

**THE SANFORD EXPRESS**

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**THE FAKE OATH.**

It was about six months ago that copies of the alleged "Knights of Columbus oath" began coming into the office of the Observer. Within recent weeks copies of this alleged oath have been circulated through the mails, anonymously, of course, and some recipients have brought their copies to the Observer, some of the more impulsive wanting it printed, but those giving the matter more intelligent consideration being curious to know the history of what was to their minds a manifest imposition. Always quotation "from the Congressional Record" was one point emphasized, the general impression being that publication in that paper invested an article with established credence. The fake oath was printed in the Record about 14 years ago. It was alleged to be "the fourth degree oath," and was one of monstrosities constructed sentiment. In the Sixty-Second Congress a debate was under way on a contested election case, and the alleged oath being incorporated in one of the reports, its publication in the Congressional Record was an entailed necessity. The fake has been exposed before, but its resurrection for use during this campaign, moves The Observer, in the spirit of justice and fair play, to lay the facts before an intelligent public.

No organized body in the country was more deeply stirred over the supposed oath than the Masonic bodies, and they instituted an investigation. The facts as brought out by this investigation were unanimously subscribed to and made public. This Masonic investigation found that the ceremonial of the Knights of Columbus "teaches a high and noble patriotism, instills a love of country, inculcates a reverence for law and order, urges the conscientious and unselfish performance of civic duty and holds the constitution of our country as the richest and most precious possession of a knight of the order." They state further that they can "find nothing in the entire ceremonial of the order that to our minds could be objected to by any person."

The exposure of the fake is made more complete by presentation of the oath to which the Knights of Columbus subscribe, and it runs this way:

"I swear to support the Constitution of the United States. I pledge myself as a Catholic citizen and Knight of Columbus, to enlighten myself fully upon my duties as a citizen and to conscientiously perform such duties entirely in the interest of my country and regardless of all personal consequences. I pledge myself to do all in my power to preserve the integrity and purity of the ballot, and to promote reverence and respect for law and order. I promise to practice my religion openly and consistently, but without ostentation, and to so conduct myself in public affairs, and in the exercise of public virtues as to reflect nothing but credit upon our Holy Church, to the end that she may flourish and our country prosper to the greater honor and glory of God."

This much can be said without in any way championing the cause of the Knights of Columbus, but it can be said willingly by any newspaper, as we have indicated, from the standpoint of justice and fair play.—Charlotte Observer.

The Express is copying the above editorial from The Observer in order that the facts may be presented to our readers, some of whom have received copies of the oath referred to by that paper. The writer has received copies of this fake oath and he is urged to enclose them in every letter that he mails out. Any one who would resurrect this hoary fake for political purposes in this campaign is doing his cause no good.

**AGRICULTURE IN A STATE OF REVOLUTION.**

The editor of "Nation's Business" says that the farm problem is the result of a revolution in agriculture and goes on to pick out the disturbing elements in the situation. He says:

Here is the picture. America's agriculture has cut its productive plant by more than 13,000,000 acres, has reduced population by 11 per cent, yet its aggregate crop production has gone up 5 per cent and the productivity of each farm worker has increased 15 per cent.

Take one more figure about our farms. In the period from 1920 to 1925 the number of horses and mules on our farms increased more than 3,000,000. In the same period the number of tractors increased 250,000.

And how many men were replaced by these substitutions for manual labor?

It would not be hard to produce comparable figures for various lines of manufacture. Overproduction, unemployment, ruinous competition, these are all symptoms of the changes that are taking place.

No industry, whether it be raising corn or making furniture, can go through such changes without suffering at the time.

**CONFLICTING STATEMENTS**

In discussing politics with us the other day a layman said that if the preachers didn't keep out of this political campaign they would elect Al Smith in spite of heat and high water. We don't know about that. We note, however, that some of the leaders in one or two branches of the Protestant church are already in the thick of the fight and are advising their members how to vote. Four Methodist bishops, in a joint statement made public a few days ago, served notice upon opponents of prohibition that the supporters of the law will not be driven from the field by the cry that they are "bringing the church into politics" by opposing an "outstanding enemy of prohibition for the Presidency." The statement was signed by Bishop James Cannon, Jr. of Richmond; John W. Moore, of Dallas; Edwin Moulton, of Charlotte; and Horace M. Dubose, of Nashville. It closes with these words:

"It would be an unthinkable repudiation of our personal responsibility as Christian citizens and a base betrayal of those who have a right to look to us for moral leadership to retire from the field at this critical juncture in the warfare with this age-long enemy of mankind.

"We notify the defenders and the advocates of the liquor traffic that the moral forces of the country will not be driven from the field by the cry that they are 'bringing the church into politics' because they are opposing the election to the presidency of a man whose personal and official record both brand him as the outstanding enemy of national prohibition for which great reform we have ourselves not only as citizens, but also as Christian ministers, been working for years."

Bishop Warren A. Chandler, of Atlanta, has also issued a statement in which he summarizes what he calls the established and spiritual position of his church, declaring that he will stand by that position and avoid politics. In closing his statement, the Bishop says:

"It is not amiss to repeat what has often been declared—that our church is strictly a religious and in no wise a political body. Our sole business is to preach and serve the Kingdom of God. There are many questions, economical, social, and in part ethical, of burning interest in this day, which our pulpits and churches may be tempted to substitute for the simple gospel. Men claiming to be advanced thinkers and wide-awake philanthropists may sneer at us as unpractical dreamers and devotees of shadows and things spiritual and eternal. But Christ is the Rock, and only those who build on Him build safely. The more closely we keep ourselves to the one work of testifying to all men repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ, the better shall we promote the highest good of our country and race. As a church we are not related by affiliation or antagonism to any political party. As a citizen every man should carry his judgment and conscience into politics and all other spheres of life."

The Greensboro Daily News, briefly stating the various positions, after mentioning Bishop Chandler's, says:

"Second, the Atlanta Evangelical Ministers' Association in long resolutions declared that sort of position was 'nonsense' and added that the clergymen were being urged to stay out of politics by a 'subsidized press and liquorized politicians.'

"Third, the Presbyterian ministers of Atlanta in resolutions declared that a minister's usefulness is conditioned upon his separation from the controversial aspects and especially from the spousal of purely political propaganda and activities of all kinds."

Dr. John D. McIl president for 16 years of the Georgia Baptist State Convention and considered one of the strongest preachers of that denomination, advises Baptist ministers to shun politics and keep political discussions out of their pulpits. Dr. McIl said:

"Bitterness and strife are going to have full sway all over our land. If you become a partisan you will lose the affection of nearly all those who oppose, of many of those whose candidate you espouse, and you may lose your pulpits.

"Remember, it is not your pulpit, it is the Lord's and His pulpit is not a political stump from which to make political speeches. Do not be persuaded that the great moral questions involved give you license to do this thing (discuss politics).

"Your power as a minister is of grace, and not of law. If men are saved from these evils through your ministry it must be a grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. When you throw aside the 'wisdom of God' and the 'power of God' from your pulpits and hold up to your people instead the platform or candidate of any political party and expect by that to save men from the sin of intemperance, or any other sin, you will become as sounding brass and tinkling cymbals."

"He Himself, when He was in the body on earth, never made any political speeches in His sermons. Nor did any of His disciples. And you, the servant, are not greater or wiser than your Lord."

Can the church gain anything by engaging in political discussions that arouse the passions of the hour? We believe the average man would say that she cannot.

But these are strange times.

**WHO'LL BE ELECTED-**

Collier's Weekly.

Is there any real chance of a Democratic victory this year? Normally the Republicans have a great majority. Just two Democrats have occupied the White House since the Civil War, although many believe that a third-Tilden-was elected. In view of our habit of voting Republican what are the chances?

First we can concede that, thanks to the Civil War, the votes of a certain number of states are definitely fixed. Part of the North and West will be Republican regardless of candidates and platform. The Solid South will be Democratic in spite of everything.

The sure Republican states will give Secretary Hoover at the very least 112 votes. The South will lay 114 votes on Governor Smith's doorstep.

Two hundred and sixty-six electoral votes are a bare majority. Obviously the choice will be made by the voters in the doubtful states.

What states can be called doubtful.

It is fair to say that a state which voted for Cleveland in 1892, or for Wilson in 1916, might go Democratic this year if the candidate and platform were again sufficiently appealing.

The number of states not counting the unchanged South for Cleveland or Wilson surprisingly large. Several states which were Populist in 1892 were Democratic in 1916, showing the persistence of a strong body of voters not Republican.

California, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, West Virginia and Wisconsin were among the Republican states which went Democratic in 1916. Their combined electoral vote this year is 165.

Cleveland is a long way back. Wilson's second election is only twelve years away. Here are the Republican states which, influenced by the war issue, helped to put him in office in 1916.

California, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. Their combined vote is 109.

There are also the border states which are always more or less doubtful. Wilson in 1916 got the 49 electoral votes of Arizona, Kentucky, Maryland, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Tennessee.

It is manifest, however, that on past performances alone no one can forecast the outcome of the pending struggle.

Governor Smith resembles Grover Cleveland rather than Woodrow Wilson. His strength lies where Cleveland was strong. His personal appeal is to the cities.

In estimating the vote-getting power of Hoover and Smith in the doubtful states and in the Republican states which went for Cleveland or Wilson, remember both the personalities of the men and the principles for which they stand.

The platforms present few sharp differences. Not many votes will be changed by the compromises written down as principles at Kansas City and at Houston.

If you plan to base your preference on what the parties said about prohibition or farm relief, you might as well flip a nickel in the air and abide by its fall.

Actually we shall choose a man and not a platform.

Secretary Hoover is popular where Roosevelt and Wilson were hailed. He appeals to much of the idealism of the West. Despite the organized farm opposition, he will have powerful support between the Mississippi and the Pacific states which turned the tide for Wilson.

Governor Smith, on the other hand, will poll large votes in most of the cities. If he is to turn Republican states into the Democratic column in November, it will be through the city vote.

Smith will be strong where Cleveland was popular and he may profit by the growing power of the cities. Chicago, Cleveland, Boston, even Republican Philadelphia understand and like New York's Democratic governor.

At this stage of the campaign anyone who forecasts definitely the result is merely guessing. Enough of us to swing the election may be still keeping an open mind as to our votes. But if you want to get a clear notion of how close the contest is likely to be, take your pencil and count the possible results of a large Smith vote in the great cities.

(Connecticut, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, and Ohio together have 126 votes. Add these to the Solid South and a few of the border states such as Maryland, Kentucky and Tennessee and you will find an electoral vote almost as large as that which kept Wilson in the White House in 1916."

**WHY HESITATE?**

I adjust your spine and you feel fine,  
From your disease you're free;  
So why hesitate and longer wait,  
Why don't you come to me

**CHIROPRACTIC Adjustments Will Cure You!**

**DR. R. O. HUMPHREY.**  
Sanford, N. C.

**GEORGIA TOBACCO BRINGS GOOD PRICES**

Sales Heavy on Opening Day—Prices as Good as Better Than on Previous Seasons.

Tobacco planters in this section will be interested in the report from the first day's sales of tobacco in Georgia. The following report was sent out from Macon, Ga., under date of Aug. 3rd:

Tobacco made history in South Georgia today, record quantity and quality bringing a flood from opening day prices, equalling, and in some cases better than those for previous seasons.

Carnivals were enacted in the 22 towns where warehouses were humming all day with the cries of the auctioneers.

Business felt the keen stimulus of prices that averaged between 15 and 20 cents for the initial day of a tobacco season which is expected to see total sales approximating 68,000,000.

Despite that the bulk of the weed was sand lugs and primings, the quality was so high that prices showed a spread of 3 to 35 cents per pound which was considered extraordinary for the initial market.

Between 6,000,000 and 8,000,000 pounds were available to the buyers today in warehouses where every inch of space was taken, long trains of wagons and trucks waited for the floors to be cleaned so that they might unload. Sales figures will not be available before tomorrow, but many markets reported the buyers were not able to finish before night, resulting in blocked sales.

Most of the tobacco offered today consisted of sand lugs, but was declared to be of the best quality in years, bright in color and light in weight, making for prices above the usual level for that grade of the weed.

Seven acres of floor space was covered with the weed when the morning. Hotels were crowded to warehouses at Vidalia opened their capacity and citizens opened their homes to tobacco planters and buyers.

With the best estimates that more than a million and a half pounds of tobacco was on the floor today, prices ranged between 12 and 30 cents, the average being 17 1-2 cents per pound. Two sets of buyers carried on throughout the day. Streets were thronged with traffic and pedestrians.

Two thousand persons witnessed the opening sales at Baxley, where 300,000 pounds were on the floor for sale. Prices averaged twenty cents. Buyers estimated the better grades in this section will fetch around 35 cents.

Approximately 500,000 pounds was ready for the hammer at Douglas which has four warehouses. Four sets of buyers were watched by approximately 5,000 persons. Prices averaged about the same as in other markets.

Waycross had more tobacco and better quality weed than in several years. The city was in gala attire. The streets decorated with flags and bunting. Merchants reported great stimulation of business.

More than 5,000,000 pounds of weed rested on the warehouse floors at Moultrie with prices averaging 20 cents per pound despite that the most of the tobacco was sand lugs.

It looked like circus day in Tifton, with a million pounds at auction, exceeding all previous opening day quantities. Prices, ranging from 7 to 25 cents per pound, were said to be from 3 to 5 cents under last year. Tobacco growers brought their families to market and swelled the crowds for which amusements and celebration has been provided by a festival, parade, water carnival and a dance. During the evening a "Tobacco Queen" was to be crowned.

Valdosta estimated the opening day quantity at 695,000 pounds, with sand lugs predominating, but bringing good prices.

The smaller markets of Camilla and Pelham, with 50,000 and 150,000 pounds, respectively, saw average prices of about 15 per pound, although prices ranged up to 35 cents in Pelham.

**EXECUTOR'S NOTICE TO CREDITORS.**

The undersigned, having qualified as executor of the last will and testament of A. E. Kelly, deceased, hereby give notice to all creditors of the said estate to present their claims, duly verified, to the undersigned, on or before the 26th day of July, 1929, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. Debtors to the estate will please make prompt payment.

This July 25, 1928.

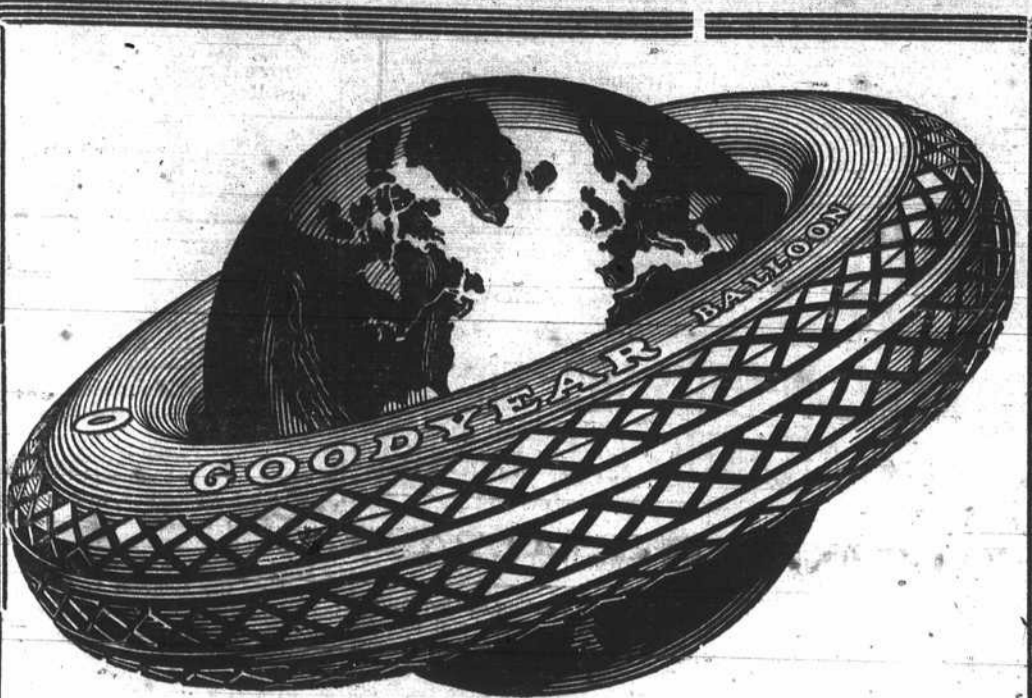
C. F. MALLOY,  
A. B. HARRINGTON,  
Executors of the will of A. E. Kelly.  
Seawell and McPerson, Attorneys.

**EXECUTRICES NOTICE.**

Having qualified as executrices of the last will and testament of A. F. McPhail, late of Lee county, State of North Carolina, this is to notify all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment to the undersigned. All persons having claims against said estate will present the same to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of July, 1929, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

This 26th day of July 1928.

Mary McPhail, Jonesboro, N. C.  
Ruth McPhail, R. No. 1.  
Executrices of the last will and testament of A. F. McPhail.



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