

Minutes, January 29, 1951

Chapter General meeting of the Knights of Malta, held on Monday, January 29, 1951 at 6:00 p.m. at 30 East 40th Street, New York City.

Special meeting held to conduct the regular business of the Order and to propose a resolution for an addition to the Constitution and By-laws, also to elect a lieutenant grand master, and file an Annual Report with the State of New Jersey.

Chairman-Lieut. Grand Master: Dr. W. S. Bryant.
Secretary-Grand Chancellor ~~xxx-xxx~~: Thourot Pichel.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The report of the Committee on Finance was read and approved.

The Secretary read several incoming and outgoing letters of interest to the members.

The Membership and Credentials Committees submitted the names and ranks of the following new members for the consideration and acceptance of the meeting:

Colonel Ilia E. Mouromtseff, Knight of Grace.
Dr. Clarence Gordon Campbell, Knight of Justice.
Duke Carl Eduard of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha,
Knight Grand Cross of Justice.
Bishop Francis Hodur, Chaplain of the Order.
Oreste Demidoff, Knight of Grace.
Field Marshal Gerd von Runstedt,
Knight Commander of Justice.
Boris Kalinine, Knight of Grace.
General Nicholas Plastiras, Knight Commander of Grace.
Prince Louis Poniatowski, Knight of Justice.
Baron Woldemar de Barkow, Knight of Justice.
Mgr. Ignatius Dub-Dubowski, Archbishop of Philippopolis in
Arabia. Chaplain of the Order.

Upon a motion made by Prince Volkonsky and seconded by Prince Gagarin, it was moved that the above names and ranks be accepted and recorded in the archives of the Order. Passed by a majority vote.

The Chair signified readiness to accept a motion for the approval of the Resolution offered at the previous meeting for an addition to the Constitution and By-laws, the Resolution reading as follows:

"Resolved that if and when any question of religion, religions, morals, articles of faith or related matters and procedures for such, come into question, it will be the duty of the grand master to appoint a carefully selected committee or ecclesiastical tribunal composed only of grand prelates, prelates, chaplains, etc., who shall take under advisement such questions and to render a fair decision by a majority vote, in which the chapter general will concur."

At this point, a recess was requested for the purpose of conducting a round table discussion of the Resolution, which was granted.

Upon a motion made by Knight Crispin and seconded by Count Boutourlin it was moved that the proposed Resolution be accepted and made an addition to the Constitution and By-laws of the Order. Motion passed by a majority vote.

The Chairman arose and announced that while he was very sorry, nevertheless it would not be possible for him to continue as Chairman and Lieutenant Grand Master after this meeting. All of this he insisted, was due entirely to his advanced age and declining health.

The Chairman suggested that he would be pleased to accept a motion to nominate and elect Baron Scipio Engelhardt as Chairman and Lieutenant Grand Master of the Order, the Baron being known as a very early Knight of the Order and a descendant of the Grand Preserver of the Order appointed by the 70th Grand Master of the Order, H.I.M. Emperor Paul I of Russia.

Upon a motion made by Count Sheremetev and seconded by Count Kipnis, it was moved that Baron Scipio Engelhardt be elected Chairman and Lieutenant Grand Master of the Order. Motion passed by majority vote.

The Chair announced that the Baron would be notified of his election at once.

The Secretary then announced that under the present conditions it would be wise to make an Annual Report of the names of the present officers of the Order to the Secretary of State of New Jersey. In this, the Chairman concurred and such a report was submitted for signatures.

The Chair then asked Bishop Hodur to conduct the meeting in a prayer for the deceased knights of the Order, followed by the Lord's Prayer, in unison.

There being no other business at hand, and upon a motion by Knight Bakhmeteff, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m., to await the call of the next meeting by the Secretary.



Respectfully submitted

Thourot Pichel
Thourot Pichel,
Secretary.