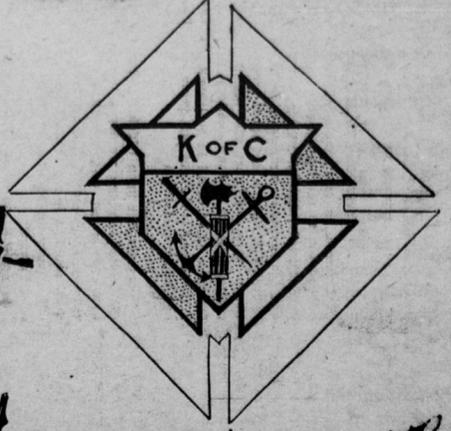
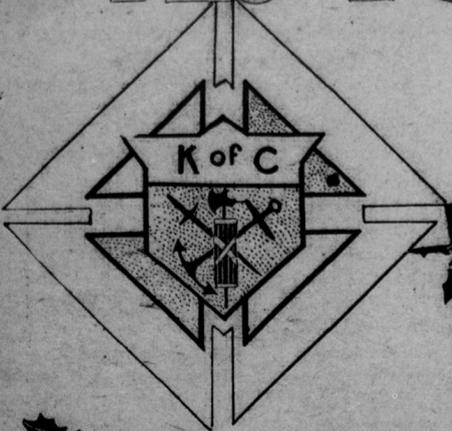


# HISTORY OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

## BY SIDNEY P. ROBINSON



P. E. MCGARDE  
DEPUTY SUPREME KNIGHT



EDWARD HEARN  
SUPREME KNIGHT



REVEREND MICHAEL JOSEPH MCGIVNEY  
FOUNDER OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



DANIEL COLWELL  
NATIONAL SECRETARY



JOE SCOTT  
GRAND DISTRICT DEPUTY



NEAL POWER  
GRAND KNIGHT



FRANK T. SHEA  
DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT

**T**WENTY thousand Knights of Columbus are heading for California from every part of these United States—and from Canada, too!

Twenty thousand Knights of Columbus, and their wives and their daughters, their sisters, their cousins and their aunts, and perhaps their sweet-hearts—all properly chaperoned, of course—from every city of importance in the Union, are getting ready for their pilgrimage to California in June. It is going to be a notable pilgrimage—a great event for California, and for the Knights of Columbus.

And the occasion for the knightly pilgrimage?

The annual National Council and general reunion of the Knights of Columbus will be held at Los Angeles from June 5 to June 11.

This means that from the East, the North and the South, from Canada across the border line, from the Atlantic seaboard, from the gulf-washed coast, and from all the points between, the concourse of Knights and their women folk will swarm over our high held shoulder of the Sierras into California, eager, curious, expectant—and that California will put her best foot forward, as only she can do.

In the month that the pilgrimage will occupy, for it is scheduled to cover a full month, from the last day of May until the end of June, great things will be a-doing, the outcome of which will be that Californians will know more about the Knights of Columbus than

they are to be taken on a little side pilgrimage to the Mission of San Juan Capistrano, and there the Angelus bells are to be rung by an old Mission Indian of La Mesa Grande for them.

After sentiment—hospitality and good cheer; then the Mission bells having been heard, like a voice from the past, they are to be treated to a real old time Spanish barbecue at San Juan-by-the-Sea, presided over by that most enthusiastic of Californians, Charles F. Lummis, and that best of good Catholics and good fellows, Count Bozenta, the husband of Modjeska.

This is just one little plan that has been made for them.

All Los Angeles is to be en fete for them. The Mayor of Los Angeles and the Chamber of Commerce of Los Angeles have promised it.

On the evening of the first day of the convention, June 5, there is to be a reception at the Chamber of Commerce to the supreme knight and the delegates, to which the Governor will welcome them, and all the dignitaries of the city, and graciously welcoming the ladies who come with the Sir Knights will be Madame Helena Modjeska, the Countess Bozenta.

There will be a solemn pontifical high mass on the morning of June 6, at which Archbishop Riordan, Archbishop Montgomery and the Bishops of the province will officiate.

There will be the work of the convention.

There will be the biggest theater party Los Angeles has seen, when the delegates will be entertained at a theater bought out from orchestra to gal-

bers, and in the twelve years intervening between that date and this the marvelous growth has been from 3500 to 131,000 members.

Much of the enthusiasm for the society, much of its wonderful growth is attributed to the beauty of the ritual, to the inspiration that lies in its eloquence and its noble standards.

This ritual is entirely the work of Father McGivney, who labored on it for many years to make it at once an inspiration and a guide to the daily life.

From the merely literary point of view it is rated as a masterpiece, and in its standards and precepts it holds up the most beautiful ideals of Christian manhood in conduct and their relations with each other—ideals so high, expressed in words so simple, sincere and reverent, that in the solemn reading of it in council there is never an eye that remains dry nor a heart untouched to the end.

The original purpose of Father McGivney in organizing that first little society in New Haven was to bring together men of education and intelligence, the sort of men whose influence was needed in and for the church, the sort who are, except where there is a special incentive such as this society, least active in religious matters.

True to this original purpose the society has continued to draw to it men with such qualifications, professional men, college men, business men, the leading men of any city or town where a council was organized. It denies, however, vigorously and vehemently, that it is a "class" organization in the

usual sense of the word. It is a society of men, and in the twelve years intervening between that date and this the marvelous growth has been from 3500 to 131,000 members.

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