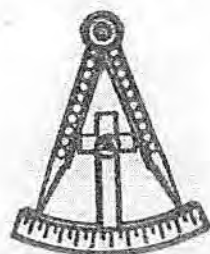


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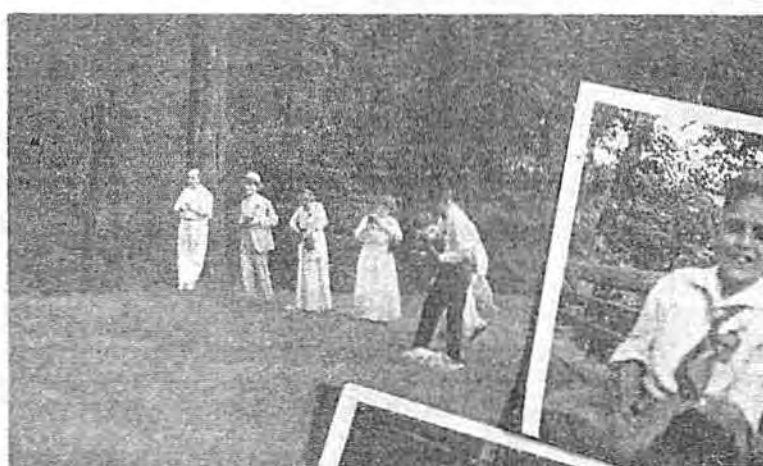
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This is the Convention Number

After considerable delay we are sending forth this issue containing a full report of the First National Convention of the A. M. O. R. C. in North America.

With this issue we add, as a supplement, a double page sheet of pictures taken at the convention, reproduced on special, heavy paper, suitable for framing. If your copy is not enclosed in the magazine, write for it, because we desire every reader to have this additional feature.

The report of the Convention will prove valuable reading in the years to come and this copy should be carefully preserved. For over two years we have looked forward to this first National convention, and at last it has established our work on this continent and laid the foundation for the glorious work to follow.

Those of our readers who are not members of our Order and who may feel so greatly interested in our Convention, will find, however, much food for thought and many valuable lessons in the work conducted during the convention week. Possibly at no other time and in no other place in this country were so many mystics assembled performing such wonderful demonstrations; and each demonstration is worthy of the most serious study by the most advanced student of occultism.

THE PUBLISHERS.

September 15th, 1917, Ex-Cathedra



The Initiate

By Bernard Sexton

A youth who tracked unspoken mysteries
Worshipping beauty in a lost retreat,
Saw the vast inarticulate wonder of the world
And watching from a high, star-drenched, ultimate crag
He cried aloud to the vast unhearing hills, he spoke to Masters unseen—
"Power I would have of the swinging glory of words and the rushing wonder of song!"

Thereat a wild wandering music drifted as wind thru his soul,
And he felt the dim virginal rhythms within, unperceived and unmated with words.

Yearning he leaned to that swift-flowing life, asking a share in its birth,
Praying the Makers of Wonder, the Weavers of Dream that he share with the wandering earth,
Her making of beauty and love—her envisioning palpitant life
As she moves thru the marvelling stars with her burden of sorrow and song.

Then a voice spoke aloud in his dreams where he fell in his fasting. It moved
The deeps of his soul as the moon moves the tides till it stirred the lost music of dreams.

He awoke, and his face was alight with a reddening dawn in the east;
In his heart was a song of the wonder of life, and the words at his calling
Came flocking like birds from the marshes of sleep—then he knew
That the Earth-Mother spoke with his voice. He went down to the valley still singing.



September, 1917

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The First National Convention

Complete Official Report

By the Supreme Secretary-General



T was a wonderful success! That is the opinion of all who attended this first National Convention of our Order in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, July 31st to August 4th. Its success assures many more such

memorable occasions and at once proclaims the firmness of the foundation upon which our Order is built and cements the ties which bind hundreds of men and women in one glorious effort of unselfish service to humanity.

I will be forgiven, I am sure, if I indulge in such comments as cast upon this convention and its activities the light of intimacy, while accurately reporting the details of every official act. It is my purpose to take the official records of the Convention as made by the elected Secretaries and their assistants and weave about them an account of this week's work which will make our many readers who could not attend the Convention feel as though they were passing through the same wonderful experiences which we enjoyed.

Our own delegation, from the Supreme Grand Lodge in New York, left the city on Monday morning July 30th. The Pennsyl-

vania Railroad had assigned a special car to the fast train and our party found every convenience efficiently arranged. The very polite service, the careful attention on the part of the officers and employees of the company, made the trip from New York to Pittsburgh a very enjoyable time. At Philadelphia the delegation from Delta Lodge No. 1 joined our party and for the remainder of the trip the utmost of good fellowship and love were apparent.

In our party leaving New York there were, in addition to the official delegates and visitors from the Supreme Grand Lodge and the New York Grand Lodge, a representative of the Lodge in Boston, Mass., and the official Delegate from the Grand Lodge in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The Emperor and his wife and three months' old daughter were with us and we seemed to be one happy family. Excellent lunches had been prepared and toward the close of the trip the Pullman Company served us with ice-cream, coffee and cakes, according to arrangements made by the Supreme Herald.

Upon our arrival in Pittsburgh at 8:35 in the evening, our Supreme Standard Bearer strode



down the platform proudly holding aloft the Official Banner of the Convention. He was followed by our delegates and the visiting members who traveled with us from New York. At the gates of the station in Pittsburgh our party was met by a delegation and reception committee composed of the members of the various bodies then in Pittsburgh. While our Standard Bearer held high the banner of the Order Rosae Crucis the reception members bestowed beautiful roses on the Imperator, his wife and child and gave all the arrivals a wonderful cheer of welcome and good tidings. Hundreds stood about smiling and laughing, happy and deeply interested and the station seemed to be a great auditorium fairly vibrating with the intense appreciation of what that hour and day meant to us and our Order.

Leaving the station the entire party marched in double file to the Seventh Avenue Hotel, where the Convention Headquarters had been established. There we were met by other committees and delegates and finally received by the members of the Pittsburgh Grand Lodge. In the parlors of the Hotel a short address was given by the Grand Master of Pennsylvania and immediately thereafter we separated into small groups to arrange for the night and the early activities of the next day.

Thus ended the first day of our journey to the Convention. The many interesting events of the journey to the convention from other cities which have been reported to me or to our members will be recorded in a separate article following this, entitled: "Side Comments of the Convention."

TUESDAY, JULY 31ST.

MORNING SESSION.

Early Tuesday morning there was considerable stir in and about the Seventh Avenue Hotel and the Moose Temple on Penn Avenue, where the Convention was held. Adjoining the Moose Temple is "Ye Olde Booke Shoppe," owned by the Grand Master of Pennsylvania and this quaint and convenient place was a general meeting place for the Officers and members throughout the Convention.

The Convention Hall was one of the largest halls in the Moose Temple. The weather was warm—very warm—but a number of large windows permitted an abundance of light and air.

When the Convention was called to order by Grand Master Hodby of Pennsylvania (acting as temporary chairman), the hall was well filled with bright and happy faces. On the platform on either side of the Grand Master were the Imperator, whose countenance showed the great pleasure he was experiencing in facing his host of friends and loyal workers, and Reverend George R. Chambers, Grand Master of Iowa.

At 10:20 the Grand Master called upon G. M. Chambers for the opening invocation. As all arose a great hush came upon the audience and all felt the powerful influences which began their mighty work when the first words came from our loyal brother's lips: "God of our heart we ask Thy blessing." Never will that moment be forgotten; it laid the cornerstone for a week of constructive work the results of which will go down in the history of our Order as the birth of a new era for Love, Truth, Justice, Brotherhood and Peace.

At the close of the Invocation the Grand Master appointed Master Musser of Delta Lodge No. 1 and Grand Master Dorsey of Kentucky as Secretaries Pro-tem. Sister Pritchard of the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge and Supreme Secretary Brassard were appointed as examiners of credentials.

While the credentials were being examined the Convention was given the Official Address of Welcome by Grand Master Hodby on behalf of the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge. He spoke of the history and traditions of the City and State and made it evident that Pittsburgh was not devoid of interest for the visitor and of serious consideration for the lover of antiquity and history. His welcome warmed the hearts of every one present and those who were strangers to Pittsburgh and the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge at once learned of the deep and sincere love G. M. Hodby has for all our Brothers and Sisters.

At the close of this very cordial welcome the



Grand Master proceeded to introduce the various Supreme Officers in the following order: Imperator, H. Spencer Lewis; Supreme Matre, May Storey Williams; Thor Kiimalehto, Grand Master of New York State; Andrew Barlow, Standard Bearer of the Supreme Council; Supreme Herald, Saidee Williams Mitchell; Supreme Chaplain, J. Eugene Binimelis, and Supreme Secretary-General, Albert B. Brasseur.

Each of these in turn made a five-minute address, expressing pleasure and satisfaction in being permitted to attend this first national convention. The general sentiment was ably expressed by Brother Barlow, who said, briefly:

"For years I was honored by our government and its Federal Departments and the President with several offices and titles in the Army, Navy, Post Office and Consular Service, yet I feel far more greatly honored by the appointment as humble standard bearer of our Order, and I experience far greater happiness and inner glory in being at this convention than I have ever experienced in attending the highest functions of our Government or those held in the palaces of kings."

Then the following Officers of our Order were introduced and called upon to give five-minute speeches: Dr. William Vernon Backus, Grand Master, Ohio; L. A. Shoemaker, Grand Master, Florida; Charles H. Soelke, Deputy Grand Master, Illinois; John McGonigle, Grand Chaplain, Pennsylvania; Joseph M. Allen, Deputy Grand Master, Pennsylvania; Dr. Charles D. Green, Magus, Pennsylvania Lodge; Byron J. Musser, Master Delta Lodge No. 1, Philadelphia.

Following these the Grand Master introduced Thyra Kiimalehto, Supreme Grand Vestal Virgin, who gave an address of welcome to the visiting Vestals. The key-note of her interesting talk was to remind the Vestals of the great responsibility that rested upon the Vestals of our Order. She called attention to the fact that whereas our members willingly gave their time and services and worldly things to promote the health, happiness and development of mankind, the Vestals gave even more, for to all this they added their youth and the pleasures of childhood and girlhood, and were in fact brides of the Order, making the most

glorious sacrifices with great happiness. Her reference to the innocence and purity of the lives they represent was touching and it was fitting that her address should end with the remark that all this was for the sake of Peace, Peace, Peace!

The Credential Committee and examiners then reported that the credentials showed that Official and Lay Delegates were present from Lodges in every section of the country—as far south as San Juan in Puerto Rico and Tampa, Florida, as far north as Washington and Montana, as far west as California and as far east as Boston and New York.

(For obvious reasons the names of these delegates and the names and numbers of the many Lodges represented will not be published in this magazine, but all such names and registered signatures are embodied in the Official Records and Minutes of the Convention, on file in the office of the Supreme Secretary-General and Archivist in New York.)

The Grand Master, acting as temporary chairman, then called for nominations for permanent convention officers. The Imperator acted in the chair and Brother Hobby was made permanent Chairman of the Convention. The result of the voting for permanent secretaries gave us Sister Supreme Herald Mitchell and Brother Master Musser of Philadelphia as Convention Secretaries. A number of other Brothers and Sisters volunteered to act as assistants in taking accurate stenographic notes of every word uttered during the week.

The Chairman then outlined the programme of the Convention and called upon all Delegates to be present in special seats in the centre of the Hall during the afternoon session and thereafter.

With appropriate music the morning session was closed.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

JULY 31ST.

The Convention was called to order at 2:30 by the Chairman. Announcement was made that the Ancient Rites for the Naming of a Child would be performed and the Hall was at once made ready. The Hall was well filled with members and a few visitors and all Of-



ficers were dressed in full regalia. It was a most impressive assemblage and the vibrations of the Hall were unusually solemn.

After the arrangements were ready and the altar was decorated with beautiful roses a signal was given and the Conductor and Matre of the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge escorted into the Hall and to the Altar the Imperator and Sister H. Spencer Lewis, who carried in her arms the infant daughter. The Imperator was without insignia other than the apron of membership, for it was his desire that the child should be named as the child of two who were simply members of the Order.

The ceremony will be long remembered. Sister Lewis, dressed in white and wearing her apron, idealized the spirit and picture of happy motherhood, while the Imperator stood quietly in deep thought and greatly overcome by the solemnity of the occasion. In fact, as the ceremony proceeded with its beautiful rites, sacred acts and sweet impressiveness there were few present who did not feel the tears come to the eyes and a lump to the throat.

The child was named Colombe Madeliene Lewis at precisely 2:49 P. M.

Then followed the naming of two other children. The son of Deputy Master Soelke and Sister Soelke, of Illinois Grand Lodge, was named Robert Henry Spencer Soelke at 3:03 P. M., and the son of Brother and Sister Sample, of Orientas Lodge No. 5, of Pennsylvania, was named Phelps Darlington Sample at 3:15 P. M.

These two boys were of tender years, yet able to appreciate the significance of the ceremony and it was impressive indeed to see how sacredly and solemnly they performed every act necessary to the ceremony.

When the ceremonies were ended the Hall was tiled and closed to non-members and the Convention was again opened for official work.

The Chairman then appointed various Committees to act during the Convention with the understanding that such Committees might be made permanent for the year. Grand Master Kiimalehto moved that members as well as Delegates be appointed on the Committees and this was seconded and carried. The Committees thus appointed were:

A National Constitution Committee.

A National Legal Committee.

A National Finance Committee.

A National Publication and Propaganda Committee.

A National Ritualistic Committee.

A 1918 Convention Committee.

The Imperator then addressed the Propaganda and other Committees on a subject of very great importance. He outlined a plan of spreading the Light which held our attention and received the unanimous endorsement of all Delegates, Officers and Members.

He explained how, during the past two years, inquiries had been received daily at the Supreme Lodge from men and women in small cities throughout the United States desiring to work with our Order. All of these inquirers wish to have our teachings and they implore us to assist them in having the Light given to them. Most of these inquirers live in cities, towns or hamlets where we have no Lodges at present and may not have any for a year or more. For many months letters were sent to these inquirers explaining the situation and advising that a subscription to our magazine was all that could be recommended to them, since we published no books and had no other matter to give them. Great dissatisfaction has been expressed by these inquirers in regard to books they have purchased in the belief that they could learn the principles of our teachings and they were sad in the thought that, though worthy of membership in our Order, and sincere and honest and unselfish in their search for Truth, they were debarred from that Light because of distance from a Lodge. The Imperator explained the regrettable situation and then added that the Supreme Council at last decided that these worthy inquirers should not be left in darkness when some help could be given to them. He said in part:

"From inquiries I have recently made, I find that of those who inquired of us for our teachings months ago a great majority have in the disappointment turned to books and pamphlets and have tried through the power of money to obtain our teachings. They have been victimized very often and more often led astray, far afield, believing that they were securing the true Rosacrucian teachings. We feel a certain



responsibility for this condition and when we are reproached for not having warned these earnest seekers instead of casting them adrift, we cannot deny our error. We have no books to send these seekers, nor will our teachings ever be published in book form, but it is possible to send these deserving men and women some simple truths and principles to study and thereby enable them to evolve properly and along our lines. Therefore we have planned to send all who seem to be worthy after proper investigation, a letter each week containing from two to four pages of typewritten instructions in the fundamental principles of our work. These letters or lessons will not be sold but given to those who enter what we will call a Neophyte Class or Grade of study. We shall also loan them magazines—our magazines—when they cannot afford to subscribe and also such books as may be helpful but not easily obtained in small cities. All this will be done only for those who live where there is no Lodge and no possibility of a Lodge for another year. In this way we will prepare them for Initiation into the higher work of our regular Lodges and some day they will Cross the Threshold of one of our regularly constituted Lodges. We have tried this plan to some extent and have received very unusual letters of praise and endorsement. In fact we have succeeded in having a number volunteer to come to some of our Grand Lodges for Initiation. The plan will bring many applications each year for membership in our Order and it is one of the very best and most conservative—as well as effective—methods of propaganda.”

The Committee on Publication and Propaganda at once endorsed the plan outlined by the Emperor and urged all members of every Lodge to send to the Supreme Secretary-General the names of those friends and acquaintances living in small towns who may be interested in our work that they may be given an opportunity to be helped in the manner described.

The Emperor then called upon the Constitution Committee to receive some special commission and instruction. The Emperor explained that ever since the Order had been established in America there were those men and women under the age of 21 who were in every way worthy of admission into our Order but

who were prevented from admission by the age limit in the Constitution. He pointed out that there were in Pittsburgh at that very hour a number who, after proper investigation, came there hoping to be permitted to join and who wished to be Initiated that very evening if some provision could be made for them. The Emperor further explained that he might use his autocratic powers and decree special dispensations to them, but he preferred to have the matter passed upon by the Constitution Committee and have the Constitution amended so that no arbitrary decree by him would be necessary. Accordingly the Constitution Committee and the Emperor retired in consultation and later presented to the Delegates of the Convention the following amendment to Section 1, Article 6, of the Constitution of the Order regarding membership:

“Special dispensation may be granted, however, by the Grand Masters of each State or district, or by the Emperor, for the admission of an applicant of either sex over 18 years of age and under 21 years, whose application has been duly examined and approved by the presiding membership committee of any subordinate or Grand Lodge in their Jurisdiction. Such members shall not hold, however, any office until of legal age.”

Charles Soelke, Deputy Grand Master of Illinois, made a motion that the amendment be adopted and this was seconded by Grand Master Kiimalehto, of New York. It was then unanimously adopted.

Magus Malvina Carr, of the Illinois Grand Lodge arose and presented greetings from the Matre of the Illinois Grand Lodge and extended an invitation from the Illinois Grand Lodge to the Convention to hold its next assembly in Chicago. Chairman Hodby thanked the Magus for her greetings and invitation and Grand Master Kiimalehto arose and made a motion that the date and place of the 1918 Convention be left undecided until later in the year. The motion was not carried and the Convention Committee was instructed to meet during the present convention and announce its selection during the session on Friday.

The session was closed with appropriate music and song rendered by members of the Order.



EVENING SESSION.

JULY 31ST.

This evening was devoted to a First Degree Initiation held in the large hall and conducted by the Grand Master and Officers of the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge.

There were 13 Neophytes from many sections of the country who were conducted across the Threshold. The Temple was properly arranged and all visiting Officers wore full regalia. Never before in this country were so many Officers in attendance upon an Initiation, and the Temple presented a beautiful, inspiring and solemn appearance. Nearly all visiting members were dressed in white and spotted here and there were Officers in blue, red and white robes. Across the East of the Temple, before the Masters' Altar was a line of the Vestal Virgins from other Lodges robed in the purest white. It was an inspiring spectacle to see so many young girls sacredly filling the highest office of the Order. The Vestal of the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge very sacredly censured the Temple while the lights were lowered and Brother Fessler of the Ohio Grand Lodge played softly a special chant which he has composed for our work.

The lecture, or charge, to the Initiates was given by the Emperor, who seemed to be inspired this night with the spirit of the Masters, for his address was wonderfully impressive and a revelation to even those who have been through the same ceremony many times and have heard many lectures and charges to the Initiates.

Despite the warmth of the evening the ceremony was impressively conducted by the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge and afforded all visiting Officers an opportunity to perfect themselves in the ritual of the First Degree Initiation.

At the close of the Emperor's address he called to the East one of the Initiates, Sister Clemens of Boston, Mass. After explaining the tests and investigations made of the Sister's qualifications, he said:

"I have the privilege, and the honor, to do that which has not come to me heretofore in the work of our Order. I hold here a charter for a Lodge in Boston. It has been granted to you, Sister, as the first woman in America to

hold the office of Master of one of our Lodges. It establishes a precedent in America, but it was customary in the days of old and is in keeping with our avowed and declared principles of equality of the sexes. Our Constitution in no way limits the Mastership of any Lodge to a Brother, but rather implies throughout its sections that Sisters may hold practically any office usually assigned to a Brother. Our good Sister has gathered around her in Boston many men and women of good repute and understanding. They have founded a Lodge there and our Sister is their choice for Master. She has come to be Initiated at this time and on behalf of the Supreme American Council I hand to her this Charter. May Peace, and Love, and Goodness come to you, Sister, and to the Lodge and Brothers and Sisters whom you represent."

All were deeply impressed as Sister Clemens, robed in white, accepted the Charter and in silence humbly bowed in recognition of the great responsibility that has been placed in her hands.

Then the Emperor handed to the Official Delegate of the new Lodge in Los Angeles the Charter for the Master of that Lodge.

Grand Master Hodby then closed the ceremony in the usual way and Sister Green of the Illinois Grand Lodge sang in a beautifully inspired manner our Rosaecrucian Hymn, "Let there be Light!"

After the Convocation was closed there was a general reception held to welcome the new Initiates into the body of the Convention.

Thus ended the first day of the Convention.

THE SECOND DAY.

MORNING SESSION.

AUGUST 1ST.

Chairman Hodby opened the session at 10:30 and Brother Chambers of Iowa made the opening Invocation.

After some very beautiful music and song the Chairman introduced the Emperor, who announced that the purpose of the session was to start the Ritualistic Committee upon its work. He outlined the many necessities for making the ritual of our work as near perfect as is possible. Preparatory to such work on



the part of the Ritualistic Committee it seemed advisable to have the Theology of Rosaecrucianism well understood.

The Chairman then introduced the speaker for the session, Brother Rev. George R. Chambers, Grand Master of Iowa, who spoke on "The Theology of Rosaecrucianism."

During his wonderfully interesting discourse our good Brother brought to light many points in our work which have been insufficiently appreciated. There is no one in our Order better qualified to analyze and present the basic principles of theology in Rosaecrucianism than Brother Chambers. As a Priest of the Episcopal Church and a man who has had a wide and deep training and education in church work in this country and abroad, coupled with his years of work in many other secret and fraternal organizations, he was able to make those comparisons and illuminate those mystical and religious elements in our work which proved that Rosaecrucianism really does not form a new religion, but rather, as he put it, "supplements the church."

Perhaps the most significant remarks made by Brother Chambers were in regard to our own unique and interesting doctrine of reincarnation. In summing up his remarks in that regard he said:

"As a Christian—and I speak for many Christians—I feared death. Not that I feared the hereafter, not that I looked upon it with that fear which the sinner may have in his heart; but I had a fear that it would end on this earth the great work for my fellow men which I desired to do. But as a Rosaecrucian I now have no fear of death. I look upon the transition of my soul, the leaving of this old body, with a hope and a prospect much as one looks upon an opportunity which means greater possibilities in one's chosen work. For I shall come again and again to do those things and perform that work which constitutes the great aim of my life. I have always believed that God had greatly honored me in choosing me for the churchly work I am doing, but I now feel that through the greatest kindness of Providence God has chosen me for a still greater work—that of spreading the Light of Rosaecrucianism."

At the close of the address, and in the midst

of deep thought which pervaded the Temple and stirred the hearts and minds of all present, there were several beautiful songs rendered by the Sisters of the Order and the Chairman closed the morning session.

AUGUST 1ST.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Chairman opened the session at 2:30 and the opening Invocation was made by Brother Chambers.

Despite the great heat there were many present to hear the principal speaker, Grand Master William Vernon Backus, of Ohio, whose subject was: "Making Happiness Epidemic."

Brother Backus outlined the foundation of what used to be called the Courtesy League but is now known as the Appreciation League with over 200,000 members in many countries. Brother Backus has the knack of making one feel the happiness that is in his heart all the time, and his League is spreading happiness to such an extent that it may be safely called epidemic. Surely he left behind him in Pittsburgh a contagion, for those who have read his very popular book, "Talopathy," and those who heard him speak or contacted him during the recesses of the Convention have deep in their minds and hearts the germ of happiness and appreciation.

After the address the Emperor delivered his Official Instructions to the various Committees.

During the address the Emperor outlined the work of the permanent National Committees and made plain the foundation upon which the Order was built. As detail after detail of the heretofore secret work of the Order was explained in its relation to propaganda and growth, the delegates and members became impressed with the prodigious task that our Emperor undertook against many obstacles practically alone. He expressed his appreciation for what Grand Master Kiimalehto had done early in the work and up to the present time. He outlined the few charges which have been brought against the work of the Order by those who seek to check its growth and showed how each and every one of these charges and their accompanying activities had been met and overcome by the Brothers and



Sisters throughout the Order. He spoke of HOW and WHY the Order came to America and brought forth such points as were new and illuminating. He likewise predicted the continued growth of the Order and explained why it will be necessary some day in the near future to have the outer or exoteric structure of the Order sink into oblivion. On this point the Imperator said:—

"Some day the writers of the new encyclopaedias and reference books will have another opportunity of saying, as they said of the Order in Germany—'It came into existence suddenly, blossomed well for a few years, and then passed away and no longer exists.' Then will come the greatest opportunities for the growth of our Order and the great silent work we have to do. Our friends will seek for us knowing that we still live because of the good foundation we have laid. Our enemies—if such we have then—will point with satisfaction to the seeming death of the Order and will no longer mislead the true seekers or place obstacles in the way of our workers. There will be no signs or symbols easily seen or recognized, no pins or emblems, no literature. But in the meantime our members must work diligently. We must have workers in every state, every city, who are tried and tested and who can carry on the work silently and efficiently when the day of transition comes."

Instructions were given to the Legal Committee, to the Finance Committee and the Constitution Committee.

The location and construction of a National Temple in the form of a great Pyramid was discussed and plans were made for its fulfillment.

With song and music the session for the afternoon was closed.

EVENING SESSION. AUGUST 1ST.

This was the Imperator's evening and the session was opened promptly at 8:15 by the Chairman, and Brother Chambers made the opening Invocation:

After some very sweet music and song the Chairman introduced Master Phelps D. Sample, the boy who had been named at the ceremonies on Tuesday afternoon. Young Sample

is known in and about Pittsburgh as the Boy Orator and for this occasion his subject was, "The Twin Doctrines."

In a masterly way this child—small of height and slight of figure—walked the platform, swayed back and forth and with all the gestures, inflections and confidence of an experienced lecturer, propounded upon the theory of reincarnation and compared it with the doctrines of Christianity. The arguments he used and the logical reasons presented for the belief that each incarnation is the evolved outcome of former experiences, proved not only interesting but demonstrated the value of bringing these thoughts to the child-mind. That the young man will always remember what he now holds to be true and will live accordingly seems certain. It is such boys as Master Sample whom we wish to have take active part in the work of our Junior Order. And there are girls, too, who will make good Officers and with the help of these we will establish the Order in active work this Fall.

At the close of the child's address the Chairman introduced the Imperator and the evening was turned over to him for the special work he had planned.

In opening his Official Address, the Imperator said:

"In the extraordinary feat we have just witnessed we have seen, Brothers and Sisters, an excellent example of the working of some of the laws taught in our Second Degree. In considering the work of Master Sample there are two points which come to your mind. Some of you feel quite sure that what he has said in his very long address was memorized. Some of you feel quite sure that what he has said in you feel that it was written for him by some older mind and that he has simply studied a specially written address and repeated it from memory. But, my Brothers and Sisters, you give him credit he well deserves when you speak of memorizing so long a lecture. How many of his elders present here this evening can memorize so long a lecture—so many hundreds of words—and deliver them with the same ease, perfection and oratorical ability? And did you not notice how absolutely unconscious of his objective self he became as soon as he began to speak? There was a per-



fect demonstration there of subjective domination and objective subservience. To reach his memory as freely as he did, to be unaware of the audience and feel as free, as unlimited and as at ease as he felt illustrates well how completely one may enter into a subjective condition and lose consciousness of surroundings, personalities and self. How many of us can do that? No, my Brothers and Sisters, consider not the point whether what he said was written for him or if it came inspirationally from the Cosmic Mind; that is a secondary consideration. The great lesson to be learned aside from the doctrine argued is that a child shows us how completely we may use the mind and its functions when once we permit it to manifest unhampered by objective limitations."

Then the Emperor proceeded to explain the vast possibilities of the human mind and gradually outlined the unique understanding which Rosaecrucianism has of the laws of the cosmic mind working in and through the human mind.

The Emperor had planned to devote part of the evening to demonstrating some of the most profound laws of our teachings and after his preliminary address he said:

"And now, Brothers and Sisters, I wish to dominate the remainder of the evening by directing every act and condition made manifest here. I wish to have your co-operation, but I assure you that, unlike other philosophies or systems, Rosaecrucianism requires no faith or beliefs on your part in order to make manifest the workings of nature's laws in her occult and mystical domains.

"What I purpose demonstrating to you, to-night, are manifestations which properly belong in the teachings and work of the Third, Fourth, Seventh and Ninth Degrees of our Order. I realize that there are present those who are in the First and Second Degrees as well as those in higher Degrees, so I cannot give—even if I had the time—the long and complete explanations which have been given to the higher degree members in the Supreme Lodge in New York. These advanced members are present to-night and they will recognize in the manifestations the same expressions of the higher laws with which they have become familiar

during the past six months; in fact, many of the members if not all of them are securing the same results in their work as you will see demonstrated here. They will be able to check up every occurrence here to-night, for, again unlike other systems in occultism, Rosaecrucianism gives such uniform results that the slightest deviation immediately reveals other laws and becomes easily explained and understood.

"I desire to have you place yourselves in that same sacred, holy and reverential attitude which you assume in our High Convocations, for we are about to have the very spirit of God present here in a marked manner. Let there be absolute quiet and I urge you to watch carefully, observe every act on my part and every act which comes within your view on the part of any one else. Make careful notes if you will, but fail not to see, to hear, to understand and appreciate."

There was profound silence in the Hall. The attendance was the largest of any session and all Officers from all Lodges were in full regalia. It was a magnificent scene and the arrangement of the Temple was impressive to the utmost degree. In the centre of the Temple—a great open space brilliantly illuminated—were seated the Vestal Virgins of the various Lodges, robed in white and placed in a mystical order. Grouped on either side of the Temple, to the North and South, were the various officers in their symbolical and ancient robes. In the East were the various Masters and Grand Masters with their blue robes, white satin surplices and gold jewels and in the West were the various Matres of the Lodges in their white robes and soft veils, touched with red roses and satin insignias. The Emperor was robed in the white monk's robe of the Order and his figure stood out in striking contrast to the robes of the Masters grouped around him.

The Emperor stepped from the Altar to the centre of the Temple and starting in the centre of the enclosure made by the group of Vestals he proceeded to incense the Temple with a specially prepared incense. While he slowly moved from side to side of the Temple with rhythmic motion, Professor Fessler of the Ohio Grand Lodge played in a special manner the monk's march by Chopin. As the incense



floated in the air and the slow music stirred our hearts and minds, the movements of the Emperor from place to place in the large area became mystical and very symbolical. One was unconsciously carried back to the olden days of Egypt when just such ceremonies and convocations were held in the great Temple while the Master walked from column to column and station to station in rhythm with the solemn chanting of the Rosaecrucian Monks gathered in the far alcoves and recesses of the central chamber.

Then the Emperor walked to a large chair placed in the centre of the Temple. This he virtually surrounded with incense and then explained to the members assembled that he would give a few of the treatments for which our Order has already become famous in this country. He asked that not more than six members from each side of the Temple come forward and he laid emphasis on the fact that he desired only those who had some long standing chronic condition or especially some abnormal condition which medicine or science had proclaimed incurable or permanent.

One by one the members came forward, quietly and reverentially and sat comfortably in the large chair. All those who have not yet entered the Seventh Degree watched with extreme interest. The Emperor made no pretences and offered no suggestions or comments. His every motion and act was deliberate and with system. There was not the slightest indication of mysticism or the mysterious and contrary to the expectations of some, the Emperor made no weird passes nor did he utter strange incantations. Robed in white as he was, with white shoes and white collar and tie, his eyes bright with the pleasure of the work he was doing, his long flowing sleeves accentuating every gesture he made in directing the patient to the seat, the soft tones of his voice as he gave directions for leaving the hands unclasped and eyes concentrated upon the Rosey Cross at the East of the Temple—it was a picture of mastership wherein the Master in complete confidence and with unselfish love for

his Brothers and Sisters performed what would seem to others like miracles.

For no longer than three minutes did any one of the members remain seated in the chair. And with the Emperor's right thumb touching lightly on the nerves near the vertebrae of the neck, the patient would show every sign of invigoration and in another minute would nod the head to indicate that the tonic effect was felt throughout the body. They would then arise and find the condition—whatever it may have been—changed and a cure produced. Most interesting of all was that of a sister who could not read clearly upon test before taking the treatment but who found her eyes absolutely normal two minutes later, returning to her seat knowing that eye glasses were needed no longer. Many of the members present had seen similar demonstrations of eye treatments before and many there are who have crushed their glasses beneath their feet in the Temple immediately after the treatment, but the work is always interesting to see even to those of us from New York, who are in the Seventh Degree and who do the same work according to our well defined system.

After the twelve treatments had been given the Emperor announced that he would demonstrate some of the mystical laws of the Seventh and higher degrees. Preparatory to the work he explained that one of the principles involved in the work of giving treatments pertained to the attunement which existed between the nervous system in the human body and the octaves of color, chemicals and musical sounds. He stated that each vertebra of the spine had its musical note—as studied in the Sixth Degree—and likewise its color and its other attributes. He also explained that all nervous systems were attuned, one with the other because of the attunements of the mind and brain of men and women.

Naturally he did not go into a full explanation of these laws and principles, for they constitute the secret teachings of our Order, not found in any other system or school of occultism, medicine or science.



But to demonstrate that all minds were attuned and that musical sounds did depend upon the vertebra, he called forth one of the members of a visiting Lodge—one who has not yet entered the higher degrees and knows nothing of these laws—and had her seated in the chair in the centre of the Temple.

All eyes and ears were strained now and the interest was tense. This was to be the first time that such laws and such phenomena would be demonstrated or made manifest outside of the Supreme Lodge in New York, where the members are duplicating the work of the Emperor through the teachings given in the higher degrees.

The Emperor stood behind the member seated in the chair and he then explained as follows:

"I will ask one of the Vestal Virgins to step to my side and whisper in my ear the name of any musical note in any octave of the piano which stands in the East of the Temple. Then, while the Temple is absolutely quiet, I will place my right thumb upon the proper vertebra of the sister's spine and cause her to HEAR the proper musical note and SEE the proper color which accompanies the note. And, furthermore, as she hears the note all of you—or nearly all—will hear the note also. Then I will ask you who hear the note to identify it on the piano and you will find it to be the note which the Vestal has selected."

This was to be a supreme test. Everyone recognized that fact and all awaited the movements of the Emperor which were expected to be extremely mysterious. But again he moved with that quiet and unostentatious air which has proven him to be a Master of the work he has brought to us.

Stepping behind the sister in the chair he again placed his thumb somewhere on the neck of the sister and then asked the Vestal for the name of the note. Then he slowly moved his thumb downward to a place which was proper for the note and then raised his right hand high in the air. He asked the sister to nod her head as soon as she heard the note and with closed eyes saw a bright color. After half-a-minute pause the Emperor dropped his right hand slowly (which movement could not be seen by the sister in the chair) and she nodded her

head at the same instant, indicating that she heard the note.

What was more surprising, however, was that the note was heard clearly throughout the Temple. It was not like a note played on any instrument, for it was free from any mechanical element, purer, softer, sweeter and seeming to be in every part of the room at the same time.

Then the Emperor asked all who heard the note to arise. A great number hesitatingly arose, for many did not believe that the clear note they heard was the note referred to; they did not seem to expect such a note to be as audible as it was and they believed that they had heard some outside note or sound.

However, the Emperor called upon all who heard the note to hum it aloud. Immediately there was a most wonderful agreement as to the tone of the note heard. In all parts of the Temple Brothers and Sisters hummed the same note with so slight a variation as to make the tone practically uniform. Then Brother Professor Fessler, of the Ohio Grand Lodge, a competent and well-known musician, stepped to the piano and struck several notes. None of these agreed with the note being hummed by the members. Finally he struck a note which was in perfect tone with the one made by the voices. When every one was satisfied that it was the correct note—and not one either below or above it—Brother Fessler called out the name of the note, "a," and that was shown to be the note selected by the Vestal and likewise heard by the sister in the chair while she saw the color, "orange," the correct color for the note.

This experiment was tried four times, each time another of the Vestals selecting a note and each time the members heard the note throughout the Temple and were able to identify it. In one case the note was so low that but one or two present could imitate it with the voice and only by selecting it upon the piano could agreement be obtained. At another time the note was very high but all selected the same note and it was properly identified.

Then to use the laws in a slightly different manner the Emperor sat at the piano and played some strange and unusually impressive



to recognize various lights and likewise recognize the size of objects, their movements, etc. The eye-ball resumed its normal size and position and the child has almost complete control of the movements of the eye. A very significant feature of the restoration of sight in this case is that the colors which gradually came to the consciousness of the child were in the order of the spectrum colors. Our higher degree members will understand why this is so.

The other case was that of a Sister who was suffering from a growth. Her physician finally ordered that she be removed to a hospital the following morning for an operation as the growth had become very large and greatly inflamed.

She called upon the Emperor's help and he had her thoroughly examined by a trained nurse and the size and condition of the growth plainly recorded and marked. Then he gave her a three-minute treatment and told her to take a drink of cold water before retiring that night and not to go to the hospital. In the morning—after being conscious during the night of a further absent treatment by the Emperor—she awaited the coming of the physician. He examined her and found that the growth was completely gone and that all inflammation and fever were gone. In perplexity he cancelled the arrangements at the hospital and the Sister was at the Convention—fully three months later—without any sign of a return of the trouble. The growth had been disintegrated and the pus and other matter made to pass through the bowels without inconvenience, medicine or even consciousness of what was taking place.

Others testified as to the quick cure, without even personal treatment—of skin disease, organic troubles, eye troubles, etc. The many physicians present, graduates of various schools, have seen these treatments given and have watched the sudden cures. They know that the system is rational and without mystery. All were greatly interested in the testimonies given.

With some music and discussion the evening session was brought to a close. It was one of the most illuminating sessions of the Convention, for not only was the Emperor's Official

Address unusually interesting, but the various demonstrations proved and the testimonies showed that the teachings of the Order are of wonderful, practical help to all and embrace those principles and laws which are not to be found in any other philosophy or science of to-day.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 2ND.

The day was spent in pleasures befitting the purpose of the convention.

The Entertainment Committee had provided for many forms of amusement. One group of members with some Officers were invited to visit the Heinz plant, where so many delicacies are prepared.

This group reached the grounds of the Heinz plant at 11 o'clock and after being received in the reception room of the executives, the group was arranged on the steps of the building and a photograph was taken. Then the group was taken through every floor of the factories and rooms of the many buildings escorted by several guides. When the tour of inspection was completed the group was taken to the Heinz concert hall and entertained with pleasing music. At the close of the session we were greatly surprised and pleased when a stereopticon threw upon a large screen the photograph of the group taken only a few minutes before. Then the entire group was seated at tables in the Heinz banquet hall and a delicious, fascinating and thoroughly satisfying luncheon was served. Many pleasing incidents occurred during the luncheon and souvenirs of the occasion were given to each one present. A vote of appreciation was given to the Heinz institute and to those in our Order who are associated with the Heinz plant and are officers.

From this pleasing excursion the group entered special trolley cars and were taken to the picnic grounds where the day's picnic was being held.

Other members had arrived at the grounds early in the day and others continued to come throughout the afternoon and evening. A lunch was served at one o'clock in the shelter house on the grounds and in the afternoon several hundred Brothers and Sisters enjoyed all the happiness and pleasures of nature. There



were groups everywhere, it seemed, under the trees, along the brook, in the shelter house, on the hills, in the swings and out in the fields. None but Rosaecrucians were there that day and it was a wonderful day. The weather was inspiring—cool, bright and cheerful.

During the afternoon the members and Officers gathered on the hills and banks surrounding the small brook, and in the shade of overhanging trees stood silently and reverentially while the Emperor officially cast into the running waters the ashes of our late Brother Greiff in accordance with his wishes. It was a solemn moment indeed, yet fraught with great significance, as the Emperor turned to those who stood there so quietly, and said:

"Brothers and Sisters, we are assembled here to witness the dictum of a law of nature and the obedience of our Order to those laws which we so well understand. I have here the ashes of our late Brother Raphael Greiff, Supreme Councilor and one of our active workers in the Supreme Lodge. So now, before the Sign of the Cross and in the presence of all who loved our Brother and under the bright sun light of the heavens, I cast these ashes into the waters and upon the earth so that the great law of nature shall be fulfilled and 'dust to dust return'."

While the sun was still high a hundred or more pictures were taken of various groups. It was a wonderful "get-together" day and happiness supreme prevailed. At six o'clock a dinner was served by the Entertainment Committee of the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge. Four very long tables were filled and many had to wait for second tables. Food of all kinds and delicacies were in abundance and for an hour or more there was the greatest joviality. The Committee had spared neither money nor trouble in making that dinner out in the green fields under God's great canopy, a never-to-be-forgotten incident of the Convention.

As the sun set in the West the members gathered on the sides of a green hill and at the foot of the hill various Officers and Delegates addressed the gathering. The speeches were interspersed with our Rosaecrucian chant and other inspiring songs. Tears came to the eyes of many, as, in the dusk of eventide, Brothers

and Sisters spoke of the great work of the Order and what it had accomplished in the past two years. Members of the Supreme Lodge spoke of the untiring and unselfish efforts of the Emperor and his wife in making the Order a success in this country, of the willing services of so many members and the loyalty of those in many cities who have had to overcome many obstacles and meet many objections.

As the twilight faded some of the members had to leave and they made farewell speeches and the informal gathering dispersed singing, "God Be With You Till We Meet Again."

At eight o'clock seventy-five members proceeded to climb the big hill, and by special invitation visit the Allegheny Observatory, the largest in the state. There the director, who is greatly interested in our work, devoted his evening to assisting our members in having an unusually fine view of the starry heavens. The principal observations were of the star Vega and the moon. This was a rare treat and was greatly appreciated by those of our members who are interested in the Rosaecrucian Cosmogony.

At nine o'clock the members began to trail homeward. So many had arrived in the evening from subordinate Lodges in the vicinity of Pittsburgh that, as one stood on the outer galleries of the Observatory high above the surrounding park and watched the members climbing here and there on their homeward course, one was reminded of the Oriental pilgrimages to Mecca.

Thus ended our first annual, national, outdoor meeting and picnic. We missed those who were not present and we hope that at our next picnic on the shores of Lake Michigan, we will see the thousands who could not attend this Convention.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 3RD.

MORNING SESSION.

This session was devoted to hearing the reports of the various committees. The Convention Committee reported that it had decided upon Chicago as the place for the 1918 Convention and the time to be during the month of June. It was also recommended by the



Committee that the first three days of the 1918 Convention be devoted to business sessions and the remainder of the time given over to the social features. This report was embodied in a motion and amended by Brother Chambers to read that the actual date of the Convention be decreed later on by a Pronunziamento issued by the Emperor. This motion and amendment were carried and adopted. *

The Constitution Committee reported that it had its work ready for the afternoon session.

The Finance Committee and the Publication and Propaganda Committee reported action.

The Ritualistic Committee then took up the subject of changes in the ritual. The Emperor explained to the Committee and those present why and how certain changes should be made. Brother Chambers made a long and eloquent plea for a rigid and consistent adherence to the ancient and primitive features of the Rosaecrucian ritual. From his study of the ritual, he said, he could see the primitive origin of many of the features and these had been modified by translations and modern interpretations. He regretted such changes and warned the Ritualistic Committee against further modifications of this kind.

Others discussed the symbolism of the ritual and the significance of many minor points which are often overlooked. Grand Master Hodby spoke of the long and tedious work done by the Emperor in making all the translations of the rituals. He referred to the fact that the original rituals from which the Emperor had to work were written in three languages—Latin, French and the ancient Rosaecrucian secret symbolical language which is known to no one in this country but the Emperor. He explained that this accounted for the inconsistencies occasionally found in some places, for they are evidently due to mis-translation.

Many spoke of the beauties of our ritual but added that our ritualistic work was not only very grand, inspiring and beyond general description, but unlike many other rituals, very significant and illustrative of the work and teachings of the Order.

After much discussion as to the ways and means of bringing changes in the ritual to the

Ritualistic Committee, a motion was made and adopted that no changes be made in the ritual except by the Ritualistic Committee and then only after conference with the Emperor.

General discussion then followed and one of the points brought to the attention of the Convention was in regard to the raising of finances for Lodges. One delegate spoke on the subject at considerable length. It was recognized that money matters and finances are a secondary consideration and so far in our work have had little consideration because of little necessity. But a number of Lodges are now planning their own Temples and require funds for this purpose. A question was then asked: Is it permissible for a Lodge to hold such benefits or fairs as are often held by churches for the purpose of raising a fund? *

The Emperor was on his feet in a second. He interrupted the discussion and declared that there were certain limits which he wished to have understood and made a matter of record. He stated with great emphasis that all games of chance or games based upon an element of gambling must be prohibited. He said that if any Lodge required a sum of money so urgently that undignified methods would be used to obtain it he would direct the Supreme Lodge Funds to assist the Lodge. He likewise spoke strongly on the subject of the payment of dues and initiation fees. He said in part:

"As long as I hold the office of Emperor of the Order in this country, I never wish to hear of any worthy and deserving soul being kept out of our ranks because of the lack of money. I understand that our Order is the only secret, fraternal Order in America to-day which will gladly and willingly initiate an applicant who has no money for initiation fee or dues. If this is so let us not rejoice in it, but rather make this fact a rule and a law. In our Supreme Lodge we have a number who were worthy and deserving of Initiation at the time of the application, yet without funds. We knew that our Order would help them to fight against the temporary odds and find that happiness and inspiration which would make life truly worth while. Should such souls be denied entrance into our Order at the very time they need it most? Would that be Rosaecrucian? We have wonderful things to give, which cost us



nothing, should we, then, demand a price from those who need what we have but cannot afford to pay? And, others have become temporarily situated so that it was impossible to pay dues regularly. Should these worthy and sincere workers be placed on the non-active list just because our Constitution calls for the payment of dues regularly? In some cases other members in our Supreme Lodge have paid the dues, silently and secretly, for those who could not pay. In other cases we have voted the member free from dues. Every Master and Grand Master has the autocratic power to do these things.

"If ever there comes to the door of one of our Lodges a worthy soul who has not the Initiation fee or the dues and the Lodge cannot accept the applicant without a fee or cannot afford to carry members who are unable to pay their dues, I direct the Secretary or Master of such Lodge to communicate with me and I shall see that the fee or dues are paid. But never let me hear of one worthy soul remaining outside of our fold because of the lack of money. It would be the greatest shock, the unkindest deed, conceivable, in my mind."

After the discussion ended and just before the closing of the session, Grand Master Kiimalahto, of New York, made a motion that a cablegram of greetings from the convention be sent to the Supreme R. C. Pontiff in Egypt and also to the Grand Master and Emperor of France. The motion was seconded and adopted and the Chairman appointed a Committee to prepare the message and transmit it.

AUGUST 3RD.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The session for Friday afternoon opened with prayer by the Chaplain. The chairman then asked the Constitution Committee to make its full report.

After the Committee reported its readiness, the Emperor again addressed the delegates, and said:

"The Constitution which is now to be read and amended and then ratified is the Constitution which has been furnished to each Lodge in this country. A few words regarding its origin may be of interest just at this time.

"Early in my work of organizing the Order in this country I had to make continued reference to the old copy of the French constitution of the Order in France loaned to me for that very purpose. The more I referred to its yellow pages covered with words in French, Latin and our own Rosaecrucian symbols, the more I became convinced that the constitution would have to be greatly modified to fit the conditions of this country.

"I was advised by some of my Masonic friends that it would be well to make each state and territory of this country a separate Jurisdiction, and this appealed to me. In France there is only one Jurisdiction covering the whole country, with one Grand Master and the Emperor. But I wished to avoid one of the great difficulties which other organizations of a like kind have experienced in America—the lack of a supreme lodge or body to be over the state Grand Lodges. This plan necessitated many changes in the constitution which I had for reference. Then, again, I found that even the Grand Lodge of France had, in its hundreds of years of existence experienced many difficulties which could be met only with amendments to the original constitution. I therefore examined their amendments and found that there were several hundreds and after translating a great many I soon learned that none of them would help me in my work.

"My only plan, then, was to translate the body of the constitution in a skeleton form and modify it to meet our requirements. This I did and in the Spring of 1915 I submitted the proposed Constitution to the then existing Supreme Council of the only Lodge then organized in America.

"Several sessions were held to pass upon this Constitution and finally, after many changes and a number of reversals to the old French document and laws, a working Constitution was adopted paragraph by paragraph.

"Under that Constitution we labored for a while until we found that under nearly every Section additional rules or limitations must be added to meet our requirements. Copies of the Constitution were made and given to many members to work upon, one to an officer of the Masonic craft, one to a lawyer, one to an officer of the Loyal Order of Moose, one to an



able parliamentary law writer and several to our active executives. All of these were members of the Supreme Council and vitally interested in having the Constitution as perfect as possible.

"A few weeks later a special meeting of the entire Supreme Lodge was called for the purpose of voting upon and adopting the proposed additions. Constant reference was made throughout the discussion to the original French R. C. Constitution and many of the autocratic and other features of that document were re-admitted to the new form. It was finally passed paragraph by paragraph, in January of 1916, and has remained in that form ever since.

"Now we again face the necessity of a few slight changes and a few amendments. I have permitted no amendments to the Constitution by our Supreme Council, preferring to have them made only by the Delegates at each National Convention. That is what we are to do this afternoon."

The Chairman then took the Constitution and read from its preamble the sections referring to the papers of sponsorship received by the Imperator under the seal of the Grand Lodge R. C. of France, and called attention to the fact that those papers and other documents from high officials of the Order abroad were in his hands for examination.

The papers had been taken to the picnic grounds on Thursday—the day preceding—and there all visiting Delegates and others were given an opportunity of reading and examining a number of these official documents bearing seals and signatures of our highest international officers as well as other seals and signatures which placed them beyond cavil or dispute. Therefore no one present on this afternoon took occasion to examine the papers then on the platform.

The Chairman called attention, however, to the fact that the preamble to the Constitution referred only to the Order as having Jurisdiction in the United States, Territories and Dependencies, whereas later documents and sealed Pronunziamentos had extended Jurisdiction of the Order to cover the whole of the North American Continent, including the Dependencies of the United States and the West Indies.

Then various paragraphs were discussed and

slightly changed in wording so as to cover the new Jurisdiction or make more plain the intent or purpose of the laws. Each change was duly voted upon and passed.

Some amendments were made and adopted and finally the whole Constitution was ratified by the motion made by Brother Chambers that the entire Constitution as it now exists be adopted as the National Constitution of the Ancient and Mystical Order Rosae Crucis for the North American Jurisdiction. This motion was seconded by Brother Barlow of the Supreme Lodge and unanimously passed.

The Convention Secretary then arose and read a tribute to the Order and the Imperator and Officers, written by the Delegate from the Grand Lodge of Puerto Rico. The original had been written in Spanish and was translated by Brother Binimelis of the Supreme Lodge. When the very beautiful expressions had been heard, a motion was made that the letter be placed on the minutes of the Convention. This motion was seconded and passed. In some other place we may publish the letter.

Before the close of this session votes of appreciation were given to the members of the Entertainment Committee and to Brother Grand Master Hodby for his efficient services as Chairman of the Convention. Then a resolution was passed expressing the appreciation of a special group of members for what they had seen and learned through the Order. This was followed by the passing of another resolution, reading as follows:

"In Testimonium and Appreciation of the Knowledge which we have received through the teachings of the Ancient and Mystical Order Rosae Crucis, know that we are receiving a hundredfold the value of the expense incurred, and do hereby sign this document of our own free will as active members of the above named Order."

This document has many sheets of signatures attached to it and forms an interesting answer to the question: "Has Rosaecrucianism anything of value to the student of other teachings?" It is signed by those who are masters or past masters or at least advanced students and teachers in nearly every other system or school of philosophy, science and medicine existing in this country.



EVENING SESSION.
THE GREAT PUBLIC RALLY.

Friday evening was given over to a great and enthusiastic rally open to all the members and their friends. The large hall was filled to its utmost capacity and all Officers were in full regalia. It was another impressive sight which will be remembered for a long time.

Beautiful music and songs were rendered by various members, one of the sweetest offerings being a simple ballad by the Vestal Virgin of the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge. Various addresses were made by the Officers of the different Lodges praising the work of the Order and enthusiastically setting forth its wonderful teachings and helps.

The Emperor described the purposes of the Order, briefly outlined its short history in America, spoke of the great number of Lodges now organized or organizing and then touched upon the great world war. He spoke also of the outcome of the strife that now encircles the globe and showed how it would end in bringing to every nation, to every city and to every individual Peace Profound.

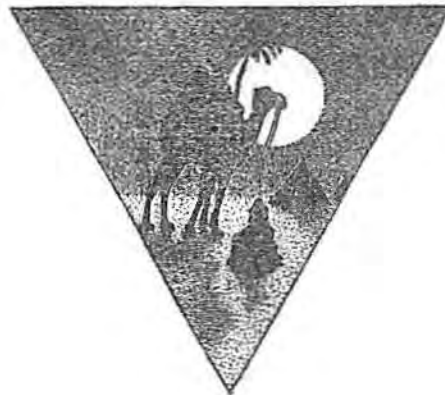
His address was followed by other testimonials regarding healing work done by members

of the Seventh Degree of the Order, showing that even the most humble student of the work was able to perform what in other days and at other times would be considered miraculous.

The Session and the Convention was then brought to a close by a blessing being bestowed upon all by the Emperor and a Benediction by Brother Chambers.

It was the most glorious day of all. Long will we remember the closing words of the Chairman, Grand Master Hodby. He sent us to our homes filled with the belief that "All is well." As we retired from the hall where so many happy and pleasant hours had been spent we could hear—even as we hear now—the words of our beloved Grand Master ringing and ringing—"All is well, all is well!"

Thus closed the first national Convention of the A. M. O. R. C. in America. It will prove to be, in the future, an epoch, history making event and means more to this country than any other assemblage, convention or convocation ever held in America. We say this not from belief, or in hope, but from a knowledge of the laws and principles that were established and put into operation during this great convention week.



Side Comments of the Convention

The Official Badges for the Convention were those made by our late Brother Greiff of the Supreme Grand Lodge. How pleased he would have been to see with what appreciation the badges were worn by all delegates and members.

* * *

Grand Master Kiimalehto became popular as soon as his identity was disclosed. He has had considerable correspondence with Officers and members throughout the United States during the past two years, and many felt that they knew him well. He was a very busy man during the convention. He had time for little else than official work—and receptions.

* * *

The various Magi of the Order with their distinctive regalia added one point of interest to the Convention. It was noticed, too, that the Magi are those who have much to do with the success of such material activities as Conventions, Feasts, Assemblies, Picnics, etc. They represent willing servants and always at the service of the Brothers and Sisters.

* * *

The visit to the Heinz plant in Pittsburgh and the very detailed explanation of how the famous 57 varieties are prepared most certainly excited the appetites of the 50 or more members who made the visit. And when a very fine luncheon was offered by the Heinz people every one was anxious to partake of the goodies. It was noticed that Supreme Secretary-General Brassard was fortunate in being placed at the end of the table, for those relishes which appealed to him most seemed to naturally gravitate to that end of the table and—stay there.

* * *

All the delegates and members at the Convention were supplied with car tickets for the ride to the picnic grounds on Thursday. It was noticed that when the Emperor was approached by the conductor for his ticket the Emperor had none and was the only person in the car who paid a cash fare. Since the

Emperor was neither a delegate or a member he did not receive the envelopes which were given to delegates and members as they entered the Convention hall on Tuesday morning. He was requested to show his "Card," however, before the Chairman of Credentials would admit him. And—he had his card handy and ready to show. Some members might do well to copy in that regard, for a "card" at home is as good as no card at all.

* * *

One Supreme Lodge member was unhappy during the convention. He was the Supreme Chaplain, Binimelis. Whenever found alone he wore a sad expression and his only explanation was: "I wish that my wife could be with us." It is recalled that the Chaplain and his wife attend the Lodge together, although they are not in the same degrees. They are inseparable in the work and united in thought, so we can understand why our Brother was lonesome.

* * *

When, during one of the early morning business sessions, the Chairman of Credentials made a motion that the Brothers be permitted to remove their coats, the good Sister at once seized about 25 per cent. of the physical constitution and capacity of the hearts of all the Brothers. This was too wonderful a treat not to have it recorded somewhere, so it is entered here with due appreciation.

* * *

It was noticed during the naming of the Emperor's daughter that when the little bundle of love was placed on the satin pillow on the Altar it turned on its side with half a smile and reached out its hand toward the beautiful red roses at the side of the pillow. Early recognition of the rose and its importance? Just a question to think over. And—by the way—the little son of Deputy Grand Master and Grand Secretary Soelke of Illinois was named Robert Henry Spencer, the last name in honor of our Emperor. He is now God-father of two and father of four. Considerable responsibility in



addition to being a Brother to many hundreds of men and women. *

* * *

One of the very interested visitors was Brother Martinez, the Official Delegate of the Grand Lodge of Puerto Rico. It was Brother Martinez's first visit to America and he was all eyes and ears and, while he could speak a little English, he was delighted to find himself generally surrounded by a number who could speak his own tongue as well as English.

* * *

It developed at the picnic on Thursday that the Emperor was very fond of ice cream. After being served with a plentiful at his place at the table he wandered idly to another seat where he was served again. Then it was that some of the Brothers and Sisters planned to give him all he could eat and it was only when a full quart was finally served to him along with a large kitchen spoon that he arose and declared he had sufficient. Sufficient! It seemed to most of us he had enough, and, in the vernacular of New York, enough is usually too much. But then, he is a large man with large capacities, even for ice cream.

* * *

There seemed to be a great many cameras in evidence at the picnic on Thursday. At one time a number of the amateur photographers were lined up in front of a group of the Supreme Lodge members much like the camera men of various newspapers before an interesting scene. Their presence at the picnic was very fortunate for our records of the Convention, for they have furnished the Department of Publication with a great quantity of photographs from which a number have been selected for publication in this magazine.

* * *

The members of the Illinois Grand Lodge who attended the Convention became very anxious to have the Emperor give them the Third Degree Initiation during the Convention week. They were prepared for it, having completed the second degree. The Emperor was disposed to refuse the request until the members added to their many arguments the one that the Initiation could be given to some of the Masters from other cities who were like-

wise ready for it. In many nooks and corners of the Convention building and in the Seventh Avenue Hotel could be seen groups of members conspiring ways and means of persuading the Emperor to grant this special favor. He was aware of their plans and only the argument of the benefit to visiting Masters finally won him over. All of which goes to prove that unless your conspiring methods are backed with good, sound sense and reason you cannot win against the Emperor's determination not to show special favors to a few of the members to the exclusion of others. *

* * *

When Deputy Master Dr. Green of Pennsylvania Grand Lodge arose at the picnic supper and held high above his head—which means a considerable height from the floor—a small pink, silk, girlish looking stocking and said: "Brothers and Sisters I have here a well-filled First National Bank," all eyes and ears were expectant. It was so unbecoming the quiet brother. But when he continued: "It is with pleasure that, on behalf of the members assembled here at this convention week, I give this purse to the Emperor and his wife as the first deposit to a bank account for his daughter, the infant Colombe," we all realized that his intentions were good—just as good as his words were true. It was a pleasing incident of the picnic and the Emperor and his good wife were so surprised that neither one could say more than a few words of happy appreciation, tinged, I must say, with a note or feeling of deep emotion which manifested itself in a sad and tearful look in their eyes.

* * *

Most naturally the members from every Lodge were anxious to see the Supreme Vestal Colombe. She was warmly greeted everywhere and by everyone, and we of the Supreme Lodge felt extremely proud of our little girl.

* * *

It was learned during the last days of the Convention that the wonderfully sweet and alluring incense used by the Emperor at his Wednesday night demonstrations was a mixture prepared by the Archivist of the Supreme Lodge to be obtained nowhere else. This discovery led to many requests for small boxes of



it and several of the Supreme Officers were busy thereafter supplying the incense in small cartons bearing the Archivists Seal. The small supply on hand was soon gone and then came the problem of supply and demand. Those who were disappointed in obtaining some of this incense at the very reasonable price asked for it may write to the Rosaecrucian Supply Bureau, 306 West 48th Street, New York, for sample packages.

* * *

Three Brothers remained in Pittsburgh after all others had left. They intended to start on Sunday, August 5th, for Washington, D. C. They depended on the clerk of the Seventh Avenue Hotel to awaken them early Sunday morning (after a week of early and late activities). The clerk failed to call them; they missed the train. At last reports they were still in Pittsburgh awaiting an early call. But how long can they remain still in Pittsburgh? And—someone asks—how could they oversleep in the Seventh Avenue Hotel? The numbers of their rooms are greatly desired by those who may wish to visit Pittsburgh again.

* * *

Brother Chambers of Iowa was seen to be carrying with him a mysterious looking envelope. It was large enough to conveniently hold about twenty well-made horoscopes of members of the various Lodges. He had their numbers and their names—and their dates. Strange fellow, Brother Chambers; always has one ear open for birth-dates, then jots them down. Look out for him!

* * *

When Sister Clemens of Boston received her Charter as Master of a Lodge in Boston, all the barriers were thrown down and a wonderful precedent was established. Some of us wish we were living in or near Boston. The Wisconsin Grand Lodge was inspired by the incident, however, for it has appointed a Sister as Deputy Grand Master. Wonder where all this will lead. Can the Sisters fill every office? Pennsylvania Grand Lodge has a Sister Guardian and Illinois Grand Lodge has a very able and amiable Sister Secretary, while we in the Supreme Lodge have a sweet and efficient Sister Herald. There is one office

which the men cannot take from the Sisters, however, and that is the office of Matre. Figure not, therefore, oh Brothers, on any complete retaliation if the Sisters assume all the Offices in any Lodge.

* * *

Grand Master Shoemaker of Florida was without his robe. We heard that the costumer was busy trying to lengthen the regular robe so that, when worn by the Master, it would not look like a mere surplice. It was easy to see to what great heights Brother Shoemaker can reach. When found in the company of our Imperator a considerable difference was noted. That difference must be seen to be appreciated, however.

* * *

A pleasant surprise was experienced when the Vestal of the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge rendered a beautiful song in a sweet and talented manner. Inquiry revealed that all our Vestals are either musicians or are being given both instrumental and vocal lessons by highly competent teachers in accordance with the wishes of our Imperator. Our Vestals should always be the most talented and most inspiring souls in the Order and we are very happy to find that this is true of our present school of Vestals.

* * *

It is almost unfair to tell this story, but it is too good to be left untold. On Saturday, August 4th, when the work and the excitement of the convention were over, the Imperator and several of the members of the Supreme Grand Lodge visited a Brother physician in Pittsburgh. The idea was to permit the good doctor to exhibit his unusually fine biological work in profess and to study under the microscope some of the laws taught in the Seventh Degree. Those who, for the first time, saw in the human blood those qualities and that one great feature explained only by our teachings, were fortunate indeed. But there was a good lesson for the doctor to learn also. The Imperator suggested that the doctor take a test of the blood pressure of those present. This he proceeded to do and after a test of a few he came to one of the Brothers of the Seventh Degree, who determined to use some of the



Seventh Degree laws and confuse the doctor. It was unfair, but very tempting. The doctor adjusted the apparatus and then watched the dial of the indicator. (He should have watched the face of the Brother instead of the face of the indicator.) The hand on the dial went higher and higher in the numbers until the doctor became plainly alarmed. The blood pressure was frightfully high—it was alarm-

ing. Then the Brother began to smile and others who were watching smiled—and the doctor knew. Another test, made not less than three minutes later and without the application of our laws, gave the Brother a reasonable and normal blood pressure figure. Whenever Brother Binimelis goes to Pittsburgh again, the doctors will watch out for him. He's too smart!

After the Convention

On Saturday night, August 4th, the Imperator granted the request of the Chicago Delegation and others and with the assistance of the Grand Officers of Pennsylvania, he conducted a Third Degree Initiation. All the Chicago members were examined in their Second Degree work and by special dispensation all the Masters of other Lodges who were ready for the Third Degree were initiated between the hours of 8:40 and 10:30 P. M. It was a beautiful convocation and was attended by the members of other Lodges who had passed into higher degrees.

The Imperator and his wife left Pittsburgh with their infant Colombe on Sunday morning in the special car on the Pennsylvania Railroad as the guest of the Deputy Master and Secretary of the Illinois Grand Lodge.

The Imperator and family spent three weeks at the beautiful home of the Deputy Master and Secretary on Washington Boulevard, this being the first vacation the Imperator has taken in a number of years. While in Chicago he conferred the Third Degree on the other members of the Illinois Grand Lodge who did not attend the Convention. Over seventy-five were Initiated at the convocation, which was held on the evening of August 10th. That will

give the Illinois Grand Lodge a Third Degree membership of over 100. This assures many wonderful demonstrations in their future meetings.

On Thursday, August 23rd, the Imperator and his wife and child went to Madison, Wisconsin, as the guests of the Grand Lodge there. On Saturday evening, August 25th, he conducted the First Degree Initiation and the Institution of the Grand Lodge in Madison. On Sunday they returned to Chicago to the home on Washington Boulevard and on Monday, August 27th, they started for New York on the Twentieth Century Limited.

The Imperator was, therefore, absent from the Supreme Temple and his sanctum from Monday, July 30th, to August 29th. This will explain why so much mail has been neglected and matters held in abeyance.

Supreme Secretary Brassard was left alone to execute the important matters at headquarters during the Imperator's absence and on the latter's return to New York, our Brother took a much needed rest.

And now everything is busy and humming merrily at headquarters. We have had our Convention, our outings and our vacations. Now for another year of hard work.



chords. He explained that members seated in various sections of the Temple would be affected by the chords or notes in different manners. When the experiment was completed about one hundred members who came within the selected groups testified that they felt various physical conditions in such organs or parts of the body as were associated with the notes.

After this the Emperor proceeded to give another demonstration which cannot be described as fully in a public magazine as we would like to describe it. It pertained to the work of projecting one's thought form so definitely that the projection could be plainly seen. Many in this country have seen the Emperor's projection in their various Temples at one time or another—and even heard him speak—even though he was in New York at the very hour and minute. But this evening the Emperor assisted in having the projection of our late Brother Greiff of the Supreme Lodge, appear.

The Temple was darkened except for a faint light placed on the floor in front of a large black screen. After censuring the Temple and arranging the Vestals in the centre of the Temple so that their powers were concentrated upon the screen, the Emperor sat in their midst and was seen to enter a deep state of concentration interrupted only by a few words of chanting and an occasional mystic sign by the hands.

Gradually there appeared against the black screen the white and more or less transparent mist which slowly took form and appeared to be a figure draped in white standing on an invisible platform high above the floor of the Temple. Then, after a few minutes further development, the figure was definite enough to recognize the official gown worn by our late Brother and also the insignia upon the right breast. In another minute the face was clearly discernible and easily recognized. Then, as all watched patiently and silently, the arms began to move, revealing the long flowing sleeves of the robe and making gestures as though the person thus clothed was speaking. No words were heard—that is, so far as our records show—but for fully five minutes the figure was seen by so many that, when the demonstration was over the descriptions given by each who saw

the projection tallied wonderfully with the appearance of the Brother whom we loved so well and whose one great hope was to attend the Convention and be with us.

When the lights were turned on again the Chairman threw open the meeting to those who wished to speak of the work done by the Order in the two years just closed.

Immediately there arose to their feet Brothers and Sisters in every part of the Temple who wished to testify to what the Order had done for them. Only members were present, of course, and no representatives of newspapers were within hearing distance, so all felt free to speak as they chose.

Some spoke of how the Order had helped them to advance in their material affairs; others spoke of the wonderful illumination that had come to them through the unique studies, but every one placed some stress on the almost instantaneous cures made by the Emperor or members of the higher degrees of the Order in New York.

Among the many interesting testimonies given were two by one Sister and it may be of value to briefly outline them here. The first was of a thirteen-year-old girl whose left eye had been injured by a baseball bat when she was three years old. After the necessary operation upon the muscles and nerves of the eye, darkness came and the eye lost its sight entirely within the first year. Since then, and for ten years or more the child has been absolutely blind in the left eye and could not see even the brightest light. Many specialists had examined the eye and proclaimed it beyond their skill, although the parents are well-to-do and would have spared nothing to help the child. The eye-ball began to protrude during the last few years and all control of the movement of the eye was lost, so that it moved about in the socket involuntarily and uncontrollably. The child was brought to the Supreme Temple for the Emperor to see and examine. He told the mother that he would make a test to see whether he could restore the usefulness of the injured nerves and muscles. With only a three-minute treatment, merely to test the susceptibility of the optic nerve to the Rosae crucian treatment, the child saw lights, and after daily treatments of three minutes each, she was able

