

ARTICLE III. *Sec. 1.* A person to become a member of any subordinate council must be twenty-one years of age; he must believe in the existence of a Supreme Being as the Creator and Preserver of the Universe; he must be a native-born citizen; a Protestant, either born of Protestant parents or reared under Protestant influence, and not united in marriage with a Roman Catholic: *Provided nevertheless,* That in this last respect the State, district, or territorial councils shall best promote the interests of the American cause in their several jurisdictions: *And provided moreover,* That no member who may have a Roman Catholic wife shall be eligible to office in this order: *And provided, further,* should any State, district or territorial council prefer the words "Roman Catholic" as a disqualification to membership, in place of "Protestant" as a qualification, they may so consider this constitution, and govern their action accordingly.

*Sec. 2.* There shall be an interval of three weeks between the conferring of the first and second degrees, and of three months between the conferring of the second and third degrees: *Provided,* That this restriction shall not apply to those who may have received the second degree previous to the first day of December next: *And provided, further,* That the Presidents of State, district, and territorial councils may grant dispensations for initiating in all the degrees officers of new councils.

*Sec. 3.* The national council shall hold its annual meeting on the first Tuesday in the month of June, at such place as may be designated by the national council at the previous annual meeting, and it may adjourn from time to time. Special meetings shall be called by the president on the written request of five State councils: *Provided,* That sixty days' notice shall be given to the State councils previous to said meeting.

*Sec. 4.* The national council shall be composed of seven delegates from each district or Territory, where a district or territorial council shall exist, and shall be entitled to send two delegates to be chosen from said council: *Provided,* That, in the nomination of candidates for President and Vice President of the United States, each State shall be entitled to cast the same number of votes as they shall have members in the houses of Congress. In all sessions of the national council thirty-two delegates, representing thirteen States, Territories or districts, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

*Sec. 5.* The national council shall be vested with the following powers and privileges:

It shall be the head of the organization for the United States of North America, and fix and establish all signs, grips, and pass-words, and such other secret work as may seem to it necessary.

It shall have power to decide upon all matters appertaining to national politics.

It shall have the power to exact from the State councils quarterly or annual statements as to the number of members under their jurisdiction, and in relation to all other matters necessary for its information.

It shall have the power to form State, territorial or district councils, and to grant dispensations for the formation of all such bodies, when five subordinate councils shall have been put in operation in any State, Territory or district, and application made.