia. Less than half of the French and German infantry reached Antioch in late spring.

Upon his arrival at Antioch, Louis was urged by Raymond of Antioch to attack Aleppo, the heart of Nur ed-Din's power. However, Louis ignored Raymond's suggestion and hastened towards Palestine. King Conrad had already been in Jeru-

salem a month when King Louis entered the Holy City in May 1148. An assembly was held and it was decided to focus all its attention on Damascus.

The decision was foolhardy. The Crusade lost an important ally, Raymond of Antioch, who, furious with the decision, refused his help. If Damascus was attacked, Antioch would be threatened by Nur ed-Din's rising power. Emperor Manuel understood the diplomatic necessity of playing one Moslem foe against another, as his truce with Mas'ud had shown. The Franks were not so farsighted. Of all the Moslem states, Damascus was anxious to remain allies with the Franks against the greater Moslem foe, Nur ed-Din. Attacking Damascus would be a sure-fire way to force its emir, Unur, to ask for Nur ed-Din's help.

On July 24, 1148, Conrad, Louis, and King Baldwin of Jerusalem camped in the orchards outside the walls of Damascus. Moslem guerilla reinforcements forced the Crusaders to move eastward where the enemy could not hide undercover. The decision was rash as the new site lacked water and looked onto the most impregnable part of the wall. It was also whispered that the Latin nobility, who suggested that the Kings make the move, were bribed by Unur.

With rumors of treachery and the news that Nur ed-Din's reinforcements were expected in a few days, the Crusaders abandoned the field. On July 28, five days after their arrival at Damascus, the Second Crusade was over. Turcoman light horsemen poured arrows into the retreating army, diminishing their numbers. But the arrows of humiliation pierced deeper. The Frankish knights damaged their reputation and Moslem spirit was renewed. Saint Bernard vented his anger on Byzantium, but even his angry eloquence would not change the fact that the Second Crusade was a fiasco.

next — The Third Crusade



KNIGHT VOICES

COMMENTS FROM READERS



□ I need help on the family of Joshua Henry Jones who was born August 8, 1835, in Morgan County, Ohio, and died October 16, 1892, in Nebraska (buried in the Osceola Cemetery, Polk County, with a Masonic emblem on his tombstone). His brother, Jacob, is buried in the same cemetery. I am interested in the parents of the Jones brothers and their sister, Martha Jones Daniel Brigham. They had a brother, Thomas Jones, who stayed in Morgan County, Ohio. *Melvin G. Daniel, P.O. Box 27, Luther, Montana 59051*

□ I am most interested in obtaining an apron of the style worn years ago by the Knights Templar of the United States. It is my belief that these aprons were triangular in form, were black in the background area, lettered in white and red and contained an emblem of the Knights Templar in some form or other. *Walter E. Haller, 7297 Beresford Avenue, Parma, Ohio 44130*

□ Work on Volume II of the "Bechtold-Bechtel Encyclopedia" (B. Dalby) is underway. All Bechtolds (Bechtel, Bechtoldt) are invited to send in their genealogical data on Bechtold for inclusion. *Arthur Bechtold, 5831 Tidewood Avenue, Sarasota, Florida 33581*

□ Field Officer's telescope, 15 by 4 degrees, on adjustable tripod. Excellent condition. Value in excess of \$5,000; asking \$2,500. Proceeds to Masonic charities. Pictures sent upon request. *Marlin L. Esh, P.C., 105 McKinley Circle, Vacaville, California 95688 (707-448-7739)*

□ A Senior Citizen soon to become a Knight Templar Commander needs a reasonably priced Commander's sword and chapeau size 7 1/8. *Edward E. Coing, R.D. 12, Carmel, New York 10512*

□ As I approached the Master's Chair in Mitchell, Nebraska, I wrote to "Knight Voices" to locate a larger top hat. Now I find that I need help to locate two chapeaux in larger sizes, namely, 7 1/2 and 7 5/8. These would be for myself and for a Sir Knight who shares my large-headedness. This brother also would like to locate a top hat in size 7 1/2. We would pay any reasonable costs including postage and handling. If any reader has either chapeaux or top hats size 7 1/2 or 7 3/4, please write. Our Commandery is also in need of two swords and scabbards, and a sword belt, with waist size of 40 inches.

Please believe me when I tell you how much I enjoy the *Knight Templar* and look forward to each month's issue. It has been a mainstay in our Masonic Education Committee reports to our local Lodge and has been a source of many discussions in the priory at Gering. *Steven K. Jones, 1555 14th Street, Mitchell, Nebraska 69357*

□ Researching the descendants of Revolutionary War Corporal John Abel who died in Ohio. Especially need data on Clarence Abel, born 1868, Saginaw, Michigan; William, Elizabeth, Davie Abel, born Windsor, Ontario, 1869-79; Susan and Mary Abel, born Ohio, 1841-49. *H. Thompson Stock, 196 Cloverly Road, Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan 48236*

□ I have a complete hand-bound set (20 Volumes – 4½" x 6¼" – Copyright 1924) of the *Little Masonic Library* by the Masonic Service Association of the U.S. Sample volume titles include: Anderson's Constitutions of 1723; Landmarks of Freemasonry; Masonic Jurisprudence; History of York and Scottish Rites; Freemasonry in the American Revolution. Entire list available on request. I would like to dispose of this complete set at some reasonable price plus postage. Perhaps someone at some Masonic Body would be interested in obtaining it for their own Masonic library or collection. Anyone interested can contact me. *Ronald W. Taylor, P.C., K.Y.C.H., Route 2, Box 300-R, Trinity, Texas 75862*

□ I have a very old, one-inch diameter G.A.R. gold pin – five-pointed star with lacquer overlay on each point depicting 1) crossed rifles, 2) crossed cannon, 3) bugle, 4) anchor, 5) crossed sabers; three uniformed figures in the center, inscribed at the top of these figures "G.A.R." and at the bottom "1861-1866." If anyone is interested in trading, I would like a Templar sword and uniform equipment. *Ted E. Rowe, Route 4, Box 277, Berryville, Arkansas 72616*

□ I have a set of *Encyclopedia of Freemasonry* by Albert G. Mackey, M.D., 33°, dated 1925. Would like to exchange for any old police, marshal or sheriff badges, or I will buy same. Will appreciate hearing from anyone interested. *Billy T. Culpepper, Box 200, West Monroe, Louisiana 71291 (318-396-4166)*

□ I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who responded to my request for commemorative coins. Through the *Knight Templar Magazine*, I now have a collection started. *Cecil T. Hays, Route No. 1, Box 105, Parsons, Tennessee 38363*

□ Tancred Commandery No. 50 in Belleville is in need of a couple of large size uniform coats to be used in the Order of the Temple. Would appreciate a donation if possible of sizes 44, 46, 48. We have plenty of small sizes. We will gladly pay postage or U.P.S. shipping charges. Send to: *J. Robert Ingram, Recorder, P.O. Box 921, Belleville, Illinois 62223*

□ I enjoyed reading the "Knights of the Golden Eagle" article in my husband's *Knight Templar*. Maybe you can help me with my search for information about a fraternal organization called "Knights of Hermann" – I think.

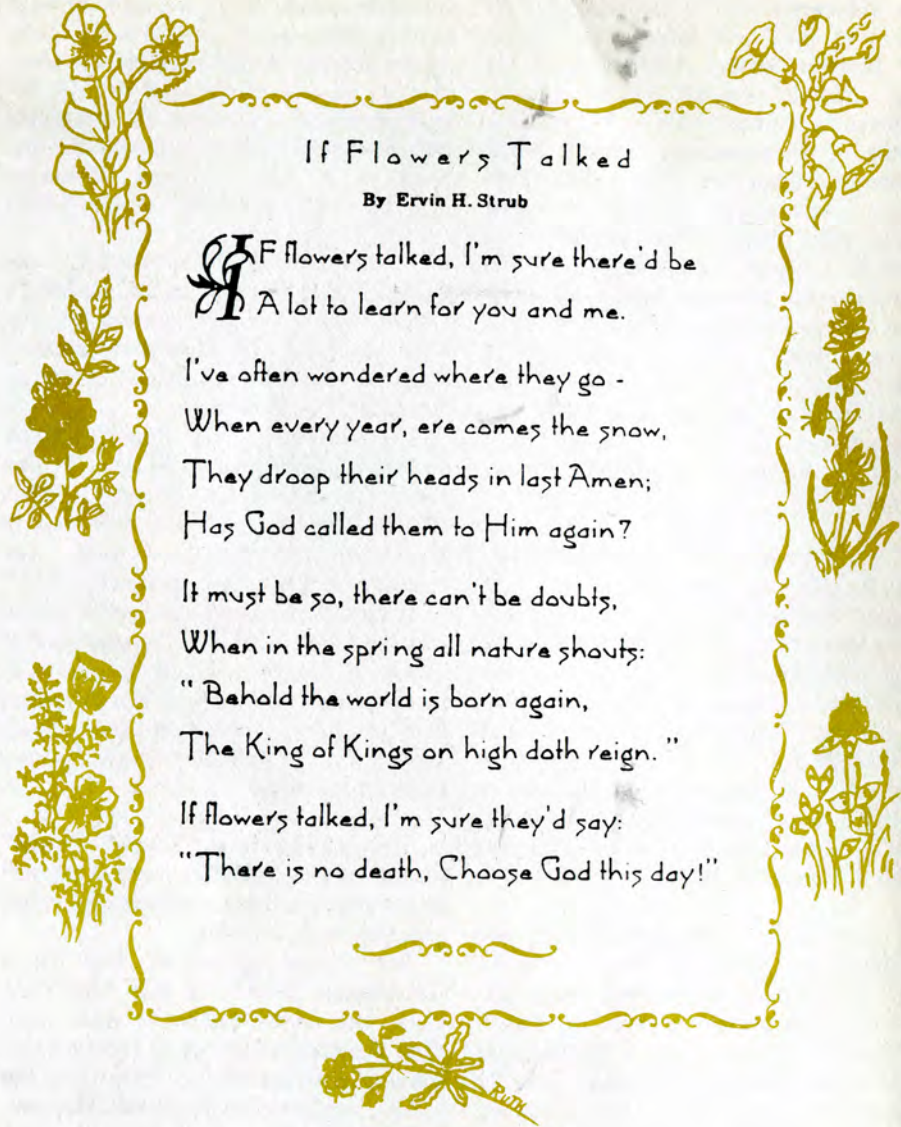
The obituary of my ancestor Joseph Fellnagle (Vollnagle) published in the Reno, Nevada, *Gazette*, August 1, 1887, reads: "The largest funeral ever seen in Wadsworth, Nevada was under the auspices of Silver State Lodge K. of H."

If any Nevada reader has information on this lodge or on the descendants of Joseph Fellnagle, I would be interested in receiving it. Joseph left two daughters and his wife – names unknown. *Betty Dennis Holt, 212 Orchard Street, Newton Falls, Ohio 44444*

□ In nearly every "Knight Voices" section of the magazine there is inquiry concerning heritage or requests for other genealogical information.

The Church of Latter Day Saints Genealogical Society in Salt Lake City, Utah, has undoubtedly the most complete genealogical library in the world. It contains information not only from the U.S.A., but Canadian, European, Mexican, etc., birth and death statistics, churches (Catholic, Protestant, etc.) of marriages, divorces, and so forth.

As I am not a member I do not know if any charge is made for use of their records. I do know that they are available to anyone, regardless of faith. *G. Z. Edwards, 77 East Skyline Drive, P.O. Box 795, St. George, Utah 84770*



If Flowers Talked

By Ervin H. Strub

If flowers talked, I'm sure there'd be
A lot to learn for you and me.

I've often wondered where they go -
When every year, ere comes the snow,
They droop their heads in last Amen;
Has God called them to Him again?

It must be so, there can't be doubts,
When in the spring all nature shouts:
"Behold the world is born again,
The King of Kings on high doth reign."

If flowers talked, I'm sure they'd say:
"There is no death, Choose God this day!"

