

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF MISSOURI CLOSES BUSINESS IN THIS STATE

Hon. Crittenden Clark, one of the most prominent attorneys of St. Louis and present grand master of the Masons of Missouri and jurisdiction, in company with the following grand officers: Dr. Crossland, St. Joseph, Mo.; Eugene Lacey, Willis G. Mosley, Fred Dabney, Kansas City, Mo., and P. L. Pratt, Cameron, Mo., were in our city the 18th, 19th and 20th, closing up the business affairs of the Missouri jurisdiction in this state.

Owing to the recent establishment of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Nebraska and its jurisdiction it was necessary from Masonic custom and usage for Missouri to refrain from doing further business in the state of Nebraska and to release all lodges in this state still holding charters under their jurisdiction.

Grand Master Clark of Missouri called an occasional Grand Lodge of Missouri Friday, the 19th, assisted by the following grand officers:

Dr. Crossland, St. Joseph, Mo., senior grand warden.

Eugene Lacey, Kansas City, Mo., junior grand warden.

Willis G. Mosley, Kansas City, Mo., grand relief secretary.

Fred Dabney, Kansas City, Mo., district deputy.

P. L. Pratt, Cameron, Mo., grand lecturer.

After the business pertaining to the lodges in this state holding charters of the Missouri jurisdiction had terminated and expressions of regret in severing connections, and success and goodwill having been extended to them, Grand Master Clark of the Missouri jurisdiction then turned the gavel of authority over to the Hon. Nathaniel Hunter, Omaha, most worshipful grand master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Nebraska and Jurisdiction, who then proceeded to call the two grand lodges into a joint session.

The following officers of the Nebraska jurisdiction were present:

Perry R. Warner, Omaha, deputy grand master.

Jonathan N. Thomas, Omaha, grand junior warden.

Walter L. Seals, Omaha, grand lecturer.

Charles W. Dickerson, Omaha, grand senior deacon.

After an unlimited exchange of fraternal greetings and the appointment of the grand representatives to the Grand East of each Grand Lodge, the representatives of Missouri then displayed that flow of oratory for which they have long been known, in the official acknowledgment of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Nebraska and its Masonic Jurisdiction, and hoped for them many successes.

The joint session of the Occasional Grand Lodge was closed in the most befitting manner by Nathaniel Hunter, grand master of the state of Nebraska and its jurisdiction.

The visiting grand officers were highly entertained during their brief stay in our city and openly expressed their regrets as to not having had their Grand Lodge entertained in this state.

They left Saturday evening for Missouri much pleased and enjoyed.

BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS IN THE NORTH PROSPER

Over Four Companies Have a Capitalization of Over \$235,000, With Excess Sales of \$50,000—Ohio Leads All States.

Columbus, O., Sept. 24.—As a result of inadequate housing conditions in several of the most important industrial centers to which Negro workmen have gone in large numbers since 1916, Charles E. Hall, supervisor of Negro economies for Ohio, began early in May, 1919, a campaign for building and loan associations to be organized and financed by the progressive colored men and women in each of these congested communities to assist Negroes to buy or build homes.

A circular letter calling attention to "Housing Facilities for Negro Labor," together with a statement giving general information on the subject of organizing building and loan associations was carefully prepared and mailed from the Columbus office on May 8, and through the courtesy of the Department of Building and Loan Associations were mailed to the chairman of each County Negro Workers' Advisory Committee. A model form of constitution and by-laws was also prepared by the supervisor who gave copies to those most interested. Through correspondence and local conferences the movement was started from Lake Erie to the Ohio river.

Prior to this there was only one association, the Star Building and Loan Association of Toledo, which was under the direction and control of colored men. Since the inauguration of the campaign of Supervisor Hall, three other associations have been organized and chartered, one at Springfield, Middletown and Cleve-

land, while others are being promoted at Akron, Cincinnati, Columbus, Greenfield and Youngstown, by influential men who have a vision of racial opportunities through co-operative enterprises.

The four companies mentioned have a combined capitalization of \$235,000 with stock sales already in excess of \$50,000. The Negroes of Ohio now lead those of all other northern states in this enterprise.

BOOTLEGGERS PROVE INVENTIVE GENIUSES

Many Former Liquor Dealers Become Ardent Horticulturists and Vendors of Potted Plants; There Is a Reason.

San Juan, P. R., Sept. 19.—The government officials have just discovered the means by which liquor is carted around San Juan and disposed of in contravention of the prohibition law.

The old crude methods were stopped long ago, but the liquor still continued to circulate. Recently an inspector noticed a big boom in the business of peddling growing plants.

People who had been in the liquor business, it appeared, were particularly interested in horticulture all of a sudden, and the agent got suspicious and investigated. He found that gasoline tins had been arranged with false bottoms, inclosed in which was the contraband liquor.

The upper part of the tin was filled with clay and a growing plant placed in it. The dealer had only to transplant his shrubbery from the filled tin to an empty one and get out the particular form of intoxicant he wanted.

DEMAND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CONTROL LYCHING

New York, Sept. 23.—The following resolutions, calling for federal intervention in states where lynching is unpunished and unchecked, were unanimously passed at a mass meeting of 1,000 persons in the meeting hall of the Society for Ethical Culture, 2 West Sixty-fourth street, New York City, on the night of September 16:

"We, citizens of the United States, assembled in the meeting hall of the Society for Ethical Culture, 2 West Sixty-fourth street, New York City, on the night of Tuesday, September 16, submit that:

"Whereas, John R. Shillady, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, was without provocation brutally assaulted in broad daylight on a main street of Austin, Tex., on August 22, 1919, the mobists being led in person by a county officer of the state of Texas;

"Whereas, Governor W. P. Hobby of Texas not only declined to remove such officer, but condoned the assault, saying that the victim was 'the only offender';

"Whereas, Each week witnesses additional lynchings and mob outrages in the United States, eight persons having been publicly burned since the beginning of the year 1919 and forty-seven publicly murdered by mobs;

"Whereas, Civilization in the United States is gravely menaced by the persistence, unchecked, of mob lawlessness and mob murder;

"Whereas, Many states have wholly failed to take action against lynchers, Governor Bilbo of Mississippi having confessed inability in June, 1919, to prevent mob murder, the governor of Texas having approved a mob assault in August, 1919;

"Be it therefore resolved—
"That the congress of the United States be and is herewith asked to create a special federal commission or congressional committee to investigate lynching and mob violence as a menace to national security;

"That the congress investigate every case of unpunished mob murder and assault as a failure of the states to accord United States citizens the rights and the protection guaranteed by the federal constitution;

"That the congress devise means whereby the federal government shall guarantee the processes of law and justice now denied where mob murders and assaults are permitted to occur unchecked and unpunished."

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In Dubious Garb
By RALPH HAMILTON
(Copyright, 1919, by the Western Newspaper Union.)

"Dear, dear!" mourned and pitted Alvin Prince, and stood looking down at a human form lying prone upon the straw-littered floor of an abandoned shelter shed at a remote corner of his farm.

He was a genial old soul, this pleasant-faced, kind-hearted deacon, selectman and the prop and stay of sterling uprightness and dignity in the community. He had been passing the shed, when he fancied that a groan proceeded from within. He stepped across the threshold and, startled and puzzled, gazed down at the recumbent figure. It was that of a young man with a refined cast of features, his eyes closed in sleep. Two further discoveries of the farmer brought a serious expression to his face. One hand was abraded and bleeding, and a cut in the head showed a recent injury.

"A convict—an escaped convict," soliloquized Prince. "Poor fellow! And he's badly hurt. What is my duty in the case? He looks likely, and perhaps a mother, a sister is worrying about him. There isn't anything of the criminal in that face. Shall I protect him?"

The decision was quickly made. Prince proceeded across the farm, got to the house, made up a bundle and, hitching up a horse to the old family cart, started back the route he had come.

"Mother and Zeldy away," he soliloquized, "and I don't see Zeph anywhere around. That just suits me."

Zeph Barnes was the handy man about the farm. At that moment he was making his way past the old shed. His coarse lips puckered as he discovered its inmate. He scented a mystery as he saw Prince returning. He wondered if there was any reward offered for the apprehension of convicts and, climbing to the shallow loft in the structure, waited for developments.

These materialized with the arrival of Prince. The latter proceeded to disrobe the stranger. He made a bundle of the incriminating convict garb and thrust it into an old manger, attired him in a suit of his own, lifted him into the wagon and drove to the house. He got his involuntary guest to bed, applied lotions to his wounds, and wondered what his story would be. When consciousness was restored, Alvin Prince gently inquired if the injuries were painful.

"I think only a stumbling fall," replied his guest. "Let me see, I was—Where was I? What was I doing? I'm all dazed. My name is Wilbur Thorne. I have a home, but I left it for wandering a long time ago. I've kept going with all kinds of jobs. You must be a pretty kind sort of a man to take in a stranger this way."

"Oh, that is all right," declared Prince lightly, and felt a certain delicacy about referring to his convict suspicions.

Mrs. Prince and her daughter Zeldy came home two days later from a week's visit to a relative, to find the interesting-looking stranger insisting upon doing some light work about the farm. They were so used to the charitable impulses of the husband and father, that they did not question him when he told them that he was taking care of his visitor until he got on his feet again.

His frank, engaging ways won the favorable opinion of Zeldy and her mother, and as the weeks drifted on Wilbur Thorne became so useful and so happy that Prince had not the heart to either question him or turn him away.

He had not noticed that a bond of mutual liking was being cemented between the two young people, but Zeph Barnes, himself secretly in love with Zeldy, though the latter detested him, was witness to an interview between Thorne and herself when the latter confessed his deep affection for the farmer's daughter. Just before dusk that evening, just as the family were seated on the lawn, Mr. Prince reading, Mrs. Prince at her knitting and Zeldy and Thorne looking over a pictorial magazine, there appeared Zeph Barnes and a man whom the farmer at once recognized as the town marshal.

"There's the man," spoke Zeph, pointing to Thorne. "He's an escaped convict, and here—" and he tore open a bundle under his arm, revealing the convict's garb in which Prince had first seen Thorne.

"Why! you give me a link in the past always a mystery to me," exclaimed Thorne abruptly, arising to his feet with an animated expression on his face. "I wore that suit the day I got hurt. Where did you ever get it, Zeph? You see, Mr. Prince, my last job was playing the convict for some movie people over beyond the village. I took a casual stroll in it while waiting for my part in the scenario, had a bad fall, and—and I guess you can tell how you found me."

Zeph drew back crestfallen. The marshal, however, insisted on some close questioning, and Wilbur Thorne was forced to tell that he was the son of a wealthy man with whom he had quarreled to become a wanderer. A repentant truant, now that he had won Zeldy's love, he was willing to ask parental forgiveness, and a week later Alvin Prince was glad to accept Wilbur Thorne as his son-in-law.

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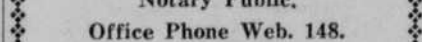
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