

HOPE COTTAGE IS DEDICATED BY KLAN

FOUNDLING HOME ERECTED
BY DALLAS CHAPTER GIVEN
TO CHARITY.

MARVIN IS SPEAKER

Imperial Wizard Evans, Local Officers and City Officials
Attend Ceremonies.

As the first formal event of Klan Day at the State Fair of Texas, 1,500 unmasked klansmen, not only from Dallas, but from points all over the State, joined together at 9:30 o'clock Wednesday morning, to dedicate Hope Cottage in North Dallas, an institution for unwanted babies, fostered and built during the last eighteen months by Dallas Klan No. 66. The formal presentation of the building to Mrs. Emma Wylie Ballard, welfare director, was made by Z. E. Marvin, grand titan of the Ku Klux Klan and former grand cyclops of the Dallas Chapter of the organization.

Others to make addresses were J. D. Van Winkle, grand cyclops of the Dallas Klan; Wirt Leake, Mrs. Ballard, Imperial Wizard H. W. Evans of Atlanta and Mayor Louis Blaylock. The invocation was delivered by Dr. A. C. Parker, former grand cyclops of the local Klan.

In addition to those locally prominent in the Klan, there sat on the platform many members of the national klonclium of the Women's Ku Klux Klan, as well as several officials of the women's auxiliary of the organization from other States. Among the former were Mrs. Lulu A. Markwell, imperial commander of the Women's K. K. K., Miss Robbie Gill, secretary of the national order; the Rev. Dalsey Douglass Barr of Indianapolis, Mrs. Cludie Smith of Indianapolis and Miss A. B. Cloud of Dallas—all members of the klonclium. State heads of the women's auxiliary included Mrs. J. H. Esdall of Alabama, Mrs. N. N. Fernne of Georgia and Mrs. George McCarren of Missouri.

City Officials Present.

Other Klan dignitaries on the rostrum were Ben Fly, City Commissioners Louis Turley, H. H. Gwinn and R. A. Wylie, Bert Christie, Representative Lewis Carpenter, M. M. Hinton, Judge Felix D. Robertson, F. G. Van Valkenburg, Representative George C. Purl, A. C. Ebie and John Lowery. Alex Sanger also occupied a position of prominence behind the speaker.

Color was added to the ceremony by the presence of two Klan bands wearing the peaked white hats of the order, by variegated insignia adorning the coat lapels and vest bosoms of the delegates, and by symmetrical paintings hung on the Hope Cottage above the speakers' platform. The two bands were from San Antonio and Wichita Falls, the Wichita County band being augmented and assisted by several pieces from Devol, Ok.

Imperial Wizard Welcomed.

Grand Cyclops Van Winkle, in beginning the dedicatory program, said in part:

"Your majesty, the Imperial wizard, members of the Imperial household and sympathetic friends, I welcome you to this city in behalf of the local Klan, and especially do I welcome you to the dedication of this building. We are doubly proud today of what we have achieved. First, we point to this completed institution as a demonstration of the fact that we have been doing constructive work within the last eighteen months instead of indulging in river-bottom floggings, as our enemies would have the public believe, and, second, we are proud to welcome you to a city at whose voting precincts last April there were elected the best set of city officials we have yet had in our history."

Mr. Van Winkle then launched into a history of the foundation of Hope Cottage and how the Klan came to take an interest in it. He said that in all some \$80,000 had been spent on the structure, and declared that it was a fit memorial to the Dallas Klan No. 66.

To Mr. Marvin, former grand cyclops of the local secret order and at present titan of more than forty counties in East Texas, Mr. Van Winkle gave most of the credit for the success of the enterprise that resulted in the building of the home for the babies.

In closing, Mr. Van Winkle said: "I might say that tonight there will not be any river-bottom parties or floggings in this town (laughter). The day is yours, the city is yours—and I am glad to state that you are in a Klan town."

Following Mr. Van Winkle's introductory speech, Dr. Parker delivered the invocation. Subsequent to this the Klan band from San Antonio played "Onward, Christian Soldiers"—a selection very popular in Klan ceremonies.

Marvin Delivers Address.

Mr. Marvin then delivered the formal address of the program, saying in part:

"We have gathered together on this occasion to dedicate and formally transfer to the city of Dallas the new Hope Cottage—to consummate a work of love, undertaken some months ago by the Dallas membership of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan," said Mr. Marvin. "As is characteristic of all big undertakings, we have suffered many handicaps. While we were engaged in the colossal task of money raising, that this dream of ours might come true, our hearts bore the unnecessary load of unjust criticism. Like true men and Christians we said of those who persisted in abusing us, 'Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.' Steadfast in our purpose to give these nameless tots a home that would be a credit to Christian civilization, we have overcome every handicap. Our dream, has now been realized."

"The building of Hope Cottage by Dallas klansmen is not unusual. All over this Nation klansmen are engaged in similar activities, though possibly not of single attempts on so large a scale as the rearing of this handsome structure. And while yet we were engaged in raising the money necessary to build this home for the foundlings, which has all been raised by popular subscription among our members, we have been engaged in a thousand other acts of sacrifice and Christian charity. In answer to the Biblical question, 'Am I my brother's keeper?' these klans-

men have said, 'Yes.' We would not take the law into our own hands, as our critics have so unjustly accused us, but we would stand in the shadow of every grief and lift up every heart bowed down. We would feed the hungry and clothe the naked. We would provide for these homeless little ones a home. We would give these nameless orphans a name, for you will remember that 'inasmuch as ye have done unto the least of these, ye have done it unto me.' I do not claim that the Klan is perfect. I would not be so foolish as to contend that individual members of the Klan never overstep the bounds of propriety, and in some instances may have even brought criticism on our great order, but I do say to you that the great heart of the Klan is sound; that every principle in its structure is wholesome; that its reverence for the Constitution and the flag of our common country is as holy as the prayer Washington prayed on his knees in the snows of Valley Forge. You have heard criticism of the Klan, but mark you, the criticisms are always advanced by those who are not members. Let's reason together—millions of men have taken the Klan obligation from every walk of life. Have you ever heard a criticism by any man who has taken the obligation? Have you ever heard a member say he regretted taking the obligation? God gave a free people a free mind, to think. When you hear a criticism of the Klan or its obligation, exercise that right to think and then think of the possible reason behind the criticism offered."

Built for Service.

"Dallas Klan built this structure, not for vainglory or ostentatious show. We engaged in this work of love and Christian service to benefit the helpless. In benefiting the helpless we also have benefited ourselves. We have grown in spiritual stature; our moral fiber has been strengthened; we are better klansmen, which is to say, better Americans, for having gone through the privations and the sacrifices necessary to make this dream a reality. We saw no worthier work we could undertake in the name of Christian charity and, characteristic of Dallas manhood, we have erected here a structure that all of Dallas may look upon with pride."

"The keystone in the highest arch of klancraft is love—love for man, woman and child; love for the flag of our fathers who built on the shores of this continent the grandest Government ever devised by the heart and brain of man, and akin to love is charity. The building of Hope Cottage will be only an incident in the history of the Dallas Klan. We have a goal set in the solid rock of our principles. So long as the Klan continues its worthy efforts for the constructive upbuilding of America and American manhood it will march forever onward and upward. And may I at this time express, on behalf of Dallas Klan No. 66, our appreciation of the commendable efforts and work done by the Doctors' Wives' Association of Dallas in its early assisting of Hope Cottage and also on behalf of Dallas Klan No. 66 may I express our appreciation of the several clubs, societies and individuals who have so kindly furnished the cottage and whose names will appear on a bronze plate in each room, respectively, furnished in their honor. And now, delegated by Dallas Klan No. 66, I hereby deliver to Hope Cottage Association, for the city of Dallas, from Dallas Klan No. 66, this deed to the new Hope Cottage, free of any encumbrance—yours in deed and in fact, with no strings whatever attached as to management or control; yours for use in the great service you are rendering to the helpless, homeless, nameless little foundlings committed by cruel fate to your care and keeping."

Cottage Is Accepted.

Following Mr. Marvin's address and acceptance of the cottage by Mrs. Ballard, Mr. Leake of Dallas, president of the Ancient and Honorable Order of the Blue Goose was called upon for an address. He said that it was one of the proudest moments of his life that he was permitted to speak to an assemblage of men who "had demonstrated themselves to be Americans 100 per cent perfect." The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, he said, are real, red-blooded, loyal, true and patriotic men.

"Although," said Mr. Leake, "I have seen in the degenerate press—mark what I say—the degenerate press—certain criticisms of the members of this order for doing things which no honest, loyal or 100 per cent man would think of doing! I am not a Ku Kluxer. My wife has often accused me of being one, however. I asked her one time why she thought I was a Ku Kluxer, and she said: 'You are too good a man not to belong.'"

This declaration of the speaker drew an immense hush from the audience. In the outskirts of the crowd one man set up the old "rebel yell."

As Mr. Leake sat down a little child, adopted a year and a half ago from Hope Cottage by a Dallas family, was passed up to the stand by her nurse and exhibited to the crowd as an example of the good that the home is doing. A little afraid and with tears in her eyes, the baby faced the upturned faces of the klansmen while the air was rent with cheers.

Evans Greets Crowd.

Mr. Van Winkle next, as presiding officer, introduced Imperial Wizard H. W. Evans, former Dallas dentist, now of Atlanta. Dr. Evans, however, refused to do more than speak a few sentences of greeting to the crowd on the ground that the day's program called for heavy speaking on his part later on.

Mayor Louis Blaylock, the next speaker, took as the theme of his address "Charity." He said that he had to make three speeches during the day, but that none of them would give him any greater pleasure than would the one he was now making.

"This great institution—Hope Cottage—represents the spirit of love," said Mayor Blaylock, "love for the fallen and the humble. We must not forget that, after all, we are all sinners and all must be forgiven daily. No one has a right to say to a child that comes into this world unbidden 'We have no place for you here.' We must take care of these unfortunates. I personally have taken a great interest in this work. I have, in my lifetime, saved three girls who had made the one fatal mistake. Children were born to these girls here and I paid their bills. Later these girls returned to their homes, were married, lived good lives and made their husbands good helpmates."

"Now, as to the Klan. I have watched the order grow from its infancy to its present period of greatness, and I want to say that, so far as I know, the criticisms that have been made of it have been without foundation. I was not a member myself, but I watched the progress of the Klan

with interest. Any order that takes up and completes an institution of this nature thereby makes the charges that have been made against it. Charity covers a multitude of sins, but at bottom do not believe that the Klan has these sins to cover in the first place."

Boy Leads in Prayer.

As the finale of the program, the San Antonio band played the Star Spangled Banner, and then Mr. Jack Richard Mason, 5 years old of Fort Worth, led the crowd in prayer. He repeated the Lord's prayer in a baby voice, scarcely audible a few feet away. His mother, Mrs. J. R. Mason, with tears in her eyes, watched him from the steps leading to the rostrum.

The following list of articles donated to Hope Cottage Association for the city of Dallas, Texas, was furnished by Mr. Marvin:

1. Dallas Council of Mothers' furniture in secretary's office.
2. City Federation of Women's Clubs, furniture in head nurse's office.
3. Metz Bros. (memorial), reception room, furniture.
4. Women's Auxiliary of the Dallas County Medical Society, reception room.
5. Mrs. Joseph Schepp (memorial), sun parlor.
6. Employees of Rodgers & Wiers Furniture Company, nurses' living-room.
7. Women of the Ku Klux Klan, head nurse's bedroom.
8. Nurse's bedroom, No. 1 St. Tennison Club, W. K. K.
9. Mrs. P. P. Tucker (memorial), nurses' bedroom.
10. Mrs. Emma Wylie Ballard (memorial), bedroom.
11. Milk kitchen, furnished by various individuals.
12. Ice box, Lakewood Country Club.
13. Stove, employees of Hrey & Philip Hardware Company.
14. Upstairs kitchen, one ice box, Hooker Hardware Company.
15. One kitchen cabinet, name of donor unknown.
16. Ancient and Honorable Order of the Blue Goose, all bedrooms.

The doctors' reception-room will be furnished by the Women's Auxiliary to the Dallas County Medical Society from part of a fund designated as Hope Cottage building fund, started by the auxiliary two and a half years ago in June, 1922.

Any Dallas club was eligible to contribute to the fund and the following clubs did make donations: Wednesday Study Club, Children's Society, Crockett School Mothers' Club, Day View Club, Research Club, Franchises and Philathea Classes of the Grace Methodist Sunday School, Lakewood Country Club and the Women's Auxiliary to the Dallas County Medical Society.

Early in 1922 the Ku Klux Klan organization decided to raise money for the new building and the original fund was used at the discretion of each club.

Regarding the activities of the Doctors' Wives' Auxiliary, it is stated that it does much social and philanthropic work, having maintained beds for some time at Hope Cottage and the Baby Camp, and has been a generous contributor to the infirmary of the St. W. C. A. boarding home and other worthy social agencies. The work the year is being done entirely in the charity departments of the city hospitals.

Eight special trains, carrying delegations of the Ku Klux Klan arrived in Dallas Wednesday morning from Texas and Oklahoma points, officials of the Union Terminal announced.

The trains carried from five to six to as many as fourteen cars. They were from the following points: San Antonio, Houston, Sulphur Springs, Jacksonville, Paris, Wichita Falls, Ada, Ok., and Oklahoma City.

All offices at the courthouses were closed Wednesday in observance of Klan day at the fair with the exception of District Clerk John Cullum's office which was open until nearly noon. None of the courts was in session except the Court of Civil Appeals and Judge C. A. Pippen's court, where a jury reported in the trial of P. Welk.