

Kt. W. LaRue Thomas, the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, the second occasion being the Twenty-fifth Annual Reception of York Commandery, at Madison Square Gardens, when a brilliant assembly of prominent members of the Order greeted the head of the Temple.

He referred to the satisfactory growth of the Order, and made the following wise remarks:—

Knight Templarism is an Order whose life must be in its growth and whose growth must be a healthy and permanent one. To largely increase the number of Sir Knights of any Grand Jurisdiction would be easily accomplished, but to increase it with that careful discrimination which marks the selection of only that which inures to the benefit and growth of the Body is a more difficult task, but one which characterizes the growth of the Order in this State.

The Committee on the address congratulated the Grand Commander upon his address and also upon the wise and dignified administration of affairs.

The Grand Commandery of Illinois also meeting the same day, a knightly exchange of telegrams, with fraternal greetings, took place.

The report of the Uniform Committee, which has been before the Grand Commandery for several sessions, was adopted. Among the changes we note black buttons to be worn instead of metal. Cap with turned down visor instead of the straight peak, which latter is found nowadays on messenger service, telegraph, railway and numerous other employees. Shoulder straps and crosses to be of dead gold bullion, and Officers to wear on the sleeves of their uniform stripes of navy gold lace, varying according to rank. A fatigue jacket was also adopted.

The executor of the widow of the late Past Grand Commander, Thomas C. Chittenden, in compliance with her request, presented to the Grand Commandery the Past Grand Commander's Jewel, given to him in appreciation of his long and faithful services to the Order