

# INTERNATIONAL EASTERN STAR TEMPLE COMMITTEE



MRS. STELLA YONT  
BROCK, NEBRASKA

MRS. ESTHER H. HENNING  
HOLBROOK, ARIZONA

MRS. MAE T. DONOVAN  
3146 PEN STATION  
DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA

CHARLES H. TOWNSEND, CHAIRMAN  
CASPER, WYOMING

MRS. ROWENA WARD  
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JOSEPH MAYO ARGABRITE  
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MRS. EDNA C. DUNCAN  
P. O. BOX 301  
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

## GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR ESTABLISHED NOVEMBER 1876

August 17, 1932

*Mrs Stella Wist G. Sear*

To the Officers and Members of the Grand Chapter of *Colo.*

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

A meeting of the General Grand Officers and the International Temple Committee was held in Washington, May 13th, and a letter formulated and sent out to every Grand Matron, Grand Patron, Associate Grand Matron and the Associate Grand Patron of the various jurisdictions, notifying you of your appointment as a member of the International Temple Committee. We hope you will accept this appointment and become an active worker in this splendid undertaking. In order to give you an idea of what has been done, will give a few historical facts in a short form for your instruction.

At the Triennial held in Washington, D. C. in 1922, the General Grand Chapter committed itself to the plan of the erection of an International Temple in the city of Washington. A committee had been appointed at the precious session to canvass the situation and get the sentiment of the membership regarding the proposition. Thousands of letters were sent out explaining in a short form the plan to erect an International Home. While a few failed to answer a tabulation of the returns was strongly in favor and many chapters voted to send in a quota of \$1.00 per member, although no contributions were asked for at that time.

The R. W. Grand Trustees approved this report and transferred \$25,000.00 to the Temple Building Fund. A Temple Committee was appointed at that time and at the eighteenth Triennial Assembly reported that \$60,000.00 had been collected. At the next Triennial, the total amounted to \$212,000.00 and last session over \$275,000.00 was in this fund. Since then this has been increased to over \$300,000.00 as the financial report which you will find enclosed will show. All funds are invested in Government Bonds by the R. W. Grand Treasurer under the supervision of the Grand Trustees.

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A resolution was passed by the General Grand Chapter that no site be purchased or building started until the money was collected so we can build on a cash basis, that is our job. Collections are coming in right along and we have many encouraging reports from different jurisdictions. Five jurisdictions have given their quota of 100% or \$1.00 per member; namely, Florida, District of Columbia, Georgia, Rhode Island, and North Dakota. Nearly every chapter under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter have given their full quota. The ten Chapters of Alaska are in the 100% column. Many Chapters in the Provinces of Canada have given generously.

We have funds on hand that assure the building of a home, but not enough to put up an edifice in keeping with the dignity of an order of over 2,000,000 members, the largest woman's organization in the world. How well we can build will depend on the membership.

The idea is to build a building instead of a monument so that the Grand Officers can have a place to transact the business of the General Grand Chapter.

An institution wherein the records, gems, and historical mementos can be safely taken care of.

A large library room where we can store our books and start a real O. E. S. Library.

A small auditorium for temporary meetings, not a place to hold the Triennial, as some were led to believe.

Nearly all organizations of a similar type to ours have their buildings in Washington. In justice to ourselves we should have a beautiful and adequate building to represent our order. This is the first time in the history of the General Grand Chapter that they have ever asked for a donation. Neither have they ever made an assessment on the membership.

If this proposition can only be put up to the members of the subordinate chapters so they understand what we contemplate doing, I

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believe the majority who have the interest of the order at heart will be willing to put in their dollar and join the Temple Builders.

To accomplish this we earnestly ask your cooperation along the line suggested in our previous communications. Organize your jurisdiction at once by appointing a General Chairman and an Assistant Chairman in your several districts. Some of the Grand Matrons have done this already.

We would earnestly urge that you Grand Matrons, Grand Patrons, and other officers make it a definite point to include a short talk with reference to the International Temple whenever you visit and address an Eastern Star audience. We also would urge each Grand Matron that in your next general letter or bulletin to your subordinate chapters that you include an optimistic message regarding this splendid proposition. We would suggest that every individual chapter, irrespective of any action taken by other chapters in its jurisdiction, should strive to make 100% payment for the benefit of its own individual record as a chapter.

Matrons who have done this during their term of office feel very proud of their 100% certificate.

We realize this is rather a difficult time to collect money but you know people want entertainment even in hard times as demonstrated by the vast crowds that attend football games, the Olympics, and picture shows. If each chapter would start a Temple Fund and collect a dollar from those members who can afford to pay and then to make up the difference, they could have entertainments of one kind or another, charge a small fee which would enable them to fill their quota without using the chapter funds.

Designate the first meeting in November as International Temple night and start a Temple organization in every chapter in your jurisdiction with the exception of those who have already completed their quota. We want to double our fund before the next Triennial in 1934. If the chapters are unable to collect the full amount now they might be able to arrange to pay their pro rata in three installments, one-

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third in 1932, one-third in 1933, and one-third in 1934, prior to the session of the General Grand Chapter.

Donations to this worthy cause from your Grand Chapter would also be appreciated. We want you Grand Matrons, Grand Patrons, and other officers to show your loyalty to our present Most Worthy Grand Matron and Most Worthy Grand Patron by getting behind them 100% in this campaign.

All remittances should be made through your Grand Secretary who will forward same to the Right Worthy Grand Secretary. Will be glad to furnish any further information you desire. With your assistance I am sure we will be able to raise enough money by 1934 to warrant the General Grand Chapter to proceed with the building of the Home.

Extending fraternal greetings we trust that you will be able to interest your entire membership in this wonderful proposition.

Sincerely and fraternally,

THE INTERNATIONAL TEMPLE COMMITTEE

*C. H. Townsend*  
Chairman

*Dear Sister What:*

*We are sending out this appeal to all Grand Chapters. Hope Colo will do what they can to push this proposition. Am also sending you copy of previous letter sent out. Enjoyed meeting you at Parkers as well as the other Colo folks. Hope we will be able to attend your Grand Chapter. With very best wishes I am  
Sincerely and Fraternally  
*C. H. Townsend**