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INDIANAPOLIS, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 1928

Full Leased Wire Service of  
the United Press Association.**KLAN SECRETS  
ARE BARED BY  
EX-OFFICIALS**

Former Klaliff of Kluxers  
in Delaware County  
Tells Story.

**FOUR OTHERS TESTIFY**

Graft and Fraud Revealed  
in Depositions Made  
to Gilliom.

The depositions baring Ku-Klux Klan governmental machinations during the reign of D. C. Stephenson and his successor grand dragons in Indiana today are in possession of Attorney General Arthur L. Gilliom.

Gilliom will use the depositions in his suit to cancel the Indiana Klan charter.

The first, that of Hugh (Pat) Enmons, former South Bend Cyclops taken two weeks ago, revealed how the Klan conducted espionage, recommended violence and made puppets of political parties.

Tuesday, four witnesses gave testimony to corroborate these points. Sam Bemenderfer, former Klaliff or vice president of the Delaware Klan, told how the members in his own Klavern were "muled of more than \$137,000, of which they in return received \$300 to be distributed in charity in the form of Christmas baskets."

Tells of "Fleecing"

With eyes inscrutable behind dark glasses, Bemenderfer painted a picture of deluded men "fleeced of money for one purpose or another."

"We were charged kleekotkens, or initiation fees, overcharged for robes, paid for the very chairs we sat in, and then asked to join clubs for which we paid additional initiation fees. Then came the demand to contribute to buy D. C. Stephenson a car. This was to be State-wide.

"The Muncie organization contributed \$3,000. Other Klaverns also paid thousands of dollars. The car given Stephenson was a Packard," he testified.

Then when the Klansmen of Muncie, in revolt against the extortions, found their Kleagle, W. E. Cahill, had been found short in his accounts, Bemenderfer charged, and complained to Imperial Wizard Hiram Wesley Evans, through representatives sent to Atlanta, they were told to mind their "own business," and Cahill was given an important Klan post in Ohio.

He described how an inspection of other States revealed "only corruption" and "swindle on a gigantic scale." The Muncie Klan seceded and founded the Independent Klan of America, which later became the existant order of Knights of American Protestantism.

War Veteran Testifies

Orion Norcross, captain in the World War, Kleagle of Richmond, Kligrapp of Muncie, and now secretary of the new organization, corroborated all Bemenderfer's statements, and described how Stephenson, "The Old Man," sent him telegrams to block the appointment of a successor to Lawrence Lyons, chairman of the Republican State committee, and ordered the Klaverns in the State to force Lyons' resignation and "block the appointment of Clyde Walb."

Documentary evidence in the form of "Imperial and Realm Mandates" telegrams, letters and notes were introduced during the questioning of Norcross, to prove that he had "perfected a machine which will challenge the admiration of our most overbearing and intolerant enemies."

Norcross described how Evans turned a deaf ear to the Klansmen's pleas that the "extortion of his dues cease."

E. A. Stilson of Anderson, regalia maker, told of the contract made with Stephenson whereby he furnished robes at \$3.50 apiece for the first 10,000 robes and \$3.35 for each additional one, which the "Old Man" paid to \$6.50 to Klaverns.

How E. S. Shumaker, Indiana Anti-Saloon League superintendent, lent legal aid to the Horse Thief Detectives' Association in its suits against alleged law violators, through the legal aids in his office, was described by Thomas W. Swift, Kligrapp of the Kokomo Klavern from 1923 to 1926, and president of the Howard County Horse Thief Detective organization.

"We had our own search warrants printed and then took them to a friendly justice of the peace, who would sign them without examining the affidavits."

Fixed in Court

The arrested suspect then was brought before the same justice and sentenced. Ted Hays, deputy prosecutor, would take charge of the case for us.

"If, as in three cases out of the 100, it was taken to Circuit Court, Ethan A. Miles, Anti-Saloon League attorney, would prosecute the jury which took only two ballots."

"At one time I came to see Miles in Indianapolis at the Anti-Saloon League headquarters and he was out, but we met Mr. Shumaker, who said: 'You are a fine work, keep it up, and turn us over to J. E. Martin, another Anti-Saloon League counsel."

Swift told he was called to Indianapolis before the 1924 election and was given several hundred thousand copies of a supposedly Knights of Columbus four degree draft by W. Lee Smith, Grand Dragon to be distributed in northern Indiana the night before the election.

"Smith told me that they would be distributed in Marion County by the local organization. The boys would put them in clothes pins and throw them on the porches of all citizens, while the southern part of the State would be handled by the organization down there."

**Marbles and Skates Herald Coming of Spring****COAL AREA CONDITION ARE  
OUTRAGE, GOODING SAYS, IN  
REVIEW OF SENATORS' QUIZ**

Situation Branded a Menace; Mine Police Assailed; Violence and Squallor Everywhere, Idahoan Declares.

This is the first of three articles by Senator Frank R. Gooding of Idaho telling about conditions in the coal strike region of Pennsylvania. A Senate Committee, headed by Gooding, recently made a tour of this section.

**SENATOR FRANK R. GOODING**

WASHINGTON, March 7.—The conditions prevailing in the bituminous coal fields of Pennsylvania, where thousands of miners are on strike, are shocking.

They are cruel and often outrageous.

They demonstrate a great economic waste.

They must be cleaned up, for the benefit of the owners of the mines, the workers in the mines and the people who pay the coal bills.

The subcommittee of the Senate's Interstate Commerce Committee went into the bituminous regions with an open mind and returned to Washington convinced of all these things.

I can not believe that the coal operators have been aware of the abuses and cruelties to which miners have been subjected, in the physical sense, by the coal and iron police employed by these operators and as affects their rights as American citizens by courts themselves.

I can not believe that they are even aware of the Joathome and unsanitary conditions amid which even the company strikebreakers are being lodged.

Everything from near murder and assaults on women to violation of constitutional rights has been perpetrated upon defenseless workers and their families.

I have no doubt that, although the miners' union itself has made every effort to maintain peace and order, individual strikers have rebelled and broken the laws. But this situation facing them has become a breeder of radicalism and bolshevism which might well spread and become a national menace.

We found Americans living in squalor, suffering misery and disease, conditions bound to lead to sickness and crime.

We found no actual starvation because the union has tried to take care of its own and human beings can exist on very little when forced to do so. But the union's temporary shacks are crowded and unsanitary. They will be worse in hot weather.

We found workers crowded into little bunks under most unsanitary conditions. In one house occupied by strikebreakers they had even removed the stove.

Most of the strikebreakers are colored men. They aren't of the best class. The employers take in anyone who says he is a coal miner and then treat them like dogs.

Thus they have a great many inexperienced men, and that is a dangerous situation in a coal mine.

We had women before us who had been beaten or criminally assaulted by coal and iron police.

Many of the atrocities on miners and their families have taken place on public highways. The people are to be helpless and unable to get relief.

Parker has advised Prosecutor William G. Bray of Morgan County that he will follow a suggestion of the public service commission that the building be moved.

Owner to Move Building at Center-Ton Crossing, Where Six Died.

By Times Special

MARTINSVILLE, Ind., March 7.—The store building owned by Lewis Parker at Center-Ton, which obstructs view of a Terre Haute, Indianapolis & Eastern traction line crossing, where six persons were killed a few weeks ago when an interurban car struck an automobile, is to be moved.

ACTS AFTER TRAGEDY

Two Men Face Charges of Robbery at Speedway.

Forest Moist, 26, of 1229 Villa Ave., and Raymond Fullen, 35, of 303 Fletcher Ave., were held to the grand jury Tuesday on charges of the robbery of John B. Wickard, of 2306 Ashland Ave. They are said to have forced Wickard into an automobile at the Speedway and taking a diamond ring and money from him.

Aura Condif, 25, of 1958 Olney St., and Floyd Fettlinger, 24, of the same address, were held on charge of robbery of a filling station.

SEARCHES

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