

Every Day, In Every Way, the Klan Grows Better and Better

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"NOT FOR SELF, BUT FOR OTHERS"

REAL CAUSE OF THE KLAN REVEALED

Freemasonry is a grand and glorious, ancient and honorable institution. Klankraft embodies all the tenets of Freemasonry, giving especial devotion to the code of the Knight Templar, but has an additional program of achievement, designed for general benefit along practical lines.

The Masons have reached their present pinnacle of success and world leadership through inherent virtue and heroic, faithful efforts, sustained through hundreds of years, despite malignant persecution. The Klansmen profit by their inspiring example.

No private hatred or feud can be carried to the threshold of the Masonic lodge, still less political or religious disputes. Masons are bound by that religion alone in which all men agree—belief in God and the Golden Rule—leaving to each man his peculiar opinions. For hundreds of years the Masons have striven to overcome selfishness, which is the universal basic evil, and to establish the reign of love.

The Klan's ideals are identical with those of the Masons, but it is an order with a special mission. Instead of being universal, it restricts membership to native-born Americans, this being the same restriction that is placed upon the office of President and Vice-President of the United States. The Klan also requires a member to be a believer in God, and in Jesus Christ, the Son, and because the Roman Catholic church is alien in its government, heretical in its teachings, tyrannical and despotic in its practices, claiming both spiritual and temporal sovereignty over the souls of men through the exercise of political and ecclesiastical power by the Pope, the Klan restricts its membership to men of the Protestant faith.

The Klan's program of service and achievement embodies the principles of the ancient Knights Templar, whom the Klansman, in principle and practice, more closely resembles.

Every Klansman should be familiar with the glorious history of the Templars.

In the 12th century, moved by the enthusiasm of the age, eight Christian knights established the society. In a few years it came to be the most powerful corporation in Christendom. By the principle of secrecy the members were bound together in the closest unity and cemented in the bonds of a mystical friendship. It was a religious order, with great military power. The Knights wore, besides their armor, white cloaks adorned with octangular blood-red crosses.

After the Pope found he could not rule the order, and being opposed to its principles of liberty, he made war upon it, of course, just as he is persecuting the Klan, today.

The society of the Templars was accused of horrible crimes and heresies. The Pope and his priests, and their ignorant and miserable dupes, charged that the Templars worshiped the devil, that they practiced sorcery, adored an idol, condemned the sacrament, and practiced unnatural vices.

The Pope and his dupes finally got the upper hand. Many of the noble Knights were burned alive in France by order of the infamous Archbishop of Sens. Pope Clement "abolished" the order by a bull on March 2, 1312—six hundred and ten years ago. Grand Master James Bernard Molay, and Guido, the Grand Prior of Normandy, were burned alive at Paris on March 13, 1314, after Molay had cited Pope Clement and King Philip to appear before the judgment-seat of God within a year. The despotic and infamous Pope died within 37 days, and the king died eight months later.

The last moments of the lives of Molay and Guido were marked by sublime heroism. Molay, the Grand Master, of haughty and dauntless mien, ascended the scaffold over the funeral pyre prepared for him by the fiendish Pope. He died with the fortitude and calmness of a Christian hero. In dying he proclaimed the future downfall of the Pope and all despotism. "I summon you, tyrant of Rome, and you, despot of France, to meet me within one year before the eternal throne."

This was humanity, bleeding and torn, and outraged in all its sacred rights, summoning all despots, whether spiritual or temporal, before the judgment-throne of the future ages, to receive their condemnation and to witness the inauguration of the divine principles of justice, equality and fraternity.

The positive ideas of the Templars could not perish; they continued the contest with the tyrants of the earth, and, advancing through the centuries, brought kings to the scaffold and laid the foundation of liberty. Klankraft embodies the positive ideas of the Templars, which now are being wrought into realities for the benefit and glory of all men.

Such was the destiny of a mighty fraternity, whose valor, devotion and achievements form so brilliant a chapter in European history. It was the strongest bulwark of the Christian faith—the ablest champion of the Cross.

The Templars, like the Klansmen of today, were earnest,

sincere and worthy men. Behind the veil of mystery they conceived vast and magnificent plans for the social and religious regeneration of Europe—plans far in advance of the age, but practicable today. They planned the political unity of Europe by the universal overthrow of monarchy and the founding of an immense republic, and the complete purification and reform of the Catholic faith. The splendid Order finally fell, by treachery, before the united powers of civil and religious despotism.

Statesmen today despair of finding a solution of the European problem. On January 2, next week, the Premiers are to confer in the slender hope of reaching an agreement, and if they fail, as seems probable, France threatens to occupy the Ruhr region of Germany on January 15, thus making certain another world war, involving every nation. The Premiers and the President need only to consult the history of the Templars to find a way out of the morass of despair; they need only to yield to the divine principles of liberty, equality and fraternity, as exemplified in the history of the Templars and in the sublime martyrdom of Molay.

THE TRUE BASIS OF KLANKRAFT

Klankraft is friendship, love and integrity, translated into terms of action. It is a friendship which rises superior to the factitious distinctions and arrangements of society, the prejudices of religion and the pecuniary conditions of life. Within the Klan all members meet upon terms of absolute equality. It is a friendship which knows no limit, nor inequality, nor decay—ever living, ever active, to bless and to console. It is a truth, an honor, which binds men to the eternal law of duty, in opposition to all the calculations of interest, and in defiance of the wrath of the wicked.

The basis of Klankraft is the law which requires men to love God; that is to say, to love truth, goodness, virtue, above all things else, and to conduct himself toward others, in all cases, as in like circumstances he would have others deal with him. This is the law of mutual love, or intimate and abiding friendship, of inflexible probity, honor and truth. This law is as wide as the universe, deep as eternity, stern as fate in its demands. It binds all Klansmen, in all places, to the everlasting duty of charity, and woe to the soul that seeks to escape the obligations which it imposes.

GOOD RESOLUTION FOR 1923

After "digging up" and preparing for publication the checked personal records of several men whose treachery seemed to justify condign punishment, the editor of The Western American received on Christmas Day a personal letter from an illustrious Knight Templar, residing in the South, which, after long deliberation, caused him to burn the "high voltage" stories and to decide upon the policy of applying the Golden Rule to everything hereafter appearing in this journal involving the personal

reputation and welfare of opponents; provided, that this policy in any case may not jeopardize the welfare of the Klan and its friends.

"Kindness is the greatest good," we know, of course, and the Klan teaches all to return good for evil—to overcome evil with good, but sometimes, we must plead, this course seems humanly impossible. Throughout the new year we will do the best we can, and if we seem to forget this good resolution, the reader may be assured that the provocation was unendurable.

"The spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak," in practicing the Golden Rule. One should do one's best, and angels cannot do more.

No sooner had we adopted the Golden Rule policy than a valued friend advised its immediate application to "Fatty" Arbuckle—the atrocious monster of the movies—Ah, peccavi! (There we go again.) * * But never will we fail to denounce as infamous any proposal to reinstate him as a public attraction.

The Klan stands for the sanctity of womanhood, and forever opposes the reappearance of Arbuckle, because his crimes at San Francisco, in which a young woman lost her life, have gone unpunished, in circumstances of a revolting and hideous nature.

Never, never should such a wretch be presented in the pictures before the boys and girls, most of whom know the history of the case and the fate of Virginia Rappe.

The carefully laid plan to bring "Fatty" back is commercial in its motive, of course—the design of the evil-minded, money-mad Jews who own and control the movies.

Will Hays, alleged czar of filmdom, now shows himself in proper calibre and true to type—the hireling of men who have an eye single to the glitter of the almighty dollar. The titular noun "czar," so often used to indicate Hays' status in the movie business, is quite correctly used, considering that it implies a poor weak person, of minimum moral courage, utterly hemmed in and hedged about by executive powers beyond his control. A czar, as implied, is a person to be pitied, indeed, and the worst usually happens to him.

The outraged moral sentiment and public opinion of the country will banish Arbuckle so fiercely and so far, after his impudent attempted come-back, that no other undesirable of his type will ever dare defy the decent public. Let "Fatty" go back to the vile slums, whence he came, and stay there.

In all cities may be found certain shows for adults only, with vaudeville, wax works and a gruesome chamber of horrors. In these let "Fatty" serve. The reproduction, true to life, of the hideous tragedy which cost the life of the girl in San Francisco, with "Fatty" there in person to explain the abominable affair and point out with pride the horrifying details, would be quite appropriate for a chamber of horrors, sure to attract the crowds of the sensual and the morbid. For this role he is qualified by ghastly experience. There let him play his part, but not in public.

OUR RELIGIOUS CREED

There is one God, of infinite love and mercy, who made all things. He governs the worlds by His providence. He ought to be worshiped by adoration, prayer and thanksgiving.
The most acceptable service to God is doing good to man. Usefulness to society is the only true measure of worth.
The soul is immortal.
God will exalt goodness and expose sin, reward virtue and punish vice, either here or hereafter.

Americanism

One School, One Flag, One Nation

The children in our public schools
Are taught to end all strife,
They are taught to live the Golden Rule,
They are taught the ways of life.

Why should we fight each other?
We've all one point to gain—
To give our children knowledge,
To reach a higher plane.

Some want to teach religion,
A privilege of this land,
Some want to teach a foreign creed
Our Nation to disband.

No priest, no pope or potentate
Of any foreign band,
Can mix the laws of church with State
In this our native land.

Our native born, our foreign born,
Our rich and poor one station,
Shall have one flag, one school,
And first of all, one Nation.

By everyone uniting
And working to this end,
We can make this nation better
The White Race to defend.

Yes, the White Race of all nations,
United they must stand
For Freedom's cause and Liberty,
United hand in hand.

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WEANING TIME AT SALEM AND WHAT WE SHALL SEE

