

Basement Now Used by Omaha Ku Klux Klan

Frantic Efforts Put Forth by Enthusiastic Klansmen to Keep "Fiery Cross" Burning Here.

Some enthusiastic members of the Omaha klavern of the Ku Klux Klan appear reluctant to take to the life boats.

Left to founder alone by the abrupt departure of the king klan and his assistants, the loyal klansmen made a valiant effort to rally about the "fiery cross" by holding a meeting Friday night.

In one respect they succeeded—the meeting was held. But that about completes the story.

There are reported to be 300 paid-up members of the Omaha klavern. But only a dozen managed to summon sufficient courage to report for duty to the "night-hawk" at the "secret" meeting.

There wasn't even a full attendance of officers. In a word, it was a lull party.

Meeting Hour Secret.

Of course, the place and hour of the meeting was supposed to be one of those dark and devious secrets which make the Ku Klux Klan such a nifty lodge to belong to.

But, unfortunately, owing to an error, which it is now too late to correct, reporters for The Bee came into possession of the close-knit information.

The meeting—such as it was—was held "below decks" in the building containing the Danish Odd Fellows' hall at 2556 Leavenworth street.

While the Odd Fellows met upstairs, the Ku Kluxers ducked mystically into the cellar in the hope of making their medicine free from snooping eyes.

Of course, holding a first-class meeting without the guiding hand of the king klan is a tough job, but the little band of brave and loyal klansmen did the best they could.

They sang the praises of clanishness and sought to devise ways and means of restoring the faith of their faltering comrades; at the same time making a few scathing remarks about newspapers which printed reports of Ku Klux Klan activities without obtaining their permission.

The scant attendance at the meeting made it quite evident that the Omaha klavern is up against it as a result of its abandonment by its leading genius Ex-King Kleagle F. E. Maxey.

Kleagle Goes to Minneapolis.

Maxey abandoned his headquarters in the Wead-Baldrige block and as the police reporter would say it, "took on the lam" the fore part of last week.

He told the rental agent for the offices that he was going back to his home in Richmond, Va., but his railroad ticket was for Minneapolis.

No successor to Maxey has been named and no assurances have been received by the few remaining loyal followers that one will be named.

Maxey was the Nebraska realm's second king klan. The first king klan sent to this state was a youth, 20 years old, who gave the name of J. Albert Ellerman and said he was from New Orleans.

Perfecting Organization.

Ellerman started the Ku Klux Klan organization to work in Omaha and the state. First meetings and initiations were held in the office of a physician in a downtown building.

Ellerman, however, remained here only a short time. Maxey succeeded him early in the campaign. Maxey's home is in Richmond, Va., but he came to Omaha from Alabama, where he was "star graduate" of the school for king klan. Maxey was an experienced, professional organizer and had been engaged in that work before he took up Ku Kluxing, which he has now abandoned to beat the tan-together for the Ku Klux Klan.

When the local klavern annexed a few more citizens and required more room for its meetings than afforded by a doctor's office, a hall in the Lyric building was secured. But when Dr. Harold Gifford, owner of the building, was apprised of the fact by reporters for The Bee he lost no time in issuing orders to his agents to prevent any future meetings there.

It was up to the klansmen to find a new hall so they discovered the basement room in the building on Leavenworth street, believing no doubt that this location was sufficiently distant from the business district as to escape detection.

Officers Are Identified.

The present exalted cyclops of the Omaha klavern is an employe of a public service corporation. The klavon, in other words the treasurer, is a teller in a local national bank. The kligrapp, or clerk, is a former bookkeeper for an automobile company. Other officers are a minister, a clerk and two physicians, who maintain an office together, incidentally, the office in which the first meetings were held.

Before the Nebraska klavon began to backslide a warm clash between the departed king klan and the local officers was held. Maxey held the officers didn't show enough pep. Maxey's principal job was to get new klansmen and a full attendance at meetings meant that he would be given the names of many more prospects.

But the king klan lost out in the selections and finally he decided to throw up the sponge.

Harding Honorary Member.

Of New York "Old Guard"

New York, Nov. 13.—President Harding has accepted honorary membership in the "Old Guard," New York's veteran military corps. It is the first time a president in office has been accorded the honor, members of the guard said.

South Side Brevities

Burn Christopher, the best Frankie Burns' comedy, \$12 per box. Pivnicka Comedy Club, Market 2415.

W. F. club of Holy Ghost parish will give a card party and dance at the Butcher Workmen hall, 215 S. 17th, Wednesday, November 18. Good music and picnic.

Minister Opens Arms Conference With Prayer for Success of Meet

Washington, Nov. 13.—The prayer with which the armament and far eastern conference was opened was offered by the Rev. W. S. Abernethy, pastor of Calvary Baptist church, Washington, and was as follows:

"Almighty God, we thank Thee for the coming of this eventful day. We have seen it from afar and now we rejoice that it has at last dawned. May it bring untold blessing to a troubled world. O, Thou Omnipotent One, as in other days, we believe that Thou dost guide in human affairs. Thou hast made of one blood, all nations that dwell upon the earth and, though we are of many races and many tongues, yet the interests of the few are the interests of the larger number. May we feel assured that the welfare and happiness and prosperity of the family are inexpressibly dear to Thy heart."

"We pray for clear vision or we shall grope blindly for the light and lose our way. We pray for hearts lovingly sympathetic to human distress wherever it may exist or we shall sink into the depths of the miserable selfishness."

"We pray for minds willing to believe that the strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, or we shall miss the great joy of service. We pray for the forward look or we shall be overwhelmed in hopeless pessimism. Give us the ability to think clearly, to judge fairly, to act wisely."

"Help us to think less often of our rights and more often of our duties and responsibilities. Let us be able to say with confidence that we are doing our part for the world in some way."

"We have had our terrible baptism of blood. There is hunger and pestilence and unutterable anguish. God forbid that the woes of these years should ever again be visited upon the earth. Can it be that Thou hast permitted us thus to suffer in order that we might turn from our own devices to Thee and acknowledge Thee as King of our lives and our destinies? Out of the depths we cry unto Thee. Save us or we perish."

"May we walk softly and humbly before Thee, this day and throughout the fatigued days of this great conference. May we be intent on knowing Thy will, and knowing it, may we have the courage to do it. And may it be that the findings of this conference shall be so wise, so far reaching and so beneficial, that all mankind may take new hope and fresh courage. And to Thee shall be the praise and the glory forever and forever, Amen."

closing the great sacrifices of naval defense which the United States is prepared to make in order to bring about a general reduction of armament.

Senators Applaud Plan.

The willingness of the United States to junk its entire 1916 building program on which it has expended \$342,000,000 up to date, created a sensation and immediately the proposal by the American premier was backed up by the applause of the senators and representatives present.

Just what chances the United States is willing to take in order to achieve a boon for all mankind was shown in that in jinking the 1916 building program, America would be compelled to scrap every one of the six battle cruisers under construction, although the United States has no battle cruisers now, while Great Britain has nine and Japan has four.

The battle cruiser is so formidable and swift an engine of naval warfare that naval authorities hold their possession would determine the result of a war on the seas.

Delay in Building.

After scrapping its uncompleted battle cruisers the United States would be able to lay down battle cruisers only in replacement of capital ships on the list of 18 allotted to the American navy. The replacement could not be undertaken until 10 years from the signing of the agreement.

This means that if the United States becomes involved in war in the next decade it will have no battle cruisers and it should be a war with Japan the United States will be at a disadvantage so far as the swiftest type of powerful battleships is concerned. On the other hand the United States would have the advantage of Japan in dreadnaughts and gun power.

Mr. Hughes contended that the limitations proposed for the respective navies of the three powers would meet "the proper demands of national defense" and that the 10-year building holiday would enable them to consider their future course.

Preparations for a naval warfare will stop now," he concluded, amid another tremendous demonstration of approval on the part of the audience.

Cotner College

No school session was held last week because of the action of the Bethany board of health in closing the town to all gatherings due to the epidemic of diphtheria which threatened the town. The quarantine was lifted Wednesday. School will open again Monday.

The Kansas club held a party Friday. The party was held at the Sunflower hotel and was a success. The club is planning to hold a week of special events during the month of November.

Mr. C. T. social committee, headed by Miss Ruth Oberlin, had charge of the party. A number of the informal affairs are being planned by the committee.

Cotner will be the hostess this year of the State Student Volunteer conference, which will be held at Cotner. Delegates from all the colleges of the state will be present at the meeting. Alice Gold Sorrell is president of the local Volunteer band.

Urges Concurrent Consideration.

Mr. Hughes suggested that the two proposals of the conference should be considered concurrently and this suggestion was adopted in the appointment of two committees on procedure, one relating to limitation of armaments and the other of Pacific and far eastern questions.

The boldness and openness of the plan surprised the American delegates that astonished the foreign delegates, those veterans, accustomed to the concealments and maneuverings of Old World diplomacy. It startled them to find themselves confronted with open diplomacy, American shirt-sleeve diplomacy, at the outset.

The time has come and this conference in open session, but made public immediately thereafter the technical details of the suggested plan for reduction of armament, thus emphasizing the desire of the United States for the utmost possible publicity of the views of the delegation at all times.

The plain speaking of the secretary of state and his submission of a concrete plan, made a hit with the audience, if not with all of the delegates, from the start. The balance of the day was spent in demonstrations of approval when he called upon the conference to meet the expectation of the world for limitation of armaments without delay and again when he asserted that the competition in armament must stop.

The time has come and this conference has been called, not for general resolutions or mutual advice, but for action. Mr. Hughes incisively declared, following his review of the two Hague conferences which led to nothing but resolves to do something some time to restrict armaments.

Right there the address of the secretary of state was suspended. The senators and representatives leaped to their feet and stood applauding for several minutes while they were joined by the members of the delegation, seated behind the delegates and by persons here and there in the audience on the main floor, among whom Mr. Bryan, in the press section, was conspicuous.

The hall again was swept with applause as the secretary asserted that "there is only one adequate way out and that is to end it now."

Then Mr. Hughes got to the outline of the program proposed by the United States, which, in its major essentials, was outlined on November 5. He dwelt with telling effect on these details, dis-

What This Baby's Mother Says About Father John's Medicine

"I have a family of eight children and two sets of twins. They all had bad colds and could not sleep, they coughed all night. I started giving them Father John's Medicine and after taking it they stopped coughing and they kept on taking it until they were well. I think it is the best medicine for colds. (Signed) Mrs. D. Ouellette, Broadway Road, Draut, Mass.

As a family medicine for colds and throat troubles and as a body builder, Father John's Medicine is depended upon in thousands of homes because it is pure and wholesome. Guaranteed free from alcohol or dangerous drugs.

At all dealers, 60c a box.

Foster-Milburn Co., Mfg. Chemists, Buffalo, N. Y.

Schools

Chadron Normal College

The class in cookery III, under the direction of Miss P. J. ... and served the banquet of the Chadron Rotary club at which members of the Alliance ...

The banquet hall in the gym had been decorated in red, white and blue. The menu was: cream soup, roast beef, mashed potatoes, green peas, cranberry sauce, apple pie, coffee and ice cream.

The students of the normal school were given a special dinner at the Chadron Normal college. The menu was: cream soup, roast beef, mashed potatoes, green peas, cranberry sauce, apple pie, coffee and ice cream.

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Doane College

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