

Religious Bulletin.
November 8, 1923.

On to Nebraska.

St. Anthony, patron of lost articles, is patron of the Nebraska game. Remember that Friday, Saturday and Sunday belong to the team.

Where the Klan Fails.
(From the New York Times, Oct. 31, 1923.)

Northward the star of invisible empire takes its sway. The center of gravity of the Ku-Klux Klan has shifted from Atlanta to Dallas, and thence to Indianapolis. Out in Indiana everybody seems to belong. Easterners have been surprised at the ready conquest of the Klan of a State which seemed of all our forty-eight the least imperiled by any kind of alien menace. Mr. Lowell Mellett tells us in the Atlantic that the Klan in Indiana is primarily an anti-Catholic organization, and that the wildest tales of papal plots are readily believed by apparently sane citizens. This is not quite what we had expected of Indiana. Has the indolent geniality of the Hoosiers been drilled out of them by the stern philosophy of Nordic Protestantism?

We doubt it. For it must be observed that the Indiana Klan has dogged the chief domestic challenge to Protestant supremacy. There is in Indiana a militant Catholic organization, composed of men specially chosen for strength courage and resourcefulness. These devoted warriors lead a life of almost monastic asceticism, under stern military discipline. They are constantly engaged in secret drills. They make long cross-country raiding expeditions. They have shown their prowess on many battlefields. Worst of all, they lately fought, and decisively defeated a detachment of the United States Army. Yet we have not heard of the Indiana Klansmen rising up to exterminate the Notre Dame football team.

On the contrary, all Indiana, Catholic and Protestant, seem to regard it as a valuable asset, an irreplaceable advertisement for the State, every Sunday placing Indiana on the front page of the New York Sporting sections. The danger that we may wake up some morning to learn that Mr. Rockne's shock troops have seized the South Bend Court House in the name of the Pope seems to leave Indiana cold. May even a Catholic be justified by his advertising value? Or is it merely that beneath the ceremonial Nightshirt of the Klansman beats the same old simple and skeptical Hoosier heart?

Who Can't Go to Confession?

"A friend of mine says that he can't go to confession. I thought that any Catholic could. I have never heard this matter discussed in my Religion class and would like a word about it in the Bulletin. --27."

Any person rightly baptized may go to confession and receive absolution if he has the right disposition. He lacks the right disposition if he lacks a firm purpose of amendment (refuses to give up an occasion of sin, etc.) or refuses to make restitution. If he is married outside the Church, for instance, and refuses to give up this invalid union, if he is an habitual drunkard and refuses to give up drink, if he prefers hatred of his enemy to love of God, he cannot receive absolution.

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