

KLANS PLANS INDUSTRY INTO MOB KILLING

Officials Confer and Vote to Start Investigation Within 48 Hours.

DENY ORDER IS GUILTY

Bastrop Members Angered by McKoin's Denial He Is One of Them.

SAY HE LED RAIDERS

State Preparing Evidence for Open Hearing Set for January 5.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD. NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 29.—The Louisiana Ku Klux Klan will make its own investigation of the Mer Rouge murders.

Announcement to this effect was made by a high State official of the Klan yesterday following a conference of heads of the State organization in New Orleans. Four or five of the highest Klan officials in the State attended the meeting and mapped out plans for a quick, undercover inquiry by Klan agencies.

It was stated that the investigation probably will be started within the next forty-eight hours, and the comment was declined on the possible length of time required for the inquiry it was intimated that the Klan hopes to see it completed before the public hearing set by the State authorities for January 5 at Bastrop.

There was no pretense behind the announcement of the investigation. The spokesman for the organization said the purpose of the inquiry was to whitewash the Klan of any connection with the outrages.

"Columns have been printed and statement after statement has been issued by State authorities, all tending to fasten on the Klan the blame of the Mer Rouge murders," said this official. "Leaders of the Klan know differently. I myself only recently returned from Morehouse Parish, where I discussed the outrage with many folk who know their community well. I know that the Klan is not to blame.

"By our investigations now we hope to uncover the facts that will enable us to convince the entire public of what we already know and believe."

Denial by Dr. E. M. McKoin in Baltimore that he ever was a member of the Ku Klux Klan has aroused the anger of members of the organization at Bastrop, who can hardly believe it possible that the man who they say is the former leader of the hooded fraternity in Mer Rouge would declare he was not one of them.

Says He Initiated McKoin.

Three Klansmen and a former member of the organization insisted today in interviews that McKoin was not only a member but was the captain of the order in Mer Rouge. One of the men said he was not only present on the night that McKoin initiated, but was one of seven men who went to the Mayor and got his application for membership. He said he helped place the hood over McKoin's head and urged the physician to look at the order.

"Two of the men interviewed said they would testify if the State desired at the open hearing that McKoin was not in the order and one of them insisted he would swear that he was present when two raids were conducted with McKoin as the leader of the expedition."

"He may deny he is a member of the Klan in Baltimore, but when he gets back here he will never say that," a Klansman said. "He knows very well that his membership can be established without doubt by as many witnesses as the State cares to produce."

"If I am convinced the K. K. K. was implicated in this outrage as an organization," said one of the Klansmen, "I will resign my membership, renounce my oath and tell everything I know about the order. I went out on two of the raids which Dr. McKoin headed. The first one, I think, was justified. The other caused me to look at the Klan in a highly different manner, and my wife has begged me almost on bended knees to resign from the organization."

"They say those two men who were killed were of a lawless type. This much is true at least; they have never been guilty of taking a human life. Had I known that Dr. McKoin had ever killed a man I would not have asked him to join the organization."

"In taking the stand I have, I am doing so knowing full well what my actions mean. I know that practically every man in Bastrop is a Klansman."

Others Call McKoin Leader.

"If I resign, as I certainly will if I am convinced that blood is on the hands of the Klan, it may mean I will have to take my family and move to another locality."

Attorney-General Cocco and his assistants were busy yesterday preparing evidence for the open hearing at Bastrop.

The State will lay its cards face up on the table when the open hearing begins," said Attorney-General Cocco. "With such evidence as we will offer you do not see how any Grand Jury can refuse to indict."

"When will more arrests be made?" Mr. Cocco was asked.

"In due time," he replied.

From Baltimore today came another telegram from Dr. Hugh H. Young of Johns Hopkins Hospital to Mr. Cocco. It read:

"If you consider it presumptuous to request your information affirming the innocence of Dr. McKoin given by six prominent physicians and two bank presidents of Louisiana, I thank God that I live in Maryland, where our State Executive vetoes all information bearing on a case."

Dr. Young telegraphed to Mr. Cocco Thursday night urging the release of Dr. McKoin. Mr. Cocco replied to the Baltimore doctor that it was presumptuous of him to make such a request in a case of which he had no information.

KLANS PLANS TO ABSORB OWLS.

Head of Litter Order Tells of Deal With Simmons and Clarke.

SOUTH BEND, Ind., Dec. 29.—A deal is pending, according to John Talbot, supreme president of the Order of Owls, under which the Owls' organization in the South would be taken over by William J. Simmons and E. Y. Clarke, organizers of the Ku Klux Klan.

Talbot is to begin a five-year sentence at Leavenworth prison within a few days for violation of the Mann act.

New York Does Largest Money Order Business

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD. NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—NEW YORK STATE did a larger postal money order business this year than any other State in the country. Postal money orders amounting to \$145,413,841 were issued and orders amounting to \$215,991,994 were cashed in the State.

Pennsylvania was second with \$97,492,485 in money orders issued and \$97,288,657 cashed. Illinois ranked third, its post offices issuing money orders amounting to \$75,218,404. In the number cashed by Illinois post offices the total was \$218,829,474, or about \$3,000,000 more than New York's record in this respect.

WOULD BUILD THREE MAIL STATIONS HERE

Postmaster-General Work Sees Emergency in New York and Brooklyn.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Dec. 29.—The belief that infantile paralysis is spread by rats and fleas, just as the bubonic plague is spread, was expressed by Prof. Charles T. Brusca of Harvard University in an address before the medical science section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science today. He said he feared there may be another serious outbreak in the United States soon, possibly during 1923.

He said the theory was not definitely proved, but there was a mass of evidence tending to the conclusion that rats and insects spread the disease.

Epidemics of infantile paralysis, he said, had been strikingly intermittent. "With a tendency to exacerbation every second or more notably, every seventh year. If this frequency repeated we may soon expect another serious outbreak in the United States, possibly during 1923, and if such should come to pass, it seems very probable that a world wide epidemic wave of poliomyelitis is under way, similar to the present tropical epidemic of plague which began at about the same time."

Is a Summer Disease.

Practically all epidemics of the disease, he said, occur during the summer, rising from a minimum in the early spring to a maximum during late summer and the seasonal incidence coincides closely with that of the known insect-borne diseases which become prevalent during the summer, when insect life flourishes.

Transmission of disease not only to other people but also to animals and fish, with a potential influence on the food industries, has to be considered by the United States Public Health Service in its attitude toward immigrants. Prof. C. W. Stiles of that service said. He explained why Asiatic immigrants suffering from Asiatic liver fluke disease are barred.

This disease, he said, had been known since 1879, but the cure of only one case appeared to be recorded. The disease in Asia passed from man to a snail, then to fishes, he said. Snails and fish of closely related varieties existed in this country and it was probable that if introduced here the disease would be transmitted to man.

He cited another disease in the United States, contracted only by eating undercooked fish. Fish dealers, he pointed out, often gave fish offal to farmers for feeding to their stock and in this way the disease might be transmitted to domestic animals and cause heavy loss.

Feeble-mindedness Acquired.

Dr. J. E. W. Wallin, director of the bureau of special education and professor of clinical psychology, said that a twelve year study of 8,500 juveniles of all grades of intelligence and the observation of thousands of parents of mentally defective children had led to the conclusion that most cases of feeble-mindedness, contrary to the generally accepted view, could not be traced to feeble-mindedness, insanity or epilepsy in the ancestry.

Feeble-mindedness and subnormality might, he added, be produced by many agencies, environmental or hereditary, acting separately or together. He said he had reached the conclusion that feeble-mindedness or degeneracy could not be wholly eradicated by means of sterilization or prevention of mating of the feeble-minded or degenerate.

As helpful measures, he said, injuries, diseases and anything harmful to the child's nervous system must be prevented before and after birth and the mental and physical powers must be exercised and developed scientifically.

Forests Not Flood Cure.

Gen. Harry Taylor of the Army Engineer Corps, speaking on the problem of controlling floods of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers, said that reforestation of the water sheds would not be practicable for this purpose. To bring about a reduction of one-half in the flood discharge, he said, two square miles of forest would be necessary for every second foot of reduction, or 400,000 square miles of forest along the Missouri and 300,000 square miles along the Mississippi.

Dr. George F. Kunz, president of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, in an address on "The Economic Value of Parks and Reservations," said in part: "As an illustration of the economic value of a great city park we may cite Central Park. That great municipal park contains 843 acres. Back in 1858, when land was bought for the old Croton Reservoir, it cost about \$2,216 an acre. Eighteen years later, in 1876, the park cost about \$5,833, an increase in value of about 259 per cent. In 1893, the last purchase for the park cost about \$15.17 an acre, an increase of 750 per cent. in twenty-five years. The land for the whole park cost \$7,389,127, and is carried on the books of the City of New York at \$22,000,000, an increase over thirty-fold, 3,000 per cent. in value.

"The foregoing figures refer to the land value of Central Park itself. The increase in the value of the surrounding property has been more than twice that rate."

BANDITS GET \$10,000 FURS.

A daylight holdup Thursday in the fur establishment of Samuel Klepner & Sons, 108 and 110 West Twenty-fifth street, was disclosed by the police yesterday.

Three young men, each with a revolver in one hand and a large grip sack in the other, entered the shop after leaving their automobile at the curb, and commanded "hands up." Samuel Klepner, aged 36, his son, Henry, and Jacob Braunstein, an employee, were the only ones there. They were forced into a corner in the rear, and while one of the bandits kept them bound, his confederates emptied through a vent in the floor of the Eagle Warehouse in Hayes street.

More than 9,000 gallons of pre-war beer, confiscated by drug agents in raids in Atlantic City and Jersey City, were dumped into the street at Newark yesterday. Deputy United States Marshal Zipf, acting on an order signed by Federal Judge Relett, directed the operations of destroying the beer, which was dumped through a vent in the floor of the Eagle Warehouse in Hayes street.

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INFANTILE PARALYSIS IS SPREAD BY FLEAS

Rats Also Contribute as in the Case of the Bubonic Plague.

EPIDEMIC IS FEARED

Scientists at Harvard Told Recurrent Wave Is Due This Year.

PARKS VALUED IN CASH

Dr. G. F. Kunz Tells Science Meeting How They Give Economic Returns.

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LA MONTAGNE BROTHERS NAMED IN RACQUET CLUB CHARGES

Continued from First Page.

of which companies is held by the Corporation Company, Inc., the stock of which in turn is owned entirely by the four La Montagne brothers.

It is alleged in the indictment that the defendants sold whiskey of the Green River Distilling Company, Inc., to persons who had no permits therefor. The Green River held what is known as B. or Wholesale Liquor dealers' permit, from January, 1920, to November, 1921, when all such permits were canceled, and during this entire period large quantities of Green River whiskey were sold to other bootleggers who would present forged and altered permits therefor.

It is alleged that the defendants obtained a branch distillery permit for Emittance Distillery Company, Inc., and sold whiskey of that company to persons who had no permits to purchase the whiskey. It was sold direct to consumers and the transactions were covered by counterfeit and forged permits.

It is further alleged that defendants sold intoxicating liquors of E. La Montagne Sons, Inc., to persons who had no permits therefor. The liquors of this company were imported from Scotch whisky, brandy, &c. The permits which covered these transactions were not, so far as is known, forged, but it is not stated whether the permits issued by the La Montagnes with the understanding that permittees would not obtain the liquor or pay for it, but that if it might be bootlegged by La Montagnes.

Where the Liquor Went.

It is further alleged that defendants sold false, fraudulent permits of return for the three companies named. The reports referred to are the monthly reports required by law to be filed with the Collector of Internal Revenue showing the persons to whom liquor has been sold during the month.

Each month one of the La Montagnes would swear to this report, forged and counterfeit permits, named on the permits on file in the office of the respective companies, whereas as a matter of fact it had been sold to various members of the Racquet and Tennis Club and to other persons. The La Montagnes could not doubt be charged with perjury were it not for the fact that the regulations of the Treasury Department prescribe that the oath shall be merely that the report is a correct transcript of the books. The books were falsified, but the report was a correct transcript thereof.

It is further alleged that defendants arranged to have the incriminating forged and counterfeit permits of Emittance Distillery Co., Inc. taken up and done away with. This was done after the first visit of the inspectors in May and to accomplish this a forged letter on a letterhead of the Prohibition Director was presented authorizing two named agents to take up the permits. The letter was brought in by two unknown persons, agents of the defendants, and the incriminating papers were done away with.

The second count of this indictment is similar to the first with the addition that it is alleged that the defendants conspired to defraud the Government of the taxes on liquor which sold for beverage purposes and of income taxes. The latter conspiracy is evidenced by the crediting on the books of the corporations of the La Montagnes with bootlegging the taxes on liquor which sold for beverage purposes and of income taxes. The latter conspiracy is evidenced by the crediting on the books of the corporations of the La Montagnes with bootlegging the taxes on liquor which sold for beverage purposes and of income taxes.

Forgery of Permits.

The second indictment is based on possessing and uttering forged permits and does not include Montague La Montagne, Harlow, Scuttenberg, or the two Burrows.

By way of indicating the basis for charging the La Montagnes with bootlegging the indictments mention a business transaction between Rene La Montagne and Franklin Simon & Co., which the latter gave the former a check for \$1,100 on February 21, 1922. Other payments alleged to be for liquor provided by the so-called conspirators are:

B. B. Thayer, April 17, for \$110 to A. E. Strong.

H. LeRoy Whitney, May 3, for \$250 to Rene La Montagne.

Walter Mayer, March 24, \$570, payable to "cash."

E. Townsend Irvin, April 5, for \$320, payable to Rene La Montagne.

Further along, in the second indictment dealing with forged permits and counterfeiting of withdrawal orders, the following individuals and drug stores are named as having received liquor:

Monterey Pharmacy, Inc., Sixty avenue and Kingsley street, Astbury Park, fourteen cases of whiskey on May 7.

Wertz's Pharmacy, 175 Broadway.

Long Branch, fourteen cases of whiskey.

H. L. Behrens, Lincoln avenue, Long Branch, fourteen cases of whiskey.

Britton's Pharmacy, Long Branch fourteen cases of whiskey.

H. Weissman, 257 Springfield avenue, Newark, one case of whiskey and one barrel of whiskey.

C. J. Schudde, 526 Central avenue, Newark, one barrel of whiskey.

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