



## **Clarence Budington "Bud" Kelland**

Presented to Palestine Lodge No. 357

Bro. Douglas Mooney, Historian

Worshipful Master,

As you are surely cinephiles and men of taste, you're likely familiar with the 2002 classic film "Mr. Deeds", starring Adam Sandler. This movie, unloved by critics and audiences alike, suffers a 22% rating on Rotten Tomatoes.

If you're a little older the title might bring to mind "Mr. Deeds Goes to Town," the 1936 Frank Capra romantic comedy starring Gary Cooper. In contrast to Mr. Sandler's film, it was widely hailed. It won Best Director at the Academy Awards and was nominated for Best Picture and Best Actor.

Both of these films were based on a short story called Opera Hat, which was serialized in American Magazine.

These two movies, and a few dozen others, would not exist if not for the stories of Clarence Budington Kelland, who was known to his friends as Bud, and who was raised in this lodge on September 28, 1906.

Brother Kelland was born Jul 11, 1881 in Portland, Michigan and his family moved to Detroit when he was a boy. He graduated from the Detroit College of Law in 1902, but quickly left the profession. In 1903 he joined the Detroit News as a reporter and editor.

In 1907 he became editor of a magazine called American Boy, and under his guidance it became a leading publication for children with a circulation of 360,000. When he couldn't find writers for stories, he would use his own.

In 1913 he wrote a novel called Mark Tidd, which became a series for young readers. He also authored another young adult series called Catty Atkins.

For adults, he wrote the Scattergood Baines series, along with dozens of novels. Many of his works were optioned by Hollywood, but he never got personally involved in translating the works for the movies. He felt that the process usually ended with Screenwriters eager to earn their pay by creating a different story, with different characters, and a different title.

In the 1920s he became the Toastmaster of the weekly luncheons of a society of illustrators, writers, and performers in New York City called the Dutch Treat Club. Members included Rube Goldberg, Ogden Nash, and Isaac Asimov.

Brother Kelland moved to Arizona in 1937 and became active in politics. He served as the Republican National Committeeman from Arizona from 1940 to 1956. He was known to be vocal,

even contentious, in his political discourse. He was a critic of politicians of both parties, condemning both Franklin D. Roosevelt and Dwight Eisenhower.

Brother Kelland became a life member of Palestine Lodge No. 357 on October 3, 1946. He received his 50 year pin on October 9, 1957.

He died on February 18, 1864 and was buried in the Cemetery at St. John's Church, Laurel Hollow, New York.

**HOW WOULD YOU put a glass of Ballantine Ale into words?**

Here, Clarence Budington Kelland writes with the background of a half-century in the field of letters . . .

*Clarence Budington Kelland*

Ballantine is a companionable drink. With a glass in hand, conversation seems to flow more freely, and even controversial subjects are discussed more tolerantly in a spirit of friendship.

Ballantine Ale does not interrupt, but becomes a charming part of conversation. It seems to belong with pleasant words and valued friends - to be lingered over in thoughtful enjoyment.

When a party of gentlemen gathers for purposes serious or genial, Ballantine Ale somehow, a sort of moderator. It seems, with its own mellowness, it is the most desirable of all social beverages.

*Clarence Budington Kelland*

More people like it... More people buy it... than any other ale... ...by Four to One!

**BALLANTINE ALE**

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