

# **The Virtual Museum of Fezology**

## **<http://www.fezmuseum.com>**

### **History of the Algeria Temple, AAONMS, Unique Emblem Supplied to the Museum by Mr. Tyler Anderson**

The minutes of December 13, 1906, Algeria's Stated Meeting, contain reference to a discussion concerning "the Algeria Fez." "... On motion of Francis D. Jones, duly seconded and carried, it was ordered that 'the J. Benton Leggat' insignia of fez bearing the crescent, pyramid, and scimitar be accepted at a cost not to exceed \$3.50." This was before there was any Imperial authorization to wear any insignia on the fez, it [the fez] being officially described only as "the red Turkish Fez with black tassel." (Illustrious Noble, J. Benton Leggat was from Butte, Montana, and served as Algeria's Potentate in 1905.)

It was not until 1915 that Imperial authorized the present international Shrinedom insignia on the fez, which was different than that being worn by Algerians. The Seventh Report of the Jurisprudence and Laws Committee of the Imperial Council, 1915, Amended Article XIII, Section 2, to read as follows: "...facsimile of a scimitar and that portion of the jewel of the Order consisting of the crescent, sphinx-head, star ...". This was the first time that Imperial had made any statement as to any insignia on the fez. Obviously the Imperial description was not the same as "the J. Benton Leggat" emblem adopted by Algeria, as indicated by pictures taken at that time of Algeria Band and Patrol.

In addition, at the September 1915 Stated Meeting of Algeria, following the Imperial Session, came the following: "... Upon motion duly made and carried, it was ordered that the matter of emblem on Algeria's Fez be taken up with the Imperial Potentate and see if he will pass them...." Nothing further can be found in Imperial proceedings or Algeria meeting minutes concerning the matter. It must be assumed that the Imperial Potentate approved Algeria's Fez insignia, as Algeria Shriners to this day still wear the emblem Algeria adopted in 1906.