

WATCHFOL MASON'S REBUKED BY GRAND MASTER OF TEXANS

Declares Klan is Fighting for Real Principles of Masonry.

LAUDS GREAT FRATERNITY

Advises Members to Attend Strictly to Their Own Affairs.

CHILDRESS, TEXAS, May 23.—Several days ago a Klansman died here. He also was a Mason and was buried with Masonic honors. After the services, Klansmen in regalia visited the grave and put flowers on it. Some Masons here objected to the tribute and wrote a letter of protest to Grand Master Mike H. Thomas of Texas about it. Grand Master Thomas' reply follows:

"I have your favor of recent date and hasten to reply, and I am going to talk to you just like I want you to talk to me, for I am trying to be Grand Master to every Mason in the State of Texas and I am trying to interpret the duty of a Mason as I see it. It may not agree with your interpretation, but I am perfectly satisfied with it myself.

Many "Weak Sisters." "Less than a century ago the enemy made an attack upon Masonry. It was a vile and vicious attack, but it was so successful that many lodges renounced Masonry, surrendered their charters, and many members listened to the propaganda of the persecutors. I took off their square and compass buttons and threw them in the river, and as Peter denied Christ, they denied Masonry and joined the ranks of the persecutors. But despite these attacks, the principles of Masonry remained unshaken and today it is the greatest society of its kind in the world.

"Any institution that will be servable to mankind, will, first and last, neither you nor any set of men will be able to destroy it; but any organization that is the enemy to society and to the children of God Almighty will go down in defeat, it matters not what agency of mankind endeavors to uphold it, just as the enemies of Masonry have been unable to do more than to stem its tide temporarily and it moves onward, growing greater and grander each year.

Don't Judge by the Few. "No man has had more cruel things done to him than I by my brother Masons. No man has had his confidence betrayed oftener, but with all that, Masonry, in my opinion, is composed of the grandest body of men on earth, and I believe that the many should not be judged by the few.

"The principles of this organization is what counts, and a few of its members can, in no wise, regardless of their degeneracy, lower its dignity or check its advancement. When I look over the Bible class which I attend, I find men who owe me money and have done me wrong, yet that Bible class as a whole is a wonderful body of men and very dear to me.

"After studying the Constitution of this Grand Lodge I fail to see where it has appointed any man or set of men as a committee to destroy any institution or to build up any institution. If you, or any of the members of your lodge, have usurped this power, or have taken it upon yourselves to work to the detriment of upbuilding, through Masonry, of any institution, I wish to see your authority in our laws.

"I think I have a very good idea of what a Mason owes to his fraternity and all I ask you to do, or any of your fellowmen to do, is to pay that debt. Attending Neglect.

"Now, my friend, there are 120,000 Masons in the state of Texas, and little orphan children of Master Masons are knocking at our door for admittance which we must temporarily deny them.

While their number is, comparatively speaking, few, the Masons of this state cannot be proud of the neglect of this great debt they owe to their departed brother by letting these little waifs stay out in the cold, perhaps hungry, and without education, neglected, while they run over the country devoting their time and energy trying to kill off an institution that has in no wise disturbed them or done anything but advocate every principle that Masonry stands for.

"Now, if you and your brethren will get half as busy raising money to tear down these fire traps we have and build adequate houses to accommodate the children of the brethren

who have gone before, as you are in the concern of some little acts of the Ku Klux Klan, you will have more respect for yourselves, and the world will respect you more and God will respect you more.

"After that job is completed, if you will go into the public school system and see that the proper men are put at the head of it, ample funds provided to give all children a good education (for ignorance is the curse of humanity and the mother of all ills) you will again be fulfilling your duty as a Mason; and when you have accomplished that and have a little more time to spare to Masonry, I will cite you to this: that there are more Masons in the State of Texas buying whiskey than there are, in my opinion, serving the craft as they should; then after you have destroyed the bootlegger, upholding the Constitution of the United States, as all Masons obligate themselves to do, if you have any more time I will put your boys onto another Masonic job. If you cannot bring harmony into the lodge, do not break it up in discord. I have some sons that belong to this Klan and some of the best men I know of belong to it, just as good men as I am, or you, or anybody else, but they are not meddling with you and my business, and I advise you, as Grand Master, to do the same.

"Furthermore, I want to say that a majority of the Masons in Texas are getting tired of a few Masons and a whole lot of Catholics denouncing them as 'enemies to society.' There is not a church, there is not a Masonic lodge, or an Odd Fellow, or a Knight of Pythias lodge, or any other institution that has not had some bad actors in it, but don't you go judging the many by the few, or the good by the ill, and just try to put Masonry over. "Masonry is not a Klan institution, nor is the Klan a Masonic institution, but their memberships are intermingled, and just as a Mason is privileged to join the Republican party or the Democratic party, this Grand Lodge has stated that it does not attempt to proscribe its members from joining any organization not against the laws of our country. Let's devote our energies to Masonry and not to some organization we know nothing of."

SIGHTS OF HIGHWAY DELIGHT VISITORS

Daredevil Fly Stunt at Horsetail Falls.

The perfect highways in the Portland district now are thronged with home tourists and thousands from everywhere, all marveling at the gorgeous scenery along the Columbia river, unmatched anywhere in the world. A picnic party, which included Walter Gobbs Smith of Portland, witnessed a thrilling human fly exhibition at Horsetail Falls last Sunday. This beautiful stream plunges from the summit of a precipice about 300 feet high into a pool beside the Columbia highway. Smith maintained his reputation as a daredevil, gained as a soldier and auto race driver, by climbing the dizzy height along narrow and slippery ledges up the almost perpendicular face of the great stone mountain.

Reaching a ledge nearly at the top Smith teetered upon a slick rock and made monkeyshines at his anxious friends below, then he went behind the wall of falling water and enjoyed a spray and shower bath. Refusing to take his dare, the editor of The Western American, who was one of the party, (and admitted he was scared at the thought of such a climb), managed laboriously to crawl up the precipice and joined his challenger high above upon the rock shelf.

The descent was doubly dangerous. Smith made it like a mountain goat, but the scribe had a tough and slow time of it, holding on to jutting rocks, roots and grasses and saying his "Chicago-Milwaukee-St. Paul" as he went. No one should attempt to climb Horsetail Falls without a dependable rope, plus steady nerves. It looks easy, but it isn't.

Ononta Falls and Gorge are attracting much attention this season. The gorge is magnificent. It is about 2500 feet long, from the highway to the Falls, which cannot be seen from the road. The canyon bed is filled by a classic creek, its crystal waters roaring and booming, splashing and dashing, bubbling and boiling over the mossy rocks and emptying into the Columbia. The lofty perpendicular walls of solid rock are covered with green mosses, lichens, grasses, wild flowers of every hue, the predominant colors being red, white and blue, with wiry shrubs and lofty trees growing upon the ledges and the summit. A rock walk should be built through the Gorge for the visitors. The Falls then would be a mecca for thousands.

EMINENT AMERICAN SPEAKER AT NOTABLE KLAN GATHERING

Western American Bureau. WASHINGTON, D. C., May 23.—In Fairfax county, about midway between Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington, and the historic Manassas battlefield of the Confederate war, upward of 10,000 Klansmen gathered a few nights ago to celebrate the fifty-seventh anniversary of the Ku Klux Klan in a weird midnight ceremony.

The observance was semi-public in character, many women and aliens from Washington and nearby Virginia towns and the surrounding community standing on the outskirts of the hollow square of white-robed Knights listening to the ceremonial. Hundreds Naturalized. Nearly 500 aliens were naturalized and the words of the Obligation penetrated to the group of spectators drawn to the scene by the weird figures in high-peaked helmets and long white robes.

The Klansmen came from West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia. A fiery cross that was lighted at the conclusion of the ceremony spread its glow for many miles around and attracted still more curious along the Fairfax-Washington highway nearby and from the surrounding countryside. Guest Name of Speaker. The identity of the distinguished speaker of the evening was cloaked in mystery. He was procured for the occasion by the correspondent of The Western American of Portland, Oregon, and is one of the most noted figures in American public life. Were his name to become known there would be a gasp of surprise to reach around the Nation and the opposition would quail in its boots. He paid especial tribute to the Klan.

From Old Jersey. JAMESBURG, N. J., May 15.—The Western American Publishing Company, Portland, Ore.—Dear Sirs: Somebody sent me a copy of The Western American recently, and I fell so in love with what it advocates that I have decided to send you herewith my check for sufficient to have the paper sent me weekly for six months. God bless you in your good work. Respectfully yours, G. W. RICHARDS.

Knights of Columbus Exposed In Great Anti-K. of C. Issue of The Rail Splitter for July

Luke E. Hart, Supreme Advocate 1131 LaSalle Bldg. St. Louis, Mo. KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SUPREME COUNCIL March 26th, 1923. Gentlemen: Our attention has been called to the fact that notwithstanding the indisputable proofs of the falsity of the oath alleged to be taken by the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, you are distributing the same in large quantities. We cannot permit this to go unnoticed and on behalf of the Knights of Columbus I now demand that you at once discontinue the publication and distribution of these pamphlets, destroying all you have on hand and at the same time giving assurance that you will not repeat the publication of this kind in the future. Unless assurance of this kind is given, it is my purpose to take such action as the circumstances may require. I will be glad to have you advise me as to your intention in this regard by return mail. Yours very truly, LUKE E. HART, Supreme Advocate.

The above communication from K. of C. headquarters has reference to the pamphlet "The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan or the Knights of Columbus Klan, the greatest defense of Klansmanship and the greatest unmaking of the K. of C. ever written." They "DEMAND" that we destroy all pamphlets on hand, with assurance that we will not print any more in the future. This is the most damnable piece of Papal insolence that has ever come to this office. My reply was, to strengthen the pamphlet and go to press with a new edition and notify the K. of C. that I will now and in the future print whatever I believe to be for the common good. These pamphlets sell for 10c single copy, 15 for \$1 or to agents \$5 per 100. Rush your orders. If the pamphlet goes into litigation the supply may be tied up temporarily. I am now announcing that the July number of The Rail Splitter will be a "KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SPECIAL ISSUE." I am appealing to every patriot in America to get behind this issue and help me give this Christian's gang of mobbers, political corruptors, ballot box stuffers and assassins of Protestant speakers the greatest exposure ever printed. This special will do it. Let every Klansman, Mason and Patriot unite with The Rail Splitter, as I accept their challenge and dare them to go to the mat with me in the courts of the country. I pledge the Protestants of America my service and loyalty and serve notice on the K. of C. now that the fight is on and I am going to give that gang of nation-wreckers a run for their money. This issue will contain: The bloody record of the K. of C. Tom Watson's masterly exposure of that Order. When Knight Meets Knight, a burlesque unmasking their corrupt principles. It will give for the first time in print a complete exposure of the California K. of C. white wash by alleged Masons. Masons take notice and read this article. I will review the criminal history of the Molly Maguire, Clan Na Gael, and Hibernian Riflemen, showing that the K. of C. is the legitimate successor of these criminal orders. We have been gathering this vast accumulation of evidence for years and the time has come to use it. I serve notice on the Pope and all his dupes and slaves including the K. of C. that I am now going to give the Harlot Church of Revelations the most complete unmasking it has ever received in America in the July number of The Rail Splitter. I will prove that the K. of C. has committed every crime against Christianity, humanity and free government that it is possible for an oath-bound, alien organization to commit. I will prove that while they deny taking this blood-curdling oath they constantly practice its criminal obligations. The record of the K. of C. during the war will be exposed. The Church was the friend of the central powers and the enemy of the allies. How the K. of C. looted the war chest and used the money as propaganda fund for the Catholic Church. This damnable gang has opened the fight on The Rail Splitter and with the help of the loyal patriots on the firing line I am going to give them a run for their money. I have turned every fight the Pope has made on me for thirty-two years into a victory for the Protestant cause. If the Casseys send me to jail through a subsidized court for telling the truth I will send out the message through the prison bars and conduct a circulation campaign that will put a million new names on The Rail Splitter subscription books. The Rail Splitter artist has made a great cartoon for the front page of this special issue that will make every K. of C. repeat his catechism and hunt the holy water bottle and fill the heart of every patriot with joy. Don't miss this picture. You will want every brother patriot to see it. I am going to make the fight of my life to get this great issue with its vital message into the homes of the people. I am banking on you patriots out on the firing line to help me put it over big. We did it with the Chicago Issue. We can do it bigger and better with this issue. I am giving you a chance to hit that damnable gang hard. Let's do something worth while. I am fighting your battles. Our interests are mutual. They have tried to wreck and destroy the Klan and every other worthy patriotic order. Let's plant our feet on American dirt, uncover our heads under old glory and strike hard for our homes, our country and our God. I will furnish you free and postpaid all of these circulars you will distribute. Help me cover the nation with them. The price of this issue will be 2c per copy in any quantity you can see. Subscriptions 50c per year. In clubs of four or more, 40c.—Order to the limit of your ability. Bring the matter up in your lodge and see that good orders are sent. With this issue a small amount of money will do great good. Your orders must be here by the first day of July sharp. I am appealing to brother publishers to help us in this fight by giving this K. of C. number a good notice. I will hand the favor back whenever there is an opportunity. We want agents in every community to sell our publications. You can make big money and do great good at the same time. Write for terms and catalogue. Here is an important appeal: If we send you a package of these circulars please give each one to a loyal Protestant and write for as many more as you can use to advantage. Here is the greatest opportunity we have ever offered the Protestants in America to do a great work. I have faith in you that you are going to use it. Let us hear from you. Faithfully yours, WILLIAM BLOYD CLARK.

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