

State, Federal Action Blocks Revival of Klan

Washington — (NC) — Federal and State authorities have prevented a widespread revival of the Ku Klux Klan by vigorous attacks, but the leader's order is not yet dead in this country.

Surveys have disclosed that the Klan is active in a handful of States, but the threat of criminal prosecution by authorities has discouraged a grand scale revival.

These surveys indicate that Klan activities are being carried on in Georgia, Mississippi, Florida, Tennessee and California, but nowhere has the order been able to reestablish itself as strongly as it was entrenched in some parts of the country a score of years ago.

Indications are that greatest revived Klan activities have been in Georgia, where Gov. Ellis Arnall has initiated court action to revive the Organization of the United Kluxers. The Governor has called upon the Federal Bureau of Investigation to prove his charges that the revived Klan is linked secretly to the outflowed German-American Bund.

In Kentucky, the corporate rights of the Klan have been renewed through a Circuit Court order. Attorney General Eldon S. Dammitt filed the suit, charging that the Klan had gained corporate privileges falsely on the claim that it was a "renewed and reorganized" organization. No one appeared to contest the suit.

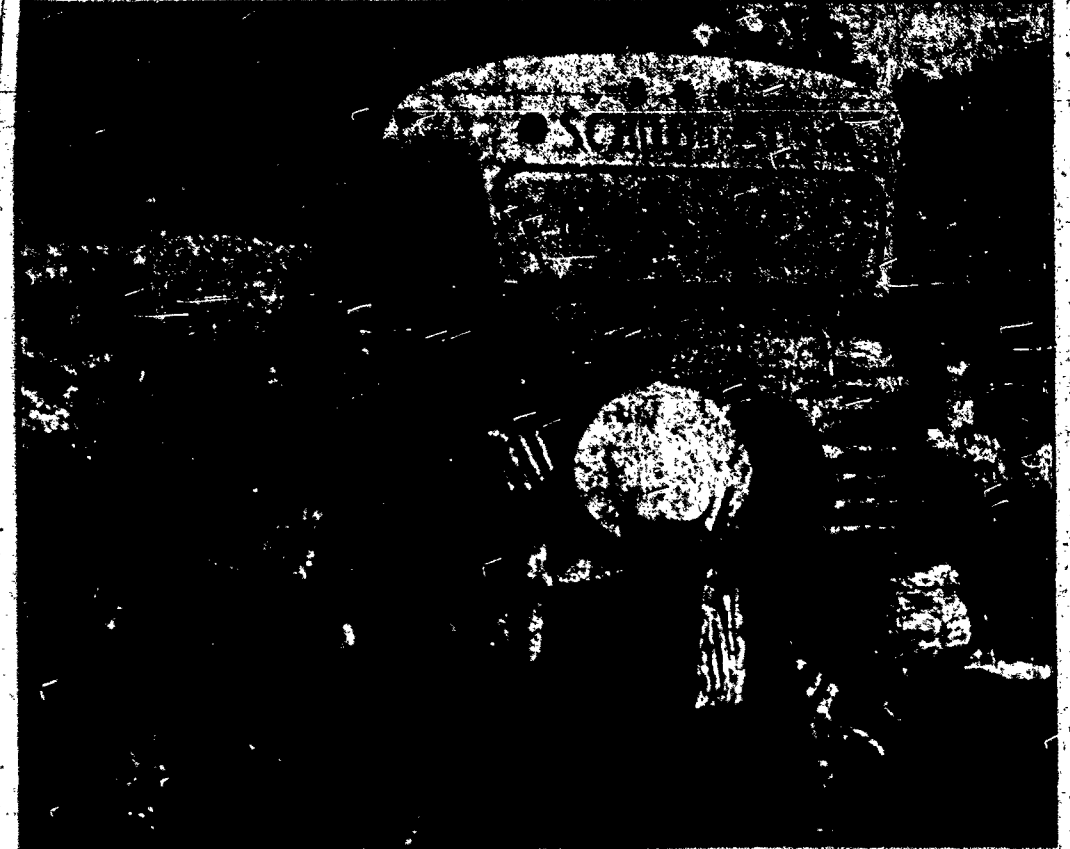
Charter revocations also have been effected in California, Kentucky and New York, while New Jersey currently is preparing to go into court in a similar move.

There have been reports that the Klan has been operating in Maryland under the guise of the American Shores Patrol, Inc., W. O. Jessop, secretary of the Patrol organization in an interview with the Baltimore Sun, said that there is no connection between the Patrol and the Klan, but that "any call issued by Atlanta would meet with immediate response" in Maryland. Atlanta formerly was the Klan's headquarters.

In addition to action taken or contemplated by State authorities, the FBI has been alerted to step into the picture whenever evidence of Klan activities in suppression of civil liberties is uncovered.

Klan activities are being surveyed in Texas, Michigan, Minnesota, Alabama, South Carolina and Pennsylvania. A checkup has revealed that the hooded order retains charters in Arkansas, Missouri, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois and Indiana, but has made no moves toward active revival in any of these States.

Parochial Students Ride Buses Despite Ban



Taking matters into their own hands, students of St. Patrick's parochial school here (shown in photo) boarded buses run by the town's school board after the board had barred them from riding the vehicles. A crowd of American flags, children marched through the streets here from their school to public Council-ated School — here the buses were parked. Authorities made no move to enforce the school board ruling. (RNS Photo)

SCHOOL BUS ISSUE GOES TO COURT

Kennett Square — (RNS) — A petition signed by 65 taxpayers here was filed in the Chester County Court asking the ouster of 23 school directors of the Kennett Square Consolidated School District for refusing to allow parochial school children to ride in buses operated by the school board.

Filing of the petition followed a demonstration earlier in which some 150 students of St. Patrick's Parochial School here marched through the town and boarded the buses in defiance of the board's edict. No attempt was made at that time to stop the students, but the board had stated earlier that it would apply for police protection, if necessary, to enforce its order.

Most of the signers of the court petition are parents of students at St. Patrick's. They allege that the directors "neglected their duty in that they failed to furnish transportation to all children of compulsory school age living in the district, and specifically, in refusing parochial school children the use of their buses."

Monks to Rebuild Abbey — Chicago — (RNS) — Three Benedictine monks from St. Procopius Abbey, Lisle, Ill., have left for Braumoy, Czechoslovakia where they will help to rebuild the St. Venecianus Monastery there which was virtually wiped out during the war.

Bring on Truant Agent, Says Dad

Kennett Square, Pa. — (RNS) — Paul Connell, father of a ten-year-old student at St. Patrick's Catholic parochial school here, threatened to appeal to the courts if his daughter is refused transportation in public school buses.

Connell asked permission to place his daughter, Catherine, aboard the bus while it was heading in front of the public school. He was then told by T. Timothy Rayne, of an order banning parochial school students from buses.

However, Connell said he intended to notify the truant officer, who also is truant officer, and tell him that Catherine would not attend school.

"I understand that if a child is absent for three days, the parents are summoned before a magistrate," he said. "If I am summoned, I will take the case to court and get it settled. I believe the state laws say that transportation has to be furnished for children living two miles from the school."

1 OF EVERY 3 U. S. MARRIAGES ENDS IN DIVORCE

Washington — (NC) — One divorce for every three marriages that is the official record for the year 1947, ending which the number of divorces granted in the United States reached an all-time high of 502,000. In 1938, the divorce total was 218,000.

Statistics published by the Federal Security Agency in its first national report on marriages and divorces reveal this picture:

There were 1,618,331 marriages in 1947, representing an 11.4 per cent rise over the 1946 total, but 8.7 per cent below 1942, the peak year for marriages.

There were 502,000 divorces in 1947, an increase of 29 per cent over the preceding year. Within a period of nine years, the divorce rate in the United States has almost doubled. Fairly steady at 1.9 divorces for each 1,000 population in 1937, divorces began to rise from the year 1939 on, reaching 2.9 in 1944 and 3.6 in 1947.

There were about 18 divorces for each 100 marriages in 1937; today there are 31 divorces for each 100 marriages.

The marriage rate reached its lowest point, 7.5 marriages for each 1,000 population, in the depression year of 1932 and reached a peak of 13.2 in 1942. Thereafter the rate fell to 11.0 in 1944 and then it rose to 12.3 last year.

The report, prepared on the basis of figures and estimates of the Bureau of Census, refrains from giving an explanation for the sensational rise of the divorce rate; it merely observes that the marriage and divorce rates rise with prosperity, including that resulting from wartime conditions, and fall with depression.

Bishop Appeals For Seminaries

(Continued from page 1)

proximately \$2,500. The Chancery report will be distributed at the churches next Sunday.

Three highest parishes in the Seminary collection last year were: Blessed Sacrament, \$3,007.50; Corpus Christi, \$2,242.51; St. Mary's, Rochester, \$2,000.00. Parishes contributing \$1,000 or more were: Sacred Heart Cathedral, \$1,576.50; St. Michael's, \$1,525.25; Holy Rosary, \$1,507.00; Immaculate Conception, Rochester, \$1,337.50; St. Patrick's, Elmira, \$1,300.00; Holy Family, Auburn, \$1,150.00; St. Mary's, Auburn, \$1,150.00; St. Michael's, Rochester, \$1,100.00; Immaculate Conception, Rhine, \$1,067.01; St. Ann's, Hornell, \$1,000.00.

Proof of Error Seen Check on Red Expansion

Chicago — (NC) — Soviet power politics cannot be checked by "a negative firmness alone, which rejects all further Russian advances," but by showing positively "that the Soviet idea of world order is not the right one, that the world outside the Soviet orbit is really able to solve its problems in a way which is superior to that of the Soviets."

This was the view expressed by Waldemar Gurian, professor of political science at Notre Dame University, speaking at one of the sessions of the three-day Conference on Science, Philosophy, and Religion at the University of Chicago here. Several members of Catholic organizations were among the nearly 100 scholars who attended.

Professor Gurian expressed fear that "the Soviet interpretation of the post-war period as an era of potential revolution" might cause "a direct explosion."

The Notre Dame professor pointed to the paradox that "the Soviet regime seems to be based upon a doctrine which is in direct opposition to power politics."

Views of Lenin

"Lenin viewed imperialism as the most ruthless power politics in the bad sense, as the inevitable result of capitalist development," he said. "Countries dominated by groups of capitalists started to 'clash' for markets, for economic expansion and the national foreign policies everywhere became 'dollar politics' controlled by capitalist concentrations."

Every today, the scholar continued, the Soviets emphasize that their regime alone "is really and truly for peace. All other regimes are for war, even if they are not, they are always in danger of becoming tools and pawns and strikes, instigations, class wars between peoples, of colonial rule and imperialist nations, can result in a weakening of the capitalist, imperialist world. The Soviet Union must be ready to use this opportunity."

If the other powers would prove to the Soviets that they can solve their own problems in a way superior to that of the Soviets, the latter "would be inclined to interpret such a superiority as a temporary stabilization of world capitalism," Dr. Gurian pointed out. "But that would not matter," he added, "for time is not necessarily on the side of the Soviets. Their political religion will lose its grip if time works against the coming of utopia."

Instruments of power groups, he said, are imperialists. The ultimate aim is a utopian one: a humanity which will no longer need power politics and use of force, even in internal relations, for the State will wither away after a more-or-less long period of proletarian dictatorship, which will wipe out capitalism and at the same time educate the masses.

SCHOOL CLOSES AFTER BUS BAN

Ballard, Ia. — St. Mary's parochial school, here, did not open with the beginning of the Fall term, because its 60 pupils were denied the right to ride on state-supported public school buses, which pass the homes of the children in the rural area.

The parochial school children have ridden the public school buses heretofore, but following a court ruling that the presence of parochial school children on the public school buses endangered the right of the school district to obtain state aid for their operation, the Ballard school board decided to discontinue the practice.

The Rev. Francis Illig, pastor of St. Mary's church here, said he ordered the parochial school not to open because he wished to avoid disturbance. Father Illig said he had evidence that violence would take place if the public school buses allowed to pick up the parochial school pupils as they leave in the past.

He said the parents of some of the farm children attending the parochial school were deeply resentful of the action taken by the school board. The priest said he felt the reopening of the school too big a risk to take.

Sister of Pius XI Dies — Milan — (NC) — Donna Camilla Rafel, sister of the late Pope Pius XI, has died here. She was 73, nine years younger than her illustrious brother Achille, who died in 1931, at the age of 81. On her death she was consoled by the A-politic blessing of Pope Pius XII, brought to her by Ildefonso Cardinal Schuster, Archbishop of Milan.

Hungarian Bishops Vow Support Of Primate; Spike Disunity Rumor

Budapest — (NC) — The Hungarian episcopacy in a statement adopted at a special session pledges its fullest support to Cardinal Mindszenty, Primate of Hungary, and rejects indignantly insinuations which aim at casting doubt on the harmonious relations between Primate and Bishops.

The Bench of Hungarian Bishops, in its conference of September 6, protests against and rejects the maligning and insinuating articles, repeatedly published by the press, which seek to compromise in public the nation-saving activities of the Cardinal by asserting that the Bench of Bishops or a part of its individual Bishops, disapprove of such activities or even oppose them," the statement says.

"In order to inform and reassure our beloved brethren, we declare that every individual member of the Bench of Bishops not only does not oppose the manly and courageous attitude of the Cardinal Primate in defense of the Church, liberty of conscience and Hungarian justice but wholeheartedly approves and supports it with all his strength."

As Cardinal's Support

"We beg our beloved brethren not to believe the unscrupulous insinuations, but to pray with us for our Lord Jesus Christ and ask Him to follow with His abundant mercy the direct activities of the Cardinal Primate and the Bench of Bishops — to the benefit of our Holy Church and our beloved Hungarian country."

This statement of the Bishops is considered here to be particularly significant in view of the continuing attempts to undermine and destroy the unity of Hungarian Catholics. The articles to which the Bishops refer in their statement usually appear in weekly publications.

As numerous meetings of the vicars of the agitation took place to create the impression that not only the Bishops but also wide circles of the priesthood and of the laity are dissatisfied with the present tendency of Catholic action in Hungary.

Articles Pleasured Ahead

Lacking success at home some of the agitators are said to have gone abroad for the purpose of "planting" articles critical of Cardinal Mindszenty in foreign publications. These articles are then sent back to Hungary and republished as "foreign comment."

Reporters of non-Catholic Hungarian newspapers are known to have visited members of the hierarchy and well-known prelates whom they attempt to induce into making statements critical of Cardinal Mindszenty. So far, these attempts have failed.

That the Hungarian government is fully aware of the importance of Catholicism in Hungarian affairs is shown by a statement of Prime Minister Ferenc Nagy, published in the newly licensed newspaper, Journal: "We have to pay special attention to problems concerning the Catholic Church, which represents the great majority of the nation," the Prime Minister

7-8 Million Catholics Are Exiled

Berlin — (NC) — Seven and eight million Catholics are among the Germans who have been expelled from Europe since the end of the war, according to church statistics available here.

The majority of these people are being settled in the British and American zones of occupation, with the result that the Protestant sector of these zones are becoming increasingly Catholic, so far as the number of inhabitants is concerned.

In the Russian zone of occupation, too, the Catholic population has increased tremendously. In the State of Saxony, for instance, it has risen from 100,000 before the war to well over half a million, and in Thuringia, with only 50,000 Catholics before the war, their number is estimated at about 750,000. The Diocese of Hildesheim, with a pre-war Catholic population of 500,000, has about one million.

This means that serious problems of church administration, which are aggravated by the shortage of priests, typical are the conditions in a parish in the city of Halle, Province of Saxony, where only 205 out of 536 Catholics who died during the last 12 months could be given the Last Sacraments, because of the shortage of priests.

As a result of the destruction caused by air raids there is also a serious problem of providing space for church functions.

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