

*Important Confidential
Information. Destroy it by
burning when it has served its
purpose -*

Canon City, Colo.,
August 30th, 1928.

Esteemed Klansman:

As announced several times recently in bulletins, I have been endeavoring to make personal contact with every Klan in the Realm for the purpose of imparting to our Klanspeople some important information relative to our relation to certain phases of the present campaign. Already I have attended several meetings of this nature and the program as announced was heartily endorsed. However, it now seems that on account of the limited time remaining before the Primaries as well as an unusual amount of work now being required of me in the office, I will be unable to carry out the program in detail as planned and announced. Fearing that I might not be able to reach your Klan early enough for the information to be of any practical value, I am taking this means of giving you in strictest confidence the information which forms the basis of our campaign.

For your information, I wish to explain that the entire plan of procedure was first submitted to a committee of your Klan leaders selected from every section of the State. Having been heartily endorsed by them, I next proceeded to impart the information to our people, knowing that with the counsel and advice of a large committee of your own Klansmen, I could not possibly err.

To begin with, our entire program may be summed up in the one word, "SECRECY". On account of our recent policy of strict adherence to this fundamental principle, we now have the enemy guessing. They have heretofore loudly proclaimed that the Klan was dead, but in recent weeks they have begun to wonder if it was really true. If we can keep them thinking that we are dead, then our success will be assured. SECRECY then will constitute the major plank in our program. As one of the leaders of your Klan you are expected to see that your members strictly adhere to this policy. In accordance with the national policy, until after November there must be no parades, burning of crosses, or public demonstrations of any nature. Neither must the Klan, as such, be injected as an issue into the campaign.

I have construed it to be the duty of this office to compile and furnish to klanspeople accurate and reliable information concerning the qualifications of various candidates for State Offices. Likewise, it should be the duty of your local organization to furnish to your people such information as it relates to local and county candidates. In pursuance of this policy, I do not deem it within the scope of my authority to endorse certain candidates, circulate so called Klan tickets, or in any wise to dictate to Klanspeople how they should or should not vote. "Give light, and the people will find the way" shall be my policy. With the information which shall be furnished, I am sure that your conscience will dictate the proper course to follow. In this respect, I further wish to advise that the information which shall be given you does not reflect my personal opinion or desire. Personally, I do not know any of the candidates and therefore, I can impartially pass on to you the information which has been obtained from Klanspeople throughout the Realm.

Naturally Klanspeople are interested in seeing that the best men are elected to fill all offices, both State and local. However, in the present campaign the election of every candidate, even that of Governor, should be subordinate to the election of a United States President. The destiny of our country for the next hundred years is wrapped up in that one issue. Therefore, we express an earnest desire, that above all things, you and your people become interested and active workers for the fulfillment of our desires in that regard. It is commonly agreed among Klanspeople that Al Smith must be defeated. There is but one way that he can be defeated and this is by electing Herbert Hoover. Therefore, in order to be consistent with your convictions as to Smith it is necessary that you become vitally interested as an active worker for the election of Hoover. To this end

we desire that you first inform yourselves thoroughly concerning his candidacy and be sure that your own members are in thorough accord before endeavoring to "sell" him to your friends outside the Klan. This represents the first phase of our national program and I will thank you to advise me immediately whether or not you have made sufficient progress in this first phase to justify entering upon the second phase which has to do with advocating his candidacy beyond the Klan. (It must be remembered, however, that our advocacy of him must be as individuals and not as Klansmen.)

Under the new law in regard to Primaries, it is no longer permissible for voters to participate in both Primaries. Therefore, we wish our people to comply with that law. Advise your Republican members and friends to go into their Republican primary and nominate the very best candidates on that ticket. Likewise, advise your Democratic members and friends to go into the Democratic primary and nominate the very best candidates on that ticket. There is nothing to be gained at this time by having voters change their party affiliations in order to participate in the primary. We would much prefer that they participate in their respective primaries in order to aid in setting up the right kind of party machinery. Otherwise they will simply complicate the situation. The general election will afford ample opportunity for crossing - and it now looks like there will be plenty of it.

In many instances both on the Republican and Democratic tickets there will be no contests in the Primaries. Therefore, it would be unwise for us to concern ourselves at this time about those candidates who have no opposition. A policy of watchful waiting, at least until after the primary, will better enable us to determine their fitness from the Klan viewpoint. It may be that in the heat of the campaign some of those who now appear to be neutral toward the Klan will by some act or utterance cause us to change our opinions regarding them. And since there is nothing to be gained at this time in interesting ourselves in their candidacy we advise that Klanspeople withhold their judgment regarding such candidates as have no opposition. After the primary and before the general election full and complete information will be furnished you concerning those candidates whose names will appear on the ticket.

For obvious reasons this office can interest itself only in candidates for State offices and such others who effect our State or National Program. Therefore, the information given you herewith has to do only with those State candidates who are contesting in the primaries. Please use this information judiciously in any manner you see fit, so long as it is not revealed to the public or to non-members, remembering that under no condition should the Klan as an organization be injected into any campaign.

In conclusion, I wish again to impress upon you the importance of seeing that your members are in accord with our National program as it effects the election of a President. Use the means at your disposal to acquaint them with the imperative need for militant, aggressive support of that phase of our program. Information concerning Mr. Hoover is being sent your Klan from time to time. If you desire any special information concerning him, write me and I will endeavor to furnish it. **BUT BY ALL MEANS WRITE ME AT ONCE WHAT WE MAY EXPECT FROM YOUR KLAN IN REGARD TO THIS PART OF OUR PROGRAM.**

*Secrecy
Success*

Cordially yours, In The
Sacred Unfailing Bond.

M. S. Belser
IMPERIAL REPRESENTATIVE
REALM OF COLORADO

*Secrecy
Success*

This information is furnished in the strictest confidence. Under no condition should it be shown to any one who is not a member of the Klan.

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY CONTESTS:

Secretary of State

DR. C. M. WORTH, YUMA : Not a member of the Klan - wet - anti-Klan -- Protestant but his wife is a Catholic - reported controlled by Catholics - Candidacy not highly regarded by Uuma Klan - Has always been against the Klan program.

JAMES BECKLEY, DELTA: Has held office of town clerk, county clerk, and county commissioner - Is not now a member of the Klan - Once joined the Klan but quit when he found that he could not use it to his advantage - He is anti-Klan, opposing the same since severing his membership - He is wet - An Odd Fellow - His candidacy is not regarded as satisfactory to the Delta Klan.

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY CONTESTS:

Governor

WILLIAM L. BOATRIGHT, DENVER: Present Attorney General - Has held office of District Attorney - He is not now and has never been a member of the Klan - He is an ardent Dry - Baptist as is his wife - Mason and W. O. W. - Has always maintained a neutral attitude toward the Klan, although privately has been in sympathy with us - He is reported to have been fair to the Klan on all occasions requiring a definite stand - His candidacy is regarded as "fair" by several Klans reporting on him - His son formerly was a member of the Golden Klan.

CLARENCE P. DODGE, COLO. SPRINGS: His father was a Presbyterian Minister - He himself and his wife are Episcopalians - Was State Chairman of Y. M. C. A. and president of local Y. M. C. A. - Is an ardent Dry - Has never been a member of the Klan, but concedes every individual the right to affiliate himself with any organization within the law - Has always been fair toward the Klan and his candidacy is regarded as fair by several Klans reporting on him.

Supreme Court

HASLETT P. BURKE, DENVER: Is present Justice of Supreme Court - a thirty third degree Mason and past Grand Master of the State, although reported in some quarters that he is sympathetic with Catholics and controlled by them - Considered slightly wet - Protestant as is his wife - His decision several years ago involving a Catholic Priest caused Klansmen in that section to mistrust him - Has never been a member of the Klan - His candidacy is not well regarded by the Klan in the town where he formerly lived - Is reported as being anti-Klan.

JOHN H. DENNISON, DENVER: Has been Justice of Supreme Court for past ten years - Protestant and so is his wife - Has always been neutral on the Klan question - Favours enforcement of Eighteenth Amendment - Has never been a member of the Klan - His candidacy is regarded as "good" by the Klan reporting on him.

JULIAN H. MOORE, DENVER: Son of Bishop David H. Moore, first Chancellor of the University of Denver - Spent several years in China and Korea and Japan as secretary to his father who had charge of these countries as Bishop of Methodist Church - Was District Judge - Favours strict interpretation and enforcement of prohibition laws - Member of Methodist Church - Reported as being neutral on Klan question and the Klan supported him four years ago.

State Auditor

JOHN M. JACKSON, PUEBLO: One time County Assessor El Paso County-- Present President of City County, Pueblo - Also Commissioner of Finance, City of Pueblo - Is a member of Episcopal Church - Mason and Knight of Pythias - Several reports indicate that he is neutral on the Klan question while others state that he is anti-Klan--In reconciling these contradictory reports, I find that the principal objection raised against him is that he has taken no active part in the fight for the Klan, although he himself claims to have aided the Klan in securing auditorium for address of the Imperial Wizard-- His candidacy is regarded by some as fair, by others as not so good-- In a signed letter from him, he states that "he is in favor of a strict interpretation and enforcement of the Eighteenth Amendment and positively does not favor the repeal or modification of the Volstead Act". He states further, "My affiliations and associations naturally lead me to favor all Protestant - social and political- organizations. I have every reason to believe that a very large number of my friends are members of your organization. Therefore, my attitude toward it is entirely friendly".

NEIL N. MCLEAN, LAMAR: He is Deputy Oil Inspector - Presbyterian as is his wife - He is not a member of the Klan, but has always opposed its program - He is a Mason - My informant states that he has always been antagonistic toward the Klan in Lamar and that his candidacy is not acceptable to them.

(Note: While no recommendation is made, I wish to call your attention to the necessity of nominating the best man for the above office, for the reason that the one who is nominated will have to run in the general election against a Democratic candidate who is reported as being a fourth degree Knight of Columbus)

Attorney General

ROBERT E. WINBOURN, GREELEY: Lawyer - Has been State Senator from Weld County - Not a member of the Klan - Wet - Anti-Klan - Elk and Knight of Pythias - Has opposed the Klan in every way he could and his candidacy is not acceptable to the Greeley Klan.

CHARLES P. ROSE, PUEBLO: Lawyer - Has held office of City Attorney in Pueblo - Dry - Not a member of the Klan, but has always been neutral - He is a Baptist as is his wife - Mason - His candidacy regarded as "good" by Pueblo Klan.

Regents State University

CHARLES D. BRONLEY, BOULDER: Lawyer - Has been Secretary of Republican County Organization - Episcopalian - Considered "slightly damp" - Member American Legion - Influenced by Catholics - Is not a member of the Klan - Is anti-Klan and has fought the Klan on every issue - His candidacy is not acceptable to the Boulder Klan.

CLARK MITCHELL, DENVER: Vice President Denver National Bank - Has served on Board of Regents since 1920 - Member at large of the Elks-- Episcopalian - One informant who worked for him fifteen years ago states that he would not employ Catholics but always favored Masons-- Not a member of the Klan but considered neutral - Candidacy regarded favorably by Klans reporting on him.

RODNEY A. PUFFER, DENVER: Son of Methodist Minister - He himself is a member of the Methodist Church - Is absolutely dry personally and politically - Has always been engaged in educational work - Is not a member of the Klan but considered fair toward the organization - His candidacy regarded favorably by the Klans reporting on him.