

Ku Klux Klan Defies Laws, Says Former Senator Williams

New York, Sept. 17.—Under the caption, "An Elder Statesman Takes Stock of America," L. C. Speers, writing in a late issue of the New York Times, gives the opinion of John Sharp Williams, former United States Senator from Mississippi, on the present-day Ku Klux Klan.

Prefacing that part of the interview in which the veteran statesman touched on the hooded order, Mr. Speers says: "Mr. Williams was asked what he had to say about the Klan menace. Like a flash he answered: 'Never will be more in earnest.'"

"I resent," he exclaimed. "The assumption of the name Ku Klux Klan by this present day organization. It has no right to the name. The original Ku Klux Klan was a secret organization formed for the preservation of law and order, civilization and the white man's code of ethics and his family life, to be asserted against a saturnalia of negro and carpet-bag corrupt political rule. It was an organization of white men, decent men, Catholics and Jews were members, as well as Protestants."

"That Klan, which was the only Ku Klux Klan, carried through a gigantic revolution with less bloodshed than any revolution of comparable importance ever carried through on earth. Having restored local self-government and eliminated negro and carpet-bag rule, the Klan of which I speak, dissolved."

"As for this so-called Ku Klux Klan we now hear so much about—it is not an organization of people who are asserting law and order. They are defying law and order. They have not the excuse that the Government whose laws they defy are corrupt and usurped. They have no place in this Union of ours. Under the circumstances, assenting to secret society government by force and by intimidation carried to the extent of flogging and at times killing, is simply a confession of the total breakdown of democracy."

"When civil government is established and opinion is free, there is and can be no excuse for such rule as this, unless it be that its objects cannot stand the glare of the sunshine. Preaching intolerance of Catholics and Jews, and adding to it negro baiting, is surely not a very high standard of citizenship, to excite not mildly, if Jews and Catholics or negroes are dangerous to the American Republic, the danger can be made clear by public discussion. But, of course, they are not dangerous. The very suggestion is ridiculous."

"However, I think this so-called Ku Klux Klan is going to pieces. As far as I can see, it has virtually gone to smash already."

Fr. J. Rheams Heads St. Viator College; Fr. Kelley, Loyola

Chicago, Sept. 17.—The Rev. Robert M. Kelley, S. J., assistant to the Provincial of the Missouri Province of the Society of Jesus, has been appointed president of Loyola University here, succeeding the Rev. William H. Agnew, S. J., who will engage in parochial work in the parishes in charge of the Jesuit Fathers.

Another administrative change of importance just made in educational institutions of the Archdiocese of Chicago, is that of the appointment of the Rev. J. V. Rheams, C. S. V., as president of St. Viator College at Bonarona, Ill. Father Rheams is a graduate of the Class of 1906 at the institution which he will now administer.

Father Rheams is a native of Chicago and formerly taught at Holy Name school in this city. He once was an instructor at St. Viator's and later became dean of studies, an office he fulfilled with much credit. For the past five years he has been master of novices at the novitiate of the American Province of Clerics of St. Viator at Chamberlain, S. D.

Nuns Aid Fellow Passengers Hurt in Train Wreck

St. Louis, Sept. 14.—Sister Mary Anthony and Sister Rose Vitor of Providence Hospital, Kansas City, Kansas, did heroic work in the caring of the injured in a wreck of a Rock Island train near Centaur, a few miles from St. Louis, a few days ago. The Sisters of Charity were en route to St. Louis to attend the sessions of the Missouri Kansas Conference of Catholic Hospitals at the St. Louis University Medical School. They steadfastly refused to divulge their names to newspaper men, but during the sessions in St. Louis they were recognized and their identification established.

The prompt organization of a dressing station by the Sisters immediately upon the scene of the disaster and their skillful bandaging and administration of antiseptics probably saved the limbs and lives of a dozen victims.

Test in Cleveland School
Cleveland, O., Sept. 12.—St. Procop's parochial school here is one of a few Catholic schools throughout the country cooperating with the Catholic University in a test to determine the percentage of loss in attention to pupils as a result of the vacation period. The test will include determination of how much time is required by the pupils to learn the lesson.

'Callahan-Murphy' Film Offends Yet, C. A. McMahon, Says

Washington, Sept. 17.—The "so-called revised print" of the film "The Callahans and the Murphys", which aroused widespread opposition when it first appeared, as being offensive to Catholics and to the Irish race, is "as disgusting and insulting as ever" and is still unacceptable, it is declared in a letter which Charles A. McMahon, Director of the N. C. W. C. Motion Picture Bureau, has written to the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Corporation of New York, producers of the film.

Mr. McMahon states that he and representatives of the National Councils of Catholic Men and Women all agree in this verdict after witnessing a screening here of the revised picture.

The N. C. W. C. Bureau, he says, "Therefore sees no grounds to recede from its original position, when it called upon the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Corporation to withdraw this picture from circulation."

"Despite the nation-wide protest of hundreds of organizations affiliated with the N. C. W. C. together with protests from smaller groups in every part of the country" the letter continues, "your company persists in forcing this picture upon unwilling exhibitors who were unaware of the offense it would contain when they contracted to show it in their respective territories."

"To their credit, a great number of self-respecting exhibitors have already signified their intention of not showing this objectionable photoplay, despite the fact that you will force them to pay under contract."

Mr. McMahon points out that in spite of delations, the picture still identifies the Callahans as an Irish Catholic family, then draws them as disgusting, drunken people.

"We are all in agreement," says the letter, "that this unwarranted caricature of the Irish people is as disgusting and insulting as ever, and feel that those who are protesting against this picture on the grounds of its offense to the culture, refinement, modesty and purity of the Irish character are fully warranted in voicing their indignation and continuing their protests against this picture."

35 Missioners Going To African Fields

Ridgefield, Conn., Sept. 15. Thirty-five young missionaries of the Holy Ghost Fathers, are being sent to Africa this month. Two of them are sailing this week from New York. These are the Rev. Francis FitzGerald, C. S. Sp., and the Rev. John Kelly, C. S. Sp.

Father FitzGerald hails from Boston. Father Kelly entered the ranks of the Holy Ghost Fathers from Philadelphia, which has been for nearly forty years a center of the Holy Ghost Fathers' home mission activities among the American colored population.

Benedictines Start First High School Of Order In Ohio

Cleveland, O., Sept. 13.—The first high school in Ohio under direction of the Benedictine fathers was opened here yesterday in St. Andrews parochial school building.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Issued Weekly From the Publicity Bureau, New Haven, Conn.

Detroit Knight Made Priest in Rome

A first solemn Mass of unusual interest was celebrated recently in St. Leo's Church, Detroit, Michigan, in place of the usual youthful celebrant there was a priest whose black hair was slightly tinged with gray. He was the Rev. D. E. Perrin, member of Detroit Council, No. 305, and former Detroit druggist, who was ordained in Rome a few weeks ago at the age of 48.

Father Perrin was assisted by the Rev. Fr. Hugh McCarthy as a co-celebrant and the Rev. Fr. Robert Benson as subdeacon. The Rev. Fr. William P. Murphy, D. D., pastor of St. David's Church, preached the sermon.

Celebrate Homecoming of Brother Flaherty

To celebrate "the homecoming" of James A. Flaherty, who resigned as Supreme Knight at the recent supreme convention of the Knights of Columbus, held in Portland, Oregon, members of Philadelphia Council, No. 196, arranged a special reception on Tuesday, September 13.

K. of C. Secretaries Show Official War Movies

Through the co-operation of the Eastman Kodak Company, the Knights of Columbus secretaries accompanying members of the American Legion on the voyage to the convention in Paris, were able to give the legionnaires and their friends something unusual in the way of entertainment.

Council Sponsors Contest for Catholic Children

San Salvador Council, No. 174, New York City, announces a contest open to all Catholic children of Manhattan and to sons and daughters of members of San Salvador Council in which prizes will be offered for the best essays on the subject, "What Can the Knights of Columbus do to Help Catholic Children of Manhattan?"

State Deputy Swift is Appointed to Board

Supreme Knight Canady has appointed State Deputy John E. Swift of Milford, Massachusetts, to the Supreme Board of Directors to fill the vacancy created by the death of Brother William C. Prout, of Boston. His term of office will expire September 1, 1928.

LOST AVIATOR WAS KNIGHT

Phillip A. Payne, one of the three flyers lost when their plane, "Old Glory," plunged into the Atlantic in their attempted flight from Old Orchard, Maine, to Rome, Italy, was a member of Barrett Council, No. 1273, West New York, New Jersey.

Knight Give \$1,000 to Hurricane Victims

The Supreme Council has contributed \$1,000 to the Marine Disaster Fund organized for relief of sufferers in the hurricane that swept the southeast coast of Newfoundland shortly after daylight, Thursday, August 25th. Sixty fishermen lost their lives in Placentia Bay and boats, wharves and fishery outfits for two hundred miles along the coast were seriously damaged.

Knights' Auto Monthly Aid to Motorists

The September issue of the Ka-Se-Ac Monthly is an example of a finely balanced and thoroughly readable motor magazine. This monthly is published by the Knights of Columbus Automobile Club of Philadelphia Chapter, at a subscription rate of two dollars per year.

They Reached the Top

Joseph Gurn, in October "Columbia," tells the story of Catholic men who have reached the presidency of some of the great railroad systems of the country. The list of Catholic railroad presidents includes the following: Angus Daniel McDonald, president of the Southern Pacific lines in Texas and Louisiana; P. E. Crowley, president of the New York Central Lines; Lawrence A. Downs, president of the Illinois Central; W. J. Harahan, president of the Chesapeake and Ohio; Edward Francis Carry, president of the Pullman Company, Chicago, Illinois; William T. Noonan, president of the Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh Railway; James E. Gorman, president of the Chicago, Rock Island Pacific Railway; J. J. Bernet, president of the Erie Railroad; and Charles Donnelly, president of the Northern Pacific Railroad.

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Seven Take Final Vows In Society Of Divine Word

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Tehany, Ill., Sept. 17.—Seven young men took their perpetual vows in the Society of the Divine Word at St. Mary's Mission House here Sept. 8, when 24 renewed and nine pronounced their first vows.

Japanese Priest's Work Winning Own People In Brazil

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Maryknoll, N. Y., Sept. 17.—Father Dominic Nakamura, Japanese priest laboring as an apostle among the emigrants in Brazil, writes that he has hope for numerous conversions in this field.