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The Ku Klux Klan, what is it?.

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**THE
KU KLUX KLAN**

**WHAT
IS IT**

?

FOREWORD

In order to properly understand the KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN, the organization and what it stands for should be studied in its entirety, and not in a fragmentary fashion. Judging from the great mass of criticism that has been heaped upon the Klan, we who know the facts concerning the organization, cannot help but feel that the great majority of our critics have taken snap judgment, and really have no intimate knowledge of the organization. They do not even appear to know why it has been organized, what it is trying to accomplish, or for what it stands.

This thesis on the KLAN has been prepared expressly for the purpose of showing what the organization really is and what it is trying to accomplish in America.

We feel that a careful study of what is to follow, will furnish a much better understanding on this subject, and will correct in a large measure many of the false impressions concerning the Knights of The Ku Klux Klan, which have been given wide circulation in America.

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PREFACE

My Friends:

A complete explanation of the organization known as the **KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN**, should endeavor to answer three important questions:

Namely,

What is the **KU KLUX KLAN**?

Why is the **KU KLUX KLAN**?

How does the **KU KLUX KLAN** propose to operate?

It will be our endeavor to answer all of these questions in such a manner that there can be no further misunderstandings on this great subject.

A great many people through the press and in other ways have attempted to tell what the Ku Klux Klan is. There has been a great deal said, and a great deal more written on this subject during the past few years, by people whose only object has been to create in the minds of the **AMERICAN PUBLIC** a sincere hatred for this organization. The press of America has given columns of space to attacks against the Ku Klux Klan. These attacks have been conducted almost entirely by those who know little or nothing concerning the organization, or who knowing the truth, have deliberately misrepresented the facts for the apparent purpose of misleading the public.

You have doubtless heard about the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. There has been so much said and so much written, that you hardly know what to believe. Because of what has been said, because of what has been written, the chances are, if you have formed any opinions of your own on the subject, those opinions do not favor the organization. For this we cannot blame you, because your sources of information, or rather misinformation, on this great subject have been entirely controlled by those elements and forces in American life which by their

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very nature, are opposed to this organization or movement.

Have you ever stopped to think, however, that no one has a right to make up his mind concerning a particular proposition until he has all the facts, or at least until he has heard both sides of the case? No one can sit on a jury and render a just verdict unless he has all the facts. Yet we find people all over America, who are sitting in judgment on the Ku Klux Klan, who have not taken the trouble to learn the real facts concerning our organization. We who do know the facts concerning the Klan know this to be true. The Critics of the Klan, judged by the substance of their denunciations, speak without knowing whereof they speak.

It can be truly said that the press of America is controlled by the enemies of the Klan. Enemies who know what the Klan is, who know the things for which it stands, who know what it is trying to do, and who are fearful lest it should accomplish its purpose. Why the Klan has enemies will be apparent when you understand what the Klan is and what it is trying to do.

The enemies of the Klan can be divided into two great groups. One group knowing what the Klan is and for what it stands, is fighting the organization because it is afraid of the organization. The other group, not knowing what the Klan really is, and having been misled as to its real objects, purposes and aims, is fighting the Klan because of what it thinks it is.

We feel, however, that the rank and file of the great American public is at heart honest. We believe that the majority of Americans are willing to listen to reason and give us a fair hearing, provided, however, that we prove that we merit fair consideration for our claims and pretenses. Every honest man is agreed that it is manifestly unfair to condemn something about which he knows little or nothing, and as a result we have found that our public endorsement is in direct proportion to the number of people who know the real truth concerning this organization. If we did not have a real logical reason for being here, we would not have survived the storm of protest

that has gone up over the entire country concerning us. If our proposition did not merit consideration and approval, we would have long since been scattered to the four winds of heaven. But our proposition is based on well established and fundamental truths, and by virtue of this fact, we have been able to weather the storm and increase our numbers at a most unbelievable rate.

All we ask is a fair hearing. We want you to know our side of the story. We want you to know the truth as we know the truth. We can only present the truth to you by our own word of mouth and by our own printed evidence, simply because we cannot hope at this time to receive from the press of this country fair treatment or proper consideration of our claims.

Signed,

The Author.

THE KLAN AN ORGANIZED MOVEMENT

The Ku Klux Klan of today is an organized movement, having for its underlying object the making of America and America's future safe and secure for Americans, and the preservation for posterity, our children and our children's children if you please, of those sacred ideas and ideals that actuated our forefathers in the establishment and in the development of this nation. The chief desire of the Klan can be said to be to keep AMERICA, AMERICAN. We can further assert and affirm that there is nothing in the Klan, nothing in Klan doctrine, that honest, fair minded, loyal, patriotic, law abiding American citizens can object to. The things for which we stand are simon-pure American things. The things we advocate, the things we are doing, the things we want to do, are for the best interests of that America which our forefathers conceived, and which we are trying to preserve.

The Ku Klux Klan is not a lodge in the sense that is commonly attached to lodges. America has all the lodges that it needs. Our fraternal organizations and societies fill a large place in American life. They all perform a great work. However, the lodges and fraternal societies as we know them are purely speculative. They all teach a form of progressive moral science, which if lived up to and exemplified by their membership, helps to make the world a better place in which to live. The mission of all these organizations is to do good, to develop manhood and to teach righteousness. Their accomplishments along these lines are well known, and they need no further extolling on our part. However, none of the great fraternal organizations can be called operative. None of them have a definite, concrete, or active plan of activities that can be adopted by their membership and carried out into active participation in public affairs. None of them offer a practical, tangible or definite solution for the great and grave dangers and problems that are confronting America today.

OBJECTS OF THE KLAN

The Ku Klux Klan, as an organization, differs from the fraternal societies, in that it has a definite, positive, and well defined working program. The program can be called a platform consisting of certain specific things which the membership is desirous of putting into actual and effective practice here in America. The Klan offers no great system of speculative teachings. On the contrary it offers an operative schedule of intensive activity along certain well defined lines of endeavor. The achieving of well defined and specific objectives is the true purpose of the Ku Klux Klan. According to our belief there are certain specific things that must be done in America. Consequently there are certain things that we are trying to accomplish. We believe that the present and future welfare of America as a nation, and the welfare of Americans as a people, depends largely upon the accomplishment of these things.

The constitution of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, sets forth the objects and purposes of the organization as follows:

"The object of this order shall be, to unite white male persons, native born Gentile citizens of the United States of America, who owe no allegiance of any nature or degree to any foreign government, nation, institution, sect, ruler, person or people; whose morals are good; whose reputations and vocations are respectable; whose habits are exemplary; who are of sound minds and eighteen years or more of age, under a common oath, into a brotherhood of strict regulations; to cultivate and promote patriotism towards our civil government; to practise an honorable clannishness toward each other; to exemplify a practical benevolence, to shield the sanctity of the home and the chastity of womanhood; to maintain forever white supremacy, to teach and faithfully inculcate a high spiritual philosophy through an exalted ritualism, and by a practical devotion to conserve, protect and maintain the distinctive institutions, rights, privileges, traditions and ideals of a pure Americanism * * * * *

"This order is an institution of Chivalry, Humanity, Justice and Patriotism; embodying in its genius and principles all that is chivalric in conduct, noble in sentiment, generous in manhood, and patriotic in purpose. Its peculiar objects are: First, to protect the weak, the innocent, and the defenseless from the indignities, wrongs and outrages of the lawless, the violent and the brutal; to relieve the injured and the oppressed; to succor the suffering and the unfortunate, especially widows and orphans. Second, to protect and defend the constitution of the United States of America, and all laws passed in conformity thereto, and to protect the states and the people thereof from all invasion of their rights from any source whatsoever. Third, to aid and assist in the execution of all constitutional laws, and to preserve the honor and dignity of the State by opposing tyranny in any and every form or degree, from any and every source whatsoever, by a fearless and faithful administration of justice through due process of law; and to meet promptly and properly every behest of duty without fear and without reproach."

Inasmuch as all the activities of the Ku Klux Klan are governed by its constitution (the same being true with all other organizations having a constitution), it can be plainly seen that those who denounce the Klan as being, unlawful, un-American, un-Christian, illegal, or disloyal, have not even taken the trouble to read the objects and purposes of the Klan as outlined in our constitution. Those who contend that we are organized for the purpose of taking the law into our own hands, or of creating a law unto ourselves, or of attempting to destroy orderly processes of government, or of enforcing laws in our own secret or private ways, or of doing all the other illegal things we are charged with doing or attempting to do, do not explain the conflict of their claims with the expressly stated objects and purposes of the organization as outlined and set forth in what has here been quoted. Our enemies and defamors make no mention of these facts, and they do not tell the people our own constitutional provisions on these subjects. They simply attempt to create the impression

that the Klan is all bad.

Every Klansman in America, of which there are millions, has sworn a solemn obligation to live up to, and stand by the objects and purposes of the Klan as above set forth. We contend that no honest man, no loyal, patriotic citizen of America, no true Christian, can sincerely object to the objects and purposes of our organization as here given. We go further and say that no one who can lay claim to being a one hundred per cent American Citizen, having a full understanding of what constitutes real American Citizenship, can object thereto.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Having these objects and purposes in mind, membership in the Klan is limited or restricted to those in America who can best qualify as being capable of carrying them out. Our constitutional provisions which limit our membership to only those who we feel can be classed as AMERICANS in all that this term implies, are as follows:

"The qualifications for membership in this order shall be: An applicant must be a white male Gentile person, a native born citizen of the United States of America, who owes no allegiance of any nature or degree whatsoever to any foreign government, nation, institution, sect, ruler, prince, potentate, people or person; he must have attained the age of eighteen years, be of sound mind, good character, commendable reputation and respectable vocation, a believer in the tenets of the Christian religion, and one whose allegiance and devotion to the United States of America in all things is unquestionable."

We claim without fear of successful contradiction, that only those who measure up to the standards, or possess the qualifications as here outlined, can lay claim to being real Americans, and can best interpret or express the real spirit of America. Later we will offer evidence to prove that what we here contend is correct. Regardless, however, of what your personal opinion on the matter of what constitutes a real American may be, you must admit that we have at least limited our membership to a very high standard of man-

hood. We might add further at this time, that were it not for the fact that we have restricted our membership as here outlined, there never would have been any criticism offered concerning the Klan. It has been clearly established that the bulk of the criticism which has been directed against the organization, has come from, or been impelled by those who are denied membership in the organization.

PLATFORM OR PROGRAM OF THE KLAN

With our membership restricted as here outlined, and with the objects and purposes as herein set forth, the Klan has evolved or rather developed a program of activities, which we feel is in absolute harmony with our constitutional provisions on the subject, and which we further believe will accomplish those sacred objects and purposes in a practical, lawful, legal, and beneficial manner. While we do not say that a man in order to be a good, loyal patriotic American citizen, must belong to the Ku Klux Klan, we do contend that if he is an American in the fullest sense of the word, he cannot help but approve of the things for which we stand, and the things we are trying to help bring about.

Here are the things in which Klansmen believe, here are the propositions for which the organization stands; these are the things the membership has pledged itself to support; this is our platform or program of activities:

“The Tenets of the Christian Religion.

The Eternal separation of Church and State.

A belief in holding our first allegiance to our country and our flag, above every other kind of allegiance on the face of the earth and next to our allegiance to God alone.

White supremacy.

Protection of our pure womanhood.

Just laws and Liberty.

Closer relationship of pure Americanism.

The upholding of the Constitution of the United States of America.

Freedom of speech and of the press,
Closer relationship between Capital and Labor.

Preventing the cause of mob violence and lynchings.

Preventing unwarranted strikes brought on by foreign labor agitators.

Prevention of fires and destruction of property by lawless elements.

The limitation of foreign immigration.

A belief that the free public school system should be supported, extended and maintained on a higher level, because it is the corner stone of our free government.

A belief in supporting and extending the influence of the Protestant Churches in America.

Law and Order.

A belief that all laws should be obeyed by all the people, all the time.

That public officials and office holders are public servants, and must do their full duty at all times and in all places without fear and without favor.

A belief that all citizens should vote and take a keener interest in public affairs.

Complete and proper Americanization of all foreigners living under the protection of the Stars and Stripes.

And anything else of a laudable nature that has for its purpose the making of America a better place in which to live."

Can you, Mr. Loyal AMERICAN CITIZEN, honestly and sincerely object to this program of propositions for which this organization stands? What is there here set forth with which you can find fault? We defy you to find anything in this program that is not good American doctrine.

DUTIES OF CITIZENSHIP

Primarily and fundamentally the Klan is an intensely patriotic organization, breathing the spirit of patriotism and devotion to our country in every utterance. Not that we

claim to have a copyright or a monopoly on patriotism, but we do claim that we have given and are giving the subject a practical application. We do not proclaim our patriotism with brass bands, blaring trumpets, or flag waving spasms, but we are trying to make it mean something besides a mere spectacle to amuse the multitude. A display of real patriotism calls for genuine deeds of good citizenship. Practical patriotism means the doing of those things that are going to make America a better place in which to live, and preserving intact the ideas and ideals of Americanism as exemplified by our forefathers. Real patriotism goes deep below the surface and helps solve those problems, the solving of which means real stabilization of all those things which we like to look upon as American Ideals and Institutions. Therefore, unless a man understands the true spirit of America, unless he can grasp the fundamental ideas of true AMERICANISM, he cannot well understand the Klan, nor can he appreciate the things the Klan is trying to do. If the Flag of America and all that it symbolizes means nothing to a man, then the Klan can mean nothing to him.

We feel that the time has come in America for all honest, well meaning, patriotic citizens to take a more active, operative and dominating part in the great and small affairs of our State and Nation. The forces of evil have always been active, while the forces of righteousness have lain dormant, so far as real effective co-ordination of effort along proper lines is concerned. Lack of unity and organization has prevented the better elements of American life from effectively correcting the evils that exist. Most of us have been careless, or selfish, or self centered, or too busy with our own private personal affairs, to notice the rapid growth of those well organized and well established forces that have become so well entrenched that they now threaten our very NATIONAL EXISTENCE. The presence of these forces are apparent on every hand if we but take serious notice of what is going on all about us.

It is to effectively combat the forces of evil and lawlessness, the forces of un-American-

ism, the forces of destruction, the forces of chaos, that this organization has been called into being. It is to re-establish devotion to our government, loyalty to our flag, respect for constituted authority, re-establishment of the basic principles of law and order, and to re-awaken in the hearts and minds of all honest people a fervent desire to see righteousness and justice prevail, and honesty in public as well as private life re-established in this country, that the Knights of The Ku Klux Klan has been resurrected from the dead and commissioned to go forth on the mission of helping to make America and America's future safe and secure for Americans.

One of the leaders in the Klan movement recently expressed a sentiment that is typical of the spirit of the organization when he said:

"We believe that the duties of citizenship, properly understood and effectively functioning must be assumed both in public and in private life. * * *"

"It is a lamentable fact that on every hand we find people who make the claim that the laws of which they do not approve, and whose passage they did not sanction, should not be obeyed by them * * * ."

In fact we can find on every hand people who are obeying the laws they favor and violating the laws they do not favor. This is not a proper state of affairs. We must have laws for all or laws for none. We are a self governing people and as such our laws must be obeyed by all the people all the time.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Some people not fully understanding the structure or plan of our government, do not realize the menace or the danger of flagrant law violation. Ours is a government of the people. Our government functions by virtue of the consent of the governed. The people are in reality the government. Our government does not maintain itself in power through force or fear. Our government is not sustained and supported by a strong autocratic military machine, or by a secret spy or police system. These ideas of governmental power were left in the Old World by our forefathers

when they fabricated the structure known as
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The stability of our government can be said to rest on a foundation of respect for constituted authority. In other words Americans are instinctively presumed to understand the principles of "Law and Order". However, evidence can be gathered on every hand that points clearly to the fact that large numbers of our people do not understand what respect for constituted authority means. Law and order has but a small place in their lives. Instead of respecting constituted authority, they are rapidly becoming a law unto themselves.

No man who is himself a law violator of one kind, has a right to demand or expect protection for himself against other forms of law violation. It is contempt for constituted authority along certain lines that is rapidly breeding contempt and disrespect for all forms of constituted authority. All the people should be made to obey all the laws all the time, because America cannot continue to be a great nation half law obeying and half law violating.

If certain of our laws do not meet with popular approval, or if they do not express the will of the majority, the remedy lies not in flagrant violation of these laws, but in their repeal in an orderly, lawful and legal manner. As long as they are laws, we, the people of America, are duty bound to demand their enforcement and their universal obedience. The man who is caught stealing and sent to jail may not favor the law that sent him there, but that is no reason why we should tolerate his flagrant violation of that law.

The Ku Klux Klan looks upon the man who violates the eighteenth Amendment as being just as much a criminal and just as much a menace to society as the man who steals. Bootlegging in America is one of the most highly organized and profitable pursuits in the land. Yet the bootlegger and his patrons are all criminals and flagrant law violators. This particular form of law violation is demoralizing law enforcement, because there is no question but what every bootlegger in America is paying some law enforcement officer somewhere, money to keep him out of

jail. While this may appear to some to be a fanciful statement, still the fact remains, that arrests and convictions for the violation of our liquor laws are pitifully few in proportion to the volume of business that is being done in that line. If these violators are not paying money to keep out of jail, then why do they appear to be immune from punishment? To say that our law enforcing agencies cannot apprehend these violators of the Eighteenth Amendment, is to admit that we have placed blind men in the positions of law enforcement officers and agents.

By allowing this state of affairs to continue unchallenged and unchecked, we are allowing the whole fabric of our law enforcing machinery to become corrupt, allowing it to become honeycombed with graft. We are debauching the machinery of justice and law enforcement and making grafters of our public servants. Law enforcement to be effective must be operated impartially; without fear and without favor. It is the inherent right and duty of every patriotic citizen to demand that all the laws be enforced all the time, and that all the people obey all the laws all the time. The slogan of America should be,

"BACK TO LAW AND ORDER"

The Ku Klux Klan, and Klansmen as members thereof, demands that our public servants, our law enforcing officers, our prosecutors, and our judges perform their full duty at all times. We demand honesty and efficiency in public office. We contend that public duties should never be intrusted to those who lack moral courage, or who are not willing to regard a public duty as a public trust, and who cannot or will not render faithful service at all times and in all places. Our remedy lies in the ballot box. Klansmen recognize the fact that no citizen is a patriot who does not vote, and no voter is a patriot who does not vote for the right sort of men for public office. It is only by seeing to it that the right kind of men are charged with public affairs that we can secure honesty and efficiency in public office. The only way we can secure law enforcement is to demand law enforcement and back up our demands with our votes.

An organization should be judged by the enemies it makes. It is an illuminating fact that all the forces of evil, all the bootleggers, jail birds, crooks, political shysters, dishonest public officials, corrupt judges, jury fixers, gamblers, gun men, paid and professional labor agitators, owners of houses of ill fame, dope peddlars, dishonest lawyers, disreputable physicians, and the entire mass of law violators are opposed to this organization. During the controversy in Oklahoma between Governor Jack Walton and the Ku Klux Klan, the newspapers of Chicago carried the story that Ragan's Colts appropriated the sum of five thousand dollars to help Jack Walton in his fight on the Klan, and offered to send five hundred gunmen to Oklahoma for the governor to use as he saw fit. Anyone familiar with Chicago has heard of Ragan's Colts. It has the reputation of being the most depraved and lawless organization in America. More recently the newspapers carried several accounts to the effect that Egan's Rats, a St. Louis organization of gangsters, said to be similar in character to Ragan's Colts of Chicago, were helping the sheriff of Williamson County, Illinois in his fight on the Ku Klux Klan. The mob that attacked a Klan lecturer at Waukesha, Wisconsin, and broke up a public meeting which was being held in that place, with much violence and destruction of property (a clear case of law violation with no subsequent prosecution of the guilty parties on the part of the authorities), is another case in point. Everyone in Waukesha knows that this mob was organized and directed by the bootleggers and foreign law violators of the community. Other cases and examples could be offered in proof of the contentions here made, as the growth and development of the Klan is replete with incidents of this nature.

So you see that if you are also engaged in opposing the Klan, you are aligned with the forces of evil and are in partnership with the lawless elements of this Country. The reason these forces are fighting the Klan is because they see in it a powerful menace to their well-being, as they realize that the growth of the Klan means destruction for them. Therefore, if you judge us by the enemies we have

made, you cannot help but come to the conclusion that there must be some good in the things for which we stand.

You may contend that America does not need a special kind of an organization to bring about a condition of law enforcement and law obedience. However, have you ever stopped to think, that in a Republic such as ours, laws cannot be properly enforced if public sentiment is not in sympathy with law enforcement? **It is also true that laws cannot be enforced if public sentiment does not make itself or its presence felt. Our law enforcing agencies cannot work alone, or without support and co-operation. If after we pass laws, we turn our backs on those laws, leaving it up to the other fellow to enforce them without our aid or moral support, we soon find that the enforcement of those laws becomes lax and inefficient. If law enforcing officials do not feel the weight of public sentiment back of their program of law enforcement, they soon become derelict in the performance of their duties. Something must be done to arouse public sentiment in America to favor law enforcement. Something must be done to show the people of America the dangers that are confronting the nation through lack of honesty and efficiency in public office. What the Klan has done and is doing, is to arouse this public sentiment. We are trying to stimulate a greater interest in public affairs on the part of our law abiding, honest citizenry. The Klan can be said to be waking up America, arousing the spirit of America as it were, to the grave dangers that confront the nation on every hand. We are trying to show the honest people of America that the time has come for all of us to take a more active part in public affairs.

The Klan is not seeking to set aside the law, or to take the enforcement of the law into its own hands. On the contrary we are demanding that laws be enforced through due process of law. Every Klansman has pledged himself to support the government of the United States and every State thereof. Every Klansman is committed to a program of supporting, defending and protecting the Constitution of the United States and all laws passed in conformity thereto, and to go fur-

ther and offers his services if and when necessary, to help the constituted authorities in the proper performance of their legal duties. Ours is not an attempt to take the law into our own hands, but rather to strengthen and support the law. Ours is not an attempt to destroy American freedom, but on the contrary we are trying to help re-establish freedom and justice for all in this great land.

The charge has been made and often repeated, that the Ku Klux Klan is attempting to dictate or control the political actions of the people in America. Politicians and office seekers have charged us with attempting to run the government of the country. If demanding that honest, efficient, capable, loyal, upright, fearless men be nominated for and elected to public office in America, constitutes an attempt to dictate political action, then the Ku Klux Klan pleads guilty to the charge. If this constitutes guilt in the matter of attempting to run the government of the United States, then the Klan is indeed guilty.

It is only through mass expression that certain reforms can be accomplished. The ballot box offers the best medium through which the force of mass expression can make itself felt. If advocating these things here mentioned is UN-AMERICAN doctrine, then the Klan is un-American. If it is wrong to set a high standard for our public officials to measure up to, then the Klan is guilty of great wrong.

We want men in public office who serve for the public good, and not for private or selfish gain. Until that time comes in America the work of the Klan will not be completed. We must continue to work to make America safe for Americans, and we must hand down to our children and our children's children a heritage of which they can be justly proud. The handiwork of our forefathers in establishing our government and our free institutions was good, and they gave us a wonderful heritage. We must not violate the trust imposed upon us, by allowing our country to fall into evil ways, and by allowing the forces of darkness and lawlessness to gain the victory.

AMERICA A CHRISTIAN NATION

America is, or should be a Christian nation. The Klan as a patriotic American organization is a Christian organization. We believe that America owes everything it has to Christianity. We believe that the American people owe a debt of gratitude to Christ that they can never repay. America was settled by Christians, developed by Christians and established by Christians. Christianity has been the guiding star of our American civilization. Regardless of what your personal religious belief may be, you must admit that were it not for Christianity there would be no America as we know it today. In order for America to continue to be a great nation, in order for it to continue to be a free nation, we Klansmen believe that America must continue to be a Christian nation. With that belief firmly established in our hearts and minds, it is only natural that we proclaim to the world that the Klan stand for the Tenets Of The Christian Religion.

Ever since the world began, religion has occupied a high place in the affairs of mankind. As long as there have been people on earth there has been religion on earth. The religions of antiquity assumed various forms, and a study of them discloses some very interesting facts that have had a direct bearing in shaping the destinies of mankind. The coming of Christ gave birth to a new era. His teachings have produced a more beneficial effect on mankind than all others combined. His is a doctrine of love. It was the Spirit of the Living Christ that impelled our forefathers in the establishment and the development of America. We Klansmen are pledged to do all in our power to keep the SPIRIT of Christ alive in America. We are pledged to live as Christians and to do as Christians, and we have also dedicated ourselves to the proposition of helping to make Christianity the dominating force in American life. When you consider what Christianity has meant for America, when you consider what CHRIST has done for us, can you honestly say that advocating and championing Christianity is UN-AMERICAN? We Klansmen contend that no man can lay claim

to being a real American who is not a Christian. We claim this because we do not believe that a non-Christian can ever have or ever get the real vision of America, can ever understand what real AMERICANISM is.

While we do not stand for any particular sect or creed, we do accept Christ as the Klansman's criterion of character. No man can join the Klan who is not a Christian, simply because no one but a Christian could get the vision of the Klan. The Klan does not lay claim to being a church, neither is it offering a new brand of religion nor a new set of dogmatic rules of religious conduct. We are simply standing for the Church of Jesus Christ, and trying to aid to the best of our ability the propagation of Christian ideas and Christian ideals.

Our forefathers gave us a Christian heritage which we feel duty bound to maintain and support. We believe that as our civilization comes through Christianity, our free American institutions are based on Christianity, and that the spirit of America can best be expressed through the practice of Christianity. While we have no quarrel with the non-believer, recognizing as we do his right to worship as he pleases and whom he pleases, we feel we are absolutely within our rights in limiting our membership to Christians. This limitation has naturally been the cause of a great deal of criticism which has been heaped upon the Klan.

THE JEW AND THE KLAN

By virtue of the fact that membership in the Klan has been restricted to Christians, the Jew, among others, has been denied membership in the organization. We mention the Jew here because he represents a large part of the organized opposition to the Ku Klux Klan. Members of his race have attempted to claim that we have no right to establish such an organization. We believe that Jewish opposition to the Klan comes mainly from the fact that they are denied membership in the organization. They feel the organization is antagonistic to them on this

account. Because Jews cannot belong to the organization, they have set up the claim that the Klan is ANTI-JEW. However we cannot see any justification for their claims or for their attacks on us. We feel the fault lies with them rather than with us, as they bar themselves from membership in the organization by their denial of Christ.

The Jew is barred from membership in the Christian churches for the same reason that he is barred from the Klan. He cannot take certain of the higher degrees in Masonry for the same reason. Yet these various organizations from which he is barred because he is not a Christian, have not been charged with being ANTI-JEW. Let Jews become Christians and they unlock the doors that are now closed to them.

On the other hand the Jews have organizations, societies and fraternities here in America to which Christians do not belong. The B'nai B'rith is one of their organizations which could be mentioned. The Jew in other words practises the very thing which he condemns in others. Yet no one has condemned him for it, and no one has attempted to deny him the right to have and maintain his own exclusive organizations. In his attitude towards the Klan the Jew is manifestly unfair.

Inasmuch as the Jew has seen fit to ally himself with the other groups that are fighting the Klan, it might be well at this time to express our feeling on the subject of the Jew in America, so that our position will be thoroughly understood. Our Imperial Wizard, Dr. Hiram Wesley Evans, in a recent interview, had the following to say on the subject:

"It is passing strange that the Jew in America should be mobilized with the hostile forces against the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. He should find in the genius of this organization a guarantee of his own security. There are no rights or privileges asserted for themselves by the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, as native born, white Protestant Christians, that are not vouchsafed by that assertion to the Jew in his racial, religious and social life. Idealistic Americanism is the purpose to which members of the Klan are dedicated. Any man, whether native or

alien by birth, Gentile or Jew by faith, white or black by race, who so commits himself in his allegiance to his country that nothing is reserved, and in devotion to his flag that nothing remains uncommitted, is, and ought to be, not the enemy, but the friend of the Klansman, and the Klansman is his friend.

"From these patriots, such as compose the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, the Jew has been tendered the hospitality in America that has not been accorded him elsewhere on the face of the earth. He should keep in mind the freedom and protection that has been vouchsafed him by the white, native born, Gentile Christians who founded the Republic and fashioned its frame work in the equality of human rights.

"Just now the Jew is setting up the extraordinary claim of having discovered America, and of having been among the early settlers of Castilian extraction, upon these shores. If this claim should be conceded as a fact, the Jew should remember that his expedition across uncharted seas was not in the spirit of exploration or adventure, but that he was fleeing from the INQUISITION of the Roman Hierarchy. Granting that the Jew under the proud banner of Aragon and Castile, came among the first to America, his contribution to the world's greatest Democracy ended with the discovery of America. He explored none of its forests, he navigated none of its streams; he cultivated none of its soil; he developed none of its mines; he grew none of its products; he penetrated none of its unknown spaces; he cleared none of its jungles, and he colonized his race nowhere in America. It was only after the white, Gentile, Christians had won the American continent by conflict and sacrifice, that the Jew began to view America as his Mecca, or more properly speaking, as his latter-day land 'flowing with milk and honey.' The Declaration of Independence by Jefferson, the Bill of Rights by Madison and Jay, had been long organized into agreements of the people and by the people, before the Jew began to flow to this country in great tides of immigration. He fled to America from the Inquisition of Spain, from the massacres of Germany and Poland, and from the Pogroms

of Russia.

"The point however is this: The Jew came to America in considerable numbers only after the great American Republic was established, then for the purpose of taking asylum under the towers of Democratic government. He did nothing to wrest human rights from despotic power, or to found the institutions of human liberty. The Cavalier, the Puritan, the Quaker and the English Catholic, all Anglo-Saxon, all white and all of the Christian faith, had conquered a continent, had overthrown tyranny, and had established the American Democracy, before the Jewish nomad had found a guide book or the means of transportation to America.

"Consider the cordiality which has been extended the Jew by the American nation. He brought his racial, his religious and his social distinctiveness with him to America, and he maintains all these characteristics and peculiarities without restriction or even question as to his rights. The Jew has established his Temple and his Synagogue, and has worshipped God according to the dictates of his own conscience, and with none to molest him or make him afraid. He has maintained his racial integrity with none to gainsay his right to keep unbroken his lineage from Abraham. He has established his social right life and has shut his society and his family into his own race and into his own creed, without protest from others. The Jews are the proudest and most exclusive people upon the American continent. He admits none but a Jew to his church, to his fraternity, to his club or to his home.

"The Jew has engaged in the small trades in America. His economic value to society is that of the middle-man. There is no enterprise or industry of the inventive, creative or initiative sort to which the Jew can lay claim as his distinctive contribution to the public welfare in America. He has not by skill of the artisan offered anything to American idealism, or by vision of artist added anything to American construction. He has given the American people no impulsion to simpler and nobler life. The Jew has not increased the sum of American wealth. In the handicrafts he has not been the builder of houses and

bridges, or highways, but a maker of wearing apparel from wool and cotton and silk—and he produced and refined none of the raw materials. As a distributor he has been a peddler—a small dealer—a profit gatherer between the man who produced and the man who consumed. In finance he has been the money lender, the pawn broker, who, from the emergencies and tragedies of the poor derived his gain. * * *

“If one may be permitted to apply to the Jew a term of the order of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, he is “KLANNISH” and has maintained and demonstrated practical clan-nishness to the exclusion of all other peoples. There is an old old story of the recovery of the Jew from one of the tragedies of his history. He was emerging from the oppression of his conquerors, was seeking to rebuild his nation upon ashes and ruins, was striving to reclaim his civilization from the wreckage of the despoilers, and one of his great seers wrote, ‘They helped everyone his neighbor’ and everyone said to his brother, ‘be of good cheer.’ There is no finer statement of fraternalism or patriotism in human history. It is a declaration by the Jew himself of an ideal plan of co-operation in a great service that the Klan is undertaking to exemplify in American life. Those words might very well be carved on the portals of the IMPERIAL PALACE. They might be used as a motto and hung on the walls of every Klavern. The arduous task of saving the white man’s civilization, of maintaining Democratic institutions, of repairing the broken ideals of American life, why should not every Klansman help his neighbor and say to his brother ‘Be of good cheer’.

“Only this is true, the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, believing that the white man’s civilization is cemented with the morale of Protestant Christianity, the organization holds tenaciously to the Tenets of Christ. The order goes to the great scholar, the leader of the early Church, the Apostle Paul, the evangel to the Gentiles, to find its creed and its code of conduct. In his epistle to the Romans he carries the ideal of KLAN-NISHNESS to its highest levels, and in the twelfth chapter of that great exposition which

he makes of the teachings of Christ, he sets up a standard of character and of conduct, by which every true Klansman must measure his life."

This from Dr. Evans gives to you our conception of the Jew in America, our relationship to him, and our justification for the stand which we take for Christianity. While the opposition of the Jew to the Klan is founded on a fallacy, his opposition is clearly marked and has assumed vigorous proportions. Controlling as he does a large portion of the wealth of America, he is in a position to force at least a portion of the press of America to assume a hostile attitude towards the Klan. This fact can be logically advanced as being one of the reasons why the newspapers of America dare not print the real truth concerning our organization, and dare not tell the people the things for which we really stand, because they dare not offend the power of Jewish finance.

SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE

Along with our stand for Christianity, the Klan is pledged to support the eternal separation of Church and State in America. This stand has caused to be heaped upon the Klan a complete lexicon of criticism, ranging from the claim that we are opposed to religious tolerance to the claim that we are anti-Roman Catholic. We are also charged with attempting to stir up religious prejudices and animosities. However an analysis will demonstrate that our stand in this matter is in direct accordance with the American principles of religious liberty and freedom of worship. The Constitution of the United States of America, expressing the ideas of our forefathers on the question of religious tolerance, provides for religious liberty and freedom of worship by prohibiting Congress from passing any law respecting an establishment of religion and prohibiting the free exercise thereof. It is this Constitutional provision which the Klan is defending and supporting in standing for the eternal separation of Church and State in America. If we did not feel there was a real need for keeping this question alive in America, we would not advance it as a part of our program.

The Roman Catholic Hierarchy has seen fit to denounce the Ku Klux Klan in no uncertain terms. It is their avowed purpose to drive the organization out of America if they can by any possible means do so. Because of this opposition, it is no more than fitting that we should present the attitude of our organization on this subject. We will here again quote from our Imperial Wizard, Dr. Evans, who recently issued the following interview with respect to the attitude of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan towards the Roman Catholic Hierarchy.

"Upon no one subject is the public less informed or more in error concerning our position, than that of religious tolerance. The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan have for their position the absolutely American one of entire tolerance of all religious faiths, and the complete independence of religion from State control.

"The right to worship God according to the dictates of one's own conscience is necessarily one of the fundamental principles of human liberty. In the protection of this right in all its purity to the people of any country, it is absolutely necessary that the state be permitted no interference in matters of religion.

"Troubles which past civilizations have encountered have been almost without exception of a religious nature, and the dividing line between religious authority and governmental authority has been the rock upon which these religions have been wrecked and relegated to history. In protecting to all the people of this country their right to absolute freedom of worship, we find ourselves in the anomalous position of requiring religious devotees to abstain from religious meddling in matters of state for their own protection.

"It is an axiomatic fact that if the state has no right to interfere in matters of religion, and is separate and distinct therefrom, religions and religious differences and causes must not be injected into matters of state.

"The forces of Protestantism in America are singularly free from men who endeavor to use their church affiliations in matters of state or politics. The great Protestant Churches stamp with stern disapproval all

efforts to embroil them in political matters. The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, as a Protestant men's organization, regards the stand of the Protestant Churches as essential to the safety and perpetuity of American freedom.

"Our organization has been viciously attacked by the Roman Catholic Hierarchy because of our stand for the separation of Church and State. The individual Klansman recognizes the right of the individual Catholic to Worship God, pope or idol, as he sees fit, but the claim of the Pope that he is God's divinely appointed representative on earth complicates the Roman Catholic situation throughout this country.

"The age old chimera of the supremacy and the dominance of the pope over states no longer has force, not even in Catholic Italy, but the continued adherence to this doctrine indicates that the Roman Catholic Hierarchy is ever struggling for political dominance through religious activity. Jesus Christ answered this question of Church and State when he enunciated his well known doctrine, 'Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's and unto God the things that are God's'.

"It is significant that in matters of politics, the Roman Catholic Church stands peculiarly united. There is no fair minded person in all America who will not acknowledge this fact, and this makes necessary our attitude supporting Christ's principle of rendering to the State allegiance first in matters of State, and unto God allegiance always in matters of religion. The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan hold that if the doctrine of the Catholic Church is that the pope is God's divinely appointed representative on earth, and has the right of control over states, that doctrine is dangerous to this or any other free country.

"We believe this to be the real doctrine of the Roman Catholic Hierarchy. Their actions down through the ages, their written pronouncements and spoken words, ever have been in line with this belief of ours. We hold that the Roman Catholic, if he honestly believes the pope to be God's divinely appointed agent over all the earth, over all governments and people on earth, would hold first allegiance

to the pope and then to America. If we believed as they do that would be the line of our allegiance. We do not believe it and are not willing that persons participating in governmental affairs in this country should hold official positions without first acknowledging an unfaltering allegiance to the government under which they serve, and hold office. Adherence to this fallacious Roman Catholic doctrine produces an intolerable situation and much trouble seems in store for America until the complete separation of Church and State forever has been established.

"We would advance this doctrine for the believer in the superiority of the pope over the State that he take no part in the affairs of a Government which he is not prepared to support to the uttermost. The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan do not believe that persons of the Roman Catholic faith necessarily are unpatriotic, or in any way inferior to people of other beliefs, but we do hold that a system of Church government which claims dominance over state government is dangerous to the state.

"It is a significant fact borne out by the pages of history that the effort of the Roman Catholic Hierarchy in the past to dominate state affairs has led to more wars and more unhappiness throughout Christendom than any and all other causes for seven hundred years. In this country it is ideas and votes, rather than sword, battle axe or gun, with which we fight.

"The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan make this solemn pronouncement that until such time as the Roman Catholic Hierarchy announces Christ's doctrine of supremacy of State over Church in governmental affairs, we shall steadfastly oppose political interference of Roman Catholic organizations in political matters in America. If this is to bring upon us the heavy weight of Catholic persecution it is a cross which we will bear.

"We must enunciate and steadfastly strive to inculcate the wonderful principles, simple and sublime, which are contained in our American Constitution, and from which all the liberty loving people of the world have found their inspiration.

"Why is America the greatest nation on

earth? It is because every loyal citizen holds himself accountable to Almighty God for his actions, and holds himself amenable in every particular for service to the United States of America. We cannot allow any world wide system of religious teaching, highly organized and entirely secret, to gain control of the free channels of government in America.

"We have had too much tolerance in America for things that are destructive and ideas that are pernicious. For citizens of this country we should hold no hatred, malice or ill-will, but for ideas that are destructive of our sacred liberties, we should hold abhorance, and should sternly take our stand against their promulgation, and should take such steps as will protect the people from these hurtful theories and false principles. If this be religious intolerance, the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan bids the thinking people of America make the most of it.

"For the Roman Catholic as a man we are sorry, for the Roman Catholic Hierarchy as a semi-political religious organization we have an antipathy bred into us from the loins of our forefathers, the men who conquered the wilderness and built a nation, and set ablaze the beacon fires of liberty that all the world might see by that light the true road to happiness. The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan pledge themselves now and forever to stand between our country and any agency anywhere, which seeks to lay its hands upon our Holy American institutions!"

OPPOSE FOREIGN INTERFERENCE

The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan feel that a true interpretation of the psirit of America calls for positive and unmistakable resentment of any attempt on the part of a foreign king, prince, ruler, potentate, people or person, to interfere either directly or indirectly with the internal affairs of state or government in this country. This includes a member of an ecclesiastical Hierarchy as well as a civil personage. The fact that the POPE OF ROME claims his power by divine appointment, election or selection does not, in our judgment, excuse or exclude him from this classification.

The press of America recently carried a purported statement from the present Pontiff in which he defended his right to interfere in civil or political matters in all countries. As further and conclusive evidence of political interference in American political affairs on the part of Rome and the Catholic Hierarchy, we offer the following which is taken from an encyclical letter of POPE LEO XIII, dated January 1890, and addressed to the Roman Catholics in America.

"You have the voice of God speaking to you, and with pain and sorrow we are by duty to God and our Holy Father constrained to remind you of your faith when you vote as a citizen of this heretical nation.

"We call upon all lay Catholics having the means, education and acquaintance to become candidates for legislative offices, to sit in City councils or Boards of Aldermen, in the State Legislatures, the Congress and the Senate. It is in these places that you can do the most good for our HOLY CAUSE, to reclaim this continent, which was discovered by a Catholic, for the true Church.

"In addition to this valuable aid, they can do great good as members of law making bodies, by impeding and frustrating legislation not approved by the Church, by securing larger appropriations for schools under the direction and supervision of your worthy brothers and sisters; by having young priests appointed as chaplains in the Army and Navy."

Additional comment on such a document as this is not necessary to prove our claims on the subject of Roman interference in American affairs. Just a short time before the letter here quoted was written, in fact during the last year of the first administration of Grover Cleveland, the ambassador to America from Great Britain was recalled by his government at the urgent request of President Cleveland, because of the fact that the American people and the American government resented most positively an incident which came to light at that time and which was construed by the American people as being an attempt on the part of a foreign official to influence the result of an election which was soon to be held in America. The incident caused a great deal of

excitement at the time, public sentiment in America was aroused to a very high pitch, and the trend of American thought along the lines of foreign interference in American affairs was unmistakable. This same resentment should apply to all foreign interference in American affairs, regardless of the source. George Washington warned against foreign entanglements; the Monroe doctrine further emphasizes the American attitude along these lines, and we as loyal Americans, feel duty bound to contend for a preservation of the ideas and ideals of our forefathers.

The Roman Catholics claim that we have deliberately barred them from membership in the Klan. If you will refer to our constitutional provisions on the subject of membership in this order as previously quoted, you will not find anything that mentions the Roman Catholics by name, nor does it mention that membership is limited expressly to Protestants. Before joining our organization, every applicant who is otherwise qualified must answer the two following questions in the affirmative:

QUESTION: "Are you absolutely opposed to and free of any allegiance of any nature or degree to any cause, government, people, sect or ruler that is foreign to the United States of America?"

"Do you esteem the United States of American and its institutions above every other government, civil, political or ecclesiastical, in the whole world and will you without mental reservation take a solemn oath to defend, preserve and enforce same?"

These questions simply touch on the loyalty and devotion of the applicant to the Government of the United States of America. In other words, only those who can affirm allegiance to their country and their flag above every other kind of allegiance on earth are qualified for membership in the organization. We felt this to be fair and proper. If a man's affiliation with some particular religious sect is of such a nature that he cannot so pledge or affirm his allegiance, then the man and the religion is at fault, not the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.

While the requiring of an affirmative answer to the above questions operates to bar the

Roman Catholic from membership in the Klan, they have no justifiable right to contend against us on that score, because long before the present Klan was brought into being they had established a great secret organization, known as the Knights of Columbus, from which millions of Americans are barred, because they do place allegiance to their government and their flag above everything else on earth. Roman Catholics cannot deny that those who will not submit or subscribe to the supremacy of the POPE OF ROME, are barred from membership in their organization. However no one has attempted to deny to the Roman Catholics the right to have and maintain such an organization.

Direct, pointed and vicious attacks have recently been made against the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, on the grounds that we are attempting to advance a religious test as a qualification for holding office in America, which is forbidden in the Constitution of the United States. The charge is ill founded and a direct contradiction of the facts. We contend that the loyalty and devotion of all office holders in America to the Government of the United States in all things should be unquestionable. We contend that no man who cannot put his country and his flag above everything else on earth, is qualified to hold office in this country. This we feel is a test of patriotism. If it can by any stretch of the imagination be construed as a religious test, then we will plead guilty to the charge.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The position of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan on the public school question in America, is, or should be well known. To say that we as an organization stand four square behind the public schools, would be to put the case mildly indeed. A large part of our activities as an organization, have been, and will be directed along the lines of advancing free public education in America.

The free public school system of education in America has been described as being the hope and strength of our democracy. It has been truly called an AMERICAN INSTI-

TUTION, as it was born and reared on American soil, the seeds of which development were planted by our early protestant ancestors. This idea of free public education was not an importation from Europe, but is entirely of American extraction.

The spirit of Democracy was manifested by our Protestant ancestors as early as 1647 when they decreed by law that every town of fifty householders or more must build and maintain from the public purse a free public school, where all could have an equal opportunity for an education. From that humble beginning has been evolved our present day public school system which has no parallel in the history of the world. This system, born and developed on American soil has also been described by a recent writer as 'A native product of the freedom of the new world.' "

Our public school system has been the foundation rock of democracy in America, and this system starting in the early days and maintained to the present time, can rightly be called a protestant institution. It has always been maintained directly in line with the protestant ideas of freedom and national development.

One of the chief objectives of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan is to convince the right thinking people of America that the future destiny of our country depends upon the force and effect of our public school system. American citizens can expect the liberty of our republican form of government to endure only so long as the principles of democracy be nourished in the native soil of the free public schools. Our free government must be based on a loyal and intelligent citizenship, which can only be trained in the public schools.

The Roman Catholic Church, contending that education is a function of the church rather than the State, and maintaining its own system of parochial schools, is in direct conflict with the Ku Klux Klan on this question of free public education. This position of our organization on the school question, along with our stand for a continued separation of Church and State, gives additional cause for the Roman Catholic Hierarchy to attack us.

It is an established fact that Rome has never been a friend of free public education anywhere, and it is a most illuminating fact in this connection, that Catholic countries are at the same time the most illiterate. A glance at Mexico, our next door neighbor reveals this state of affairs. America's greatness has been achieved largely through the literacy of its people, and the high degree of literacy found in this country is traceable to the free public school system. Only an educated people can successfully govern themselves, and America's success as a self-governing nation is due to this particular cause.

We as Klansmen, interested in the future of our country, are standing on the proposition that all children in America should have an equal opportunity for an education. We contend that all education of the youth should be under state supervision or direction. While we are not attempting to deny to anyone the right to give their children a religious or sectarian training, we say that sufficient time should be devoted to general education under proper control and direction to assure to the coming generations proper and sufficient training to fight life's battles.

So you see why the Klan is standing square behind the free public school system. We favor the passing of a law that will create a department of education in the federal government, the head of which department will be a member of the President's cabinet, and the function of which department will be to aid and assist free public educational institutions with the full force and power of the government back of such aid and assistance. Today we have members of the Presidential cabinet who are at the head of various governmental activities incidental to our national life, and we feel that education should be put on a par with these other activities.

To protect, defend, extend and expand our public school system, to make it more efficient and more beneficial, to raise it to an even higher plane than it now occupies, requires the election of men to public office who are dedicated to this, and who believe in the public school system. America must ever be on guard to protect its own. Our pro-

tection lies in the ballot box, and all loyal Americans are duty bound to make use of that protection.

Before leaving the public school question, we have another matter to which we want to call your attention. Do not ever lose sight of the fact that America is a Christian nation. Furthermore, it is a Protestant Christian nation; over eighty per cent protestant if you wish to know. America was founded by Protestants, declared a free nation by Protestants, and it is still Protestant. One of the foulest and blackest pages in American history was written when God's word, the Holy Bible, was taken out of our public schools. This dastardly deed was perpetrated by a combination of non-Christian and non-Protestant influences, the naming of which at this time in a more specific sense is not necessary.

Our American civilization is a Christian civilization. All that we have we owe to our Protestant Christian ancestors who hewed this nation out of the wilderness. The Holy Bible was their guiding star, and it must always be the guiding star of American growth and development. The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan say that the Bible is going back into the public schools of America, just as fast as we can put a back bone into the gelatine spines of our citizenry who stood supinely by when it was taken out.

We Klansmen wonder where you Masons were when the Bible was taken out of the schools. It lays open in your lodge toom, and has a high place in all Masonic work. If it is necessary for your lodge room, why is it not necessary for our school rooms. We wonder where you were when this happened. We wonder if you were at home asleep in your beds, or locked up in your lodge rooms your tyler standing guard at your door. You should be ashamed of yourselves in this matter.

Yes—and you Odd Fellows—where were you when all this was going on? Is the Bible barred from your lodge room? If not, then why did you let them bar it from the school rooms? The good Samaritan gave aid and assistance and protection to an injured brother man. If you are real good SAMARITANS

your first obligation, your first duty as men is to the children of America who are soon to come after you. We Klansmen feel that no greater good can be done for the children of America than to give them God's Holy Word.

We also wonder where the Knights of Pythias were when all this happened. You who call yourselves "brave men", and who have given America a great fraternity based on the friendship of Damon and Pythias. Where was your friendship for the children of America? Why did you not protest against the perpetration of this foul deed? Is the Bible barred from your lodge room? Why did you allow it to be taken from your children's school room?

We wonder where the Methodists were when this happened. You who are the disciples of John Wesley—did you falter and fail in your obligations to your children? Yes and you Baptists—who take your name from the leader who dared defy the worldly powers of his day, and who suffered martyrdom that righteousness might prevail; we often wonder where you were when the Bible was taken out of the schools, and not a word of effective protest was heard from you. What do you suppose the Spirit of your leader, the Spirit of John the Baptist, thought of you when you allowed this to be done.

Presbyterians and Congregationalists, listen to us! You proud descendants of the Pilgrims and Puritans who first planted the seeds of religious liberty in America, who established the first public schools in America, and who put the open bible on the teacher's desk. Your ancestors carried their Bible nearest their heart, they suffered starvation and privation in the defense of their God given rights. You should hang your heads in shame when they are mentioned, because you have allowed foul hands to desecrate their handiwork.

So with all you Protestants and Protestant organizations. The blame lies with you. You have allowed the Spirit of the ever living Christ to be trampled in the dust. Against what have you been protesting? Why have you not stood true to your name? Why did you not protect and defend your own? Do you think the Bible should be kept from the

school room? Do you not want your children to receive some of God's Holy Word? Are you merely Christians on Sunday and pagans the rest of the week? You know as well as we know that coming generations need right training, and where else but to the Bible would you have them go to find it? What more fitting place to have and find the Bible than in the school room?

It is because you have all failed collectively and individually to do your duty at all times and in all places, that the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan has been resurrected from the dead, to do the work which you have neglected to do.

That we mean what we say when we say the Bible is going back into the schools of America, we offer in evidence the fact that many states have recently put it back in the schools. The governor of Kentucky recently signed such a bill. The Arkansas legislature recently passed the law, and other states have done likewise. We expect to vote for only those candidates for the legislatures who are pledged to support this proposition. Remember Klansmen fight with ballots, not bullets. We fight the American way and we believe that God is with us in our fight to put the Bible back into the school rooms of America.

We do not advance this with any special or sectarian ideas or propaganda in view, nor to advance the cause of any special denomination or religion, or to hurt or hamper any particular sect or creed. But for its moral value, for the real good that it will do, we want the Bible in the schools of America, where it can be read by the teachers at stated times without comment. We feel this is good American doctrine.

WHITE SUPREMACY

The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan have been charged with attempting to stir up racial animosities. We have been charged with being anti-negro and with drawing the color line. These charges have been lodged against us because of our stand for "White Supremacy", and because only white men are admitted to membership in our organization.

We cannot help but feel that those who make these charges are not familiar with the facts, and that they know not whereof they speak. We therefore feel that our position in this matter should be made clear.

Our doctrine of white supremacy is simply the doctrine of keeping the black race black and the white race white. This we feel is in strict keeping with Divine will, as we believe that God Almighty is responsible for the distinction between the races, and that it would be flying in the face of Providence to attempt to destroy that distinction.

The white race has proved its fitness to survive. It has proved itself the dominating, the most efficient and capable race on earth. When we stop and think a moment, we must admit that there would be no present day white race had it not been for the fact that our ancestors practised white supremacy. We believe that it is our duty to hand down to posterity as pure a heritage of white blood as our forefathers have given to us. We believe that any attempt to amalgamate the white and the colored or black races would prove disastrous. The history of fallen and decadent races support this contention.

Any man who would not object to having colored grandchildren playing about his knees in his old age, does not believe in white supremacy. Anyone who would oppose the marriage of his daughter with a negro, or his son with a negress, is a believer in white supremacy. It is a fact that the idea of racial intermarriage, miscegenation as it is called, is repugnant to the great majority of white people when members of their own family are concerned.

The idea of white supremacy is generally practiced in America on all sides. We Klansmen want laws passed in every state in the Union, making intermarriage between whites and blacks unlawful and illegal. We want to provide practical protection for the coming generations. We feel this is a duty we as white people owe to posterity. We feel such doctrine is Christian, and we feel it is American.

America is a white man's country. Its development and civilization is of white antecedents. With the black man we have

no quarrel. We want to help him develop along his own racial lines as a black man, not as a mongrel. We want him to have equal opportunity for an education, equal social rights, equal business rights, equal political rights, equal economic rights. However this does not mean that in order to help the negro, it is necessary to permit him to intermarry with white people, or to give him the same social rights and privileges we enjoy. His development should be as a black man, as nature intended him to be.

The man who advocates or condones intermarriage or intermixing of the blood of the two races, is a menace to both races and a menace to the future well being of America.

Recently a prominent Methodist minister condemned the Klan publicly for our stand for white supremacy. Not long ago this condemnation took the form of a resolution that was adopted by a conference of Methodist ministers. To such critics we say, if you oppose white supremacy why do you not practise what you preach? Have you ever allowed a negro bishop to preside over one of your conferences? Is it not a fact that it has only been recently that you have permitted your colored Methodist brethren to have their own colored bishops? How many Methodist congregations are there unless they be colored congregations, that would permit a pastor to fill their pulpits who had a colored wife? What Methodist conference would dare assign a negro preacher to a white congregation? How many Methodist ministers would willingly perform a marriage ceremony uniting a member of their family with a negro? We all know the answer to these questions. Therefore we contend that such criticism of our stand on this question of white supremacy is inconsistent to say the least.

In limiting our membership to white men, we have done what other organizations and fraternities have done. You Masons would not raise a negro to the sublime degree of Master Mason, nor would you set in lodge with a negro. The same holds true with the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. Yet none of these organizations have been accused of being anti-negro. A complete survey of the facts will show ample justification for our

stand in this matter. We are trying to give to the whole question a practical solution.

It is only by advocating things of this kind; only by bringing them to the attention of the people; only by organized and intelligent effort, that any real constructive good can be accomplished. It is only through organization, education and legislation that a practical solution for existing problems can be found.

FREE PRESS

The Klan believes that the press of America should be free from control by alien influence, religious sects, racial groups, political or financial powers. The press is a dispenser of news. It is a great educational agency, and a molder of thought, and as such should be truly American in every sense of the word. The press should tell the truth at all times without fear and without favor.

Yet we know the press of America is influenced by all the groups or forces here referred to, and that seldom is anything printed therein that is offensive or antagonistic thereto. Our organization can offer reams of evidence to prove that we have been deliberately misrepresented and misquoted times without number. Not that we are asking any favors from the press, but we do feel that we are entitled to have the truth told about us or be left alone.

The Protestant people of America cannot fail to recall the fact that time and again the newspapers have carried for days without end, headlined articles and accounts of scandals, divorce cases, murders, etc., in which Protestant ministers have been involved. The affair of Rev. Case and Mrs. Leland of Oak Park, Illinois is an example. The recent poisoning case in southern Illinois is another case in point, and many others of a like nature could be mentioned. However how much space and attention is given in the newspapers when similar misfortunes befall members of the Roman Catholic priesthood? How much space was given last year to the case of the priest who shot and killed his bishop in cold blood? How much space was given the priest in Ohio who just a short time ago shot and

killed his housekeeper? Or to many other cases in which priests have been involved which were permitted to see the light of publicity for just a fleeting moment.

Not that these things should not be published, as we are not attempting to protect anyone or any class from exposure when the facts warrant exposure. We do feel, however, that partiality should not be shown in matters of this kind, and that no organization or institution, be it religious or otherwise, should be permitted to so influence the printing and distribution of news that its own members are especially favored or protected to the exclusion of all others. The Protestant people of this country representing over two thirds the entire population of the nation, should long ago have demanded a readjustment of matters along this line, but they have not done so, and therefore the Klan has taken up the burden.

The same forces that are opposed to free public education are opposed to free press in America. The correct theory of education should be to teach people how to think, not what to think. This theory is however directly in conflict with those who oppose free education and free press. The enlightenment of a nation and the advancement of a people is in direct proportion to their freedom of thought. Freedom of thought cannot be a reality without freedom of press, and freedom of the press cannot be a reality in the fullest sense of the word without there being organized effort made to secure it. Politicians, religious groups, racial groups and special interests all influence the press of America. Why cannot the great mass of Americans who are the real backbone of the country also influence the press of the country? It can be done when people are awakened to the necessity of doing it.

FREE SPEECH

Freedom of speech—another great American right should in no way be tampered with, or denied to Americans in America. The enemies of the Klan movement have done and are doing all within their power to prevent

loyal American citizens from exercising this right. Many times lecturers for our organization who have attempted to make public addresses, have been mobbed. Many peaceable assemblies of Klansmen and their friends have been broken up unlawfully, by the enemies of free speech. In most instances the law enforcing authorities of the communities where these outrages have taken place, have aided and abetted the law violators. This is the weapon that our opponents use to prevent us from telling the people the truth.

Often halls and other meeting places rented to our organization for public meeting purposes, have, under the influence and pressure that was brought to bear on the owners, by the enemies of free speech, been taken away from us and their use denied us. The truth hurts and our enemies do all in their power to keep the truth from being told. However the death knell of that sort of thing has been sounded in America, and Americans are coming into their own.

THE KLAN AND THE FOREIGNER

The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan have been accused of being anti-foreigner. What to do with the foreigners in America, congested in our large cities and living according to foreign customs and habits, and showing a total disregard and lack of respect or appreciation for things American, has become during the past few years a most serious problem. The Klan is not anti-foreigner in the sense that our enemies would have folks believe. Being a patriotic American organization the Klan is Pro-American. Being Pro-American in a practical way, our desire to Americanize the foreigner in America is a most sincere one.

The only way our foreigner problem can be solved, and it is a problem that needs solving, is to Americanize those that are already here. It is an established fact that the great bulk of our present day criminals in America, by far the larger percentage of the inmates of our penal institutions, the majority of law violators, are foreign born or the immediate offspring of the foreign born who have been reared in an un-American atmosphere. Lack

of understanding of American ideas and ideals, lack of understanding of American institutions and principles of life, is largely responsible for this condition. We contend that those who live in America, those who enjoy American prosperity, those who live under the protection of the Stars and Stripes, should be taught to love and respect their adopted country, and should be made to respect its laws, customs and habits. They should make of themselves useful citizens in this great commonwealth. The Klan wants them all to be real Americans.

During the past thirty or forty years the bulk of immigrants coming into America have come largely from Southern, Eastern and Southeastern Europe. Coming from conditions entirely different from those found here, and with entirely different ideals of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, than is common in America, we find they have not melted in the so-called American melting pot in any considerable degree. Only a relative small percentage of this class ever becomes citizens of the United States, less than half of them ever learn to speak the English language, and only a small percentage of them ever own or live in their own homes. They have brought with them their interests in their mother country, and a large portion of them have looked upon their stay in America as a temporary sojourn. Instead of our being able to Americanize them, we have stood in danger of being foreignized by them.

Someone rises to exclaim that it was the foreigner that made America, and that we are all immigrants or the descendants of immigrants—all of which is true. However the kind of immigrants who made America are not the kind who have been coming here in such large numbers during the past thirty years. The kind that made America, came from North Europe and were largely of Nordic stock. The Anglo-Saxon, Nordic peoples of Europe are the ones that made America. The Latins, Slavs, Semetics and Greeks had nothing to do with the matter at all. The Nordic peoples who have come here have stayed here. They became citizens, they learned our language, they developed our country, and if we have what can be

called a real American stock, these people are the ones who compose it.

If American ideas and ideals of freedom, liberty, justice and national development are going to be preserved and advanced for future generations the Nordic and Anglo-Saxon peoples are the ones who are going to do it. This is because they represent the free peoples of the world. The North European, that is to say, the German, the Scandinavian, the Hollander and those from the British Isles are true American's own flesh and blood, and when they come to America they harmonize with American life, they fit into the American scheme of things, and they all with rare exceptions make ideal American citizens.

We Klansmen believe that the future of our country depends largely on the future type of citizens who live here. We believe that we have a right, as Americans, to limit membership in the American family to those who by racial training and heritage can be properly and rapidly assimilated into American life.

This problem has been solved for the time being at least by the passage of the Johnson Immigration Bill, the terms of which are well known, and which is, we believe, the most beneficial piece of legislation that has been passed during the past thirty years. Needless to say the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan contributed their share in the effort expended for its passage. We now recommend that America take advantage of the opportunity afforded this nation, and do all possible to, in a sane, practical way, to make real Americans of the foreigners within our gates.

America should have no room or place for the German-American, the Italian-American, the Polish-American, the Scandinavian-American, or any other kind of hyphenated Americans. They should all be Americans in all that the term implies. That the influence of the foreigner in America has become very marked can be demonstrated, when one refers to various political campaigns and various candidates for office. Often we hear of and read of discussions as to who or what party will catch the German vote, the Italian vote, the Polish vote, etc., but seldom if ever do we see the question raised as to who

will catch the American vote. That seems to be left entirely out of the picture; it is simply taken for granted.

THE KLAN AND LABOR

The question of the Klan and Labor has often been raised. Our attitude towards labor is simply this: We want to see a closer relationship established between capital and labor in America, and we want to see American influences dominate the labor movement in this country. It is practically as established fact that a large part of the more recent labor troubles can be attributed either directly or indirectly to the influence of the foreign labor agitators. Or if not to the foreign labor agitators, then to those forces at least that are un-American in their make-up, or are out of harmony or sympathy with the spirit of America.

We believe that the problems confronting labor can best be solved without the aid or assistance of any foreign influence whatsoever, and that more friendly and satisfactory relationships can be established between employer and employee, when American influences dominate the labor organizations.

Organized labor must clean house, must take the control of its affairs out of the hands of those who are un-American, and who would seek to disrupt their institutions. Foreign immigration has created a dangerous situation in the ranks of labor, and we want to see that influence checked and made impotent. The leaders in the labor movement should be selected by the membership with great care.

When labor comes to realize that the paid and professional gunman and slugger is a menace to labor's well being, then will they raise labor to that higher plane where it rightfully belongs. When the employers of labor realize that those working for them are men and deserve and are entitled to be treated as men, then harmony will be re-established.

The Klan is with organized labor in America, when organized labor is right, and we know that with Americans only on guard in the labor movement, it will be in good hands and never be very far from right. The Klan

movement, being as it is a movement of the masses, welcomes American labor, otherwise qualified, into its ranks. There is no class distinction in this organization. All have a place in its ranks and there is a place for all.

PURE WOMANHOOD

The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan believe in protecting the sanctity of the home and the chastity of our pure womanhood. The home is the foundation of the nation. America to be great must be a nation of homes. Family life should be developed and extended to a higher level than even now prevails in America. The foundation of the home is pure womanhood. Man was early charged with the duty of protecting woman. Civilization has sprung from that. It is a subject that needs careful consideration. American men should blush with shame at what we have allowed to go on in America.

Our organization is pledged to do all that we can at all times and in all places, in a legal, lawful manner to protect the sanctity of the home, the chastity of womanhood, and to make America safe for the women of America. The wife beater, wife deserter, the wife betrayer, the non-supporter of his family, has no place in the Klan. We are sworn to protect the women of America and we propose to keep that obligation.

In our opinion, organized vice, protected licentiousness and prostitution, has no place on American soil. This business should be driven out of America, because it is eating into the very heart of the manhood and the womanhood of the country. It thrives and is protected in all sections of our land, and to destroy it is the avowed intent and purpose of our organization. We say that this fair land should not be polluted by the foul vultures, the denizens of hell, who thrive on the business and who prey on the young womanhood of America. The forces controlling and directing this business are the enemies of America, and when the righteous indignation of the people of this fair land is raised to the proper pitch, all forms of organized and protected vice will be driven forever from the land.

THE KLAN A CHRISTIAN ORGANIZATION

While the Klan is not sectarian or denominational when it comes to matters of religion, we regard ours as a militant Christian movement, actuated by the Spirit of Jesus Christ who is the Klansman's criterion of character. We recognize the fact that the church is and has been the best influence for good that we have had in America, and that the spirit of Jesus Christ as taught and exemplified in the Protestant Churches must prevail in America if ours is to continue to be the land of the free and the home of the brave.

We, as Klansmen, stand for and believe in the very things our Protestant preachers have been preaching and teaching for generations in America, and we are supporting them in their great work throughout the land. Our democratic form of American government can survive only if our Protestant churches survive. Our Protestant churches stand hand in hand with our free public schools as the anchor rock of democracy and free institutions. A man to be a good Klansman must be a good church member. It is the history of this movement that wherever the Klan is well organized the attendance and interest in the Protestant churches has been greatly benefited.

No man can be a good American, a good patriot, a good Klansman, who does not recognize his obligation to Christ and who does not stand square behind the church in America.

We feel that our organization is Christian in principle and practice. We are not trying to tear down or destroy denominational lines, but are trying to strengthen the force and effect of the Churches by uniting the man power into a great organization, guided and directed by the ever living Spirit of Jesus Christ, to do the things that are necessary to be done to help preserve the freedom of the new world.

Heretofore the strength and force of the Protestant churches in America has been greatly hampered by lack of proper organization and co-ordination of purpose. Only in unity and harmony can we accomplish

great reforms, and the Klan by welding the man power of America into such an organization as we now present, can help to accomplish those things for which the churches have been striving for a long time past.

Remember that the forces of evil and destruction and darkness are well organized, well fortified and well entrenched throughout this broad land. Only by a greater, more powerful organization can we hope to overcome them. The forces of righteousness have the man power, but it must be organized and welded together. This is what the Klan is doing. Our doing this will strengthen the hands of the churches and make them more effective, more of an influence for good than ever before.

Many other subjects could be discussed, many other problems brought to your attention to show the attitude of the Klan, what it believes in and what it is trying to do. They are however all along the same lines as those here mentioned; all for the good of America.

The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan in vigorously and aggressively advocating the various things for which it stands, has been accused of stirring up the people, and of agitating or fomenting trouble. We Klansmen plead guilty to this charge of stirring up the people. It is the same charge which was lodged against Christ when they brought him before Pilate. But who would have heard of Christ had he not stirred up the people? Where we would be today would be hard to imagine, had Christ not been an agitator. The world in fact has progressed only through agitation, only through stirring up the people, and the Klan believes that America needs stirring up if she is to protect herself from danger.

Agitation, criticism, stirring up the people if you wish to call it that, to be effective must be constructive, must be remedial, if it is to be effective and produce beneficial results. Needless to say, we believe our program to be constructive in a most practical way.

WHY MEMBERSHIP IS LIMITED TO NATIVE BORN

The Klan has been condemned because

membership therein is limited to the native born. This has caused us to be most severely criticized on all sides. It has been used to emphasize the charge that we are stirring up racial animosities. We do not regard it as a justification for any sort of criticism. Ours is an American organization, organized to advance the interests of Americanism and to help preserve the ideas and ideals of our forefathers. We have therefore limited our membership to those who we feel are best qualified to interpret the spirit of America. Other organizations with specific objects in view have limited their membership in accordance with the objects of their organization. We have simply done likewise.

The loyalty and patriotism of many of our foreign born is above question, but they cannot be regarded as Americans in the fullest sense of the word. You cannot by law declare or decree a man an American, neither can you make him one in fact with us, simply by giving him naturalization papers. To give him equal rights with us, to grant him citizenship in fact, is one thing, but to instill into him the fundamental ideas of Americanism is quite another. The one can be done by process of law, but the other cannot be accomplished by any such short cut method.

Those of you who have a step mother know that even though your step mother be a wonderful mother to you, you cannot ever bring yourself to the place where you could give her the same amount and degree of love and affection that you would give to your own mother. It would be unnatural for you to do so. So it is with the foreign born. To him America is his step mother country, and no matter what transpires, his love for his own mother country is bound to be still a part of his life. That is natural and we would not want to change it if we could.

The foreigner in America should recognize in the Klan a protection for him as well as for us, because in protecting to Americans these sacred rights and privileges that are the very bone and sinew of the structure of our nation, we are at the same time guaranteeing to him, a preservation of those same rights for himself and his posterity.

DIVISIONS AMONG THE PEOPLE

We have been accused of causing divisions of the people here in America and of foolishly setting one class against the other. To this charge we reply by saying that the divisions were already here before our organization came into being. In fact we offer the divisions among the peoples of this country as the contributing factor in calling the Klan into existence. What more potent cause of a division among the people could we have than the parochial school systems which are maintained all over America. These systems create divisions among the coming generations, and have created divisions in the past. Children trained in the parochial schools are brought up in an entirely different atmosphere, are in fact given an entirely different prospective of life than those trained in our public schools. Various racial groups with their distinctive customs and habits, various religious groups with their wide divergence of thought and beliefs, with a large sector swayed and dominated by foreign influence, have all produced divisions among the people that are almost insurmountable.

We feel that Americans should be a united people, that the divisions now existing should be cemented together into one harmonious whole, into one homogenous people as it were. America should be for Americans, and Americans should be for America. This can only be done by all the people uniting on a common ground of understanding, which common ground must be dominated by the spirit of our forefathers who brought forth this nation from the wilderness. Their ideas and ideals have stood the test of time. The principles of Americanism as defined and set forth by them must continue to be the principles by which our nation lives.

A REAL NEED FOR OUR ORGANIZATION

Believing in the things we believe in, feeling that the promulgation of these things are necessary to the life of America, having a fervent desire to see these things made a real living part of our national life, we as Klans-

men feel there is a real need for our organization. Things cannot be accomplished by wishing for their accomplishment. Things can only be done by doing. The end must always have a means. Reform can be brought about only through organization, education and legislation. You cannot achieve the one without the other. Without organization nothing can be accomplished, because organization is simply unity of action and co-ordination of effort. Our organization sets forth these various undertakings as our goal. These are the things in which we believe, and while we do not expect everyone in America who possibly might endorse our principles to believe that such an organization as ours is necessary to help accomplish these things, we do say that if anyone can show us a better or more practical way to accomplish them, there are millions of Klansmen in America who are ready to adopt that better way.

All great movements, all great reforms, every movement which has had for its object the making of the world a better place in which to live has come from the masses of the people. A study of history reveals this fact. Christianity, the greatest force in life came up through the masses of the people. The French Revolution was a movement of the people. Our own American Revolution was a movement of the people. So through all history we find reforms coming from the mass of the people. The Klan movement in America is a movement of the people. It is an organized effort on the part of the otherwise inarticulate mass of loyal, law abiding, patriotic, Christian American people, to do the things necessary for the preservation of America.

WHY THE SECRECY OF MEMBERSHIP

Everything for which our organization stands, we proclaim to the world. We have no secrets about what we are trying to do. Our membership is secret, which is in fact the one secret of the Klan. For maintaining this secret we have been accused of all manner of things of which we have not been guilty. It has caused grave doubts to go up as to our true purpose, it has caused us to be condemned on all sides.

Yet we hold this maintenance of secrecy of

membership to be our right. We have adopted this secrecy of membership as a defensive measure, and defensive measures are always criticized by the enemy. We keep our membership secret simply because we have enemies who are trying to destroy us. Klansmen who are known as such have been subjected to criticism, ridicule, boycott, intimidation and physical violence. A modern version of the old INQUISITION system has been adopted by our enemies in their efforts to break up this movement. It has only been due to the fact that they did not know who the Klansmen were that these efforts aimed at our destruction have so far met with failure.

We can also point to many precedents in history to defend our right to maintain secrecy of membership. As previously stated all great movements of a reform nature have started among the people. We can add that practically all the successful reform movements have also been born and developed among the people in secret. Christ himself, kept his identity as the SON OF GOD, a secret until just a short time before his crucifixion. Our early Christian ancestors, the pioneers of the Christian movement, kept their identity as Christians secret for several hundred years. All this was done simply because enemies were trying to destroy them.

The American Revolution is said to have been developed in secret, and the Boston Tea Party was a secret undertaking. The abolition movement, having for its object the destroying of the institution of slavery in America, was a secret movement. Masonry was long practised in America in secret, and it has been disclosed that Henry Clay, the great Kentucky Statesman, lost the nomination for the Presidency at the hands of his party, because he had been exposed as a Mason. So this idea of secrecy has long been practised with laudable motives in view.

In fact we of today admire those sterling forebears of ours who accomplished their purpose in a secret manner. We know that their wisdom in adopting this practice has been fully justified by the results attained. We feel the Klan is right, is justified in following their example. Our only desire is to do the things we have set out to do, and we contend

that the end justifies the means, so long as the end is laudable and honorable, and so long as the means employed is honest and upright.

To anyone wishing to know who the Klansmen are, our reply is this: they are native born, white, Gentile, Christian American citizens, who are engaged in an honest respectable, worthy business or vocation, of good character and commendable reputation, whose allegiance, loyalty and devotion to the Government of the United States of America in all things is unquestionable, and who put their country and their flag first, above every thing else on earth. If these qualifications do not speak well for the character of the membership of this organization, then those who criticize are very hard to please indeed.

WHY THE ROBE AN HOOD

The snow white robe which Klansmen wear is simply part of our regalia and signifies Christian purity. The hood which covers the face of the wearer is also part of our regalia and is a symbol of our secrecy of membership. The robe and hood are worn only for ceremonial and initiatory purposes, which is also the purpose of regalias used by other organizations. To say our regalia is used for unlawful purposes is to accuse the Klan of doing what it has been organized to combat.

The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan have weathered the storm up to the present time, because our proposition has been right. The Klan is here to stay until its work shall have been accomplished, and until America has in reality been made safe and secure for Americans. Our forefathers gave us a wonderful heritage when they gave us America. Our duty is to hand down that heritage to posterity untarnished and unblemished by the hand of the ruthless despoiler.

To all those who would attempt to lay their foul hands on our free American institutions, to all those who would attempt to uproot the foundations of our American democracy, the Klan says "THUS FAR SHALT THOU GO AND NO FARTHER". We propose to stand as a solid phalanx against all the forces of evil and destruction, for God, for Christ, for our Country, for our Flag, for each other and for our Homes.

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