

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR
COME HERE TO DECIDE
ON 1919 CONCLAVE

Choice of Philadelphia Dependent Only on Assurance of Adequate Accommodation for Grand Encampment

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

Members of the 1919 triennial convocation committee of the Knights Templar, including the Most Eminent Sir Leo S. Smith, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, arrived in this city today to attend the first session of that body in the Bellevue-Stratford tomorrow morning. The many visitors from the United States, field exercises will be held on Belmont plateau on Saturday afternoon when the Knights Templar of Pennsylvania will be reviewed for the first time in this city by the official head of the order since 1876.

The work before the committee is to give a final decision on the Philadelphia site for the convocation of the 1919 convocation, as was tentatively agreed upon last July in Los Angeles. A special committee composed of Leonidas P. Newby, of Knightstown, Ind., Grand Captain General of the Grand Encampment, acting as chairman; Robert S. Teague, of Montgomery, Ala., Past Grand Commander of Alabama; Albert W. Malson, of New Haven, Conn., Past Grand Commander of Connecticut; John D. Mulvan, of Rochester, N. Y., Past Grand Commander of New York; and Dr. A. Howard Thomas, of this city, Past Grand Commander of Pennsylvania, will ascertain if sufficient accommodation for the large attendance, expected to number 100,000, can be provided in this city. Members of the order here feel certain that a favorable report will be made at the session and presented to the Grand Master for his approval tomorrow evening.

ENTERTAINMENT FOR KNIGHTS

The positive selection of Philadelphia for the convocation will assure a hurried struggle by the delegates of the various States to engage hotel reservations for their respective bodies. The first choice of headquarters and rooms is given to the Grand Encampment, composed of the past grand commanders of all States. The arrangements for the different States are to be made afterward.

There are few cities other than Philadelphia that can provide for the great attendance expected from the entire United States, from Canada and abroad. A tremendous expense for entertainment will have to be incurred. No less than 50,000 Knights Templar will parade on the second Tuesday of September, 1919, and it will be a tire day for the line to pass any given point.

SATURDAY FIELD DAY REVIEW

The field day exercises to be held on Saturday will be the largest in the history of the eastern Pennsylvania division owing to the unexpected presence of the grand master, Leo S. Smith, who announced that he would take advantage of his visit and conduct an inspection. The various commanders are drilling and appointed committees to care for the arrangements of the parade on Belmont plateau. Although the Pennsylvania Templars have been inspected many times in other States, the proceedings on Saturday will be the first official review held in Philadelphia since 1876.

More than 20,000 knights will take part in the big review. The commanders will leave Masonic Temple on Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock, taking special trains from Broad Street Station direct to Fairmount Park. The division will be under the command of Eminent Sir W. Freehand Kendrick, with Congressman George P. Darwin as his chief of staff.

An elaborate display of fireworks will be given in the evening.

MONSIGNOR McDEVITT
CONSECRATED BISHOP

Continued from Page One
when they hear the final words of their Divine Master, "And behold I am with you." With these words Jesus strengthens the souls of the apostles to enable them to carry bravely the important and weighty apostolic burden which He placed upon their shoulders.

SANCTITY OF CHURCH

"In these words Christ promised the lasting stability and sanctity of His Church," says St. Jerome, "and assured His disciples that He would remain with them forever, and make them victorious in their descendants and successors."
"The result of this promise is written large on every page of the world's history. Today we are witnesses of a scene like unto that which was enacted in Jerusalem over nineteen hundred years ago. A vacancy occurs in the apostolate; Peter, in the person of his successor, says it is time to fill it; candidates are presented and considered; the direction of Almighty God is asked in prayer, and the lot falls upon Philip. God chooses him, Jesus calls him, Peter appoints him, and Bishops, in union with the Holy See, consecrate him. The examination as to his fitness, which he has passed successfully, proves him; the profession of faith, which he has made without reservation, tests him; and the richness and fullness of the ceremonial teaches him the dignity and responsibility of the episcopal office."
"It is not in keeping with the spirit of the Church to praise either the living or the dead in her temples. We are in the presence of the meek and humble Jesus, who

invited all His followers to learn these two virtues from His Sacred Heart, and who taught them to us by the very lowliness of the sacramental species. Moreover, we Him King. He fled from them and hid Himself, and when they called Him good, He alone. If he who is raised to God today today desired the praise of men, he would not be worthy of this high office, and if the preacher on this occasion were willing to give it, he would be unworthy of this pupil.

"It would be superfluous even if permitted, Bishop McDevitt's life in our midst has always been in the public eye, and if any one were to challenge his sanctity today, he might say with His Divine Master: 'The works themselves that I do sent me.' (St. John V, 36.)"

MIGHT GIVE ASSURANCE

"We might assure him with all truthfulness that if his name had been presented to the Church of Philadelphia as the name of Jerusalem, it would not have been a dissenting voice in his election. Or, if Bishops were still chosen as of old by acclamation, his name would have been on many lips."
"If today children had a voice in such matters, not one only but thousands would cry out, 'Let Philip be Bishop!'"

"Let us rather console him at this moment, when he is confronted with the very grave responsibilities of the episcopate, by reminding him that Christ has chosen him for this office, as He chose the apostles, because He has chosen you, and you have chosen Him. He said, 'but I have chosen you, and you should go forth, and your fruit shall remain.' (St. John xvi, 14.)"

"What can mere man add to this? Go forth, then, Bishop McDevitt, to Harrisburg without fear, because Christ has chosen you! Go forth with confidence, because He has promised fruitfulness to your labors! Go forth with joy, because He assures you that the fruit shall remain, not only in His augmented kingdom on earth, but in His triumphant kingdom in heaven, where you and your spiritual children shall enjoy the reward of the faithful forever."

The actual consecration took place just before the division of the mass, when the assistant consecrators and the bishop-elect moved to the main altar. There the three consecrators imposed their hands on the head of the bishop-elect and the Litany of the Saints was sung. Then the bishop-elect was anointed on the head and hands with blessed oil, the crozier, or pastoral staff, was placed in his hands, the episcopal ring was put on his finger and the book of gospels was given him with the injunction to preach the faith of Christ.

As the mass drew to a close the new bishop received the mitre, the particular headpiece of a bishop, and he enthroned on the bishop's seat at the altar. While the Te Deum, or hymn of thanksgiving, was sung, the new bishop, accompanied by the two assistant bishops, moved through the congregation giving his blessing. After three invocations were chanted by the new bishop, wishing his consecrator length of days, he received the kiss of peace from the three consecrating prelates, and the ceremony concluded with the Gospel of St. John.

The musical program, which was carefully selected, lent a charm to the ceremony. The offertory was sung by a male chorus of twelve voices. The chorus was led by William S. Thunder. Gounod's "Salutaris" was rendered in a superb manner. Mendelssohn's "March" was played as the procession entered the church. Before the procession arrived "Toccata," by Du Bois, was played on the organ. The only solo was sung by Wilbur Herzig.

Among the prominent city officials who attended the ceremonies were Mayor Smith and Joseph P. Gaffney, chairman of Council's Finance Committee.

Other prelates in attendance were Bishop Regis Cavanaugh, Pittsburgh; Bishop Eugene A. Garvey, Altoona; Bishop M. J. Hoban, Scranton; Bishop Dennis J. Dougherty, Buffalo; Bishop Thomas J. Shahan, rector Catholic University, Washington; Bishop C. W. Currier, Washington; Bishop Ferdinand Broome, Covington, Ky.; Bishop J. Henry Tihen, Lincoln, Neb., and Bishop Louis S. Walsh, Portland, Me.

FIRST MASS SUNDAY

The first pontifical mass of his career will be celebrated by the newly consecrated Bishop on Sunday at the Church of St. John the Evangelist. A reception will be given to the Bishop on Monday by the Alumnus Association of the Catholic Girls' High School. Although he was the director of all of the parochial schools, he was special head of this institution, and his offices were in the schoolhouse at Eighteenth and Wood streets.

The new Bishop is a native of this city and is fifty-eight years old. He received his elementary education in St. Michael's parish school and was graduated in 1877 from the La Salle College, St. Charles, Mo.

He entered the seminary of St. Charles in 1880, and was ordained to the priesthood thirty-one years ago by Archbishop Ryan.

His first mission was to the Green Mountains of Vermont. In one of his new bits he has selected a subject of timely importance, modern evangelism. The record is titled "The Old Country Fiddler Hears Billy Sunday," and the hero of the story, having become a staunch believer in the Sunday methods after a visit to the tabernacle, describes the noted religious orator. Thus are droilery and impressiveness combined. On the reverse side is "The Old Country Fiddler at the Wedding," in even lighter vein.

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