

# Great Priory.

11th December, 1925.

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## AGENDA.

Upon the Grand Master taking the Throne—

1. A Chapter of Great Priory will be opened.
2. The Great Registrar will call the Muster Roll.
3. The Minutes of the Meeting of the 8th May, 1925 and the Especial Meeting held at Bristol on 17th October, 1925, will be read.
4. If approved the Minutes of the regular meeting held on 8th May, 1925, will be confirmed.
5. The Report of the Council will be presented as follows:—

## REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

9th November, 1925.

The Grand Master's Council has the honour to report as follows:—

### FOREIGN RELATIONS.

The Council has satisfaction in reporting that the most harmonious relations exist between the Governing Bodies of the Holy House of the Temple throughout the entire World.

### ESPECIAL MEETING OF GREAT PRIORY.

By Command of His Royal Highness the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, an especial meeting of Great Priory was held at Bristol, on Saturday, the 17th October at

which the Most Eminent and Supreme Pro Grand Master, Major General T. C. P. Calley, *C.B.*, *C.B.E.*, *M.V.O.*, *G.C.T.*, presided, supported by the Officers of Great Priory.

By the kindness of the Vicar of Temple (or Holy Cross) Church the meeting was held in the Parish Hall and was followed by a special Service for the Members of the Order in the Temple (or Holy Cross) Church, at which the Sermon was preached by the Knight Rt. Revd. the Lord Bishop of Bristol.

The Meeting (which was the second occasion on which a Chapter of Great Priory has been held outside London) was attended by some three hundred Members of the Order from London and various Provinces. The Service which was most impressive will long be remembered by those who were privileged to be present thereat.

#### REPRESENTATIVES.

His Royal Highness the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master has been pleased to appoint the Most Eminent and Supreme J. Gilbert Smyly, *G.C.M.*, Pro Grand Master of Ireland, to be the representative of this Great Priory near the Great Priory of Ireland in succession to the late V.E. Knight Alfred Norman, *L.L.D.*, *G.C.T.*

His Royal Highness the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master of Ireland has been pleased to appoint the V.E. Knight Lt.-Colonel John Maurice Wingfield, *D.S.O.*, *O.B.E.*, *G.C.T.*, representative of the Great Priory of Ireland near this Great Priory in succession to the late V.E. Knight the Earl of Cork and Orrery, *G.C.T.*

#### OFFICIAL CHANGES.

His Royal Highness the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master has directed that a new Province for Northampton and Huntingdon be formed and has been pleased to appoint the V.E. Knight Thomas Phipps Dorman, *K.C.T.*, Past Great Constable, the first Provincial Prior.

## NEW PRECEPTORIES.

The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master has been pleased to grant Warrants for the following New Preceptories :—

Scardeburg Preceptory, No. 238. To meet at Scarborough.

Brandling Preceptory, No. 239. To meet at Gosforth.

United Priors Preceptory, No. 240. To meet at Huntingdon.

## PRECEPTORIES IN ARREAR.

The Council regrets to report that the following Preceptories are in arrear :—

*At Home.*

29. Cœur de Lion.

190. Sutcliffe.

*Abroad.*

133. Diamond of the Desert.

186. Sydney.

## STATUTES.

- (1). His Royal Highness The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master has been pleased to approve of the addition of a Deputy Great Mareschal to the appointments in the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta, laid down in Statute 160. The Council recommend that the Statutes be altered accordingly, and that the Deputy Great Mareschal shall take precedence immediately after Past Great Mareschals.
- (2). The Council recommend the addition of an Assistant Provincial Marshal to the appointments laid down in Statute 58, but that this appointment be made only in those Provinces which consist of 12 or more Preceptories. The Council recommend that the Statutes be altered accordingly and that the Assistant Provincial Marshal take precedence immediately above the Provincial Aides-de-Camp.
- (3). The Council recommend that in every Province numbering seven or more Preceptories the Provincial Prior be empowered to confer on any Knight of ability who is a member of a Preceptory within his Province and who has rendered service to the Order the rank of Past Provincial Officer, except that of Provincial Sub-Prior, but no Provincial Prior shall have power in any one year to confer such rank upon more than one Knight for every complete seven Preceptories in his Province.

- (4). The Council recommend that Statute 74 be erased, and that the following be substituted:—

In case the election of any Preceptor shall not be confirmed, or if not less than 16 days before the day appointed for the regular Installation any Preceptor elect shall die or become disqualified or incapacitated or send to the Preceptor a notice in writing of his intention not to accept the Office of Preceptor, then a summons shall be issued to each Member of the Preceptory stating the facts and intimating that on the same day the Knights will again proceed to elect a Preceptor.

The Installation of the Preceptor then elected shall take place within one month of the date of election either at the next regular Meeting of the Preceptory if such be held within that period, or at an emergency Meeting specially called for the purpose, provided the Minutes of such election be submitted and confirmed.

The Preceptor elect shall then be duly installed and the Constables, and in the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown the Chaplain, then invested, shall at the date of the next regular Installation Meeting be deemed to have served their respective Offices for one year in compliance with Statute 76.

#### DEATHS.

The Council has to report with sincere regret the loss of many Brethren who occupied positions of dignity and importance in the Order, among whom have to be mentioned:—

V.E. Knt. REVD. ARTHUR E. BRISCOE-OWEN, P.G. Prelate.

E. Xnt. GEORGE SIMPSON, P.G. A.-de-Camp.

E. Knt. EDWARD AUBREY B. ELSERS, G. Chamberlain.

E. Knt. THOMAS NORFOLK, P.G. Chamberlain.

The Council also has to report the death of General Henry Baker Stoddard, Past Grand Master of the United States of America, an Honorary K.C.T. of The Great Priory of England, and extends its sympathy to the Members of the Order in America in their loss.

## CHRISTMAS OBSERVANCE.

The Brethren of the Holy House of the Temple in England and Wales are again reminded to join in the kind wishes to their dearly loved Brethren of the Order in America and the rest of the World on Thursday, 25th December, 1925, at 5 o'clock p.m. Meridian equivalent to Noon Eastern Standard Time.

## FINANCE.

The Great Treasurer's accounts have been audited to the 30th September, 1925, and show a balance of £1,905 15s. 11d. standing to the credit of the Order at the Westminster Bank, Ltd., Bloomsbury Branch.

By Order of the Council,

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G. A. KING,  
GREAT CHANCELLOR.

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T. G. L. LUNNELLY-SMITH,  
GREAT VICE-CHANCELLOR.

9th November, 1925.

6. A Motion will be made that the Report be taken as read.
7. A Motion will be made that the Report be received and entered on the Minutes.
8. Motions arising out of the Report:—

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(3). The Council recommend that in every Province numbering seven or more Preceptories the Provincial Prior be empowered to confer on any Knight of ability who is a member of a Preceptory within his Province and who has rendered service to the Order the rank of Past Provincial Officer, except that of Provincial Sub-Prior, but no Provincial Prior shall have power in any one year to confer such rank upon more than one Knight for every complete seven Preceptories in his Province.

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The Preceptor elect shall then be duly Installed and the Contables, and in the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown the Chaplain, then invested, shall at the date of the next regular Installation Meeting be deemed to have served their respective Offices for one year in compliance with Statute 76.

9. A Motion will be proposed that the Report be adopted.
10. Nomination of the Great Treasurer.
11. The Great Almoner will collect the Alms.
12. The Chapter of Great Priory will be closed.
13. A Chapter of Great Priory of Malta will be opened and the Great Officers will be appointed.
14. Installation of approved Candidates.
15. The Chapter of the Great Priory of Malta will be closed.