

# Montana State Council

## Knights of Columbus

PIERRE SANDERS,  
State Deputy,  
500 Hickory St., ANACONDA, MONT.

A. J. CLEMO,  
State Secretary,  
812 Getchell St., HELENA, MONT.

M. F. HAYES,  
State Treasurer,  
DEER LODGE, MONTANA.



November 13, 1922.

F. E. SULLIVAN,  
State Advocate,  
GLENDDIVE, MONT.

GEORGE M. WEBER,  
State Warden,  
LIVINGSTON, MONT.

REV. A. R. COOPMAN,  
State Chaplain,  
ANACONDA, MONT.

Mr. James A. Flaherty,  
Supreme Knight,  
New Haven, Conn.

Dear Sir and Brother:

Since the passing of the "School Law" at the recent election in Oregon, the details of which you are no doubt already familiar with, I feel that it is time to take some action toward combating this attack which is so openly and maliciously directed against the Catholic parochial schools. I am therefore taking the liberty of writing to you to urge that the Knights of Columbus as a national organization take up this fight, which if permitted to pass unnoticed in Oregon, will rapidly spread over the entire country and eventually wipe out our Catholic school system.

Perhaps we who live out here in the west and are more intimately acquainted with this recent bit of dirty legislation which has just been enacted by our enemies in Oregon will naturally feel more concerned that you who dwell in the more eastern states. Nevertheless I am confident that you will agree with me that it is now not a fight which should be left entirely to the Catholics and the Knights of Columbus in Oregon alone but instead is something in which every Catholic man and woman in the country has a vital interest and especially we, Knights of Columbus, who are looked to as the champions of Catholicity and all its institutions.

I am personally of the opinion that the law is unconstitutional and I believe that it could be successfully fought through the courts. Of course such action would entail considerable expense and I would like to take the liberty of suggesting that this expense be borne by the Supreme Council and that the necessary funds be raised by assessment.

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I think that the best legal talent at our command should be employed regardless of cost and we may then be able to show the "bigots" who are responsible for this and other anti-Catholic activities throughout the country that we intend to no longer remain passive while our rights as free and loyal American citizens are attacked.

An assessment of only fifty cents per member would raise approximately \$400,000.00 which would go a long way toward letting the people of this country know where we, as Knights of Columbus and Americans, stand on this matter.

Trusting that you will see fit to take some such action as I have outlined above and assuring you of the loyal cooperation of the Knights in Montana in whatever you may undertake, I beg to remain,

Fraternally yours,

*Pierre Sanders*

State Deputy.

PS/L

500 Hickory St  
Anaconda Mont