

CALL FOR KLAN ARMY ON INSTANT'S CALL

'KLEAGLE' DECLARES KLAN'S SECRET SERVICE AGENTS ARE IN EVERY TOWN, AND ON THEIR INVESTIGATIONS THE 'INVISIBLE EMPIRE' IS EXTENDING

Klansman Swears Four Oaths on Initiation—Secrecy His Most Solemn Obligation—Meetings Held at Night Beneath Flickering of Fiery Cross.

FULL ACCOUNT OF INITIATION RITUALS

This is the second of a series of three articles giving the facts of the mysterious Ku Klux Klan related to The Advertiser by Irwin R. Hignett, of Elwood, Indiana, who is a veteran of the Canadian army, at present in London, bearing credentials and certificates as a "Kleagle" of the Klan. Today's article gives in detail the initiation ritual of the Ku Klux Klan, with the various oaths and obligations to which initiates must pledge themselves.

Tomorrow's article will deal with the constitution of the Klan and its activities in the United States, illustrated with several photographs. As previously stated, The Advertiser offers no comment on the statements made in any of the three articles. The only motive is to provide information which is evidently reliable on a subject believed to be of interest to the general public regardless of personal inclinations.

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Mysticism is the strongest weapon of the Ku Klux Klan. Mysticism provides its link with the past and its bond of union in the present.

The fantastic white shroud and hood, the weird names of its officers, the ghostly night parades, the bugle calls, the fiery cross, and all the other remarkable features by which the stage is set, are neither pomposity nor childishness, according to "Kleagle" Hignett's explanation to The Advertiser.

All these things are planned with a purpose.

"As long as the Klan exists," declared Hignett, "its hooded regalia and its mystic rituals will be preserved."

It was not affectation, he declared, that led the Klan of old to adopt the white shroud, the weird helmet with its ghostly visor, the uncanny bugle call, and the cross of fire, as the marks of the "Invisible Empire." The Klan was dealing with a supernatural race, and the fearful aspect of a band of white-robed night-riders, riding in the light of a flickering flame, accomplished more than the sword in breaking down the menace which existed.

The Klan of today has adopted these features in every detail, he claims, partly because of the psychological value which they still possess and partly as a means of preserving the traditions of the original Ku Klux Klan to inspire and unite Klansmen of today.

Mystic Initiation.

In the initiation ritual and procedure of the Ku Klux Klan, as described by Hignett, all this mysticism is most strongly employed.

The initiation activities of the Klan depend first on its secret service organization.

"The Ku Klux Klan has the most efficient and the most secret service in the world," stated Mr. Hignett. "We have secret agents at work everywhere."

On this secret service, he stated to The Advertiser, the Klan depends for information regarding prospective members. At the initiation he said, the reputations of men are discussed and their sins laid bare, and few things, he claimed, escape the Klan's net of investigation.

The Advertiser asked Mr. Hignett the procedure followed by the Ku Klux Klan in extending to a new town or city. His explanation in reply was as follows:

The Klan never invades a town where no Klansmen live. Pioneer work always precedes organization work. Klansmen are always seeking out men who would be eligible for membership, and so when a town possesses a single knight at already has the nucleus of a local Klan.

A man is never invited to membership by word of mouth, although he may be questioned as to his beliefs. The first intimation he receives that he has been marked as a possible member of a secret organization, is when a "Non Silba Sed Anthar" card mysteriously comes into his possession.

This "Non Silba Sed Anthar" card ("not for self but for others") is the card referred to in yesterday's article in giving Mr. Hignett's account of his own affiliation with the Klan.

The First Step.

The card, which is shown on another page of this edition, represents the first definite advance by the Klan toward the prospective member. It reads as follows:

"Your friends state you are a native-born American citizen, that you have the best interest of your community, city, state, nation at heart, owing no allegiance to any foreign government, political party, sect, creed or ruler. That you are engaged in a legitimate occupation."

Then comes a long list of qualifications, quotations from the Bible, every point in a man's character from his religious faith and his moral life to his desire for needed reforms and law and order.

And then comes the invitation: "Upon these beliefs and the recommendations of your friends you are given an opportunity to become a member of the most powerful secret, non-political organization in existence."

And then to give the whole an even more mysterious air it is described as one that has the most sublime message in history, "one that was here yesterday," "here today" and "here forever."

The holder is instructed to present

the card at the door of a certain address for admittance. On the card must be his name, occupation and address. He is warned that secrecy must be observed and that fuller information is to be secured from one "Ti-Bo-Tim."

"Ti-Bo-Tim."

"Ti-Bo-Tim," Mr. Hignett explained, is the organizer or lecturer of the local Klan. Because the candidate does not know yet that he is about to enter the Ku Klux Klan, he appears without his robe and visor. He offers no explanation to the wondering candidate, but if a series of questions establishes the fact that the man before him is satisfactory, "Ti-Bo-Tim" proceeds with a long lecture.

Still no mention is made of the Klan. The purposes, aims and objects and requirements of the organization are outlined in full. If the candidate seems sufficiently impressed he is instructed to report at a certain place on a certain night to sign the charter and to take the obligations. To become a member costs him ten dollars, with a yearly assessment of from four to six dollars.

"Ku Klux Klan" is not mentioned until the candidate is taking the obligations. But according to Mr. Hignett, every man is afforded a chance to escape the premises that he may withdraw without obligations except that of secrecy, if he does not find everything according to the promise of "Ti-Bo-Tim."

The mystery of night shrouds all the initiation rituals of the Klan. Churches are favorite meeting places of the Klan and at many places, Hignett states, they are freely turned over to the hooded knights. All the lights are extinguished and darkness prevails, except where the shadows are pierced by light from the red lights forming a huge cross.

Candidates are initiated in both open and secret meetings, but always at night. These meetings are held either under the stars or in darkened churches.

All Closely Masked.

At an open meeting every member of the Klan, according to Hignett, is closely masked by shroud, helmet and visor. A great circle of Klansmen is formed and from beyond this circle of guards the public may witness the ceremony as shown in a photograph accompanying this article.

In the center of the great circle are grouped the candidates, and the Klan officials who are to conduct the rituals. The latter are usually stationed on a platform, topped by a huge fiery cross.

At a closed or secret meeting of the Klan, Hignett told The Advertiser, Klansmen may attend without visors, but no outsider is allowed near the place of ceremony.

At such meetings the lights are extinguished and darkness prevails, except where the shadows are pierced by flickering red lights forming a huge cross. The candidates kneel in a semi-circle before this emblem and behind them, row upon row, stand the knights in ghostly garb.

Hignett declares that in the open under the night sky the ceremony is even more weird, for here the light comes from the flaming cross in the center of the circle.

The dancing shadows make the scene uncanny. An open field is usually chosen, and through the gloom on the outskirts sentries pace. When the meeting is closed huge searchlights come into play on the surrounding countryside to prevent the approach of eavesdroppers.

The details of the initiation ritual, Hignett describes as follows:

In the center of the crowd immediately beneath the cross stands the kleagle or the exalted cyclops, who is president of a local Klan. Either of the two may be master of ceremonies.

On a flag-covered altar, a Bible lies opened at the 12th chapter of Romans. Across the Bible is a

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You will place your left hand over your heart, and raise your right hand to heaven.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

SECTION I.—OBEDIENCE.

(You will say) "I — (Pronounce your full name — and repeat after me) 'In the presence of God and Man — I do solemnly pledge, promise and swear — unconditionally — that I will faithfully obey — the constitution and laws — and will willingly conform to — all regulations, usages and requirements — of the — — — — — which now exist — or which may be hereafter enacted — and will render at all times — loyal respect and steadfast support — to the Imperial Authority of same — and will heartily heed — all official mandates — decrees — edicts — rulings and instructions — of the — — — — — thereof — I will yield prompt response — to all summonses — I having knowledge of same — Providence alone preventing.'"

SECTION II.—SECRECY.

"I most solemnly swear — that I will forever — keep sacredly secret — the signs, words and grip — and any and all other — matters and knowledge — of the — — — — — most right secrecy — must be maintained — which may at any time — be communicated to me — and will never — divulge same nor even cause the same to be divulged — to any person in the whole world — unless I know positively — that such person is a member of this Order — in good and regular standing — and not even then — unless it be — for the best interest of this Order."

"I most solemnly swear — and most positively swear — that I will never yield to bribe — flattery — threats — passion — punishment — persecution — persuasion — nor any enticements whatever — coming from or offered by — any person or persons — male or female — for the purpose of — obtaining from me — a secret or secret information — of the — — — — — I will die rather than divulge same — so help me God — — — — — A M E N !"

You will drop your hands.

GENTLEMEN (or SIR):

You will wait in patience and peace until you are informed of the decision of the E* C* and his * in klontlave assembled.

JOINING THE KU KLUX KLAN.

The striking scene above, taken by flashlight, shows an open night meeting of the Ku Klux Klan in Indiana for the purpose of initiating new Klansmen. The procedure is described in detail in the accompanying article.

White-robed figures form a huge circle of guards, beyond which the public may not pass, while in the center beneath the fiery cross are grouped the ceremonial officials and the initiates, the latter numbering several hundred in the picture. The Advertiser obtained this picture from Irwin R. Hignett, "Kleagle" of the Klan, who is at present in London. The document below is a photographed reproduction of a page from a ritual book of the Ku Klux Klan, showing the oath of allegiance taken in the initiation ceremony. This oath and the three oaths required are quoted in full in the article. The page above was photographed here by The Advertiser photographer on Monday. (The Advertiser has obtained from Ottawa copyright on all photographs.)

Russia's Leaders Doomed To Die

Lenine and Trotsky Are Both Seriously Ill.

Associated Press Despatch. London, March 15.—Russia's leaders, Lenine and Trotsky, are doomed to die, according to Charles R. Crane, former United States minister to China, who has just left London for the United States after a five months stay in Europe.

Mr. Crane, who has visited Moscow and Petrograd periodically in the course of the last decade, said that the soviet premier was unquestionably in a dying condition. Trotsky, he asserted, is suffering from an obscure malady. He is obliged to remain in bed for long periods, and his malady does not yield to medical treatment.

THREE NEW YORK BANKERS FACE CHARGE OF LARCENY

Associated Press Despatch. New York, March 15.—Vincio Tibbo and his brothers, Vic and Francisco, proprietors of an East Side steamship agency and unlicensed bank, who disappeared recently taking all the firm's assets with them, were indicted by a grand jury here late yesterday on charges of first and second degree grand larceny.

Poison was found in the body, and the wife was arrested. Her friend was also taken into custody after 600 incriminating letters which the two women had exchanged were discovered. In these letters the two wives discussed all the details of how the poison was to be given to their husbands. One of the women even went to a clairvoyant, who told her that she would soon wear a widow's veil, and gave her some "magic powder," which she should give her husband. The clairvoyant, a woman 75 years of age, was brought into court on a stretcher. She swore that her "magic powder" had consisted merely of flour and chalk, and were quite harmless.

Both the young women pleaded guilty, but the mother said she had nothing to do with the plot. According to German law, the women have to be tried before a jury, despite their pleas of guilty, and on account of the sensation which the case has caused it is not likely that they will escape as easily as the husband-slayers in so many American and French cases. Like their French and American sisters, these women pleaded extreme cruelty on the part of their husbands in extension of the crime. German juries, however, are less impressionable than those in the countries named.

Two German Women Admit Poisoning Their Husbands

Incriminating Letters Found by Police—Discussed Details of Methods To Dispose of the Men.

By GEORGE WITTE. Special Cable to The London Advertiser and Chicago Daily News, Copyright.

Berlin, March 15.—Post war degeneracy in Germany is being shown up in all its details in a trial which is taking place in one of the criminal courts in Berlin. The defendants are three women, two wives and the mother of one of them, who had plotted to get rid of their husbands by giving them arsenic and rat poison in small quantities in their food.

One of the husbands died, but the other survived, after the dead man's mother had persuaded the authorities to hold a post mortem examination.

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BRITAIN RESPONDS TO GERMAN CALL FOR INTERVENTION

Suggests Foreign Loan to Germany To Be Guaranteed by British Export Trade.

TO PAY REPARATIONS

English Government Advises New and Clearer Offer To Be Made to the Entente.

Special Cable to The Advertiser. Berlin, March 15.—Great Britain has responded to Germany's recent secret "peace feelers," it was said today. The British government suggested Germany make a new and clearer reparations offer to the entente on her own initiative or that such an offer be made to the entente and the United States.

German willingness to resume reparations payments was learned last Monday, at which time it was confirmed that Chancellor Cuno had sent feelers in circulation and that a third power, Britain, was not entirely unresponsive.

The new reparations proposal, tentatively suggested to Britain, was that Germany should pay a sum to be fixed by an international committee, the total not to exceed 30,000,000,000 marks. A foreign loan to Germany, to be guaranteed by this country's export trade, was to provide the funds from which the payments would be made.

The Bonar Law government, it is understood, is not committed to such a proposition per se, but has suggested that Germany clarify certain details before making her proposal of yesterday publicly to the Allies.

LOCAL INVESTORS IN STEEL CO. HOPED FOR STORE IN CITY

Those Who Bought Tell The Advertiser This Thought Influenced Them.

NEW POINT RAISED

No Prospectus of Company Was Delivered to Shareholders, Local Men Say.

"When you bought your stock in the L. R. Steel Corporation, were you offered a prospectus, or did you ever see one?" was the question asked this morning by The Advertiser man of several Londoners who had invested in the stock of the corporation.

"No," they answered, "we never thought of that."

In every case investigated, the purchaser was under the impression that he or she was buying the stock of a Canadian company, and it was because (in many cases) they believed a store of the Steel chain would be erected in London that they bought as they did.

One point of outstanding interest was unearthed. In the summer of 1921 a London man who was buying the stock on the insurance plan, and who had made a large number of payments, became for some reason suspicious of his bargain, and through his lawyer applied to headquarters of the corporation in Toronto for the return of his money, on the ground that he had never seen the prospectus of the company, and knew nothing about the financial position of the firm.

No Prospectus Needed. In the course of their reply, the legal firm acting for the corporation made this statement:

"We beg to point out to you that no prospectus is required to be filed, because this stock is actually owned and sold by the L. R. Steel Corporation, and is not the whole or the greater part of any issue. See section 99, subsection 3, of the Ontario companies' act."

"It is only where it is necessary to file a prospectus that it is also necessary to deliver one to the purchaser at the time of sale."

The lawyer who represented the London man replied that in spite of this position taken by the firm his client would not accept the issue, and would not pay for the stock unless the money was refunded. And then the corporation paid the money.

The Advertiser then asked the Ontario companies' act and the existing provincial corporations act, and on page 38, section 99, clause 3, he found two very interesting provisions. First, "a public company that is not deemed to be selling shares to the public does not need to issue a prospectus, and the stock of a company which does not attempt to sell the whole or the majority of its stock is not deemed to be selling its stock to the public."

It was on the strength of this statement, according to the London lawyer, that Clause 3, Section 99, that the lawyer acting for the Steel people based his first refusal to refund the money.

Formed to Sell Stock. In the course of this inquiry by the London investor it appeared that the L. R. Steel Corporation was merely acting as a brokerage firm on the original L. R. Steel Corporation, which was a company incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware. The L. R. Steel Corporation never sold any of its own stock, but had formed a Canadian company simply for the purpose of selling the stock of the L. R. Steel Corporation, which was the Delaware company.

The lawyer who acted for the London man in this case said today he had not seen this point brought up in the investigations now in progress in Toronto, and that as the whole stock-selling operations of the company in Canada seemed to be based on the sentence in Clause 3, Section 99, of the act, it was surely a point of extreme importance in the case.

"Why," he said, "if a company is not deemed to be selling its stock, provided it sells less than the majority of the stock, and therefore not by law bound to issue any prospectus, look at the opening that is given to any stock salesman in Ontario!"

BISHOP SERIOUSLY ILL. Associated Press Despatch. St. Louis, Mo., March 15.—The condition of the Rt. Rev. Daniel S. Tuttle, senior bishop of the Episcopal Church, who is critically ill with influenza, was reported unchanged today, with the 88-year-old prelate resting easy.

THE WEATHER

Today — Strong southeast and east winds; snow or rain. Friday — Snow or rain. Pressure is high on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, and the weather is generally fair and cold from Alberta to the Maritime Provinces.

Stations	High	Low	Weather
Victoria	36	36	Clear
Calgary	24	4	Clear
Winnipeg	15	—8	Clear
Port Arthur	15	—8	Foggy
Soo	20	—4	Cloudy
Toronto	26	17	Cloudy
Kingston	28	4	Clear
Ottawa	24	—4	Clear
Montreal	22	10	Clear
Quebec	18	—	Clear
Falmer Point	0	—12	Clear
St. John	16	0	Clear
Halifax	15	0	Clear

LOCAL TEMPERATURES. The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 21; lowest, 3. The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 25; lowest, 17. Barometric Readings. Wednesday—3 p.m., 29.65. Today—3 a.m., 29.62.