

VOLUME XXXIX

MARCH 1993

NUMBER 3



Only Two Months To Go!

The Twenty-fifth Annual Voluntary Campaign for our great charity is more than three-fifths completed, and we should be well on our way to the completion of our projects for fund-raising.

We are dedicating this quartercentury voluntary campaign to the memory of our Past Grand Master G. Wilbur Bell, the man who Executive Director did so much to build this foundation to its present size. Wilbur Bell was a planner, a doer, a man who could put a project together and carry it out. As we dedicate this quarter-century campaign to his memory, so should we dedicate our own energies to building a large foundation to honor both him and our Fraternity.



Past Grand Master G. Wilbur Bell 1912-1992

Sir Knights, each one of us should budget an amount of our spare time to our charity. If each one of us gave just one hour to this campaign, the project would absorb the equivalent of more than ten thousand days. Think what we could collect for the blind in that time! "Love one another as I have loved you" should be our guide in these times of need. Our Savior showed us the way. All we have to do is to put love into our work and follow His way. Ask, Seek, Give-

Donald H. Smith, P.G.M 25th Voluntary Campaign Chairman

Knight Templar

"The Magazine for York Rite Masons - and Others, too"

MARCH: On page 2 are timely comments from Past Grand Master Smith on our 25th Voluntary Campaign, dedicated to G. Wilbur Bell, P.G.M. There's still plenty of time to get involved! You'll enjoy the biographical story of Brother Tom Catron by Sir Knight Bennett, and you'll be fascinated by the tragic story of the wreck of the Knights Templar Special by Sir Knight Beaderstadt. Serious problems are discussed, too, in Conscience and the Craft, Templary for Sale?, and Public Relations or Public Recognition - Which is it?.

Contents

Grand Master's Page
Past Grand Master Donald H. Smith - 2

Tom Catron: Jefe of Santa Fe Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett -

The Wreck of the Knights Templar Special Sir Knight Jan L. Beaderstadt - 9

Conscience and the Craft - 13

Public Relations or Public Recognition - Which is it? Sir Knight William J. Schatz II - 21

Templary for Sale? Sir Knight Donald L. Dorward - 25

Grand Commander's, Grand Master's Clubs – 18 25th KTEF Voluntary Campaign Tally - 19

March Issue – 3
Editors Journal – 4
Highlights from the Masonic Family - 14
History of the Grand Encampment – 16
In Memoriam – 18
Recipients: Grand Encampment Membership Jewel - 22
Newsfront – 23
Knight Voices - 30

March 1993

Volume XXXIX Number 3

Published monthly as an official publication of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America.

William Henry Thornley, Jr.
Grand Master and Publisher

3080 South Race Street Denver, Colorado 80210-6331

Charles R. Neumann
Grand Recorder
and Editor

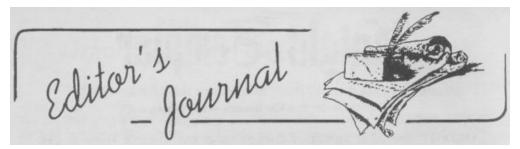
Randall W. Becker Joan B. Morton Assistant Editors

Grand Recorder 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101 Chicago, Illinois 60630-2460 (773) 777-3300 Fax: (773) 777-8836

Mail magazine materials and correspondence to Editor, 57 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101, Chico, I1-60630-2460.

Material for the Grand Commanderies' two-page supplement is to be directed to the respective Supplement editors.

Address corrections from members are to be sent to the local Recorders.



Announcement: The Grand Encampment has begun a program of Honors, which has two levels: Knight Grand Cross of the Temple and Knight Commander of the Temple. This program gives the Grand Encampment a way of honoring Sir Knights who have distinguished themselves in their fields of endeavor. It does not limit itself to Masonry alone, but to qualify, a person must be a Knight Templar. The recipients receive a beautifully engraved Patent and a jewel. The jewel may be worn on the uniform or on a tuxedo. The recipients may also use the letters KGC or KCT after their names: they should be introduced along with the Knights Templar Cross of Honor holder.

The Widow's Pin Announcing: to commemorate those who were active Templars: The Most Eminent Grand Master. William Henry Thornley, Jr., has authorized the design and manufacture of an attractive Red Templar Cross pin for widows of Sir Knights who held office below the rank of Past Grand Commander (this includes Commanders. Past Commanders, and grand officers. Order in lots of 10 at \$5.00 apiece from Sir Knight Herbert Fisher, Honorary P.D.C., 553 Caren Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23452.

The Grottoes of North America, Supreme Council 103rd Session is June 16-19, 1993, in Rochester, NY. The Grand Monarch is Samuel Joseph Farrell, 25 Rosemary Street, Brockton, MA 02402. The Director General is Gordon T. Dodge, P.M.; 153 Faircrest Road; Rochester NY 14623.

Born In Blood: by John J. Robinson is available at the price of \$16.00. **Dungeon,** Fire

and Sword: The Knights Templar In the Crusades: by author and medievalist John J. Robinson is available for \$20.00 each, plus \$3.00 shipping and handling. Please make checks payable to the Grand Encampment, and send them to the Grand Recorder, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101, Chicago, Illinois 60630-2460.

The Unseen Journey, a Masonic videotape, is available from the Grand Encampment: A professional one-hour videotape telling the story of Masonry has been made for the Mason and non-Mason by Fratres of a professional audio/visual company, under the supervision of the Grand Lodge of Illinois. Copies are on sale here for \$29.95 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling. Send check to the Grand Encampment, 5097 N. Elston Ave., Suite 101, Chicago, IL 60630-2460

Knight Templar requests a well-written and researched article on Brother Benito Pablo Juarez, Maximilian's adversary in Mexico (ca. 1865-87), that our readers may have "the other side of the story." Juarez's Masonic biography and a brief summary of his life can be found on page 20.

regrets Knight Templar it did not acknowledge the basic sources for the James R. Case story on Edson Fitch in the January issue: Stuart Sturges, P.C., St. George's Commandery No. 37, NY; George W. Green, P.G.M. of Quebec Lodge No. 118. and Robert Mitchell, Montreal Lodge No. 96. All are or were members of the American Lodge of Research of New York and Sir Knight Sturges is the Grand Historian of the Grand Lodge of New York.

Tom Catron: Jefe of Santa Fe

by Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett, 33°

Assuredly, Thomas Benton Catron earned the sobriquet "Jefe of Santa Fe" in the course of an eventful and accomplished life. In Spanish, "jefe" means boss," and the word accurately describes the role assumed by that colorful man for over half a century in the arena of New Mexico politics and business. In a tribute to Catron at the time of his death, the distinguished editor of the Santa Fe New Mexican, E. Dana Johnson, stated that the word 'boss" complimented rather than offended his memory. Catron reveled in the activity that made up politics. It was meat and drink to him, representing life in its fullest measure.

Tom Catron came to Santa Fe in 1866 fresh out of the Confederate Army, Almost immediately he entered into territorial politics and was never out of that environment for the balance of his life. The story of Catron as a soldier, a citizen, a political figure, and an active Freemason is one of constant striving. great wealth, and violent controversy. He was a benefactor to many, an anathema to some - but always a fierce defender of New Mexico's welfare. At his death he left in excess of half million dollars а uncollectible promissory notes, which he never attempted to call in. It appeared to be Catron's way to help a friend or provide financial assistance without calling it a gift. He was too gruff and hard-nosed ever to admit that he advanced money out of generosity or compassion.

Catron was born on October 6, 1840, on a small farm not far from Lexington, Missouri. He was educated in the public school system and attended college at the University of Missouri, graduating with a B.A. degree on Fourth of July, 1860. Following graduation, he studied law in the offices of a Lexington attorney until the beginning of the Civil War in 1861. Sentiment in Missouri was bitterly divided on the issue of slavery, a sentiment that prompted a choice between savina the Union and joining Confederate Army. Catron opted for the Confederacy and enlisted under Major General Sterling Price as an artilleryman. He eventually attained the rank of lieutenant in the battery of Hiram Bledsoe, seeing extensive action in the Trans-Mississippi Theater. Catron's battle credits included Corinth, luka, the two engagements at Pea Ridge, Maysville, Arkansas, and action at Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge during the Chattanooga Campaign. Tom surrendered his battery at the cessation of hostilities at Meridian, Mississippi, in April, 1865. Returning home, he hoped to resume his legal studies, but Reconstruction and his inability to assume the "Ironclad Oath" prevented it. The oath required that one swear he had never borne arms against the government of the United States.

Tom's former classmate from the University of Missouri, Stephen B. Elkins, persuaded him to move to the Territory of

New Mexico, where it would be possible to make a fresh start in life as a member of their legal community. Catron was a lifelong Democrat, but faced with the prospect of moving into a territory dominated by the Republican government in Washington, became Republican himself. а relationship between Catron and Elkins would endure throughout their lifetimes and bring great wealth, power, and high office to each man. Elkins eventually relocated to West Virginia, continuing his illustrious career in that state and founding the town that bears his name. He, like Catron, was a member of Montezuma Lodge in Santa Fe.

Thomas Catron's first priority upon arriving in New Mexico was to master the Spanish language. He devoted several months to the project, living most of the

"The records of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico reveal that Thomas Catron affiliated by demit on August 7, 1877, and became a charter member of Montezuma Lodge No. 1 in Santa Fe."

time in a small Mexican community and speaking only Spanish. He deemed this skill essential for success in a territory with a population dominated by Mexicans who spoke Spanish almost exclusively. Tom worked briefly as a copyist and law clerk for Judge Kirby Benedict in Santa Fe, a colorful and prominent legal personality who was unable to write due to a physical impairment of his right hand. The association was brief, but fruitful, in that Catron had a rare opportunity to learn the local political game at the knee of a master.

Thanks to the assistance of Steve Elkins, Catron was appointed a district attorney for the Third Judicial District of the territory in February, 1867. A year later, he was admitted to the New Mexico bar at the town of Mesilla, judicial center

of the southeastern portion of the territory. Again, Elkins was his sponsor, Catron's political star was now on the ascent and would never falter. In 1868, he was elected to the Territorial Legislature, and on January 1, 1869, President U. S. Grant appointed him a United States Attorney in the territory, with sweeping judicial power. Catron held this position for six years. The post offered great political influence and Catron used it to full advantage. He and Elkins became partners in a law firm, becoming successful and wealthy in the endeavor. Both young men gifted with the "Midas touch." Specializing in land grant legislation and the legal work generated by a silver boom in the area, the partners were soon independently wealthy. They acquired controlling interest in the stock of the First National Bank of Santa Fe, in which both served as president. That financial springboard was employed to its full potential in the enhancement of their various business investments and real estate interests. Among Catron's enterprises was the firm of J. J. Dolan in Lincoln, New Mexico. Dolan, the head of one of the warring factions in the bitter range war in Lincoln County, had borrowed heavily from Catron during 1877 and 1878. Catron eventually foreclosed on the defaulted loans and took control of Dolan's assets, although allowing him to remain as manager. Through this arrangement, Catron became deeply involved in the Lincoln County War in a behind-the-scenes role.

The records of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico reveal that Thomas Catron affiliated by demit on August 7, 1877, and became a charter member of Montezuma Lodge No. 1 in Santa Fe. The original Montezuma Lodge No. 109 had worked under a charter from the Grand Lodge of Missouri until the Grand Lodge of New Mexico was founded in 1877. Stephen B. Elkins was a member of No. 109. Catron served Montezuma Lodge as Master in 1883, and was appointed a Grand

Lecturer in the years 1877, 1879, and 1880. He was also a charter member of the Valley of Santa Fe Lodge of Perfection of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, affiliating on February 1, 1883. Tom was a loyal and enthusiasm Mason, indicating in his will a desire for a Masonic memorial service on the occasion of his death.

Catron's physical image is described as an enormously obese frame standing 5 feet 11 inches tall, with blue eyes and light brown hair, arrayed in a baggy, black suit complete with string tie, a slightly-soiled white shirt, and an omni-present red bandana handkerchief. Added to those characteristics was a booming voice, dripping with caustic venom for anyone who was careless enough to arouse Catron's displeasure. Tom cared nothing for the amenities of society, and during his Washington years as a United States Senator, avoided all possible social encounters.

Among Catron's most publicized clients was Lt. Colonel N. A. M. Dudley, the controversial commander at Fort Stanton during the waning days of the Lincoln County War. Catron had defended Dudley at his court-martial while he was stationed at Fort Union, not far from Santa Fe. Dudley was found guilty of charges at the proceedings, but President Rutherford B. Haves reversed the decision and absolved Dudley of wrongdoing. Both Dudley and Catron had substantial influence in Washington. sufficient to spare the officer from army punishment. Dudley was transferred to Fort Stanton, a few miles from the town of Lincoln, and immediately proceeded to become involved in the bitter range conflict. Dudley's first use of army personnel in civilian matters was at the request of Tom Catron on the occasion of the theft of 43 horses from one of his ranch properties (bankrupt property of J. J. Dolan). The Negro cavalry troopers from Fort Stanton were dispatched in pursuit of rustlers in direct

disobedience of army policy. There was conjecture that Dudley relied heavily on Catron's advice during his period of service at Fort Stanton.

Nathan Dudley was an officer of limited ability, exhibiting a penchant for argument with inferiors and superiors alike. He also tended to meddle in affairs beyond his sphere of authority and responsibility. An incident in the Lincoln County War presented an irresistible temptation when troops were requested to assist the sheriff

"Catron served Montezuma Lodge as Master in 1883, and was appointed a Grand Lecturer in the years 1877, 1879, and 1880. He was also a charter member of the Valley of Santa Fe Lodge of Perfection of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, affiliating on February 1, 1883."

in maintaining order in the town in July, 1878. Alexander McSween, a Lincoln lawyer and a member of one of the warring factions, barricaded himself at his home in town with a band of followers - among them Billy the Kid. A shooting battle ensued between the McSween gang and the sheriff's deputies, supporters of J. J. Dolan. Dudley arrived with troops and the McSween home was soon put to the torch and the lawyer killed. Colonel Dudley was ultimately indicted for arson by a Lincoln County grand jury, but the charge was dropped. He was, however, required to submit to a military board of inquiry convened to investigate his involvement in the McSween affair. Once again, influence in Washington produced absolution.

Catron was a powerful voice in the Republican Party in New Mexico. He made numerous political alliances over the years with others of his party, many of

whom were Masons. One prominent ally was Colonel Albert J. Fountain, lawyer and newspaper publisher in Mesilla. Fountain's blazing editorials and influence with the Mexican population of the Mesilla Valley controlled many votes. Fountain was a distinguished Civil War veteran, and the founder of a famous volunteer cavalry company, the Mesilla Scouts. Fountain, like Catron, dreamed of statehood for the Territory of New Mexico, and both worked diligently to make it a reality. A prerequisite of statehood was the adoption of a constitution. They were

"Catron was a powerful voice in the Republican Party in New Mexico. He made numerous political alliances over the years with others of his party, many of whom were Masons."

thwarted in their efforts by a Democratic newcomer to the area, lawyer Albert Bacon Fall. He successfully orchestrated a defeat of the proposed constitution in the 1890 general election that delayed statehood until 1912. Fall arrived in Las Cruces in the early 1880s, and soon revived the dormant Democratic party in New Mexico. The Republicans remained dominant, however, and sent Thomas Catron to the Congress of the United States as a territorial delegate in 1895 and 1896, years before he would be elected the state's first senator.

When Grover Cleveland was elected president, the politics of New Mexico changed from Republican to Democratic control. In the transition, Albert B. Fall was named Judge of the Third Judicial District of New Mexico, over the objections of many prominent citizens of the territory. His excesses and corrupt practices in the voting and election process eventually proved Fall's undoing, and he resigned. Fall's staunch friend, Oliver Lee, a rancher

from the mountains near Tularosa was loudly denounced by Colonel Albert J. Fountain as a rustler and a brutal killer. The vendetta that festered between Fountain and the Fall-Lee alliance is believed to have supplied the motive for the murder of Albert Fountain and his 9-year-old son, Henry, in January, 1896. They disappeared in the White Sands area, near Oliver Lee's mountain ranch, and the evidence pointed to murder.

The crime became a national sensation, and Tom Catron was right in the middle of the furor. The Grand Lodge of New Mexico offered a \$10,000 reward for capture and conviction of Fountain's killers. Governor 'Poker Bill" Thornton William heartily supported the reward and pledged comparable amount from the territory. Thornton persuaded Pat Garrett, the former Lincoln County Sheriff who had shot Billy the Kid, to return to New Mexico from Texas to take charge of the investigation. Garrett was reputed to be somewhat skilled as a detective, and he was convinced from the outset that Oliver Lee and two of his henchmen, James Gilliland and William McNew, carried out the murders under the direction of A. B. Fall. Lee and Gilliland were finally indicted and held for trial in 1899, three years after Fountain's disappearance.

Tom Catron was the prosecutor for the territory in the Lee-Gilliland trial, with Fall acting as defense counsel. Through skillful maneuvering Fall gained a distinct early advantage. He managed a change of venue to Hillsboro in Sierra County of New Mexico. The citizens of Hillsboro despised the memory of Albert Fountain for the excesses of his Mesilla Scouts some years before during the cleanup of rustling problems in Sierra County. The resourceful Fall also arranged to have a new county carved out of enormous Lincoln County territory. The new county was named Otero, in honor of the governor in office at the time. New Otero

Continued on page 27

The Wreck of the Knights Templar Special

by the Reverend Jan L. Beaderstadt, P.C.

There was a lot of excitement in the Sir Knights and ladies waiting at the train station in Grand Rapids for the Knight Templar Special."

DeMolai Commandery No. 5 had contracted with Grand Trunk Railroad to provide a special excursion train to take the members of DeMolai Commandery No. 5, Ionia Commandery No. 11, Muskegon Commandery No. 22 and St. Johns Commandery No. 24 to the 76th Annual Session in Flint.

The date was June 5, 1923, and it was destined to be a train ride that none of them would ever forget.

The Grand Trunk Western had even selected a special crew for the excursion train. The crew was comprised entirely of Templar Masons.

The engineer selected for the train was Frank Pursall, a member of Corunna Commandery No. 21. He was a seasoned engineer and was honored to have been selected to comply with DeMolai Commandery's request for an all Knight Templar crew. Pursall planned to pick up his wife in Durand and take her with him to the events at Grand Commandery.

Originally, he had planned to take his wife to Grand Rapids June 4, spend the night and leave on the excursion train on the fifth. But Pursall seemed to have a sense of concern about this trip, and decided instead to pick her up in Durand when the train passed

through on its way to Flint. Durand was Pursall's hometown.

The fireman on the train was Pursall's close friend, Joseph Parker. Also a member of Corunna Commandery No. 21, Parker was an engineer for Grand Trunk as well. He agreed to become a fireman for this run because there were no Knight Templar firemen on the Grand Trunk line. Parker didn't object to the temporary demotion and was honored to serve the Fraternity as well as be with his friend on this important run.

The special engineer on the train was Harry Smith. He was a member of Detroit Commandery No. 1. Lady Luck would be with Sir Knight Smith; he would see sunset that day.

Even the news agent for the special train was a Knight Templar, specially selected for his post. Sir Knight A. J. Fanning had just started his own news agency in Grand Rapids and was a member of DeMolai Commandery No. 5.

Pursall felt uneasy about this particular run. So did his wife. They tended not to want to be separated during the days before the excursion train was to leave Durand for Grand Rapids. But Pursall felt a sense of duty, and was determined to go. His wife told him of her misgivings, but decided to be brave and laugh it off. As he kissed her goodbye June 4, Pursall assured her that everything would be fine and she shouldn't worry. He would live to be "her gray haired engineer." That would be their last kiss.

Pursall and Parker fired up Engine 5030 to pull the wooden coaches to Grand Rapids and then to Flint. The engine was only 11 years old. It was a Pacific engine with a 4-62 wheel configuration. Powerful, it was capable of traveling up to 60 miles per hour, and would approach this speed on the run.

The train approached the Grand Rapids Depot in the early morning light. DeMolai Commandery was scheduled to board the first coaches on the train. But Sir Knight Nick Wortzier, drum major for the Commandery, didn't feel right about those cars. Instead, he led his Commandery to the last car on the special train. Luck was with him that day. Because of his decision there were hardly any injuries to DeMolai Sir Knights.

The delegation from Muskegon arrived in Grand Rapids and members of

"With the train slowing down, Parker and Pursall were looking forward to stopping at the station where they would pick up their wives, and within an hour, be in Flint to enjoy the festivities of Grand Commandery."

Muskegon Commandery No. 22 followed Wortzier's lead and boarded the end cars.

Wortzier, according to newspaper accounts of the time, led a charmed life. During World War I he had been in the Army Air Corps. Flying in a bomber over England, his plane crashed with Wortzier the only survivor.

The train pulled out of Grand Rapids at 7:30 A.M. with arrival expected in Flint in three hours. The ride was pretty uneventful as they made stops in Ionia to pick up Ionia Commandery and then in St. Johns to pick Up St. Johns Commandery. They made good time, averaging about 50 miles per hour. The train was reportedly 10 minutes late as it came through Owosso, but had

gained back six of those minutes as it passed Vernon on its way to Durand. It was here Engineer Pursall began to slow the train to enter Durand.

Durand was a busy rail center in southeastern Michigan with the Ann Arbor and Grand Trunk lines crossing here. About 300 trains a day passed through the village.

With the train slowing down, Parker and Pursall were looking forward to stopping at the station where they would pick up their wives, and within an hour, be in Flint to enjoy the festivities of Grand Commandery. Those thoughts were about to change forever.

About a mile out, just north of the outer limit of the large Durand yard, they were approaching a grade crossing. The crossing cut through a hill and the train would pass on the single track between the banks of the hill before coming into the Durand yard.

Suddenly, the 75-ton engine took a leap and left the rail. It traveled between 150 and 300 feet before it stopped.

Special Engineer Smith, who was riding on the left side of the cab, saw nothing out of the ordinary. When the train left the track he looked over at Parker and saw his eyes filled with mute horror.' Parker was standing before the fire door. Smith didn't remember much after he looked into Parker's eyes. But, Smith was about to be the lucky one in the engine that day. He was thrown clear of the wreck, through the window, landing on the embankment. He would survive with only a slight concussion.

Pursall, who was seated on the right side of the cab, quickly closed the throttle. The brake was set, but what he did was out of experience and reaction. As the engine turned over, he and Parker were killed instantly in the hot steam. Pursall was found upright in his engineer's seat, dying at his post.

As the train overturned, the wooden coaches rammed into the tender and into each other. The rear coaches, because of

the hill, suffered minor damage and the occupants were more shaken than hurt. But the front coaches, which had passed the hill and felt the effects of ramming the tender were in much worse shape.

There were two deaths in the baggage car. A. J. Fanning, news agent, and Heber D. Waldron lay dead. In the first passenger car, John Erickson, 36, of Ionia, lay mortally wounded. He would die the next morning. Thirty-two others were injured. In the baggage car, Conductor R.C. Stevenson and Trainmaster E. 0. Dunn, also Knights Templar, had been talking as they prepared for the stop in Durand. They reported hearing a momentary deafening noise and then found themselves hurled to the floor as the cars began smashing into each other.

Stevenson tried to move, but couldn't. The body of Fanning pinned him down in the darkness of the car. He worked to free himself and began moving toward the front of the car. A large volume of steam suddenly entered the car, nearly suffocating him. He turned and went to exit out the back, but fell into a hole. As he fell, he thought this was the end. Instead, the fall saved his life. As the fresh air revived him, he continued to crawl out of the wreckage.

As he exited the train and stood, looking about at what had happened, he saw the engine on its side and the forward cars laying on the ground. As one observer would note later, the cars lay in the pattern of the Knight Templar cross.

Realizing what had happened, he began to move as quickly as he could toward the rail yard, and then he saw another curious sight. There was Special Engineer Smith, dazed but sitting on the bank. As he stopped to check on Smith's condition, Dunn came up to them.

Dunn, too, had a similar escape story to tell, very nearly suffocating in the steam. Dunn and Stevenson continued on and signaled a yard engine which rushed them to the depot a mile away,

reporting the incident to Chief Dispatcher Floyd A. Thomas.

Fortunately, the wreck did occur near Durand because help was quickly dispatched, keeping injuries to a minimum.

Most of the injuries occurred in cars occupied by the members of St. Johns and Ionia Commanderies. The injured were taken into town and treated. St. Johns and Ionia Commanderies returned home rather than attending Grand Commandery that year.

"Fortunately, the wreck did occur near Durand because help was quickly dispatched, keeping injuries to a minimum. Most of the injuries occurred in cars occupied by the members of St. Johns and Ionia Commanderies. The injured were taken into town and treated."

DeMolai Commandery, which suffered hardly any injuries, elected to continue the trip into Flint.

What caused the wreck? The question still haunts us today. Inquiries into the wreck blamed the Grand Trunk Western Railroad for bad track. It was believed one of the rails turned over under the high speed and weight of the engine. It was noted that the ballast was poor, not much better than regular earth, and that the ties were rotted.

Some disagreed. They felt the crossing was high, and that caused the train to become airborne. Some witnesses reported that the train leapt two feet into the air.

All the witnesses agreed that the track, a mainline track, was not suitable for high speed trains.

The following Friday was a sad day for the village of Durand. Businesses closed in honor of Engineers Pursall and Parker. The Methodist Church was packed for the double funeral and several hundred stood outside. Grand Trunk cancelled all freight trains that day and the work train at Ovid,

Pursall's regular train, was also cancelled.

Outgoing Grand Commander William H. Wetherbee of Detroit represented the Grand Commandery of Michigan along with other Sir Knights. Corunna Commandery took charge of the rites and provided 12 Sir Knights to serve as pallbearers. The Knights marched to the homes of the two men, then marched ahead of the hearses to the church. The Knights drew to attention as the caskets were removed from the hearses and taken into the church. The Reverend S. W. F. Garnett delivered the text from I. Samuel 20:3, "There is a step between me and death," dwelling on the uncertainty of life and the tragic end of the two men who had been best of friends for years. Reverend Garnett was assisted by the Reverend Edward B. Ziegler, Rector of St. John's Episcopal Church, Right Eminent Wetherbee and Acting Grand Prelate John Deyell conducted the Templar Service.

In 1986 the Grand Commandery of Michigan had a state historical marker erected at Iron Horse Park in Durand commemorating those lost in the train wreck. Today, Clark's Crossing, where the wreck occurred, is no longer a crossing. The line

still runs through, well ballasted. The peaceful surrounding where the Grand Trunk yard ends and local farmland begins north of town gives no clue that this was the site of such a tragedy. Above the site is a viaduct for highway 1-69.

In the Durand Commonwealth the following appeared in honor of one of the men who died:

Sleep on, noble sons of highway of steel, Till the trump of the angel shall sound. Your duty is done at the turn of the wheel; You may rest in your green, grassy mound.

Rest on, free from care and from sorrow and woe,

May your surcease from toil be complete. You have gone the long road that we soon must go,

It cannot be long till we meet.

Sir Knight Jan L. Beaderstadt, P.C. of Lake Superior Commandery No. 30, is a Methodist minister and *a* member of Lexington Commandery No. 27, Lexington, Michigan. His address is P.O. Box 128, Decker, MI 48426





A Michigan State historical marker, dedicated by the Grand Commandery of Michigan in 1986, stands in Iron Horse Park in Durand. (Photo by Jan L. Beaderstadt.)

Conscience and the Craft

Devilish, occultic and anti-Christian," That is but a sampling of the words used to describe Freemasonry in a recent Associated Press release reporting on a motion that was made 1992 national convention the denominational religious leaders. same words also appeared in 5,000 copies of a 58-page booklet that were distributed to convention participants. An additional 5,000 copies of the book were scheduled to be mailed to leaders and pastors of the church that were not in attendance at the convention.

Needless to say, the press release and the book caused many questions to be raised not only from leaders, pastors, and members of that particular church - but from concerned Brothers of all denominations (and their families).

Believing that it is wrong to be silent when misunderstandings cause pain confusion and, with the words of Edmund Burke ringing in their ears ("The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing"), the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma A.F. & A.M. produced a ten-page "Conscience and the booklet (Questions on Religion and Freemasonry) which was widely distributed in Oklahoma with copies sent to every Grand Master in the United States.

The purpose of this book was not to argue with our detractors but rather to respond to the unfair charges and to provide the same information to all concerned Brethren and their families.

With the permission and cooperation of the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma, the Grand Lodge of Iowa has produced a video by the same name borrowing heavily from the text of the book, "Conscience and the Craft." The 37-minute video is anchored by Oklahoma's Grand Master Allan Large and Jim

Tresner. Director of the Work of Guthrie's Scottish Rite Bodies. It also features four Iowa Masons and one Masonic wife. It was produced by the Media Committee of the Grand Lodge of Iowa and filmed at the studios of KCCI - TV in Des Moines. All production costs for this exciting and timely video were paid by the Grand Commandery of Iowa K.T. (Thanks, Sir Knights.) Some of America's most prominent religious leaders who are also Masons (Norman Vincent Peale, Forrest Haggard, Bishop Carl J. Sanders, James P. Westberry, and Rabbi Seymour Atlas) along with several others, share their thoughts on the "compatibility of Freemasonry and religion," adding much credence to the video.

Eighty-eight words used by "Pastor Ted" Lilley in concluding the final major scene of the video seem to best reflect the Conscience (OF THE) Craft: "When things like this come up, it's very important that we are able to let our friends know that Masons have neither horns, tails, not halos. We're just their friends and neighbors joined together in a fraternity which tries to help men become better people as it tries to help the world become a better place through its charities. Freemasonry is a support group, so to speak, for men who are trying to practice ethics and morality in a world that does not always encourage those ideals."

The Grand Lodge of Iowa announces copies of the Video *Conscience and the* Craft are available. To order, please send \$25.00 to The Grand Lodge of Iowa, P.O. Box 279, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406.

For Further information, please feel free to write Tom Eggleston, P.G.M., Chairman Media Committee, Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F. & A.M., 298 40th Street N.E., Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406

Highlights

84-Year-Old Wisconsin Mason Soon to Celebrate 55th Anniversary Of Fraternal Career



June 9, 1993, William F. Kerr of Black River Falls, Wisconsin, will celebrate the 55th anniversary of his Masonic career. He was Raised a Master Mason in Metropolitan Lodge No. 273 on June 9, 1938. Among many illustrious honors throughout the York Rite, he was Commander of Manhattan Commandery No. 31 in 1954-55 and received the Knights of the York Cross of Honour in 1956. He is also a life member of Scottish Rite. A veteran of World War II, he is active in his American Legion and Veteran of Foreign Wars posts.

Massachusetts/Rhode Island "Invades" Connecticut

They started threatening it about a year ago. They became more and more belligerent every time Sir Knight Robert Colboum of Connecticut and Sir Knight Robert Poyton of Massachusetts and Rhode Island met, and as Grand Commanders in the Northeastern Department, that is a frequent occurrence. Finally, on January 18, 1993, it happened. Right Eminent Grand Commander Poyton, a member of St. John's Commandery No. 1 of Rhode Island, invaded the territory of

Right Eminent Grand Commander Colbourn at Connecticut's St. John's Commandery No. 11. Sir Knight Poyton was accompanied by his Lady Joyce, and by the Commander of St. John's Commandery No. 1, Sir Knight John Oakley. Also joining in the fray from Rhode Island were Sir Knight Harry McIntyre, Grand Prelate, and Sir Knight Joe Lee Elam, Grand Warder, and his Lady Virginia.

Sir Knight Colbourn ably defended his territory with the presence of Arthur J. McKinney, R.E.P.G.C.; Gilbert L. Gooden, R.E.P.G.C.; Kenneth W. Gray, R.E.P.G.C.; Albert Getchell, Grand Senior Warden; Charles Fowler, Grand Junior Warden; William F. Lott, Grand Treasurer: Vincent Cowie. Grand Warder; Arthur Pugh, Grand Marshal; and Edward Nordstrom, Grand Organist. Sir Knight Walter Whitman, Eminent Commander of St. John's Commandery No. 11 led the fight by forming an armed escort to safely protect the Connecticut grand officers on their way into the asylum. With swords drawn, the escort then brought the "Invaders" from Massachusetts and Rhode Island into the asylum where they were easily subdued, having first been amply fed a delicious roast beef supper. All turned out amicably enough, and tributes were exchanged to commemorate the battle.

Sir Knight Poyton remarked on the proud history of both St. John's Commanderies, and though perhaps somewhat subdued, still claimed the right of the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island to be accorded first place among Grand Commanderies whenever on parade.

To toll the Connecticut victory, Sir Knight Whitman arranged for several ringing selections by the English Hand Bell Ringers of the Methodist Church in

from the Masonic Family

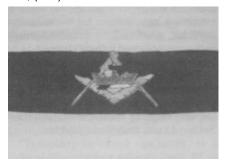
Vernon, Connecticut, a most fitting and entertaining way to conclude what might have been a bloody affair.

Contributed by Charles B. Fowler G. Jr. W. Grand Commandery of Connecticut

Patches and Cummerbunds To Benefit Knights Templar Eye Foundation

The patch is solid embroidery. The crown is gold metallic thread. It is $4^{1}/_{4}$ -in, long and 4-in, wide. Send \$6.00 and 290 postage.

The cummerbund with patch is \$15.00 plus \$3.00 for postage. Send waist measurement. Jennie Lutes makes the cummerbunds and sews the patches on them. Profit on these items will be divided between Columbus Assembly No. 226, S.O.O.B., and the KTEF. Order from Jennie Lutes, 2690 Pearl Street, Columbus, IN 47201. (812) 372-5490.



Jerold J. Samet, 61st Grand Master The International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay

Jerold J. Samet of Silver Spring, Maryland, was installed as the 61st Grand Master of DeMolay at the 72nd International Council Session held in Novi, Michigan.



The Order of DeMolay, with its positive fraternal atmosphere, builds young men into better citizens and leaders while providing them the opportunities to participate in community service, develop management skills, travel, develop leadership skills, participate in sports activities, and develop organizational skills. These young men will join together to strengthen our nation's youth.

Grand Master Samet has been honored with the Degree of Chevalier, Legion of Honor, and Cross of Honor of the Order of DeMolay.

Jerry's Masonic career began in 1966, when he was Raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in Osiris Lodge No. 26 (now Osiris-Pentaipha Lodge No. 23) in the District of Columbia. He advanced to serve as Worshipful Master in 1973 and since then, has had a star-studded Masonic career.

History of the Grand Encampment

Chapter XXII Uniforms The Uniform Of A Knight Templar

(Continued)

Due to war time shortage of materials, it became impossible to obtain uniforms, and on May 12, 1942, Grand Master Harry Pollard issued the following Edict:

War Production Board General Conservation Order M-73-2 states in substance:

No person shall put into process, or cause to be put into process by others for his account, any wool cloth in the manufacture of full dress coat, a cutaway coat, or a double breasted tuxedo coat after May 30, 1942.'

"An appeal for reconsideration and relief from this order was denied by the W.P.B., therefore, by this edict, the provisions of Section 62 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S.A. are declared to be suspended form May 30th, 1942 until further notice is officially promulgated.

"In consequence thereof, Grand Commanders and their constituent all Commanderies. and Subordinate Commanderies, of obedience and allegiance to the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S.A. are advised as follows in view of the current difficulty in obtaining Templar uniforms and equipment:

1. Existence of war conditions does not authorize waver or avoidance of the requirement of the Grand Encampment constitution that each Knight Templar

must be provided with a Templar uniform.

- "2. If it is found impossible to obtain the uniform for a candidate at the time his petition is presented, Commanderies may, in lieu of purchase of a uniform, accept with his petition for the Order a sum of money equal to the then last customary price for uniform of the type used by the respective Commandery. In no event however, shall a petitioner receive the Orders unless provision has been made for his uniform either through actual purchase or by deposit of purchase price.
- 3. All funds received by any Commandery in lieu of purchase of uniforms shall be maintained in a trust fund and under no circumstances shall be expended for any other purpose except to proper investment in approved securities.
- "4. Immediately upon availability of uniforms the impounded money shall be expended for a uniform for the respective petitioner, which uniform must be delivered to him promptly and without charge."

This led to the proposal of an amendment to Section 41 and Section 62 of the Constitution to do away with the deposit for uniforms, at least for the duration. Section 41 was amended as follows:

"It shall require each member of its constituent Commanderies to be provided with a Templar uniform, and to that end it may prescribe such uniform and change the same from time to time. If it fails to so prescribe, the uniform shall be that prescribed by the Grand Encampment for members of a Subordinate Commandery."

"Provided, however, that for the duration of the present war, and until the close of the Triennial period following the

ending of said war, the said constituent Commanderies may waive the requirement that each of its members be provided with a Templar uniform."

This amendment was brought before the Triennial Conclave in 1943. After considerable discussion during which the following ideas were expressed, the amendment was lost:

"Anybody that we trust, that we will bring into this Great Order of Knights Templar, if he pledges himself to procure a uniform, we ought to trust him just as much as we ask him to trust us." Dietzman P.K.C. Ky.)

"Invariably the first question was How much will it cost me?' I would say, Well, the initiation fee is \$50 and then you will have to deposit the price of a uniform which is approximately \$75.' Then he says, 'Well, in the event I put that up, when do I get my uniform?' We say, 'We do not know that you will ever get it.' (Pinney, P.G.C. Ky.)

"I see no reason why we should make a man put up a deposit for a uniform when you cannot give it to him. But I see no reason why we cannot make our fees enough so that when the war is over, and we can get uniforms, that we can say, 'Now, Sir Knight, we want you to be like the rest of us, we want you to be outfitted like we are, and we are going to give you a uniform.' " (Villee, D.G.C. Miss.)

"Templary in some respects, is a luxury. Men do not usually belong to it—they ought not to belong to it if spending the money would result in inconvenience to their families. Imagine, it you can, holding a parade without the uniform. Well, we would just pass out, as a body." (Orr, Grand Master-elect)

"I am one of those who believes that if we once start in at this thing, that ultimately we will lose the uniform of this body." (Gaylord, Grand Generalissimo elect.)

When this amendment failed, the proposal to amend Section 62 was withdrawn.

In 1945, Sir Knight Voorhis (134) published his "Thumbnail Sketches of Medieval Knighthoods," and gave the following reasons for changing the present Templar uniform:

1—There has always been the matter of cost. It is a distinct disadvantage in obtaining candidates for Knighthood Orders. Many, many excellent Freemasons have been kept from our membership because their financial situation would not permit the expense incurred. For those already Knighted who aspire to office, there is the double burden of additional cost to Commanders and Grand Officers.

'2—There is the general dislike among a majority of Masons to the wearing of any uniform, especially in public. This has also kept many from becoming candidates. it also keeps many from our meetings who will go through what they consider an ordeal of becoming a member in a uniform, but who will not don it any more.

"3—There can be no doubt whatever about the Templar uniform being the most uncomfortable to the wearer of any uniform worn.

"4—To the public, our display of so-called military tactics, conducted by handfuls of middle aged and elderly men in wrinkled, sagging or pinched apparel, with an atrocious use of the sword, is worse then amusing.

"5—That the Templar dress is incongruous for use in conferring the Order of the Temple which is a religious ceremony. Some portions of ritual have been changed to fit in with our uniform, whereas nothing should have been done with the ritual but a uniform made to suit it.

"6—That the matter of transporting this bulky uniform and trappings to places of meeting is not to our advantage."

IN MEMORIAM



Ralph J. Ely **New York** Grand Commander-1969 Born February 12, 1904 Died November 18, 1992

Frank Robert Hauelsen New Hampshire **Grand Commander-1979** Born September 13, 1917 Died November 28, 1992

Marshall Martin Casdorph West Virginia **Grand Commander-1978** Born September 4, 1907 Died December 20, 1992

Canton Baird Penzien Michigan **Grand Commander-1977** Born November 18, 1929 Died December 29, 1992

Robert W. Smith Colorado Grand Commander-1963 Born April 27, 1911 Died December 31, 1992

Maurice LeVerne Johnson Michigan **Grand Commander-1972** Born December 19, 1907 **Died January 11, 1993**

100% Life Sponsorship **Knights Templar Eye Foundation**

St. Omer Commandery No. 19 Bristol, TN

Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. **New Club Memberships**

Grand Commander's Club

Indiana No. 25-John H. Jessen, Sr. Ohio No. 42-Robert R. Renkel Texas No. 76-B. M. Thompson Washington No. 6-Thomas T. Lanman, Jr. Georgia No. 108-Hugh L. Faulk II Ohio No. 43-Herbert H. Maurer Ohio No. 44-Edward C. Peter Tennessee No. 51-Robert F. Henderson Virginia No. 30-Paul A. Gilmore Virginia No. 31-W. M. Peterson Virginia No. 32-Commodore Dewey Elliot, Jr. Virginia No. 33-Cabell F. Cobbs Arizona No. 35-Barclay F. Kipp Massachusetts No. 26-James W. Dunriell in memory of father, James Dunnell Illinois No. 47-Eugene R. Baker Georgia No. 109-Nancy P. Pearson District of Columbia No. 16-Caulder B. Morris Connecticut No. 14-John G. Radeach Florida No. 56-George W. Spencer Florida No. 57-Leslie J. Williams Colorado No. 28-James C. Davis

Grand Master's Club

No. 1,897-in memory of George William Manzke, Sr., by Douglas M. Dwyer (VA)

No. 1,898-Harry W. Lister (CA)

No. 1,899-Russell L. Newman (OH)

No. 1,900-Lewis W. Lindemer (MN)

No. 1,901 -William C. Kimes(OH) No. 1,902-Donald W. Best (PA) by Charles A.

No. 1,903-Steven T. Martin, Jr. (CT)

No. 1,904-Hugh H. Wilson (MI)

No. 1,905-William E. Berry (KY)

No. 1,906-William R. Squier (PA)

No. 1,907-4n memory of Douglas K. Phillips by William R. Squier

No. 1,908 through No. 1,924 were contributed by the LVIII Triennial Committee, John C. Werner II, Chairman

No. 1,908-Marvin E. Fowler (DC)

No. 1,909-John C. Werner II (DC)

No. 1,910-Robert V. Hines (DC)

No. 1,911-Walter H. Kitts (DC)

No. 1,912-Lester A. Foster (DC)

No. 1,913-William T. Cox (DC)

No. 1,914-Thomas E. Weir (DC)

No. 1,915-Charles Iversen (DC)

No. 1,916-Richard B. Baldwin (DC) No. 1,917-Russell E. Tazelaar (DC)

No. 1,918-Marion K. Warner (DC)

No. 1,919-Edward R. Saunders, Jr. (DC)

No. 1,920-Edgar L. Gresham (DC)

No. 1,921-Robert D. McMarlin (DC)

No. 1,922-James Gardner (DC)

March 1993 18 No. 1,923-Milton Daniels (DC)

No. 1,924-Gil Dehnel (DC)

No. 1,925-Armen J. Gheblikian (GA)

No. 1,926-Dr. Pierre Noel, G.M. Belgium (MD) by Thomas E. Weir

No. 1,927-William Van Zile (WI) by Ivanhoe Commandery No. 24

No. 1,928-John J. 01k (WI) by Ivanhoe Commandery No. 24

No. 1,929-Clyde White (WI) by Ivanhoe Commandery No. 24

No. 1,930-Wayne Leverenz (WI) by Ivanhoe Commandery No. 24

No. 1,931-W. Bruce Pruitt (CA)

No. 1,932-Charles W Lee (MO) by Donald C.

Treece

How to Join: Any individual may send a check in the amount of \$100 or more specified for the purpose of beginning a Grand Commander's Club membership and made payable to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. This initial contribution will begin your Grand Commander's Club membership. In addition, members of the Grand Commander's Club pledge to make annual contributions of \$100 or more. Once contributions total \$1,000, the individual is enrolled in the Grand Master's Club. Membership is open to individuals only, and there is now Commandery credit given for participation. Information is available from: Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 579, Springfield, IL 62705, (217) 523-3838.

New Grand Master's Club And Grand Commander's Club Pins

Grand Master Thornley is pleased to announce that, for all who became members of the Grand Master's and Grand Commander's Club after July 1, 1992, new pins will be issued at no charge to the recipients. If you became a member of either club prior to that date and would like a pin for yourself, send a \$10.00 donation to the Eye Foundation in Springfield and you will receive one.



Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. Twenty-fifth Voluntary Campaign

Campaign report by Grand Commanderies for KTEF Officers and Trustees for the week ending February 5, 1993. The total amount contributed to date is \$326.782.54

Alabama	\$5,585.00
Arizona	3.051.00
Arkansas	
California	
Colorado	4 344 29
Connecticut	5 666 50
Deleviere	4 200 05
Delaware	1,398.95
District of Columbia	24,979.82
Florida	10,034.20
Georgia	24,975.79
Idaho	475.00
Illinois	7 907 00
Indiana	
lowa	2 016 12
Vanaga	1 267 00
Kansas	1,207.00
Kentucky	7,810.55
Louisiana	5,103.60
Maine	5,146.30
Maryland	4,210.00
Mass./R.1	5.350 00
Michigan	7 803 80
Minnesota	6 882 70
Mississippi	2 356 00
Missouri	Z,330.00
Montana	
Nebraska	
Nevada	
New Hampshire	170.00
New Jersey New Mexico	2,390.00
New Mexico	6.816.00
New York	6 356 70
North Carolina	6 589 00
North Dakota	2 270 00
Ohio	6 007 40
Oldeberer	0,007.40
Oklahoma	1,667.00
Oregon	2,290.00
Pennsylvania	15,782.00
South Carolina	4,907.10
South Dakota	1.280.00
Tennessee Texas	13.602.88
Tevas	20,838,00
Litah	3 463 34
Utah Vermont	270.00
Verificial -	370.00
Virginia	10,222.90
Washington	26,800.00
West Virginia	10,825.00
Wisconsin	6,600.75
Wyoming	1,918.31
Honolulu No. 1 Alaska No. 1, Fairbanks	50.00
Alaska No. 1 Fairbanks	100.00
Porto Rico No. 1	100 00
Ivanhoo No. 2 Mayiga	20.00
Talora No. 4, IVIEXICO	20.00
1 OKYO NO. 1	
Ivanhoe No. 2, Mexico Tokyo No. 1 Heidelberg No. 2, Germany	1,475.00
Miscellaneous	13,636.56

Benito Pablo Juarez (1806-1872) from 10,000 Famous Freemasons by William R. Denslow

Mexican patriot and president. b. March 21, 1806 in San Pablo Guelatao, Oaxaca, Mexico. His parents were pure Indian and died when he was four years old. He was reared by an uncle and received a good education. Admitted to the bar in 1834, he practiced law in Oaxaca until 1846, and was elected governor of that state in 1847. He was expelled by Santa Anna, q.v., in 1853, but returned in 1855 to join Alvarez in a revolution against Santa Anna. As minister of justice under Alvarez, he wrote the Lev Juarez" in 1855, which abolished special courts and reduced the power of the army and the church, as both had been practically immune under the special courts. When Comonfort became president, he feared the power of Juarez so he named him as governor of Oaxaca. Juarez again made many reforms in finance and education of that state and was regularly elected governor in 1857. He also was elected governor president of the supreme court at that time, which under the new constitution made him virtually vice president. Comonfort was forced by the liberal press to make him secretary of the interior. He was provisional

president of Mexico after Miramon from 1857-61. Three years of civil war followed, but he was elected president for term 1861-65, and by self-proclamation president from 1865-67, as elections were impossible because of the French invasion. He fought against Emperor Maximilian, and the French, and finally captured him and had him shot, June 19, 1867. He was elected president for two more terms-1867-87, and his later administrations were marked by many reforms and revolutions. For his honesty he is often called the "Washington of Mexico" and for his reforms, the "Lincoln of Mexico." He was prominent in Masonry, serving as master and rising to sovereign inspector general in the Mexican AASR, 33°. His authority seemed to keep the rites together because after his death dissension arose and they broke up. Maximilian is said to have been made a Mason in Austria. He was patron of Masonry in Mexico, but it is not known whether he attended any Masonic meetings there. It is claimed that Maximilian appealed to Juarez as a Mason to save his life but Juarez proved the Emperor was not a Freemason. d. July 18, 1872.

"NEW" Knights Templar Medicare Supplement Plan

Updated to meet the New Federal Guidelines

If you are eligible for Social Security Medicare, you also need a plan that picks up the deductibles Medicare does not pay. The **New** Knights Templar Medicare Supplement plan does just that and even more!

To receive your free enrollment packet in the mail, call our Insurance Administrator toll free:

1-800-336-3316.

Nursing Home Insurance

Sponsored by Grand Encampment Knights Templar

A stay in the nursing home can drain your lifelong savings. To protect those savings your Grand Encampment sponsors the Knights Templar Long Term Care Nursing Home Insurance Plan for the benefit of Sir Knights and their ladies.

To receive your free enrollment packet in the mail, call our Insurance Administrator toll free:

1-800-336-3316

Public Relations or Public Recognition Which is it?

by Sir Knight William J. Schatz II, P.C.

Public Relations or Public Recognition - which is it? Which has more bearing on what we as Knights Templar must do in and about our communities in order to awaken our friends, neighbors, and even our relatives to our organization? I am of the firm opinion that public recognition is what we need for ourselves as well as for our Commanderies.

Recently a Sir Knight wanted to make a visit to a friend's Commandery some distance from his home. He called his friend and secured the directions to the Masonic Temple in this small upcountry town.

Feeling secure that he would have no problems on that fateful day, he was enjoying his trip through the countryside and arrived in the designated town with plenty of time to spare, or so he thought.

He traveled to the main street and proceeded to cruise it from one end to the other, but he found no Masonic Temple. Thinking that he may have overlooked it even though the traffic was very light, he went back from whence he came. Still no Masonic Temple. He spotted a firehouse, and the firemen were busy cleaning their trucks. He inquired of them the whereabouts the elusive Masonic of Unfortunately, none of them knew where it was located. But one of them suggested that he may have the wrong town or perhaps the wrong address, and he proceeded to give my friend directions to the only fraternal building that he knew of in town. It turned out to be the local Eagles' aerie.

My friend returned to the main street and again proceeded to look for the elusive Masonic Temple. He spotted a young

woman walking her baby, but she was of no help to him. As he was about to get into the car, he noticed a gentleman relaxing on his front porch. My friend inquired of him the whereabouts of the Masonic Temple. This friendly gentleman told him that he had been an employee of the city for more than twenty years and that he had never heard of a Masonic Temple. My friend was about to return to his car when this fine fellow said, "Wait a minute, is that the place where all the Masons meet?" My friend assured him that that was the place he was seeking. The gentleman told my friend that it was right down the street about one and a half blocks on his left, but to be cautious as he might drive past it since the sign was between the second and third floor and very difficult to see.

Well, my friend made his meeting, but I hope you recognize that even people who should know where the Masonic Temple is, often don't know. In fact, in this case so few knew of its location that you might say it was one of the best kept secrets in this town.

What about your Commandery? Are you hidden away so that no one can find you? Are you making your organization a secret to your community and neighbors? Is there some form of recognizable sign indicating where and what you are?

One of the smallest Commanderies in my area, each year has a photographer from the local newspaper come in and take pictures for publication of their annual installation. Later on in the year, they give the paper a news release about the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Everyone in that

community is aware of who the Knights Templar are, of where they are, and of the good works of the organization.

If your funds are limited, there are still many community activities in which your Commandery can participate, such as sponsoring a youth baseball team. Each team member becomes a walking, talking billboard for Knights Templar with the logo spread across the back of his shirt. Because of this, the community knows who the sponsor is, and your returns could be a thousand-fold.

Perhaps you can get a group to man the phones during a telethon or a radio call-in show. Why not offer to provide drivers to take people to meals-on-wheels or to take infirm folks to their doctors or to the store or wherever they need to go?

It is this kind of community effort that will benefit everyone, and the warm feeling you will experience from helping someone who is really in need will be with you for a long time. Why not organize a group to speak to other organizations about the Knights Templar programs and most especially our Knights Templar Eye Foundation? Make sure the presenters are well informed about Knights Templar and the Knights Templar Eye Foundation before they go in front of an audience to speak. It would certainly be embarrassing if they could not come up with the correct answers to some basic questions that are sure to be asked.

But most of all - let people know that you are a Knight Templar and that you are proud of it.

Sir Knight William J. Schatz II, P.C. and a member of Allen Commandery No. 20, Allentown, Pennsylvania, is a member of the Public Relations Committee of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania. His address is R.D. Box 337-2E, Ebling Road, Kutztown, PA19530

Recipients of the Grand Encampment Membership Jewel

- Donald E. Peterson (with 2 bronze dusters), Kanawha Commandery No. 4, Charleston, WV. 12-23-92.
- 34 Thomas H. Underwood (with 2 bronze clusters), Kanawha Commandery No. 4, Charleston, WV. 12-23-92.
- 35. Robert W. Heatherly, Kanawha Commandery No. 4, Charleston, WV. 12-23-92.
- 36. Lewis D. Prather, Kanawha Commandery No. 4, Charleston, WV. 12-23-92.
- 37. Donald A. Chiavaro, Duquesne Commandery No. 72, Penn Hills, PA. 5-1-92.
- 38. W. Bruce Pruitt, Palo Alto Commandery No. 47, Palo Alto, CA. 2-4-93.
- 39. Charles S. Canning, Allen Commandery No. 20, Allentown, PA. 2-4-93.

Dr. Edward Maumanee Receives Plaque for Service to the Eye Foundation

At the Annual Banquet of St. Bernard Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, in Mobile, Alabama, on Saturday, January 23, 1993. Dr. Edward Maumanee was presented a plaque of appreciation for his years of service to the Knights Templar Eve Foundaion. The plaque presentation was the highlight of the evening and in his remarks following the presentation, Dr. Maumanee expressed his thanks and gratitude to the Grand Encampment, the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, and all the Grand Encampment officers, especially the late - C. Wilbur Bell, who have given him the



opportunity to be of service. In the picture Dr. Edward Maumanee (left) receives the plaque from Sir Knight Joseph D. Brackin, Past Department Commander and contributor of this article and picture.

Arizona Past Grand Commanders Perform the Flag Ceremony at the Annual Installation of Tucson Assembly No. 115 Social Order of the Beauceant



On January 8, 1993, the flag was four Past presented bγ Grand Commanders of Arizona, at the installation of the Worthy President, Julene Schaeffer. The picture was taken after the ceremony. Shown left to right are Sir Knights Russell Amling ano Lawrence Schaeffer; Worthy President Julene Schaeffer, and Sir Knights Olin Lehman. Nicholas Tambures Robert Danskin.

Thanks From Eye Foundation Recipients!

Dear Sir Knights:

My second cataract surgery was done December 9. I have 20/20 vision in my right eye done October 9. I'm sure my left eye will be 20/20 vision also. Dr. Crews is very pleased with my progress.

It just doesn't seem enough to say, Thank you," but I am very grateful for your generosity in giving me back my sight.

What a wonderful gift you have given me.

Sincerely, Mary Miller

This thank-you has been rewritten numerous times since my eye surgeries last summer. I was hoping to compose a "Thank you" special enough for the occasion; however, I have found that my creative attempts are inadequate to express my feelings of humility, joy, gratefulness, and awakening.

Because of your efforts and generosity, I can see things I can't remember seeing before. New sights range from details like leaves on trees to the three-dimensional perspective of scenery - plus more vivid color.

This new ability to see has enabled me to enjoy life more as well as to work with more ease and confidence.

So thank you for this wonderful gift of love that has given me more capability to pass it on to others.

Sincerely, Sharyn Miller

Sir Knight Alexander Loo of Georgia Installed Supreme Royal Patron, Supreme Council, Order of Amaranth



Sir Knight Alexander Loo of Augusta, Georgia, was installed as Supreme Royal Patron, Supreme Council, Order of the Amaranth, on July 1, 1992, in Toronto, Canada.

Sir Knight Loo is a member of the Royal Order of Scotland, Red Cross of Constantine, KYCH, Luther Palmer York Rite College, Georgia College of Societas Rosicruciana, Knight Masons of South Carolina, Georgia Lodge of Research, a 32° Scottish Rite Mason, KCCH, Past Venerable Master, a Noble of Alee Temple of Savannah of AAONMS, charter member of Legion of Honor of Alee Temple, Khorassan Grotto of MOVPER of Atlanta, and Past Watchman of Shepherds.

He is 10th District High Priest, R.A.M., and is recipient of the Grand Cross of Colors, International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, and recipient of the J. P. McMichael, Jr., Award for distinguished Masonic service.

In a current issue of the Knight Templar Magazine (October 1992), in the section entitled "Knight Voices" I was struck by a singular fact. After the first advertisement. the next eight in succession involved offers uniform equipment or jewelry sell emphasizing Commandery, and Masonic, associations. While it is not at all unusual to have one or two advertisements in a given issue of the Knight Templar Magazine, to have so many in succession is a striking declaration. Also, usually, there are one or two ads for the purchase of Knights Templar equipment. This time, there were none. Is there a serious thought to be drawn from such a circumstance?

Is it possible that the article, in the same issue, by Sir Knight 'Bill" Malina may have something to say to this possible problem?

The fact of the sale of uniforms and equipment could be subject to several interpretations:

- 1. That the owner has died, or retired to another area, and is desirous of getting something out of his extensive investment in Templar equipment;
- 2. The owner has lost interest in further participation;
- 3. There are no sons, nephews or other close friends or relatives who have been taught to respect the Commandery as an objective to be attained;
- 4. The equipment is too expensive to begin with, and too expensive to remodel or replace when worn out: and/or
- 5. A combination of any or all of the foregoing.

There is no question that, even under the best of circumstances, the uniform with all necessary accounterments is a substantial

Templary for Sale?

by Sir Knight Donald L. Dorward, KYCH

investment. If one elects to advance beyond the Baldric" stage, the additional investment becomes even more significant. Commanderies offer fewer and fewer opportunities to wear the uniform in public, and/or significant, other circumstances. It is a very rare young man, particularly one with family responsibilities, that can consider such an investment with today's 'cost-of-living."

One Commandery, with which I am familiar, has attempted to make the matter a little more reasonable. They maintain a supply of a number of new uniforms for the candidate to wear at his Knighting. Then the candidate is given the opportunity to purchase a uniform by payments over an extended period of time without additional charges. The ultimate cost Commandery is, while not insignificant, minimal compared to the benefit of having a substantial part of their membership in uniforms of excellent condition. Nevertheless. majority the vast Commanderies could not afford this kind of investment, and the

uniforms which are collected by most Commanderies are usually in such poor shape that it is an insult to Templary even to try to utilize them.

The cap and mantle program would be more appropriate, historically. These uniforms were modeled after the United States' Navy uniforms of the latter part of the 19th century. The cost also is considerably more reasonable, at the present time. However, the very restrictions which are put on the use of the cap and mantle restrict it to the point that it becomes an additional expense to those who would use it.

Other than financial, there are some other. potentially very significant, conclusions that can be drawn from the situation I have described. How many Knights Templar have sons and/or grandsons who are Masons? If the Masonic Fraternity is to mean anything to any of us, we should strive to make it meaningful to our sons so that they can follow us into the Masonic tradition. I became a Mason not because I knew anything much about Masonry, but because I had seen how much my father had desired to be a Mason and his extreme pleasure at finally achieving that goal. I had the pleasure of Raising my older son the year I was Master of my Lodge. To this date I have not succeeded in convincing my younger son that there is something of which he could be proud in becoming a member of the Masonic Fraternity. One f my two brothers-in-law is a Mason, his wife was a member of the Eastern Star, and my other sister was a member of Job's Daughters. Yet none of my five nephews have shown any interest at all in the Masonic Fraternity. This is where we, as Masons and even as Templars, have failed. We have failed to instill in our sons an understanding of the ultimate, laudable place of the Masonic Fraternity in our society today. The fact that, in overall giving, we are the greatest charitable organization in the world is meaningless, since the public at

large has little, if any, recognition of the extent of our activities.

If Masons, and this includes Templars, can't even display to our own families our pride in the accomplishments of the Masonic Fraternity, how can we hope to expand our contact with the rest of society?

The "boob tube" particularly has had an impact on social life in general, beyond all recognition. In the recent overriding of a presidential veto concerning the regulation of 'cable" TV, one legislator indicated that the sports fans of the country demanded control over the cost of cable TV. This shows the strength of the competition. It is a fact which is also made use of by those people who would willingly destroy the Masonic Fraternity.

We can't, or probably shouldn't, televise our meetings, but there is nothing in the world that would prevent us from being present, as Masons, for public occasions for laudable purposes. We have, in many cities, Veterans' Day parades, Memorial Day parades. Fourth of July Thanksgiving parades, Christmas parades, Columbus Day and Labor Day parades, etc. There are county fairs and state fairs where we can let the world know some of the things we do, particularly the Eye Foundation, the Educational Foundation, the Shrine Hospital. etc. As Masons we can volunteer for school activities and let our children see that there are things that Masons do which are for the good of humanity in general. We can have family days and friendship days where we can bring non-Masons to see the other side of the coin.

The plain and simple fact is that, if we don't do more to bring Masonry out into the public, eventually there will be no one left to buy the paraphernalia that we want to sell.

Sir Knight Donald L. Dorward, KYCH, is a member of Peoria Commandery No. 3, Peoria, Illinois. His address is Box 227, Washington, IL 61571

Thomas Catron - continued from page 8

County embraced the White Sands, scene of the alleged Fountain murders, removing the scene of the crime from the jurisdiction of Lincoln County. Public opinion was against Lee in Lincoln. He had been indicted for rustling there.

Fall was a talented and ruthless opponent. one who relished a fight. He orchestrated a brilliant defense for Lee and Gilliland at Hillsboro, which included brutal intimidation of prosecution witnesses. He raged at them during cross-examination until they were so terrified that their testimony was worthless. Fall wooed the citizens of Hillsboro and members of the press in attendance and succeeded in having the case tried relentlessly in the newspapers. Lee and Gilliland were portraved as humble, hardranchmen, who were beina persecuted by political opportunists. The ladies of the town even brought flowers to the court to show their support of the two maligned defendants. Fall's primary ploy

"Montezuma Lodge No. I filed charges against Thornton for un-Masonic conduct. In the wave of bickering and accusations that accompanied the charges, Grand Master John W. Poe suspended the charter of Montezuma Lodge on October 5, 1897."

in the case was his insistence that the prosecution had failed to prove the perpetration of the crime. In spite of Tom Catron's mighty and skillful prosecution, the outcome was obvious. The jury was out a matter of minutes before returning with a verdict of not guilty.

An interesting bit of history should be interjected at this point. Oliver Lee petitioned Sacramento Lodge No. 24, at Alamogordo,

New Mexico (near the White Sands), in 1907. He was rejected, presumably due to the adverse publicity surrounding the Fountain murders and Lee's trial. He petitioned the same lodge a second time in 1916, and was accepted. Oliver Lee received the Entered Apprentice Degree on October 14, 1916, but progressed no further.

Governor Bill Thornton and Tom Catron crossed swords during Poker Bill's tenure in office. He had published an article in his newspaper critical of Catron. As a result of the dispute, Montezuma Lodge No. 1 filed charges against Thornton for un-Masonic conduct. In the wave of bickering and accusations that accompanied the charges, Grand Master John W. Poe suspended the charter of Montezuma Lodge on October 5, 1897. He reinstated it on November 23, the vear. following investigation and recommendation by a committee of Past Grand Masters of New Mexico. Incidentally, he was the same John W. Poe who was one of Pat Garrett's two deputies at the shooting of Billy the Kid at Fort Sumner in 1881.

Thomas Catron was widely reported to hold title to more land than any other person in the United States in 1896. His holdings included portions of original Spanish land grants and other acreage totaling in excess of one million acres. These were exciting and turbulent times for Catron, and included at least one attempt on his life in 1891. He was sitting in front of a window during a meeting with associates, when an unknown assailant fired a shot at the figure in the chair. Catron had arisen only a moment before and his seat was taken by a political associate. J. A. Anchetta, who was badly wounded. The culprit was never apprehended, but Catron was reluctant to sit in front of a window for the next few years. Another famous episode was Tom's defense of four accused murderers of politically powerful Francisco Chavez of

Santa Fe. The infighting and political aftermath in the case resulted in an attempt to disbar Catron in 1895. Only the efforts of A. B. Fall and his Democratic constituents allowed Tom to survive the disbarment vote and extricate himself from the unfounded charges. Although he and Fall were political enemies, they always kept a line of communication open and held a grudging respect for each other.

Tom was elected to the United States Senate in 1912, the year that New Mexico became a state. Statehood was a dream Catron had cherished for 50 years. The

"Thomas Catron was a gifted speaker when the occasion demanded. He was gifted with a prodigious memory concerning facts relating to subjects of interest to him. One of his landmark senatorial addresses, entitled "Mexico, Its People and Their Customs," prompted by Villa the Pancho raid on Columbus, New Mexico, in 1916, remains as a classic in the congressional record."

second senator from the state was his old antagonist, Albert B. Fall, who had switched political parties. Together, the old enemies went to Washington to duel on a national battleground. Fall prospered mightily at the national level and eventually became Secretary of the Interior in the cabinet of Warren G. Harding. During Harding's scandal-ridden administration, Fall became embroiled in the Teapot Dome scandal and returned to New Mexico in disgrace. He served a year in prison after his conviction and died penniless at El Paso in 1944.

Thomas Catron was a gifted speaker when the occasion demanded. He was gifted with a prodigious memory concerning facts

relating to subjects of interest to him. One of his landmark senatorial addresses, entitled "Mexico, Its People and Their Customs," prompted by the Pancho Villa raid on Columbus, New Mexico in 1916, remains as a classic in the congressional record. Villa's attack on the small town with a large band who killed 19 Americans and wounded many more, prompted a punitive expedition into Mexico to capture him. General John J. Pershing was placed in command of the campaign. Pershing and his troops were recalled when the American presence in another country became an embarrassment in view of the state of war that existed in Europe in 1916.

Catron's law library was among the most extensive in the United States. He was an avid reader and student of history, particularly the campaigns of Napoleon and Herando Cortez. He ardently believed Cortez to be the greatest military leader who ever lived.

Thomas B. Catron returned to Santa Fe in 1917, a tired old warrior, scarred, but unbowed. He was happy to be home in familiar surroundings, among friends and fellow citizens, where his casual dress and rough manner had long before ceased to bother anyone.

He died on May 15, 1921, and his wish regarding a Masonic service was reverently administered by Montezuma Lodge. His last will and testament restated his love for Masonry, in addition to instructions for his final rites. Thus passed from the mortal scene one of New Mexico's most colorful pioneers. He was a fighting hero of the Civil War, one who continued battling for the balance of his life, the only difference being that the arena and rules changed. Thomas Benton Catron loved New Mexico and Freemasonry. His departure left a deep void in both communities. His sojourn among his peers had produced more good than bad. more friends than

enemies; and in the doing he provided a colorful and distinguished chapter in the history of the southwest.

References and Source Material

Martha Fall Bethune. Race With the Wind. Complete Printing, El Paso, Texas, 1989.

John S. Bowman (Editor), The Civil War Almanac, World Almanac Publications, New York, 1983.

William R. Denslow, 10,000 Famous Freemasons, Volume I and II,

Transactions of the Missouri Lodge of Research, 1960.

A. M. Gibson. The Life and Death of Colonel Albert Jennings Fountain, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, 1961.

William H. Leckie, The Brltak, Sc*h's, Lb1rsi1y of Oklahoma Press. Nloman. 1967.

Leon C. Metz, Pat Garrett, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, 1973.

James D. Richardson, Messages and Papers of the Presidents, Vol. XVIII, Bureau of National Literature, Inc., New York, 1922.

Robert M. Utley, Four Fighters of Lincoln County, University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque, 1985.

High Noon In Lincoln, U. of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque, 1987.

Herman B. Weisner, A. B. Fall and the Teapot Dome Scandal, Creative Designs, Inc., Albuquerque, N.M.,

Archives of the Grand Lodge of A.F.& A.M. of New Mexico, Santa Fe, including excerpts from The Fabulous Frontier by William A. Keleher.

Archives of the Valley of Santa Fe, AASR, S.J., Santa Fe,

Sir Knight Joseph E. Bennett, 33°, KYCH and P.D.D.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, is a member of Holy Grail Commandery No. 70, Lakewood, Ohio. He resides at 507 Ninth Street, Box 1928, Bandera, TX 78003



Joseph E. Bennett.

Let Your Masonic Event **Help The Knights Templar Eye Foundation**

Twelve-year Arizona Mason can help you design and market your special or fundraising event souvenir - commemorative coins, lapel pins and more. Call Sir Knight Sid Leluan, and he will quote special fraternal wholesale prices. "Feel proud? Show it!" Sid Leluan III, 5323 E. 10th Street, Tucson, AZ 85711-3116 or telephone 1-800-758-5890. Percentage of proceeds guaranteed to directly benefit KTEF.

March 1993 29



To place your "Knight Voices" Item on the waiting list for publication, type or print It and send to "Knight Voices," The Grand Recorder, 5097 N. Elston Avenue, Suite 101, Chicago, IL 606302460. Items submitted to Knight Templar that refer to Templar or Masonic subjects will continue to be printed free of charge. All other items should be accompanied by a \$5.00 remittance made payable to the Grand Encampment. Any submission may be subject to editing

Great gift idea for Past Commanders' night and incoming new Knights, and a great gift for any holiday - a beautiful Knights Templar certificate for sale. The certificate is 11x14 on blue parchment paper that is 80 lb. It has 4 different color inks, that are raised letter. The arch is a beautiful gold. The knight on horse is beautiful black, brown and red. The wording is in black fancy script lettering and off the sides of the arches are 6 different figures that are shadowed at 15%. The net proceeds from sale of this certificate will benefit the KTEF. Send \$7.00 to Stanley C. Buz, 219 S. 18th Street, Allentown, PA 18104. The certificate will be mailed to you within 7 days.

Wanted: Commandery equipment: swords, belts, chapeaux, uniforms, etc. Call Ray Tyner, 1-800-476-8580, St. Paul Commandery No. 24, Albany, GA.

Wanted: Commandery coat, size 56 short. If you have such a coat to pass on or sell, please contact Roy Bowman, Recorder Southern California Commandery, 395 South Thomas Street, Pomona, CA 91766.

Sir Knight in Commandery line needs to acquire a sword, belt, chapeau box, and maybe even a uniform, 42R - any or all. Randall J. Jones, Route No. 3, Box 159, Rogersville, MO 65742, (417) 869-2595 (work).

For sale: sword and case, chapeau, and 2 coats. Mrs. K R. Lear, 17 North Eastmoor Drive, New Bremen, OH 45869, (419) 629-2089 (home); (419) 394-2540 (office).

For sate: chapeau, worn twice, size 7l8, and case. Gene Overton, Route No. 2, Box 330, Haskell, Texas 79521.

I collect Knights Templar belt buckles from the oldstyle uniform that bears the individual Commandery's name. If you or your Commandery has an extra one that you could send for my collection, I would appreciate it. Willing to cover postage. Rev. Jan L. Beaderstadt, 3045 Decker Road, Decker, MI 48426.

For cap: sword belt with silver covering, size 60, new \$70; also size 60 blazers, 1 tan, 1 light blue, 1 burgundy, \$70 each; a Knights of Pytheaus fob, 3/4"x3/4", very old, good she, \$125; one 10K Knight Templar rung with 32°, eagles on one side and shrine on other, special made \$225; one 10K yellow gold Masonic ring with blue stone and square and compass—one side gavel, lop hat on other, \$200. Both rungs can be sized. Call (616) 53-276. Loren Lee.

Looking for sword of my father (d. 1926 when I was 6 mos. old). It has his name on it: Herman Spalding. He probably belonged to Medina Temple in Chicago area. Wife was Lagreta M. Spalding who said she returned Templar sword to his Lodge. One picture has a Shriner's crescent on his lapel; in another he is in full Templar uniform Homan P. Spalding, 210 S. Cowls Street, McMinnville, OR 97128.

For sate: 2-vol. set Mackey, Encyclopedia of Freemasonry, 1920, \$75; 1950 Hertel ed. Masonic 1g. Bible, \$50; Shrine Syria 1905 loving cup, \$85; Syria Shrine Champagne 1911. \$85; 19th cen. K.T. uniform. \$125; Hejaz Shrine fez, \$40; silver embroidered cross for K.T. chapeau, \$15; 1800's oak-chestnut pie safe with Masonic tins, \$1500. George Odle, 611 Sharon Drive, Johnson City, TN 37604, (615) 282-2337 or fax (615) 282-3550.

Perfect Union Lodge No. 1, F. & AM., New Orleans, Louisiana, is celebrating its 200th anniversary with medallions, both silver and bronze silver are 1 oz of .999 fine silver and of a limited edition, struck and numbered. Send a check or money order in the amount of \$20.00 for silver or \$5.00 for bronze. Add \$2.50 for shipping. Send check to Perfect Union Lodge No. 1, F & AM.. 1505 N. Woodlawn Avenue, Metairie, LA 70001

The Grand Lodge of Vermont kicks off its 1994 Bicentennial with an attractive lapel pin available for \$3.50. Features blue outline of Vermont, square, compasses, and G on while gold lettering 1794-1994 Vermont 200th." Remit payment to Grand Lodge of Vermont, 431 Pine Street, Burlington, VT 05401.

Weston Lodge No. 53, A.F. & A.M., of Weston, Missouri, in commemoration of its 150th anniversary, has had a special coin minted for the occasion. These bronze coins are available from the Lodge Secretary for \$5.50 each. Each coin is individually wrapped for protection. Ray H. Werner, 18335 Pleasantview Drive, Weston, MO 64098.

For sale: The Fellow Craft Club of Belmont No. 16, Ohio, has a number of Masonic signet style rings available, size 10 only (too hard and durable to be resized or damaged). They are bright stainless steel, deeply engraved with S&C on top, and trowel and level on sides. \$42 each: return for full refund if not pleased. Edward C. Mack, 66802 Anna Drive. St Clairsville. OH 43950.

Wanted: Masonic Chapter pennies by avid collector, building this collection for over 23 years - will one day end up in a Masonic museum. Why not find a home for your mark? I will gladly send you a check for one piece or for your collection. If you collect, I will exchange. I collect all varieties, and more than likely can use yours. Any assistance will surely be appreciated. Maurice Storck, Sr.; 775 W. Roger Road, No. 214; Tucson; AZ 85705; (602) 888-7585.

Wanted: I recently joined the Temple Pipes and Drums Corps, and would like to purchase a used set of Scottish bagpipes in good condition. Brother Bob Harner, 8915 Green Street, Wheelersburg, OH 45694, (614) 574-6115.

I have for sale 75 Masonic books in excellent condition. Will sell the entire group for \$375, plus postage. For additional information James P. Wagner, P.O. Box 662, Kingsport, TN 37662, (615) 246-2723.

New book: Wild West Characters, by Brother Dale Pierce, \$5.95 plus \$1.50 postage via Golden West Publishers, 4113 N. Longview, Phoenix, AZ 85014. Includes many biographies of western historical personalities with Masonic lies: Gov. Hunt, Frank Gotch, Phin Clanton, Kit Carson, Albert Pike, Zeb Pike, and more, plus several previously unpublished photos, amid an assortment of biographies concerning outlaws, lawmen and figureheads in western lore (not all Masonic, but a good portion of fraternal men represented)

Fraternal pranks, practical jokes, shenanigans and chicanery - If you have a knowledge, author would like to hear your examples. David Marshall, 4624 Old Wm. Penn Highway. Monroeville, PA 15146.

Wanted: Hear no, see no, and speak no evil" monkeys. I will pay reasonable price plus shipping. Send card with information and telephone number. Joe Riley, P.O. Box 58033, Raleigh, NC 27658, (919) 781-0861.

Want to buy: old tractors: John Deere models: A unstyled, B unstyled, L, LA, and any Waterloo Boy; also Allis Chamber model No. G. Also want John Deere horse drawn wagon. Grover Lee, Route 11, Box 316, Orange, TX 77630, (409) 745-3319

For sale: lots at Crystal Lake Cemetery, Penn and Dowling avenues, North; Minneapolis; Minnesota - Graves 1, 7, 8, and 9: Lot 211; Section M-21. \$450 per grave or best offer. Call Dorothy Mitchell, (813) 581-3553 or James Mitchell, (216) 273-6953.

I am looking for the following book, The Pirate by Sir Wailer Scott, if one of you have a book of this name, please write staling price in first letter. John C. Thomas, 2111 S. E. 52nd Street; Ocala, FL 34480-6159.

For sale: Four (4) burial spaces in Garden of Memories, Tampa, Florida. They lay at the brow of a small hill. I don't need them as I have other spaces. I want \$1,200.00 for them, but make offer. Charles C. Rushing, 3844 David Avenue, Webster, FL 33597.

Unit reunion contemplated: 76th Recon. Troop members, 1942-1946. Even if you trained with us and shipped out to another unit or have info on deceased members, please contact Bob Geberth, 68 Grove Street, Cooperstown, NY 13326.

A reunion will be held for the USS Gladiator and IJSS Sepulga, the last week of September and 1st week of October 1993 in Corpus Christi, Texas. Call Don Westerlund, Yeoman; 4708 E. Florian Circle, Mesa, AZ 85206, (602) 830-1161.

Reunion: 36th Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron, U.S.A.A.F., WWII, Kansas City, Missouri, September 17-18, 1993. James M. Chastain; 42900 South, 2075 West; Roy; UT 84067; (801) 731-4355.