

A Dictionary of Secret and Other Societies

by Preuss, Arthur, 1871-1934,

Extract (p.419): The Royal Order of Lions

Christian Cynosure magazine, Chicago, Ill.—*By-Laws of the Supreme and Local Camp Royal Neighbors of America*, as Revised, Amended, and Adopted at Indianapolis, Ind., May, 1903.—*Woodmen's Handbook*, pp. 359-367: "The Royal Neighbors of America."—*Was sind die Modern Woodmen of America? und: Warum kann ein Christ nicht zu ihnen gehören?* by H. C. Brinkmann, Lutheran minister at Blue Earth City, Minn.; St. Louis, Mo., Concordia Publishing House, 1898.—*Ohio Waisenfremd*, Columbus, O., ed. of Dec. 13, 1911, p. 391: "Die Modern Woodmen of America eine verbotene Gesellschaft," by Rev. C. J.—*The Review*, St. Louis, Mo., 1 Dec., 1898, Vol. V, No. 37, p. 3.—*Statistics Fraternal Societies*, 1923, pp. 142 sq.

• Royal Order of Lions

This "fraternal benevolent secret society for 100% Americans only" was organized at Evansville, Ind., by Wm. P. Woods, M.D., and chartered under the laws of the State of Indiana, in 1911. The branches are called "Dens." They are governed by a "Supreme Den." This Order has a *ritual* and six degrees, which are described as follows by Mr. W. A. Rutherford, "Supreme Director of the Organization Department," in a letter dated 22 Aug., 1922: "There are three degrees in the subordinate lodge. The fourth degree is a grand lodge degree established in each State after fifty subordinates have been formed. The fifth degree is a degree of honor conferred upon the past officers of the grand lodges from which the sixth degree members are selected, which constitutes the supreme organization."

The Royal Order of Lions is now operating in twenty-three States and has a membership of approximately 300,000. The headquarters are in the Royal Lion Building at Evansville, Ind., where the official organ of the Order, called *The Royal Lion*, is published.

Letter from Mr. W. A. Rutherford, Supreme Director of the Organization Dept., to Arthur Preuss, dated 22 Aug., 1923.—*St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, 28 Sept., 1912.—*Fortnightly Review*, St. Louis, Mo., 1 Nov., 1913, Vol. XX, No. 21, p. 621.

Royal Order of Scotland

This is a Masonic order of knighthood conferred on Arch Masons (Cfr. FREEMASONRY). It consists of two degrees or orders: the Royal Order of Herodcm and that of the Rosy Cross. Its tradition states that the Royal Order of Herodem was established at Icomkill, Scotland, in the 13th century(?). The

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