Gifford Appeals for American Boys In Formation of Junior Klan Order AGAINST THE KLANS

By FRED L. GIFFORD,

Grand Dragon of Oregon and Imperial Representative West of the Rockies

with a stenographic report of Fred L. Gifford's address at the first manual meeting of Grand Dragons, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, held at Asheville, North Carolina, in July, 1923. One cannot estimate effects of the address without considering the speaker's charm of personality and power of eloquence. He was at his best on this occasion, for "Better Boys" is his hobby, and his appeal for executive action to establish an order for Junior Klansmen had the desired result. Meanwhile, Mr. Giffords mail, and that of The Western American, is being deluged with letters from boys asking for information and application blanks; they are eager to join, everywhere, A fine Portland lad writes to the editor: "I am a boy 16 years old, six feet one luch tall, well advanced in school, and weigh 160 pounds. Why can't I join the Khan!" He was told in answer that, considering his height, weight, and American spirit, he wasn't a boy, but a MAN, etc. This is the burden of many such missives, showing the Junior Order plans to be necessary and popular. An announcement by the Imperial Wizard is expected at an early

WE ARE DEALING here with ways and means of providing safeguards and helps for the American Boy in particular, but for the boys of the world in general, for, if we succeed in our purpose of making the average American Boy what he ought to be-godlike in character-his influence for righteousness in world affairs of the immediate future will sway the destiny of mankind. Our boys are the masters of posterity, we must win them for this glorious cause.

In America we have many fraternal orders for the benefit of men and women. These have wrought nobly in the development of the fabric of Americanism. Though the boy's welfare is supremely important, since he is the leader of tomorrow, the ruler of posterity, he has been too much neglected and a lesser effort, instead of the greatest possible activity, has been made generally in his behalf. The Y. M. C. A., the Boy Scouts of America, the De Molay and various church organizations have done much, indeed, but have fallen far short of the wholesale achievement and permanent service which the growing needs of the boy require. This fact cannot be disputed, while we have in every-State a so-called reform school and houses of industry for the homeless and wayward sons of deficient or delinquent parents. These institutions, in which each boy is a separate problem, are established to teach self-respect, self-reliance, and all the things which a son should learn at home, church and public school. Lacking these advantages, the State is trying, usually with crude and antiquated methods, to teach the erring young mind the practical advantage of living upon the plane of the lawabiding citizen-to prevent boys who are the victims of a serious wrong start in life from becoming criminals. So, thousands of boys are herded in "reform" schools, where the worst teach the best all that they know of sin and crime. These places today, for the most part, are mere training schools in vice, where the wayward boy learns bad habits and wrong ideas through constant association with vicious companions. This is a general complaint throughout the land. We should remedy the conditions which produce bad boys and bad men, and we can do it. The abolition of the infamous liquor traffic was a long step toward the American ideal. We must stand by the President and State authorities in the strict enforcement of this beneficent law.

Causes of Delinquency The principal causes of delinquency and degeneracy among the boys are divorce, poverty, and the godless home.

Thousands of small boys are sent to the "reform" school e they have no home, often becoming lifelong dependents in character before they are old enough to think straight, or to make their own living. The lack of provision for these innocents is a crying shame and disgrace throughout the nation. The Klans of Oregon, I am happy to report, recently voted in the Klorero to donate approximately fifty thousand dollars for the building of a Children's Farm Home, thus helping substantially in a splendid cause. Many homeless small boys in Oregon have been sent to the reform school, not because of any delinquency, but because there was no other place to send them. The lack of provision for these innecents is going to be corrected in Oregon, but this is a national problem and must be met as such.

In the case of the average lad who goes wrong at an early age, the authorities should deal, in a disciplinary way, with the I)cannot conceive of a negative decision on this proposal. careless father and gadabout mother, rather than with the boy. The greatest conceivable achievement is to develop all that is good in the average boy; to promote by wholesale, upon a national scale, godlike character in the rising generation of boys.

Our public schools can give far greater help, with proper improvements-help beyond calculation in the reclamation of deficient boys, and in the mental and spiritual development of the normal ones. Scientific mental tests, now being established, show startling facts concerning the relation of intelligence to misdemeanor. The scientists declare that when the accuracy of such tests is demonstrated, and removed from the trial stage, the present methods of treating sin and crime will be revolutionized completely.

Few boys who are committed to a reform school possess the ability to think straight. They require kindly, sympathetic study of their derangement. To punish such children is both useless and unpardonable. Every such institution should establish psychopathic treatment for mental disorder, and a psychopathic treatment should begin in the public school.

In the solution of this great problem, the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan can help enormously. This is a co-operative, spiritual movement for the betterment of all Americans, and for the boys of our Nation in particular. We can make the Klan a mighty educational force, demonstrating that

"Mind is the master power that moulds and makes, And Man is Mind, and evermore he takes The tool of Thought and, shaping what he will, Brings forth a thousand joys, a thousand ills-He thinks in secret, and it comes to pass: Environment is but his looking-glass."

Let us, then, never blame environment, for conditions can be changed by the powers of the mind in each individual case.

(In response to the general demand, we are pleased to becent here. The great need is for men and boys to think straight, and to harmonize their lives with the natural and spiritual laws. "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." This aphorism embraces the whole of man's being. It reaches every condition and all circumstances of life. Every act springs from the hidden seed of thought. Every habit is the blossom of thought, and joy and suffering are its fruits.

> About twenty years ago the Imperial Valley of Southern California, now a veritable garden of Eden, was a bare waste of sand and silt, without vegetation of any kind. An engineer saw the possibilities of the rich sediment which had been de- lowed in rapid succession. The operposited there through the ages, and irrigation from the Colorado ations of these lawless mobs have no river was the result. The agricultural miracle was developed been confined to any one section of speedily, but with it came the weeds, the tares and the thistles. the country. Indeed, it would seem It required a major effort of science to overcome these pests and that there is a directing head to these to conquer the insects and other destroyers which threatened the life and prosperity of the great Valley. Science was triumphant and today the Imperial Valley is the breadbasket of Southern that there is widespread prejudice California. As with plants, so it is with the human species, also afflicted with "weeds" and pests, which poison and starve the springs of the mind and dwarf the godlike qualities before they get a chance to unfold. The mightiest efforts of science today should be exerted in behalf of the children, and if the Klan will throw all of its resources and influences into a nation-wide crusade for the betterment of boys and girls, it will earn thereby Klan centers everywhere indicate that the admiration and esteem of mankind.

"If one endure in purity of thought, joy follows him as his own shadow-sure." Wrong thinking develops negative qualities and conditions

-disease, sin, shame, failure and death.

The crying needs of the American boy, the sacred duty of every Klansman to protect and help them, are self-apparent to all and require no argument. It remains now for us to undertake the constructive task of providing a practical safeguard and dependable help for our boys, and through them, for all the boys in America and the world. If we provide this service for boys, the benefits and blessings will be shared by the girls, for obvious reasons. It will be a double blessing, developing into greater and manifold blessings throughout the future.

Boys' Auxiliary Suggested

It is with confidence in the sound common-sense of the Klan executives, in their humanity and wisdom, that I seriously and solemnly propose the organization, without delay, of a great Klan Auxiliary exclusively for the benefit of our Protestant boys. Many titles for such an order will be suggested. To begin with, let us consider the Junior Order of the Ku Klux Klan, Knights of the Invisible Empire.

This auxiliary, which can be made the medium for vast and enduring good, should admit lads ranging in age from twelve to will be shown at the Columbia theatre eighteen years. It can provide the training which all boys need beginning Saturday, Sept. 29. Pristhrough those critical and trying years of boyhood-bridging the gap of five and six years in their lives, until they are eligible to the adult Klan.

Think of the noble things that can be done for the boys through such an auxiliary, for the ones who need most the constructive and kindly service which I have in mind. They will be ate sets and a great deal of care in constrained to learn for themselves the secrets of life, the laws the costuming and technical work. In of thought and being which are involved in the development of the greatest accuracy a man noted as noble and godlike character.

The main object of the boys' auxiliary should be the serious Gubbins, work of character building through right thinking, by ways and filming means of klannishness which will appeal most strongly to the boyish heart. The best brains of the Klan should be applied immediately to the pleasurable task of devising the ritual and lodge work for the youngsters, and in doing this we must put ourselves in the average boy's place, mentally and spiritually, just as friend and alone in China. The people Booth Tarkington does in his wonderful stories of American boyhood.

This idea of a boys' auxiliary is yet in the realm of thought, but it long has appealed to me so strongly, after contemplation of the growing needs of our youth and of the manifold blessings that surely would accrue to all concerned in the movement, that

Appeals to the American Boy

The Klan idea will appeal with resistless force to the imagination and the heart of the average Protestant boy, to whom the Klansman, let us hope, is a true hero—the incarnation of all manly virtues, a knight "without fear and without reproach." The Klan boys' auxiliary, therefore, speedily would become the greatest order for boys, numerically and otherwise, in all America or the world. The first million members would be easy to enroll, and the millions to follow could be selected as rapidly as facilities would allow. They are by every reason entitled to have an auxiliary to the Klan. We seriously neglect and wrong them by failure to provide it. It would not matter whether the boy's father or mother is connected with the Klan movement. If not, the boy in his Klan could soon interest them and win for his benefactor their highest esteem. The membership should be composed of boys born of Protestant parents, and at the graduating age of eighteen, the lad would come into the senior Klan. The auxiliary should be easy of ingress for the poor boy, and every Klansman in prosperous circumstances should win for himself of great emotional possibilities. the blessing of donating memberships for as many poor boys as his means would allow. The glory of a Klansman is to serve, and this would prove an unexampled opportunity.

Think of the service which a million enthusiastic boys could give in all kinds of civic betterment work! They would be at izations, Bruce Guerin, Frank Lanall times the eyes and ears of the great Klan, its shield and buck- ning, J. Farrell McDonald, Mile. Rose Order's distinguished leaders, reler on many occasions, and they could co-operate in many ways Dione, Edna Tichenor and several turned from Seattle to Portland with with the Women of the Ku Klux Klan and with other constructive Protestant orders.

Lessons for Boys

Through this auxiliary our boys can be taught that man is made or unmade by himself; that in the armory of thought he (Continued on Page 6)

Directing Head of Outbreaks Plainly Working Out Definite Program.

Following the attack on Klansmen in the streets of Carnegie, Pa., August 25, resulting in the death of one Klansman and the wounding of more than 100 others, more or less seriousmembers of the organization have foloutbreaks, so well timed have they occurred, with the apparent object to force the general public to believe against the organization.

Object Not Accomplished,

If such is the goal which has induced enemies of the Ku Klux Klan to commit all degrees of crime from ordinary brick throwing to first degree murder, various reports from the mob violence of bigots is having just the opposite effect. Ever since the criminal activities inaugurated at Steubenville, Ohio, followed in quick succession by similar outrages at Carnegie, Pa.; Wilmington, Del.; Perth Amboy, N. J., and at other points with lesser degrees of violence, these crimes against law-abiding citizens has, it is stated, driven thousands of American citizens into the ranks of the Ku Klux Klan.

Tradesmen who have been enriched by loyal Klan patronage, and who now impudently advertise their wares in an enemy newspaper, are going to get what's coming to them from now on. Give each and all such ungrateful traitors a double dose of economic dis-

""NO" IS SPECIAL COLUMBIA FEATURE

A stage play of strong dramatic calibre is the basis of "Drifting," the Universal-Jewel special feature that cilla Dean, frequently called the "Dean of emotionalism," is the star of the creen version.

When Universal decided to make "Drifting" it was realized that the story would require unusually elabororder that this would be handled with an authority on Chinese life, Thomas

quire that her roles be strongly dramatic and full of human character Cassie Cook, the heroine of "Drifting," is a white woman without a she knows are opium sellers. She is one of then also and "Drifting" tells of her redemption from this life of crime. John Colton wente the play and A.

P. Younger and Tod Browning adapted it to the screen. Browning directed He is the one who directed Dean in "Outisde the Law" and "Under Two Flags."

On the stage Wm. A. Brady's production of "Drifting" was a success in keeping with the character of its presentation in New York, and the screen version is said to be as elaborate and interesting as the story indicates it

Wallace Beery of "The Flame of Life" and "Robin Hood," and who has been for some time the most popular "villain" of the screen, plays the "heavy" role of "Drifting" with his usual ability.

Anna May Wong, who was credited by Photoplay magazine with the best performance of the month a few issues ago, and who, the critics prophesy, will be the only oriental actress to gain a permanent foothold on the screen of America, plays a tragic role a Grand Dragon for the Realm of

in the leading masculine role opposite Mong, a master of oriental character- ary. China, as well as its great commercial metropolis. center, and very few Caucasians have penetrated into the Interior. Therefore "Drifting" should be unusually Telegram are not on your list of

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WASHINGTON GRAND DRAGON APPOINTED

Brown Harwood of Atlanta, Ga., Imperial Klazik of the Klan, appointed Washington at a Klorero gathering Matt Moore achieved considerable in Seattle Tuesday, amid great ennote in "The Storm" and he is cast thuslasm of the assembled delegates and Klansmen. The regular Klorero Miss Dean in "Drifting." William V. of Washington will be held in Janu-

Mr. Harwood, who is one of the other popular players are in the cast. Grand Dragon Fred L. Gifford and "Drifting" presents the neart of enjoyed a brief visit in the Oregon



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