

**CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS AND
GENERAL REGULATIONS
OF THE
CONVENT GENERAL
OF THE
KNIGHTS OF THE YORK
CROSS OF HONOUR**

**Published by Order of Convent General
1973**

PREFACE

Convent General, at the Twentieth Annual Conclave, held in Chicago, Illinois, October 1, 1955, directed the law governing the Order to be published in loose-leaf form, the printing to be on one side only of each page.

From time to time, since the issuance of the loose-leaf edition, amendments have been made to the Constitution, By-Laws and General Regulations, all of which amendments have been printed and distributed to the Pories and members of Convent General.

The initial supply of the loose-leaf edition has been exhausted. This second printing is certified by the Jurisprudence Committee to contain all the law of the Order effective at the close of the Twenty-sixth Annual Conclave of Convent General held at Louisville, Kentucky, October 7, 1961.

Fraternally submitted,

Lewis E. Smith

Marvin E. Fowler

Herbert T. Leyland, Chairman
Jurisprudence Committee

Dayton, Ohio
May 1, 1962

CONSTITUTION
OF THE
CONVENT GENERAL
KNIGHTS OF THE YORK
CROSS OF HONOUR

As Revised October 7, 1972

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CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I—Names

Section 1—This Order shall be known as the Knights of the York Cross of Honour and designated by the initials "K.Y.C.H."

Section 2—The governing body shall be known as Convent General, Knights of the York Cross of Honour.

Section 3—A subordinate body shall be known as a Priory; a member thereof as a Knight.

ARTICLE II—Jurisdiction

Section 1—Convent General shall have sole and exclusive jurisdiction over the Order. Its Constitution, By-Laws and General Regulations shall be supreme. All Priories must conform to and abide by the same.

ARTICLE III—Membership of Convent General

Section 1—Convent General shall be composed of all Past Priors; the Prior, Deputy Prior and Warder of each Priory; the four members of the original Convent General* and the three Past Presidents of the York Quarto.**

Section 2—No Knight shall be entitled to serve as a representative of a Priory other than that of which he is a member.

ARTICLE IV—Officers

Section 1—The officers of Convent General shall consist of the following stations, who shall take rank in the order named:

1. Elective Officers:

Most Eminent Grand Master-General
Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master-General
Right Eminent Grand Warder of the Temple
Right Eminent Grand Treasurer-General
Right Eminent Grand Registrar-General
Right Eminent Grand Seneschal
Right Eminent Grand Marshal
Right Eminent Grand Sentinel

2. Appointive Officers:

Eminent Grand Prelate

* Rt. Em. Knights Junius S. Stearns, Louis F. Hart, Lee Griffin and J. Ed Stewart.

** Established in 1932 (now Knickerbocker Priory No. 3, K.Y.C.H.), namely, M. E. Knight George O. Linkletter, and E. Knights W. Ranney Wilson and Oliver H. LaBarre.

ARTICLE V — Eligibility

Section 1—Any member of Convent General may be elected to any office, provided however, that the Grand Master General may not succeed himself nor again serve in that office; providing further that a Grand-Master General, succeeding to that office by the death or permanent disability of his predecessor, may be elected to succeed himself for a period not to exceed one full term.

Section 2—No Knight shall be, or continue as officer or member of Convent General who is not a member in good standing of a Priory.

Section 3—Not more than one of the officers (other than the Grand Treasurer-General, Grand Registrar-General and Grand Prelate) of Convent General shall be elected from any one Priory.

Section 4—The Officers shall be elected and appointed at the Annual Conclave of Convent General. The Grand Prelate shall be appointed by the incoming Grand Master-General.

Section 5—The elective officers shall be installed either at the Annual Conclave of Convent General at which they are chosen, or by authority of the Grand Master-General, within any Priory. The Grand Master-General shall have power to authorize any Prior or Past Prior to act as his proxy to install a Grand Officer within a Priory.

Section 6—Every elective officer, previous to entering upon the duties of his office, shall be legally installed and shall make the following declaration: "I _____, do solemnly promise on my honor as a Knight of the York Cross of Honour, that to the utmost of my ability, I will strictly comply with the Constitution, By-Laws and General Regulations of Convent General, Knights of the York Cross of Honour."

Section 7—All officers of Convent General, when installed, shall retain their respective offices until their successors are duly elected, or appointed, and installed.

Section 8—In case of the death or permanent disability of the Grand Master-General, the Deputy Grand Master-General shall succeed to the office of Grand Master-General. If the period thus served by the new Grand Master-General exceeds six months, he will become a Past Grand Master-General. In the event of the death, permanent disability or resignation of any other officer during the interim between Annual Conclaves of Convent General, the Grand Master-General may appoint and install any member of Convent General to fill the vacancy so caused.

ARTICLE VI—Conclaves

Section 1—The Annual Conclave of Convent General shall be held in the month of September, October, or November of each year at such time and place as Convent General may designate. Special Conclaves may be held at the direction of the Grand Master-General. The Grand Master-General shall call a Special Conclave upon the request to him of ten (10) members of Convent General hailing from ten (10) different Priorities.

Section 2—A representation from 15 Pories shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a smaller number may meet and adjourn from day to day until a constitutional quorum be present.

ARTICLE VII—Powers

Section 1—The Convent General has the sole government and superintendence of the several Pories, with authority to settle controversies between them, to assign their limits, to prescribe laws and regulations for their government and to review, confirm or alter their decisions.

Section 2—Convent General has the power, under its seal and official signature of the Grand Master-General, Deputy Grand Master-General and Grand Registrar-General, to issue dispensations for and constitute new Pories. Convent General, when expedient, has the power to suspend or revoke the warrant of any Priory. The Grand Master-General, during the interim between Annual Conclaves of Convent General, may suspend the warrant of a Priory until the next Annual Conclave of Convent General.

Section 3—Convent General shall have the sole power to prescribe the forms and ceremonies of the Order including the opening and closing of Pories, installation of officers of a Priory and induction of candidates.

Section 4—Convent General shall have power to require from its Pories such dues and fees, from time to time, as will meet the needs of Convent General.

Section 5—For violation of any of its laws Convent General may reprimand, suspend or expel any of its members.

ARTICLE VIII—Miscellaneous Provisions

Section 1—The Grand Master-General shall preside at all Conclaves of Convent General; in case of his absence the Deputy Grand Master-General shall preside and in the absence of both officers the Junior Past Grand Master-General present shall fill the chair.

Section 2—The Grand Master-General, in addition to presiding at all Conclaves of Convent General, shall see that the duties of the Grand Registrar-General are faithfully performed. He shall appoint and be ex officio a member of all committees. As sovereign head of the Order, he shall make all decisions, which shall be subject to review at the Annual Conclave of Convent General.

Section 3—In addition to the Constitutional officers, Convent General may constitute such other offices as it may deem expedient for the dispatch of its business.

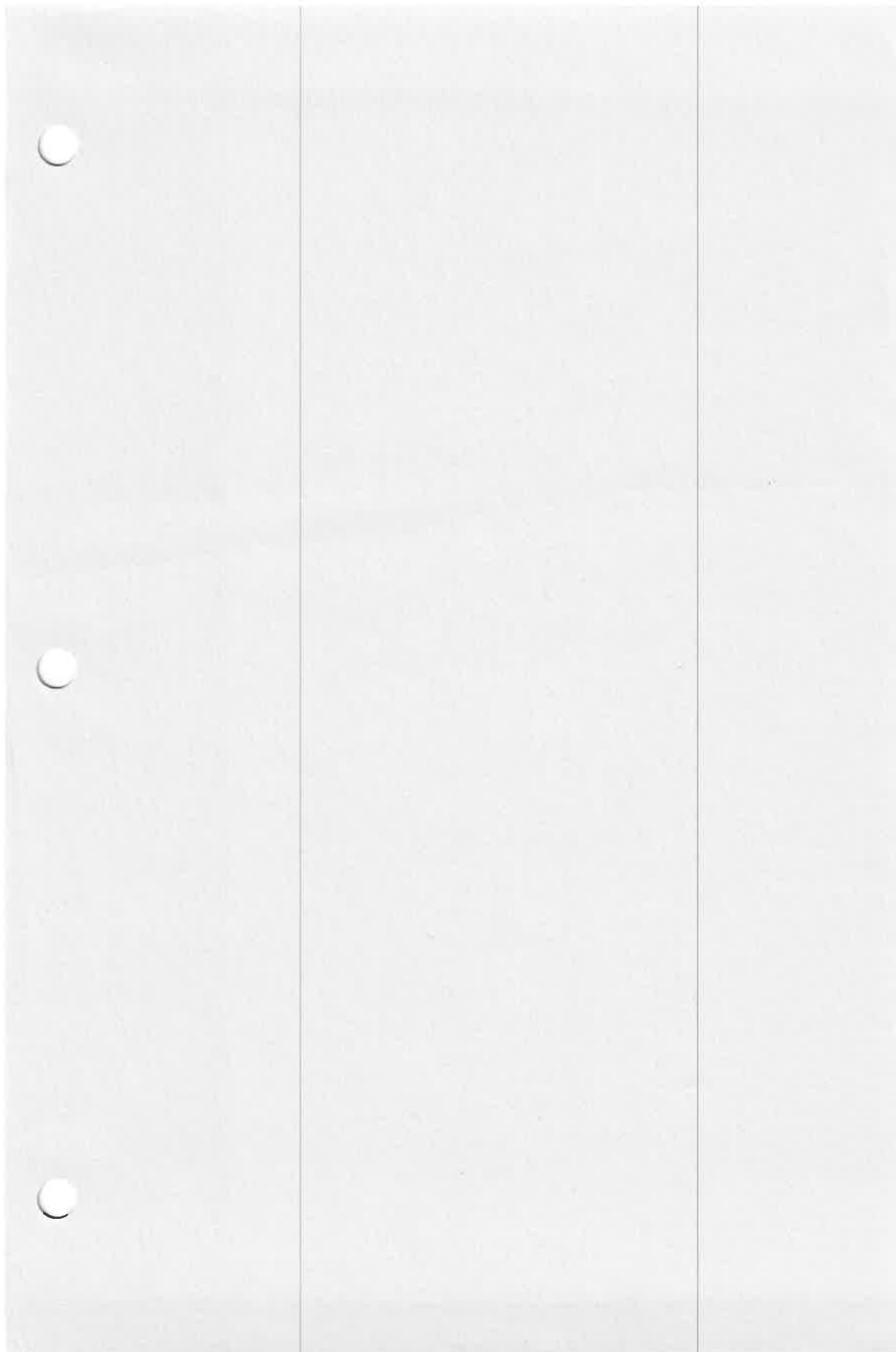
ARTICLE IX—Legislation

Section 1—The legislation of Convent General shall be either by enactment of or amendment to its By-Laws and General Regulations, or by revision thereof or by addition thereto. Decisions of a

Grand Master-General when approved by Convent General shall become a part of the legislation and shall be referred to the Jurisprudence Committee for classification and numbering as a part of the By-Laws or General Regulations.

Section 2—This Constitution may be altered or amended in the following manner only: The proposed alteration or amendment must be offered in writing, at an Annual Conclave; if seconded by a vote of one-third of the members present it shall be entered upon its minutes until the next Annual Conclave, at which time the Grand Master-General shall put the question upon its adoption, and if concurred in by the votes of two-thirds of the members present, it shall from thenceforth be in full force and effect.

Section 3—This Constitution shall become and be in full force and effect immediately on and after its adoption by this Convent General, and all previous constitutions, provisions thereof, amendments thereto and decisions thereunder, heretofore adopted by this Convent General and not herein contained, are hereby repealed.



**BY-LAWS
OF
CONVENT GENERAL**

As Revised October 7, 1972

ANALYSIS OF BY-LAWS

- Section 1. Opening of Convent General.
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- Section 3. Other Committees for interim.
- Section 4. Conclave Committees; meeting of Committees.
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- Section 6. Report of Grand Master-General to Committees.
- Section 7. Annual Report of Grand Master-General.
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- Section 9. Appointment and duties of Grand Prelate.
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- Section 15. Number of votes necessary to decide questions.
- Section 16. Appropriations, when and how made.
- Section 17. Grand Officer custodian of his jewel.
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- Section 19. Priory must answer communications of Grand Master-General or Grand Registrar-General.
- Section 20. Unmasonic to use Manual other than one prescribed for ceremonies.
- Section 21. Distribution of Manual of Ceremonies.
- Section 22. Penalty for loss of Manual.
- Section 23. Adoption of uniform code of by-laws by Priories.
- Section 24. Changes in Priory By-Laws must be approved by Grand Master-General; how submitted to him.
- Section 25. Jurisdiction of Priory.
- Section 26. Fee for instituting new Priory.
- Section 27. When more than one Priory may be formed in one jurisdiction.
- Section 28. When jurisdiction over candidates is concurrent.
- Section 29. When and how dispensation for new Priory issued, and subsequent procedure.
- Section 30. Loss of warrant does not affect authority of Priory.

- Section 31. When warrant surrendered, what property vests in Convent General.
- Section 32. Seal of Convent General.
- Section 33. Grand Registrar General custodian of seal.
- Section 34. Description of jewels of officers, Past Grand Master-General, Prior and Past Prior.
- Section 35. Description of lapel buttons of members of Convent General.
- Section 36. Knight York Grand Cross of Honour, who eligible.
- Section 37. Procedure and fee to obtain rank of Knight York Grand Cross of Honour.
- Section 38. Quadrants of Knights York Grand Cross of Honour.
- Section 39. Knight Grand Cross.
- Section 40. Law of Grand Lodge of Masons to govern where Convent General law silent.
- Section 41. By-Laws, how amended.
- Section 42. Effective, when.

BY-LAWS

Section 1. At the time and place selected for the Annual Conclave, the Grand Master-General, having satisfied himself that a constitutional quorum of Convent General is present, shall open Convent General in ample form.

Section 2. There shall be appointed by the Grand Master-General, a standing Committee on Finance, which shall consist of three members, one appointed for a term of one year, one for a term of two years and one for a term of three years. At the conclusion of each term one member shall be appointed for a term of three years, or until his successor is appointed.

There shall be appointed by the Grand Master-General, a standing Committee on Jurisprudence, which shall consist of three members, one appointed for a term of one year, one for a term of two years and one for a term of three years. At the conclusion of each term one member shall be appointed for a term of three years, or until his successor is appointed.

There shall be a standing Committee on Policy which shall consist of all officers and Past Grand Masters-General of Convent General. There shall be referred to this Committee all matters of policy and such other matters as refer to the growth and well being of Convent General.

Within 30 days after his election, the incoming Grand Master-General shall select the Chairman of each standing Committee named in this Section.

Within 30 days after his election, the incoming Grand Master-General shall appoint his Personal Representatives, sixteen more or less in number, who shall represent him in such districts as he may specify and who shall perform such duties as he may request.

Section 3. It shall be the duty of the Grand Master-General, within 30 days after his installation, to appoint a Committee on Warrants and a Committee on Time and Place, each of which shall consist of at least three members whose period of service shall continue until their successors are appointed.

Section 4. The Grand Master-General, at least 30 days before each Annual Conclave of Convent General, shall appoint the following Committees, each of which shall consist of at least three members, to-wit:

1. A Committee on Topical Reference.
2. A Committee on Visiting Knights.
3. A Committee on Credentials.
4. A Committee on Unfinished Business.
5. A Committee on Nominations.

The Grand Master-General may appoint such other Committees as he may deem necessary, or as may be ordered by Convent General.

The members of the Committees on Jurisprudence, Finance, Warrants and Policy shall meet with the Grand Master-General, Deputy Grand Master-General and Grand Registrar-General at the place appointed for the meeting of Convent General on the day previous to such meeting, to consider such matters that appropriately come within the duties of such Committees respectively.

Section 5. All Committees and officers shall make due report to Convent General on all such subjects as may be referred to them for consideration.

No report shall be received from any Committee or officer unless the same be reduced to writing and signed by a majority of the Committee, or by the officer.

Section 6. The Grand Master-General, not less than 30 days prior to the Annual Conclave of Convent General, shall submit all papers, conclusions, decisions or other action taken by him in matters requiring the attention of the Committees on Finance, Jurisprudence, Warrants and Policy to the Chairmen of said Committees.

Section 7. It shall be the duty of the Grand Master-General, as promptly as possible after the opening of the Annual Conclave of Convent General, to communicate to Convent General a statement of his official acts during the recess of Convent General, which statement shall be in writing. He shall also give information upon subjects of Masonic interest and recommend such measures as he may deem expedient. At its conclusion the address of the Grand Master-General shall be referred to the Committee on Topical Reference for division and report.

Section 8. The Deputy Grand Master-General shall also report in writing any official acts performed by him during the recess of Convent General.

Section 9. Immediately after the installation of the Grand Officers at each Annual Conclave of Convent General, and prior to its being closed, the Grand Master-General shall appoint some member as Grand Prelate. He shall perform all the duties incident to his office and shall serve as Necrologist for Convent General, preparing suitable memorials to the Fraternal Dead of this Order and reporting the same to Convent General.

Section 10. The Grand Treasurer-General shall before any money be paid into his hands and within 30 days after he has been installed, enter into a bond to be approved by the Grand Master-General in the sum of \$5000.00 payable to Convent General, K.Y.C.H., conditioned that he shall faithfully keep all the monies, securities and other property of Convent General coming into his hands; pay out no monies except upon the warrant of the Grand Master General by vote of Convent General, except for ordinary expenses which may accrue from time to time during the annual recess of Convent General when a vote of Convent General cannot be had thereon. The premium on the bond shall be paid by Convent General. He shall take vouchers for every payment made by him;

keep good and sufficient books of account; make a full balance sheet and submit the same, with his books of account to Convent General at its Annual Conclave, and pay over to his successor in office such balance as may remain in his hands so soon as his successor shall have given bond as required by this By-Law.

Section 11. The funds of Convent General in the hands of the Grand Treasurer-General shall be deposited in such bank or banks as the Grand Master-General, Grand Treasurer-General and Grand Registrar-General shall, from time to time, designate, provided, such bank or banks shall be located near the residence of the Grand Registrar-General. The funds of Convent General shall be invested in registered United States securities; such surplus funds may also be invested in such securities as receive the unanimous approval of the Grand Master-General, Grand Treasurer-General and Chairman of the Finance Committee. In lieu of investments approved by said three officers of Convent General, such funds, whether in the form of cash or securities, may, on the recommendation of the above named officers be placed in the custody of a bank or trust company under an agency agreement under such terms and conditions as may be approved by Convent General.

Section 12. The Grand Registrar-General shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings of Convent General; he shall receive all monies due Convent General and pay them over to the Grand Treasurer-General when that officer shall have given bond as required by the By-Laws, and he shall take proper vouchers for such payments. He shall keep sufficient books of account in which a separate account shall be kept with each Priory; he shall keep the seal of Convent General and affix the same to all official documents; he shall see that the returns of the Priories and the payment of their fees be regularly made; he shall conduct such correspondence with other Masonic bodies as the Grand Master-General may direct; he shall superintend the printing of the proceedings of Convent General and forward to the Grand and Past Grand Officers and Priories sufficient copies of the same so that every knight in good standing in the Order may receive, free of charge, one copy of such proceedings; he shall do and perform all other established duties of his office and shall present his books, accounts and vouchers at the Annual Conclave of Convent General for inspection of the Finance Committee and for report thereon by said Committee to Convent General. He shall notify every Priory that is or shall be delinquent in its annual return or payment of its fees and report the same at the next Annual Conclave of Convent General. For his services he shall be paid such compensation as Convent General may direct. The Grand Registrar-General shall within 30 days after his installation and before any money shall be paid into his hands enter into a bond to be approved by the Grand Master-General in the sum of \$5,000.00, payable to Convent General, conditioned that he shall faithfully account for all monies and property of Convent General

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that may come into his hands and shall otherwise faithfully perform the duties of his office. The premium on the bond shall be paid by Convent General.

Section 13. Each Past Prior, if he be present in person, shall be entitled to one vote in Convent General. Each Priory shall be entitled to three votes, to be cast by their representatives or their duly appointed proxies. No Past Prior may be represented by a proxy. Every proxy must file his Certificate with the Grand Registrar-General or Credentials Committee before the opening of Convent General.

Section 14. No Priory shall be represented in Convent General while delinquent in its annual return or in arrears in its fees.

Section 15. All questions except amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws shall be decided by a majority of votes. On the demand of 15 members the vote shall be taken by written ballot.

Section 16. Every resolution or motion contemplating an appropriation from the funds of Convent General shall be proposed by or referred to some Committee of that body before it can be acted upon and no disbursement from its funds shall be made unless by vote of Convent General except as herein otherwise provided.

Section 17. Each elected and appointed Grand Officer shall be the custodian of his jewel for safe keeping.

Section 18. Each Grand Master-General shall furnish the Grand Registrar-General a photograph, cabinet size, of himself. The Grand Registrar-General shall safely preserve the same.

Section 19. Whenever the Grand Master-General or Grand Registrar-General fails within a reasonable time to receive a reply from an officer of a Priory to a communication upon the business of Convent General, the communication shall be once repeated and sent by registered mail. Should no response be received within 30 days the Grand Master-General or his proxy shall summon the Priory to meet him or his proxy at its headquarters to remedy the difficulty. Should the Priory be at fault the Grand Master-General may suspend the Warrant of the Priory until the next Annual Conclave of Convent General.

Section 20. It shall be unmasonic for any Knight to use any manual in the ceremonies of the Order other than the one prescribed by Convent General.

Section 21. Six copies of the Manual of Ceremonies shall be issued to the Prior, who annually shall receipt therefor. One copy shall be issued to each Grand and Past Grand Officer. Any Priory may purchase additional copies of the Manual of Ceremonies at the current cost thereof. All manuals shall be and remain the property of Convent General.

Section 22. Any Knight who loses or fails to produce or satisfactorily account for a Manual of Ceremonies of Convent General

which has been entrusted to his care shall be fined the sum of Ten Dollars, and if an officer of a Priory, said fine, if not paid by such officer shall be chargeable to the Priory which he represents. Failure of a Knight to pay said fine shall be unmasonic conduct for which he may be punished as ordered by Convent General. Failure of a Priory to pay said fine may be punished as ordered by Convent General.

Section 23. All new Pories when consecrated and all Pories when amending their By-Laws shall be required to use the uniform Code of By-Laws prescribed by Convent General. The Grand Master-General may in all such cases approve the adoption of such Uniform Code. No resolution having the effect of a By-Law shall be adopted by a Priory.

Section 24. No change or amendment to the By-Laws of a Priory shall become valid until it is approved by the Grand Master-General. All amendments shall be submitted in triplicate. If the Grand Master-General shall approve the same he shall return one copy thereof to the Priory with the notation "Approved," the date of approval and his signature. The Grand Master-General shall forward another copy to the Grand Registrar-General for retention in his files. If the Grand Master-General fails to approve said By-Laws he shall so advise the Priory and report the disapproval and his reasons therefor to Convent General at its next Annual Conclave.

Section 25. The jurisdiction of a Priory shall be the boundary lines of the state, territory or province within which it is located, except as hereinafter provided and as otherwise provided by Convent General.

Section 26. The fee for instituting a new Priory shall be Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) which fee shall accompany the petition for dispensation but should a Warrant not be issued the fee shall be returned to the petitioners.

Section 27. One Priory may be formed in any jurisdiction in which there are less than twenty five councils of Royal and Select Masters, or twenty five preceptories/commanderies of Knights Templar, whichever is lesser. Additional Pories may be formed in the same jurisdiction for each additional twenty-five councils of Royal and Select Masters or twenty-five preceptories/commanderies of Knights Templar or major fraction of the lesser; however, these prerequisites for additional pories may be waived, when, in the judgment of the Grand Master General it is expedient. No new Priory may be established within one hundred miles of an existing Priory in the same jurisdiction. A petition for a new priory must be accompanied by written consent of the priory, or pories, existing in the jurisdiction in which the new priory is to be located however, Convent General, by a majority vote, may dispense with any such consent and order a warrant of constitution to be issued to the petitioners.

Section 28. When more than one Priory is located in any state, territory or province, jurisdiction over candidates shall be concurrent, excepting that in the county where the Priory has its headquarters, its jurisdiction shall be exclusive.

Section 29. The Grand Master-General shall have power to issue a dispensation for a new Priory upon petition for the same by ten (10) or more Knights; provided, that the required consent stipulated by Section 27 shall be obtained. All such dispensations and a report of his actions relating thereto, shall be forwarded to the Committee on Warrants by the Grand Master-General at least thirty (30) days previous to the next Annual Conclave of Convent General. The Committee shall make such recommendation relating to the dispensation as it deems proper. In any state or province where no Priory exists, the Grand Master-General, or his representative, shall have authority to communicate the Ceremony of Induction to a sufficient number of Knights to form a Priory.

Section 30. A Priory warranted and consecrated under Convent General shall not lose its authority as such by the loss or accidental destruction of its Warrant. When such loss shall be discovered or such destruction occur, the Priory shall apply to the Grand Master-General for a duplicate Warrant. If the Grand Master-General be satisfied that the Warrant is in fact lost or destroyed he shall cause a duplicate thereof to be issued to the Priory. The fee for issuing such duplicate Warrant shall be \$10.00.

Section 31. When the Warrant of a Priory shall be surrendered or forfeited, the Warrant, records and all other property of the Priory appropriate for Masonic purposes only, shall be vested in Convent General and shall be surrendered to the Grand Master-General or his proxy.

Section 32. The seal of Convent General shall consist of a circular shield having an outer and an inner beaded circle. Between the two circles shall be inscribed the words "Convent General, K.Y.C.H." Within the inner circle shall be inscribed the general emblem of the Order as copyrighted Aug. 24, 1935, Class G, No. 20540, and as shown hereinbelow.



Section 33. The seal of Convent General shall be kept in the office of the Grand Registrar-General and by him affixed to all Warrants granted by Convent General and to all other official communications issued in behalf of Convent General.

Section 34. The jewels of the officers of Convent General shall be of the size, design and material described as follows: a Greek Cross of pure gold whose equal bars shall be 1½" in overall length; the face of the Cross to be enameled in pure blue; the Cross to be imposed upon a golden gavel and golden sword placed between the four arms of the Cross; the whole surrounded by a circle of pure gold. At the center of the Cross shall be the letter "G" radiating light in the form of gold points. The reverse side of the Cross and Circle shall be without device or inscription. The general emblem of the Order, of pure gold, shall be attached by a hinge to the top portion of the circle. The reverse side of the emblem shall have a metal eye through which may pass a cord or ribbon suitable to suspend the jewel from the neck of the officer.

The jewel of the Grand Master-General shall have a wreath of golden laurel leaves 3/16" in width surrounding the golden circle; and the spaces among the York Rite insignia, on the band of the emblem, shall be covered with red enamel. The jewel shall be suspended from a collar of yellow metal resting on a ribbon of red velvet.

The jewel of a Past Grand Master-General shall be the same as the jewel of the Grand Master-General except that the spaces among the York Rite insignia, on the band of the emblem, shall be covered with purple enamel. The jewel shall be suspended from a collar of yellow metal resting on a ribbon of purple velvet.

The jewel of a Prior or Past Prior shall be the same as that of the officers of Convent General except that the general emblem of the Order shall be omitted and the metal eye attached to the top quadrant of the golden circle.

The cord, or ribbon, worn by the Officers of Convent General shall be red in color.

Section 35. Coat lapel buttons or watch charms designed as follows may be worn by members of Convent General: a solid circle of pure gold with rays or points emanating from the rim of the circle; the face of the circle to be enameled in a color described below and the general emblem of the Order to be mounted in the center of the enameled surface. The enamel color shall be:

Eminent Knights	Blue
Right Eminent Knights	Red
Most Eminent Knights	Purple

A past presiding officer of a York Rite Grand Body not of eminent rank in this Order, shall be entitled to wear such lapel button except that the color of the enamel shall be white.

Section 36. Any Knight, having served as presiding officer in any of the Grand Bodies of Symbolic, Capitular, Cryptic or Chivalric Masonry, shall be entitled to the rank and decoration of Knight York Grand Cross of Honour.

Section 37. The names of applicants for the rank of Knight York Grand Cross of Honour shall be submitted by the applicant to the Grand Registrar-General on forms prescribed by the Grand Registrar-General. A fee of \$2.00 must accompany the application. The Grand Registrar-General, upon receipt of the application, shall issue a certificate signed by the Grand Master-General and Grand Registrar-General attesting the rank of the applicant as a Knight York Grand Cross of Honour.

Section 38. A Knight York Grand Cross of Honour shall be entitled to wear a quadrant or quadrants on the golden circle of his official jewel, if he possesses one, and within the rays of his lapel button or watch charm as follows:

Past Presiding Officer of Grand Lodge	Blue
Past Presiding Officer of Grand Chapter	Red
Past Presiding Officer of Grand Council	Purple
Past Presiding Officer of Grand Commandery	White

Section 39. Each Grand Master-General, on his installation, shall be invested with the rank and dignity of a Knight Grand Cross.

Section 40. In all cases where the law of Convent General is silent, the law of the Grand Lodge of Masons of the state, territory or province having jurisdiction over the territory in which the Priory is located should, where applicable, in similar cases, be adopted and followed.

Section 41. These By-Laws, or any part thereof, may be altered, repealed or amended at any Annual Conclave of Convent General by a vote of two-thirds of the members present. Upon adoption the altered, or amended portion shall become effective immediately and any repealed section shall be null and void immediately.

Section 42. These By-Laws shall become and be in full force and effect immediately on their adoption by Convent General and all previous General Regulations inconsistent with the same are hereby repealed.

**CODE
OF
GENERAL REGULATIONS
FOR THE
GOVERNMENT OF PRIORIES**

As Revised October 7, 1972

ANALYSIS OF CODE

MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1. Limited to certain Freemasons.
- Section 2. Where no Council Royal and Select Masters.
- Section 3. Procedure and Convent General fee on petitions of candidate; election regulations.
- Section 4. When Ceremony of Induction may not be conferred; objections.
- Section 5. Validity of objection; procedure on expiration.
- Section 6. Certificate of membership, when issued.
- Section 7. Fee for duplicate certificate.
- Section 8. Petitions from jurisdiction where no Priory; status of such members.
- Section 9. Requisites to retain membership in Priory.
- Section 10. Applicant must petition Priory having jurisdiction over his place of residence.
- Section 11. Priory may waive jurisdiction.
- Section 12. How jurisdiction waived.

OFFICERS

- Section 13. Officers of Priory, names, title, rank, election or appointment, term.
- Section 14. Additional officers specified by By-Laws; Trustees.
- Section 15. Any member of Priory eligible to office.
- Section 16. Death or disability of Prior, procedure.
- Section 17. Time of election; procedure if not held at Annual Conclave.
- Section 18. Officers must be installed, time.
- Section 19. Death of officer other than Prior, procedure.
- Section 20. Officer may hold only one office; exception.
- Section 21. Names of officers to be reported.
- Section 22. Duties of Prior.
- Section 23. Duties of other officers.

CONCLAVES

- Section 24. Definition of stated and special Conclaves.
- Section 25. Priory to meet at least annually; penalty for failure.
- Section 26. Registrar to give written notice of Annual Conclave ten days prior to date.
- Section 27. Registrar to give written notice of special Conclave; limitation on business.
- Section 28. Quorum; officers required to open.
- Section 29. No Priory may adjourn; how opened and closed.
- Section 30. Priory may not be named after living person; restriction on change of headquarters.
- Section 31. No Priory may incorporate.

ANNUAL RETURNS

- Section 32. Time for filing Annual return.
- Section 33. Contents of Annual Return.
- Section 34. Penalty for failure to make return and pay fees.
- Section 35. Copy of Return preserved.

FEEES AND DUES

- Section 36. Priory By-Laws to specify fees; minimum.
- Section 37. Priory By-Laws may specify dues.
- Section 38. Priory By-Laws shall designate amount and time of payment of dues.
- Section 39. Priory may remit dues; no other method of exemption.
- Section 40. Suspension for non-payment of dues; procedure.
- Section 41. Procedure to restore suspended member.
- Section 42. No restoration or remission after death of member.
- Section 43. Penalty for invasion of jurisdiction of Priory.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Section 44. Knight may demit, when.
- Section 45. Procedure to obtain a demit.
- Section 46. Definition of offense against Order.
- Section 47. Disciplinary procedure against member.
- Section 48. Certificate of good standing, issue when Priory dissolved.
- Section 49. How Code amended.
- Section 50. When Code effective.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership in a Priory shall be limited to freemasons who have been regularly elected and installed as Master of a chartered lodge of Master Masons and as presiding officer of a chartered chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and as Master of a chartered council of Royal and Select Masters and as presiding officer of a chartered commandery, or preceptory, of Knights Templar, and shall have served one full term in each office, and who shall be in good standing in all of said Masonic Bodies.

Section 2. In those Masonic jurisdictions where no council of Royal and Select Masters exists, presiding in the lodge, chapter of commandery shall constitute full requirement for membership, provided that the degrees of Royal and Select Master are worked in the Royal Arch Chapter over which the petitioner presided.

If a Masonic body and jurisdiction provides that, upon the death of a presiding officer, or upon his permanent removal from the jurisdiction, or upon his expulsion from the Craft, or that his physical or mental condition, or any other condition, precludes his performance of the duties of his office, and another officer is duly installed as presiding officer and serves the remainder of the term, such service shall be accepted as meeting the requirements of Section 1 of the General Regulations for that particular body, if the jurisdiction in which he served officially designates him to be a past presiding officer of the body.

Section 3. Membership in a Priory shall be by invitation. Proposals for membership may be presented at any stated or special conclave and may be acted on at the same or any subsequent conclave. If elected, the candidate may not be inducted into the Priory sooner than at a conclave held the calendar day following the day of his election. By-Laws containing additional regulations governing proposals, election and invitations not inconsistent with the General Regulations of Convent General may be adopted by a Priory subject to the approval of the Grand Master General. These By-Laws of the Priory may determine the manner of election including whether by secret written ballot, by the ballot box, or by the show of hands in the usual Masonic voting sign. A unanimous vote is required for election. Acceptance of invitations to membership shall be made in duplicate on forms prepared for that purpose by the Grand Registrar-General. Upon induction of the candidate, the date shall be placed on the acceptance of invitation forms and one copy placed in the archives of the Priory and the other copy forwarded to the Grand Registrar-General accompanied by the Convent General fee of forty dollars. No candidate shall be inducted unless the fee prescribed by the Priory has been paid, but such fee shall not become the property of the Priory unless the candidate is inducted.

Section 4. "The ceremony of induction shall not be conferred upon a candidate until he has been elected."

Section 5. A brother who was proposed and rejected shall be eligible for proposal at any subsequent conclave of the Priory, where proposals are a part of the business.

Section 6. Upon receipt of the certification of membership and fee the Grand Registrar-General shall forward to the Knight a certificate of membership.

Section 7. Duplicate certificates shall be issued by the Grand Registrar-General upon receipt of a fee of One Dollar (\$1.00).

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Section 8. Invitations to membership may be extended to qualified brethren in jurisdictions where no Priory exists, and the formation of a Priory in any such jurisdiction shall not affect the status of such membership; provided, however, that in the Dominion of Canada, invitations to qualified brethren, in those Provinces having no Priory, may be extended by one of the Priories in Canada. If a Knight residing in a state, province or territory having no Priory, wishes to transfer his membership to a Priory subsequently organized in such jurisdiction, he may do so without fee, if elected by the new Priory to be a member thereof.

Section 9. To remain a Knight in any Priory, membership must be maintained in lodge, chapter, council and commandery/preceptory except where the Council degrees are conferred in the Chapter.

In the event a Knight loses his membership for any cause, in any of the foregoing bodies, he shall forthwith be suspended from membership in his Priory and may be restored to membership only upon proof of restoration to membership in all of the foregoing bodies and upon unanimous favorable ballot in the Priory and upon payment of all dues owing by him to the Priory as provided in Section 42 of the General Regulations.

In the event that a Knight voluntarily obtains a demit from one or more of the foregoing bodies and thereafter fails to affiliate with another similar body or bodies within one calendar year of the date of such demit, his membership in his Priory shall be forfeited.

Section 10. An invitation to membership can only be extended by the Priory having jurisdiction over the territory where the candidate has his legal residence without regard to the location of the York Rite bodies over which he has presided, provided, however, that if one or more of the bodies over which he has presided were located in a territory over which some other Priory has jurisdiction, such other Priory must approve the proposal for membership before the invitation is extended.

Section 11. Any other Priory may extend an invitation to membership by and with the consent and waiver of the Priory having jurisdiction over the candidate.

Section 12. Waiver of jurisdiction must be by unanimous vote.

Section 13. Dual membership is authorized in a Priory having exclusive or concurrent jurisdiction over the area in which the member resides. Such membership shall be by invitation. Proposals for dual membership may be presented at any stated or special conclave and may be acted upon at the same or subsequent conclave. If elected, the registrar must notify the registrar of the parent Priory of the action, sending a copy of such action to the Grand Registrar-General. Dual membership must be continuously maintained in both Priories unless the member obtains a demit from the other Priory. Dual members shall enjoy all rights and privileges of other members, including the right to vote and hold office, provided that no member shall serve as Prior of more than one Priory at one and the same time.

Section 14. Any member of a Priory may be elected an honorary member of another Priory by unanimous favorable ballot of all members present at any stated or special conclave of the Priory. Honorary members shall pay no fee or dues and shall not

be entitled to vote or hold office in the Priory of which he is an honorary member.

OFFICERS

Section 15. The officers of a Priory shall be:

Eminent Prior
Knight Deputy Prior
Knight Warder
Knight Treasurer
Knight Registrar
Knight Prelate
Knight Orator
Knight Herald

Who shall take rank in the order listed above. All officers shall be elected for a term of one year, provided, however, that if the By-Laws of the Priory so provide, the Knights Prelate, Orator, and Herald may be appointed by the newly elected Prior, at the time of his installation, for a term of one year.

Section 16. A Priory may, by its By-Laws provide for the appointment by the Prior of other officers and for the election or appointment of Trustees. Such officers or Trustees need not be installed.

Section 17. Any member of a Priory may be elected to office, provided that the Prior may not succeed himself; providing further that a Prior, having succeeded to that office through the death or disability of his predecessor, may be elected to succeed himself for a period not to exceed one full term.

Section 18. In case of the death or disability of the Prior, the Deputy Prior shall be installed in the office of Prior. If the period thus served by the new Prior shall exceed one half year, he will become a Past Prior.

Section 19. The elective officers of a Priory shall be chosen at the Annual Conclave of the Priory. The term of office shall commence immediately. If the election be not held at the time specified for the Annual Conclave, the officers last installed shall continue in office until the next annual conclave unless the Grand Master-General, for good cause, order an election and installation and set a date for the holding thereof.

Section 20. All officers named in Section 15, elected, re-elected, or appointed, or named in the Warrant of a new Priory, shall be installed on the night of election, or at the time of the consecration of the Priory, in open Priory, by a Prior or Past Prior in good standing. No officer may be installed by proxy or in private.

Section 21. If any officer, other than the Prior, shall die during his term of office, the Prior may by appointment fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term, unless the Grand Master-General, for good cause, shall order an election and installation to fill such vacancy.

Section 22. No Knight may serve in more than one elective office in a Priory at the same time, except that the offices of Registrar and Treasurer may be held by one and the same Knight.

Section 23. The Registrar, upon the election of officers of the Priory, shall forthwith transmit to the Grand Master-General and Grand Registrar-General, a list of such officers with the postoffice addresses of the Prior and Registrar.

Section 24. The Prior of a Priory, when present, shall preside at all Conclaves of the Priory, see that the duties of the Registrar and Treasurer are faithfully and punctually performed, appoint and be an ex officio member of all committees.

Section 25. The other officers shall perform such duties as are generally considered proper for their offices in Masonic bodies.

CONCLAVES

Section 26. The meetings of a Priory shall be known as Conclaves. Stated conclaves are those held at times fixed by the By-Laws. Special conclaves are those called pursuant to Section 29.

Section 27. It shall be the duty of each Priory to hold at least one stated conclave each year. Should any Priory fail to meet for two successive years it shall thereby forfeit its Warrant and be struck from the register of Priorities.

Section 28. The Registrar of each Priory, at least ten days prior to the Annual Conclave, shall send to each member of the Priory at his last known place of residence, written notice of the time, place and purpose of the conclave.

Section 29. Special conclaves may be called at any time by the Prior. Written notice thereof must be given to the members by the Registrar. The notice shall state the purpose of the conclave. No business, other than that stated in the notice, shall be transacted at a special conclave.

Section 30. The number of Knights necessary to open a Priory and transact business is five. No Priory, without the authority of the Grand Master-General may be opened or business transacted therein unless there be present the Prior, or the Deputy Prior, or the Warder, or a Past Prior.

Section 31. A Priory cannot adjourn; nor may it be opened or closed in any manner other than that prescribed by the ritual of the Order.

Section 32. No Priory shall be named after a living person; nor may it change its headquarters from the place named in its Warrant except by authority of the Grand Master-General or Convent General.

Section 33. No Priory may become a body corporate.

ANNUAL RETURNS

Section 34. The Registrar of each Priory shall make an annual return as of June 30th to the Convent General, under the signatures of the Prior and Registrar, on or before the 31st day of July. Such other reports as Convent General or the Grand Master-General may, from time to time require, shall be made as directed.

Section 35. The Annual Return shall contain the following, and such other information as may be required by Convent General or the Grand Master-General:

1. The names and dates of all Knights deceased.
2. The date of the Warrant and date of last conclave.

Section 36. No member of Convent General shall be entitled to a seat in that Body if his Priory shall have failed to make the Annual Return prescribed in Section 35, or shall have failed to pay any fees or dues required by Convent General.

Section 37. Each Registrar shall spread in full upon the minutes of his Priory, or shall bind in a suitable book provided for that purpose, within 30 days after it has been prepared, a copy of the Annual Return.

FEEES AND DUES

Section 38. Each Priory, by its By-Laws, shall fix the amount of its Membership fee, which shall be not less than Five Dollars more than the fee paid the Convent General. Plural membership fees shall also be stated in the By-Laws.

Section 39. Each Priory may, from time to time as provided by its By-Laws, assess such annual dues upon the members, except honorary members, as it shall deem expedient.

Section 40. The By-Laws of the Priory shall designate the amount of such dues and the time for payment and no further notice thereof to any member shall be required.

Section 41. The Priory, for good cause, may remit the accrued dues of any member. No member of a Priory shall be exempted from the payment of any dues levied by his Priory other than by remission thereof.

Section 42. Any member who is in arrears for any dues levied by his Priory, for a period of six months past the date prescribed for the payment of the same shall be suspended from membership in the Priory. The Registrar, within thirty days after expiration of such six months period, shall notify such member, in writing, of his suspension.

Section 43. The payment to the Registrar, by a member who has been suspended for non-payment of dues, of all dues owing by him to the Priory shall restore him to full membership in the Priory.

Section 44. A Knight suspended for non-payment of dues cannot be restored to membership by payment of dues or remission thereof, after his death.

Section 45. A Priory receiving the petition of and inducting an applicant who resides within the jurisdiction of another Priory, without the waiver of such other Priory, shall forfeit and pay the fees of that Priory whose jurisdiction is violated to the Priory which legally held jurisdiction, and be subject to such additional penalty as may be inflicted by Convent General.

MISCELLANEOUS

Section 46. A knight may, for reasons satisfactory to himself, and without subjecting himself to Masonic discipline, withdraw his membership from a Priory. Until he voluntarily affiliates, he renounces all rights and privileges of the Order. The dues of a knight applying for a demit must be paid in full before the same can be granted.

Section 47. Upon application in writing at a stated Conclave of a knight for a demit, it shall be entered on the minutes and if it appears that his dues are paid in full and that he is not subject to charges for unmasonic conduct, the demit shall be granted and no action by the membership of the Priory is necessary.

Section 48. Offenses set out by the Constitution, By-Laws and General Regulations of this Order and any offense against the moral laws or the statutes of the United States or any State or Territory thereof, the Dominion of Canada or any Province thereof, the Republic of Mexico, or any other State, Province or Territory, shall constitute an offense against this Order.

Section 49. In the event that a Knight is accused, in a Priory, of an offense against this Order, all proceedings to investigate, charge, try and punish such knight shall be conducted by the Priory pursuant to the applicable disciplinary regulations of the Grand Lodge of Masons having jurisdiction over the territory of the Priory in which the knight resides. Any knight feeling himself aggrieved by the decision of the Priory, may at any time within one year from the date of such decision, take an appeal to Convent General by giving notice thereof to the Grand Registrar-General who shall promptly advise the Grand Master-General of the appeal. The Grand Master-General shall thereupon appoint a Special Committee to review the decision of the Priory and report thereon at the next Annual Conclave of Convent General. The decision of Convent General on the appeal shall be final.

Section 50. Upon the dissolution of a Priory, from any cause, its members who are in good standing, upon payment to the Grand Registrar-General of back dues to Convent General, if any, shall be entitled to a certificate from that Officer setting forth their standing

in the Order and such certificate shall be recognized by every Priory the same as a regular demit.

Section 51. This Code, or any part thereof may be altered or amended at any Annual Conclave of Convent General by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, provided, however, that the member proposing such alteration or amendment shall submit the same to the Grand Registrar-General at least 60 days in advance of the conclave of Convent General. The Grand Registrar-General shall promptly forward such proposed amendment or alteration to the Grand Master-General who shall at once refer the same to the Jurisprudence Committee for report to Convent General.

Section 52. This Code shall become and be in full force and effect immediately on its adoption by this Convent General and all previous General Regulations and decisions thereunder not herein contained are hereby repealed.

UNIFORM CODE OF BY-LAWS

("All new Priors when consecrated and all Priors when amending their By-Laws shall be required to use the uniform Code of By-Laws prescribed by Convent General. The Grand Master-General may in all cases approve the adoption of such uniform Code. No Resolution having the effect of a By-Law shall be adopted by a Priory." By-Laws, Section 23.)

Section 1. The name of this Priory is
No. Knights of the York Cross of Honour. Its headquarters shall be at in the (State, Territory, Province) of

Section 2. The officers of this Priory, shall be those designated by Section 15 of the General Regulations of the Order. The Eminent Prior, Knight Deputy Prior, Knight Warder, Knight Treasurer and Knight Registrar shall be elected at the Annual Conclave. The Knight Prelate, Knight Orator and Knight Herald shall (also be elected at the Annual Conclave) (be appointed by the newly elected Eminent Prior at the time of his installation.)

(Note: Use one of the above clauses but not both.)

[In this Section Priors may provide for the election or appointment of additional officers, or trustees, and prescribe the term of office for such additional officers or trustees.]

Section 3. The stated conclave(s) of this Priory shall (be held on the day of of each year) (be held at the time of the Annual meeting of the Grand of) (be held on the day specified by the Eminent Prior, Knight Deputy Prior and Knight Warder, or by any two of such Knights) (be held at the time specified by a majority vote of the Knights present at the conclave immediately preceding such stated conclave.)

(Note: Use one of the above clauses or a combination of them, but not contradictory clauses.)

The hour of assembly and the place of the same shall be specified in the notice of the conclave which must be sent to each Knight as provided by the General Regulations of the Order.

Section 4. The Annual Conclave for the election of officers shall be held (specify a time, or the time, if only one stated conclave per year be named in Section 3.)

Section 5. The fee for reception of candidates into this Priory shall be Dollars (\$) payable in full when the proposal is accepted. The fee for dual membership or for membership by affiliation shall be Dollars \$).

Section 6. The annual dues shall be.....Dollars (\$.....) payable at the Annual Conclave, in advance.

(Note: If no dues are to be charged, omit this Section and adjust numbering of following Sections accordingly.)

Section 7. Each Prior, at the time of his installation, shall appoint a Finance Committee of three (3) members whose duties shall be to examine and report on all fees and dues received by the Priory and who shall annually, at the time of the Annual Conclave, audit and report in writing on the books of the Registrar and Treasurer. They shall also examine all demands or claims for payment presented to the Priory and report upon the same.

Section 8. Unless otherwise ordered by the Prior, the order of business at all stated conclaves shall be as follows:

1. Reading of Minutes.
2. Reading of Proposals.
3. Balloting on Proposals.
4. Unfinished and New Business.
5. Conferring ceremony of induction.

(Note: Priories may adopt any other By-Laws which they deem proper so long as the same are not inconsistent with the Constitution, By-Laws and General Regulations of the Order. Should such By-Laws be adopted, they should be inserted at this point and numbered consecutively, changing the number of the following Section accordingly.)

Section 9. These By-Laws may be amended: (1) by introducing the proposed amendment in writing at a conclave of the Priory, which Resolution shall be read, entered on the minutes and laid over to the next or a subsequent conclave, when it shall be acted upon and if two-thirds or more of the members present vote for its adoption and if it is subsequently approved by the Grand Master General, it shall be declared adopted and shall become a part of these By-Laws; or (2) by introducing the proposed amendment in writing at a conclave of the Priory and, if unanimous consent of all present be given, it may be acted upon and if two-thirds or more of the members present vote for its adoption and if it is subsequently approved by the Grand Master-General, it shall be declared adopted and shall become a part of these By-Laws.

(Note: Priories should not include provisions of the Constitution, By-Laws or General Regulations of the Order in their By-Laws.)

**DIGEST
OF
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OF THE
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CONVENT GENERAL
KNIGHTS OF THE YORK CROSS OF HONOUR
ANNOTATED
1930-1983
BY
JOHN HARRIS WATTS K.G.C.
PAST GRAND MASTER-GENERAL
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FOREWORD

At the request of Most Eminent Knight Vernon R. Parks, K.G.C., Grand Master-General, I agreed to compile a digest of the decisions of the Grand Masters-General of Convent General which have been printed in THE QUATERNION from its inception.

I accepted this assignment, not because of any special qualifications, but because this was one of the recommendations made in my allocution delivered at the 1983 Annual Conclave of Convent General.

THE QUATERNION, originally a digest "edited by the Registrar-General", begins with an explanation of the publication, followed by an historical sketch of the order.

The digests of the first, second, and third biennial conclaves (1930, 1935, and 1937) do not contain a report or allocution by the Grand Master-General. The first allocution is printed in 1939.

The Grand Registrar-General, Most Eminent Knight Stanley W. Wakefield, K.G.C., graciously provided copies for the years 1930, 1935, 1937, 1939-1949, and 1951-1952 from the archives. My sincere thanks to him for this special demand upon his time.

A word of explanation is necessary for a better understanding of this digest. An analysis of the decisions, rulings, and dispensations disclosed that they dealt with various aspects of the law. Consequently, I have arbitrarily placed each one under a general heading that seems to me to readily identify the subject. There are some, of course, that could be placed under more than one heading, but no cross references have been made.

The reader may think some errors have slipped into the printing. Probably so. However, no corrections have been made in the original printing: typographical errors, grammar, and the like have been reproduced here—"warts and all."

Caveat: remember each decision, ruling, or dispensation was based upon the law as it stood at that time. Problems remain the same, but the law changes. Keeping this in mind, always refer to the law at the time when seeking an answer to your question—then refer to the digest.

Not everyone has ready access to all copies of THE QUATERNION, so each decision and subsequent action by committee are reproduced herein. Each decision is headed by the year, surname of the Grand Master-General, and page number in THE QUATERNION. The action is headed by the committee and page number.

This digest is dedicated to those Most Eminent Knights who guided the destiny of this Order through its formative years.

JOHN HARRIS WATTS K.G.C.
Past Grand Master-General
December 31, 1983

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ASSESSMENTS

1958 Wood 554:

March 14, 1958—Ruled that a Prior of a Priory did not have the power to levy an assessment on the membership. Any assessment should be by vote of the membership after the usual notice.

Jurisprudence 573: Under date of March 14, 1958, the Grand Master General ruled that a Prior of a Priory did not have the power to levy an assessment on the membership, but that any special assessment must be levied by vote of the membership at a Conclave called according to our law. This decision of the Grand Master General is entirely in accord with the general Masonic Law, and we, therefore, approve the same.

1975 Monroe 1960:

Interpreted Section 19 as meaning annual dues and not an assessment. A Priory wanted to make an assessment for a couple of years to build up their treasury. It would be possible to assess annual dues and when the treasury has sufficient funds to remit the dues of all members according to Section 41. Do not believe an assessment could be enforced.

Jurisprudence 1989: 7. We recommend approval of his interpretation of Section 39 of the General Regulations as to dues and assessments. It is unfortunate that said section uses the word "assess" when authorizing annual dues but is apparent from the succeeding sections that said Section 39 refers to dues and not special assessments. If a priory feels that it has sufficient money in the treasury it may either repeal that section of its by-laws imposing annual dues or it may remit the dues of all members for the ensuing year.

BALLOT

1957 Cavanagh 475:

6. On April 3, 1957, I received a letter from the Registrar of Knickerbocker Priory No. 3, asking that the balloting on candidates at the annual Conclave be declared irregular and void. The basis for the request was a violation of the Law of the Grand Lodge of New York.

The facts, as stated, were that eight candidates were balloted upon collectively with the result that the ballot was "dark." Individual candidates were then balloted upon and the first two were elected. Each of the remaining six candidates was rejected.

When the third candidate was rejected, one member left the hall and several did not vote. These acts violated the Grand Lodge Law of New York.

Because of the facts stated, I ruled that the balloting on the rejected candidates was void. I also issued a Dispensation to Knickerbocker Priory to again ballot on the rejected candidates.

Jurisprudence 499:

1. Your Committee has reviewed the correspondence upon which the Grand Master General based his Decision No. 6 and are of the opinion that the law of the Grand Lodge of New York was violated by Knickerbocker Priory at its last Annual Conclave, in the matter of balloting on candidates. Section 3 of the Code of General Regulations of our Order requires a unanimous secret ballot for election of candidates but does not specify whether the ballot must be individual or may be a collective one for several candidates. Our Code is silent,

also, on the requirement that every member present must vote, although this rule is commonly found in Grand Lodge law. Our Code is silent also as to members being permitted to enter or leave the hall while voting is in progress. All three preceding matters are specifically covered by the Code of the Grand Lodge of New York. By the provisions of Section 30 of the By-Laws of Convent General, where our law is silent the law of the Grand Lodge of the State, territory or province having jurisdiction over the territory wherein the Priory is located should, in similar cases, be followed.

The correspondence discloses that the law of the Grand Lodge of New York was violated by Knickerbocker Priory No. 3 in that while the voting was in progress, one member left the hall and others did not vote. Accordingly, the Grand Master General declared the ballot illegal. He then issued a Dispensation to Knickerbocker Priory to again ballot on the candidates.

It is the opinion of your committee that the Decision of the Grand Master General that the ballot of the Priory was illegal is correct, and we recommend approval of Decision No. 6.

1974 Merrick 1860:

Case A. A vote was taken on a popular, outstanding Mason, a high ranking member of a grand line, with one negative ballot appearing. A discussion ensued in which a knight said he had cast the adverse ballot because the nominee lacked three days of completing his qualifications. The Priory meets quarterly. The inquiry concerned whether or not he could be balloted upon at the next conclave, three months distant, without waiting the statutory yearly period.

The answer was "no." First, the Grand Master-General has no right to waive our laws. Second, one member said he had cast the negative ballot. However, the ballot is secret. No one would question the veracity of the Knight making the statement but a secret ballot is secret.

Jurisprudence 1885:

1. Following an adverse vote on a proposal to extend an invitation to membership, a Knight stated that he had cast a black cube because the proposed candidate lacked three days of completing his qualifications. The Priory inquired if he could again vote of this proposal at their next conclave to be held within the next several months.

The Grand Master-General properly ruled that the adverse vote must stand as a rejection and as a secret ballot cannot be withdrawn but must run its usual course. Sections 3 and 5 of the General Regulations provides that such a ballot must remain in force for one year.

In recommending approval to this decision we call attention to the proper use of the black cube. Such a ballot should not have been cast for the reason stated above. A question of proper procedure should have been raised, not a black cube cast. The Priory could properly vote on the proposal, but could not extend an invitation before all requirements for membership has been met. The Prior should have ordered an immediate re-ballot upon the announcement by the Knight to the effect that he had cast the black cube—which violated the principle of the secret ballot.

1976 Sipprell 2064:

Indiana Priory No. 8 inquired whether or not Section 3 of the Code of General Regulations requires a ten day notice before the ballot. The inquiry went direct to the Chairman of the Jurisprudence Committee and because of

the urgency of the matter he replied: "I find nothing on said Section 3 to require any notice whatever to the members of the Priory before a ballot can be taken on a proposal for membership, nor do I find any such requirement in any other section of the law. However, said section 3 does provide that a Priory may with the approval of the Grand Master-General, have a By-Law containing additional provisions governing the election of candidates to membership. In my opinion a proposal for a ten-day notice before balloting would not be inconsistent with the General Regulations should Indiana Priory No. 8 adopt such a By-Law."

Jurisprudence 2093: We recommend approval of the Grand Master-General's response to Indiana Priory No. 8 with reference to matter of giving notice to members of proposals for membership before balloting.

CONCLAVE, ANNUAL

1950 Denslow 171:

Illinois Priory No. 11 had a by-law providing that the annual conclave should be held during the time of the annual convocation of the Grand Chapter; the time of the annual convocation was changed. It was asked whether the holding of the conclave at the new date fixed by Grand Chapter was a violation of law.

I wrote them:

"It would appear that if your by-laws specify that your annual conclave should be held during the annual convocation of Grand Chapter, it would have to be held then. If the time and place of the Grand Chapter happened to be changed, and you wished to meet at another time, it would be necessary to amend your by-laws."

Jurisprudence 175: We heartily approve all the official acts and decisions of our Grand Master General.

1957 Cavanagh 474:

1. On January 16, 1957, I received a letter from the Registrar of West Virginia Priory No. 40, stating that The Annual Conclave of the Priory was not held because of insufficient notice was given to the members. On January 21, I issued a Dispensation authorizing the calling of a conclave on February 2, for the transaction of business, in accordance with Sections 25 and 26 of the Gen. Regulations.

Jurisprudence 500: 2. We find that the action of the Grand Master General in issuing a dispensation to West Virginia No. 40 to hold a special Conclave for the election of officers, was in accordance with Section 17 of our General Regulations; accordingly we recommend approval of Decision No. 1 of the address.

1964 Gorden 969:

September 18, 1964—Sioux Falls Priory No. 59, to change date of annual conclave.

Jurisprudence 991: Sioux Falls Priory No. 59, anticipated that they could not hold their Annual Conclave on the date specified by their By-Laws, namely October 27, 1964, and applied to the Grand Master General for a dispensation, pursuant to Section 17 of our General Regulations, to hold their election and

installation at another time. The Grand Master General granted his dispensation and set the time for September 29, 1964. His action was in accordance with our law and is hereby approved.

1965 Fowler 1041:

There exists some confusion concerning the power of the Grand Master General to set aside provisions of the By-Laws of a Priory by Dispensation. The confusion has arisen through some Priories fixing date for their Annual Conclave in their By-Laws, when their real desire is not to meet on that date, but rather to hold their Annual Conclave on some date close to the meeting of a Grand body in their State. Sometimes the Grand body with whom the Priory hopes to meet changes its date for meeting before the Priory has an opportunity to amend its By-Laws. I suggest that if it is so desired, the By-Laws of the Priory specify that the Annual Conclave be held on a day preceeding, on, or following that of the Grand body, rather than on the predetermined specific day of a month. This procedure is authorized by Sec. 3 of the uniform code of By-Laws. I received two requests during the year to issue dispensations to change the dates for Annual Conclaves.

Jurisprudence 1065: We approve the ruling of the Grand Master General, September 13th, 1965, in denying the request of Sioux Falls Priory No. 59 for a dispensation to change their annual meeting date. The committee agrees that the Grand Master General does not have the power to set aside the provisions of the By-Laws of a Priory. However, should the Priory fail to hold the annual meeting at the specified time, he may issue a dispensation to elect officers at a subsequent date.

1970 Nye 1462:

Permission was given to Crusade Priory No. 57 of Utica, New York, to hold their Annual Conclave in the territorial jurisdiction of Pennsylvania as they would not be receiving any member from that jurisdiction.

Jurisprudence-N.B. Nothing found.

1978 Kaufman 2288:

Because of severe weather conditions existing in Indiana at the specified date, I approved the rescheduling of the annual Conclave of Robert A. Woods Priory No. 62 at a more favorable date.

Jurisprudence 2320: Grand Master-General's Decision No. 4 was to approve the rescheduling of the Annual Conclave of Robert A. Woods Priory No. 62, because of severe weather conditions and to order the election and installation of officers at such later date. We find that such action is authorized by Section 19 of the General Regulations and we approve his action.

1979 Jones 2405:

3. February 3, 1979--Robert A. Woods Priory No. 62 requested a dispensation to reschedule the date for the Annual Conclave to March 3, 1979. It was not held on January 27, 1979, when I was present to pay my Official Visit due to inclement weather.

Section 30, page 27, of the General Regulations states: "The number of Knights necessary to open a Priory and transact business is five. No Priory, without the authority of the Grand Master-General may be opened or business

transacted therein unless there be present the Prior or the Deputy Prior, or the Warder, or a Past Prior." The Warder was present.

My reply was "Due to circumstances of which I was not aware the Annual Conclave was cancelled and as your Eminent Prior has requested a new date for the Annual Conclave-March 3, 1979, I do hereby grant his request as otherwise the present officers would continue to serve until the next Annual Conclave (January 1980); General Regulations Sect. 19, Page 26.

Jurisprudence 2448: Decision No. 3 involved the request of Robert A. Woods Priory No. 62 for a dispensation to re-schedule their Annual meeting of January 27, 1979, which was not held due to inclement weather, to March 3, 1979. Under Section 19 of General Regulations, the Grand Master-General granted the request. We recommend approval of this section.

CONCLAVE, SPECIAL

1980 Isley 2535:

6. July 3, 1980-Miami Priory, No. 10 received a request from a Past Prior of Miami Priory No. 10 asking that I persuade the Eminent Prior of Miami Priory No. 10 to hold its called Conclave on September 27, 1980 in Miami, Florida violating the wishes of the majority of the members present at their May 19, 1980 Conclave in West Palm Beach, Florida.

I wrote the Eminent Prior and reminded him of the action of the Knights at the May 19th Conclave regarding a September called Conclave.

Since Section 29 of the General Regulations provides: Special Conclaves may be called at any time by the Prior, I determined he had authority to call a special Conclave at his discretion as long as he complied with all other requisites of this regulation.

However, I did suggest the motion and vote at the May 19th conclave, being valid, should be honored. I pointed out the importance of peace and harmony in our Fraternity and authority is to use when needed and not just because we have it.

In a return letter, the E. Prior related the riot experiences in Miami we all had read about. Because of continuing unrest in that city, he felt it his duty to hold the conclave in another location in Florida to minimize the possibilities of harm to the Knights and their Ladies.

He reminded me that after I installed him as Eminent Prior, he asked how many would like to meet in Miami in September on the same date of the Red Cross of Constantine. Some Knight moved that it be held in Miami and it passed with a few objections. The circumstances that followed the May 19th conclave dictated his decision to hold the conclave elsewhere.

I responded by letter to him, complimenting him for considering the safety and welfare of the Knights and their ladies in the selection of a location for the special conclave.

I believe the E. Prior acted within his authority granted by Section 29 of our General Regulations.

Jurisprudence 2560: Decision No. 6-A concerned Knight of Miami Priory, No. 10, wrote the Grand Master-General advising that at the meeting of their Conclave in May a motion was made, duly seconded and with one exception passed unanimously, to hold their September meeting in Miami. He advised that the Prior's intentions was not to hold the Conclave somewhere other than

Miami, contrary to the express wish of the Knights present and voting at the May Meeting. Apparently no ruling was requested. The Grand Master-General did however write the Prior regarding the concern. He pointed out that Section 29 of the General Regulations provides that the Prior may call a special meeting at any time, with of course, certain provisions being complied with. However, he felt that although the Prior has this authority, the previous action of the Knights was valid and should be honored. We recommend approval of this action.

1981 Cotton 2634:

Pike's Peak Priory No. 21. Question, Knight complains that he was not advised who was up for election. Section 3. Membership in a priory shall be by invitation. Proposals for membership may be presented at any stated or special conclave and may be acted on at the same or any subsequent conclave.

Section 27. Special conclaves may be called at any time by the Prior. Written notice thereof must be given to the members by the Registrar. The notice shall state the purpose of the conclave. No business, other than that stated in the notice, shall be transacted at a special conclave.

While I feel the names of those proposed should be listed it seems that Convent General does not require it. I therefore, rule that Pike's Peak Priory No. 21 has not violated the General Regulations of the Convent General.

Jurisprudence 2654: A knight of one Priory filed a complaint that he had not been advised who was up for election. The Grand Master cited Sections No. 3 and 27 of the General Regulations and concluded that the Priory had not violated the General Regulation. We approve of his action.

DUES, EXEMPT FROM

1979 Jones 2404:

1. December 30, 1978--Los Angeles Priory No. 27 requested a ruling on "exempting Past Priors from the payment of dues." Section 41, Page 28, of the General Regulations for the Government of Priories states that, "No member of a Priory shall be exempted from the payment of any dues levied by his Priory other than by remission thereof." It is within the power of a Priory to remit the dues of any member, for good cause.

My ruling was "Los Angeles Priory No. 27 could remit the dues, on a year to year basis for the Past Priors, if they determine it is for a good cause."

Jurisprudence 2447: Grand Master-General's Decision No. 1 concerned a ruling on exemption of Past Priors from the payment of dues. He ruled that a Priory could remit such payment for good cause on a year to year basis under Section 41 of the General Regulations. We recommend approval of his decision.

DUES CARDS

1975 Monroe 1959:

Ruled that Vermont Priory No. 45, could print their own dues cards.

Jurisprudence 1989: 3. We recommend approval of his ruling that Vermont Priory, No. 45, was not bound to use the dues-cards furnished by Convent General but could secure their own dues-cards in the form submitted.

HONORARY PAST PRIOR

1983 Watts 2859:

4. January 26, 1983. General Registrar-General. Keystone Priory No. 26 lists a Knight as "Honorary Past Prior" in its roster. He requested a ruling on this title.

I ruled that there is no reference in the Constitution, By-Laws, or General Regulations of Convent General to justify the use of the title "Honorary Past Prior." The only mention of "honorary" is in Section 14 of the Code of General Regulations. No Knight who has been elected or designated as an "Honorary Past Prior" has membership in Convent General. Reference: ARTICLE III, Section 1 of the Constitution.

Jurisprudence 2896: 4-There being no reference in the law of Convent General justifying the designation as a "Honorary Past Prior," the Grand Master ruled that this title could not be conferred. He cited Section 14 of the General Regulations and Article III, Section 1 of the Constitution as reference. We recommend approval.

INDUCTION

1971 Adams 1544:

3. In response to a request from Alabama Priory No. 31, I ruled that it could not report a candidate as a member of the Priory after he was elected but before he had been inducted, the failure to induct arising from the fact that the candidate was not personally present for the ceremony.

4. In response to an inquiry from Empire State Priory No. 46, substantially similar to the inquiry from Texas Priory No. 23 above, I made a similar ruling.

Jurisprudence 1563: We recommend approval of the Grand Master General's decision that an invitee's name may not be included among the membership of a Priory until after he has been present in person and received the ceremony of induction.

1973 Auburn 1762:

September 20, Kansas Priory No. 33-Advised that a candidate may not be proposed, voted upon, and receive the Ceremony of Induction on the same day.

Jurisprudence 1783: Several matters were referred to the Grand Master General for interpretation or ruling. These concerned such subjects as...the time for the induction into a Priory following election...

The Grand Master General made each decision and formed each opinion in conformity to the By-laws and General Regulations of Convent General and we recommend approval of these decisions.

1980 Isley 2534:

5. May 6, 1980-Lily of the Valley Priory, No. 1 requested a ruling on their decision on two elected Proposals from Germany who were not present for induction but the Priory had voted to issue membership cards with the understanding they make arrangements to receive the ceremony of induction when they return to the United States, provided this was agreeable with Convent General.

ANSWER:

From your letter I understand membership cards were issued to two proposals from Germany who had been balloted upon and approved but did not in fact receive the ceremony of induction. Membership in a Priory of Knights of the York Cross of Honour is based upon the induction of an elected candidate.

Therefore, I must rule your actions invalid. Hopefully, membership cards have not been sent to the two elected candidates in Germany. If you have mailed them membership cards, please write and ask for them to be returned.

We have the same problems in other isolated areas and my decision is consistent with that of previous Grand Masters-General.

Please understand, it is not my intention to keep any worthy candidate from becoming a Knight of the York Cross of Honour. I know of no Masonic Order where one is made a member without the benefit of receiving the degrees, orders, inductions, etc. The exception might be on a very special and unusual circumstance where one is made a member on site by some Grand Masonic Jurisdiction.

Jurisprudence 2559: Decision No. 4-Lily of the Valley Priory, No. 1, advised that they had two acceptances from candidates stationed in Germany but who were unable to be present for induction. A resolution was passed at the regular Conclave to send them membership cards and induct them a year hence when they were able to appear. The Grand Master-General ruled their action invalid and requested that the membership cards, if already sent to be recalled. Subsequently it was found the Grand Master-General had misinterpreted their letter when the Priory replied that all action had been subject to his approval, that no cards had been sent and no further contact had been made with the proposee since their regular Conclave. The Grand Master agreed that the Priory should write the proposee advising them to make arrangement to be present for induction at their next Conclave after which their membership cards would be presented. We recommend approval of his actions.

1981 Cotton 2634:

New Hampshire Priory No. 58. Ask for special dispensation to the degree of the York of Honour upon a candidate which, at the time of the acceptance of his invitation was quite able to attend our conclave, which was held on the 17th of January, 1981.

"We found out at this conclave that he is in bed and shall not leave this bed under any circumstances. Therefore I wrote to our Most Eminent Grand Master-General for a dispensation, so that we the officers can go to his home and confer the degree of our order upon him." We understand that the work will be given to him in a discreet manner and in short form.

Jurisprudence 2655: New Hampshire Priory No. 58 advised the Grand Master-General they had elected and invited a candidate, but who became seriously ill before induction and unable to leave his home. They asked for a special dispensation to confer the ceremony in the candidates home. Dispensation was granted and we approve.

1981 Cotton 2634:

Pike's Peak Priory No. 21. The question, would it be possible to receive a special dispensation to vote on a candidate and Knight him the same nite. Answer, Section 3 General Regulations, membership in a Priory shall be by invitation. Proposals for membership may be acted on at the same or any subsequent conclave. If elected the Candidate MAY NOT be inducted into the priory SOONER than at a conclave held the calendar day following the day of his election. I cannot give you special dispensation for this request, because, it violates the General Regulations of Convent General.

I suggest that you first establish the candidate residence in Denver, Colorado. Then proceed according to Section 3, General Regulations.

Jurisprudence 2654: Pikes Peak Priory No. 21 asked if a special dispensation could be granted which would permit a proposee to be voted on and Knighted the same night. In refusing the request the Grand Master-General cited Section No. 3 of the General Regulations which specifically prohibits such procedure. We recommend approval of his action.

INDUCTION, TIME LIMIT

1957 Cavanagh 475:

3. On February 26, 1957, the Grand Registrar General wrote as follows: The Registrar of Pennsylvania Priory No. 6 has inquired: "Please advise as to the proper procedure for those cases in which an applicant does not present himself for induction although his petition is approved. Is his fee returned? Must his petition be held until date of Reception can be included?"

I wrote as follows: If I were the Registrar I would find out why the candidate failed to appear for induction. Perhaps it was not physically possible but he could appear at a later Conclave. If he does not intend to appear his fee should be returned.

Jurisprudence 500: 3. We are of the opinion that the Grand Master General properly interpreted our law in his Decision No. 3 regarding appearance of a candidate for induction following his election. Our Code of General Regulations does not establish any time limit within which the candidate must appear, this matter being left to the discretion of each Priory. We recommend the approval of Decision No. 3.

1975 Monroe 1959:

Ruled that Knight unable for health reasons to attend the annual conclave where he would have been knighted could receive the ceremony of reception in his home town at a special conclave of the Priory.

Jurisprudence 1989: 5. We recommend approval of his ruling that an elected candidate who was unable for physical reasons to attend the regular annual conclave of a priory could receive the ceremony of induction at a special conclave in the city where the candidate resides. Section 30 of the General Regulations prescribes the number of Knights necessary to open a priory and transact business. There are no restrictions as to the place of holding a conclave so such special conclave could be held in the home of the candidate.

1976 Sipprell 2065:

Arizona Priory No. 34 inquired: "Would you be so kind as to advise me on how long a proposal for membership in a Priory should be held if an acceptance is not made?" I replied that it was a matter for the individual Priory to decide for itself, and suggested that one year would be in accord with general Masonic usage.

Jurisprudence 2093: We also approve of his response to Arizona Priory No. 34 with reference to the length of time an invitation to membership should remain open and that each Priory may decide this matter for itself by an appropriate By-Law or Resolution.

1980 Isley 2533:

3. April 22, 1980-Pine Tree Priory, No. 65 requested a ruling on two questions.

QUESTION: You had a proposal, it was acted on and elected but he has fail-

ed to present himself for the ceremony of induction at your last two Priory Conclaves. Does he have to be balloted on after the lapse of one year?

ANSWER: I cannot find where Convent General Law addresses itself to this specific question. There may be good and sufficient reason why an elected proposal could not present himself.

Convent General Law provides in Section 40 of its By-Laws: In all cases where the Convent General is silent, the law of the grand Lodge of Masons of the State, Territory or Province having jurisdiction over the Territory in which the Priory is located should, where applicable, in similar cases, be adopted and followed, and I so recommend.

Jurisprudence 2559: Decision No. 5-Pine Tree Priory, No. 65 requested decisions on two questions. Number one, was it necessary to ballot on a proposal previously presented and elected, after the lapse of one year during which time the proposee had failed to present himself for induction at the last two Conclaves? The law of Convent General does not address itself to this specific question. The Grand Master recommended that Section 40 of the By-laws of Convent General be followed as it relates to those matters about which Convent General is silent. We recommend approval.

1983 Watts 2860:

9. April 23, 1983. Lily of the Valley Priory No. 1. Registrar. Is there a limitation on the number of times an extension may be granted to a candidate who has been unable to attend the ceremony of induction?

I ruled that the General Regulations do not limit the time within which a candidate may be inducted, and if there is no time limit contained in the By-Laws of Lily of the Valley Priory No. 1, the candidate may be granted whatever extensions are necessary until he is able to be inducted.

Jurisprudence 2896: 9-Lily of the Valley asked for a decision as to the limitations of time as it related to extensions for inductions. The Grand Master ruled that there was no time limit insofar as Convent General is concerned and unless their Priory specifically specified in their by-laws a time limit, the candidate could be granted whatever extensions are necessary until he is able to be inducted. We approve.

INDUCTION, WHO CAN PERFORM

1976 Sipprell 2064:

Disapproved a request to supply a ritual for the use of a knight (not a Prior or Past Prior) in conferring the ceremony on an invitee. In this connection I would suggest that a study be made of the present situation in the Canal Zone, and a regulation adopted.

Jurisprudence 2093: We therefore recommend approval of that portion of the Grand Master-General's Allocation entitled "Decisions" except as set forth herein and except that part thereof pertaining to the use of the ritual in the Canal Zone which has been referred to the Policy Committee.

Policy 2094: This is a report of the Policy Committee to which was referred the part of the Grand Master-General's allocation pertaining to members in the Canal Zone.

We desire to offer the following resolution for the consideration of the Convent General.

Whereas, the Craft Lodges in the Panama Canal Zone are chartered by and

hold allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts;

And, whereas, there is no Priory within the Zone

And, whereas, it is desirable that the Canal Zone be assigned officially to a Priory to avoid confusion and to provide an opportunity for qualified Masons of that area to enjoy the privilege of membership as Knights of the York Cross of Honour.

Now, therefore be it Resolved, that the Canal Zone be officially designated as a part and under the jurisdiction of Massachusetts Priory, No. 52.

The standing resolution was seconded, voted upon, and approved.

JEWELS

1961 Netherton 749:

December 27, 1960—I ruled that wives of members of our Order may wear the crown as a pin and recommended that it should have a red border.

Jurisprudence: N.B. Referred to this committee by Topical Reference but nothing found.

1976 Sipprell 2064:

Q. May a wife wear the neck jewel of her husband on his receiving a Prior's Jewel?

A. It would be in very bad taste for a non-member to wear a member's jewel.

Jurisprudence 2098: We recommend approval of his decision regarding the wearing of official jewels by wives of members. We further submit that it is improper for a non-member or a member of lesser rank to wear the official jewel of a member or officer of a Priory or an officer of Convent General. However, the wearing of a small replica of the crown jewel by the wife of a member is not hereby disapproved.

KNIGHT YORK GRAND CROSS OF HONOUR

1950 Denslow 171:

The question arising as to the status of a Provincial Grand Prior in Canada, I notified the Registrar General that, in my opinion, a Provincial Grand Prior of the Sovereign Grand Priory of Canada was comparable to that of a Grand Commander of a Grand Commandery in the United States. The Grand Master of their Great Priory holds a position of the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, and while their State jurisdictions appear to lack the authority of American Grand Commanderies, I believe it to be the intention of the Grand Encampment to regard Provincial Grand Priors as of the same status as Grand Commanders.

Grand Master General's Address 175: We heartily approve all the official acts and decisions of our Grand Master General.

1956 Dusenbery 411:

On or about January 11, 1956, I received a letter from the Grand Registrar General stating Philadelphia Priory No. 12 had requested a Certificate Knight York Grand Cross with four quadrants for one of their members who lived in Delaware. As Delaware does not have a Grand Commandery, the Registrar General suggested the Certificate should be for three quadrants. They replied

stating the Knight had presided over St. John's Commandery No. 1, K.T., of Wilmington, Delaware, and as St. John's Commandery No. 1 was subordinate to the Grand Encampment, K.T., and had a vote in Grand Encampment, they felt this should be the same as presiding over a Grand Commandery, and the Knight be entitled to the quadrant of a Past Grand Commander. The Registrar General requested a ruling.

I ruled that under Section 36 of the By-Laws the Knight had not presided over a Grand Commandery, K.T., and was not eligible to receive the quadrant of a Past Grand Commander.

Jurisprudence 437: 2. We approve the ruling of the Grand Master General on the request of Philadelphia Priory No. 12, which ruling held that the Knight in question had not presided over a Grand Commandery and was not eligible to receive the quadrant of a Past Grand Commander. It is the opinion of your Committee that the Commanderies subordinate to the Grand Encampment do not possess the status, powers and prerogatives of a Grand Commandery and that to preside over such subordinate Commandery is not equivalent to serving as Grand Commander of a Grand Commandery.

1965 Fowler 1041:

On May 28, 1965 I received a request from Texas Priory, No. 23, to authorize the preparation of two Grand Cross Certificates to be presented immediately after the induction of the two recipients into the Order. Since each recipient would be fully qualified to receive the certificates when inducted, I authorized the Grand Registrar to prepare the certificates for forwarding to the Grand Warder of the Temple, Knight W. King Larimore, who acting as my Personal Representative, would attend the Conclave and present the certificates after the induction of the recipients. R. Em. Knight Larimore presented the certificates as requested. I greatly appreciate this and other services performed by him.

Jurisprudence 1066: We approve the action of the Grand Master General with reference to the issuance and presentation of the Grand Cross Certificates to the newly created Knights of Texas Priory No. 23.

1973 Auburn 1761:

May 5. York Grand Cross of Honour Certificate authorized to Knight Harry A. White, Minnesota No. 44 posthumously. He was elected and served as Grand Commander but passed away before receiving his certificate.

June 5. Nebraska Priory No. 7--Ruled regarding By-laws Section 36, that only duly elected and presiding Grand Commanders are entitled to a York Grand Cross of Honour Certificate and the right to a Quadrant on the lapel pin. Thus an Honorary Grand Commander is not eligible.

Jurisprudence 1783: The question of issuing a quadrant for an honorary Past Grand Commander.....and the issuing of a Grand York Cross of Honour Certificate posthumously to one who had become eligible prior to his death.

The Grand Master General made each decision and formed each opinion in conformity to the By-Laws and General Regulations of Convent General and we recommend approval of these decisions.

1974 Merrick 1861:

Case F. In Queensland Priory, U.D., the Grand Master-General was asked if presiding over a Provincial Grand Lodge, Grand Council, or Grand Preceptory

under the English, Scot, or Irish constitutions qualifies a knight for designation as a Knight York Grand Cross of Honour. The answer was affirmative.

Jurisprudence 1886: 6. The Grand Master-General ruled that presiding over a Provincial Grand Lodge, Grand Council, or Grand Preceptory under the English, Scottish or Irish Constitutions qualifies a Knight for designation as a Knight York Grand Cross of Honour. Your committee agrees and recommends approval for future guidance.

LIQUOR, SPIRITUOUS

1974 Merrick 1861:

Case G. Also in Queensland Priory, U.D., the Grand Master-General was requested to rule upon the correctness of a by-law which prohibited the serving or consumption of spiritous liquors at the repast following their conclaves. Australian bodies in the main follow the English or continental custom although some limit liquid refreshments only to tea, coffee, hot chocolate or soft drinks. Incidentally, all of these are available at the refreshment tables where spiritous liquors are available.

The Grand Master-General suggested that this was a matter more properly decided by custom according to the wishes of the membership rather than by a by-law.

Jurisprudence 1886: 7. The Grand Master-General ruled that the serving of spirituous liquors, a custom followed in Queensland and in some other jurisdictions, should probably follow local custom of the fraternity rather than be subject to a by-law provision. Your committee feels that this is an area in which we should follow the regulations and customs of the local Grand Lodge rather than attempt to legislate, and we recommend that approve this policy.

MEMBERSHIP, BASIC REQUIREMENTS

1955 Gruener 333:

On June 4, 1954 Frater Arthur D. Bishop and others petitioned the Grand Council of Vermont for a charter for Montpelier Council, a revival of a dormant Council. On June 3, 1954 Frater Bishop was chosen Thrice Illustrious Master. At Burlington on June 8, 1954 the Grand Master announced the reinstatement of Montpelier Council.

Frater Bishop had all the qualifications for K.Y.C.H. except service in the Council. He was on the verge of attaining that qualification. On June 12, 1954 at Rutland Frater Bishop was inducted into Vermont Priory. This was previous to his installation at Thrice Illustrious Master.

One June 14, 1954 at Montpelier Frater Bishop was installed Thrice Illustrious Master. One June 15 or 16, 1954 Frater Bishop was notified by the Grand Recorder that all action to date pertaining to Montpelier Council was illegal, that permission of Barre Council had to be obtained before Montpelier Council could operate or function as a bona fide Council. In October 1954, no specified date given, Barre Council denied consent to the fraters of Montpelier Council, hence Frater Bishop was not at any time nor at the time of his induction eligible for the honorarium of K.Y.C.H.

The Grand Master General made the following decision, "I hereby rule and direct that you nullify and void all action taken by Vermont Priory in connection with Frater Arthur D. Bishop. It is further ruled and directed that you return any and all monies paid by him to the Priory. You will also cancel the

local number assigned to him, transmitting a complete report to the Grand Registrar-General that he might cancel the national number. You will also make a minute of the action, in detail, that your records may be in good order. You will file a copy of your report with the Grand Master General."

Jurisprudence 358: Decision--"Re-Frater Arthur D. Bishop" Your committee approves the Grand Master General's Decision.

1968 Copeland 1280:

An inquiry was received from Florida Priory, No. 60, based on the following facts:

A companion served as the Presiding Officer of his Blue Lodge, his Council and his Commandery, serving each a full term of one year. In 1967 he was elected and installed as the Scribe of his Chapter for 1967. In November 1967 his Chapter consolidated with another Chapter, and part of the agreement of consolidation was that he was to be elected to serve the remaining two months as High Priest of the consolidated Chapter. The election was legally held under dispensation and he was installed High Priest of the Chapter and served the remaining two months of the term to which he had been elected. He is carried as a Past High priest on the records of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Florida. **QUERY:** Is he eligible for membership in K.Y.C.H.?

I ruled that a companion, who had served as High Priest of his Chapter for the term for which he had been elected and is carried on the rolls of the Grand Chapter in his jurisdiction as a Past High Priest of a subordinate Chapter and is otherwise qualified, is eligible to be proposed as a member of the Knights of the York Cross of Honour.

NOTE: I suggest that the Jurisprudence Committee define more clearly what is meant by "one full term."

Jurisprudence 1297: We approve all decisions and rulings of Grand Master General Copeland as set forth in his allocution as follows: 1. Florida Priory No. 60.

1969 Smith 1360:

July 16, 1969, I ruled that a presiding officer of a research or educational lodge, chapter, council or commandery, would not, by virtue of that office be eligible for membership in priories of the Knights of the York Cross of Honour. I believe that the founders of our order intended to require service as presiding officer of "working" bodies, that is, those which confer degrees and orders, etc.

Jurisprudence 1379: We approve the decision of the Grand Master General in ruling that the basic requirements for membership could not be met by having presided over a research group or other special purpose body of Masonry.

1974 Merrick 1861:

Case E. An opinion was requested whether or not presiding over a Scottish Rite Symbolic Lodge outside the United States counts as a qualification for a Knight York Cross of Honour. The answer was affirmative. As long as the body qualifies for a knight's primary membership, a term as presiding officer qualifies him for a Knight York Cross of Honour.

Jurisprudence 1886: 5. The Grand Master-General ruled that presiding over a Scottish Rite Symbolic Lodge outside of the United States counts as a partial qualification for membership in the Knights of the York Cross of Honour.

Your committee concurs and recommends your approval.

1974 Merrick 1861:

Case I. After a man has been proposed, elected, and inducted, it was discovered he had not presided over one of the bodies. His membership was revoked. In explanation he wrote that he was ill upon the night of election and installation, and that upon learning of his serious illness the grand presiding officer in that body conferred upon him the honorary title of a past presiding officer—a prerogative that is constitutional in that jurisdiction.

The individual and the Priory were contrite. The Priory asked for the return of the fee, which was granted.

Jurisprudence 1886: 9. Case I was properly handled and needs no further comment.

1979 Jones 2405:

4. February 28, 1979—Lily of the Valley Priory No. 1, requesting procedure to follow regarding "Jurisdiction."

On January 6, 1979, a Proposal for Membership for Arthur E. Powell, Midland, Georgia, was made to Lily of the Valley Priory No. 1, Charlotte, North Carolina. On January 31st, the Registrar of Lily of the Valley wrote to the Registrar of Georgia Priory No. 39 for a waiver of jurisdiction over S.K. Powell, and on the same date January 31st he wrote to S.K. Powell advising him he had been elected to membership in Lily of the Valley Priory, subject to receiving the waiver from Georgia Priory and enclosed an "Acceptance of Membership" form for him to complete. On February 3, 1979, S.K. Powell sent a letter to the Registrar of Lily of the Valley Priory with the completed "Acceptance of Invitation" form and stated he was planning on returning to Germany and later returning to retire in Florida. The Induction Ceremony was to take place in Winston-Salem, N.C., March 27, 1979. On February 5, 1979, the Registrar of Georgia Priory No. 39, sent a letter to the Registrar of Lily of the Valley Priory stating the next Stated Conclave of Georgia Priory would be held on June 10th, however, the waiver could be presented for action on April 17th. In the same letter, the Registrar of Georgia Priory stated that Georgia does not recognize "Dual Membership." On February 6, 1979, Em. K. James E. Moseley, Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Georgia wrote to the Registrar of Lily of the Valley Priory giving him the York Rite History of S.K. Powell, that he had never Demitted from the council or commandery in Georgia and therefore S.K. Powell had illegally served the council and commandery in Germany. Under these circumstances, he doubted that Georgia Priory would grant a waiver for S.K. Powell. On February 9th, the Registrar of Lily of the Valley Priory wrote to the Grand Registrar-General enclosing the correspondence and asking for advice. On February 11th, the Grand Registrar-General forwarded the correspondence to the Grand Master-General for a reply. The dual membership law of Georgia had been explained to S.K. Powell "but to no avail."

My reply was, after an indepth study of the correspondence, I find there were a number of "General Regulations" that were not followed and that the Registrar of Lily of the Valley Priory should follow-up with the waivers of jurisdiction from both the Pories in Georgia and that no induction can be held for S.K. Arthur E. Powell until all of the Convent General Laws had been complied with.

Jurisprudence 2448: Decision No. 4 requiring Jurisdiction, was requested by Lily of the Valley No. 1. This request concerned a ruling with regard to a proposal for membership and a waiver of jurisdiction for a proposee from Georgia to North Carolina. Several matters of Jurisdiction were involved as well as dual membership and also an allegation that the proposee had illegally presided over bodies in Germany. The Grand Master-General found that many matters of jurisdiction from both the Pories in Georgia and the General Regulations had not been complied with and that under these circumstances no induction could be held until the General Regulations of Convent General had been complied with. The Jurisprudence Committee are of the opinion that the Grand Master-General acted properly in this connection, but due to the elapse of time in which to study in depth the ramifications involved the Committee recommends that the matter be laid over a year and a final resolution be recommended at our next regular Annual Conclave. This recommendation was approved.

1980 Jurisprudence 2560: At the Annual Conclave a year ago, the Jurisprudence Committee recommended that the then Grand Master's decision No. 4, be laid over for more indepth research regarding the ramifications involved. This was necessary because of the physical incapacity of our beloved Past Grand Master, Charles F. Adams, the Chairman of the Jurisprudence Committee, and in view of the fact that voluminous correspondence in the case could not be found.

We regret to advise that this correspondence is still not in hand. However, at this date we feel the matter is moot as our understanding is that all matters relating to the decision and all Pories and individuals concerned have withdrawn from consideration. A year ago the Committee felt that the Grand Master-General had acted properly and we still retain this opinion. We therefore recommend approval of his decision.

1982 Lehman 2734:

8. June 8, 1982. Edwin Schickley, Personal Representative of the Grand Master-General District 2-B.

Is a York Rite Mason who has served as a Worshipful Master of a Lodge in India, First Principal of a Chapter in India, Thrice Illustrious Master of a Council in Pennsylvania, and Preceptor of a Commandery in India eligible to be invited as an Invitee in Philadelphia Priory No. 12? He is a resident of Pennsylvania.

I would think that he would be eligible, however, he should be checked out as to whether the York Rite Bodies of Pennsylvania recognizes the York Rite Bodies in India.

Jurisprudence 2780: 8-The Grand Master-General's personal representative in District No. 2-B in behalf of Philadelphia Priory No. 12, submitted an inquiry relative to eligibility of one who had served the requisite bodies in India, his native country, but who now resides in Pennsylvania. A very impressive resume of his Masonic activities and offices was included with the inquiry. The Grand Master replied that if the various bodies over which he had served are recognized by the Grand Bodies of Pennsylvania, he saw no reason why he could not be proposed.

1982 Lehman 2781:

12. August 31, 1982. Kentucky Priory No. 25.

Kentucky Priory No. 25 asks about one of their former members who had demitted from the Lodge, York Rite, Scottish Rite, and Shrine. He was convicted of arson, then exonerated and is now a member in good standing in the Lodge, York Rite, Scottish Rite and Shrine. I was asked if we must go through the same procedures as a new proposee.

Yes. He must be proposed and he must have a unanimous ballot to be reinstated.

(Section 9 of the General Regulations.)

Jurisprudence 2781: A Priory directed to the Jurisprudence committee for a ruling, a situation regarding one of their members who had lost his membership in the various bodies in his Jurisdiction. Subsequently he was restored to membership in all these bodies and the Priory asked for guidance in the proper procedure to restore in the Priory. The committee cited Section No. 9 of the General Regulations which explicitly explains the procedure and recommended that the Grand Master-General advise the Priory accordingly. This was done and we approve the action.

1983 Watts 2860:

6. March 23, 1983. Kansas Priory No. 33. Registrar. Asked "if Convent General can give authority to waive time for a Companion who is now serving as Illustrious Master of" his Council, having previously presided over the other three York Rite bodies, and has terminal cancer.

Reluctantly, I ruled that the Grand Master-General does not have the authority to waive the time requirement. Reference: Section 1 of the General Regulations.

I should add that the Knight in question was only in the third month of his term as Illustrious Master. In 1980 my distinguished predecessor, Most Eminent Knight Clarence K. Jones, approved a waiver of time for a Knight with a life expectancy of two months who was serving his fourth office and had only two months remaining to complete his term unless any Knight of the Priory objected to his early induction. The Committee on Jurisprudence concurred in the decision (1980 THE QUATERNION, pp. 2406 and 2448).

Jurisprudence 2896: 6-Citing Section 1 of the General Regulations the Grand Master ruled that Convent General did not have the authority to waive the time for a companion serving as Illustrious Master, to be proposed for membership in Kansas Priory, although he had completed the other three bodies and was terminally ill. We approve and so recommend.

MEMBERSHIP, CHANGE OF

1957 Cavanagh 475:

4. On March 7, 1957, I gave a ruling to the Grand Registrar General that the designation of Knight of the York Cross of Honour is conferred when the completed application is registered with Convent General and his national number is assigned. Until then, he cannot transfer his membership.

This ruling was made in the case of one whose petition had not been filed with the Grand Registrar General. He had signed the Warrant for a new Priory as a Charter Member. He died while his case was still pending.

Jurisprudence 500: 4. It is the opinion of your Committee that the general statement contained in the first paragraph, Decision No. 4, namely, that the candidate does not become a Knight of the York Cross of Honour until his peti-

tion is registered with the Grand Registrar General, is probably correct under a strict interpretation of our Code. It is perhaps, more correct to say that the candidate does not become a member of our Order until he is inducted and that, generally speaking the evidence of that induction is the filing of the petition with the Grand Registrar General. But if induction is otherwise established, the Priory or the Grand Registrar General may be required to amend their records accordingly.

The technical distinction made in the preceding paragraph has become necessary by the case producing Decision No. 4. The correspondence presented to your Committee by the Grand Master General discloses that one W.L. Anderson of West Virginia was inducted in West Virginia Priory No. 40 at Parkersburg, some "few years back" according to his own statement. The required fee was paid by the candidate but the Priory neglected to secure a petition from Brother Anderson. His letter of February 2, 1957, continues to say:

"We were initiated in a Lodge Room in a hurry and was informed that the badge etc., would be mailed to us. I never heard anymore so I wrote him (the Registrar) and he sent a blank to fill out all my Masonic connections."

Brother Anderson continues to say that he gave the blank to another member of the Priory. That Knight apparently mislaid the document. Brother Anderson, not learning of the mishap, considered himself in good standing and signed the petition for a dispensation for Mountain States Priory No. 55. When our Grand Registrar General scrutinized the personnel of the petition, he discovered that his records did not disclose the name of W.L. Anderson as a member of our Order.

The Registrars of the two Priories, the Grand Registrar General and the Grand Master General conducted correspondence about the case. While the matter was pending Brother Anderson died.

Your Committee are of the opinion that to hold Brother Anderson was not a member of our Order at the time of his death would be to close our eyes to the plain facts and rely on a technicality which was not caused by the candidate but rather the fault of the Priory. The decedent has stated that he filled out his petition when he received it. This was after he had been inducted. It should have been completed before his election, but the candidate cannot be held responsible for this omission. It is true that an experienced Mason, such as our candidates are presumed to be, should know that the petition should have been returned to the Registrar instead of being given to some other member, but there may be extenuating circumstances not appearing in the record. We feel that Brother Anderson did all that he should have done to become a member; that the rule which says "equity regards as done that which should have been done" applies in Masonic jurisprudence also; and that W.L. Anderson must be regarded as a Knight of the York Cross of Honour and member of West Virginia Priory No. 40 at the time he signed the petition for the new Priory. The decedent, therefore, had a legal right to sign the petition and when Mountain States No. 55 was chartered he became a member of that Priory.

We recommend, therefore, that West Virginia Priory No. 40 be directed to secure, from such sources as are necessary, all required data to fully complete the petition of W.L. Anderson; except the signature; that the forms be marked "Duplicate, originals lost"; that one copy of the petition with the certification of the induction be forwarded with the fee of \$5.00 to the Grand Registrar General; that that officer issue nunc pro tunc the certificate of membership, correcting his records accordingly; that the registrar of West Virginia Priory

No. 4 show Knight W.L. Anderson as a member of that Priory as of the date of his induction; that the Registrar of West Virginia Priory No. 40 show the transfer of Knight W.L. Anderson to Mountain States Priory No. 55 at the date of the issuance of the Charter to that Priory; that if W.L. Anderson by reason of our recommendations, be found to owe any dues to No. 40 for 1956 or previous years, the same shall be paid to No. 40 out of the treasury of No. 55 and that when the foregoing steps have been taken this case be closed.

Your Committee wishes Convent General to know that Knight Robert B. Bowlby, present Registrar of West Virginia Priory No. 40 was not Registrar of that Priory at the time of the induction of Knight Anderson. Knight Bowlby inherited the problem and has tried to solve it. We point out, also, that had our law been followed and the petition been completed before the candidate was elected, a sad and difficult situation would have been avoided and hours of time consumed in correspondence eliminated.

1957 Cavanagh 475:

5. On April 1, 1957, I gave a ruling to the Registrar of Mountain State Priory No. 55, concerning the former members of West Virginia Priory No. 40, who had signed the warrant as Charter Members of the New Priory. When the warrant was issued by Convent General, they became members of the new Priory provided they were clear on the books and their Demits should have been issued at once. Thereafter, no dues were payable to the former Priory.

Jurisprudence 499: 3. There has been referred to this Committee the problem presented by Decision No. 5 of the Grand Master General. As to the transfer of members from West Virginia Priory No. 40 to Mt. State Priory No. 55, this is a matter between the two Priories and not the business of Convent General. General Masonic jurisprudence requires that no member of a body may receive a demit or be transferred unless his dues to the body are paid and, as the old expression states, "he is clear of the books."

1975 Monroe 1959:

Problem presented by Shrewsbury, No. 4. A Past Grand Commander has been proposed and rejected. His name was again proposed but not balloted upon. During the interim he moved to Florida and has resided there two years. Ruled that the proposee was now a legal resident of Florida and should be proposed for membership there with a waiver from Shrewsbury No. 4, being required.

Jurisprudence 1989: 6. We recommend approval of his ruling that the person who has been proposed for membership in Shrewsbury Priory, No. 4, and then rejected and who then established his residence in the State of Florida could legally be proposed for membership and elected in Florida Priory, No. 60, provided that approval is obtained from Shrewsbury Priory, No. 4, as required by Section 10 of the General Regulations. Such approval may be given by majority affirmative vote at any stated conclave or special conclave called for that purpose. There is no requirement that such approval be by unanimous vote or by any other proportion such as three-fourths or two-thirds so all that is required is a simple majority.

MEMBERSHIP, DUAL

1950 Denslow 171:

Ohio Priory No. 18 adopted a by-law providing for dual membership. Our

Registrar General referred the matter to me and I replied, informing him that Convent General (p. 138, 1949 Proc.) has approved dual and plural membership, that it was not within our power to override the action of Convent General, which action had been taken without due consideration for the complications which ensue in the recording of our membership.

Grand Master General's Address 175: We heartily approve all the official acts and decisions of our Grand Master General.

1974 Merrick 1860:

Case. C. A Priory reported that a knight, a member in another state, had moved to its state for a part-year residence and desired to affiliate in the second state with full membership rights, including the payment of dues, while retaining his original membership. He did not care for honorary membership as he was able and willing to share in the second Priory's expenses. He was advised to wait until after this session when clarification or appropriate action might be taken.

Jurisprudence 1885: 3. The situations referred to as Case C in the Allocation wherein a Knight having moved his residence for a substantial part of each year into the territorial jurisdiction of a second Priory desires membership therein. Under Section 13 of our General Regulations he is eligible for dual membership and may be extended an invitation.

1982 Lehman 2734:

5. February 23, 1982. A Communication forwarded to the Grand Master-General from the Grand Registrar-General.

On December 9, 1978 a member of Massachusetts Priory was elected to membership in Roger Williams Priory No. 48. (Rhode Island). The Proposal was also in pencil and added honorary. At our December 5th, 1981 Conclave this matter was discussed in great detail and it was agreed by all that attended both of these Conclaves that the Knight in question is a dual member of Roger Williams Priory No. 48 and Massachusetts Priory No. 52.

The Knight in question lives in Massachusetts and therefore cannot be a dual member in Roger Williams Priory No. 48. (Rhode Island). As I understand the General Regulations, one cannot become a dual member in a state where he does not have residence. He may become an Honorary Member.

(Section 10 and 13 of the General Regulations).

Jurisprudence 2780: In the same letter of inquiry the Grand Master noted that he had seen a communication to the effect that a Knight, member of Massachusetts Priory No. 52, had been elected a dual member of Roger Williams Priory No. 48, which Priory is in Rhode Island. The Grand Master cited Section 13 of the General Regulations as they relate to Membership and which specifically provides that dual membership is authorized only in a Priory having exclusive or concurrent jurisdiction over the area in which the member resides. The member resides in Massachusetts and the Priory in Rhode Island has no jurisdiction. He ruled that the Knight could not be a dual member but could be an Honorary member and requested the Priory to make a correction in their records accordingly. We approve his decision.

MEMBERSHIP, HONORARY

1953 Phelps 227:

I received a copy of a letter from Knight Vernon F. Darrow, Eminent Prior of Fred H. Pocock Priory No. 22, addressed to Herbert T. Layland as Deputy Grand Master General relative to an honorary membership in K.Y.C.H. which had been granted by Kansas Priory No. 33 to John D. Rigg of Michigan. I was requested to rule upon the eligibility of John D. Rigg for honorary membership in Kansas Priory No. 33, due to the fact that he was not a member of any other priory on account of his being ineligible as he had never served as a high priest of his chapter. I ruled that John D. Rigg was elected honorary member of Kansas Priory No. 33 in error, and I wrote to Knight Elroy E. Tillotson as Prior of Kansas Priory No. 33, calling his attention to the fact that they had erred in electing John D. Rigg to honorary membership, and requested that the action be revoked and that John D. Rigg be requested to return his card. I sent a copy of this letter to the Prior of Fred H. Pocock Priory No. 22. I am sure that this was indeed an error on the part of Kansas Priory No. 33, as well as John D. Rigg, for I have known John D. Rigg for years and he is a distinguished Mason of Michigan, and would not have accepted an honorary membership in any body knowing that he was not eligible for such a honor.

Grand Master General's Address 245: We approve all his decisions.

1974 Merrick 1860:

Case D. The Grand Master-General was elected to honorary membership in a Priory he was visiting. The vote was taken quickly. Simultaneously a knight in an adjacent seat, a close friend, whispered "They can't do that. There are no honorary memberships in Convent General." The friend was familiar with the ceremony of reception statement: "We have no honorary memberships." He obviously was not familiar with General Regulations, Section 14, p. 24, Rev. "72".

Jurisprudence 1885: 4. The Grand Master-General has noted that some Knights have confused the reference in our ritual to there being no honorary members of the K.Y.C.H. with the provision of Section 14 of our General Regulations which provides for Honorary Memberships for Knights of the Order. These are entirely different situations and should not be confused.

1983 Watts 2860:

8. April 23, 1983. Empire State Priory No. 46. Eminent Prior. Is honorary membership legal? Does the Grand Registrar-General have honorary membership certificates? "If not, could the regular certificate be inscribed with 'Honorary Member' just below the words York Cross of Honour on either side of the stars?"

I advised the Eminent Prior that Convent General does not have an honorary membership certificate, but does have honorary membership cards. I suggested that his Registrar purchase a supply of the honorary membership cards from the Grand Registrar-General for use by Empire State

Jurisprudence 2896: 8-Empire State Priory submitted a two fold question to the Grand Master. Does the Grand Registrar General have Honorary Membership certificates and if not could "Honorary Membership" be inscribed on the regular membership card. He replied that there was no Honorary Certificates, but that the Registrar General did have Honorary cards and sug-

gested the Priory secure a supply. We concur in his suggestion and recommend approval.

MEMBERSHIP, PETITION FOR

1977 Sylvester 2176:

6. Arizona Priory No. 34 advised that they had a request from a Knight formerly a member of Los Angeles Priory No. 27 to join their Priory. The request was accompanied by a demit from Priory No. 27. The Knight resides in Needles, California, which is just across the river from Arizona. Our Registrar General advised that the Knight was not eligible until he had established legal residence in Arizona. The chairman of our Jurisprudence Committee concurred in this decision and further advised the Grand Master-General that Convent General does not recognize or authorize petitions for membership. Section 3 of the General Regulations states clearly that membership in a Priory shall be by invitation and Section 10 states the invitation can only be extended by the Priory having jurisdiction. It he lives outside the county and not within the county of either was pointed out that Section 13 of the General Regulations provide for the only method by which a change in membership might be accomplished with a demit.

Jurisprudence 2209: 9. We recommend approval of Grand Master General's Decision No. 6.

MEMBERSHIP, POSTHUMOUS

1952 Michael 197:

Through the office of Registrar General Wakefield, I received, from the Registrar of Georgia Priory #39, the following request:

"We have a request from a group of Knights in Atlanta to determine if it would be possible to register a deceased brother, who was eligible for the honors of K.Y.C.H., and in fact had asked for a petition a few days prior to his death. The Sir Knights wished, if possible, to pass his certificate on to his son, who is very active in York Rite Masonry. Please advise me on this."

My ruling on the request from Georgia Priory #39 was:

"This action, by Georgia Priory #39, would be contrary to policy heretofore established by Convent General."

This ruling was based on the General Regulations and decisions of Past Grand Master General Geo. Hemenway, Ref: First Paragraph, Page 149, Quaternion-Transactions, February, 1949.

Grand Master General's Allocution 202: We recommend the approval of each of the decisions of Grand Master General.

1957 Cavanagh 475:

2. On February 14, 1957, I received a letter from the Registrar of Nevada Priory No. 50, reporting the death in an airplane accident of a Mason who had presided in all the York Rite Grand Bodies. He was a candidate for reception in the Priory. Could he be received POST-HUMOUSLY?

My decision was that we have no provision whereby the deceased brother could be received. It was not possible to add his name to the roll.

Jurisprudence 501: 2. The Grand Master General reported in his address a request by a Priory for permission to elect a brother, otherwise qualified, after his death. The Grand Master General ruled such action improper, but found no

Section of our Law to support this ruling. There is no specific provision in our Law forbidding posthumous election to membership, but the provisions of the Code of General Regulations covering petitions and induction of candidates clearly negatives any such posthumous election. We recommend the ruling of the Grand Master General be approved.

1969 Smith 1360:

March 21, 1969, in response to inquiry as to whether or not a person who died in 1944 could be declared a member of a priory posthumously, I ruled that the General Regulations do not permit this.

Jurisprudence 1379: We recommend approval of Grand Master General Lyman E. Smith's decisions of the request for rulings by the Registrars of: ...Fred H. Pocock Priory No. 22 relative to a ruling that membership cannot be given posthumously.

Jurisprudence 1380: For the same reason we do not agree that Section 4 needs to be amended to prohibit making members 'at sight' or 'posthumously.' Such procedures are already prohibited by Section 4, which now requires an election to membership and an acceptance.

MEMBERSHIP, RESIDENCE

1956 Dusenbery 411:

On October 11, I received a request from the Registrar of Indiana Priory No. 8 for permission to accept a petition for the ceremonies from an eligible Mason living in Pennsylvania giving the following information:

The Brother is a Past High Priest of a Royal Arch Chapter in Missouri and is still a member of same; a Past Commander of a Commandery, K.T., in Illinois, where he now holds his membership; a Past Master of a Lodge of Master Masons in Indiana, and is now a member of same; a Past Illustrious Master of a Council, R. & S.M. in Indiana, where he still maintains his membership.

The letter further stated he had approached members of a Priory in Pennsylvania and was informed that, because of his activities in the Order of Eastern Star, they did not think they could accept his petition. As Indiana Priory No. 8 wished to accept this Brother's petition, they requested a ruling.

After correspondence with the Chairman of the Jurisprudence Committee, we ruled that, under Section 40, page 295, of the Quaternion, together with Sections 42 and 43 of the General Regulations, page 296 of the Quaternion, and abiding by Section No. 28 of the By-Laws, the Brother could petition Indiana Priory No. 8, and if waiver of jurisdiction be granted per the above named Sections, Indiana Priory No. 8 can elect the Brother.

Jurisprudence 437: 1. Your Committee approves the decision of the Grand Master General on the request of Indiana Priory No. 9, for permission to accept a petition from an eligible brother living in Pennsylvania, on condition that Indiana Priory secured a waiver of jurisdiction from one of the Pennsylvania Pories. This procedure is specifically detailed in Sections 11 and 12 of the General Regulations as appearing in the codification authorized by Convent General at Chicago on October 1st, 1955.

1975 Monroe 1959:

Ruled that a candidate, proposed, balloted upon and elected, although moving to another state before induction still belonged to the Priory where he had been elected and should receive the ceremony of reception by courtesy from the Priory in the State to which he had moved.

Jurisprudence 1989: 2. We recommend approval of his ruling that a candidate properly elected to membership in one priory then moves to an area where another priory has jurisdiction may receive the ceremony of induction from the priory of his new residence as a courtesy to the priory which elected him. The priory which elected him retains jurisdiction over him notwithstanding his change of residence.

1977 Sylvester 2176:

4. Our Grand Registrar-General received two proposals for membership submitted to Lily of the Valley Priory No. 1 and forwarded by them properly filled out and which related the service of these two proposees over York Rite Bodies in Germany. The inquiry pertained to whether or not Lily of the Valley could consider the proposals. Knight Wakefield replied that Germany was open territory if the qualifying bodies were all in that country. I assumed that Knight Wakefield replied that they could accept the proposals. I concur in this procedure.

Jurisprudence 2209: 7. We recommend approval of Grand Master General's Decision No. 4.

1978 Kaufman 2288:

Peace and harmony exists generally among the 68 Priories of Convent General but in our laws relating to waivers of jurisdiction, confusion still exists. More inquiries about this law has come to your Registrar-General and to your Grand Master-General than any other subject. Apparently, our laws are still not quite clear and suggestions for clarification have been made to our Jurisprudence Committee.

Jurisprudence 2321: The Grand Master-General suggests that some confusion exists as to waivers of jurisdiction. This should not be confused with the situation where one or more Priories exist in a single jurisdiction. In such situations each Priory has exclusive jurisdiction over invitees residing in the county where the Priory has its headquarters and concurrent jurisdiction with the other Priory or Priories in all other areas of the state, territory or province. See Section 28 of the By-laws of Convent General. When a proposal for membership of one having legal residence in such concurrent area is made in Priory, that Priory retains jurisdiction over such proposee in perpetuity to the same extent as if such proposee lived and continued to live in the county where such Priory has its headquarters. On the other hand, no Priory may act on any proposal for membership of anyone having his legal residence in the exclusive jurisdiction of some other Priory without first obtaining a waiver of jurisdiction as to that particular proposal.

1980 Isley 2533:

2. February 29, 1980-Indiana Priory, No. 8 requested ruling on waiver of proposal who had presided over the four prerequisite bodies in four different Grand Masonic Jurisdictions.

I ruled that they were right in interpreting Section 10 of the General regulations of Convent General which requires approval of the Priory having jurisdiction over each territory where he served as the presiding officer.

Jurisprudence 2559: Grand Master-General's Decision No. 1 dealt with an inquiry from Indiana Priory, No. 8, as to whether they interpreted Section 10 of the general regulations correctly. They had received a proposal for a proposee indicating that he had presided over three of the York Rite Bodies in three different jurisdictions. It was the Pories interpretation of Section 10 that a waiver must be had from all three jurisdictions before the proposal could be voted upon. He advised that they had interpreted the Section correctly and we recommend approval of his action. However we call attention to the fact that Section 10 speaks of approval rather than a waiver from the Pories involved and further makes no mention that the proposal must be approved before voting thereon but only that approval must be had before an invitation is extended. We believe it was the Grand Master's intent to call attention that an approval must be had before the invitation could be extended.

1983 Watts 2860:

10. May 15, 1983. Georgia Priory No. 39. Registrar. Can a Brother, Companion, and Sir Knight residing in their jurisdiction and who served as presiding officer of the York Rite bodies in Germany be received in Georgia Priory No. 39?

I ruled that the brother who served the York Rite bodies in Germany where there is no Priory is eligible to be invited to join Georgia Priory No. 39. References: Sections 8 and 10 of the General Regulations.

Jurisprudence 2896: 10-Georgia Priory asked if a proposee, having served all requisite bodies while in Germany, could be received in Georgia Priory. Under Sections 8 and 10 of the General Regulations the Grand Master ruled that he could be received. We concur in his decision.

NOTICE OF CONCLAVE

1983 Watts 2859:

2. December 22, 1982. Lily of the Valley Priory No. 1. Registrar. Asked if the notices of any annual or special conclave "can be mailed under a non-profit organization mailing permit or must they be mailed as first class mail" since Sections 28 and 29 of the Constitution, By-Laws, and General Regulations of Convent General do not specify first class mail.

I ruled that the written notices required by Sections 28 and 29 of the General Regulations do not prohibit the use of a nonprofit mailing permit, and, therefore, the use of such permit is satisfactory. However, sufficient time for delivery should be allowed as this class of mail is not given the same priority or attention as first class mail.

Jurisprudence 2896: 2-Lily of The Valley Priory requested a decision as to whether notices to their members could be mailed under a non-profit organization permit as opposed to first class mail. The Grand Master ruled that Sections 28 and 29 of the General Regulations did not specify a particular type of mail and that a non-profit permit was permissible. We agree and approve his decision.

OBJECTION

1965 Fowler 1041:

On December 22, 1964, I received a request for a ruling from Massachusetts Priory, No. 52 as to the validity of an unsigned written objection to a candidate. Section 4 of our General Regulations provides that the Registrar shall enter written objections in the minutes of the Priory, but without the name of the objecting Knight. This implies, but does not specifically state, that the name of the objecting Knight is on the written objection. Section 5 of these Regulations provides for the removal of the objection by the objector. Obviously, this could not be accomplished if the objector were anonymous. Further, the identity of the objector is necessary for the Registrar to know that the objection has been made by a member of the Priory. I therefore ruled, under date of January 23, 1965, that an unsigned objection is a nullity and was to be ignored by the Registrar. I suggested that since the objector had probably acted in good faith, and had withheld his signature because he thought it proper, a general notice should be sent to the membership letting them know that an objection must be signed. This was to be done at a reasonable interval before action was taken on the candidate previously objected to.

Jurisprudence 1065: We approve the ruling of the Grand Master General on the question submitted by Massachusetts Priory No. 52 with reference to the validity of an unsigned written objection to a candidate. We further approve his suggestions which accompanied his ruling. We further recommend that Section 4 of the General Regulations be amended to require that the objection be signed by the objector.

OFFICERS, DUAL

1960 Anderson 677:

On March 15, 1960, a request was received from Los Angeles Priory, No. 27, asking if it were legal to elect a plural member in an elective position. Ruled that I find no prohibition against such action in our Code. Held that in most Masonic Bodies a man cannot hold an elective office in two Bodies at one and the same time.

Jurisprudence: N.B. Nothing found.

OFFICERS, TO ELECT, INSTALL, OR SUCCEED

1977 Sylvester 2175:

1. Inquiry was had from Western Canada Priory No. 35 relating to the advisability and legality of installing one of their Knights as Prior in view of the fact that he was seriously ill and in the hospital. The inquiry indicated that there was a division of opinion as to whether the Knight should be installed. The Knight had finished his year as Deputy Prior and was regularly elected Prior at the Annual Conclave on May 13, 1977. I advised that if the Knight had declared his acceptance of office or had indicated before his election that he would accept, that he could be installed as Prior as a Special Conclave called for this specific purpose without regard to where the installation might be held. I therefore ruled that the installation could take place if such Special Conclave was called. I based my opinion on Section 20 of the General Regulations and that if the Knight was installed such installation procedure should follow that Section. Other matters referred to in their letter of inquiry seemed to me to be of an internal nature that must be decided by their own members. I

advised that the only decision I was making was to the effect that the Knight could be installed at a Special Conclave even though that Conclave might be held around the hospital bedside.

Jurisprudence 2209: We recommend approval of Grand Master General's Decision No. 1.

1979 Jones 2405:

2. January 20, 1979--Trinity Priory No. 5 requested a ruling on the replacement of the Warder as his attendance had been very poor, due to "Prior Commitment." Section 19, Page 26, of the General Regulations states: "The elective officers of a Priory shall be chosen at the Annual Conclave of the Priory. The term of office shall commence immediately. If the election be not held at the time specified for the Annual Conclave, the officers last installed shall continue in office until the next Annual Conclave unless the Grand Master-General, for good cause, order an election and installation and set a date for the holding thereof."

My recommendation was, "The Eminent Prior talk to the Warder and impress upon him, as an elected officer of the Priory, his duty to be present at the Conclaves of the Priory, health and business permitting. If he is unable to be Present, for a good reason, the Eminent Prior should fill the station, preferable with a Past Prior. Should he continue to be absent from the Conclaves, then at the next Annual Conclave he should be replaced. To remove him earlier could create more problems than it solves."

Jurisprudence 3448: Trinity Priory No. 5 requested a ruling on replacement of the Warder because of his poor attendance. The General Regulations do not provide for such procedure. The Grand Master-General advised that the Warder should be impressed with the necessity of his attendance and if he continued to be absent the Eminent Prior should fill the station, preferably with a Past Prior, and at the next Annual Conclave he should be replaced. We recommend approval of the Grand Master-General's action.

1982 Lehman 2735:

11. August 21, 1982. Penn Priory No. 6. Referred to me from the Grand Registrar-General.

The Eminent Prior after his election took a demit from his original Commandery and immediately petitioned another one. A complaint was made by a former Prior about the eligibility of the Prior holding the Office of Prior.

I ruled that the Prior should remain in office.

(Section 9 paragraph 3 of the General Regulations.)

Jurisprudence 2781: 11--A Priory advised that their Prior had taken a demit from his Commandery and subsequently had placed the demit with another Commandery. No action on his demit had yet been taken by the latter Commandery, and possibly could not be taken before the next meeting of the Priory. There was concern whether he could continue to serve as Prior while actually not a member of a Commandery. They asked for a decision by the Grand Master-General. He replied in the affirmative citing Section No. 9 of the General Regulations which provides in part that a member's demit from any body is good for a period of one year. Inasmuch as this time limit had not expired and in fact the member had already placed his demit in another Commandery, the Grand Master ruled he remained in good standing and could continue as Prior. We approve this decision.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES

1983 Watts: 2860:

5. January 27, 1983. Ohio Priory No. 18. Eminent Prior. Asked the proper protocol when both Convent General officers and Personal Representatives are present.

I ruled that a Personal Representative outranks all except the one whom he represents.

Jurisprudence 2896: 5--In the case of Ohio Priory, relating to proper protocol when both Convent General Officers and Personal Representative is present, the Grand Master ruled that the Personal Representative outranks all except the Officer he represents. We recommend approval.

1983 Watts: 2860:

11. July 26, 1983. The report of Eminent Knight Earl J. McKeever, Personal Representative of District 2-A, contains the following paragraph: "I have not had much luck in communicating with Knickerbocker No. 3 in New York City. I have written many times in the past three years but failed to receive a reply to any of my letters or even a circular indicating time and place of meeting."

I wrote Eminent Knight Edward E. Hoerig, Registrar of Knickerbocker Priory No. 3, of this report, stating: "It is and has been the wish of the Grand Masters-General that the Personal Representatives make at least one official visit to each Priory within their respective districts annually if at all possible. It is almost physically impossible for the Grand Master-General to personally visit each Priory every year. Consequently, the Personal Representatives maintain contact between Convent General and the individual Priors."

"Is it possible that Eminent Knight McKeever did not have your correct address so that his letters were never delivered to you?"

"If you have received his several letters of inquiry, was there some reason you did not reply?"

"Your prompt response to my inquiry will be appreciated." References: Section 2 and Section 19 of the By-Laws of Convent General.

Jurisprudence 2897: 11--The Grand Master-General was advised by a Personal Representative that he could get no answer to correspondence from one of the Priors in his district. The Grand Master, acting under Sections 2 and 19 of the By-laws, wrote the Priory with reference to the complaint and requested a prompt reply to his inquiry. We approve his actions.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES, CERTIFICATES

1983 Watts 2861:

At the request of Knight Johannes M. van Beusekom, Personal Representative for Mexico and Central America, I asked the Grand Registrar-General to prepare a commission for Knight van Beusekom.

After conferring with the Deputy Grand Master-General, I prepared and sent to him a suggested certificate or commission and wallet card for the Personal Representatives. He agreed to the design and wording, so I forwarded these forms to the Grand Registrar-General to have a supply printed.

We believe this certificate or commission and card will be personally pleasing to the Personal Representatives as an expression of confidence reposed in them by the Grand Master-General. These documents will also provide these Knights with some visible authority of their office.

PRIORY, ADDITIONAL

1944 Love 73:

I received from Knight Lyle W. Jackson of Hornell, New York, a Petition, dated April 17, 1943, for a Priory Charter, said Priory to be located in Hornell. Signing the Petition, in addition to Knight Jackson, were John B. Hagerman, Arthur M. Seaman, Joseph G. Austin and Harold M. Kreason. I advised Knight Jackson that I desired to consult other Grand and Past Grand Officers, several of whom were from his State. I forwarded the Petition to the Rt. Eminent Registrar-General and requested him to find out the sentiment of the Priories in New York. A reply from him advised that Knickerbocker Priory, No. 3, had voted against the granting of a Charter. On June 15, 1943, I advised Knight Jackson that the Petition was not approved.

Registrar-General 76: I received a Petition for a new Priory, dated May 10, 1943, from Knight Lyle W. Jackson and four other members of Knickerbocker Priory, No. 3. These Knights live in Hornell, New York. Notice of intention was sent to Knickerbocker Priory, No. 3 and Trinity Priory No. 5, Troy. At their meeting on May 26, 1943, Knickerbocker Priory, No. 3 advised that "the formation of a Priory at Hornell, N.Y. did not receive our blessing." No reply came from Trinity Priory, No. 5. The Petition and all papers relating to it were forwarded to the Grand Master General. On June 15, 1943, Most Em. Clyde P. Love, advised Knight Jackson that he did not approve of the formation of the Priory because of the objection of Knickerbocker Priory, No. 3. I returned one copy of the Petition and the fee to Knight Jackson.

78: The following matters of business were then taken up and disposed of as indicated: 6. A vote of approval was given the Grand Master General on his action in not chartering a Priory in Hornell, New York.

1946 Voorhis 101:

After the close of the fiscal year I received a Petition for the formation of a Priory from Knights residing in and about Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. I granted them a Charter on January 23rd and Em. Knight Edwin E. Gruener is the first Prior. He is a friend of mine of long standing and I know he has an ambitious program to make this a very successful Priory. Pennsylvania is a large State and Masonically separated into three parts. Thus, three Priories are not too many for this State. It therefore becomes the only State, except New York which has two Priories, to have more more than one. There are over fifty charter members. The Priory will be consecrated on April 6th next.

103: Most Eminent Clyde P. Love, Past Grand Master General and Past Prior and Registrar of Penn Priory, No. 6, spoke at length regarding the action of the Grand Master General chartering a Priory in Pittsburgh without asking permission of the two Priories already in Pennsylvania, stating that Penn Priory was not pleased with this action of the Grand Master General. Eminent Edwin E. Gruener, Prior of Keystone Priory, No. 26, Pittsburgh, replied and indicated that the Grand Master General acted only upon urgent request of the Knights in Pittsburgh who desired a Priory there. Most Eminent Knight Love also expressed an opinion in favor of higher fees. Right Eminent Luther T. Hartsell, Jr., Deputy Grand Master General, read the Regulations governing the formation of new Priories which indicated that the Grand Master General had acted in accordance with the law and within his rights, as well as the same way as all other Priories had been formed.

Grand Master General's Allocution 104: 12. Suggest that no charters be granted in the future to form another Priory in any State where a Priory or Priories already exist without first consulting and, if possible obtaining approval of the Priory or Priories existing.

PRIORY, JURISDICTION INVADED

1965 Fowler 1042:

On June 30, 1965, I received a letter from the Eminent Prior of Wisconsin Priory, No. 16, reporting that he had been informed by the Registrar of Fred H. Pocock Priory, No. 22, that they had inducted a candidate who resided in Wisconsin, and requested a waiver from Wisconsin Priory.

Section 10 of our General Regulations provides for exclusive jurisdiction over all residents within the territorial jurisdiction of a Priory.

Section 11 provides for the issuance of a waiver of jurisdiction to another Priory. There is no provision for the granting of a waiver of jurisdiction after a candidate has been inducted into a Priory not having jurisdiction over him. I therefore instructed the Prior of Wisconsin Priory to defer any action until this matter could be considered by our Committee on Jurisprudence. I have corresponded with that Committee, and following the suggestion of the Chairman of the Committee, I now report the situation to Convent General and refer to all the correspondence I have had on the subject. Our Committee on Topical Reference will refer this matter to the proper Committee for study and report to you at this Conclave.

Jurisprudence 1067: During the year a situation has arisen involving two of our Priories which has embarrassed both bodies. At its annual Conclave in October 1964, Fred H. Pocock Priory No. 22 of Michigan inducted a candidate who resided in Wisconsin without first obtaining a waiver from Wisconsin Priory No. 16. After the discovery of the error the Michigan Priory corresponded with Wisconsin Priory inquiring what should be done and, in turn, Wisconsin Priory made inquiry of the Grand Master General, all as has been reported to you in his annual address.

Your committee is of the opinion that the invasion of Jurisdiction of one Priory by another is a serious matter requiring the careful attention of Convent General. While the invasion by Fred H. Pocock Priory of the Wisconsin jurisdiction appears to have been unintentional, nevertheless intention is not the focal point. It is the duty of every Priory to ascertain, in advance of voting on any proposal for membership, to see to it that the candidate is a resident of the jurisdiction of the Priory receiving the proposal.

Two questions have arisen from the action of Fred H. Pocock Priory, first, what is the status of the candidate inducted by the Michigan Priory? It is the opinion of your Jurisprudence Committee, and we so recommend, that the Candidate be held to be a de facto member of Fred H. Pocock Priory even though he was irregularly inducted. We are induced to arrive at this opinion because we find no evidence that the candidate was guilty of any misdoing. He cannot be held to have knowledge of our jurisdictional requirements at the time he entered our order.

The second question arises from the language of Section 43 of our Code which reads:

"A Priory receiving the petition of and inducting an applicant who resides within the jurisdiction of another Priory, without the waiver of such other

Priory, shall forfeit and pay the fees of that Priory whose jurisdiction is violated to the Priory which legally held jurisdiction, and be subject to such additional penalty as may be inflicted by Convent General."

Your committee has no choice, under the provisions of Section 43 than to find that Fred H. Pocock Priory is required to pay Wisconsin Priory the fee it would have received from the candidate, less the amount of \$25.00 which Wisconsin would pay to Convent General. We recommend that Fred H. Pocock Priory pay Wisconsin's net fee of \$15.00, to our Grand Registrar General, who shall remit the payment to Wisconsin Priory.

Although it is within the power of this Convent General, under Section 43, to inflict a further penalty on Fred H. Pocock Priory, your committee does not believe such penalty either necessary or wise in the present instance. We wish to stress the fact, however, that our recommendation to omit a further penalty in this case is not to be construed as a precedent for any further case of invasion of jurisdiction.

Jurisprudence 1068: c) Wisconsin. Knight Leyland moved that this section of his report be adopted. Approved unanimously.

He further moved that Fred H. Pocock Priory pay a fine of \$15 to Wisconsin Priory through the office of the Grand Registrar-General.

Knight Gruener amended the motion to make the fine \$40.00. Knight William F. Gallin (27) seconded the motion.

Em. Arthur Olsen of Wisconsin Priory opposed additional penalty against Fred H. Pocock Priory in favor of his Priory.

The amendment put to a vote was declared lost with only two in favor. The original motion of a \$15 fine being the difference between the fee collected and the amount paid the Convent General for registering the Knight was put and approved unanimously.

1974 Merrick 1861:

Case K. A Priory approved a proposal, extended an invitation to and inducted into membership a Mason who was a resident of a county in that state where another Priory was located, a clear violation of jurisdiction. The aggrieved Priory's Registrar protested—not only the action but stating that the candidate had been blackballed in that Priory and was currently standing under a letter of objection.

The offending Priory was censured and reprimanded by a letter from the Grand Master-General and informed that if our rules were not clear, it could by obtaining unanimous consent, offer clarifying legislation at this annual conclave.

He also in the interests of fraternal state harmony, met with the present officers and past priors of the aggrieved Priory to see if the objection could not be withdrawn. He suggested that non-members of KYCH cannot be presumed to know our membership procedures and should not suffer for the actions of the informed, that since the man had received what few quasi-secrets we have and probably would not want to attend the Priory where some Knights did not care for his company, nothing was to be gained by avoiding his membership.

The Registrar who had received the objections over a two-year period said the objectors were and would be steadfast in maintaining an objection constantly on file.

The Grand Master-General reports considerable objection to the single

blackball disqualifying a man for membership. Those complaining were invited to submit what they considered remedial legislation. Only one man did so but it was not in proper form.

Jurisprudence, 1886: 10. Case K describes a situation in which an invitation was extended and a candidate inducted into membership after several objections had been made of this individual in the Priory having exclusive jurisdiction over him.

This whole unfortunate situation had its origin in the improper acts of several members of Los Angeles Priory, No. 27, who urged a member of San Francisco Priory, No. 38, to propose for membership in his Priory one who had been proposed annually for three consecutive years in Los Angeles Priory, resulting in an objection being filed, each year by a different knight of Los Angeles Priory.

The proposer of the invitation in San Francisco Priory, No. 38, is a Past Prior and his plea of ignorance of the laws and regulations of Convent General lacks conviction as all Masonic precedent would dictate that a waiver or release of jurisdiction would be necessary from any Masonic body which had rejected a candidate.

Your committee feels that the seriousness of this offense—which strikes at the basic structure of our laws requires more than a mere reprimand to these responsible. We feel that the induction into our Order of this particular individual was grossly irregular and must be set aside, and we so recommend. We recognize that the candidate may have been completely ignorant of our laws, but unfortunately we cannot recommend leniency in this case. We further recommend that the charter of San Francisco Priory, No. 38, be arrested for a period of six months beginning on this date.

The report of the Committee on Jurisprudence is signed by all three members—Past Grand Masters-General Charles F. Adams, Sylvanus F. Nye and myself, Marvin E. Fowler.

I move the adoption of the final section of our report.

J. Robert Walker (21) questioned from the floor whether the Priory was being unduly punished and moved that the portion of the report referring to arresting the charter be omitted.

Em. David S. Forsyth, Prior of Los Angeles Priory, No. 27, seconded the amendment.

Tracy Walker (11) also commented on the amendment.

Put to a vote the report of the Jurisprudence Committee as amended was approved.

A motion was then made that San Francisco Priory be reprimanded was seconded and adopted unanimously.

David S. Fortyth (27) suggested that the Knight be denied membership until a waiver was obtained from Los Angeles Priory, No. 27.

Russell E. Brock (62) asked for clarification in jurisdiction in jurisdictions with more than one Priory.

Knight Fowler explained that in jurisdictions with more than one Priory a Priory has sole jurisdiction in the county where they are located and concurrent in all others except the "home" county of the other Priory or Priories.

The motion was then made that the membership of the Knight accepted

by San Francisco Priory, No. 38, be set aside and San Francisco Priory return the fees to him.

Pur to a vote the motion was approved.

Knight Fowler then moved that the report of the Jurisprudence Committee was a whole be approved. So ordered.

NAME DROPPED

The Grand Registrar-General was directed to remove the Knight's name from our rolls.

1977 Sylvester 2176:

5. Shrewsbury Priory No. 4 filed a complaint with Convent General against Massachusetts Priory No. 52 for violation of Section 10 of the by-laws. They stated that a candidate had been proposed and subsequently rejected a number of years ago in Shrewsbury Priory and that subsequently they learned that the same individual had been invited to become a member of Massachusetts Priory. Shrewsbury further advised that the member had presided over the prerequisite bodies in New Jersey and that Massachusetts had not requested approval before or after induction. I advised Shrewsbury Priory that inasmuch as the matter in my opinion would not require an immediate decision, I was referring the situation to the Jurisprudence Committee for their review with a directive to make a full investigation of the circumstances involved and make a report th Convent General in 1977 together with their recommendations and such penalties as they may prescribe if they find accordingly, for action by Convent General.

Jurisprudence 2209: 8. The Grand Master General's action as detailed in his Decision No. 5 has been referred to this Committee for investigation and report. We find that the individual in question has presided over all four prerequisite bodies in New Jersey which territory is within the jurisdiction of Shrewsbury Priory No. 4. He was proposed for membership and rejected in Shrewsbury Priory. Subsequently he was proposed for membership in Massachusetts Priory No. 52, in which jurisdiction he maintains a legal voting residence, and was elected and inducted into membership. Massachusetts Priory No. 52 had failed to obtain from Shrewsbury Priory No. 4 the necessary approval as required by Section 10 of the Code of General Regulations. It is also noted that this individual still maintains a mailing address in New Jersey. If Massachusetts Priory No. 52 had followed the requirements of said Section 10 they would have been apprized of his prior rejection by Shrewsbury Priory No. 4 whereby this Priory retains permanent jurisdiction over this individual. Your Committee recommends that since the induction of this individual was grossly irregular it must be set aside and Massachusetts Priory No. 52 must return the fees to him.

1977 Sylvester 2177:

7. West Virginia Priory No. 40 lodged a complain with Convent General against Rose of Sharon Priory No. 2 in Virginia citing a violation of Section 28 of the By-Laws of Convent General. They further advised that Rose of Sharon Priory had requested a waiver of jurisdiction but not before they had inducted the candidate. The candidate had served the

prerequisite bodies in Virginia but his legal address was in West Virginia and therefore the latter Priory had jurisdiction. West Virginia Priory advises that Rose of Sharon had invited the candidate to membership after the candidate had been proposed and elected by West Virginia Priory. The matter was brought to the Grand Master-General's attention through the request by West Virginia Priory as to who had jurisdiction over the candidate in view of the fact that there were three priories in West Virginia. I replied with reference to the jurisdiction matter that Section 28 provides that where there is more than one Priory in a state, they have concurrent jurisdiction, except that a Priory has exclusive jurisdiction in the county in which it is headquartered. If he lives within the county in which West Virginia Priory has its headquarters, then that Priory has exclusive jurisdiction. If he lives outside the county and not within the county of either of the other two Priories, then it was my interpretation that all Priories have concurrent jurisdiction and in which case a waiver from all three priories would be needed. At no time have I been advised as to the exact residence of the candidate.

Rose of Sharon Priory No. 2 has attempted to heal the matter by returning to West Virginia Priory the proposee's acceptance of invitation form together with a check for \$10.00 which was their fee over and above the \$40.00 fee due Convent General which latter fee had been forwarded to Convent General. The matter has not been satisfactorily closed and I have referred the entire matter to the Jurisprudence Committee for their recommendations to Convent General in annual session.

Jurisprudence 2209: The Grand Master General's action as detailed in his Decision No. 7 has been referred to this Committee for investigation and report. We find that the individual in question had presided over all the prerequisite bodies in Virginia and that his legal residence is in West Virginia. Thus Rose of Sharon Priory No. 2 should have obtained a waiver of jurisdiction before acting upon the proposal. Your Committee recommends that since the induction of this individual was irregular it must be set aside and the entire fee returned to him by Rose of Sharon Priory No. 2.

Jurisprudence 2211: The various sections were individually presented, discussed and put to a vote. Each was individually approved.

With the exception of Decision 7 pertaining to the acceptance by Rose of Sharon Priory of a qualified person residing in West Virginia all were accepted by the Convent General without discussion. The recommendation of the Jurisprudence Committee that the fee be returned was questioned from the floor. A discussion followed and put to a vote a majority approved.

PROPOSALS

1971 Adams 1544:

1. In response to a request from Texas Priory No. 23, I ruled that it could receive and ballot on a proposal for membership of one who has satisfied all the requirements for eligibility except that he had not yet completed his year as Commander of his Commandery, provided that the invitation to membership is not extended and transmitted to the invitee until after he has satisfied all requirements for eligibility.

Jurisprudence 1563: We recommend approval of the Grand Master General Charles F. Adams' decision that a proposal to extend an invitation to membership may be considered during the final year of qualification for membership, provided that the invitation to membership is not extended and transmitted to the invitee until after he has satisfied all requirements for eligibility.

1982 Lehman 2735:

10. July 26, 1982. New Hampshire Priory No. 58.

The Registrar of New Hampshire Priory was asked to send a Proposal for Membership Form to a member of the Priory. The Proposal Form was received from the Proposee instead of the Proposer. The Registrar stated that he thought that this was wrong, and asked if he was right in his decision.

The registrar is right in his decision. No Proposee should ever know that he has been proposed until after he has been elected. The Proposer should get the facts regarding the person he is proposing.

(Section 3 of the General Regulations).

Jurisprudence 2781: 10-The Grand Master-General had a late request for a decision from New Hampshire Priory No. 58. The inquiry related that the Registrar had furnished the proper forms to a member desiring to make a proposal. The forms were subsequently returned, filled out, by the proposee rather than the proposer. They felt this procedure was wrong. The Grand Master agreed advising that no proposee should have knowledge that he has been proposed until elected and issued an invitation. We approve the Grand Master's decision.