



Knights Digest



Union Council 4504

VOL. 8, NO. 6

UNION, N. J.

FEBRUARY, 1966

GOV. HUGHES VETOES ANTI-OBSCENITY BILL

Knights of Columbus To Fight Back

Governor Hughes' veto of the obscenity bill climaxed a period of double-talk tactics. Those who offer outright protection to the perversion for profit business are beyond reason, but we should seek out and answer the criticisms of well-meaning groups and people.

One opponent, in regard to the education of children, commented "Let's stop trying to take our parents' responsibility away from them . . ." Actually, the obscenity definition bill does just the opposite to this opponent's fear.

The July Bulletin of the New York Academy of Medicine reported that teen-agers are receiving an enormous amount of sex education—of the wrong kind, and that a large part of this education is derived from salacious literature. Is it not clear that the perversion racketeer is the one who is depriving parents of the proper education of their children? The purpose of the obscenity definition bill is to stop the interference of those racketeers so that parents and educators can properly execute their responsibility.

In another example, a library association official voiced strong opposition to the obscenity definition bill because of some fear of harassment. However, a library director after careful examination of the bill concluded that the clause "to exploit lust for commercial gain" removed any doubt that this bill has anything whatsoever to do with the business of the free public library system. The objectives of the librarian and the perversion racketeer are in complete opposition.

New legislative bills will evoke from the recent controversy on obscenity. We should show patience and continue to support our legislature in their efforts to enact proper laws to stop the perversion racketeers.

WANTED

Members for the
Knights of Columbus
Only Practical Catholics
Need Apply

Grand Old Knights

We feel our "Grand Old Knights" should have an opportunity to get together and relax at the Council home, and enjoy the facilities of the home at their leisure.

The idea has been mentioned that some type of club could be organized for our "retired" members, but we hesitate to call it an Old Timers Club. We prefer to refer to these Brothers as "Grand Old Knights."

If you are interested in a group of this type we would like to know about it, so we can explore the possibility further.

Don't be bashful, Brothers, we're as interested as you MAY be.

If the idea sounds good—leave your name at the club—or call the club after 7:30 any evening and ask the bartender to include your name and phone number on the list. Phone now—MU 6-4504—tell him you'd like to join the "Grand Old Knights."

"MEDICARE"

"What Does Medicare Mean to You" will be the topic discussed under the lectures portion of our regular Council meeting of February 14th.

The discussion, followed by a question and answer session, will be conducted by Peter M. Shields, Field Representative of the Elizabeth Social Security District Office. The lecture is scheduled to begin at 9:30 p.m., immediately following the regular meeting.

Because of the importance of these new provisions of the Social Security Act, Grand Knight Hehl has extended an invitation to all interested residents of the Township, to attend the lecture.

In regard to Medicare, the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare advises all persons 65 or over, or who will be 65 on or before March 31st, 1966, to enroll immediately for the new Health Insurance provision (Medicare) under the Social Security amendments.

Get in touch with Social Security District Office, 268 North Broad Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey. Telephone: 351-3200. This office, and all Social Security offices, will be open on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon during January, February and March in addition to the regular hours Monday through Friday.

Knight of the Month

The Knight of the Month for February is a man who moves modestly around our Council, but can be counted on to get things done.

John Mirynowski this year heads our telephone committee. This is a man-size job in itself but in addition you will find John working as a bartender, chef, cook and bottle washer or cleaning up the hall. Where there is work you will find him with sleeves rolled up ready to pitch in.

John, who lives with his wife, Margaret, and two children, Robert and Maria, makes his home at 2078 Tyler Street, Union.

He is employed by the United States Navy Department as a marine specialist.

The choice of John as Knight of the Month tends to exemplify the true spirit of charity and brotherhood. This is a man who has a job that makes great demands of his time, but he still will make time to lend a helping hand to his brother Knights and the good of the order.

Congratulations, John, for being a true Knight of Columbus.

Bermuda Trip

"Flight Captain" Cliff Morris announced at the January 10th meeting, that there are only a few seats available on the plane for that Bermuda holiday week-end.

The response to this venture (another Union Council first), has been excellent—and its no wonder, as we feel its an opportunity of a lifetime, at a very reasonable cost to you.

For the benefit or our newer members who may be interested, the Council is having a Bermuda Holiday Vacation, May 26-29, at a cost of \$150.00 per person, which includes round trip jet transportation, all expenses for food and hotel accommodations, cocktail parties, tips, etc., etc. The entire plane has been reserved for Union Council members and their wives (or friends). The flight, however, can only accommodate 100 persons, so if the idea sounds good to you now, don't hesitate. Call Cliff Morris at MU 6-4504, for additional details and reservations. You may be fortunate enough to get a ticket.

AS A PROFESSION OF YOUR FAITH,
WEAR THE EMBLEM

Knight Digest

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Feb., 1966

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CALENDAR

Feb. 7—Monday—1st Degree at the Council Home.
Feb. 14—Monday—Regular Council Meeting.
Feb. 16—Wednesday — Regular meeting of the 4th Degree.
Feb. 20—Sunday — Exemplification of the 4th Degree.
Feb. 21—Monday—2nd Degree at the Council Home.
Feb. 23—Wednesday — A S H WEDNESDAY: First day of Lent.
Feb. 24—Thursday—Regular Columbian Club meeting.
Feb. 28—Monday—Regular Council Meeting.

Council Retreat For Brother Knights and Their Wives

A retreat sponsored by Union Council for our Brother Knights and their ladies will be held on Friday evening, March 4th, at 8:30 p.m. and Saturday morning, March 5th, at 10:00 a.m.

Father Clancey of the Loyola House of Retreats has prepared an inspiring program for this occasion.

Don't miss it. Brothers bring your ladies or ladies bring our brothers. Come out to this joint retreat you will never regret the time spent.

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The K of C Public Image (or Our Public Image)

Large corporations spend thousands of dollars each year by employing public relations men, to make sure that their company is favorably shown before the general public. They give donations to charities, have Blood Banks and other functions that make people comment: "Oh, I hear so-and-so company is a good outfit." The end result is, the public will buy the product a manufacturer is selling, when the advantageous points of the company are known to the potential buyers.

What is the image of the Knights of Columbus? The author of this article recently took a survey on this subject. Within a plant in Union, thirty-five people were told, and asked the following: "I want to ask you a question, please answer it honestly, whether you have a good or bad reaction doesn't matter, telling the truth is important. What do you know about the Knights of Columbus?" Most of the individuals interviewed did not know I was a Knight. All come from different religious backgrounds and they lived in the general Union area.

Some comments were, "Something like the American Legion," "They hate Masons," "Do charity work," "A bunch of drinkers," "Men in fancy dress," "A prejudice organization," "A more religious group of men than the regular Catholics," "Guys who drink together." Three mentioned heavy drinking. Out of thirty-five, thirty had a favorable reaction. However, almost all of the thirty said, we were a Catholic group, and knew little beyond that point. So you cannot truthfully say these people were informed on the subject. On the other hand, the five who had bad reactions felt they knew what they were talking about. Although this was a small test, I think it proves the point, the K. of C. does not have a good image among the group.

Take a similar survey among people who are not your friends, or know you as a Knight, and see the reaction you receive. If it differs greatly from mine, let the Digest know about it. All information on this matter will be helpful in changing and strengthening our reputation. If you have any pride in your membership, you'll whole-heartedly work to give our Council and the order a spotless honored name. As a group we should increase our participation in community affairs, make our conduct as a group above reproach, and show we are Catholic gentlemen by having a good time within respectable bounds.

Get over the point that Catholic Action, high moral standards, and dedication to God and country all come above our social programs. As individuals say nothing about a

Council Meetings

The first Council meeting of the new year set an attendance record of 149 men. We hope that the spirit and enthusiasm displayed at the meeting will continue throughout the year.

The series of talks and entertainments under the Lecturers program this year have been excellent, and if you have not had the opportunity to sit in on any to date, you're missing a good thing. Lecturer Jack Guidera has announced his program through the Month of March, and we're sure all will find the programs entertaining and enlightening.

Plan now to attend the next regular Council meeting—bring a Brother Knight with you—let's shoot for 150. It's not hard to do—all it takes is YOU.

Catholic Activities

On February 27, 1966, Union Council will hold its annual "Day of Recollection" at St. Michael's Church.

The program will be as follows:
2:00 P.M.—Conference.
2:30 P.M.—Meditation.
2:35 P.M.—Stations of the Cross.
2:55 P.M.—Conference.
3:25 P.M.—Break.
3:35 P.M.—Forum.
4:30 P.M.—Meditation.
4:35 P.M.—Rosary and Benediction.

Brothers, make arrangements now to attend this "Day of Recollection." It is a worthwhile afternoon and you will feel like a new man after completion of it.

Deposit Effort Withdrawn

Accomplishment

Don't be a name on a list.
Or at a meeting, just fill a chair.
When help is needed, have your hand in the air.
If a brother announces a success,
You can sit with rightful pride,
Because you were there at his side.
What will giving a chairman a few hours of your time do?
Give a feeling of accomplishment and satisfaction to you.
It doesn't matter if your abilities are large or small,
United with others, you'll benefit all.
Don't wait until tomorrow, pitch in now,
It's easy for you to learn how.
Your promised word to be active, we appreciate,
But by your deeds, we prefer you demonstrate.

brother to anyone (especially a non-member), that puts him or the order in a bad light. In conversations with outsiders stress our virtues, minimizing our faults. Point out to critics we are not perfect due to our human nature, and ask them to not judge the many outstanding Catholics by the few weak ones.

Grand Knight's Message

B. Warren Hehl



The most recent veto by Governor Richard J. Hughes of anti-smut Bill A-768 has not been taken by the State Council Knights of Columbus with light effect. I am obtaining copies of the State Deputy's response to Governor Hughes, and I am proud to say that this response is well within our proper frame work of our beliefs in this matter. It too is a fine example of the stability of our State Council and subordinate councils, and I represent that the Knights of Columbus will not compromise in its position and fight against smut.

I have also communicated with our litigators advising them that we stand ready to take immediate action once we are authorized to do so by our State Council.

With relation to the Council activities I may report that the council is progressing in satisfactory form and that I now announce the appointment of Bill Zurick and Don Brown as Co-Chairman of our Annual Journal Committee.

These individuals expect and will receive every cooperation, since the achievement of their goal will, of course, benefit all members of Union Council.

Success has been achieved with respect to the formation of a new club among those retired members of our Council to whom we will perhaps make available our Council at augmented hours during the day. If you are within the retired class, please communicate with any of the Council Officers to make sure that your name is placed upon the list of this important group.

The Council chairman makes every effort to provide necessary seating capacity and entertainment for all Council affairs and I might state that it is an exceedingly difficult job to please everyone. In order to afford the chairman and ticket chairman every cooperation when seeking to make reservations, kindly pay for them at the same time and no difficulty will arise for failure to obtain the necessary reservations.

Again I say if there are any suggestions with respect to the betterment of Union Council, please do not hesitate to communicate with me at anytime. I might say that my previous plea with respect to the latter item has been received favorably and any new suggestions from new and old that will accordingly benefit the Council.

Phone 687-4353

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UNION COUNCIL NEEDS YOU

Not everyone wants to be the Grand Knight of Union Council. Not everyone has the desire or the talent or the time to fulfill this office. But every Brother Knight in this Council has the obligation to do his utmost to contribute to the success of his Council. When a man joins the Knights of Columbus he does so because he expects to derive certain benefits from the Order. On the other hand, the Order expects to derive certain benefits from its members.

What makes an outstanding Union Council? What makes it reach this status? Is it the officers and committee chairmen? Undoubtedly any Council to be outstanding needs qualified and dedicated men as leaders and directors of activities. But, without willing people, a leader has no one to lead and a director has no one to direct.

Let us examine what has brought Union Council to its present position. Throughout the years it has been through the efforts of the individual Brother Knight. When we were just beginning and had just a few members, everyone worked for every affair, Catholic, Fraternal, Council, Youth, Membership and Public Relations and made it a success. We struggled to raise enough money for our home and today we are proud of our success. As we grew, things began to become more specialized and each committee had its own membership. This system works fine as long as people are willing to work.

Through the years we have been blessed with a tremendous increase in membership. Logically all committees should have grown proportionally, but have they? When have you helped any committee? Where are the people to do the little jobs that make any affair successful? Are you waiting to be asked? Have you contacted a friend who has not attended meetings and asked him to come with you? Have you called any committee chairman and asked to help him? Have you asked the chairman of the Journal for the Annual Ball if you could help him sell ads? Do you have some time on Saturday morning to help the Youth Activity chairman with the children's bowling league?

Of course you are not expected to spend all of your free time on Knights of Columbus projects. All of us are family men and have obligations at home. But if each of us gave only an hour of our time each month and with over nine hundred members in the Council, we certainly could accomplish everything we hope to achieve.

Let us not sit back and enjoy what we have accomplished, let us move on and work diligently to achieve new goals. Don't let the "other fellow" do it, do it yourself.

Why a Fourth Degree?

We have asked to help you more fully understand the Fourth Degree of the Knights of Columbus.

As you know each degree is designed by a word or motto with a depth of meaning—Charity, Unity, Fraternity and finally the Fourth Degree is dedicated to "Patriotism." As Catholics we have a dual duty. Our duty to God and to Country. Fortunately for us to be a good Catholic we must be a good Citizen.

On March 29, 1882, the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut granted the original Charter to the "Knights of Columbus of New Haven." On April 5, 1889, by legislative amendment the order was given its present name, "Knights of Columbus."

With the three degrees it was thought no further degrees would be contemplated, but with the changing of its localized name, the appealing beauty and dignity of its ceremonies the Order grew very rapidly. By 1889 the Board of Directors found it necessary to appoint a committee to look into the matter concerning another degree—The Fourth Degree. It was thought it may stimulate even more interest in the Order and that the honor of membership in such a degree would only go to the worthy and persevering members of the Order.

The purpose of the new degree was to inculcate a love of Country and to impress the duties of Citizenship and its motto or principal was to be Patriotism. Patriotism enlightened and informed by the one true religion.

A Ceremonial was prepared and adopted and finally the first Exemplification took place in the Lenox Lyceum in New York on Washington's Birthday, February 22, 1900. Over 2,500 third degree members applied and about 1,100 were accepted.

From that day hence the Fourth Degree has been in the forefront with anything of a patriotic nature. It has memorialized outstanding American Patriots—George Washington, Chief Justice Whyte, Reverend John P. Washington of World War II fame, John Fitzgerald Kennedy, and many, many more. It has, at times, been the lobby of Holy Mother Church in Washington and in State Capitals; it has visited Courts to help the ignorant or helpless citizen, and surely it has been well represented on our battle fields. It has, on many occasions, been the right arm of Holy Mother Church. We have quietly gone in to dives and mansions, where the Cleric would be disdained or ridiculed, as ordinary men to try to pass on the Word of God.

So it is my dear Brothers, you too will be called on to help preserve our Catholic American Heritage. You will, I am sure, stand strongly and be counted,