

# SCOTTISH RITE TEMPLE SCENE OF CEREMONIES

**\$100,000 Structure Dedicated  
by Formal Service Presided  
Over by Inspector General  
Weidner; Address by Hervey**

Beautiful and impressive ceremonies marked the formal dedication of the new \$100,000 Scottish Rite Temple on South Scott street yesterday evening by the Santa Rita Lodge of Perfection, A and A. S. R. of Free Masonry. A large audience, which filled the splendid auditorium, was in attendance. Numerous visitors were present from other cities of the state and from the coast.

Members of the Masonic bodies of the city together with visiting Masons marched from the Masonic hall on Congress street up Scott street at 7:30 o'clock to the new Scottish Rite Temple, opposite the Carnegie Public library. The national colors were carried with the Masonic emblems at the head of the line of march.

The families of Masons, guests for the evening, had already assembled in the large auditorium, and following the seating of the Masons the ceremonies of the evening and musical program were carried out.

#### **Perry Weidner Presides.**

The dedicatory ceremonies were conducted by Perry Weidner, active member of the supreme council of 33d. degree A and A. S. R. and inspector general of Scottish Rite Masons for southern California and Arizona. He was assisted by members of the Santa Rita Lodge of Perfection No. 1, A. and A. S. R. of Free Masonry.

The musical program included selections on the splendid new pipe organ by J. M. McBride, organist for the evening, and selections by a choir consisting of the following: Mesdames R. G. Fisher, F. O. Goodell, A. V. Grossetta, and E. K. Miller, and Messrs. H. H. Foster, Arthur Jenkins, E. Kinney Miller and H. E. Nixon.

Mr. McBride played "Vorspell" (Wagner), "Cantilene Nuptial" (Dubois), "Allegretto Grazioso" (Tours), "Festival March" (Scotson Clark) among other selections, and the choir sang a number of selections among which was "Cantante Domino in C" (Vogrich).

The great organ, while not fully completed yesterday evening, gave great pleasure to the audience, and was pronounced a splendid instrument by musicians present.

A history of Masonry in Tucson was given by Col. George J. Roskruege, secretary of the Scottish Rite lodge, in which he related many interesting and entertaining facts. The first Masonic lodge in the city, he stated, was held at the old Mansfield home, and there were two chairs, one for the master and one for the secretary, while the members sat on dry goods boxes.

#### **Judge Hervey's Address.**

The address of the evening was delivered by Judge Rhodes Hervey, of Los Angeles, a 33d. degree Mason and head of the Scottish Rite Masons of Los Angeles.

"Free speech, 'the separation of church and state,' 'a free press,' 'independence and freedom' were a few of the cardinal principals which Scottish Rite Masonry inculcated in its members. Judge Hervey stated, and he showed in his lecture how the French revolution had been aided by the 994 Masonic lodges in Paris at the outbreak of the revolution. Two of the leading revolutionary factions sprung from Masonic lodges where the doctrines of freedom and liberty were taught.

Also in Russia, but later in Turkey, was the influence of Masonry felt, he stated, in the spread of doctrines of liberty and freedom. In 1861 the Italian Masons planted the beginning of Masonry in Turkey, and in 1908, Judge Hervey declared, the fruit of the teachings of Masonry found expression in a nearly bloodless revolution which established constitutional government and freedom of the individual and press.

Not the Utopia of Thomas Moore, nor the Republic of Plato, Judge Hervey declared, was the political ideal of the Scottish Rite Masonic teachings, but a practical democracy close to the people. He also emphasized that religious freedom was one of the cardinal principals of the rite. Taking Jesus as an example, he Christians like himself would accept Jesus as the Christ, while to other members of the order he would be merely a great man, but to all members, Christian or not Christian, the order presented him, whether man or God.

Judge Hervey laid special stress on the moral uplift given the individual Masons.

"If you could see the many letters that Mr. Weidner and I receive from women and children telling of the changed lives wrought by Scottish Rite Masonry, you would believe that all you have done is worth while."

#### **Characterizes True Mason.**

He closed with an eloquent characterization of a true Mason as one who could look out on the wonderful mountains and emurpled desert and realize his littleness in the vastness of things and yet not lose faith or courage.

Following the address an idea of the wonderful scenery purchased by the lodge and installed in the building was afforded the audience by the showing of three "drops." The first was a stone vault, used in certain degree work, the second was "The Crucifixion," and the third was a "Cathedral setting." The auditorium was darkened as each one was shown in turn.

These pieces of scenery, of which there are 79 in all in the stage equipment, were explained by Judge Hervey. The audience then inspected the building, being shown about by members of the lodge.

One of the principal points of interest was the wardrobe room where \$20,000 worth of new costumes are kept. This is beneath the stage. Directly underneath the auditorium is the dancing floor and on the basement is also the kitchen and cooling plant. An "underground passage" communicates with the stage and wardrobe from the front. Other points of interest in the building inspected by the visitors were the billiard rooms, the lounging room in front, and the beautifully furnished lodge room of the Blue Lodge on the second floor.

Today degrees from the first to the thirty-second will be given a large class of candidates from all parts of the state.