

TOP

AGED Twenty Thousand and Spectacular Outdoor Local Ceremonial.

Fifteen thousand Knights of the Ku Klux Klan and about 5000 spectators attended a magnificent outdoor initiation ceremonial staged by Portland Klan No. 1 upon the lofty summit of scenic Mount Scott Monday night, June 11. The mobilization followed promptly and without the slightest confusion an official call from the Exalted Cyclops and an unobtrusive notice in The Western American.

Thousands went to the rendezvous in automobiles. A half mile distant from the Station on the Cross, the first ghostly picket quietly gave each person directions where to go and what to do to prevent confusion. Other pickets on the road, at strategic places, repeated the orders and gave further directions. Automobiles—thousands of them—were kept 25 feet apart to prevent accident. The mobilization was conducted in silence. It was like an army on the march, in perfect order.

Under the Fiery Cross Upon the summit flamed a huge Fiery Cross. At the sound of the Cyclopean gong the white-robed Klansmen fell into line in front of the temple, forming a circle a block long upon the greensward, with every officer and attendant at his proper station. The ritualistic ceremonies were conducted by the Exalted Cyclops and his staff. After a brief speech by Exalted Cyclops Wilson of Tillamook Klan and a few remarks by other officers, the ceremonies began, culminating in the advance of the great class of applicants for admission, all of whom were made Klansmen.

A delegation of the Royal Riders of the Red Robe, in full regalia, in brilliant contrast with the white-robed Klansmen, guarded the portals to the Sacred Circle, and at the conclusion of the ceremonies were given a royal ovation. This was an impressive feature, indeed. The knightly figures of the Royal Riders, robed in red from head to foot, each wearing a long sword, guarding the Klansmen at their devotions, seemed like the heroic Crusaders of old. Born in foreign lands, they held allegiance to only one country—their own dear America—and they join with the Klansmen as brothers, equal in all rights and comrades in the same great Cause.

At the conclusion of the ceremonies the Exalted Cyclops suddenly acclaimed the Royal Riders, which was the signal for an impressive tribute. Returning the salute, the red-robed Riders fell into line of twos and marched like stately grenadiers across the circle, past the altar and out of the enclosure through deep lines of Klansmen, amid vociferous and continuous applause. It was a heartfelt tribute to a splendid body of men.

As the multitude began to disperse, starting homeward, the military discipline of the Klansmen was demonstrated. The thousands of automobiles and pedestrians were mingled in one vast mass, but there was no confusion. A Klansman gave authoritative directions at every strategic point, and in a few moments the long cavalcade was started down the hill. The pickets kept the cars 25 feet apart and divided the throngs through the avenues of exit. It was an example of perfect marshaling, without an accident of any kind or unpleasant incident.

If 15,000 Klansmen mobilize in this manner, without special effort to assemble great numbers, and without publicity, what would happen if, on some great occasion, the Grand Dragon of the Realm should proclaim a call to all the Klans of Oregon to rally around the Flag at a certain time and place? It would mean the quick mobilization of an army of good Americans, moving in unison and perfect order.

What would happen if a similar call were issued by the Supreme Imperial Klalg for mobilization of all the Klans upon a national scale? This would develop, with a speed and skill that would astonish the world, a grand army of devoted patriots, numbering millions, ready to make any sacrifice in defense of the Nation and with a heart for any fate. This is the mission and the meaning of the Klan—here Yesterday, Today and Forever—non silba sed anthar.

OLE NELSON ACTIVE, AFTER GOOD BEATING Ole Nelson, ex-sheriff of Clatsop county, who was kicked out of office by recall on August 11, 1922, having been defeated and his political machine smashed by Sheriff Harley J. Slusher, is on the Astoria streets again hobnobbing with the Astoria street bootleggers, after passing about

three weeks in St. Mary's Hospital, recovering from injuries received in a drunken brawl with Al Kaufman, a laundry wagon driver, who beat and kicked the ex-sheriff in a merciless manner.

Eye-witnesses said Nelson "got what was coming to him" for insolent misconduct. There were no arrests. The brawl occurred in Martin Costello's booze-joint, known as the Green Front, 325 Astor street.

Having recovered sufficiently, Nelson again is resuming activities in Astoria politics, currying favor with his friends, the wets and underworld elements. He attends every booze trial in the justice court, accompanied by his tillikum, Attorney R. D. Campbell, who is reported to have the support of the underworld and the promise of plenty of money for a campaign to make Astoria again safe for the wets.

Attorney Campbell was fired unceremoniously out of the Astoria Klan during the Nelson recall fight for daring openly to support Ole Nelson and to oppose the recall. He was the only man out of many hundreds who assumed this attitude.

Sheriff Slusher is enforcing the laws without fear or favor. He is being complimented throughout his home county and the entire state for his fearless and efficient clean-up work. His official and private conduct is above reproach and the office has been elevated to a higher plane. The best citizens of Clatsop county are declaring that never again will the people there stand for a sheriff of the Nelson type.

Do you want to recall Pierce?

HAVING GREAT TIME IN OLD YORK STATE

Awful Crime of Holding a Klavern Uncovered by Bright Scribes.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 14.—The Ku Klux Klan does do such awful things.

First, it tarred and feathered almost everybody in the nation. Then it did a lot of damage out in California.

Next it killed a whole flock of folks down in Louisiana. Then it just used hell generally most everywhere.

Now, up in New York state, it has piled on the straw that broke the camel's back.

It held a Klavern! Can you believe it? Such a crime is almost unbelievable, but when actual facts stare you in the face, what else can you do but believe, especially when this is charged by the New York World?

The World's Klan expert went out the other night and mixed in and around with the crowd and came back and made the startling revelation in his paper.

An offense against Rome is almost not to be tolerated; a few murders or so can be overlooked between friends and countless tar-and-feather parties can be dismissed with the adage that "Boys just will be boys."

But to hold a Klavern is awful, simply awful, and those unseemable Klansmen in New York state who did it should be punished without mercy and no doubt the Kleagle will take a vacation at once. Maybe the Goblin will get in on it, too.

LOWERING FLAG TO HONOR DOG REBUKED

Catholic Governor of Maine Is the Storm Center of Patriotic Wrath.

AUGUSTA, Maine, June 14.—Lowering the United States flag at half-mast because his pet dog had died brought down the wrath of all patriotic bodies on Governor Percival Baxter, who was elected on the Catholic ticket last September.

Baxter, at the time of his election, was exceedingly bitter against the Ku Klux Klan, although he himself is Protestant. He went to especial pains to go over the state and bitterly condemn the organization and in return received the full backing of the Catholic organization in Boston, which controls the Catholic vote of the New England states.

NEW YORK, June 14.—A headline in the Evening Mail says: "Georges Clemenceau Arrives. Ruined Nine Wilcox Putnam's Gown." Lots of folks wondered what the old Tiger had been doing until they found out that was the name of a dog just arrived to be mascot for the Princeton football team.

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k, I have con- candidate. As a favor to conserve the public pays for d as one deeply inter- public school system, will times for its best inter- these reasons I ask the sup- the voters."

Mr. Woodworth's Fine Tribute C. A. Woodworth, who previously had announced his candidacy for this office, withdrew in favor of Colonel North whom he knew only by reputation, and issued the following statement:

"I believe that Colonel North and myself would appeal to a great extent to the same class of voters. Our business experience has been somewhat along the same lines and if I remained in the race, considering that Colonel North has a more intimate contact with public business pertinent to school affairs, I would simply be moved by selfish and personal ambition.

"Too often the voting public has been confused by a multiplicity of candidates, who in major matters had the same desirability, and therefore I am pleased to withdraw from the race in Colonel North's favor."

ONE BRIGHT SPOT IN ASTORIA TOWN

Municipal Auditor Ira G. Nelson, of Astoria, is doing wonderfully efficient work. He is popularly capable, energetic and conscientious in the handling of all duties. His devotion to his work as a servant of the people has evoked general plaudits.

Notwithstanding Mr. Nelson's eminent efficiency his official head was demanded recently by the Autocrat of All the Astorians, but as yet the ukase is disregarded.

Mr. Nelson is a stickler for law enforcement. For example: He accepted the resignation of an alien who was employed as an assistant in his office. This was done in compliance with the new state law, which prohibits the employment of aliens in that capacity. The Municipal Autocrat immediately ordered the reinstatement of this employe and enforced his demand through pressure upon the City Commission.

COL. NORTH IDEAL FOR SCHOOL BOARD

(Continued from Page 1) nation, its prestige and glory. Deeply to his regret he was not accepted for overseas service, but was commissioned to reorganize the National Guard, with the rank of Colonel. He did this important work with wonderful efficiency, winning many encomiums from the War Department. At the conclusion of the war he turned the Guard back to the former officers and went on the reserve list, ready at any time for another call.

Member of Fraternities Colonel North is a member of all branches of the Masonic Fraternity, and is a member of the Odd Fellows, Elks, Woodmen of the World, Modern Woodmen, Royal Arcanum, Portland Chamber of Commerce and many local clubs. He and Mrs. North have an interesting family of three young sons and a daughter, residing at 181 Fifty-third street.

Asked for a statement of his candidacy, Colonel North pledged himself to the welfare of the public schools, recognizing them as the most important of American institutions of liberty. "Every dollar of the taxpayers' money should be expended efficiently," he said, "with school business conducted with the same economy as is given to the best regulated private business."

"Because of my familiarity with buildings and their construction, and business matters in general," the Colonel added, "voters of District No. 1 have suggested that I possess the qualifications of a Director, and as

100 NATURALIZED ABOVE THE CLOUDS

Heaven Pronounced Benediction Upon Spectacular Scene in Sierra.

FRESNO, Cal., June 14.—One of the most unique Klan ceremonials ever held in the history of the order was staged here recently when 100 candidates were naturalized 7100 feet above the sea level in the midst of the rugged Sierra mountains.

The ceremonial was held at night and two crosses were used. One of them was 30 feet high and another 40 feet high was placed on a peak overlooking the surrounding country and was visible for miles.

As the beautiful words of the benediction "Enter thou into the Empire Invisible and repose thy soul in perpetual peace" were said, a thick, gentle fall of snow began to softly filter down as if heaven, too, had pronounced its benediction on the scene.

After the ceremonial, a banquet was served at a hotel nearby and when it was over there were nine inches of snow on the ground.

MAJOR POWELL ACTS ON PLAN FOR BOYS

Major Luther I. Powell, acting upon ideas frequently advocated in The Western American and upon resolutions adopted by Portland Klan No. 1, has issued an Imperial Proclamation of the establishment of the National Junior Order KNIGHTS OF THE INVISIBLE EMPIRE, of which he signs himself as Generalissimo. The new order is incorporated under the laws of the state of Washington. Major Powell authorized the publication of The Ideals of the Junior Order, which embody the Klan principles, but detailed publicity cannot be given in The Western American until Mr. Gifford, the Imperial Representative, shall have given the requisite authority.

KLAN BUILDS FINE HOME FOR ORPHANS

HOPE COTTAGE, a splendid home for orphan children, costing \$75,000, has been completed by Dallas Klan, No. 66, Realm of Texas, and will be opened at Dallas in the next few weeks. The Imperial Wizard and other officers will attend the dedication.

Hope Cottage will house 100 orphan babies. It is a modern fire-proof structure, strictly down-to-date. It adjoins the great hospital for the care of crippled children now being erected by the Shrimers.

Hope Cottage will be formally turned over to the city of Dallas as a philanthropic gift.

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