

Knights of Columbus

Supreme Council



Facts and Figures

Official Statistics

*Comparative Data Relating to Membership and Funds
By Five-Year Periods 1907-1922*

MEMBERSHIP

December 31	No. of Councils	No. of Associate Members	No. of Insured Members	Total Membership
1907	1,253	131,792	63,183	194,975
1912	1,603	194,019	93,294	287,313
1917	1,788	268,828	123,979	392,807
1922	2,290	551,077	223,149	774,226

FUNDS

December 31	Total Income for Year	Claims Paid During Year	Total Admitted Assets	Insurance in Force
1907	\$975,972	\$453,325	\$2,097,185	\$65,095,000
1912	1,482,154	676,199	4,094,926	98,067,900
1917	2,364,936	987,926	8,190,124	131,679,400
1922	4,498,208	1,410,783	16,281,784	241,295,111

Insurance

*Extracts From Report of Fackler & Fackler, Consulting Actuaries,
Dated March 8, 1923*

"The Knights of Columbus was the first fraternal benefit society in America to adopt a truly scientific life insurance system with adequate assessment rates.

"Because of the 'margin of safety' at the close of 1922 and the favorable mortality experience thus far this year, we are recommending that the June assessment of this year be waived. It seems that unless some very unfavorable experiences should develop, still another monthly assessment might be waived later in the year.

"Efficient management is also reflected in the rate of expense of doing business. In 1922 the expense of conducting the affairs of the Order, which expenses were on behalf of all members, Associate as well as Insured members, was at the rate of 87 cents per member."

In 1921 the Knights of Columbus led all of the more than 170 fraternal societies in the matter of net gain in membership, both insurance and associate. In 1922 the Order ranked second in net gain in total membership. This is a very creditable record for the Order during the past two years.

The Cost of Management per Member

For the year 1923 the Supreme Council per capita is 85 cents. This is the same as for the years 1903 and 1915. For the years 1904, 1917 and 1919 it was 90 cents, and for the years 1905, 1906 and 1920 it was \$1.00. For the twenty-year period from 1902 to 1921, inclusive, it averaged 80 cents. It will thus be seen that notwithstanding the decrease in the purchasing power of the dollar during the past twenty years, and considering extraordinary items of expense to the Order this year in connection with the anti-parochial school situation, the extensive distribution of printed matter necessitated by circulation of the "bogus oath," as well as other items not properly chargeable to "cost of management," the operating expenses of the Order entail no greater expense to the individual member than in former years.

The Supreme Council per capita is the only source of revenue for the General Fund of the Order. This per capita is used in paying all expenses of management of the Order, and also expenses that would not properly be charged to "cost of management," such as the recent contribution of \$10,000 to Archbishop Christie in connection with anti-parochial school legislation. The "cost of management" in 1921 was 92 cents; in 1922 it was 87 cents. It is estimated that the 85 cents per capita this year will suffice to meet payments of mileage and per diem for approximately 336 members of the Supreme Council; cost of paper for, and printing and mailing, "Columbia"; salaries and wages of 170 clerks and other employes paid from the General Fund (printing department clerks and employes included); traveling expenses of State and District Deputies; salaries and traveling expenses of Supreme Officers; mileage and per diem of Board of Directors, Committees, etc.; expenses of organization and institution of new councils, and hundreds of other items of expense assumed by the Supreme Council and not by State or Subordinate Councils.

The cost of management per member of the Knights of Columbus is the lowest of any of the twenty largest fraternal societies in the United States and Canada.

The following table will show how the 92 cents per member charged to "cost of management" in 1921 was distributed:

Mileage and per diem of members of Supreme Council from each jurisdiction account of Supreme Council meeting, August 2-4, 1921.....	.24
12 copies of official journal for each member per year at two cents per copy.....	.24
Clerk hire in Supreme Office.....	.12
Traveling expenses of State and District Deputies.....	.07
Salaries and traveling expenses of Supreme Officers.....	.07
Mileage and per diem of Board of Directors, committees, etc.....	.04
Organization and institution of new councils, robes, degree outfits, etc.....	.03
Postage, telegraph, freight, cartage and express.....	.02
Lecturers.....	.02
Legal services and legal expenses.....	.02
Historical Commission.....	.01
Miscellaneous items, including furniture and fixtures, rent of Supreme Office, printed matter for free distribution, bonding of Supreme and Subordinate Council Officers, general expenses, Actuaries' fees and expenses, State Insurance Department fees, etc., etc.....	.04
	<u>.92</u>

COLUMBIA

Beginning with the August, 1922, issue of "Columbia," the complete and up-to-date printing plant in the Home Office Building at New Haven began production. In this plant 780,000 copies of "Columbia" are printed and mailed each month. In addition hundreds of thousands of blanks, pamphlets, etc., are produced. Insurance literature and pamphlets of various kinds and descriptions are furnished free to councils and members.

The cost per copy for the former official journal, "Columbiad," for year 1920 averaged 2.86 cents (20-page paper). By reason of the fact that the Order took over the publication of its official journal, economies in production costs, and greater revenue from advertising, the cost per copy has been reduced to 1.79 cents per copy for the April, 1923, issue (28-page magazine).

In this connection, it is expected that the Home Office Building and "Columbia" printing plant, of a book value of approximately \$700,000, will be completely paid for by the close of the present year.

Educational and Welfare Activities

The balance of the War Fund as of March 31, 1923, \$6,152,289.94, will be devoted exclusively for the benefit of the ex-service men in the hospitals, attending evening schools, holding college scholarships and taking correspondence courses.

The hospital welfare work is being conducted through 193 secretaries in 457 hospitals. The work consists of developing appropriate types of recreation, furnishing athletic outfits and supplies, distributing creature comfort articles, personal service for bed patients, furnishing transportation for patients to athletic events and to theaters; automobile rides, and providing concerts, vaudeville shows, boxing exhibitions and various athletic contests. Approximately 29,000 ex-service men are being benefited by this service.

As of February 28, 1923, sixty-nine evening schools were being conducted, with an enrollment of 45,018 ex-service men. In these evening schools the courses are provided free to ex-service men.

Four hundred and forty scholarships were awarded, and 403 students were actually enrolled, and of this number 160 are continuing their education in the various colleges.

Sixty-one thousand inquiries concerning correspondence courses have been received at the Home Office, and 18,589 applicants have thus far been enrolled and have been receiving instruction in 75 different courses. 81,325 lesson reports have been received, examined and returned to students. Hundreds of inquiries and applications are being received daily.

Following a survey by the Supreme Secretary with a representative of the American Legion the sum of \$50,000 was appropriated from the War Fund and paid over to that organization to assist in caring for the non-compensable or inadequately compensated tubercular ex-service men who have migrated to the southwest.

Complete report of Supreme Board of Directors, Knights of Columbus, Educational and Welfare Work, for last fiscal year mailed upon application to William J. McGinley, Supreme Secretary, New Haven, Conn.