

goodly attendance, resulting in a club being organized, to be known as The Knights of King Arthur.

As the name would indicate, the order of meetings, officers, programmes, degrees and purposes of this Club are based upon the stories given to us in Tennyson's *Idylls of the King*.<sup>\*</sup> Thus, a stranger, happening to enter the room where a meeting is in progress, will see a round table surrounded by "Knights," "Esquires" and "Pages," who are bound by vows of utter hardihood and uttermost obedience to their king, who sits at their head, with his advisor (Merlin) upon his right hand, and the Seneschal or secretary upon the left. In the king's hand might be seen a sceptre, with which he directs the attention of his subjects. A stranger will notice also at the "conclave" two heralds, who carry banners,—one carrying a Union Jack, the other the banner of the Court, a Maltese Cross argent upon a field of gules. At each meeting these heralds proclaim the "purpose of our Ancient Order :"—

"We be bound hand and heart to achieve Christian knightliness. What harmeth body, defileth tongue or doeth ill to mind, cometh not to our conclave."

"To our great Empire we vow allegiance, its flag our banner, its chief our chieftain, its glory our knightly quest."

Besides the officers already mentioned, there are chancellors and councilors and a treasurer. The meetings are attended with great ceremonies, and the castle (Camelot) resounds with marching, declarations of loyalty and castle songs.

Other factors in the Club meetings are prayer, helpful talks by Merlin, current events, initiations to different degrees (Pages, Esquires and Knights), reports from committees, and biographies. Each member takes the name of some great and worthy man and by it is known in the club, prefixed by Sir (Sir Grenfell, Sir Knox, etc.). Before a page is eligible for Esquireship, he must prepare and read a biography of his knight.

All through last winter, the Club claimed the unflinching interest of some sixteen young men in the 'teen age. It proved an hour of enjoyment, to be looked forward to every week, and its success was pronounced. The

Club continued till June, and then it was thought wise to discontinue through the summer months. However, a camping expedition had been planned and during the first week of July the members experienced the delight of camp life spent on the shore of Old Lake Huron. This outing only augmented the interest and the first meeting in October registered a full attendance. The club had no setbacks and the last attendance was twenty-two.

NOTE—<sup>\*</sup>The full form of conclave, initiations, etc., are found in the book, *Knights of King Arthur*, by Forbush.

### Night in Palestine

The short time before and after sunset is the cool of the evening, when the dry wind from the land begins to blow, and quickly becomes cooler than the moist day-breeze from the sea.

In the mountain villages, as the evening shadows move up the glens, the jackals creep out and yelp to one another and provoke the challenge of the village dogs.

Half an hour after sunset the stars begin to rush forth and sparkle in the cloudless sky. As we look up at them, with so much of the diameter of the earth between us and the light, the sky appears darker and the stars larger, softer and more lustrous than in northern lands. They seem to stand out and reach down, as if expecting to be noticed. Travelers in the desert usually prefer to journey by night for greater coolness and safety, and still, like the Magi, take their guidance from the stars.

The moon, especially in autumn, shines with astonishing brightness, and the promise "nor the moon by night" is full of meaning in a land where it is dangerous to sleep under its rays, and where the traveler sometimes opens his sunshade to ward off the bewildering dazzle.

The time varies so little from day to day, and brings such a decisive change as to light and darkness, that appointments made with reference to sunrise and sunset have a precision that would be impossible in a land of clouds and prolonged twilight.—Mackie's *Bible Manners and Customs*