ENGLAND'S MASTER ARCHITECT
SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN
1632-1723
Opening the doors of the Temple...  

WHERE WERE YOU WHEN THE LIGHTS WENT ON?

During the summer months, Masonic Temples traditionally are “dark.” The lights are extinguished, the doors are locked, and the Sentinel departs content that all has been made secure for the summer hibernation. The weeks pass (much too swiftly, say some), and soon the notice is mailed for the first Conclave of the new Templar year. For most of us, resumption of Masonic activity occurs in September. In this month, which marks both the end of summer and the beginning of Autumn, the lamps are once again lighted, and the sounds of Templar greeting Templar fill the halls.

The summer vacation period having ended, the Eminent Commanders must now define the year’s agenda; and one of the first items to be listed is the annual inspection. I am aware that the words “annual inspection” bring different images to mind in different Commanderies. But let us assume that the words denote at the very least a review of the records (minutes and ledgers) and the staging of both Full Form Opening and the Order of the Temple. The inspection serves as an examination period when the Constituent Commandery goes “on display” for the Grand Inspector General or other Grand Commandery Officers. However, it is also an important opportunity to engage the newer Sir Knight in a primary learning experience.

I can think of no better way to insure the participation of a new Templar in Commandery affairs and, in turn, insure growth of a Commandery, than to invite him to join the “veterans” and learn the pride that comes from performing the Templar ritual. When it comes time to organize this year’s inspection, why not call upon those members who were Knighted last year and ask them to join the ritualistic team? What better training ground is there for a new Sir Knight than to work side by side with a veteran ritualist, someone who knows the roles “by heart” and who can share his knowledge?

If you were not among those Templars who were present when the lights went on last month, rest assured that it is not too late to make your presence felt. September is history; October is now upon us. Use the annual inspection as a means of spreading that Masonic vigor and enthusiasm which should attend the beginning of each new Templar year. Remember, it is not important whether you have been a member for one year of fifty, whether you have presided as Commander or have, up to now, been a silent bystander.

Each year we have a renewed opportunity to grow and move forward. Let us not forfeit that opportunity. Let us rather seize it and make the most of it, and let us agree that the energy which we bring to the annual inspection will be apparent in all our activities throughout the entire year.

Ned E. Dull

October 1984
OCTOBER: This is the time of year when the changing leaves fall onto the earth, the air is crisp, and football season is in full swing. For October, Knight Templar offers an engaging article on Sir Christopher Wren, the designer of St. Paul’s Cathedral in London. Dr. Harold Blake Walker again brings us his unique insights into the world with “Insecure Security.” In “Responsibilities of Brotherhood,” we are allowed to enter the dream of a man who dreams first of destruction and then of renewal. Sir Knight Thomas Rigas presents us with a biography of William Rainey Harper, the distinguished educator. This, along with news on the Canadian Assembly and other happenings, makes up Knight Templar Magazine for this autumn month.
Surprise: The staff of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation office in Springfield, Illinois, held a surprise birthday party for Executive Director G. Wilbur Bell, P.G.M., on Thursday, August 30. They helped Sir Knight Bell celebrate his 72nd birthday which came officially on September 2.

Pace Reception: A reception for Sir Knight Thurman C. Pace, Jr., will take place on April 20, 1985, in Salaam Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., Livingston, New Jersey. Sir Knight Pace is Right Eminent Department Commander of the Northeastern Department and a dual member in Delta Damascus Commandery No. 5, Union, New Jersey, and Trinity No. 17, Plainfield, New Jersey.

Roy Wilford Riegel: Friends in Kansas inform us that Past Grand Master Roy W. Riegel was moved from the Newman Hospital in Emporia to the Veterans Hospital in Wichita, Kansas, for a possible stay of five weeks during which further tests were to be conducted. After a brief stay and a visit from Most Eminent Grand Master Ned E. Dull, Past Grand Master G. Wilbur Bell, and Assistant Grand Recorder Charles R. Neumann, he was released September 8 to return to his home in Emporia for further recuperation. Sir Knight Riegel is recovering from a stroke suffered the first week of August.

No distance of place or lapse of time can lessen the friendship of those who are thoroughly persuaded of each other's worth.

Robert Southey

Letters to the Editor

“Society of the Cincinnati”

It was with more than passing interest that I read the article on the Society of the Cincinnati in the August Knight Templar. I congratulate you on its accuracy. As the writer pointed out, many of the original members were Masons. An interesting sidelight is that the officer I represent, Captain Joseph Loring, was a member of the Lodge of St. Andrew, Boston. I, too, am a member of St. Andrew, having served as Master from 1961-63, 1971, and Deputy Grand Master of Massachusetts in 1982. Keep up the good work!

Michael Caleb Loring, Vice President Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati Prince Crossing, Massachusetts

“Something Masonic to Think About”

A recent issue of Knight Templar (September 1984) carried an article [saying] that declining membership is a result of lower moral standards. While many reasons can be offered, the underlying reason would seem to be education. In the past, education was relegated to the school teacher, the minister and the banker. These people accepted their leadership role in the community, and they were often active Masons. Unfortunately for Masonry, the new educated [men] established new organizations born out of their education. Demands on their time do not permit Masonic activities. Education has freed young people because they reject the old and insist on new experiments. I do have trouble understanding that morality is reducing membership.

Mark J. Wise, Brookville, Ohio
THE ARCHITECTURAL GENIUS OF SIR WREN

by
Eminent Knight C. P. Harrington, Secretary
The Masonic Study Society of England

This article treats Wren’s life and his achievements in England during the 17th and 18th centuries. A second article to be written by Eminent Knight Harrington and to be published at a later date will deal more specifically with Christopher Wren’s Masonic affiliations.

The explosion of unafraid inventive genius which followed the Renaissance in Europe was still echoing in 1632 when Christopher Wren was born on the 20th of October.

His father, Dr. Christopher Wren, was at that time the Rector of East Knole in Wiltshire, but about his mother little is known except that she was the daughter and heiress of Robert Cox from neighboring Fonthill, and she died two years after giving birth to Christopher, leaving her widowed husband to raise the family. Dr. Wren was himself a man of learning, a useful architect and designer of sundials. He had been appointed a Chaplain to King Charles I and in 1635 succeeded his brother Mathew as Dean of Windsor and Registrar of the Order of the Garter, Mathew Wren being advanced rapidly to become Bishop of Ely in 1638.

Young Christopher Wren, it will be seen, spent his early years in a very Royalist, Anglican and learned environment, with his formal education probably being by way of a private tutor, intermingled with a stay of a few years at Westminster School.

In the Parentalia, a volume of memoirs of Sir Christopher Wren written by his son, it is claimed that at the age of thirteen Christopher had invented many items of great interest such as astronomical instruments, pneumatic pumps, sundials, a deaf and dumb finger language and

Young Christopher Wren
Entered Oxford at Seventeen

entered Wadham Cottage, Oxford, as a Gentleman Commoner at the age of seventeen. The Warden of Wadham was Dr. John Wilkins, an intellectual who made his college a focal point for the young savants of the day, and who held the belief that one day men would cross the seas in underwater ships, travel in aerial machines and reach the moon.

In this glittering arena Wren was readily accepted by his
contemporaries, and it appears that the academic rules were relaxed to permit Christopher to take his Master of Arts in two years instead of the usual four, achieving at the same time a Fellowship of All Souls.

Whilst at All Souls in the ensuing years, his researches into astronomy, mathematics and matters of applied science were wide ranging and prodigious, attracting the attention of his learned peers. It was about this time that his skill as a draftsman manifested itself and whilst not a creative artist, his illustrations of biological specimens and other work, with attention to detail, clarity of line and accuracy of presentation, were truly remarkable.

Threading its way through this stimulating time was Wren's very close association with the newly established Oxford academic club, devoted to gentlemen who were "thinkers and experimenters" and which was later to blossom into the Royal Society when the monarchy was restored after the turmoil of the Civil Wars and the Cromwellian era. Wren became a President of the Royal Society in 1680 and throughout his long association presented many papers and was one of the prime movers in its foundation.

The first public appointment that Wren accepted was the Chair of Astronomy at Gresham College in London, but when that building was turned into a Roundhead cavalry barracks, he returned to All Souls to continue his researches.

The Restoration of the Monarchy occurred in 1660, and in 1661 Wren was elected to the eminent academic height of the Savilian professorship of astronomy at Oxford and in the same year was honored by the D C L degrees at both Oxford and Cambridge. However, Wren's association and work for the embryo Royal Society in London came to the notice of Charles II who took a great interest in such matters, and he favored Wren with several important commissions.

It was at this period that Wren started to blossom forth as a designer of buildings, and his early experiments with the properties of materials and his mathematical approach to the problems of engineering were combined in the design for the Sheldonian Theatre in Oxford, commissioned under the patronage of Gilbert Sheldon, Bishop of London. The advanced engineering techniques he used delighted and amazed, but the external appearance caused some slight criticism amongst the entrenched aesthetics of the period.

Wren never did things by halves. Being basically a scientist and a theorist before becoming a practitioner, he travelled...
widely and wisely in Europe, studying the styles of buildings and discussing matters of design with the architects of the time. Fortunately, Wren was in Paris in the year of the Plague in 1665, and his report on the restoration of Old St. Paul’s which he had been requested to make by the commission (set up in 1663 to supervise the repair of that old decaying building) was completed in May of 1666. However, in September of that year, the city of London was virtually destroyed by the Great Fire. History will always be thankful that there was available a man of genius who had the scholarship, vision and the practical knowledge to aid in the aftermath of that massive conflagration.

It is most unfortunate that Wren’s design for the new town plan of the city of London was not followed, perhaps due to vested interests of the city fathers and merchants. However, his increasing skill in the design of many buildings of importance around the country and the genius of his advice on the restoration of the decaying fabric of existing buildings, such as Salisbury Cathedral, resulted in his being consulted on the restoration of the gutted remnants of old St. Paul’s Cathedral. Such a restoration, on mature consideration, simply would not do, and it was decided to construct a new building to the glory of God. There was no question in the minds of the ecclesiastical authorities as to who should be the architect. In 1669, Dr. Wren was appointed Surveyor General of the Royal Works by the ever-discerning King. Thereupon he took a greater part in assisting the city with the design of specific buildings of importance, and in the same year, being now well and truly established, he married Faith, who was the daughter of Sir Thomas Coghill, and who gave birth to two sons.

Wren was responsible for the design of many London churches, but with St. Paul’s, his original plan had to be modified and amended time and time again to please the various tastes of interested and influential people, much to the exasperation of the drafting genius. However, at last overcoming the entrenched parochial-minded amateurs, the foundation stone of St. Paul’s was laid on the 21st of June, 1675.

Wren had been knighted in 1672 and was busily engaged in the design of buildings of import and significance throughout the country and continued this work through the succeeding reigns of James II, William & Mary, and Queen Anne. In this period, Wren also tried rather halfheartedly to enter Parliament but failed to get elected. In 1676 his wife died of the prevalent smallpox and in the following year he married the daughter of Lord Fitzwilliam, and this union was blessed by the birth of a daughter. A strengthening of his political resolve came in 1685 and he became a Member of Parliament for Plympton, mainly to utilize parliamentary legalities for the betterment of works connected with his Great Cathedral.

During this time, the phoenix of St. Paul’s was slowly rising from → → →
the ashes. Shortage of finance, matters of imposed design variation and external meddling did not help Wren, but in 1708 the last stone was placed on the Lantern above the great dome and the building was virtually completed except for the interior work in 1711. However, the accession of the Hanoverian George I in 1714 brought with it a chill wind to the glowing career of Sir Christopher Wren. King George I was not popular, instructed or able. His ignorance of English compelled him to leave much to his ministers, and his normal common sense was often overridden by ill-informed confidences from his own family. The breath of an unfounded political scandal had recently touched Wren, and he also found his advice and position increasingly undermined by a new wave of commissioners and others connected with the building of St. Paul’s and the offices of the Surveyor General.

In the resulting friction, Wren was dismissed in 1718 from his lifelong appointment as Surveyor General and insultingly replaced by a politician of mediocre talent. Wren was 86 at this time and retired to live quietly at Hampton with the occasional journey to London where on February 25, 1723, he was found dead in his townhouse on St. Johns Street.

Sir Christopher Wren had been a man of humility and incredible talent. He had requested a funeral without pomp, and despite this and the ill-directed wrangling against him in his latter years, he was given a dignified and impressive funeral, buried beneath a simple stone slab in the crypt of his cathedral. Above the slab was placed a small marble tablet upon which was inscribed in Latin,

Below is laid the Builder of the Church and City, Christopher Wren, who lived above ninety years, not for himself but for the public good. READER, IF YOU SEARCH FOR A MONUMENT, LOOK ABOUT YOU.

Christopher P. Harrington resides at “Crawfordsburn,” Woodlands Road, Bickley, Bromley, Kent, BR1 2AE, England, and is a Past Preceptor in the Order of Knights Templar there. He also holds the rank of Captain of the Guard in the Province of Surrey.

Goshen Chapter, O.E.S., Reception

Goshen Chapter No. 397, Order of Eastern Star in Goshen, Indiana, hosted a September 1 reception honoring Sir Knight David J. Miller, P.G.C. (Indiana), at the Concord Performing Arts Center, Elkhart. Sir Knight Miller is Past Patron of Goshen Chapter and Past Grand Patron of Indiana’s Grand Eastern Star Chapter, but he is also known by Templars and Eastern Star ladies as Most Worthy Grand Patron of the General Grand Chapter, O.E.S. Along with Most Worthy Grand Matron Carol C. Strizek, Sir Knight Miller has been instrumental in securing Eastern Star support for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. Thus far this triennium, the O.E.S. as raised in excess of $300,000 for the Templar charity.

Ohio Scholarships Now at Franklin

The Scholarship Program of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, F. & A.M., has added Franklin University to its list of schools receiving scholarships. Grand Master C. Rolland Lattanner presented a check for $1,000 to officials of the Columbus, Ohio university making it the 31st school added to the program.

Franklin University is a private, independent institution with a total enrollment of more than 5,200, and its major academic emphasis lies in business administration and engineering.

The Scholarship Program is supported by the contributions received from the 215,000 Ohio Masons. In the 1984-85 school year, students will receive $31,000 through this program.
It is comforting at times to view the present in the perspective of history and to discover that the men and women of other ages have felt as insecure as we do now. Isaiah, the prophet, wrote to his anxious people in the name of God, urging them to “Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God.” Anxiety and insecurity have been characteristic of every generation. Strickland Gillian’s brief poem “On the Antiquity of Microbes,” says almost everything that needs to be said on the matter:

Adam
Had’em.

Disturbing social microbes were characteristic of the world of Isaiah in the seventh century, B.C. Grasping empires were on the march and there were “wars and rumors of war.” There was corruption in Israel and Judah. Juvenile delinquency and political dishonesty were rampant. The security of the ancients was altogether insecure.

What troubled Isaiah in his time was the assumption that people could be independently secure. They thought they could manipulate things in their own favor. They were like the rich man Jesus described. He had a good year on the farm and his crops were abundant. He decided, therefore, to build ample storage space for them and then settle down to a life of quiet security and enjoyment. Jesus called him a fool because he thought he was safe.

Unfortunately, everything depends on everything else. We are, as Walt Whitman noted, “the clutch’d together” so that my security depends on yours and yours on mine. My material security and yours depend on the stability of society. Corrupt policemen, judges or politicians threaten my security even though my barns may be full. As Jesus noted, there always are thieves who “break through and steal.”

The folly of the rich man in the Master’s parable was his assumption that he could be safe in isolation and in independence. Therefore, he could “eat, drink and be merry” without responsibility. He thought he did not need to worry about others who might be hungry or miserable. He did not need to feel responsible for decent government or for the international policies of his nation. All he wanted or needed, he assumed, was safety for himself.

Actually, the more we seek independent security in isolation, the more insecure we are. Our safety is threatened when we retreat from responsibility for the order and decency of society which provides the environment for our lives. If we abandon government to the politicians, many of whom are intent on their own security at our expense, in due time we get corruption in the courts, scandal in government agencies, and a city or nation caught in the grip of those who care only for themselves.
When every man is for himself, only the devil takes the social order for himself. Nobody feels particularly responsible for the moral tone of society and everyone in his separate star looks after himself. The result is delinquency, drug traffic, chronic inflation and other assorted social ills. Everybody says, "Somebody ought to do something," but we all are so busy trying to be secure in isolation that nobody does anything. Of course, we are undermining the security of society on which our safety depends.

The truth is that security in isolation is beyond the possible. Bound as we are in "the bundle of life" each with each other, our mutual security hinges on our willingness to accept moral and social responsibility. In a discussion of education, Professor Gordon Hullfish of Ohio State University remarked some time ago, "The essential challenge of our time is to the conduct and character of American life as a whole.... what is basic is that the people... give the democratic aspiration a sporting chance to survive."

In the economy of God, that "democratic aspiration" has a chance to survive only when we know we were made for the security that exists in fellowship with each other and with God. Our preoccupied self-concern is a violation of our highest selfhood because it threatens fellowship and understanding. Our deepest security lies not in the selfish safety we often seek, but in a comradeship of trust inspired by mutual trustworthiness. The power and love of God, as Isaiah understood, undergirds and sustains us, but not when we are dedicated to the pursuit of isolated security. The love of God sustains us when we trust Him and are loyal to the ultimate values of our human heritage.

Washington Centennial Medal

The Grand Commandery of the State of Washington, founded in 1887, will celebrate its Centennial in 1987, and they have commissioned a special medal to commemorate the event.

The commemorative medal, designed by Harry Klintner, depicts a mounted knight wielding a sword and surrounded by the title of the Grand Commandery. The reverse side portrays Washington State landmarks and industries, including Mount Rainier, fishing, logging, and apple production arranged in a circle around the Knight Templar insignia.

Four Washington Commanderies petitioned in 1887 to form a Grand Commandery: Seattle No. 2 in Seattle; Cataract No. 3 in Spokane; Commandery No. 1 in Walla Walla; and Ivanhoe No. 4 in Tacoma. In that year, Charles Roome, G.M., delegated his authority to Rocky F. Earhart, P.G.C., from Oregon Commandery No. 1, Portland, to act as his special deputy. Sir Knight Earhart was to organize and constitute the Grand Commandery in what was then the Washington Territory, and this was accomplished in Vancouver on Thursday, June 2, 1887, A.O. 769.

This medal may be obtained by writing to Robert J. Johnson, 207 North Anderson, Ellensburg, Washington 98926 at a price of $5.00, postpaid.

What sweetness is left in life, if you take away friendship? Robbing life of friendship is like robbing the world of the sun. —Cicero

The Reverend and Sir Knight Walker lives at
425 Grove Street, Evanston, Illinois 60201.

October 1984
I dreamt a dream of wisdom and truth . . .

RESPONSIBILITIES OF BROTHERHOOD

by

Sir Knight and Dr. Bobby J. Demott

Coeur de Lion Commandery No. 9, Knoxville, Tennessee

After active lives, men approach retirement with varied feelings. Some think they are being turned “out to pasture” without wanting to go; others are anxious to throw off the burdens of a hectic employment situation. Still others feel they have responsibilities. This may cause the subconscious to come into play. One man, after a restless night, finally dozed off, only to experience the following vivid and meaningful dream.

“I was lying semi-conscious in a dingy, dirty, smoggy room. My immediate thought was to be still until I was aware of my surroundings and then find the exit. But an inner voice urged me to arise, survey the scene and then take proper action. Dizzy-headed, I struggled to my feet. When my eyes became accustomed to the semi-darkness, I saw that I was dressed in ragged clothing; my ankle-high shoes were torn; my shirt, faded; my jacket, well-worn and with missing buttons. The room was about 40 by 60 feet in size. The floor was cluttered with broken statues, tarnished plaques and faded, moldy, half-decayed paintings. Among these ruins I was able to recognize only the symbols of Wisdom and Justice. They lay mutilated, broken, shattered and strewn about as if barbarians might have, in years gone by, caused the destruction and desecration of a museum or temple. Alongside the broken artifacts and on the walls, I saw various forms of graffiti signifying ignorance, deceit, selfishness, cowardice, vulgarity, cruelty, falsehood, unconcern, greed, servitude, hate, dishonor, disgrace, defeat and demoralization. Among the rubble I found fragments of tools and devices of workmen; all mistreated and broken beyond repair. Not far from me lay a pile of concave-shaped fragments, which, prior to its destruction, might have been a sphere. I was confused as to what had happened, and why. But no one was present to tell me.

“As I looked for an exit to leave the ghastly place, a small light appeared in the far corner of the room—a horizontal slit which took the form of a half-circle, concave on the lower side. The light became brighter and I soon recognized the ‘all seeing eye’ of the One who knows all and sees all. Coming closer to me, the light took the form of a man, dressed in white, glowing in radiance. The splendor of the form and the peaceful expression which it emanated caused me to conclude that the form before me must be God himself, revealed to me in human form.

“Soon the light became very intense and a rumbling sound became so loud that for a few minutes I was unable to see or hear. The noise then abated, the light intensity faded, my sight was gradually restored, and I beheld a marvelous restoration of that which had been in ruins. In place of the scribbled letters signifying ignorance, I saw a beautiful marble column named Wisdom. The word deceit had been replaced with a beautiful picture of a small child whose innocent face symbolized Truth. Where the ugly drawing of selfishness had appeared, a person stood holding a horn of plenty, offering food and drink to the hungry and thirsty. The drawing of a
withdrawn coward had been replaced with a plaque in honor of the many persons who were willing to sacrifice their lives, if need be, that their loved ones might live in peace. In the place of vulgarity hung a beautiful painting of the Mona Lisa. Where cruelty had been shown, a statue stood of a kindly boy guiding a blind man down a rock-strewn path. In the place of the evil picture of falsehood hung a painting of a library and a laboratory where men searched for that which could be proven. In place of the ugly scratw 'I got mine, good luck to you,' which to me meant unconcern, I found a plaque inscribed to the honor of a missionary who had given her worldly goods and her life-long services to aid unfortunate children. In place of the miserly picture of greed, I found a picture of people working together in harmony for the common good of all. The drawing of a man using a whip on other men had been replaced with a painting of a pioneer family obviously traveling to the West to make a new home. In the place of a Satan-like picture of hate, I saw Joy in the form of a Norman Rockwell painting of a young boy admiring what obviously was his first pair of new shoes. In the place of dishonor, disgrace, defeat and demoralization, I saw a picture of happy soldiers, laden with their back packs, coming down a gang-plank from a troop transport ship, being welcomed home by grateful citizens. I looked at the place where the pile of concave fragments had lain and I saw a complete sphere resting on its axis, rotating slowly, showing oceans, forests, deserts and plains.

"I turned my eyes to the God-man and saw that he held a book and a cross. Looking at myself, I saw that I was no longer dressed in rags, but that I was clothed as a craftsman or workman. In my arm I held a book, in one hand a pencil, tablet and T-square. Strapped about my waist was a belt to which was fastened the various tools of the craftsman. Across my shoulder hung a rope and pulley. On my shoulder, I carried a ladder.

"With the world-sphere between us, the God-man spoke gently to me: 'My son and brother, you stand at the threshold of practicing those noble deeds which lie within you. Many people say they follow my teachings, but they are unwilling to take up the workman's tools. They bear the book, but not the tools; they believe they are sufficient if they know me intellectually, but not practically. But, as for you, my brother, I have great confidence that you can and will lead a noble life. Therefore, to you I give a special charge. You must recognize that you cannot have my book if you do not bear my tools; neither can you have my tools if you do not bear my book. By your works you will show your faith. You have before you a world which has been created for your indwelling; therefore, I charge you to use the book and the tools for the betterment of mankind. As your mind improves, so will your lot in life. It is your bounden duty to love and serve both your God and your Brother, as others before you have done.'

"As he spoke, I felt the heavy burden of the book in my arm, the pen and tablet in my hand, and the heavy tools at my other side, and I said, 'Oh God, take me unto yourself now; into your heavenly home and unburden me of this heavy load!'

"But he said to me, 'My son, you are also my brother, and you have an obligation to your many other brothers who are not able to bear these burdens. Your strength will increase and these burdens will not be heavy. The rewards of their use will come to you in a marvelous feeling of accomplishment, a peaceful feeling of contentment and a joyous feeling of happiness. In due time you will be relieved of these heavy burdens and you shall have the serene glory that you shall have earned. But for now, my
Iowa Masons Lay Cornerstone

Some 500 Masons, University of Iowa officials, and spectators endured 95° heat on Saturday, August 4, when Grand Master C. Glen Brown and the Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F. & A.M., layed the cornerstone for the Ronald McDonald House. Located in Iowa City, Iowa, the Ronald McDonald House will be built adjacent to the Carver-Hawkeye Arena on the University campus.

The Children’s Family Living Foundation will administer the facility, built for use as a “home away from home” for the parents of terminally ill children being treated in nearby hospitals.

Two hundred Masonic Lodges donated over $30,000 to aid a statewide campaign in raising $1.27 million to build and operate the Home.

The cornerstone, depicting the Masonic square and compasses and dated A.L. 5984, rests on a table during the dedication speech of Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Iowa C. Glen Brown.

... BROTHERHOOD

brother, you must realize that there is no failure except in no longer trying and no defeat except from within yourself. Therefore, I charge you to persevere and to take on a positive attitude concerning your life here on earth.”

“The God-figure then left my presence and I stood amazed at his marvelous works. His words of encouragement and his charge to me caused me to gain strength. Suddenly the Great Book and the tools were no longer heavy but were very much a part of my being.”

Sir Knight Demott lives at 5439 Lance Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee 37919.
CANADIAN TEMPLAR AND RED CROSS ANNUAL ASSEMBLIES

Cyprus Preceptory No. 33, Knights Templar in Canada, was the host Preceptory for the 101st Annual Assembly of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada held August 18-21, 1984, in Calgary, Alberta. Frederic Charles Morrison, Nova Scotia, presided over the committee meetings and business sessions and ushered in the second year of his two-year term as Supreme Grand Master.


On Sunday, August 19, the Canadian Sir Knights and their guests, including the Grand Master of the Great Priory of Scotland, Robert McIntyre, formed lines and marched one-half mile to the "Cenotaph" in Calgary’s Central Park for a wreath-laying ceremony. The "Cenotaph," pictured at right with Templar honor guard, is a memorial to Canadian Veterans of World Wars I and II. From this site, they proceeded to Knox United Church for the annual Divine Service.

Following the 1984 Assembly of the Sovereign Great Priory, the Grand Imperial Conclave of Canada, Red Cross of Constantine, was convened at the Masonic Temple in Calgary on August 22. The Illustrious Knight Companion John B. Flewelling, G.C.C., presiding in the place of M.I. Grand Sovereign Frederick Scott, G.C.C., who had been hospitalized the previous night. (Knight Companion Scott is now at home in Hamilton, Ontario.) Joseph S. Lewis, K.C.C., K.G.C., M.I. Grand Sovereign of the United Grand Imperial Council, R.C.C. for the United States of America, Mexico, and the Philippines, was received as a special guest and was later presented with a plaque as a
newly elected Honorary Past Grand Sovereign of the Grand Imperial Conclave.

The Grand Sovereign was succeeded in office by W. C. Kingsley Crick, Langley, British Columbia, with Thomas W. Gibson, London, Ontario, elected Grand Viceroy. The Assembly concluded with a formal banquet in the Crystal Ballroom of Calgary’s Palliser Hotel.

The 1985 Canadian Templar and Red Cross Assemblies will be held August 25-28 at Sudbury, Ontario.

Imperial Shrine Elections

The Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of North America, has elected Gene Bracewell Imperial Potentate at their 110th Imperial Council Session, held in Boston on July 4.

Brother Bracewell is a native of Atlanta, Georgia, and is the President of National Chemical, a company specializing in industrial water treatments. He attended the University of Georgia and Emory University where he studied chemistry and biology. He holds an honorary doctorate in humane letters from Southern College in Memphis, Tennessee.

Sir Knight Bracewell is a member of Olivet Commandery No. 27, Dublin, Georgia, and is a Past Potentate and past Treasurer of Yaarab Shrine Temple.

The A.A.O.N.M.S. has also elected Sir Knight Burton Ravellette, Jr., to the office of Imperial Outer Guard. This office is the beginning of the Imperial line which leads to the office of Imperial Potentate.

Brother Ravellette of Pine Bluff, Arkansas, is a licensed broker for Ravellette Real Estate and the owner of Astro Bowling Center. Active in community affairs, Ravellette is a commissioned deputy of Jefferson County as well as Chairman of the Pine Bluff Auditorium and Convention Center Complex Commission.

In addition to his Imperial Shrine activities, Sir Knight Ravellette is Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Commandery of Arkansas and a Past Commander of Damascus Commandery No. 8, Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

The 1985 Annual Convention of the A.A.O.N.M.S. will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, and is scheduled for the first week of July.
91 Awards and Counting

Sir Knight Carl Thornburg, a member of Redford Commandery No. 55, Detroit, Michigan, has won six medals at the 1984 national YMCA U.S. Masters Swimming and Diving Championship in Bowling Green, Ohio, this spring. Brother Thornburg is 72 and has won over 90 trophies, medals and ribbons in aquatic sports in the past five years. Previous to the YMCA competition this year, he won seven gold medals in his class in the Michigan U.S. Masters Championship Swim Meet. He has competed in the Michigan Senior Olympics, and won eight gold and five silver medals in five years of competition. At the Clearwater, Florida, YMCA, where Sir Knight Thornburg spends five months of each year, he completed 2,900 yards in a One-Hour World-Wide Masters Swim, and tied for 13th place in the world in his age group.

In addition, Carl Thornburg judges diving events, is a certified swimming official, and teaches springboard diving at high schools and area YMCAs. According to Thornburg, during the depression days he traveled with an aquatic exhibition group performing clown diving and dare-devil stunts.

Joe Biondi, a world record-holder, coaches Carl while he lives in Clearwater, and Carl passes what he has learned on to his friends and students in Michigan. The athletic Sir Knight Thornburg says he swims “to glorify God in body and spirit, and to maintain my health.” In addition, “I like [to swim] for its health-promoting benefits as well as the social aspects.”

Portsmouth Shrine Club Coin

On August 11, 1984, the Portsmouth Shrine Club of Portsmouth, Ohio, held a ceremony honoring Vernal G. Riffe, Jr., Speaker of the House of Representatives of the State of Ohio.

The 32 men who were initiated into the Shrine in the ceremony at Cincinnati’s Syrian Temple were each given a commemorative coin depicting Brother Riffe, a 33° Scottish Rite Mason, N.M.J. Congressman Riffe has served as Speaker of the House longer than any other Speaker in Ohio history. The coins are made of bronze and are one and one-half inches in diameter.

Some coins are still available and may be purchased for $6.00 each by sending orders to Marvin R. Davis, Route 6 Box 280, Portsmouth, Ohio 45662.

Pierpont Edwards Medal Awarded

Atlanta Commandery Coin

In the State of Georgia alone, the Knights Templar Eye Foundation expended over $260,000 in 1983. These funds were raised through the dedicated efforts of many Sir Knights in Georgia and throughout the country.

To raise more funds for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Atlanta Commandery No. 9 is offering a special coin. This copper and bronze coin features the insignia of the order on the front and the Eye Foundation insignia on the reverse.

Coins may be purchased by sending a $5.00 check, payable to Atlanta Commandery No. 9, to Harry Wilmer, 2099 Juanita Street, Decatur, Georgia 30032.

Ophthalmologist Recognized

A. Edward Maumenee, M.D., has been named to the Good Housekeeping list of the “120 Best Doctors in America.” The April edition of Good Housekeeping Magazine names the doctors in accordance with a survey of over 400 doctors across the country, asking them to pick the best practitioners in 24 specialities. An ophthalmologist, Dr. Maumenee is one of the five best in the nation, according to the survey. He is a professor of ophthalmology and former director of the Wilmer Ophthalmological Institute at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Maryland. Dr. Maumenee heads the newly formed Scientific Advisory Committee for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

James Green Heads IMMC Board

The Board of Trustees of Illinois Masonic Medical Center has elected James D. Green president of the board, replacing Warren N. Barr, Sr., who resigned after serving the board for 22 years.

Sir Knight Green, a native Chicagoan and member of St. Bernard Commandery No. 35, Chicago, Illinois, has been on the IMMC’s Board of Trustees since 1966. Brother Green has served as the board’s first and second vice presidents, and as chairman of the Joint Conference and Planning Committee. He holds a Master of Science in Civil Engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Among the achievements of his engineering career are his supervision of the remodeling of a building in London, England, for a branch bank, and he was also in charge of constructing a 31-story office building for the Northern Trust Company in Chicago.

James Green’s civic interests over the years have included serving as the chairman of the Board of Governors of the Chicago Unit of Shriners Hospitals for Crippled Children 1971 through 1976 and now as Chairman Emeritus.

Janesville Dedicates Elevator

A new elevator in the Janesville, Wisconsin Masonic Temple was dedicated in a ceremony on August 31. Funds for the project came from memorials and gifts. Those participating in the dedication ceremony included members of Eastern Star, White Shrine of Jerusalem, Order of Amaranth, and Job’s Daughters; also Western Star Lodge No. 14 and Janesville Lodge No. 55, the Southern Wisconsin Shrine Club, and Janesville Commandery No. 2, Knights Templar.
“Fritz” A. White, P.G.C.

News was received last month of the passing of Sir Knight Francis A. “Fritz” White, Past Grand Commander of Texas, and member of the Advisory Committee on Public Relations for the Grand Encampment. Sir Knight White died in Texas City on August 19 at the age of 64.

A retired chemist from Amoco Oil Company, Sir Knight White was Raised in Texas City Lodge No. 1118, A.F. & A.M., in 1942. He proceeded through both York and Scottish Rites, and his appendent membership included Red Cross of Constantine, Royal Order of Scotland, K.Y.C.H., and H.R.A.K.T.P.

Sir Knight White is survived by Mrs. Carol White, his wife of 33 years.

Life’s Journey

When this journey is ended, as when life’s troubled dream is over, we shall enter through the Veils of the Tabernacle into the haven where we would be, and be rewarded for our labors now.

Anonymous

Needlepoint Kits Still Available

Several years ago the Grand Encampment began offering needlepoint kits for sale. These kits include a printed canvas with the Knight Templar emblem in red, white, yellow and black on a white background. Kits are still available and include the printed canvas, needle and yarn (finished size is 10 by 10 inches). The cost of a single kit is $10.00 postpaid, or $9.50 each in lots of three or more. Orders may be sent to Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U.S.A., 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604.
THE GUIDING FORCE BEHIND THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

by

Sir Knight Thomas Rigas, M.P.S.
St. Bernard Commandery No. 35, Chicago, Illinois

The history of the University of Chicago cannot be fully told without recognition of the dynamic professor who became its first president, William R. Harper.

Both by direct impact and by the reactions it produces, the character of the man determined the character of the University, in its original plan and later as a mature institution. Hebraic scholar and teacher of the Old Testament, Harper made a major premise of biblical scholarships at Chicago: God himself approved of "the search for truth." Under Harper, the University (which was unofficially known as "Harper's University") was to be prophet, priest, and sage of democracy, dedicated to the discovery and dissemination of knowledge for the good of mankind.

The University could not flourish on idealism alone. For the first fifteen years of its existence, it was in an extremely precarious position. Nearly the richest, it was surely the neediest American institution of learning.

Harper assembled a faculty of brilliant investigators and teachers who were persuaded to Chicago often to discover that promised resources were not to be had. The life of the University depended upon a balance between enterprise and prudence, between greatness of intention and restraint in act. But it survived — thanks no less to the guiding genius of William Rainey Harper.

William Harper was born at New Concord, Muskingum County, Ohio on July 26, 1856. His ancestors on both sides of the family were Scotch-Irish, who originally came from Ireland in 1795 and settled first in western Pennsylvania with others of that hardy Presbyterian stock. His grandfather, Samuel, relocated after some years to a farm about two miles north of the village of New Concord, Ohio. In 1848, his father, also named

William Rainey Harper, a member of Ashlar Lodge No. 308, A.F. & A. M. in Chicago, dedicated most of his life to the advancement of university education.

Samuel, became a resident of the village nearby, marrying Ellen Elizabeth Rainey, a member of another family which emigrated from Ireland, first to New York and later to Cambridge, Ohio. William was the first-born...
child of this marriage, and was named after his maternal grandfather.

Samuel Harper, his father, a dry-goods merchant, was a leading citizen of the village, a pillar in the United Presbyterian Church, and a moving spirit in the affairs of Muskingum College, a small denominational school at New Concord. Young Harper attended this institution for his early education, entering the preparatory level when he was eight years old. Avidly pursuing his studies, he easily held his own with more mature students and was admitted to the freshman class by age ten. The school was primarily for those training for the ministry of the denomination, and the study of the Bible in several languages was a prominent feature of the curriculum. Harper impressed everyone when at the age of fourteen he received a Bachelor of Arts degree and delivered his commencement oration in Hebrew.

For three years after graduation he remained at home, clerking in his father's store, pursuing favorite studies under tutors, and leading the New Concord Cornet Band. In the fall of 1873 he entered Yale College for graduate study in philology, and at age nineteen he received a Doctorate degree of philosophy from Yale. While at Yale College, he studied under Professor William Dwight Whitney, to whose inspiration he always felt greatly indebted.

In the same year, he married Ella Paul, daughter of Reverend David Paul, the president of Muskingum College and his first teacher in Hebrew. He then relocated to Macon, Tennessee, where he spent a year as principal of the Masonic College. With this experience as a teacher, he accepted an invitation to become a tutor in the preparatory department of Denison University, relocating to Granville, Ohio, in the fall of 1876.

Here he came under the inspiration of the president of the college, Reverend E. Benjamin Andrews, the second of the great teachers who influenced his life. A fortunate situation soon made him principal of the preparatory department, and the two men, working harmoniously together, stirred the institution to its depths. They introduced many innovations, quickened the intellectual life of their pupils, drew many students to the college, and exerted a wonderful influence over those under them, making every student of either a friend for life. At Granville, Harper also united with the Baptist Church, thus coming into connection with the denomination under whose auspices he was to have his great opportunities in the field of education. Before his plans for Granville Academy had really begun to develop, he was called to the Baptist Union Theological Seminary at Morgan Park, Illinois (now a part of the city of Chicago), where he came under the influence of a third great teacher, Dr. George W. Northrup.

At Morgan Park, Harper proceeded to carry out two educational ideas which had taken firm hold upon his mind—one, the belief in the value of the inductive method of teaching languages, and two, the determination to awaken fresh interest in Hebrew by means of instruction by correspondence. He authored many texts and periodicals on the Hebrew language and literature, organized a correspondence school of Hebrew, and started summer schools of Hebrew. At the same time, he began to associate others with himself in a plan out of which eventually grew inductive textbooks in Latin, Greek, and English. Harper had now established his credentials as a Hebrew scholar and in Semitic languages. Soon after, he became principal at Chautaugua College of Liberal Arts, and later principal of the entire school system. He was called to the faculty of Yale University, and before very long, was sustaining a dual membership at that institution, as professor of the Semitic languages and as Woolsey professor of
This magnificent hall is located in Harper Library on the University of Chicago’s gothic-style campus. Originally housing the entire university book collection, it now houses a special undergraduate collection. It was built in 1910 and named in honor of William Rainey Harper, who established the standard of excellence that made such a library possible.

biblical literature. Here again, as at Granville, Morgan Park, and Chautaugua, he aroused great enthusiasm among his pupils, and by means of public lectures, delivered in the principal cities of the country and at various colleges, awakened a widespread interest in the study of the Bible. Then came his career at the University of Chicago, whose history during the early years of its existence is largely the biography of Harper himself.

In becoming the University of Chicago’s first president in 1891, he was credited with being the guiding genius of this institution during its formative years, and with vast funds at his disposal, Harper was able to recruit an outstanding faculty. He was committed to fostering advanced instruction and research at the University, and maintained a policy whereby promotion for members of the faculty was directly related to their scholarly research.

Every detail of the University’s educational policy was worked out under Harper’s careful supervision; every building had his approving stamp; every instructor was known by him personally and received appointment on his recommendation. The University of Chicago was the fruition of Harper’s lifetime labors for which his early years and experiences had so well prepared him.

Unfortunately, William Rainey Harper’s life was relatively short. He died in 1906 in Chicago, Illinois. In his less than fifty years of life, this remarkable person was an inspiring teacher, a successful author, a founder of journals, a wonderfully stimulating lecturer on biblical topics, and one of the greatest of American university presidents, a leading spirit in the National Educational Association and the Religious Education Association, and other organizations for advancement in education. As a religious leader, William Rainey Harper exerted vast influence in Sunday school circles and in general religious education. He was a patriotic and active citizen, a devoted parent, and a friendly and companionable man.

In all his life, he was preeminently a teacher — and as such he desired to be known and appreciated. But the demands of his position forced him to become an administrator, and he was a successful one. As his life’s work is reviewed, however, it is perfectly clear that his dominant role was that of a teacher, and for that he will be remembered more and more as the years go by.
... HARPER

When the University was ten years old, Harper summed up what remained to be done: “Much, very much, almost everything.” Dying in his forty-ninth year, Harper left this task to his successors, as his own work was transmuted into legend, not of diminished hope, but of immense vitality: of golden age and a guiding genius.

In his personal life and administrative career, William Harper’s personality was a consistent reflection of the verse, “The truth shall make you free” (John 8:32b). From first to last, in spirit and in practice, Harper’s central allegiance was to service of truth.

It would be a noble accomplishment for any man to build the University of Chicago. It would be sufficient reason for praise that one had stimulated his whole generation to greater interest in the Bible. But if his own wish were respected, the highest praise would be given for his work as a teacher — and that will live longest, because it will repeat itself forever in the lives of the many whom he stimulated to higher purpose.

Sir Knight Risas lives at 2600 West Farwell Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60645.

One Century Ago

Several members and friends of Milwaukee Assembly No. 111, S.O.O.B., had the pleasure of entertaining a fellow member on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

Mrs. Elsie Holbrook was born on August 22, 1884 and became a member of Milwaukee Assembly No. 111 on November 10, 1948. Her late husband Benjamin was a member of Wisconsin Commandery No. 1 of Milwaukee. Her grandson, Jeffery, traveled from New Jersey to attend the happy occasion. The cakes were provided by Milwaukee Assembly and the punch and coffee by the ladies of Wisconsin Commandery.

Chester and Darlene Cholka, members of Faith Chapter No. 286, O.E.S. of Milwaukee, provided concertina music for listening and a sing-along. Mrs. George Wright, the Assembly Recorder, was responsible for all the arrangements, and Elsie enjoyed the many cards and gifts as well as the refreshments.

International York Rite Council Discusses Guidelines

The International York Rite Council held its Cooperation Meeting on September 7, 1984, at the Canterbury Inn in Wichita, Kansas. This meeting was held to discuss revisions of the “Guidelines for Regional Conferences.” Those attending the Cooperation Meeting agreed to revise the item concerning notification of the York Rite Regional Conferences. These mailings, which go to all present and past officers, will now come from the Grand Encampment. The General Grand Council and General Grand Chapter will furnish mailing lists accordingly, beginning with the 1985-86 year.

Attending the Cooperation Meeting from the Grand Encampment were Ned E. Dull, Chairman and Most Eminent Grand Master; Donald H. Smith, Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master; Marvin E. Fowler, Right Eminent Grand Generalissimo; G. Wilbur Bell, Most Eminent Past Grand Master; Charles R. Neumann, Right Eminent Assistant Grand Recorder; and Blair C. Mayford, Right Eminent South Central Department Commander.

Dr. Walter H. Winchester, General Grand King of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International, was in attendance along with Bernard F. Mandlebaum, Deputy General Grand Master, and Bruce H. Hunt, General Grand Recorder, of the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons International.
How to overcome them...

BLIND SPOTS

by

General Bruce C. Clarke, U.S.A. (Ret.)
Columbia Commandery No. 2, Washington, D.C.

Sir Knight and General Bruce C. Clarke’s military career spanned some 40 years, dating from 1925 when he was commissioned through the U.S. Military Academy, to service in World War II and Korea, to his appointment as Commander in Chief of the U.S. Army in Europe, and Commander of the Central Army Group, NATO, when he retired in 1962. In that time, he was manager of men and operations, and he developed several sound principles on how a commander can best govern, and serve, those in his charge. The principles ring true no matter what the service or what the title of the officers involved.

Before I retired from the Army, I had served 18 years as a general officer. With the exception of the three years I served on the staff of a high command, I was a commander during this entire period. From these command vantage points, I systematically studied the organization, techniques, and conduct of high command responsibilities.

To my satisfaction, I early arrived at this truth: Every commander has blind spots.

By blind spots, I mean those areas of command in which the commander fails to exercise good judgment, proper attention, or discrimination. That is not to say that the commander is deliberately careless or imprudent. It is often due to lack of experience in the demands of his new command.

A commander must weigh each of his many responsibilities, assigning them different degrees of importance. Some of them he considers very important and therefore personally devotes a lot of attention to them. Some he considers as deserving ordinary importance, and some he barely notices. The accomplishment of these latter two categories of responsibilities he leaves to his staff and his subordinates.

Nonetheless, problems neglected in these two areas — responsibilities of ordinary or minor importance — often erupt to plague his command. This is especially true when the commander’s subordinate commanders and his staff govern their command and administrative actions according to his categories of importance.

Although using different terminology than mine, the Army has recognized this truth for a great many years. The Army’s inspector general system, for example, helps the commander overcome blind spots. Working directly for the commander and reporting directly to him, the inspector general makes systematic checks to determine how well the commander’s responsibilities are being carried out, and he investigates important situations for the commander. It is interesting to note that Brother George Washington established the inspector general position at Valley Forge. The first officer to be called by that title was General and Brother Friedrich Wilhelm Augustus von Steuben.

But the Army didn’t stop there in its efforts to eliminate blind spots. It moves each commander every few years to bring in a new one with a fresh...
look at the problems of the position. In 14 different command positions as a general officer, I held no single command longer than three years.

In each instance, as soon as I took over a new command I did five things almost immediately. First, I began a search for any blind spots that may have been left by my predecessor.

Second, I checked the organization and standing operating procedures of my command and my staff to insure that my blind spots would not be overlooked.

Third, I hastily checked the heads of staff sections for any apparent lack of competence.

The fourth step in my process to eliminate blind spots was a bit more involved. I assembled my staff and specified those duties they must perform for me under the direction of my chief of staff. I told them to —

- Keep me provided with all current essential information.
- Make sound and timely recommendations and suggestions to me, although I had not asked for them.
- Make objective comments on actions I proposed to take before I made my final decisions.
- Prepare the necessary details to carry out the plans or actions I directed.
- Provide feedback to insure that my plans or orders were understood and carried out as directed by the commands below me.
- Be ready with recommendations or modifications to my plans and orders if such were needed during the course of their implementation.
- Release no information on subjects being studied and considered in my headquarters until they became firm policy, except to those persons who were studying the problems.

Fifth, and finally, I distributed a card that was inscribed with one of my favorite precepts —

An organization does well only those things a commander or a manager checks or causes to be checked.

I told each of my subordinate commanders and staff officers to keep this card displayed and to practice its philosophy.

I believed that if I followed these five steps, it would be difficult for my successor to find blind spots when he took over the command, except in those cases where I had exercised poor judgment. I also believed that if I followed these steps there would be no substantial eruptions in the press or in higher command attributable to my failures as a commander.

No matter what echelon of command or staff position you now hold, you too can discover and overcome blind spots by following these five steps.

From ARMY LOGISTician, forwarded by General Clarke. Sir Knight Bruce C. Clarke's address is Carl Vinson Hall, 053, 6251 Old Dominion Drive, McLean, Virginia 22101.

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Triennial News Brief

The Advance Programs for the 56th Triennial Conclave, August 10-14, 1985, in Cincinnati, Ohio, were mailed last month to all voting members of Grand Encampment, Grand Recorders, and each Constituent and Subordinate Commander and Recorder. “Deadlines are being met and plans finalized,” reports Robert S. Schoedinger, Chairman of the Triennial Committee, “including approval of the heavy metal Triennial badge.” One badge — colored gold for voting delegates and silver for non-voting delegates — will be placed in each registration packet.
In Hoc Signo Vinces...

A TRINITY OF OBLIGATIONS

by

William Wallace Youngson, Jr., Past Grand Sovereign
United Grand Imperial Council, Red Cross of Constantine

The month was October. The year was 312 A.D. The site was Saxa Rubra, a small Italian village, which would never have known fame had not the crucial battle between Constantine and Maxentius taken place there. The latter commanded an army of some 170,000 foot soldiers and 18,000 horse warriors, completely armoured. Constantine commanded a mere 40,000 foot soldiers. He prayed, and suddenly in the heavens of that bright noonday there appeared the sign of the cross in a blaze of brilliance through which these words were seen: “In Hoc Signo Vinces” — under this sign conquer! In the depth of that night, Christ appeared to Constantine in a dream and directed him to create a standard bearing the signum of the cross and that four-word command. He did so and placed it in the keeping of 50 of his most trusted, distinguished, valorous and pious men, each to carry it in his turn and each, if need be, to guard it with his life.

Constantine won his battle at Saxa Rubra and changed the course of Christianity, for he became the first emperor to adopt the faith and consequently relieved the pressures of punishment which before had been meted to those who followed the creed.

Therein lies the first illustration of humility and pride associated with the Red Cross of Constantine. An emperor with a humility so great that he could accept a command, not doubting its divinity nor questioning its authority. An emperor with a pride so great that he could dare to share it with those who had won it for him: his Knights of the Red Cross. That year was A.D. 312, and now it is A.D. 1984. The premises on which the Red Cross of Constantine was established were set forth 1,672 years ago. Because of the years, exactitude is lost, but the endurance of humility, pride, right thinking, and positive action is proven.

It is believed that the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine is one of the oldest Orders of Masonry. It is known that the honor of affiliation cannot come to all, for as Constantine designated his Knights of the Red Cross to be a small group, so it is with this order; each Conclave is made up of no more than can comfortably be seated around one table. Of course, this does not mean that one cannot aspire to become a Knight of this Order. Indeed, the daily living of Freemasonry’s principles would fulfill most of what is required to be a Knight. But in observation, one finds that the Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine, in fulfilling their obligations to become selected, have devoted long, long years to the progression through the degrees and are, therefore, mature in every sense of the word — including the maturity that age brings. Some Knights have nurtured the mistaken belief that members of the Order are walking in the sunset of Masonic activity. This is far from so. To us has been entrusted the task of guarding the Standard of Constantine, the Standard which raised the sign of the cross above the heads of a small army that became victorious over a far larger army and proved that “Under This Sign Conquer,” was more than a mere phrase.
Today, this is still our purpose, and our commitment is threefold: to guard the faith, to work in unity, and to live with zeal. To honor such a commitment, one dare not accept a sunset attitude, a fading-of-light attitude, nor a day-is-done attitude.

Constantine saw the vision of the Red Cross at noonday. The Knights of this Order must ever walk at the shining hour of the day’s noon. This is the hour of vision, of accomplishment – the hour of new victories. Then, through our example of faith – faith in ourselves, each other, our way of life, and above all, faith in the power and wisdom of one Supreme Being – we can re-inspire all Masons to great effort in Masonic work, and we can serve as examples to the young men who need an affiliation with Freemasonry.

The unity which is a part of the trinity of obligation we carry, does, and must, prevail beyond the limited number of Knights of this particular Order. It is our ever-existent responsibility to demonstrate unity and to inspire unity among all the great orders of Freemasonry in holding the line against the rampant corruption, disorder, and violence so rife in our beloved country today. Masonry has survived through centuries. Masonry can and must survive through more centuries. Unity – of purpose, action, and dedication – will be the source of that survival.

Zeal, the third cornerstone of our trinity of obligation, was the common characteristic of the original Knights appointed by Constantine. Zeal is the ardor with which one pursues a goal; zeal is an ardent and active interest; zeal is enthusiasm; zeal is fervor. Zeal is not a prized possession of youth alone. Zeal is a developed quality and therefore is found very readily among the mature.

With the Knights of our Order, zeal in adherence to the high principles of Masonry is recognized as our potent weapon against the violence of the manner of change taking place in our cultural and economic patterns. Not for one moment dare we lose sight of the future by looking back toward the easier past. The thinking of our great scientists and fine technicians has moved on and out into the universe and is plumbing the depths of the seas.

How I wish more of us could devote our talents and efforts to those vast areas, but a world is being held back by wars, by power struggles, by egoists. It is against those elements that we, the Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine, now carry our Standard into battle with the great assurance that we can “Under This Sign Conquer:” and we shall – with pride and humility.

Sir Knight Youngson is a Past Commander of Washington Commandery No. 15, Portland, and resides at 55 North Shore Road, Apt. 9, Lake Oswego, Oregon 97034.
Eye Foundation Trustees Hold Annual Meeting

The Trustees of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., held their annual meeting at Springfield, Illinois on August 27 and 28 with Grand Master Ned E. Dull, President, presiding, and Executive Director G. Wilbur Bell, P.G.M., in charge of arrangements.

Among the items on the agenda at this annual meeting were the approval of the Scientific Advisory Committee and the issuing of new grants. The Scientific Advisory Committee was created for the purpose of investigating and developing suggestions for new grants. Dr. A. Edward Maumenee chairs this 6-member committee. Suggestions for new grants from the Scientific Advisory Committee will be submitted to the Eye Foundation for approval. For the coming year, the trustees have allocated a total of $130,000 for new grants. The first two grants for the new year were approved at the August 27 meeting: $12,000 for Northwestern University's research on Vernal Keratoconjunctivitis (led by Dr. E. Lee Stock) and $17,250 for the Retina Research Foundation's study of the role of vitamin E in reducing the severity of retrorenal fibroplasia in premature infants.

Grants approved by the Knights Templar Eye Foundation pertain to the general area of eye disorders in infants and children. Research in disease-related afflictions and clinical research on conditions that are possibly correctable (amblyopia, cataracts, glaucoma, retinopathy of prematurity and retinal blastoma) form the basis for grant suggestions by the committee.

Among those in attendance at the meeting which re-elected Past Grand Master G. Wilbur Bell as Executive Director were Deputy Grand Master Donald H. Smith, vice president; Grand Generalissimo Marvin E. Fowler; Grand Captain General William H. Thornley (pictured above, left); Past Grand Master John L. Crofts, Sr., Past Grand Master Willard M. Avery (above, center), General Counsel; Past Grand Master Kenneth C. Johnson; Grand Treasurer Harold S. Gorman; Grand Recorder Paul C. Rodenhausen; and Assistant Grand Recorder Charles R. Neumann. All trustees were in attendance: Arch M. Dullnig; The Reverend Olin E. Lehman; Alvin L. Crump, Assistant Executive Director; Edmund F. Ball; Herbert D. Sledd (above, right); and George W. Sorrell.

The 1984 grant of $15,000 by the Eye Foundation to Northwestern University's Eye Disease Laboratory was presented in June by Allin W. Proudfoot (above, right), Knights Templar representative. Frank J. Palladino (left), director of medical development, and Dr. E. Lee Stock (center), accept the contribution.
HISTORY OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT

Chapter XII

THE PERIOD OF CIVIL STRIFE AND RECONSTRUCTION

1862-1874

These were trying years, not only for the people of this nation, but for the preservation of our Illustrious Order. Four Grand Masters presided during this period: Sir Knights Benjamin B. French, Henry L. Palmer, William S. Gardner and John Q. A. Fellows, all of whom contributed to the great end of maintaining a united Order.

When the Civil War seemed imminent, Sir Knight French, the Grand Master at that time, appealed to the Sir Knights both North and South in an official circular, attempting to ward off the approaching separation of the states, but to no avail.

The Grand Commanderies in the southern states did not openly defy the Grand Encampment, but Virginia, Georgia and Mississippi withdrew their allegiance to the National Body by resolution. However, the kindly and conciliatory attitude of Grand Master French had its good results, and by 1868, all the Grand Encampments throughout the United States were again united.

The reunion in Baltimore brought a lavish and hearty welcome to the Sir Knights, whether they assembled from the North or from the South. It was one of the largest gatherings ever to attend a Triennial Conclave up to that time.

The final consolidation and complete unity occurred with the meeting held in New Orleans in 1874. Under the efficient leadership of Grand Master Fellows, this first meeting of the Grand Encampment in the South did much to cement the differences which had been fanned into flame during the Civil War. In his address of welcome, he stated:

“All of this great land has seen enough — too much — of blood, too much hatred, too much wrong. The animosities engendered by fratricidal war have survived too long. It is high time the people, North and South, should recognize the purpose of the Almighty in molding and preserving this Government, and spreading out before it a future of concord, happiness, power and glory. Our organization has no political purpose. It meddles not with political dogma or plans. But it is national in its jurisdiction and fraternal in its character. So while coming from all sections of our country, we meet and mingle together to legislate for our Illustrious Order, to cement old friendships and to form new ones, we are riveting anew the chain of nationality and are serving a double purpose of patriotism and fraternity.

Beginning with a Devotional Service in Cincinnati in 1865, and followed by an escort for the Grand Encampment officers in St. Louis in 1868, the procession which so distinguished the succeeding sessions was a prominent feature of the Baltimore Conclave in 1871. For the first time, the city which was host to the Conclave decorated its streets and public buildings, and the citizens turned out in holiday spirit to welcome the marching lines of Sir Knights.

With the unification of the Order established at home, overtures were made to establish fraternal relationship with the
Sir Knights of England, Ireland and Scotland. Progress was made, but it was not brought to a successful conclusion during this period.

Extensive and careful historical research was carried out by Grand Master Gardner which brought to light much information about the activities of Sir Thomas Webb and the formation of the Grand Encampment. In order to preserve the history of the Order, the Grand Recorder made arrangements to bind the proceedings of the Grand Encampment, and those of the various subordinate Grand Commanderies, as well as collect documents and other material of historical value.

The uniform or costume of the Order had much attention during this period. An extensive survey of the subject was presented by Grand Master Fellows in 1874. In 1859, Grand Master Hubbard had called attention to the need of a uniform dress for Knights Templar, which would be the same throughout the whole jurisdiction. The Committee’s report specifying such a uniform was adopted. However, in 1862, there was much objection to the new uniform, particularly by those who had already adopted their own style of dress. It was finally agreed that the old “black uniform,” could be worn by the Sir Knights who had them, but the new “white uniform” would be required by all others. Several Grand Commanders decided that this “Edict of 1862” repealed the requirement of the uniform specified in 1859, and continued to use the old uniform and even allowed their later Commanderies to adopt it too. This led to an order on the part of Grand Master Fellows which brought about considerable controversy. At the Triennial Conclave in 1874, a compromise was finally agreed to, allowing those who wished to use the old black uniform to do so, but all others were required to acquire the new uniform.

The uniformity of the ritual began to have attention, and efforts were made to revise and correct the ritualistic work. The modified work, particularly in the Order of Malta, was then presented before the Grand Encampment and was adopted.

In spite of the Civil War and its aftermath during the period of reconstruction, the Order made a remarkable growth. In 1862, there were twenty-two Grand Commanderies and sixteen subordinate commanderies in other states. In 1874 there were thirty Grand Commanderies, and twenty-six subordinate commanderies in twelve other states and territories, including one in Hawaii. The membership, which was approximately 15,000 in 1862, had increased to 40,317 in 1872.

Fifteenth Conclave

The Civil War made it impossible to hold the Triennial Session in Memphis as decided upon at the last Conclave. Accordingly, a special Conclave was assembled in New York on September 1, 1862, by order of the Grand Master, Sir Knight B. B. French. At this special Conclave the meeting place of the regular Conclave was changed to New York City.

The fifteenth Conclave of the Grand Encampment was opened on September 2, 1865, in the Corinthian Room of the Odd Fellows Hall in New York, with the Grand Master B. B. French presiding. Representatives of twelve Grand Commanderies were present – Connecticut, Indiana, Michigan, New York, Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts and Rhode Island, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Kentucky and Illinois, and five subordinate commanderies, one of which was Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1 of New Orleans.

The Committee on Templar History has plans to prepare an updated history of the Grand Encampment, continuing where Sir Knight Scully left off. When completed, the updated history will be announced in the KNIGHT TEMPLAR MAGAZINE.
Information wanted on the ancestry of Baalam Culppepper, born 1785, North Carolina, married 1814, North Carolina, and later migrated to Henry County, Tennessee. I would also like information on William Ball and his wife, Isabell, who lived in Duplin County, North Carolina, at least from 1762 to 1782. Their daughter, Elizabeth, married Jesse McLendon in 1762.

Information also wanted on John Rodgers of North Carolina, who was one of the first settlers of the town of Lanier in Macon County, Georgia; Thomas Usher, who died 1823, in Richmond County, North Carolina, and George Williams, born 1784, North Carolina married 1811, Georgia, died 1864, Pine County, Alabama. Dudley P. Culppepper, Jr., Route 5, Box 489, Ft. Pierce, Florida 33451

I am searching for Howard Banner, born in Erwin, Tennessee, September 16, 1911; father's name, William Banner; mother's name, Lillian Banner. I would appreciate hearing from relatives or anyone who may know about Howard Banner or any of his brothers or sisters. Cherry Barker (Banner), 940 West Heather Avenue, La Habra, California 90631

I am trying to locate my son, Edward D. Johnson. He is a member of the Masonic Fraternity and is believed at one time to have been a member of Egypt Shrine in Tampa, Florida. Any information will be greatly appreciated. Mrs. D. North, 3720 Bonita Way, Hudson, Florida 33562

While in New Orleans two years ago I came across a coffee service which I was able to purchase. On it was the following inscription: “Presented to Bro. Jas. Peupland W.M. by mbrs. of St. Johns Lodge No. 34, A.F. & A.M., June 15, 1864.” My question is where is this Lodge and are there any ancestors of this gentleman? Price E. Slate, 126 East Main, Anamosa, Iowa 52205

I have two burial plots in the Masonic section of Greenview Memorial Gardens, East Moline, Illinois. This is an exclusive cemetery with all lots sold out. Sir Knight Rhea E. Cale, 1811 – 34th Street, Rock Island, Illinois 61201, 309-786-0588

Information sought on commemorative medallion of 125th anniversary, Grand Commandery of Illinois, March 6, 1982; also a commemorative medal issued June 24, 1972, for the 175th anniversary of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland. This would be greatly appreciated. Paul M. Williams, R.D. 2, Box 55, New Providence, Pennsylvania 17560

Originally a member of Pittsburgh Commandery No. 1, Pennsylvania, I am now a member of Colorado Commandery No. 4, Austin, Texas. I own Lot 273-A in Block 41 (four interment spaces) in the “Garden of John the Baptist” section of Jefferson Memorial Park, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. I would like to dispose of this plot; please send inquiries to: Miles F. Merwin, 8839 Honeysuckle Trail, Austin, Texas 78759, 512-345-3220
I am currently publishing 4 newsletters concerning the genealogy of the Bell, Childress/Childers, Rogers, and McGee families. Am most interested in corresponding with anyone interested in these families. Will be happy to search my files for information which may help you in your quest of any of these families. Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Do you have an old family Bible put away? The family records in these old family keepsakes are most valuable to a family researcher. I'll be grateful to you for a xerox copy of these records along with a copy of the title page of the Bible showing where and when the Bible was printed. Will reimburse you for copy cost and mailing fee. I collect Bible records on ANY and ALL families. Please help preserve your family history and get those Bibles out of the chests and into circulation for the family researcher. They will treasure your gift of sharing.

Mrs. Molly Reigard, 1321 Gum Tree, Huffman, Texas 77336

Lowell Lodge No. 436, Lowell, Ohio, is seeking two ornamental caps for our Middle Chamber Pillars. If your Blue Lodge has some used or extra caps at a modest price, we would be proud to give them new obligations and a place in our Lodge. The caps are the top part of the pillar that the globes rest on. James E. Dyser, Route No. 2, Marietta, Ohio 45750

I am serving the U.S. Army in El Salvador and desire to begin a collection of Masonic coins. As I am isolated, the opportunities here are poor. I am hoping that any Brother who may have duplicate coins would be willing to part with any excess coins and/or give me information on how to collect these coins. Gerald W. Toomey, USMILGP El Salvador, APO Miami 34023

Would appreciate help in locating the saber and scabbard which was the property of the late Dr. E. D. Smith of Gillham, Arkansas. Items were stolen from the home of a granddaughter. Saber has ivory handle with the letters Dr. E. D. S.; blade has E. D. Smith; scabbard has scroll carving type designs. Woodrow B. Traylor, 7907 Royalwood, Houston, Texas 77049

I would like to purchase books on the history of the Chisholm Trail. Please send titles and prices. I do not know if Jesse Chisholm had any Masonic affiliation or not. Also would like information on the descendants of Richard Chisholm, who came to Virginia as secretary to the Governor of Virginia Colony. Some of his descendants had head rites to land along the James River. Herbert A. Chism (Chisholm), R.F.D., Verdon, Nebraska 68457

The Louisiana World Exposition was the subject of Masonic First Day covers issued by the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, F. & A.M., and by Louisiana Lodge No. 102, F. & A.M. Both organizations are located in New Orleans. Frequently, Sir Knights ask why orders are placed at my address in Virginia for an organization in another state. The answer is simple: my mother Lodge is Louisiana Lodge No. 102 (New Orleans) under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. I have remained active in my Lodge (of which my father is Past Master and brother is a member) from afar in this manner. The Grand Master of Louisiana for 1984, M.W. James Walley, a collector himself, asked me to do his Grand Lodge covers for the 1984 New Orleans World Exposition. In effect, my Richmond address is used for the mail orders, and covers are also available at the Grand Lodge offices in New Orleans. John R. Allen, P.O. Box 26135, Richmond, Virginia 23260-6135
FRATERNITY MEANS REAL FRIENDSHIP

Every man needs friendship and all that friendship implies. How fortunate we are that Freemasonry gives us such an opportunity to cement the bonds of real Brotherhood — asking nothing and willing to give everything.

As time passes by, we realize that the golden links which sustain our interests in life are the friends — our Brothers — who have remained sincere and true through the years.

Freemasonry constantly toils to improve the climate which will, in time, create stronger and better friendships. Our Fraternity emphasizes our common heritage, our common goal and our common hope: the brotherhood of man under the Fatherhood of God.

At our altars, without any vanity or pretense, we assemble for work and fellowship to learn to love and cherish one another. And, by so doing, we bring light out of darkness, beauty out of drabness, exaltation out of despair — to the end that every Brother's life may become more radiant and meaningful.

Sir Knight William Carpenter
Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania