

Ku Klux Promises State-Wide "Expose" Of Al Smith—Starts After Christmas

(Charlotte News) A state-wide effort in North Carolina "to expose the political relationship of Al Smith's church affiliations to National Democratic politics" will be undertaken by the Ku Klux Klan immediately after the New Year holidays, according to an announcement made here Monday by M. S. Belsler, acting grand dragon of the Klan in this state.

"Just after the holidays, the Klan in this state will go into the front line trenches, bare its breast to the enemy and undertake to present fully and convincingly the true facts of Al Smith's political ambitions and of the dangers that his candidacy present to the United States," said Mr. Belsler.

The plans for this campaign practically have been completed, it was stated. Dr. Hiram W. Elyans, of Washington, imperial wizard of the Klan, will come to this state and deliver several addresses in the course of the fight, which Mr. Belsler forecast may become one of the most intense ever centering around a Presidential race in North Carolina since reconstruction days. At least one public meeting, when a speaker for the Klan will deliver an address, will be held in each of the 100 counties of the state, Mr. Belsler explained. The address at a large number of meetings will be delivered by Mr. Belsler, who gave some time Monday the preparation of notes to serve later as the basis for his speeches.

The first phase of the Klan's efforts to arouse opposition to the race for the presidency by the governor of New York will be undertaken Tuesday by Mr. Belsler, it was announced. The acting grand dragon said he has arranged to deliver an address each afternoon and evening with the exception of Sundays and a few other days, until December 20. Each of these addresses will be delivered behind closed doors at meetings of members of the Klan. "We can reach a

COTTON PROGRAM MADE BY SENATOR

Ransdell, of Louisiana, Announces Two Bills Which Will Be Pushed in Congress

Washington, Nov. 22.—A comprehensive cotton legislative program was announced here today by Senator Joseph E. Ransdell, of Louisiana, of the agricultural committee of the senate. He made public two bills which will be pushed energetically as soon as congress convenes, and one of them at least, is likely to receive consideration in connection with a congressional investigation of the "carry over" controversy which is being urged by some members of the house and senate from cotton growing states.

That dispute has been raging in the cotton trade ever since Secretary Hester of the New Orleans cotton exchange challenged the accuracy of the government figures issued in September on the carry over of American cotton from the last crop, and one of the outstanding results of the controversy to date, has been the order of Secretary of Agriculture Jardine to the bureau of agricultural economics to refrain from issuing such statements in the future. That, however, has not settled the matter. Numerous congressmen in the cotton growing states maintain that the departmental report caused a needless loss of many millions of dollars to the producers, and they insist that a rigid investigation be had of all the circumstances, and the facts published to the world.

consumption of American cotton; but that it will effectually abolish the "cotton tare" evil, which is the greatest blight that has ever hung over this or any other agricultural industry and has been responsible for the loss of tens of millions of dollars to the cotton growers every year.

A square bale of cotton weighs about 500 pounds and is covered by coarse heavy jute imported from India. About 14 pounds of jute is used and it is fastened around the bale by nine steel ties. The total weight of the bagging and ties varies from about 21 to 26 pounds and the combined weight of the two constitute what is known to the trade as "tare." When cotton is sold in America, says the senator, no deduction is apparently made for the weight of the bagging and ties. Thus in every day practice, when a farmer sells a 500 pound bale, on which the tare is, say 24 pounds, leaving 476 net pounds of cotton, the farmer is paid for 500 pounds—or at least he thinks he is, and in settling with him the computation is made at so much per pound for 500 pounds.

But what actually happens? The mills cannot spin bagging and ties, and they keep that fact in mind in all purchases of American cotton. Thus, when the bale reaches Liverpool, the tare, or weight of the container—in other words, the bagging and ties, estimated at 6 per cent is deducted. If the bale weighs 500 pounds the Englishman pays for 500 pounds less 30, or 470 pounds,—6 per cent of the gross weight being deducted for tare. The exporter who ships to England knows that his bale is going to be deducted 6 per cent, so if the bale only has 22 pounds of bagging and ties when it leaves the American gin, he adds 8 pounds of jute bagging before it is placed on board the ship to insure that it will not have less than 30 pounds of tare when it reaches the English customer. While the American mills apparently do not make any reduction for tare, yet, as a matter of fact, just as the English spinner deducts 30 pounds, so the American mills which buy the cotton compute that it has a certain amount of tare that is useless and computes the price it pays accordingly. In every case, whether in the United States or abroad, the ultimate consumer pays only for net cotton and the producer suffers the loss on bagging and ties.

By prohibiting the sale of baled cotton in interstate commerce unless it bears a metal tag furnished by the secretary of agriculture, showing the net weight of the lint cotton at the gin, Senator Ransdell believes that the wasteful and costly tare can be effectually eliminated, especially as the department of agriculture is empowered to make rules and regulations for the carrying of the bale.

This opens up a wide field for the use of low grade cotton which is now produced at little, if any profit, and the accumulation of which to the extent of millions of bales works to depress the price of the better grades. It is just, as feasible to cover the bales with bagging made from this low grade cotton as with imported jute, and by dipping it in a chemical which is not expensive, the cotton bagging becomes much less inflammable than jute. Furthermore, it requires only 5 pounds of jute, thus effecting a saving in weight of 9 pounds to the bale.

In order, however, to build up an American industry of low grade cotton bagging and burlaps that can withstand competition with the jute materials imported from India, Senator Ransdell says that it is necessary to impose a duty which will equalize the increased cost of American production and manufacture, and his second bill is intended to do this very thing.

"The Jute mill in Bengal," says the senator, "pays for the carder 80 cents per week; for the rover, \$1.75 per week; for the spinner, \$1.40 per week; for the winder, \$1.91 per week; for the beamer, \$2.37 per week; for the weaver, \$2.84 per week."

"I imagine there is not a single common laborer in an American mill who does not earn more every day than the most skillful laborer in India earns in a week; yet that jute product, in the shape of burlaps

comes in competition with the cotton goods produced in this country by our high paid employees out of cotton grown by American farmers—the bone and sinew of our republic.

"Suppose we could get that sort of measure enacted into law. It would mean, from the best information I have been able to obtain, that a market would be furnished for about 2,000,000 bales of low grade American cotton. This estimate includes 1,700,000 bales for all the purposes to which jute in the way of bags and sacking is put, and 300,000 bales for bagging to cover cotton for an average crop. Think of the innumerable uses for jute bagging. All grain of every kind is shipped in it; the sugar crop of this country and the tropics; all the fertilizer of every kind; cement, to a large extent; furniture is wrapped with the jute when it is packed. It is almost impossible to conceive the uses to which jute materials are placed in this country, uses which could better be served by cotton."

ONE HURT, ONE HELD AFTER CRASH OF CARS

Lumberton, Nov. 24.—Dove Locklear, of Pembroke, is in the Thompson memorial hospital, suffering with serious wounds and Claude Oxendine is in jail as the result of Oxendine's car colliding with an automobile occupied by four Lumberton negroes near here early tonight.

Locklear, who has just completed a four-year penitentiary term, was charged with being drunk. His car turned around and over in a ditch after striking the other, he and the woman being thrown out.

SELF-LIGHTED CIGARETTE IS NEWEST IN ENGLAND

London.—A retired business man has invented a self-lighting cigarette. A tiny disc of touch-paper is fixed to one end of the cigarette. Centered on the disc is a fragment of the igniting material about the size of a pin head. A gentle touch of this end of the cigarette against the prepared side of the cigarette packet, and the trick is done. The touch paper glows for an instant and the cigarette is lit.



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