

Minutes, November 12, 1909

Meeting of the members for the purpose of continuing the formation of a Grand Priory of the Knights of Malta in the United States of America, held on Friday, November 12, 1909 at 6:00 p.m. at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York City.

This meeting was called by the chairman of the committee appointed by Chairman Consul Lamb to co-operate with attorney Stites to propose a legal incorporation for the Knights of Malta, and any other related business.

This secretary called the attention of the members to the unfortunate death of its chairman pro-tem, Consul William Lamb, and to advise the members that they elect a chairman to fill his vacancy.

On motion of Alexander Nuber von Pereked of Austria and seconded by Count von Bernstorff, the name of Dr. Joseph Gaston Baillie Bulloch was proposed, and he was elected chairman by unanimous vote.

Chairman Dr. Bulloch asked the assembly to join him in the following prayer: "Have mercy, O Lord, we beseech Thee, upon the soul of our departed Chairman and Knight William Lamb, and in return for the benefits which he bestowed upon us on earth let him obtain eternal reward in heaven. Amen."

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Secretary read to the meeting a number of incoming and outgoing letters and communications, of interest to the members.

A report was received by the chairman from the group's attorney Mr. Stites in which he rendered certain opinions and suggestions on the subject of legal incorporation.

Mr. Stites suggested that the purpose and program of the members would best be served by incorporating as a non-profit membership corporation under the existing laws of the State of New Jersey.

The attorney advised that the original incorporators be citizens of the United States. One of the incorporators would be required to be a resident of the State of New Jersey and maintain an office there.

Another suggestion was that the assembly adopt a short title such as "The Knights of Malta," instead of the lengthy name containing the word "sovereign" which the state authorities might frown upon. The attorney also made the point that though much of our program was totally different from that of any other existing membership organization, he would more or less follow the pattern of other membership organizations which would include many reci-

tations not applying to our program, but which could later on be revised and changed gradually to properly conform to our program.

Mr. Stites mentioned that while our registered title may be "The Knights of Malta," nevertheless, our literature, documents, diplomas, etc., might recite the long title, with explanations in our by-laws to cover same.

The report of Mr. Stites was unanimously received and accepted, and the attorney was advised that in co-operation with the committee appointed by the late chairman he proceed with the plan outlined by him and that when the papers of incorporation are drawn up he inform the chairman and submit them to the members for consideration and approval.

Motion by hereditary knight Boutourlin and seconded by hereditary knight Count de Broel-Plyater that all qualified descendants of the knights and hereditary Knights of Malta created by Letters-Patent during the regime of our 70th Grand Master, H.I.M. Emperor Paul I of Russia, be considered eligible as knights of our Order, and, if and when located, each person so selected shall be advised of this action.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Motion by Baron de Rosen, seconded by Count von Wedel that the chairman appoint a committee to draw up and submit at the next meeting, a constitution and by-laws suitable for the Order. Motion unanimously adopted.

The chairman introduced Archbishop Diomedo Falconio, Apostolic Delegate to the United States and Canada, who lead the knights in a prayer for the departed members.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m. to meet at the call of the Chairman.

Respectfullu submitted

(Signed) Hengemuller von Hengervar,
Secretary.

