

Spirit of Prejudice Bred by Klan to Embitter Political Battles

Main Idea Opposition to Aliens

Movement May Blow Up, Says Mark Sullivan, but Its Intolerance Will Leave Deep Scars on Public Mind.

Called a Bad Influence

By MARK SULLIVAN.
It may not be agreeable to admit it, but if you are dealing with political realities it is necessary to take into account the fact that the Ku-Klux Klan may be a considerable factor in the present situation next year. At least either the Ku-Klux Klan as such may be a political factor or the spirit animating the Klan is likely to be.

The Ku Klux Klan as a country-wide organization is always in danger of blowing up. There is an actuarial law which affects every organization of this kind favorably at the beginning, but adversely after a time. So long as there is a country-wide virgin territory in which to sell memberships the agents are able to do very well. The intricate system of agents, superintendents, district managers and so on apply their high-pressure business methods and the organization expands very rapidly. But there always comes a time when the territory is more or less saturated and then develops what people in this line of business call "sales resistance." At that point unless there has been the most expert actuarial wisdom and the most careful conserving of financial resources there is danger of the agents dropping out and the whole system of driving salesmanship breaking up.

Something like this has happened in the past to many organizations formed on the same basis as the Ku Klux Klan, and experienced persons have learned to look for this kind of an end to the kind of organization that the Ku Klux Klan on a business side is.

Something Back of It.
But even if the Ku Klux Klan as an organization and as a business institution should blow up, there will still remain the spirit which animates it. Also many of the local groups might continue with undiminished vitality.

The brings us to the point where, merely for the sake of clearness, we ought to take a look at the Ku Klux Klan in a state of mind completely divorced from prejudice. It is a fact that some of the principles of the Klan are utterly inconsistent with the theory of democratic government. It is a fact that some of its practices are as odious as possible. It is true that much—in fact, most—of what has been said in condemnation of the Klan and its activities is entirely justified. Nevertheless, if we are going to be clear let us stop to inquire just why it is that so many people join the Klan.

From the beginning there was a situation at the very heart of the higher organization of the Klan so bad that under ordinary circumstances the institution could not possibly have lasted. That alone would have destroyed the Klan unless there had been somewhere in it, or in the ideas behind it, a good deal of vitality. Furthermore, the wide publicity attending some of the specific outrages committed by local branches of the Klan would also have been enough to destroy the whole institution unless there had been in it something that appeals to large numbers of persons. From the beginning the Klan has been under attack and criticism from newspapers, from the courts, from governors, legislatures and congresses. The fact that these attacks have not destroyed the Klan must cause any clear-minded person to pause a moment and seek to find out what is in the minds of those who join the Klan that keeps it alive in spite of the well-justified attacks upon it. There must be some curious element of vitality in an institution which persists in spite of so much that is evil in itself and in spite of so many attacks upon it.

Distrust of Foreigners.
One is justified in guessing that in the broadest sense the spirit which keeps the Ku Klux Klan alive and growing is a widespread distrust of all things foreign—a suspicion that aliens and alien influences have penetrated to a degree not wholly understood, but vaguely suspected, into places of power in the United States. It is not meant to assert that this suspicion is true. It is merely meant to say that the suspicion exists and that this suspicion accounts to a large degree for the vitality of the Ku Klux Klan.

One of the reasons for this widespread suspicion and one of the principal conditions that gave rise to the spread of the Klan was the campaign of 1920. It is true that the Klan had been formed some five years before. But up to 1920 it had never struggled along feebly in one southern state, had acquired only some 5,000 members and had concerned itself wholly with the specific local southern problem of the negro. More narrowly, the principal motive for the local existence of the Klan in the south up to 1920 was the fact that negro soldiers, having been to France and having found there a state of feeling about the relations of the races very different from what exists in America, returned to their southern homes indignant to find back into the traditional social and political position insisted upon by the southern white. It was under these circumstances that the Klan got its local impetus in the south for the purpose of maintaining the old standards about the relations of the races.

If the Ku Klux Klan had been confined to this activity it would never have got far beyond the south and would not have become a political factor of any consequence.

Bitter Undercurrent.
It was in 1920 or thereabouts that the Klan ceased to be a local organi-

Omaha Masonic Lodges Presented With Historic 24-Hour-Made Aprons



Second from the left is Maj. Gen. Mason M. Patrick, chief of the U. S. air service.

Sixth from the left is Gen. William Mitchell, assistant chief of the air service.
Each Blue lodge of Masons in Omaha now has one of the Masonic aprons which figured in the Shrine convention in Washington, D. C. last June. Two bales of cotton were transported by airplane from Augusta, Ga., to New Bedford, Mass., the cotton was spun into thread, the thread woven into cloth and the cloth was made into aprons and taken by air from New Bedford to Washington, all in the space of 24 hours.

Last Tuesday night at a meeting of the Masters and Wardens' club of the Masonic lodges of Greater Omaha Col. J. H. Parker, under direction from the War department, presented the aprons with appropriate ceremonies. The aprons were presented against it were men who, like Reed, of Missouri, tend to take the position of a small minority in such a way as to suggest an eccentric individuality rather than a normal response to average public opinion. It is very rarely that any measure passes the United States senate by a vote whose proportions are as 30 to 1. Similarly, in the house the vote which carried the immigration restriction law was in the proportion of about 10 to 1.

When any law passes through congress by such a vote as this it must be accepted as expressing accurately a sincere and widespread state of public feeling. Perhaps it ought not to exist, but that fact is it does exist. Whether you believe in it or not, you must accept it. And since it must be accepted, it is best that it should be accepted in the spirit which is fundamental in American democracy, the spirit that the majority shall prevail.

Prohibition Enters In.
Another aspect of the spirit which causes some men entirely sincere to join the Ku Klux Klan is prohibition. Prohibition is an American institution. To Europeans—both Europeans in Europe and Europeans in America—prohibition is incomprehensible. European newspapers and statesmen either laugh at it or express amazement at it. To the extent that our prohibition laws affect Europe they express the strongest resentment and complete determination to resist it. From this it follows that many Americans in those rural communities of the south and west which believe strongly in prohibition have come to think that all aliens are their enemies.

They have come to believe that the European groups who are sufficiently large in certain American communities to more or less dominate them politically constitute the chief danger to prohibition. They see that the principal centers of opposition to prohibition are in those large cities where the alien population is great enough to compose a majority, or at least to have the balance of power. From this these older Americans who live in smaller towns and on the farms have come to think that the alien groups in the large cities are a menace to prohibition and to other indigenous American ways and habits of thought.

Suspect Courts and Legislatures.
In connection with all this there is one commonly held prejudice which probably would not stand the test of examination. It is frequently said that most of the bootlegging, most of the successful evasion and opposition to prohibition, comes from aliens. There are communities in the south and west where the chief cause for starting local branches of the Ku Klux Klan, and the chief reason why good men join it, is the determination to enforce prohibition. There are communities where the courts and legislatures are under suspicion of not being wholehearted in their determination to carry out the letter of the law, and in such communities the local Klan arise as an institution for the extra-legal enforcement of prohibition and for direct political action in the shape of getting rid of public officials who fail to enforce the law to the satisfaction of the community.

I am not sure that the charge that most of the bootleggers are aliens would bear examination. In many of the cities doubtless it is true. But it is only necessary to remember that one of the chief centers of opposition to prohibition and one of the chief sources of supply of illicit liquor is in communities which are more purely Anglo-Saxon than any other portion of America; namely, the mountain valleys of the south, which for generations have been producers both of moonshine whiskey and determined opponents of the regulatory laws of the federal government. This exception, however, does not alter the fact of the existence of a widespread feeling that most of our illicit liquor comes from foreign countries and that most of the defiance of the law on a large scale is practiced either by foreigners or by those who maintain close relations with foreigners. It is hardly necessary to expand further on this. The fact is that European aliens, both in Europe and in America, do not sympathize with the attitude of the majority of Americans about liquor, and this fact is at the bottom of much of that anti-alien spirit which is the biggest part of the foundation of the Ku Klux Klan movement.

The purposes of the Ku Klux Klan in politics are pretentious. Some of them visualize it as something like the Fascist movement in Italy, which actually took possession of the government by force. There is nothing in this, of course. There is not much

Unions to Hold Labor Day Picnic at City Parks

Central Labor Union to Have Contests and Speaking at Krug Park—Carpenters at Elmwood.

The Central Labor Union will hold its Labor day picnic Monday at Krug park, while the Carpenters' union will have a separate affair at Elmwood. Both picnics will be featured by sports and games.

Vice President Nickerson of the International Association of Machinists will deliver the principal address at Krug park.

The committees in charge of the Central Labor union's outing are as follows:
General Committee—J. J. Kerrigan, chairman; George Steiner, secretary; Harry Strosser, treasurer.
Grounds—C. E. Clark, chairman; M. Courtney, Frank Mansell, A. T. Clark, G. A. Steiner, Joe Robinson, Zella Cottrell.
Sports—Otto Niederweiser, chairman; Henry Bruening, Mrs. Charles Baker, Joe Robinson, William T. O'Hearn, Mrs. J. M. Gibb, Zella Cottrell.
Speakers—J. M. Gibb, chairman; George Norman, George Steiner, Printing—Monty Collins, chairman; Charles Ries, J. A. Lochray.

Law and Order—C. H. Wyckoff, chairman.

The following contests have been arranged:
Girls' shoe race: Ages 8 to 12. Shoes are mixed. Girls must find their own shoes, put them on and finish race. Prizes: \$3, \$2 and \$1.
Sack race, boys and girls: Age 8 to 12. 50 yards. Prizes: \$3, \$2 and \$1.
Boys' race, 50 yards: Age, 8 to 12. Prizes: \$3, \$2 and \$1.
Boys' race, 100 yards: Age, 12 to 16. Prizes: \$3, \$2 and \$1.
Ladies' slipper kicking contest: Three valuable prizes to the three ladies kicking slippers farthest.
Fat men's race: 50 yards, 200 pounds or over. Prizes: \$3, \$2 and \$1.
Men's race: 100 yards, free for all. Prizes: \$3, \$2 and \$1.
Ladies' race: 50 yards, free for all; three valuable prizes.
Fat ladies' race: 50 yards, 170 pounds or over. Three valuable prizes.
Watermelon eating contest for children under 16. Prizes: \$3, \$2 and \$1.
Blackberry pie eating contest for children under 16. Prizes: \$3, \$2 and \$1.
Omaha man with paid-up union card, displaying most union labels on clothing a cash prize of \$5 will be given.
The Grain Exchange, banks and local freight houses will close all day Labor day, while stores will close at 1. The Consolidated ticket offices in the Union Pacific building will close at noon. Grocers and butchers will close at 10.
Equal parts of vinegar and linned oil applied to ink stains on wood with a soft cloth will effectually efface them.

Sham Battle for G. A. R. Veterans at Encampment

Every Feature of Modern Warfare to Be Brought Into Action at Milwaukee.

By Associated Press.
Milwaukee, Sept. 1.—In sharp contrast to the new obsolete methods of warfare which remain so vividly in the minds of the veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic, a huge and spectacular sham battle, in which all of the modern implements of both land and naval warfare will be employed, is to be presented as one of the entertainment features at the 57th annual encampment of the organization here September 2-7.

This will be the second time that Milwaukee has been so honored for many veterans still recall the good times they had in this city 24 years ago. Nearly 20,000 of the veterans visited Des Moines during the 1922 encampment.

A minimum of 25,000 persons will attend the encampment, according to James H. Williamson, executive secretary, in charge of arrangements. The local committee, however, had made preparations to house 50,000 persons during the week, every available accommodation in the city being utilized. The colored population of the city has arranged through the Urban League to entertain the colored veter-

Daily Prayer

Let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God—Hab. 1:13.
As the morning breaks gently upon us, O Lord, awakening us to consciousness and opening our eyes to the light and labor of each new day, before the blood-sprinkled mercy seat we bow. Here we would leave our sins, and loose and lose our weights, and find and cherish the full assurance of Thy favor. May Thy face be unobscured to us today. Give us grace to set our affections where Christ sitteth, that so we may be saved from all sordidness of thought, or word, or deed, and that our lives may draw their inspirations from high and holy springs. Help us to cherish a tender regard for all the children of God of every name.

Our eyes are unto Thee, O God. Our hearts would find repose in the assurance of our acceptance in the Beloved. We would yield our members as instruments of righteousness unto Thee, that, by the gracious power of Thy Spirit we may ourselves this day grow in grace and knowledge, and, by our ministry to others in Christ's name, bring some into an experience of His abounding grace.

Hear us, O Lord, because we pray in that sweet Name in which all Thy exceeding great and precious promises are sure. Amen.

REV. THOMAS T. SHIELDS,
Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

against it were men who, like Reed, of Missouri, tend to take the position of a small minority in such a way as to suggest an eccentric individuality rather than a normal response to average public opinion. It is very rarely that any measure passes the United States senate by a vote whose proportions are as 30 to 1. Similarly, in the house the vote which carried the immigration restriction law was in the proportion of about 10 to 1.

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From Seventy to Seventy-Two Per Cent of the Mine Price of a Ton of Coal Goes to Pay Mine Wages

If coal did not have to be mined, but could be hoisted into freight cars without other labor, there would be a decided saving to the consumer.

And if the freight "charge" did not more than equal the combined costs of coal and mine labor, again there would be a decided saving to all Omaha coal consumers.

But, remember--Omaha's coal supply all comes from far away points; that 70 to 72% of the mine price of a ton of coal goes to pay mine wages and that it is sold in Omaha on a smaller margin of retail profit than in other cities.

Ask your coal man to explain coal costs--he will be glad to tell you about mine prices, freight charges, delivery costs and the many other items which go to make up the retail price on your favorite fuel, because he wants you to know every angle of the retail coal business.

These coal bulletins are being published to better acquaint you with the details of the Retail Coal Situation in Omaha. Watch for them.

THE ASSOCIATED RETAILERS of OMAHA